

THE PROVIDENCE POST

Providence Church - an Evangelical Presbyterian Church congregation
Located on the Haywood Christian Academy senior campus - 1400 Old Clyde Road, Clyde



June 2017



From
the Pastors Desk

I must confess. I can hardly listen to the news anymore. You just don't know who is telling the truth. What is fake and what is real? Maybe it's always been this awful--or maybe I am just more aware of it. The Preacher in Ecclesiastes said "there is nothing new under the sun" so maybe we are singing the same old song, but just a new stanza. Jesus called us to be in the world but not of it. We are to be a positive influence in our culture. We are to pray for the welfare of the city in which we live. I am reminded of the words of Vaclav Havel, a famous poet and former president of the Czech Republic. "There is only one way to strive for decency, reason, responsibility, civility and tolerance" he wrote "and that is decently, responsibly, civilly and tolerantly". Doing so will not guarantee success, but "choosing means which contradict the ends...is the best way to eliminate the very ends we set out to achieve". As we engage with our culture, indeed as we speak amongst ourselves about the nation, the church, our neighbors and families, let us do so with the mind of Christ. Wherever we go let the fragrance of Christ follow us. And let us pray for revival, and let it begin with us.

Pastor Edward



Clerk's Report - Our new parity to Presbytery is 1 TE (teaching elder) & 2 REs (ruling elders). Report on presbytery meeting in Knoxville was given by Phil Inglis & Pastor Edward Brouwer.

1. Giving by the churches to Presbytery and General Assembly will be based on 1% of the church budget instead of per member giving, to be implemented by 2020.
2. There was the first reading of an amendment to the Presbytery By-Laws giving additional support for permanent committees.
3. TEs and REs divided into 3 break-out groups with the purpose of learning more about the 3 new church plants.

A Motion to amend the January 17th, 2017, minutes to include reasons for dismissal of members from the rolls. These are Sunny Madison (death), Jane Ladner (death), Sara Cole (by Transfer of Letter - moved), Laura & Glenn Glad (moved), and Dean & Eileen Bartlett (moved) was made by Phil Inglis, seconded by Wally Cook and passed.

The session dismissed per their request the following members: Paul and Karen Zimmerman, Larry and Millie Hershenson and Harry Tatum. We

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Contact us:

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Directions to Providence (On HCA campus) 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 106, right on Jones Cove Road, then as above.

Worship and Church Activities Sunday

9:45 am - Sunday School for all ages

10:45 am - Morning Worship

Nursery Available

Tuesday

12:00 pm - Pastor's Circle

Thursday

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

3:30 pm - Women's Prayer Group

Every Other Thursday

7:00 pm Men's Group Study

7:00 pm Women's Group

Providence Happenings



July 4th Baseball and Fireworks

Mark your calendars, wear your RED WHITE & BLUE, and reserve your seat for the Asheville Tourists Baseball Game and Fireworks. July 4th of course, tickets are \$11.00 each and we have reserved extra for your friends and family. For more details and to reserve your seat, call TJ Anthony at 230-6501 or



Teresa.anthony@hotmail.com



Providence Church Divisions

Edward William Brouwer, Pastor & Worship

Our Session

Pat Inglis - Clerk of Session

Class of 2017

Phil Inglis - Missions

Bruce Kingshill - Finance

Class of 2018

Luke Allsbrook - Discipleship & Christian Education

Bob Dresdow - Discipleship & Christian Education

Class of 2019

Wally Cook - Congregational Care

Thom Morgan - Finance

Our Diaconate

Will Roberts - Class of 2017

Jeffrey Alt - Class of 2018

Rick Boen - Class of 2019

Music Director & Worship - Renee Allsbrook

Youth Director - Alan Cheney

Administrative Assistant - Barb Dresdow

- Clerk's Report continued -

wish them well in their continued faith journey.

The Pastor's Report elaborated on several items from his report to the session.

