

# THE PROVIDENCE POST

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



Contact us:

**Providence Church**  
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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

11:15 - Sunday School

### Tuesday

10:15 - Women's Prayer Group

12:00 Pastor's Bible study

### Thursday

6:45 am - Men's Prayer Group

## January 2022

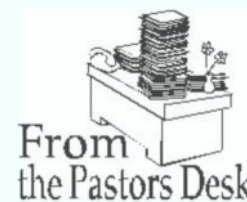
January 1 is the traditional day to make resolutions. You know what I am talking about. Join a gym and get in shape. Start a diet and lose a few (or more) pounds. Drop an old unhealthy habit and perhaps replace it with a new habit. You've heard the expression "it didn't take a day to get you where you are and it won't be a day to get you out of it"....or something to that effect. The rhythms and cadences of our lives that have gotten us physically or emotionally or spiritually "out of shape" will take time, concerted action, and willpower to change for the better. "Physical exercise is of some benefit", Paul writes to his friend, fellow pastor, and son in the faith, "but godliness has value for all things, holding promise for this life and also the life to come." 1 Timothy 4:8. In the coming year, Providence is not planning to start a physical fitness class, as helpful to our bodies as that might be (though you might consider joining a team for facility maintenance). But we do have many opportunities to flex our spiritual muscles and become toned in the things of the Spirit. Join a Bible Study. Participate in a prayer meeting. Serve with God's people at Open Door. Share your faith at Bible Club. Teach (or attend) a Sunday School class. Develop habits of regular church attendance, Scripture reading, prayer, and fellowship. Let 2022 be the Best Year Ever to the glory of God.

*Pastor Edward*

## Highlights of 2021 at Providence Church

I pray that this year-end note finds you in health and joy in the Good NEWS of Christ's coming in the Incarnation. I am honored, blessed, and grateful to serve as your pastor. As I ponder God's rich goodness to us, His

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# Providence Happenings



faithfulness, and His mercy I reflect on the life of our community of faith in this remarkable and very challenging year. As we orient ourselves to the compassion of Christ's love for us I ponder the 4 points of that compass--NEWS: north, east, west, south as a rubric.

**Nurture**--we long to be a community that nurtures gospel faith and living. In 2021 a few passed away, some have moved away, others have moved on. We grieve yet we also rejoice--because parting is sorrowful yet we hold on to the Father's gracious love for us. God has brought new families to our fellowship, we celebrated a wedding of one of our members, and we are reminded that "the steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, His mercies never come to an end, they are new every morning, Great is Thy Faithfulness."

**Evangelism**--Providence supports over a dozen local and international ministries. Our giving plus fundraiser successfully ministered to Bible Club (with 40 children), homeless ministry, youth evangelism, flood and tornado relief, and sharing the Goodnews of Christ in countries as varied as Jordan, Uganda, and Belgium. Around the corner and around the world we seek to live and share the gospel.

**Worship**--We gathered each Sunday to worship, whether on Zoom or in person. We met for several Bible Studies and prayer meetings and encountered the presence and comfort of the Spirit, whenever and wherever two or three gathered in His name. In our homes, we came together for faith conversations, for fellowship, and to encourage one another in the faith.

**Service**--In a small fellowship like Providence, each and every person is both valued and needed. We pulled together to serve at Open Door and our Mission's Yard Sale. People volunteered in myriad ways to lead worship, lead Bible Studies, serve on our Session, provide nursery care, teach Sunday School for children, youth, and adults. We prepared audio-visuals for Sunday service, mowed grass, and did landscaping on our annual workday in May. We are grateful for the beautiful facility we have and for each and everyone who helped steward the church building well.

We are thankful for the many ways that you have shared in giving your time, treasure, and talent with the body of Christ here at Providence. As you consider your year-end giving opportunities, do think of us as we wrap up the year and seek to cover our remaining expenses and make budget. You can drop a gift in the plate this Christmas Eve or on Sunday, or mail a gift to the church at PO Box 65 Clyde NC 28721. Any envelopes postmarked by December 31st will count toward 2021 giving.

Wishing all of you a Truly Christ-filled Christmas and a Blessed New Year.

*Pastor Edward Brouwer*

## Haywood Children's Outreach

We wrapped up our ministry to children at Junaluska Elementary School with a Christ-centered Christmas party on Tuesday, the 21<sup>st</sup>. We had the joyful privilege of sharing the gospel with 40 children this semester. The children each received a Bible or devotional book as a reminder of God's love in Christ to them. Thank you to all who have prayed for Renee Allsbrook, Linda Roberts, and Pastor Edward as we share the good news. We are so grateful to have this witnessing opportunity in the public school. And thank you to our mission team and all who helped make this possible.

