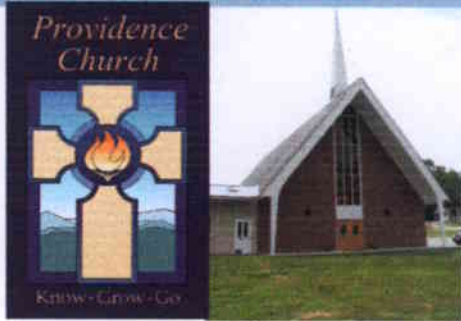


THE PROVIDENCE POST

Providence Church - an Evangelical Presbyterian Church congregation

Located on the Haywood Christian Academy senior campus - 1400 Old Clyde Road, Clyde



Contact us:

Providence Church

P.O. Box 266

Hazelwood, NC 28738

(828) 550-4615

<http://www.providence-epc.org>

Directions to 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 right.

From Clyde: 19/23 to exit 105, right on Jones Cove Road, then as above.

Worship and Church Activities

Sundays

9:45 am - Sunday School for all ages

10:45 am - Morning Worship. with
nursery and Children's Church

Thursdays

6:45 am - Men's Prayer Group

April 2014

The Search Process : Part 3 - Intermission

The Search Committee has completed the Church Information Form (CIF) and has posted it along with an ad on the Opportunities Available Website of the EPC. PIF's are starting to come in and the first interview has been conducted. While we are waiting for additional potential candidates to respond, I would like to digress to a topic that I have been pondering. The Marginalization of The Church and the Relevance of the Gospel. This question has caused me to focus and contemplate on the mission of the Church as well as The mission of Providence.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer was a young German theologian who was put in prison and ultimately hanged by the Nazis, two weeks prior to the end of WW2. He was hanged for belonging to an organization that tried to assassinate Hitler. He struggled with what he felt was the lesser of two evils - destroy Hitler or allow him to destroy the Jews and the entire German nation. He approached this same question (The Marginalization of The Church and Relevance of the Gospel) from a very different perspective than myself. Bonhoeffer sought an explanation as to how the Nazis could have risen to power and perpetrated such enormous atrocities and evil in Germany. A Germany he loved and regarded not only as a "Christian Nation" but as a nation with possibly the greatest culture of any nation that had ever existed since the earth was created. Why had the Church and the German Christians failed to take a united stand against such evil? After all, Germany was not a pagan nation.

Bonhoeffer came to the conclusion that maybe Germany was not really a Christian nation as he had thought. He was convinced that most people thought of themselves as Christians and would say they were Christians upon being asked. He observed and postulated that most people had compartmentalized their lives and had marginalized God by relegating him only to those areas where they felt they needed him. God was for the most part welcomed at weddings and funerals and for those areas of life where mysteries remained, and no answers were to be found. As science solved more and more mysteries, God was relegated to the periphery of one's life. The Church was marginalized in the process and the Gospel was seen as less and less relevant in the people's daily lives. The people could manage on their own.

- Continued on next page -

Providence Church Divisions

Our Session

Class of 2014

Bob Dresdow - Worship

Pat Inglis - Clerk

Class of 2015

Sam Mitchell - Building & Worship

Class of 2016

Luann Davis - Education

Jim Spencer - Missions & Congregational Care



Music Director

Renee Allsbrook

Sunday Morning Prayer

The session would like us to gather regularly to pray for God's guidance and wisdom as we venture into His call for us as a church. Specifically, we would like to pray for:

- 1) Providence church
- 2) Search committee
- 3) Call of new pastor
- 4) Call of interim pastor
- 5) Session
- 6) Pastor Josh, Sara, & the kids

When: Sundays at 9:30 a.m.

Where: Media center back by the Sunday school rooms

We would like this to be ongoing. As Alan Wildsmith from Presbytery charged us: "pray, pray, pray!" Let's do that as the body of Christ. Hope to see you Sunday.

Humbly seeking Him,

Your Session

The majority of the German people did not have a Christ-Centered world view, a view where Christ was at the center and the world was viewed thru the lens of Christ or the Scriptures, to determine what behavior was right or wrong. They did not have faith integrated into all areas of their lives. They had not allowed The Sovereign God of Scriptures, to be Sovereign in all areas of their lives. The more capable and successful they were on their own the less they needed Him. Nationalism was again sweeping thru Germany after WWI as they were suffering from a devastating economy and hyper-inflation, brought on as a consequence of the war. They saw themselves as Germans first and that the Government could supply their needs and answers - not the Church.