1. With only a few young children in our congregation, Pastor Edward proposed we join with Faith Community Church in their VBS, June 12th to the 15th, committing our budget amount of \$200 to assist. The Session was in agreement with this proposal. Pastor Edward would contact Pastor Pruitt.
 2. The nursery is in need of volunteers. The Session was asked to pray.
 3. Pastor Edward encouraged the Session to contact their Shepherd groups and gather for dinner and extended fellowship.
 4. Instead of beginning new programs in the church, Pastor Edward encouraged us to do what we already do, but do it better.
 5. Continue praying for Andrew Brunson asking the Father for His intervention and care over Andrew and his family.
- Kingdom Partnership** - Pastor Edward reported on the last meeting with Haywood Christian Academy and New Covenant Church. PC's options seem to be staying where we are or joining HCA. Pastor Edward asked the Elders and Deacons to continue praying to the Father for His vision for Providence. Our decisions should be driven by vision.

A potluck lunch will follow the worship service on Sunday, June 25th. The theme will be "Summer Salads". The church will provide drinks.



Vacation Bible School this year will be a joint venture with Faith Community Church, held at 289 Industrial Park Drive, Waynesville. VBS will be from Monday, June 12th through Friday, June 16th from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm, for K - 5th grades (sorry, no nursery for younger children). For more information or to sign up, contact Pastor Edward.

From the Youth Leader

This past week I shared some time with Pastor Edward over hot drinks at the coffee shop near my apartment in Hazelwood. As Providence's part-time youth leader, I regularly meet with Edward to discuss the various facets of our youth ministry. While we talked, I made mention of the fact that I have begun forcing myself to write again as I once did in college. I have a bachelor's in English and, once upon a time, I prided myself in being able to very quickly crank out ten to twenty pages of intelligent, insightful, and downright scholarly musings on books I had never read. This is a skill all English majors cultivate though we sometimes deny it.

The trouble is that now, without a deadline or a GPA hanging in the balance, my motivation to write has all but vanished. While we talked together over our drinks (hot tea for the pastor, hot chocolate for myself) Edward suggested to me that perhaps I should begin writing small pieces for the Providence newsletter as a way to bring some of that motivation back. I agreed immediately. It was an excellent suggestion. A structured deadline is just what I need to get back into the rhythm of writing. However, as quickly as I became excited at the prospect of writing for the newsletter, I just as quickly heard the tired old voice inside my head that always speaks up when I turn my hand to write.

You have nothing to say, it tells me. Nothing you write is going to be important, so why bother?

This is a nearly insurmountable stumbling block for me. I will not deny that I have been given a gift with words. God has blessed me with a writer's mind, though it is sorely out of practice, and to ignore it is not just foolish but sinful. However Satan is wily and knows just how to discourage me. I have sampled the works of the greatest authors who have ever lived (I did read *most* of the books I was assigned in school) and I measure myself against them. This isn't necessarily a bad thing but it is such a short step from challenged, wherein a soul with determination can be pushed to excel, to daunted, wherein I find myself staring at a blank page as I would the open mouth of an approaching shark. It is a cruel and truly clever trick of the devil that two artists can each paint a masterpiece and then suffer in misery because both believe their painting inferior to the other.

So I thought, in defiance of the discouraging voice in my head, it would be appropriate to write my first piece for the Providence newsletter to encourage our local artists, craftsmen, and creators. I pray that none of you struggle as I do to practise your art, whatever it may be, but if you do then I urge you to remember that we have all been gifted with talents of varying strength and how strong they are is unimportant. What is important is that we use them. Clumsily, inadequately sometimes, but repeatedly and with growth. Do not let the lie that your work isn't masterful enough to be worthwhile prevent you from the joy that comes with using the gifts God has given you. Work hard and enjoy yourself.

And maybe actually read the book before you write your final paper. It can't hurt.

Alan



The Open Door is excited to invite YOU to a
Volunteer Appreciation Picnic

Friday, June 9th at 11:30 am

Chestnut Park in Waynesville, NC

RSVP to The Open Door 828-452-3846



Mission News



May Update from the McKays

We have had the pleasure of having Sandra's parents here for a few days...to celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary! That is such a joy for her to be able to share in that with them. We hope your Spring is warm and full of joy.



