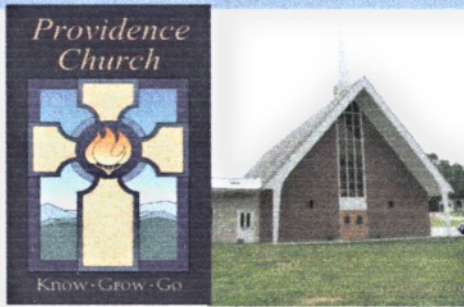


# THE PROVIDENCE POST

*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.](http://www.providencechurchwaynesville.com)

[providencechurchwaynesville.com](http://www.providencechurchwaynesville.com)

## **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 right.

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

## **Worship and Church Activities**

### **Sunday**

10:00 am - Sunday School for all ages

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

### **Tuesday**

12:00 pm - Lunch with Pastor

### **Thursday**

6:45 am - Men's Prayer Group

## **December 2015**

Advent is the time of year when we as Christians prepare our hearts anew to celebrate Christ's incarnation. As the familiar words of the old carol go: O holy Child of Bethlehem Descend to us, we pray. Cast out our sin and enter in. Be born to us today.

This Advent season at Providence we will celebrate the tradition of Advent wreath lighting. The first Sunday we look at Prophecy, and remember how Christ was foretold in the Hebrew Scriptures. Specifically in the words of Isaiah, "For Unto us a child is born and unto us a son is given and His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor Almighty God Everlasting Father the Prince of Peace". Let us look eagerly for Jesus! The second Sunday we ignite the candle of the Angels and note the annunciation as Gabriel tells Mary that she will have a son, and "His name will be called Jesus for He shall save his people from their sins". Let us remember that He came to redeem us. The third week of the season we will look at the Shepherds who received the glad tidings and made haste to the stable to see Jesus with their own eyes. Let us consider the gospel and encounter afresh the Christ. The Sunday before Christmas we look at the Wise-men who brought gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh to our Lord. Let us bring our gifts to the feet of Jesus. And on Christmas Eve we light the Christ candle, for Jesus is the Light of the World. Let us walk in the light--in fellowship with Him and with one another.

*Pastor Edward*



## **Session Highlights**

- 1) TV Monitor for sanctuary – The session affirmed the need to purchase a large monitor at the back of the sanctuary for the minister & worship team to use during the Sunday service. Luke Allsbrook will ask Rick Boen to determine the best size and price for the monitor.
- 2) Elder Nominating Committee – Sam Mitchell reported that an elder election form will be sent to members and used for electing four new elders during the Congregational Meeting on December 6, 2015.
- 3) Congregational Meeting has been scheduled for Sunday, December 6, 2015 after the worship service. Items on the agenda include:
  - a) Nominating Committee Report – voting for new elders
  - b) Budget Presentation
  - c) Terms of Call of the Pastor
  - d) 2017 Elder Nominating Committee
  - e) Meeting of the Corporation
- 4) Discipleship Coach – Pastor Edward Brouwer discussed using Rev. Chris Greenwood as a discipleship coach for interested elders and members. He will contact him and get more information.

# Providence Happenings



## Christmas Dinner



A church-wide Christmas dinner is planned for December 13<sup>th</sup> following the worship service. Please RSVP by December 6<sup>th</sup> to Barb Dresdow at 770-883-3936 or [providencechurchassistant@gmail.com](mailto:providencechurchassistant@gmail.com)

so the Congregational Care committee will know how much food to provide. We are looking for volunteers to bring homemade desserts. If you can help, let Barb know what you can bring.

## Second Saturday Cinema

Every second Saturday is movie night. Gather at 6:00 pm for food and fellowship. The movie starts at 7:00 pm. For further information contact Alan Cheney.

## Providence Church Divisions

Edward William Brouwer, Pastor

### Our Session

#### Class of 2015

Luke Allsbrook - Discipleship

Sam Mitchell - Worship

#### Class of 2016

LuAnn Davis - Clerk

Vacant

#### Class of 2017

Vacant

Curt Sevig - Missions

### Music Director

Renee Allsbrook

### Administrative Assistant

Barb Dresdow

## Congregational Meeting

There will be a congregational meeting on December 6<sup>th</sup> following the worship service, for the purposes of: approving the terms of call for the Pastor, election of Elders, election of nominating committee for 2017, hearing the report from the Session on the 2016 proposed budget, and the required annual meeting of the corporation.

## Salvation Army Bell Ringing



Providence Church will ring the bell for the Salvation Army on Tuesday, December 1<sup>st</sup>, in front of WalMart at the Food/Pharmacy entrance from 10 am to 8 pm.