While I realize that the previous paragraph is an over simplification, my intent is to focus on the Marginalization of the Church and Relevance of the Church. I have pondered the question from the viewpoint of "why are fewer young people attending or involved with the Church". Let's look at America and Haywood county today. Most of the citizens profess a belief in God. Most citizens do not attend any type of church. Most citizens rely on the government to solve life's issues. Most citizens would probably view themselves as a citizen of America over being a citizen of the Kingdom of God. The citizens who consider themselves Christians have adopted a Cafeteria-type Christianity - taking what suits them and ignoring what doesn't. The Gospel is being made to fit the culture and politics vs the culture and politics conforming to the Gospel. Politicians have commented that Jesus would want everyone to have universal health care and a comfortable retirement plan? Is Jesus more concerned about our comfort than the state of our soul?

There is danger in wanting the Gospel to be popular and to be intertwined with politics and the culture. One of the dangers is The Church becomes Marginalized and the Gospel seems to lose its relevance. To be sure all of us need to examine ourselves and see if God is Sovereign over all areas of our lives. Are there areas that we exclude Him? Is our Faith integrated into all areas of daily life? Do we have a Christ Centered World View where we view all areas of life and culture thru the lens of the Scriptures? Are we any different than the Germans in this area? Are we like Adam and Eve and rebellious towards God and his Word, by thinking we know best when it comes to what will truly make us happy and content and that is what we will pursue?

In the next update we will return to the process of reviewing pastoral applications and the interview process.

Thanks For listening

Thom

Providence Happenings



Small Groups

Paula Rhodarmer will be teaching a women's bible study beginning in April in her home at 32 Paul Holland Rd., Canton, NC 28716. Call for directions and time. 273-3469

From Paula:

At this time I am teaching Monday at 4:30 and Friday at 10:00. The Friday study we eat lunch together after Bible study and we rotate around the group and have it at each other's house. The Monday afternoon class is just Bible study, no refreshments, but most bring their own drink. The afternoon class is always held here at my house. I welcome people from the church. While the days and times are somewhat negotiable I need to keep the Monday study sometime after work. It has been 4:30. I will try working things around so we can accommodate anyone who wants to come if at all possible. We will be studying Revelation. I have included a list of the books for the study. It will be taught from a reformed viewpoint consistent with our church and the Westminster Confession. You can look any of these books up on the Internet for a synopsis or I can bring them in. Call me if you have any questions. Thanks so much,

Paula

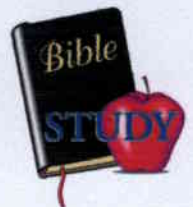
Books to be used:

The Returning King: A Guide to the book of Revelation, by Vern Poythress

New International Commentary on the New Testament: the book of Revelation, by Robert Mounce

A Commentary on the Revelation of John, by George Eldon Ladd

Revelation: The Spirit Speaks to the Churches, by James M. Hamilton



Church, what kind of small group would you like? Do you have any suggestions or ideas for topics? Who would you suggest teaching? We would love input from you so we can provide learning and fellowship opportunities in a small group setting. Love small groups! Thanks,

Pat Inglis

Pulpit Supply Information

<i>April 6th</i>	<i>David Hagen</i>
<i>April 13th</i>	<i>Zach Washburn</i>
<i>April 20th</i>	<i>Easter - Edward Brouwer</i>
<i>April 27th</i>	<i>Adger McKay</i>

Dear Church Family,

Thank you all so much for your generous gift/love offering for me and our family at Christmas time. Luke and I both love serving through worship leading, and you all are always so kind with your encouraging words and now with your tangible support. It is a joy to serve alongside you all, as each of us does the tasks we feel the Spirit's gifting and anointing in. You are a precious family to us!

Thanks again, Renee Allsbrook

Taylor & Kristin Cook Reception





Mission News



Mideast Update

A lot has happened since we wrote in January. Check out the stories below.



Studying the Word & Disciple-making

Grp 1 - Going through the OT prophets, praying for family needs, and jumping into the Gospels with 2 families. One lady has not yet believed in Christ, but loves the community of our study group.