We have continued to cultivate the relationships that the Lord has provided here in Engaging the Displaced among refugees in Germany. Our young Syrian friend, mentioned in a previous update, came over for a meal a few days ago and we had the clearest opportunity yet to share who the Lord is with him. We finished the evening with the simple challenge to 'ask God to show Himself to him' in full confidence that the Lord will reveal His truth in His way and time. It was very exciting for us and we covet your prayers for 'M.'

We are also continuing to pursue new relationships with refugees. For the many families who are divided, the pain is evident in their eyes. It is often the wife and children who made it here to Germany, and the men who remain behind for a number of reasons. For some, it has now been years apart, and despite modern methods of communication, the separation causes great anxiety. For the women here who are M., there is also the threat that her husband may marry another wife in her absence.

Prayer/Praise:

- we have about \$1,000/month still needed
- it is time to buy a car here!
- our friend from Syria to see Jesus as He is
- wisdom in prioritizing time with (which) refugees

We count ourselves blessed to be able to serve in this mission. Thank you all for making it happen! His peace prevail,

Adger, Sandra, Samuel and Ian

Mid East Update

Ramadan

Every year, Muslims around the world have a month of fasting during daylight hours. There are strict rules not to drink or eat which are especially difficult in the summer heat. Most believe this is a holy time of prayer and heightened spirituality. As the sun goes down, the nights come alive with family gatherings and elaborate meals with dates and special sweets. In our city, there are actually traffic jams downtown at 2 am in the morning as everyone flips their days and nights to do shopping and visiting at night. Work hours are usually Ramadan

Lights

short as people leave early to sleep in the heat of the day with extended hours at night. We adjust our lives too and start visiting friends around 10 pm at night after the final prayers of the day.

Jack and Jill Update

There is finally a piece of good news for J&J. L@nce was able to meet with Jack earlier this week, and it seems that Jack's family is willing to start the process to close the case they filed against Jack for religious crimes. This is critical for next steps & potentially reduced pressure from the authorities. We hope that the case will be closed by the end of June. Be in prayer for this!!

We are thankful for your prayers and ask the Lord to pour out His mercy on this region of the world! None of us deserve it, but He still longs to give it.

Because He first loved us, *L@nce and Lis@*

30 days of Prayer for Muslims

The Missions Committee would like to encourage the congregation to join in 30 Days of Prayer for the Muslim World. As most of you know, the EPC is focused on carrying the gospel to un-reached Muslim populations. Here is your opportunity to join together in prayer for those who need so desperately to hear the good news. A limited number of prayer guides will be available at the back of the sanctuary May 21st. The guide covers the dates of May 27th through June 25th, the holy month of Ramadan for Muslims. Children's guides are also available.

Light at the end of the tunnel - Roes Update

One question we always try to filter our projects through is "How is this helping people grow closer to Jesus?" I'd love to share with you how these two long term eDOT projects do just that.



Working with about 50 refugee and Greek kids just outside Athens, our co-worker, Jacob, did a trial run with our latest TEFL (Teaching English as a Foreign Language) curriculum based on the Chronicles of Narnia movies. This curriculum, called "Adventures in the Wardrobe", will be published in an electronic format with downloadable worksheets to practice on. While learning English, students will be exposed to the message of the Gospel creatively told through this outstanding book and movie series. We plan to be publishing curriculum which covers the first two movies by the end of the year.

Courtney and his co-worker, Jeff, also went to Athens but met with church planting leaders from around Europe and Central Asia to show a beta version of the CityPrayer app. This app began from a discussion with church planters who were asking if there was a way that technology could help them better connect with those that felt passionate to pray for a certain city, region or country. We all could imagine something like this on Facebook, but there were legitimate relational and security concerns to using something public like social media. The person you might be asking prayer for might be your online friend or there may be a security issue if people knew someone was close to making a decision for Christ. CityPrayer is a mobile phone app that securely connects both the people who want something prayed for and those who feel passionate about praying. There are lots of ways that the app encourages prayer and then shares back to the people who were praying how that request was answered. The response to the test version of the App was overwhelmingly positive. We have more than a few that would like to try it and work through the kinks. Now just imagine that your grandma came from Kiev, Ukraine and you feel a connection to that place but don't know anyone there. Now just by choosing to pray for that city you can be networked with people there with what is going on everyday, on the ground there. Or you know missionaries who serve in southwest Germany and you'd love to hear what kind of doors they are knocking on today to have an opportunity to share with people about God's love. There's an app for that... coming soon.