**Welcome new member** Christina Roberts, who officially joined the Providence family on Sunday, November 29<sup>th</sup>. Christina has been a regular attendee and active in leading singing.



**Tuesday Lunch with Pastor Edward** meets Tuesdays at noon in the Home Trust Bank conference room in Clyde, to discuss the coming Sunday's sermon. Bring your Bible and a bag lunch.

## Christmas Worship in the Stable

At the 3<sup>rd</sup> Generation Barn Loft on Saturday, December 5<sup>th</sup>, from 5:30 to 6:10 pm. Sit on hay bales, worship with Mary, Joseph and the animals. Sing carols and hear Christmas scripture and a story. Free admission. Dress warmly. Directions: from I-40 take exit 33. Follow Newfound Road towards Leicester for about ¾ mile, fork left onto North Hominy Road, take 1<sup>st</sup> right onto Frank Mann Road.

## OCC Regional Shoe Box Processing Center trip to Charlotte



The church has an opportunity to go and work at the OCC processing center in Charlotte on Wednesday, Dec. 2<sup>nd</sup>, from 3-7 p.m. Departure will be around 1 p.m. And return around 9 p. m. If you are interested in going contact Pastor



# Mission News



Excerpts from Roes Newsletter:

## Kairos Moment

"We are living in a Kairos moment" is what our co-workers Jeff and Carrie Gage in Germany are telling us. A God moment, the Greek Bible word means – the right or opportune moment (the supreme moment). "It's just like when the Berlin wall came down, the ground is shifting but the potential for the Gospel is incredible, and the church in Europe is waking up."



This isn't the usual report you hear on the news when covering the European refugee crisis. The glimpses of human desperation are heart wrenching. Receiving countries trapped between moral imperative/humanitarian responses and challenged fiscal resources and internal political concerns. From a human perspective, the challenges and obstacles are overwhelming with 8,000-10,000 more arriving every day.

The only way this makes sense is to ask the Lord to give us His perspective. We've been praying for years that that God would bring revival to Europe and God is doing an amazing thing right now. Churches, denominations, Christian organizations and migrant churches are working together to mobilize a response. This may be a brief window- but it feels like the church in Europe is waking up a bit.

We've also been praying that God would give us greater access to the peoples of the Middle East and North Africa. They are coming! Many disillusioned by ISIS and Islam, traumatized by the journey, refugees are responding to the kindness of God's people (a very different perception of Christianity). God is both breathing a fresh wind into the European church and providing a window of unprecedented access in this "Kairos" moment.

For Courtney and I, the situation for us in Europe is changing rapidly. When we left in June there was 1 refugee camp within 20 minutes of our home in Kandern. Now there are 4, with a 5th in the works. Our co-workers we mentioned above, Jeff and Carrie, are heavily engaged. Jeff works with eDOT and Carrie has become a leader in the local response to the refugees in Germany.

eDOT is also working through some of the ways that technology can engage with this unprecedented opportunity. There is a network of Christian ministries emerging all along the "Syrian Highway" – the predominant pathway that people are coming through. The idea is to connect refugees through a "Safe Passage Hotline" and help them connect to the next place that they can receive help. We're not sure exactly eDOT's involvement just yet but exploring the whole concept.

Our mission, GEM, is also mobilizing as we have people at both the entry ports and the destination cities that these refugees want to get to. When you have nothing, it's so great to hear, "When you get to Cologne, look these people up, you'll find friendship and help."

So even though we are far away our hearts and minds are on what is going on in Germany and in Europe. Pray for us as we listen, learn, dream, pray, engage, work and hang on for the ride!E

## Excerpt from the Luptons Newsletter

Here are some sound bites from our lives last month:

"I believe in God and Jesus and the Holy Spirit and stuff, but I'm just not sure that all this isn't made up," admitted Katherine, a 16-year-old member of our youth group. "I mean, how can I know that this isn't just a story like all the other stories out there? What if it's not true?" Laura Kate and Katherine are meeting regularly to talk through ways in which considering Christianity cannot be casual, that it will deeply impact everything about her life.

"I don't think God could forgive me for everything that I've done," reflected Paula, a University Student who approached Andrew after a worship service. They were able to talk about how Jesus' costly sacrifice was enough to forgive everything that Paula has done, does, and will do. Paula prayed to receive Jesus that afternoon, but we haven't seen much of her since then. Many people like Paula struggle because they may be the only Christians in their family, school, and workplace.

"What exactly is 'Christian Art'?" asked Ana, a university student studying art. Everything she grew up and believed about Christianity has come under the scrutiny of her professors and classmates over the past two years and now she's questioning her beliefs and calling. "What you said about God never loving me more or less than he already does in his Son, Jesus, really stuck out to me. I have a hard time believing that because I'm not a good person anymore."

