

THE PROVIDENCE POST

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



September 2020



I have been missing some things during Quarantine. We haven't gone to the movies in 6 months. We did not get to take our vacation to Canada this summer. I have missed seeing many of your faces in person. And don't get me started on the hugs! Something else I have been missing is Communion. That blessed meal that Christ meant for our spiritual unity as His body and for the nourishment of our soul. Recently I was reading in 1 Corinthians 10 and 11 about what Paul describes as the Mystery of Communion. Yes, this feast was born out of the commemorative meal celebrating deliverance from slavery in Egypt, and Christ infused that Passover Meal with deep spiritual significance in saying that He Himself was the sacrificial lamb that would bring true deliverance from our enemy of Satan and death and alienation from God. According to this text, communion is at least 8 things. First, we are to come together regularly and frequently to celebrate Eucharist. In COVID-19 times we have been stymied in this because we are spread apart as we practice social distancing. But our Session has planned to reinstate the regular observance of Communion beginning September 13. There will be packets in the sanctuary for those in-person and people at home can use elements in the home. Second, Paul exhorts us to examine our hearts, to test our motives, and to come in holy awe. Thirdly, communion is a proclamation! We proclaim the gospel when we partake. We enact the covenantal love of God for us and for each other as we affirm that Christ died for us sinners. Fourth we remember and recognize the mysterious presence of Christ in us and with us. As we partake we truly expect to experience a fresh encounter with the Living Christ. Fifth we experience what the Greeks called Koinonia--fellowship. We share in the benefits of Jesus' death--benefits that include freedom from the death grip of sin, of shame, of fear of our own mortality. We welcome the joy that comes with knowing that Christ has won the victory over sin--and in Christ, we have also. Sixth, this meal is about thanksgiving. This cup of thanksgiving compels our hearts to overflow with gratitude for what Christ has done for us. Seventh, partaking is an expression of our unity in Christ. Yes, we are all individuals but we are also part of the body. And finally, our participation is an anticipation of Christ's promised return. In tasting and seeing that the Lord is good to us through communion, we have a crumb of the loaf, a foretaste of the fullness of the Table of the Marriage Feast of the Lamb. Looking to the time when Christ's Bride, the Church (that's us!) is made complete. The great Consummation of History. The Great Culmination of the Kingdom Christ promised! So come with eager anticipation as you prepare to partake in the mystery of the Lord's Table. *Pastor Edward*

Contact us:

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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.

Worship and Church Activities

Sunday

9:45 am - Morning Worship

Wednesday

10:15 - Women's Prayer Group

Thursday

6:45 am - Men's Prayer Group

Providence Happenings



To our Providence Church family:

The Session has been closely watching the recent spike in Covid cases in Haywood County. For now we have decided to continue meeting both on zoom and in the sanctuary. We understand that there are varying opinions and uncertainty as to the level of risk. Please pray for us to have discernment as we seek to navigate a course that is not based in fear yet cautious and reasonable. We are a small congregation that is blessed to have a large sanctuary with a balcony. So If you decide to attend worship in person, please continue to use all the available space for seating, and especially when entering, exiting, and socializing, please wear a mask if you are able to. We love you all, and are praying for you, and look forward to the day we are all worshipping together at Providence.

The Session

Communion: Due to the virus crisis, we have not been able to celebrate communion together. We will celebrate the Lord's Supper on Sunday September 13th. If you choose to worship at the church, we have purchased prepackaged juice cups with wafers that can be safely distributed. If you will be worshipping with us via Zoom, just a little preparation is needed on your part. Prior to service time set aside a piece of cracker or bread and a small cup of juice or wine. Pastor will lead us in communion during the service. *Do this often as remembrance of me.*



Thanks to our Providence family for all of the food, calls and help. They were much appreciated. We miss seeing you all in person, and are really looking forward to the time when we can do so again.

Bill and Glenda White

Welcome to our new renters:

Eagle's Nest Remote Learning & School Age Program

All inspections (Building, Fire, & Sanitation) have passed and we will enter into a one-year lease with Aaron and Nicole Smith who are the current owners of Eagles Nest Childcare Center. Classes will begin August 31st. Included in the lease is usage of all the downstairs classrooms, storeroom by the staircase, and the 2 children's restrooms. Their new school will include childcare and remote learning classrooms for 5 -12 years old. Classes will be Monday thru Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

The children and teachers will have twice daily health checks. The new renters will be responsible for the cleaning of their rooms, hallway, & bathrooms.

Our Adult Sunday School class will be able to continue to meet where it is and we will share the room. The Nursery will be moved upstairs to a freshly painted room.

Our library will remain downstairs for the time being and the Well will move upstairs or into the Administration Building.

The remaining rooms upstairs will be utilized for Yard Sale items until our Fall sale.



