

THE PROVIDENCE POST

*Providence Church - an Evangelical Presbyterian Church congregation
Located at 1400 Old Clyde Road, Clyde*



Contact us:

Providence Church
P.O. Box 65
Clyde, NC 28721
(828) 550-4615

providencechurchassistant@gmail.com

[http://www.](http://www.providencechurchwaynesville.com)

[Providencechurchwaynesville.com](http://www.providencechurchwaynesville.com)

Directions to Providence 1400 Old Clyde Road

From Waynesville: 19/23 to exit 105, right on Hospital Drive for 0.1 miles, right on Jones Cove Road to end (0.3 miles), right on Old Clyde Road for 0.1 miles, church is on the right.

From Clyde: 19/23 to exit 105, right on Jones Cove Road, then as above.

Worship and Church Activities

Sunday

10:00 am - Sunday School for all ages

10:45 am - Morning Worship with Nursery & Children's Church

Tuesday

12:00 pm - Pastor's Circle

Wednesday

10:30 - Women's Prayer Group

Thursday

6:30 am - Men's Prayer Group
and breakfast

Every Other Thursday

7:00 pm Men's Group Study
7:00 pm Women's Group Study

August 2019

First of all, thank you for the immense privilege of representing Providence at the recent GA in Denver. It was a time of connecting, refreshing and challenge. Andrew Brunson was our keynote speaker and he spoke of his unjust 2 year long Turkish imprisonment, his spiritual journey of suffering and he challenged us to understand that Jesus promised suffering as we faithfully follow Him.

We attended several breakout sessions on numerous topics of interest in the life of the church, spiritual, cultural and mission related. We commissioned a missionary couple to the Philippines and welcomed another 6 families that are in process with World Outreach. We connected with several of our own missionaries: Adger McKay, Steve Woodworth and Shawn Stewart. Each of them send their warm regards to our fellowship and are looking forward to being with us. We welcomed several new churches to our EPC family as well. Next year the GA will be held in Memphis.

Serving together

Pastor Edward



Session highlights

- 1) The session spent considerable time in discussion of the church's financial status. We did a midyear review to the budget by line item (no changes made at this time), made tentative plans to aggressively seek rental of extra church spaces, and revisited the Financial Contingency Plan (previously known as the Risk Management Plan). The finance committee encouraged the session that this will probably be a turnaround year financially.
- 2) Some details for the church parlor/prayer room were finalized.
- 3) The session had sought a grant from our presbytery which we thankfully received. (See further details in the article about nursery).
- 4) Rev. Brouwer gave a report of his attendance at General Assembly in Denver, CO.

Providence Happenings



The Well

Will meet on Monday, August 5th, at 5:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall.

The Open Door

Providence will cook, serve and clean up at the Open Door on Friday, August 2nd. For more information, or to volunteer, contact Phil Inglis.

Created for a Purpose Summer Camp

A creativity camp conducted by Vine of the Mountains church in the Providence facility on August 5th -9th. Twenty-one 3rd to 8th graders will learn that they were created by God in His image and for His purpose. Please pray for the success of this endeavor.



New Childcare Provider

On Sunday, August 4th, we will welcome our new Childcare Provider Mandy Mills. Mandy is currently the full-time director of Haywood Community College's Childcare Center and has held that position since 2015. Mandy has a Bachelor's degree in Child Development and Family Relations with a minor in Special Education from Western Carolina University.

Mandy is a longtime Haywood County resident and currently resides in the Bethel area with her two sons; Joseph, 23 and Sloan, 17. During her interview, Mandy remarked how very excited she was to help with some fun, hands on, toddler friendly Bible lessons and crafts. and we know her extensive childcare background and experience will be a source of inspiration and learning for all of our volunteers too.