The most encouraging encounter comes from John, who when we started writing this update wasn't a believer. He teaches law at a prestigious university in Bogotá. John, who survived not one but two near fatal encounters with Pablo Escobar, is starting to connect the dots about how God has shown up in his story. Andrew was able to challenge him, "John, I think God is after your heart." We were going to ask you to pray for John's salvation, but God broke in and converted John on Sunday after the service. "I believe in Jesus now and I'm ready to give my life to him."

We've said this before, but we think we have the best jobs in the world and we cannot thank you enough for partnering with us to reach the nations and the next generation!

## Update from the McKays

The refugee crisis continues to command our attention, especially in the light of the Paris attacks. Part of what is coming to the surface is the difference between the world's response of revenge and closing things up and the kingdom of God which 'sees' an opportunity like nothing else right now. Interestingly, Sandra traveled on a train from Germany with a refugee family last week that was (gently) removed from the train at the Swiss border... they thought they could travel over the border without issue. The fields are ripe among these refugees, many fleeing manifold oppressions and facing other challenges in their new 'home.'

We continue our process of pursuing our calling to Europe through the EPC, with whom I am ordained. On the first weekend of December, Sandra and I will be heading up to Michigan to an Encounter weekend to meet some missions people and get some questions asked and answered. Please pray for revelation through the process. There is then a lot of paperwork (it is Presbyterian!) and such to be done as it unfolds. It is our hope that this will speed the process for getting on the field and will provide covering and administrative support.

We covet your prayers and support for this vital work and will keep you posted as things develop. For now, contributions are processed through the kindness of Plumtree Presbyterian Church, PO Box 65, Plumtree, NC 28664



## Want Ads

Items you wish to buy, sell, or trade may be submitted to Bill White or Barb Dresdow. They must be received by the 22<sup>nd</sup> day of the month before the issue in which they are to appear, and will appear in that issue only. They may be re-submitted each month.

**I am** making baby, children, and doll (18 inch) clothes to sell. Call if you have any questions.

*Paula Rhodarmer* (828) 273-3469

The Will of God never takes you to where the Grace of God will not protect you.

## Providence Church Summarized Financial Information October 31, 2015

Tithe/Offering collections	134,783
Miscellaneous income	1,294
Designated giving	<u>5,003</u>
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>141,080</b>
HCA Renovation Expense	20,000
Missions	28,337
Church Operating Expenses	<u>127,644</u>
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>175,981</b>
Revenue over (under) expenditures	(34,901)
Prior year bills paid	(2,940)
Bill yet to be paid	1,122
Accounts receivable/Prepaid	<u>0</u>
Increase (Decrease) in Cash	(36,719)
Cash-in-Bank-Beginning of Year	<u>287,562</u>
<b>Cash-in-Bank-End of Month</b>	<b>250,843</b>
<u>Breakdown of Cash:</u>	
Checking Account	9,941
Building Fund CD/Savings	<u>240,902</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>250,843</b>

## December Volunteers

### Snacks

Dec 6	Rita Sevig team
Dec 13	Barb Dresdow team
Dec 20	Renee Mitchell team
Dec 27	Bring your left over Christmas goodies


### Nursery

Dec 6	T J Anthony Ann-Michael Winstead
Dec 13	Renee Mitchell Charlotte Allsbrook
Dec 20	Jenny Alt Wally Cook
Dec 27	Rhonda Lear Susan Kingshill

### Set Up/Usher Teams

Week 1	Luke Allsbrook team
Week 2	LuAnn Davis team
Week 3	Curt Sevig team
Week 4	Sam Mitchell team
Week 5	Elders take turns

# December 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Lydia Lizarazu Sam Mitchell Christina Roberts	2 Ring Salvation Army Bells OCC Charlotte trip	3 	4	5
6  12:15 Congregational Meeting Dean Bartlett	7	8 Ruth Gray Glenda White	9	10	11 6 pm Movie night	12 6 pm Movie Night
13 12:15 Christmas Dinner 	14 Natalie Brouwer Thom Morgan <i>Michael &amp; Eleonore Shelton</i>	15 11:15 Serve at Open Door	16 Sara Cole	17 Joshua Cole	18 <i>Curt &amp; Rita Sevig</i>	19
20 Wally Cook	21	22	23 Julian Bacon	24 Jordan Cheney	25 Christmas Day 	26 Cindy Harper <i>Thom &amp; Jacque Morgan</i>
27	28	29	30 Cook & serve at Open Door Laura Glad	31		