

# THE PROVIDENCE POST

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



## January 2021

2020 has wrapped up and I am not sad about it! This year was hard, trying, and strange in myriad ways. We've had to "pivot" in "unprecedented times"! We began Zooming services and prayer meetings and session meetings. People have lost jobs and loved ones due to this virulent strain of Coronavirus. And now, with effective vaccines coming in the new year, we see that we still must social distance for a long while (especially for our vulnerable older members with pre-existing conditions). I am writing this on the day after Christmas, and am reminded of the carol "In the bleak midwinter" because we had our coldest temperatures of 7F and thinking especially of those who don't have proper shelter. This harkens back to the inadequate shelter of Jesus, born in a stable because there was no room in Bethlehem. Jesus, the glory of God, Incarnate deity, wrapped in human flesh, come to rescue us. Through faith in Christ, He promises us shelter from the storms of life and the cold cruel reality of this world. Christ has delivered the great news that He has gone to prepare a place for us in heaven. We are aliens and strangers, passing through this world. Let's not tie our hope or future or consolation to anything but Jesus. Everything else will fail us. And since He is our hope and confidence we may go into 2021 with a gleam in our eye and joy in our hearts. Maranatha. Even so Lord Jesus Come quickly.



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### 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.

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### Worship and Church Activities

#### Sunday

9:45 am - Morning Worship

#### Wednesday

10:15 - Women's Prayer Group

#### Thursday

7:30 am - Men's Zoom Prayer Group

*Pastor Edward*

# Providence Happenings



## Congregational Meeting

The annual congregational meeting of Providence Church will take place on January 24<sup>th</sup> following Sunday worship. The purpose of the meeting is to elect two elders for the class of 2023 and to hear the budget for 2021. Those attending by Zoom will be counted for the quorum and will be able to vote.

**H**ello Church family, Susan Kingshill is requesting volunteer assistance this Sunday after church to help break down Christmas decorations and put them back in storage. Also, we need to re-mark every storage container as to contents. She will bring electrical tape and pens to do this. Thank you!



**Communion** will be observed January 3<sup>rd</sup>. If attending by Zoom, remember to have bread and juice on hand.

**O**pen Door: This Friday, the 1<sup>st</sup> of January, we will **not** cook at the Open Door. However, this is an ongoing commitment of Providence Church to the least, the last, the lost and the lonely of our community. We prepare a meal, then the Salvation Army food truck picks it up and serving is done at another location. Please join us in February to bless and be blessed.

## Year End Giving Statements

Your giving statements for 2020 will be available no later than January 31<sup>st</sup>. We are working on a Pictorial Directory and are hoping to mail both the Directory and the giving statements together to each of you.



## Bible in One Year

Are you longing to grow in your connection with God through Scripture reading? Pastor Edward recommends Bible In One Year (by Alpha International), a 20 minute reading of Scripture and commentary written by Nicky Gumble leader of Alpha (an international evangelism ministry). Just look it up under your apps on your phone/computer.





# Mission News



## McKays December Update

Sometimes we just need some encouragement in a year where our worlds seem to have been turned upside down! We want to wish you all a blessed and love-filled Holiday season and joy in the midst!

If you (by some miracle) may recall this story from last year:



From May 2019...This mission among the displaced comes with its share of unexpected doors. While the four of us visited some M. Afghan friends for a meal recently, the wife, who has been here in Germany alone with her five children while her husband waits for the proper paperwork, turned to us and pleaded, "Ask YOUR Jesus to help my husband get here!" We have been sowing seeds (especially Sandra) of prayer in A.'s life for healing and comfort for some time now. Please join us in prayer that OUR Jesus would show Himself to be real and glorious to her....

We did pray for her... right then and continued to intercede for this situation. Last month the 'impossible' happened.. after waiting for five years,... while he endured paperwork roadblocks, bureaucratic quagmires, traveling thousands of kilometers to embassies in order to get to Germany to his wife and 5 children, and oh, by the way... surviving getting shot in the abdomen at a border,..guess what OUR Jesus did! A. (the husband and father) finally got a small time-window for his visa in order to reunite with A. (the wife) and his five children, one of whom had never seen him before as she fled to Germany pregnant. After a seemingly endless wait where hope made itself scarce, they were recently able to go pick him up at the Frankfurt airport and have a beautiful tearful reunion.

