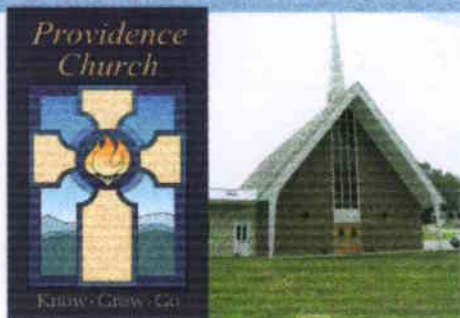


THE PROVIDENCE POST

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.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

Sundays

9:45 am - Sunday School for all ages

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

Mondays

4:30 pm - Revelation Study Group

Thursdays

6:45 am - Men's Prayer Group

September 2014

The Search Process Part VI

The search committee continues its work and is looking forward to the moment it can present a candidate to the Providence Session. Until that moment comes I would like to digress and have you consider the following somber articles while reflecting on - the cost of following Christ or what is referred to as being a Christian.

As violent persecution against Christians around the world intensifies, Ronald S. Lauder, president of the World Jewish Congress, in a recent op-ed bluntly asks, "Why is the world silent while Christians are being slaughtered in the Middle East and Africa?"

"In Europe and in the United States, we have witnessed demonstrations over the tragic deaths of Palestinians who have been used as human shields by Hamas, the terrorist organization that controls Gaza," wrote Lauder in his piece published in The New York Times. "The United Nations has held inquiries and focuses its anger on Israel for defending itself against that same terrorist organization. But the barbarous slaughter of thousands upon thousands of Christians is met with relative indifference". Why is the world silent ?

Lauder leads the World Jewish Congress, which is an international organization that represents Jewish communities and organizations in 100 countries around the world. In the op-ed, he notes that in the Middle East and in parts of central Africa, entire Christian communities are being lost in areas where peace had previously prevailed for centuries.

"The terrorist group Boko Haram has kidnapped and killed hundreds of Christians this year — ravaging the predominantly Christian town of Gwoza, in Borno State in northeastern Nigeria, two weeks ago," he states. "Half a million Christian Arabs have been driven out of Syria during the three-plus years of civil war there. Christians have been persecuted and killed in countries from Lebanon to Sudan."

International Christian Concern Regional Manager for Africa - Cameron Thomas said that "far too many" Christians have been "martyred, displaced, and terrorized at the hands of armed extremist."

The Nigerian terrorist group Boko Haram is the latest to declare an "Islamic Caliphate" in the predominantly Christian town of Gwoza, which it seized earlier in August and slaughtered over 100 civilians.

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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

"For years, Boko Haram has waged a campaign of terror against Christians, moderate Muslims, educators and students, and law enforcement and military personnel for the establishment of a separate Islamic state; which, today, they felt capable of declaring. Such a declaration should serve as rallying point for the international community to come together and lend its full support to the Nigerian state in its battle against Boko Haram, and all other extreme ideologies plaguing the stability of not only that state, but the entire region. We mourn with the families of those brutally executed on camera, and join with others in praying for the security and well-being of those under the oppressive hand of the world's newest self-declared regime." Thomas stated.

If the United States, and if especially Christians within the country, are supposed to lead the world in the fight against this sort of escalating oppression, then they may have to get educated on the matter first, observed a Christian persecution leader.

Open Doors USA president David Curry told The Christian Post as he took office last year, "The biggest challenge I think we are going to face is trying to get the American church to understand the scale and the magnitude of persecution around the world their brothers and sisters are facing today. We are so far removed, even with modern technology, from the kinds of punishment and persecution that people are facing in these countries like North Korea, Afghanistan, Saudi Arabia, and so forth that I'm not sure we can get our minds around it."

However, even leaders and organizations that know the gravity of the situation appear to be silent, according to Lauder. "The United Nations has been mostly mum. World leaders seem to be consumed with other matters in this strange summer of 2014," he writes. "There are no flotillas traveling to Syria or Iraq. And as for the beautiful celebrities, and aging rock stars why doesn't the slaughter of Christians seem to register with their social antennas?"

After explaining that the Islamic State in Iraq and Syria (ISIS) is "not a loose coalition of jihadist groups, but a real military force that has managed to take over much of Iraq" and "uses money from banks and gold shops it has captured, along with control of oil resources and old-fashioned extortion, to finance its killing machine, making it perhaps the wealthiest Islamist terrorist group in the world," Lauder says, "...the general indifference to ISIS, with its mass executions of Christians and its deadly preoccupation with Israel, isn't just wrong; it's obscene." It's Evil.

Christians have been targeted by ISIS, which had long been aiming at forming an Islamic emirate in the Levant, a region also known as the Eastern Mediterranean, through "jihad." The militant outfit has asked minorities to flee, convert to Islam, or be killed.

Army Gen. Martin Dempsey, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of

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Staff and Americas top ranking military officer told a news conference recently. "This is an organization that has an apocalyptic, end-of-days strategic vision and which will eventually have to be defeated, Can they be defeated without addressing that part of their organization which resides in Syria? The answer is no. That will have to be addressed on both sides of what is essentially at this point a nonexistent border.