Grp 2 - Continuing through John's Gospel. This has been less routine then desired due to life's interruptions, but the gentleman (Alex) is highly interested.

Grp 3 - Meeting with Silas, a believer, for spiritual growth & formation continues weekly. Prayer & reliance on Christ Jesus are our topics of focus.

Grp 4 - Lisa continues to visit many different women weekly to share, pray, study and give input into various life issues.

Quick Trip to the US

Lance had a quick and crazy trip back in February for a conference. Check out some of the events:

- Delayed in Chicago 1 day
- Clothes didn't make it for 4 days
- Computer was hacked
- Called his parents at the same time his mother was having a "heart attack" - turned out to be a gall bladder attack - she's doing good now

Prayer Items

1. Initial meetings with families of new youth program - to find people of peace.
2. New Bible studies (BS) to be started in the next 2 months.
3. Current BS to be empowered by the Spirit to change lives.
4. Jo to settle in and start language learning well.

Jack & Jill update

For those who have prayed and followed Jack & Jill, they continue to be resident in a Gulf country. The pressures which they faced in our country have stopped, but they are trying to make it financially in the new country. Jack is still without work (over 5 months), resulting in them being behind rent by 4 months. We have helped them as much as we can personally. Please be in prayer that Jack would find work quickly. If you desire to help with some of their rent costs (\$2000), we have a special account setup for gifts. To provide a gift for Jack & Jill do the following:

1. Visit the PIONEERS website - <http://pioneers.org>
2. Click on "Give" @ the top, and then "Automated Giving".
3. Use the account # 150552 for Jack & Jill.

Please let us know by email if you desire to give so we can expedite funds to them.

March 18 Email News From the Emergency Shelter

I thought I would pass along some news from the shelter. This past Sunday we had our youngest guest stay with us there at the shelter. She was about 8 lbs and about 20 inches long. This beautiful gift from God was 6 weeks old and growing. I praise God for allowing us the honor of having her stay with us and for allowing us the honor of having a ministry in our county where this beautiful little girl could rest and be warm.

This ministry would not be possible without the partners that help support us throughout the year and years. Thank you for partnering with us to reach out to those in our county that are going through rough times. I know this little 6 week old little girl thanks you also.

In Christ

Robert Earley

Co-Director Haywood Christian Emergency Shelter

The Stewart Family



Come Meet George Carey

at the

Stewart Partnership Team Meeting!

You are invited to come to our next Partnership Team Meeting: Thursday night, April 24th - 6:30pm - 8:00pm at Gaither Fellowship Hall. George Carey, the current World Outreach Director will be speaking and sharing an overview of where World outreach has grown in the last three years and where we see it going the next three. Lisa and I will also be able to tell you more of what my role as Coordinator of Mission recruitment looks like and how we are growing. Including: "The good the bad and the ugly!"! PLEASE come if you can.

Rejoice with us in what we see God doing!

My hope is that you will be encouraged by what God has been enabling us to be a part of because of your helping us to be missionaries. Lisa and I CAN NOT be serving with World Outreach without your participating in giving and praying. SO check out the following... it is with you all and for God's Glory that we serve!

- Our family is doing well... the photo above is going to be on our new prayer card. Thank you for your continued prayer for each of our children.

- Hey! We have 24 new workers to be commissioned at General Assembly in June... and I have 2 more pending. So we may have 26 for the 2014 year. That would be the largest group of World Outreach missionaries in one year. To God be the glory.

- continued on next page -

Thank you

3/21/14

*Dear friends at Providence,
We so enjoyed our time
with you last Sunday.
Your warmth, love &
encouragement means
so much to us.*

*Also thank you for the gift
and all your giving to
our support in the past.
May God continue to Bless
you richly. Lisa & Shaw*

- Eight of these will be involved with Engage2025.

Two of these are a couple who will help us with communication. A way for us to tell all that is happening with World Outreach fields... Though our field work is hard, we are seeing and hearing amazing things from our workers!

