

THE PROVIDENCE POST

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



May 2021

Pentecost is just around the corner. The Session has prayerfully considered this joyous celebration day as the Sunday that we hope we can all return to the sanctuary in person. We plan to start SS again and I will start the Pastor's weekly Tuesday noon Bible Study that week as well. What is significant about Pentecost? It literally means "50th Day". Originally a Jewish Festival, it was one of the three major feasts of Israel--celebrated exactly 7 weeks after Passover. It was also known as the Feast of the First Fruits when the people of Israel would bring portions of their early crops as an offering to the Lord. Kind of an initial tithe coming in Spring, with the hope-filled anticipation of a bumper crop harvest in the Summer and Autumn. In Christian theology and experience this prefigured the first outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon "all flesh" (predicted by the prophets Joel and Isaiah) and a promise for a continual harvest of souls through the advancement of the gospel in the power of the Holy Spirit--until the final harvest and second coming of the King. That first Pentecost happened exactly 50 days after Jesus' death and resurrection, about which Jesus explained "I must return to heaven so that I can send the Comforter". The Holy Spirit's coming is the indwelling of Christ within every believer's heart. This outpouring of the Spirit nearly 2000 years ago was the promise of a continual harvest of souls until the return of Christ. Every time anyone comes to the faith they experience the indwelling of the Spirit. But let us not stop with one experience. This Spirit desires earnestly to make fresh and compelling our faith, each and every day of our lives. First fruit that promises daily grace upon grace to know Him and love Him more and more each day of our lives.



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

Tuesday

10:15 - Women's Zoom Prayer Group

Thursday

7:30 am - Men's Zoom Prayer Group

Pastor Edward

Providence Happenings



Graduation Celebration

Providence would like to recognize and rejoice with our 2021 graduates, Charlotte Allsbrook and William Rhodarmer. Join us on Sunday, May 16th, immediately following the Sunday worship service for an outdoor BBQ luncheon, provided for everyone to enjoy as we have a time of fellowship, fun and celebration. Come ready to defend your title as "4 Square Champion 2021" .

A different "rain" venue will be forthcoming . Gifts are not necessary, but if you so desire we thought since students can't live on just pizza, we hoped to provide them with a bit of extra "dough".

To assist us in food preparation, we ask that you either fill out the sign up sheet at the welcome table in the Narthex, or contact Renee Mitchell (dvm@charter.net - Subject line : Graduation Celebration) by May 9th, 2021.

If you are unable to attend, you may send your congratulations, gifts, advice and well wishes to :

Charlotte Allsbrook, 140 Woodside Circle, Waynesville, NC 28786 and
William Rhodarmer, 155 Redleeve Dr., Waynesville, NC. 28786.

Yard Sale

The Mission Committee will hold a 3 day YARD SALE on June 17, 18, & 19. Woohoo, it's going to be a big one!!! If you are able, please join me on Monday May 17th, 9 am- noon and/or 3 pm - 6 pm, and Tuesday the 18th from 12 - 4 pm for some SERIOUS sorting and styling!!

Those are the only two days I will be in town to work (I moved to Hilton Head for the rest of the year) but if you're available ANY other day to work call Barb or Renee M. for job assignments.

If you bring furniture for the sale please make sure it makes its way to the old Nursery and if at all possible, take any new donations upstairs. It's very much appreciated. Thanks in advance for all your help. In Christ, *Tj Anthony*

Open Door: This Friday, the 7th of May, is our day to cook at the Open Door. While Open Door is no longer able to serve meals, we are still volunteering to cook the meals on the first Friday of each month as an ongoing commitment of Providence Church to the least, the last, the lost and the lonely of our community. If you can help, please let Phil and Pat know at 828- 476-5130. .



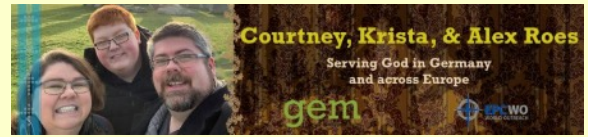
Mission News



Update from the Roes

The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few..