### **Altman's New Address**

Here is Art and Sarah Altman's new address. Please keep their son Raymond in your prayers. Thank you.

Art and Sarah Altman  
10 Glenrock Lane  
Simpsonville, SC 29681

### **Open Door Soup Kitchen:**

This is an ongoing commitment of Providence Church to the least, the last, the lost and the lonely of our community. 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. If you can serve in this way, please let Linda Wilson know at 901-230-7178. Thanks for your faithfulness. **Please join us this Friday, January 7<sup>th</sup>, to bless and be blessed.**

## Kentucky Tornado Aid

Our missions team was able to send a financial gift to a local church we are connected to in Kentucky, to help with the devastating damage and carnage from the recent tornadoes. Thank you for being part of our ministry of loving compassion in Christ's name.

### **Sunday School**

Adult and Youth Sunday School is at 11:15. Paula Rhodarmer will be teaching. Will and Christina Roberts are leading a study of The Risen Lord for couples and singles. Bill and Jerry Allsbrook are leading the Youth Sunday School in a classic book by CS Lewis.

### **Nursery Worker Needed**

Providence is looking to hire a part time nursery worker for each Sunday from 9:45 to 12 noon. Please contact Edward Brouwer 828-550-4615, or Linda Wilson, 901-230-7178 ([providencechurchassistant@gmail.com](mailto:providencechurchassistant@gmail.com)), if you are interested or know of anyone that might be. Also, please be in prayer that God will guide this process.



# Mission News



## From the Luptons' Newsletter

### We're moving and we need your help!

After nearly nine beautiful years serving as missionaries in Bogotá, we are transitioning to a new field. As I stood before our congregation yesterday and listened to myself explain our upcoming transition, I felt the weight and beauty of the past nine years and the excited uncertainty of the next nine. It really is remarkable what God has done: marriages restored, countless conversions, leaders trained and deployed, an international church revitalized and stabilized. Where are we going? We're moving from Bogotá to Oslo, Norway, from Disney's Encanto to Frozen. That seems shocking. It was to us when it began to unfold six months ago.



Why are we moving? **Mission Accomplished:** Occasionally transitions in ministry are code for escaping a hard scenario, conflict, or treating burnout. This is not one of those occasions. Even despite the pandemic, our local ministry is mostly back to thriving. We have always dreamed of leaving this community in a healthy place when it was time to transition. Our local ministry has stabilized to the point that local leaders and the local congregation are able to hire someone to replace me. They no longer need a full-time missionary serving as their lead pastor, though other wonderful missionaries will continue to serve in a supportive capacity.

**Church Planting:** God has given us an irresistible itch for multiplication through church planting. This started a few months before the pandemic and was one of the beautiful gifts God gave us in the pandemic as we learned about and connected with planters from all over the world and in Colombia. In our new role, we'll not only get to plant an international church in Oslo. We'll get to support church planting in other parts of Norway. Check out our new friends, the Stavas, who will labor on the Norwegian side of church planting. Additionally, I (Andrew) will get to step into a global role with Missional International Church Network (MICN) to resource church planters and sending networks to start new international churches in strategic global cities.

**Local Strategy:** Why Oslo? Sure, it's cold and dark in Oslo for part of the year, but the strategic position of Oslo quickly warmed our hearts. Nearly 35% of the population of Oslo is international. There's no Reformed church in Oslo or one that's Reformed and also strategically ministering to the international community. Many, if not most, of Oslo's residents speak great English. A healthy, Reformed international church would be poised to reach so many locals and internationals in a massively secular setting.

We are planning to depart Colombia by May 31st or when I help hire my replacement, whichever happens sooner. We will likely move to North Carolina to begin the long process of growing and connecting to our support network. We need to double our support in order to recoup the amount currently provided by our church here in Bogotá and adjust to a higher cost of living (Oslo is much more expensive than Bogotá).

We have never done an HMA/furlough before and have no idea what we're getting into! We need to find a place to live short-term in the Raleigh/Cary area and a car to borrow/purchase/rent for our day-to-day life and support raising travels. Please let us know if you have ideas!

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



## Update from the McKays

I was recently interrupted while praying by a rising anger at the overt attempts of the enemy of our souls to steal the joy of celebrating this season... it was surprising the force with which it came upon me. And so, I want to encourage you all to celebrate His birth with those you hold dear and know that He is firmly seated on the throne! May our eyes be fixed fully on Jesus and His unsurpassed glory/beauty. A more in depth update will follow next month.