- Our funding by the World Outreach Committee has been approved for rebranding our materials for World Outreach. Very BIG for my role of reaching more people who are called to go but do not know about World Outreach. (Thank you First Presbyterian, Thomasville GA for the seed money for this!) The process for developing this starts in May.
- Our enVision Trek trips (Short-term exposure trips for those considering long term roles.) are on the go. Though our numbers are low, that is actually a good thing, in that it will help me have a first year that is manageable. I have a lot to develop for this to grow. These will be in Jordan, England & Indonesia.
- I have started weekly emails to 204 EPC youth workers. SO far about 50% are opening them... which is actually pretty good since I do not know most of them. This will be HUGE for helping World Outreach to gain more exposure among youth and young adults.
- In the last month, I have been able to speak to over 700 people and invite them to look into World Outreach.. that's crazy and such a gift for us to have these opportunities.
- We NOW have a new partnership that will help us train and send out more "Tentmaking" workers. This is through our Business for transformation focus that I hope we will have a coordinator for very soon. Patrick Lea of the Open Source network has given us the opportunity to offer this to any of our workers. People who are interested in working overseas will be guided and mentored by his team working in other countries. This is about having "real" businesses where our workers support needs would be less as they are earning part of it in-country. And they would also be involved in church planting in these Engage2025 countries.. making it a little easier to get them work visas.
- Just this past month we have had two more of our recently commissioned workers "released to go" to the field. This is the green light, which means they have reached their full support level. They are just now landing in the field and getting oriented.

Well I sure hope you find this encouraging... Lisa and I are slowing learning our balance and role. Little by little we see good things!

A few special Prayer Needs

- Lisa has been a primary nurse for a sweet baby we're calling "peepers" cause of his big eyes. She has had him for over 7 months. This week, it has been clear that he can not make it much longer. What a week it has been as they have had a baptism and talked through how to help let him go. Today they will be taking him outside as he has never been outside, seen the sun, felt the wind... Lisa has a small Bible she will be giving the mother and father and is on call for when the time comes to remove all the tubes that have been keeping this little guy alive. SO please pray for this family, for Lisa and the doctors and nurses who have grown so close to him.
- Pakistan is back on my radar. I am trying AGAIN to get a visa for travel into Pakistan with Asaph, our Engage2025 team leader. My need to go to Pakistan is vital. I have found that by going to the country we are seeking candidates for, helps tremendously with talking with those who are discerning a call to join a team. I will be traveling with Anthony Rodriguez, pastor of iSight EPC who is the Presbytery of the Mid Atlantic Engage2025 Home team leader for Pakistan. Our ticket for the flight is set for April 7th. So next week is our last week for us to get the visa for us to be able to go. Please ask our Abba father for his will to be done. I hope that he gives us the go ahead this time around.
- Pray for this emerging situation in Afghanistan.
- *Just as I was finishing up this update, Rob A. Our worker connected to Afghanistan sent out this prayer request of an attack happening today. WE DO NOT HAVE ANY World Outreach workers on the ground right now. This guest house is one that our workers know very well, and the latest news is four people are being held. Let's spread the word among our church family to be praying as it is still very fluid.*



Above: The Logo for our outreach... imagine 90 bright orange t-shirts all over campus in classrooms and in the SUB. It certainly was a conversation starter!



Left: It has truly been a joy to see Katelyn and Alli grow up right before our eyes!

"Using Our Story To Share His Story"

Prayer

- Please praise God for the ways He has shown up in the Before and After Outreach. Please praise God for the boldness of students to step out and identify themselves as believers and then to share their testimonies!
- Also, praise God for Megan's friend and Doug's sister who indicated decisions for Christ. Please pray that the Lord would protect these new believers and would grow them to maturity.
- Please pray for the two spring break missions trips MSU is sending. We are currently sending 57+ students to both Portland, OR and Salt Lake City, UT to share the gospel on college campuses and give lift to the Cru movements there. Please pray that the Lord would use Bobcats to further the gospel!

Matt & Lisa Kirby
 2108 Maplewood St.
 Bozeman, MT 59718
matt.kirby@cru.org
lisa.kirby@cru.org
 406.698.9183—Matt
 406.577.6407—Lisa
 Give at: <https://give.cru.org/0599540>
 Staff Account #0599540

This has been the catchphrase of our most recent endeavor called the "Before and After" Outreach. Here at MSU, we mobilized 90 students to share their 3-4 minute testimony on YouTube. It all centered around one word that described our lives "Before" Christ and one word that described our lives "After" Christ transformed our lives. Also, for the week of February 5-12th all 90 of us wore bright orange T-Shirts that had each of our personal "Before and After words" (i.e. Striving→Accepted). Multiple students engaged in spiritual conversations as a result of wearing these shirts. A few students were even asked to share with their class what the T-shirts were all about. It has been so exciting to see God embolden students' faith through this process. As a result of hitting the campus and YouTube with testimony about Christ's transforming power, the videos have been seen over 9,200 times and in 50 different countries!