Lauder writes that during a speech before thousands of Christians in Budapest in June, he made a "solemn promise" that just as he "will not be silent in the face of the growing threat of anti-Semitism in Europe and in the Middle East, [he] will not be indifferent to Christian suffering. Historically, it has almost always been the other way around: Jews have all too often been the persecuted minority ... Christians can openly practice their religion in Israel, unlike in much of the Middle East," Lauder states. "We share much more than most religions, We read the same Bible, and share a moral and ethical core. Now, sadly, we share a kind of suffering: Christians are dying because of their beliefs, because they are defenseless and because the world is indifferent to their suffering. The Jewish people understand all too well what can happen when the world is silent. This campaign of death must be stopped."

I (Thom) am grieved by the suffering and dying of my Brothers and Sisters in Christ around the world. It is apparently difficult for the world to recognize and confront such hatred and Evil. At the same time the power of God is displayed thru these very same Christians as they are enabled to be a witness of their faith in Christ rather than renounce Him - even at the cost of their very own lives. May we approach our Sovereign God and petition him to raise up the ones, that will confront and defeat this latest Manifestation of Evil. Nations must continue to go to war to achieve peace - yet there is no lasting peace. Only the Prince of Peace can provide the True Peace that the world is in need of. Until that time - The Cost is indeed high for some of those following Christ.

Thanks For Listening, *Thom*

Pulpit Supply Information

<i>September 7</i>	<i>Edward Brouwer</i>
<i>September 14</i>	<i>Zach Washburn</i>
<i>September 21</i>	<i>Adger McKay</i>
<i>September 28</i>	<i>Adger McKay</i>

Providence Happenings



By now you have heard that Haywood County won the Ty Pennington Give Back Challenge. The \$50,000 came just in the nick of time since the Emergency Shelter will open November 1 and we cannot house guests at Camp New Life this year. God is always on time! I wanted to give you some details on the project and how you can get involved if you are led. I would like to encourage you to do something to contribute by either sweat equity or your funds for supplies for the building. You will find a list of items needed and a listing of local stores where you can purchase needed items. They have established a gift registry. Check the Web site at www.haywoodpathwayscenter.org under the "wish list".

This project is a community driven project and will bring together three different nonprofit groups in Haywood County; the Haywood Homeless Shelter, Open Door Soup Kitchen, and Next Step Halfway house. The organization designed to coordinate these efforts is called Haywood Pathways Center. The Web site is haywoodpathwayscenter.org. Please visit this site for more information.

Another Web site was developed to provide resources for those in need. It is called www.haywoodhelps.org and aims to use social enterprise to tackle poverty in our area. With the motto "Community Problems, Community Solutions" they are committed to the long term viability of this project.

Ty Pennington and his crew will be coming to Waynesville on September 25 to do a 24 hour tear down and rebuild of the old Department of Corrections facility in Hazelwood. The work is scheduled for September 25, 26, and the 27. Please visit www.haywoodpathwayscenter.org to register to work on this valuable project on any or all of the days listed above. We would love to see our Providence family there on those days!

If you have questions about any of this information please contact Jim Spencer at 803-466-0100 (cell) or email jimspencer1000@gmail.com

The Open Door Presents

2nd Annual

Blue Ridge



Music Jam

HART Theatre
250 Pigeon Street Waynesville

SAT 20
SEPT 20

6-9 pm

Hill Country Band
Mountain Joy
The Inmans
Kirk Kirkpatrick
Craig Summers

Live Auctions
Preview Items @ 5:00 pm
Door Prizes
Refreshments

Tickets

\$10

To Order Tickets Call (828) 452-3846 or Email open_door@longschapel.com



Mission News



MidEast Update - Focus on Kids

We wanted to focus this newsletter on asking for prayer for our kids and the Arab children around us.

A big change is coming! Lisa will home school Natalie (8 years old) while the other two girls remain at a local British/Arab school. After educational testing, we became aware that Natalie needs help in assimilating information in ways the local school isn't prepared to offer. Honestly, we feel a bit inadequate to give Natalie all that she needs.

So, we are calling all teachers to please be in prayer for both Natalie and Lisa. Thankfully, we'll be back in the US Jan-June 2015 to get more help and resources. We purchased some good curriculum that has come highly recommended. Let us know what you feel or hear during your prayer times concerning this!

This summer we have helped take care of two Bedouin babies at the health clinic. Dina is now a thriving 6 month old who was a severely malnourished twin 3 months ago. Her mother had Tuberculosis and couldn't keep up with her 8 children, tent life, and daily milking of the goats. Moe was a month premature. He was discharged from the hospital last week, and then found on the dirt floor of a tin shack being watched over by his 2 year old brother. These babies are now living at the clinic until their families can better care for them. Pray for these babies and their families to find HOPE!

For the last year, Lance has been directing a youth camp for underprivileged Arab youth. For the last two weeks, they had a special summer camp. It was great fun taking desert jeep rides, English lessons, and even teaching CPR. Pray for the 102 participants who will be influenced by this program and are the future of the Arab world.