4 Romanians, 2 Turks, 2 Greeks, a Spaniard, and a German walk into a Zoom room. No this isn't the beginning of a joke but the start of our last European Candidate Orientation. Candidate Orientation is the central part of the process of becoming a missionary with Greater Europe Mission (GEM). After they've filled out tons of paperwork and psychological testing, this is a 2-week time of them getting to know more about GEM and us getting to know them. In the end, a "Discernment Team" that has been working with them over the two weeks decided if they will be accepted into the mission. Krista got to be a part of one of those teams. We were pleased at the end to be able to appoint all of these candidates to serve with GEM as church planters, evangelists, worship leaders, youth workers, and church administrators in various places around Europe. Now they must finish the appointee phase of the process which includes raising their financial and prayer support.



This Candidate Orientation was a big part of Courtney's new role as Director of International Staff Expansion, working to bring in missionaries from around the world to serve with GEM in Europe. He was especially able to leverage some of his technical and "how people best learn and engage online" skills to format and facilitate this important milestone through Zoom and some other online tools. Please pray for our next Candidate Orientation in May where a Brit, a Welsh person, a Hungarian, and a German will all walk into a Zoom room.

In the US this summer Catch-up & Chat

From June 1 through July 16, we will be in the US connecting with churches and supporters. We're hoping to connect with you! Please see our available schedule here and sign up for a coffee or meal, dessert, or just a hang-out time. If you are concerned about meeting in person, we are happy to connect over Zoom as well.

One NEED we have is for a dependable car for those 6 weeks. If you have a vehicle that we could borrow or rent we would appreciate connecting with you.

Prayer Requests:

- Pray as Courtney facilitates another European Candidate Orientation May 17-28
- Community Bible Study groups in Germany are starting to plan for the Fall. It's still a bit unclear what the meeting requirements are going to be here, and some are weary of online. Please pray that our groups would be encouraged to continue in God's Word and not be tempted to stop.
- Please pray for a job for Alex this summer that will not only provide some income but also give him some experience and knowledge of what he likes and dislikes as he continues to pursue his future goals.
- God's provision for a car for us this summer and that we would be able to meaningfully connect with our partners in the US.

Update from the McKays

Spring Greetings from slowly-thawing Germany,

We are pleased to see a bit of warming here as Winter is begrudgingly retreating... not quickly enough for our tastes. We pray that the Father grants you joy in this season and that the oppressive tactics of the enemy do not succeed in finding a place to roost in your hearts and minds. This battle is all too real to us here Engaging the Displaced. He is risen and He is Lord!!



Due to the lockdown restrictions, there are times when Sandra and I cannot both visit with a family. One such time occurred recently when she visited some Afghan M. friends a couple of days before the man of the house had a nerve-wracking interview to determine if he could stay in Germany, or would be shipped back to Afghanistan away from his wife and children. As Sandra stood up to leave after the usual tea and such, the wife decided that my amazing wife should pray for her husband's upcoming appointment. This is very unusual for a woman to pray for a man in that culture and you can imagine Sandra's surprise when she also insisted that she lay her hand on his arm as she prayed! Sandra questioned this and A., the wife responded by saying, 'you are my sister, it is OK!' We continue to be so blessed in relationship here.

There are so many lonely people in this crazy season of life and lockdown... from every tongue and tribe and nation. We recently dropped in spontaneously on some refugees from Iran, about 40 minutes from our home here. To see the look on their face was priceless, as we live too far away to 'drop in' under normal circumstances. We discovered that the one lady from the West that usually spent time with them was so concerned about the virus that she was seeing them less and less frequently... they acutely feel that loneliness and are in desperate need of social contact and love. The husband has been unable to go to work at his usual job at a restaurant since all are closed here. As we said our goodbyes, the lady of the house insisted that we gather in a tight circle and pray for them, savoring the peace of the Lord and the contact of soul and spirit. Please pray for B. and E....they have a tough life and need to really know Jesus' love for them and His manifest presence.

Sam and Ian are back in school now... with two COVID tests per week and masks and distancing, we are grateful for this window... and pray that it will stay open. We are immensely grateful for your love, support and prayers, it is a privilege to serve these displaced ones.

His peace in the storm,

Adger, Sandra, Sam and Ian McKay

Prayer/Praise:

- We would love to be able to get a Farsi group together...
- Sam and Ian are on-site at school... for now!
- Dreams and visions for our M. friends during Ramadan
- Please pray that the path will be cleared to come to the U.S. this summer

An Update from Steve Woodworth with ITEN: EPC

This picture was taken in our backyard here in Northeast Georgia, where God has graciously provided a 3.5 acre plot of land for our family to steward. Over the past three years we have cultivated the land and planted organic gardens. In addition to the incredible food it provides for our family, gardening is my wife's passion. Behind those



gates is her refuge. Soiled covered hands, and the joy of raising plants from seed to harvest brings her an immense amount of joy. It also demands a seemingly infinite amount of work.