Our Children's Ministry has been further blessed by a gift from the Church Health and Growth Committee of the Presbytery of the Southeast (POSE). The money was received as part of a grant aimed at assisting churches provide outreach and evangelism. The funding will help us as a small church to reach out to young families and provide excellent, Christ-centered childcare for even the youngest members of our congregation. As our name Providence implies, God is always providing for our needs, and the grant will enable us to cover nearly all of Mandy's salary for a year! Please be praying that we can be even more welcoming to new families with young children and draw them into a life changing fellowship in Christ.

For those who are interested in our children's ministry and in seeing the Providence childcare in action, ask Glenda Brouwer to add you to either our once every 4-5 weeks Children's Worship teaching rotation or sign up to be a substitute on the rare occasion that we need back up in the nursery due to illness or vacation.

Providence Church Divisions

Edward William Brouwer, Pastor & Worship

Our Session

Class of 2019

Wally Cook - Congregational Care

Thom Morgan - Finance

Class of 2020

Sam Mitchell - Clerk

Class of 2021

Bob Dresdow

Phil Inglis

Our Diaconate

Will Roberts - Class of 2019

Bill Allsbrook - Class of 2021

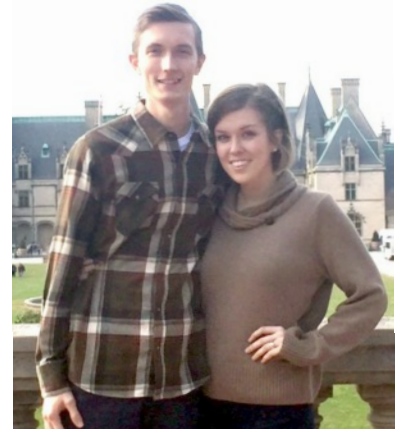
Music Director & Worship - Renee Allsbrook

Administrative Assistant - Barb Dresdow

Update from Harrison Northey

Dear Partnership Program Supporters,

Happy summer to all of you. Samantha just informed me that since it is now officially summer, each day will get shorter by 1 minute. Strange to think that tomorrow it will be closer to Christmas this year than we are to last Christmas. Most of the time I feel like time is a blur. I listened to a podcast this week where an Eastern Orthodox scholar was talking about her view of time and how it is completely informed and shaped by her faith. Among other things, she mentioned how Christians are people for whom time is significant. I can't remember a lot that she said, but she did mention that we are to be people who view time in a forward-looking direction - towards the day when Jesus will return to the earth. And that just so happens to be what I preached on this past Sunday at Valley Hope, from 1 Thessalonians 5. Anyway, enough about time.



Thanks to all of you who have contributed to my Partnership Program, and for those who keep me and my studies in your prayers. I was on campus at Gordon-Conwell this past Saturday for my Interpreting the Old Testament class. Fun fact: did you know that when the Dead Sea Scrolls were discovered in the 1940's, they contained a scroll of Isaiah that is 1,000 years older than our earliest Isaiah manuscript we had before the Dead Sea Scrolls were discovered? See, that is a fun fact. In my class we have been reading/talking about things like ancient manuscripts, the transmission of the Hebrew Old Testament, its translation into Greek, why an understanding of these things helps us understand our Bibles today, why they give us confidence in the trustworthiness of our Bibles today, and other interesting things. We have also been learning about the task of interpreting texts and the art of translating from foreign languages, like Hebrew and Greek. I'm keeping up just a bit with my Hebrew from the last 2 semesters. My professor explained that mostly she just wants us to maintain our level of knowledge through this summer course, and then we will be adding more to it in the fall and spring Hebrew courses. Another fun fact: the very oldest bit of the Old Testament known to exist is written on a set of silver amulets dated to the 7th or 6th centuries BC. They contain a portion of the Aaronic Blessing from the book of Numbers. The coffee still flows like a robust, aromatic river in the Pilazzo di Northey, and one might occasionally hear the sounds of a banjo in the evening.

I'll leave you with that pleasant description.

Til next time,

Harrison



Mission News



From the Luptons' July Letter

"We would like to become Christians, but we want to learn more first..."