Thanks so much for praying for our children and those around us! We are headed back to the US at Christmas until June 2015. We'll be based in Wilmington, NC...but we'd love a chance to see you if possible.

In His grip,

Lance & Lisa



Email from George and Cynthia

Dear Friends,

Cynthia and I along with our team leaders have looked over our expense records and realized that there is not enough money coming in to cover our basic ministry and camp expenses.

Ministry expenses for us include meals for and with students, teachers and other Chinese friends that

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we are either sharing the gospel with or hoping to share the gospel with. It also covers gifts for our teachers at one or two parties that we participate in at Christmas and other times.

Our biggest expenses though involve camps. So far this year we have attended four camps with one more coming in October. In addition, Cynthia has been extended the invitation to go to another city several times a year to do art projects on weekends at a life skills learning center run by a Christian lady. Camp costs include travel, lodging, food and art supplies. Please let us know if you would like more information about what these camps are like and the spiritual purposes of the camps.

The total of these expenses comes to \$2,110. If anyone would like to join with us by financially helping us cover these ministry expenses please send it to either:

George and Cynthia P.
World Outreach
Evangelical Presbyterian Church
ATTN: Treasurer
17197 N. Laurel Park Drive, Suite 567
Livonia, MI 48152

Or to

George and Cynthia P
Acct. # 111411
PIONEERS
10123 William Carey Dr.
Orlando, FL 32832

Tax Update

We wanted to give you an update on our German tax situation. (More information about our situation can be found in these letters that we mailed to many of you in May/June - Our Letter and Letter from Courtney's supervisor).



Due to the generous gifts from many of you and partnering churches, we've received enough to take our 10 year loan down to 5 years!! THANK YOU SO MUCH.

We are truly overwhelmed by everyone's generosity both financially and with prayers. God's hands are all over this situation and it is to HIM that the glory goes.

Celebrations/Prayer Requests

- We had over 30 people come and help us move, getting everything to our new apartment within 2 hours.
- Please continue to pray for our transition as we don't have Internet or phone (not good for our family ;-)). Also pray for the growing relationships we're building with our new landlords, who live below us, as well as the family that runs the restaurant/pub across the parking lot.
- Spent a great time in Budapest, Hungary with other workers from World Outreach. Krista's sister & her family were there, as well as other friends from around the world.
- Please pray for Alex as he has his first week long youth outing next week. After many years of youth ministry, it is weird for me (Courtney) to be the parent sending his child off. This will be a group of teenagers from GEM families from all over Europe.
- eDOT has grown as we welcomed a new family last week to Germany. Courtney has also interviewed a young lady who is interested in being our office administrator so now we have 3 more families/singles going through the process to join us.
- Please continue to pray for eDOT as we grow. Pray for great unity as a team, lavish grace and for Courtney's skills to grow as the leader.

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.

You can tell how big a person is by what it takes to discourage him

Providence Church

Summarized Financial Information July 31, 2014

Revenue

Tithe/Offering collections	77,119
Miscellaneous income	1,091
Designated giving	<u>426</u>
Total Revenue	78,636

Expenditures

Revenue over expenditures	22,159
Prior year bills paid	(2,709)
Bill yet to be paid	1,353
Accounts receivable/Prepaid	<u>0</u>
Increase (decrease) in Cash	20,803
Cash-in-Bank Beginning of Year	<u>237,538</u>
Cash-in-Bank End of month	258,341

Breakdown of Cash:

Checking Account	54,193
Building Fund CD	<u>204,148</u>
Total	258,341

September Volunteers

Snacks

Sept 7	Gaby L, Carol D-S, Eleanore S, Renee A
Sept 14	Diana B, Rhonda S, Liz A, Toni C
Sept 21	Rita S, Glenda W, Kristin C, Jenny B
Sept 28	Barb D, Jane L, Bonnie I

Nursery

Sept 7	Rhonda Spencer Another volunteer
Sept 14	Renee Mitchell Susan Kingshill
Sept 21	Paula Rhodarmer Rhonda Lear
Sept 28	Wally Cook Gaby Lowell

Children's Church

Sept 7	Paula Rhodarmer
Sept 14	vacant
Sept 21	LuAnn Davis
Sept 28	Glenda White

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

September 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Lucy Anne Cole Miriam Rose Cole Gerry & Jane Ladner Labor Day	2 Rick Boen Emily Lizarazu	3	4 6:45 AM Men's Prayer Group	5	6
7 10:45 AM Holy Communion	8 4:30 PM Revelation study	9 Wirt Skinner Chuck & Carole Torpy	10	11 6:45 AM Men's Prayer Group	12 Eileen Bartlett	13 Lisa Kirby
14	15 4:30 PM Revelation study	16	17 11:15 AM Serving at Open Door	18 6:45 AM Men's Prayer Group	19	20 6:00 PM Open Door's Blue Ridge Music Jam Bill Sterrett
21	22 4:30 PM Revelation study	23	24	25 6:45 AM Men's Prayer Group	26	27
28 Sam & Renee Mitchell Jason Smith	29 4:30 PM Revelation study Alan & Diana Bush	30				