Both of these are large projects taking 1000's of man hours to produce so it's exciting to see them starting to come to fruition.

Prayer Requests:

- Please pray for the Amy and Victoria, interns that are coming for two months this summer. Also pray for the team of 4 that will come for a 10-day Hackathon in late June. We've got an ambitious schedule of 2-3 apps that we'd really like to get some major development done on with these people.
- Please pray for the Rick & Peggy and Anna, two families that hope to arrive in Germany in July to join eDOT full time. They each still have around 15% support to finish raising.
- eDOT full time. eDOT is growing but we need more programmers and graphic designers!
- Krista's Bible Study finishes this month. We are thankful for 3 German leaders that have stepped up for our new beginning in September.
- Praise the Lord with us! We just wrote the last check to pay off our outstanding German Tax Loan debt. In just over 3 years the Lord helped us with 65,000 USD in debt and we are so very thankful for all the people he stirred to help us with this unplanned and unforeseen burden. In the meantime he reconfirmed our call, helped others meet a very tangible need and moved our location a bit so we could have more of an impact.

Want Ads

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

Bryant Johns is looking for work. If you or someone you know needs odd jobs done, please call Bryant at 828-565-0503

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 April 30, 2017

Tithe/Offering collections	80,407
Miscellaneous income	22
Designated giving	<u>1,196</u>
Total Revenue	81,265
Missions	13,700
Church Operating Expenses	<u>62,459</u>
Total Expenditures	76,159
Revenue over (under) expenditures	5,466
Prior year bills paid	0
Bill yet to be paid	0
Accounts receivable/Prepaid	<u>0</u>
Increase (Decrease) in Cash	5,466
Cash-in-Bank-Beginning of Year	<u>238,456</u>
Cash-in-Bank-End of Month	243,922
<u>Breakdown of Cash:</u>	
Checking Account	21,915
Savings Account	<u>222,007</u>
Total	243,922

June Volunteers

Snacks

June 4	Susan Kingshill team
June 11	Eleonore Shelton team
June 18	Glenda White team
June 25	Pot luck lunch

Nursery

June 4	LuAnn Davis Bob Dresdow
June 11	Courtney MacMillan Eden MacMillan
June 18	Glenda Brouwer Sarah Altman
June 25	Renee Mitchell Charlotte Allsbrook

Counting Teams

June 4	Wally Cook Sam Mitchell
June 11	Bill Allsbrook Phil Inglis
June 18	Bob Dresdow Pat Inglis
June 25	Thom Morgan Bruce Kingshill

Set Up/Close/Usher

June 4	Luke Allsbrook team
June 11	Phil Inglis team
June 18	Bruce Kingshill team
June 25	Bob Dresdow team

June 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
4 10:45 AM Holy Communion Boyd Allsbrook Skip MacMillan	5 Adger McKay Wesley Roberts Garrett & Renee Walston	6 12:00 PM Pastor's circle Wirt & Torpy Skinner	7	8 6:30 AM Men's Prayer Group 3:30 PM Women's Prayer Group	9	10
11 Bill & Jerry Allsbrook	12 Dennis Harper Bruce & Susan Kingshill	13 12:00 PM Pastor's circle Jeffrey & Jennifer Alt	14	15 6:30 AM Men's Prayer Group 3:30 PM Women's Prayer Group	16	17
18 Father's Day Joan Parker Susan Kingshill	19	20	Vacation Bible School 6:30 - 8:30 pm at Faith Community Church			
25 12:00 PM Pot luck lunch Bill Allsbrook	26	27	28 Holly Godfrey Adger & Sandra McKay	29 6:30 AM Men's Prayer Group 9:00 AM Cook & serve at Open Door 3:30 PM Women's Prayer Group Shirley Morrow	30 Gaby Lowell	
			21 11:15 AM Serving at Open Door Jeziah MacMillan	22 6:30 AM Men's Prayer Group 3:30 PM Women's Prayer Group	23 Steve & Buffy White	24