While a trade war threatens the U.S. and China, there's a spiritual war being waged over the souls of a few Chinese young people in Bogotá. Min and Kuan work for a prominent Chinese tech company. They moved to Bogotá a few months ago. Soon after they contacted our church and asked if I'd be willing to officiate their wedding ceremony. I almost always jump at the opportunity to talk about faith, life, and marriage with couples. It is consistently the most tender evangelistic opportunity I have as we engage the unconditional love of God and translate it to marriage.



But I wondered why. After all, they were already legally married in China. When asked if they were Christians, they said no. When asked what they knew about Christianity, they mentioned they had heard that God was Jesus' son. Or maybe the other way around... "So why do you want a Christian pastor to lead a Christian wedding for you?" I asked. "Because there's something more solemn to marriage than what we were offered in China." In China, they explained, their wedding day was no different than a visit to the DMV. Identification + signatures = married. They sensed instinctively that there must be more to it and to the rest of life.

I grabbed this painting off the wall of my office and laid it across the table where we sipped coffee. "You're right," I said. "God gave you those instincts. Let me explain to you why the Christian story makes sense of it all." We talked through Creation, Rebellion, Redemption, and Restoration. They were stunned that there's a narrative that connects all things and resonates with the longings of their hearts. "We would like to become Christians, but we want to learn more first..." They've only missed one service since and have already started reading (and even memorizing) parts of the Bible.

It looks like God is after my new friends Min and Kuan. Their first Sunday at worship they met Jay, who it turns out is from their same town! Jay started his exploration of Christianity about a year and half ago when he fell in love with a Colombian Christian. He was very kind, but clueless to the teachings of Christianity. Against our advice, they visited the marriage DMV while in China. Two of our new NEXT missionaries, Eric and Anna Graham, were eager to talk to Jay about Christianity. They bought him a Mandarin Bible and entertained his questions as he devoured its contents. Jay prayed a prayer of repentance and faith last month with Eric leading him to his newfound Savior. Here he is being baptized a few weeks ago by our teammate, Andrew Baxley.

In all likelihood, Jay will return to China with his family soon. Only this time, he returns as a follower of Jesus. This is life and ministry at the intersection of the nations and the next generation. We're in awe of our God who gathers and grows his church. Thank you for allowing us to be a part of this incredible ministry.

Gratefully,

Andrew w/Laura Kate, Fox, Evie Jude, & Lucy

From the July McKay Update

During a walk through the city with a young Syrian couple the other day, it was noteworthy (and grievous) to me when I saw people's reactions to Sandra walking arm in arm with the wife. One could see and feel many people's displeasure and puzzlement that a Westerner would associate so freely with a hijab-wearing Arab.

We were invited to a Ramadan meal (post-sunset, of course) with some dear Afghan friends. During this time, Sam was thoroughly instructed by the oldest son in the Afghan way of eating with hands only....there is a science to it!

After the meal, Sandra was able to slip a Persian New Testament to the oldest daughter... who said thank you but then tried to hide it when her brother appeared. Please pray that she reads it and sees the light.



During a visit with one of our closest Syrian Arab families, the wife presented the thought that the god of the M.'s is the same as our God. It gave me (Sandra) a great opportunity to share some of the differences that center around Jesus. I was able to leave her a small Arabic booklet that explains the way of salvation, but we were interrupted when her husband came back to the house. Pray for I., that these seeds would be watered and grow.

We have a special request for all of you who are called to and love to pray. We are reforming a team of intercessors for our mission here since the Lord has been showing us our need to organize and expand the people who pray for us. If you believe you are called to join us in an intercessory role, please respond to us at this email address. asmckay@att.net

Praise/Prayer:

- Sandra continues to see great inroads with the women
- Upon our return to Germany in September, we will be concentrating more on forming an international group
- Only 16 more days until Chick-fil-a for Sam and Ian!
- Our monthly shortfall is still in the \$1,000/month range

Thank you for your participation in Engaging the Displaced among Refugees in Germany,

The McKays

About that huge tax problem...