After posting the videos on YouTube, students linked the videos to their Facebook pages and shared the videos with their friends. Megan, a freshman who went all-in for Christ at our Fall Retreat this year, posted her video and a friend from her high school messaged her telling her how he really related with her story. Since her friend is in the army stationed in Germany, she stayed up until 3am to Skype him. She used the "Knowing God Personally" booklet to explain to him how to have a relationship with Christ, and he indicated that he placed his trust in Jesus! Also, another student who we have shared about before, Doug, shared his video and got an opportunity to share the gospel with his sister in high school who also indicated that she placed her faith in Jesus Christ.

If I were to sum up what students and staff are experiencing in the movement right now, I would turn to Romans 1:16 which says, *"I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek."* What a privilege it is to be a part of this movement in proclaiming the gospel to our campus and beyond. Thank you for your prayers and your partnership in the Gospel. If you want, please look up some of the videos on YouTube. Go to [youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com) and search "bobcats before and after."



Plan ahead -- It wasn't raining when Noah built the ark

Benevolence Fund

There is a need of assistance in the community and in our own congregation. In addition to the minister's discretionary fund, Providence has a benevolence fund to help those in need. If you would like to make a donation to this fund, you can do so anytime and simply mark your gift for "benevolence." If you are in need of some assistance or know someone in need of help with heating, electric bills, medical bills, please let the Session know. Remember, such help is confidential.

Providence Church Summarized Financial Information January 31, 2014

Revenue

Tithe/Offering collections	9,600
Miscellaneous income	336
Designated giving	<u>100</u>
Total Revenue	10,036

Expenditures (10,896)

Revenue over expenditures	(860)
Prior year bills paid	(2,709)
Bill yet to be paid	2,473
Accounts receivable/Prepaid	<u>0</u>

Increase in Cash	(1,096)
Cash-in-Bank Beginning of Year	<u>237,538</u>

Cash-in-Bank End of month	236,442
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Breakdown of Cash:

Checking Account	38,730
Building Fund CD	<u>197,712</u>
Total	236,442

April Volunteers

Snacks

April 6 Diane B, Rhonda S, Laura G, Toni C
 April 13 Rita S, Renee A, Shirley M, Glenda
 April 20 Barb D, Jane L
 April 27 Renee M, Paula R, Rhonda L,
 Eleanor Shelton

Nursery

April 6 Paula Rhodarmer
 Rhonda Spencer
 April 13 Rhonda Lear
 Heidi Davis
 April 20 Susan Kingshill
 Renee Mitchell
 Rhonda Spencer
 April 27 Wally Cook
 Gaby Lowell



Children's Church

April 6 Luke Allsbrook
 April 13 Rhonda Spencer
 April 20 Barb Dresdow
 April 27 Liz Alley

Set Up/Usher Teams

Week 1: Bob Dresdow, Jane Ladner, Wally & Toni Cook
 Week 2: Jim & Rhonda Spencer, Bill White
 Week 3: Pat Inglis, Mike & Eleonore Shelton
 Week 4: Sam Mitchell, Mike & Rhonda Edwards Lear
 Week 5: LuAnn Davis, Sam & Renee Mitchell

April 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Will Roberts	2 Rodney & Lorraine Conard	3 6:45 AM Men's Prayer Group Lisa Lawrence	4	5
6  10:45 AM Holy Communion Renee Walston	7	8	9 Eric Lizarazu	10 6:45 AM Men's Prayer Group	11 Calvin Allsbrook Eric & Emily Lizarazu	12
13 Heidi Davis Palm Sunday	14 Kari Smith	15 Addie Pearl Locker	16 11:15 AM Serving at Open Door	17 6:45 AM Men's Prayer Group Maundy Thursday	18 Good Friday	19 Sommer Davis
20  Easter	21	22	23 Peter Cole	24 6:45 AM Men's Prayer Group 6:30 PM Stewart Partnership Team Meeting	25	26 Sara White
27	28	29 Linda Faulkner	30			