Mission News



BLESSINGS UPON BLESSINGS

Providence Church members and friends have blessed many folks through your donations for and participation in our yard sale for missions. We have been able to supplement support of our missionaries as well as contribute to their efforts in ministering to their communities during this pandemic food shortage. Thank you for your generosity! Please pray God will bless and multiply these efforts and that many will come to see and know the love of God. This chart gives a breakdown of the funds disbursed thus far. If you have any questions about it, you can ask our missions committee.

Total Yard Sale Blessing	\$9,739.82	
Sharing Our Blessings		
Blessing Our Missionaries	Additional Support	Community food support
Lawrences/World Outreach (Middle East)	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,100.00
Lizarazus/Aliance Bible Church (Bolivia)	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 300.00
McKay/World Outreach (Germany)	\$ 1,000.00	
Roes/Gemedot (Germany)	\$ 1,000.00	
Sinclairs/Mission to the World (Uganda)		\$ 100.00
Stewarts/World Outreach	\$ 500.00	
Woodworths/World Outreach ITEN	\$ 500.00	
Blessing Others		
Israel Mission via Samaritan's Purse Israel Project	\$ 500.00	
Lupton's Food Program (Colombia)	\$ 409.10	
Beirut Relief via World Outreach	\$ 500.00	
Pathways hygiene supplies	\$ 214.54	
Total Yard Sale Funds Spent	\$ 8,123.64	
Remaining Yard Sale Funds	\$ 1,616.18	

Medicine and Vegetables for Refugees

Over the last few weeks, we have been able to help Middle Eastern refugees (Syrian, Yemeni, Sudanese, Somali, and Iraqi) who need medicine for chronic illnesses. After months of quarantine, few have money to buy essential foods with no income or reserves. So we have started to give vouchers for refugees to get fruits and vegetables from a vegetable stand. A family of six would receive a voucher which provides a meaningful amount of essential foods.

Our mission is not only to help the health and nutrition of refugee families, but to do this in the name of Jesus in this time of great need. Our goal is to pray with each family and have a network of Arab believers.

Click here to donate: [Account # 150552H](#)

Thank you for considering this need! We continue to pray that the mercy and kindness of Jesus will draw many to Him.

In His Grip, *L@nce and Lis@*

Update from the Luptons

I got mixed up while converting from the 12 million Colombian Pesos per month we spend to feed 200 families. That translates to \$16 USD per month per family. Regardless of how much you give, you can make a difference.

Why am I telling you this? The very few safety nets that exist in this country have gaping holes in them. Enter God's family with God's resources at its disposal. There are times in the life of God's global church in which we team up to protect the vulnerable among us. This is one of those times and we need your help!

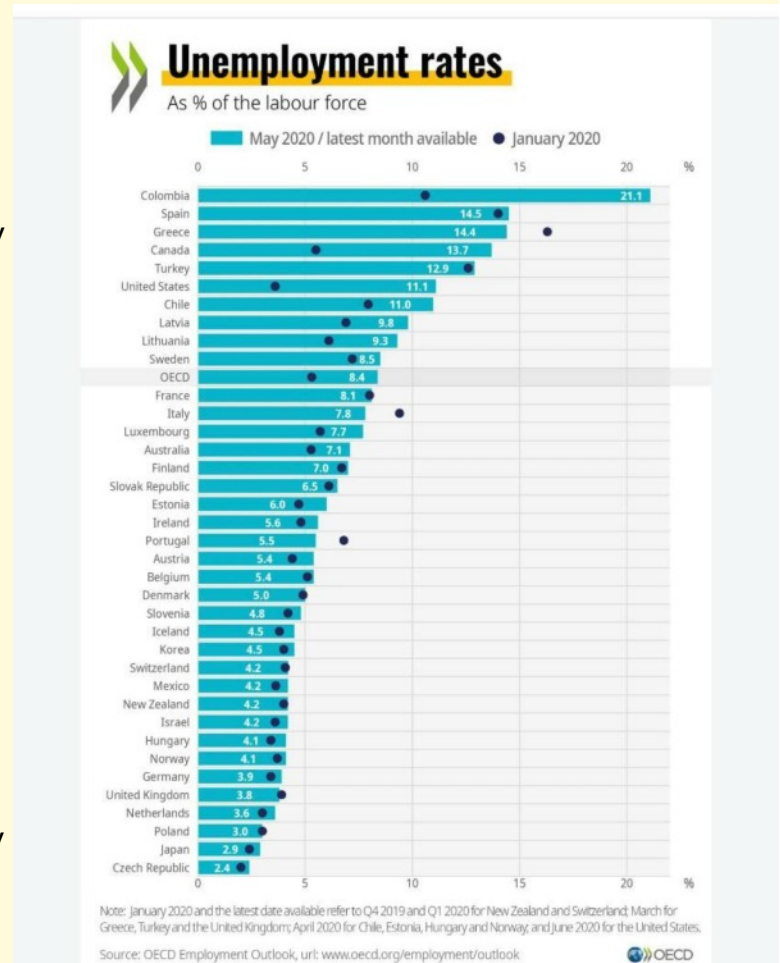
In addition to those in our congregation that United Church is sustaining by keeping their lights turned on, their rent paid, and food on their tables, we are supporting a poor community a few blocks south of the church called Juan 23. Our church has an ongoing ministry with at-risk kids in this community every Saturday morning (before the pandemic). On Saturdays we do our best to weave together English language learning, discipleship, and resources for their parents (usually moms) in hopes that they will enjoy Jesus and that some will escape the poverty cycle. During the pandemic we've been able to feed 200 families who would otherwise go to bed hungry at night. But our resources are starting to run out...