Again and again I return to our garden as an apt metaphor for ministry- a healthy harvest demands a great deal of preparation and labor. In fact, the majority of time spent on a garden is dedicated to preparation. Months and months of saving seeds, preparing the soil, mending fences, and sprouting seedlings have to occur in order to achieve just a few months of eating fresh fruits and vegetables.

The past year has often felt a lot like that for ITEN. Months and months of behind the scenes labor in anticipation of the eventual fruit of returning to the field once again. With vaccines on the rise and COVID cases on the decline, it does appear that the worst of this pandemic is finally behind us. In light of this we look forward to getting back into the garden in 2021 to harvest more fruit. Read on to hear about our plans.

ITEN Leadership Retreat

From April 27-29 I will gather with Bruce Anderson and Ed McCallum in Charlotte, NC for our annual leadership retreat. This will be the first time that the three of us have seen each other in-person in over a year! It will be an incredible time of fellowship, prayer, and planning as we discern God's will for ITEN in the coming years. Please pray for us!

Albania: May 17-21

While lockdowns, curfews and COVID protocols still remain in place for Albania, I will be teaching my next course at ISTL remotely. Dozens of students will attend virtually and in-person to spend a week diving into a course on The Gospels. We anticipate an additional trip in 2021 where I will be able to introduce new EPC partners to ISTL in person.

Prayer Requests

- Our oldest son Luke has now graduated from Navy Bootcamp and has been moved to Coronado, CA for the next stage of his training with the special warfare cadets. There is still a long road until (and if) he completes it (there is a 85% dropout rate), so we are praying daily for his physical, emotional and spiritual health.
 - God's continued provision for our needs as a family, as well as the needs of our partners.
 - Our annual ITEN retreat (April 27-29)
 - My next course (virtually) in Albania from May 17-21
 - Wisdom, patience and insight as we raise our two other teenage sons (Andrew 16, Zachary 14)

Want Ads

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

Anybody that wants to exchange garden plants give me a call." *Pastor Edward*

Providence Church Divisions

Edward William Brouwer, Pastor & Worship

Our Session

Class of 2021

Bob Dresdow

Phil Inglis

Class of 2022

Luke Allsbrook

Bruce Kingshill

Class of 2023

Jason Edwards - Building & Grounds

Will Roberts - Clerk

Elder Emeritus

Kent Roberts

Music Director & Worship - Renee Allsbrook

Administrative Assistant - Linda Wilson

Nursery: Mandy Mills

Providence Church

Summarized Financial Information

As of April 29th, 2021

Tithes and Offerings	\$54,813.95
Expenditures	(39,260.51)
Collections over expenditures	15,553.44
Checking account	20,324.77
Savings account	75,045
CD	12,000

May Volunteers

Snacks

Sarah Altman

Nursery

May 2	Rhonda Lear
May 9	Pat Inglis
May 16	Calvin Allsbrook

Sunday School/Nursery/ Children's Church

May 23	Glenda Brouwer
May 30	LuAnn Davos

Counters

Linda Wilson
Bruce Kingshill


Open/Close/Usher

May 2	Luke Allsbrook
May 9	Phil Inglis
May 16	Will Roberts
May 23	Bruce Kingshill
May 30	Luke Allsbrook

Cleaning

May 3	Toni/Barb
May 10	Edward/Jason
May 17	Edward/Jeffery
May 24	Linda/TJ
May 31	Mitchells

May 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2  Holy Communion	3	4 10:15 AM Women's Prayer Group	5 Paula Rhodarmer	6 7:30 AM Men's Prayer Group	7	8
9 Mother's Day	10	11 10:15 AM Women's Prayer Group	12	13 7:30 AM Men's Prayer Group	14	15
16 12:00 PM Graduates' BBQ	17 Chuck Torpy	18 10:15 AM Women's Prayer Group Pat Inglis Roberta Edwards Yard Sale	19	20 7:30 AM Men's Prayer Group	21	22
23 Sunday School 10:00 Worship shifts back to 10:45	24	25 10:15 AM Women's Prayer Group 12:00 PM Pastor's circle	26 Makayla Lawrence	27 7:30 AM Men's Prayer Group	28 Charlotte Allsbrook	29
30	31 Memorial Day (Observed)					