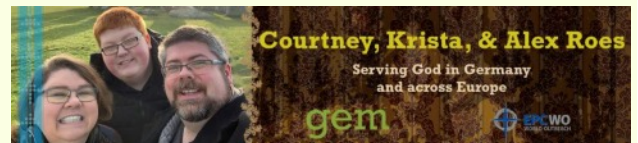
### Prayer/Praise:

- For an outpouring of love and power among the displaced in this season
  - We still face a monthly shortfall of over \$1,000/month
  - We are so grateful for this mission and the challenges it brings.
  - Resisting the pressure and oppression of this present age,...stand firm in Him!
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## From the Roes Newsletter

### Candidate Orientation on the Road

In November, for several reasons, Courtney was able to do some Candidate Orientations with two Europeans wishing to join GEM. The first person was an Italian named Matteo (along with his wife Crystal who was already a GEM missionary). Matteo is a personal trainer and musician who will be using his gifts with several churches in the Rome area. The second person was Geneviève who is in Gosselies, Belgium. She runs a "social" coffee shop where she and her volunteers serve coffee and are the hands and feet of Jesus in the center of town. We were also able to develop a partnership with Operation Mobilization Italy to be able to launch more Italians into missions. Exciting times!



### Prayer Requests:

Immediate: Alex tried to fly to be with us for Christmas but things change and he's now required to show a negative PCR test. He was rebooked for later this week. Please pray that goes smoothly.

January is already filling up with meetings and travel. Please pray that these are able to continue with the higher COVID numbers in Europe and that their purposes are fulfilled.

Please pray for our neighbor, Hadji. He's resistant to talking about spiritual things as he's feeling "cursed" (very literally as he believes in those things) as his business is struggling. There have been some positives lately so pray that he may be more receptive now.

Praise God. Alex had another spectacular semester academically in university and will continue to be on the Dean's list for his school.

CBS-Deutschland's (Germany) leadership is looking to have a retreat for all CBS workers in February but there's a lot of details to be worked out. Pray they are wise in how to put this all together.

## 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 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

### Providence Church

### Summarized Financial Information

As of November 30, 2021

Tithes and Offerings	\$137,372
Other Income	2,065
Mission giving	5,934
Carryover funds - Missions	(3,864)
Expenditures other than Missions	(140,627)
Mission Expenditures	<u>(10,820)</u>
Expenditures over collections	(9,940)
<b>Breakdown of cash:</b>	
Checking account	15,174
Savings account	<u>75,083</u>
Total	\$90,257

## January Volunteers

### Snacks

Jan 2	TBD
Jan 9	Linda Wilson Renee Allsbrook
Jan 16	Renee Mitchell Jennifer Dale
Jan 23	Glenda Brouwer Paula Rhodarmer
Jan 30	LuAnn Davis Carolyn

### Sunday School/Nursery/ Children's Church

Jan 2	Glenda Brouwer Margaret Allsbrook
Jan 9	Christina Roberts Calvin Allsbrook
Jan 16	Renee Mitchell Jenna Dale
Jan 23	LuAnn Davis Susan Kingshill
Jan 30	Jenny Alt Linda Roberts

### Counters

Jan 2	Luke Allsbrook/TBD
Jan 9	TBD/Linda Wilson
Jan 16	Will Roberts Linda Wilson
Jan 23	TBD/Bruce Kingshill
Jan 30	Luke Allsbrook



### Open/Close/Usher

Jan 2	Luke Allsbrook
Jan 9	Will Roberts
Jan 16	Will Roberts
Jan 23	Bruce Kingshill
Jan 30	Luke Allsbrook

### Cleaning (week of)

Jan 3	Edward/Jeffery
Jan 10	Linda R/Susan K
Jan 17	Mitchells
Jan 24	Edward/Jason
Jan 31	Linda R/Susan K

# January 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2  Holy Communion	3 Carole Torpy	4 10:15 AM Women's Prayer Group 12:00 PM Pastor's circle Michael Lear Sandra McKay	5	6 6:45 AM Men's Prayer Group	7	8 New Year's Day 
9	10	11 10:15 AM Women's Prayer Group 12:00 PM Pastor's circle	12	13 6:45 AM Men's Prayer Group	14	15
16	17	18 10:15 AM Women's Prayer Group 12:00 PM Pastor's circle Edward Brouwer	19 Margaret A. Brook	20 6:45 AM Men's Prayer Group	21	22
23	24	25 10:15 AM Women's Prayer Group 12:00 PM Pastor's circle	26	27 6:45 AM Men's Prayer Group	28	29
30	31					