In partnership with a local food bank, we are able to feed 200 families for just under \$3,200 per month. Believe it or not, that's \$16 per family per month. They receive our food baskets every two weeks, along with fresh fruits and veggies that a community leader buys and distributes. Would you please consider making an ongoing or one-time gift our Mercy Fund that will provide relief for as long as the pandemic cripples these families we know and love. By doing this through our church's foundation, we are able to guarantee that 100% of your gift goes to these families in need. To make a tax-deductible donation, please visit this [link](#) and select "Mercy Fund" in the drop down menu.

Thank you so much for your wide-reaching prayers and financial generosity to the nations and the next generation.

Gratefully,

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



Update from Steve Woodworth - A New Rhythm

Prior to the {COVID-19} outbreak, I was putting together plans for 5 international trips between August and January. Now, I am spending most days on Zoom and Whatsapp. It has not been the easiest shift for me, but I am continuing to discern the ways in which God intends to use this unique season to bless his Church around the globe. I'll share at least three with you below.



ITEN is an official partner with a ministry called ICETE Academy (IA). ICETE is the umbrella organization for agencies that accredit institutions that offer Theological Education around the globe. IA is the training arm of the organization, offering dozens of free online courses for faculty members and administrators. Over the next 6 months, I will be mentoring 7 of our national leaders as they take 2 courses on Theological Education to further develop their goals, objectives and long-term strategic planning.

I had originally planned on joining Ed McCallum in Vietnam this October to begin our training sessions with ministry leaders. Like our plans in March, COVID is postponing our hopes of meeting in-person again so we are busy developing a hybrid course that allows us to teach online from a distance. A recent Zoom meeting (pictured above) allowed us to gather with our interpreters and some of the students to gain a better perspective of their ministry context, their expectations for the course, and our plans for the sessions.

For the last 3 years, I have spent every August in West Africa working with our national partners to develop training centers for pastors in Sierra Leone and Liberia. While it has been difficult to temporarily settle for online meetings, I have been grateful for the fruit of our conversations and the significant planning that promises to bring abundant fruit to these two sites in the coming year. Stay tuned!

I continue to preach monthly at our local church

Teaching online for Piedmont & Montreat College

Financial Update

So many of you have asked about our support levels during this time. We can't tell you how much it means that we are on the hearts and minds of our faithful supporters and we feel incredibly blessed by your partnership. To date, our support levels have experienced the expected shortfall that we imagined unemployment and shrinking church budgets would bring. With a reduction in travel expenses, my account deficit is not nearly as great as it would have been, but we are hopeful more partners may join us. Rest assured, God has been (and will be) abundantly faithful, and we are sensitive to the fact that the longer this crisis goes, the more it may affect the economy. We are not the only ones who have had to re-work our budgets, so if you need to adjust your monthly giving, please do let us know.

As always, if you are interested in joining our team, simply "CLICK to become a partner" below, and help us fulfill our calling to serve those with least access to the gospel. Thank You!

[CLICK & Become a Partner](#)

Prayer Requests

Our national partners, most of which are feeling the effects of the pandemic in greater ways than we do here in the US.

Join us in prayer for healing for the world so that our work, and the work of our national partners can continue unhindered.

Planning for our upcoming course in Vietnam (October)

Prayers for our two sons (Andrew and Zachary) as they head back to school

Prayers for our oldest (Luke) who plans to enlist in the Navy in October.

God's continued provision for our needs, as well as the needs of our partners.

Want Ads

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

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 - Barb Dresdow

Nursery: Mandy Mills

Providence Church Summarized Financial Information As of August 30th, 2020

Tithes/Offering collections	107,704.00
Budgeted Expenditures	(99,686.00)
Collections over expenditures	8,018.00
Yard sale (outside budget)	+9,760.00
Missions (outside budget)	-6,800.00
Savings account balance	89,508.00
Checking account balance	21,685.00

September Volunteers

Snacks

Sunday School/Children's Worship

Counters


Communion

Open/Close/Usher

Sep 6	Phil Inglis
Sep 13	Bob Dresdow
Sep 20	Sam Mitchell
Sep 27	Bill Allsbrook

Cleaning

September 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 Emily Lizarazu	3	4 Art & Sarah Altman	5	
6	7 Labor Day	8	9 Wirt Skinner Chuck & Carole Torpy	10 Samuel Edwards	11 Sarah Altman	12
13  Holy Communion	14	15 Jason Edwards	16	17	18	19 Clara Alt
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27 Loren Alt	28 Sam & Renee Mitchell	29	30			