Our German 2017 tax bill is finally taken care of. Our professional tax advisor last year sent us a payment amount that was over 4x larger than what he had previously estimated. Adger had been pressing him for the previous 10 months out of concern that this could happen... and he assured us in February, 2018 that the tax estimates were accurate. If you want to help out with this, please consider giving through Plumtree Presbyterian Church (see above information) or you can designate this through World Outreach. Unfortunately, due to our advisor's grossly low pre-payment estimates for 2018 (which we have already paid in full) we are encountering a (larger) problem this year (2019), as well. We owe approximately 1.75 times the normal German tax bill this year.

Want Ads

Items you wish to buy, sell, trade, or give away may be submitted to Bill White or Barb Dresdow.

I need a washer and dryer, a white electric stove, and a twin box spring and mattress. Contact Sarah Altman at 421-1886 or srhaltman@yahoo.com

For Sale: 2003 Nissan Xterra has 98,000 miles and is in very good condition. I would like to sell it for \$3000. Air conditioning and headliner need repair. Contact LuAnn Davis at 926-2248, 246-2210 or daviszoo@charter.net

Food Assistance

Providence Church continues to collect non-perishable food items for Haywood Christian Ministries. Remember to purchase an extra item when you are shopping, and place it in the box outside the sanctuary door on Sundays.

Providence Church Summarized Financial Information June 30, 2019

Tithes/Offerings	79,450
Designated income	<u>6,750</u>
Total Revenue	86,200
Missions	10,950
Church Operations	<u>80,205</u>
Total Expenditures	91,195
Increase (Decrease) in Cash	(4,994)
Unspent Designated Giving	1,436
Cash in Bank Beginning of Year	<u>64,875</u>
Cash in Bank End of Month	61,317

July 28th Update

Revenue	98,895
Expenditures	102,867
Cash Increase (decrease)	(3,972)

August Volunteers

Snacks

Aug 4	Glenda White team
Aug 11	Susan Kingshill team
Aug 18	Carole Spink team
Aug 25	LuAnn Davis team

Sunday School/Children's Worship

Aug 4	LuAnn Davis
Aug 11	Renee Mitchell
Aug 18	Glenda Brouwer
Aug 25	Jenny Alt

Counters

Aug 4	Bruce Kingshill Thom Morgan
Aug 11	Luke Allsbrook Bill White
Aug 18	Wally Cook Sam Mitchell
Aug 25	Bill Allsbrook Phil Inglis

Power Point

Aug 4	Linda Roberts
Aug 11	Derek Rhodarmer
Aug 18	Toni Cook
Aug 25	Linda Roberts


Communion

Rhonda Lear

Open/Close/Usher

Aug 4	Phil Inglis
Aug 11	Bob Dresdow
Aug 18	Sam Mitchell
Aug 25	Thom Morgan

August 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
4  10:45 AM Holy Communion	5 5:00 PM The Well	6 12:00 PM Pastor's circle	7	8 6:30 AM Men's Prayer Group <i>Phil & Pat Inglis</i>	9 6:30 AM Men's Prayer Group <i>Benjamin Lizarazu</i>	10 Toni Cook
11	12 Linda Roberts	13 12:00 PM Pastor's circle	14	15 6:30 AM Men's Prayer Group	16	17
18	19	20 12:00 PM Pastor's circle <i>Robbie Hargrove</i>	21 <i>Bill & Glenda White</i>	22 6:30 AM Men's Prayer Group <i>Ellie Lizarazu</i> <i>Samuel McKay</i>	23 <i>Bob & Barb Dresdow</i>	24
25	26	27 12:00 PM Pastor's circle	28	29 6:30 AM Men's Prayer Group	30	31

Created for a Purpose summer camp