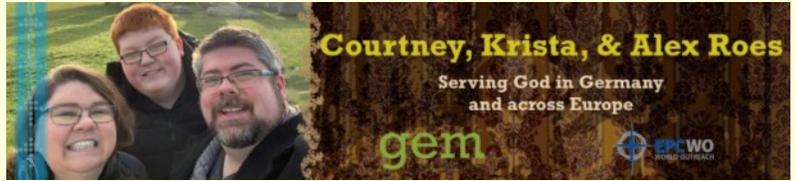
We covet your prayers to be able to call this to their mind, the goodness of the Lord to them in this situation. We had tea with them together with their children and he seems to be an open-hearted man.

Praise/Prayer:

- Pray for Jesus to reveal His true self to M.'s in dreams and visions
- We are still running a \$2,000/month shortfall in support.
- Pray for laborers for the harvest here.
- So grateful for your prayer support and encouragement!!

## "Some Good News" from the Roes

From our family to yours we wish you a Merry Christmas! We were inspired by the show "Some Good News" and wanted to give you an uplifting list of all the good things that have happened this year:



Lots of quality time together      Seriously, our marriage is stronger than ever before, and we put in the work to make it so.

Our sabbatical wasn't what we planned but what we needed, as God saw fit.

Krista's family zoom time, every Saturday at 7 pm – the Brants live all over the world- don't know why we didn't do this earlier.

Not only church in Germany but also got to participate in our home church in NC every week online

Krista's got to teach an online bible study that her mother-in-law, who was high risk, could attend

Community Bible Study Germany got to experiment with online studies, they went great. That meant that people didn't have to live near a class that was offered.

Many of the eDOT resources were more utilized than ever before due to an increased need for online ministry

Courtney's blessing of a new role within GEM ([Click here for July Newsletter](#))

Witnessed a spiritual awakening – people both have extra time and space to engage in spiritual conversations and are stressed and worried and looking for solutions

More applications to join Greater Europe Mission this year than ever - a big increase in those are from Europe and South America. (This is where Courtney's job kicks in)

More refugees were moved from the Greek islands to mainland Europe, reducing the incredibly difficult conditions they were living in.

Alex passed his driver's test after proving that he'd practiced 60 hours.

Because people are getting used to technology, technology ministry is becoming more normalized.

A new family we recruited to eDOT arrived in Germany

We got to be with our son twice this year (during our sabbatical and in the US for a funeral)

New daily routines, Courtney makes a great breakfast

We continue to look for the unique ways that God will use us today, and each day looks different.

## Want Ads

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

## Providence Church Divisions

Edward William Brouwer, Pastor & Worship

### Our Session

#### Class of 2020

Sam Mitchell - Clerk, Building & Grounds

#### Class of 2021

Bob Dresdow - Youth & Family

Phil Inglis - Missions

#### Class of 2022

Luke Allsbrook - Congregational Care

Bruce Kingshill - Finance

**Music Director & Worship** - Renee Allsbrook

**Administrative Assistant** - Linda Wilson

**Nursery:** Mandy Mills

## Providence Church

### Summarized Financial Information

As of December 31, 2020

Tithes and Offerings	\$170,547
Expenditures	(154,974)
Collections over expenditures	15,573
Mission Yard Sale Income	11,775
Mission Spending from Yard Sale	11,455

## January Volunteers

### Snacks

### Nursery

Jan 3	Glenda Brouwer
Jan 10	Pat Inglis
Jan 17	Rhonda Lear
Jan 24	Calvin Allsbrook
Jan 31	Jenny Alt

### Counters

### Open/Close/Usher

Jan 3	Phil Inglis
Jan 10	Bruce Kingshill
Jan 17	Sam Mitchell
Jan 24	Luke Allsbrook
Jan 31	TBD

### Cleaning

Jan 3	Linda/TJ
Jan 10	Mitchells
Jan 17	Toni/Barb
Jan 24	Edward/Jason
Jan 31	EdwardJeffery

# January 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
3  Holy Communion Carole Torpy	4 Michael Lear Sandra McKay	5	6 10:15 AM Women's Prayer Group	7 7:30 AM Men's Zoom Prayer Group Mary Ellen Fawcett	8 Bob Dresdow	9
10	11	12 Malcolm Spink	13 10:15 AM Women's Prayer Group	14 7:30 AM Men's Zoom Prayer Group	15	16
17	18 Edward Brouwer	19 Margaret Allsbrook	20 10:15 AM Women's Prayer Group	21 7:30 AM Men's Zoom Prayer Group	22	23
24 10:45 AM Congregational Meeting	25	26	27 10:15 AM Women's Prayer Group	28 7:30 AM Men's Zoom Prayer Group	29	30
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