



*Providence Presbyterian Church
Associate Reformed Synod
2850 Union Road
Gastonia NC 28054
www.providencegastonia.org*

FIRST CLASS MAIL

-- Dated Material --

FEBRUARY



Providence Profiles

*Providence Presbyterian Church, Associate Reformed Synod,
2850 Union Rd, Gastonia NC 28054*

Volume XXV

February 2009

Number 2



February 14, 2009
Valentine Banquet
6:00 pm

Beef Tenderloin
Baked Potato
Broccoli
Garden Salad
Dinner Rolls
Cheesecake
w/fruit topping

Coffee, Iced Tea, Punch
\$12 per person, RSVP by Feb. 3rd



February 2009

- | | |
|----------------------|------------------|
| 6 Richard Jonas | 18 Ashley Demers |
| 8 Ron France | 23 Ryan Bassett |
| 8 John Currence | 26 Lynn Lopez |
| 12 Michelle Marquand | |

Happy Anniversary!

Feb. 3 Jerry & Evelyn Leigh –43 years!



December 2008

End of Year Report

	<u>Dec. 08</u>	End of Year	
		<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>
INCOME:			
Tithes & Offerings	\$ 7,748	\$137,292	\$139,600
EXPENSES:			
Benevolent Gifts	\$ 1,217	\$ 13,467	\$ 14,000
Ministry & Worship	6,384	78,177	82,050
Christian Education	0	2,465	3,250
Office & Administration	763	8,920	9,400
Building & Grounds	2,259	29,387	30,600
Fellowship	206	551	1,200
TOTAL	\$ 10,829	\$132,967	\$140,500

Opportunities for Service February 2009

Ushers

- | | |
|-----------------|---------------|
| 1 Gary England | Ron France |
| 8 Gary England | Tammy Bassett |
| 15 Gary England | Jim Davignon |
| 22 Gary England | Bob Bassett |

Children's Church

- 1 Bob Bassett
- 8 Erin France
- 15 Robin Rowell
- 22 Emma Hoover

Nursery Volunteer (if needed)

- 1 Evelyn Leigh
- 8 Melissa Weigel
- 15 Lynn Lopez
- 22 Tammy Bassett

Acolytes

- 1 Sean Demers
- 8 Sydney Marquand
- 15 Bryson Bassett
- 22 Aaron Conley



February 8th
Hostesses: Tammy Bassett
Michelle Marquand

Remembering the college students with a Little Taste of Home!

The Women's Ministries of Providence would like to send our college students "A taste from home" for Valentine's Day. We would like some homemade cookies or brownies, candies, packs of gum, etc. We definitely need some 'homemade' cookies! That's what they enjoy the most! We have five students to ship to and we would also like to have a little to share with our four local college students. We would like to have all things here February 2nd, the date of our next meeting. Come to the meeting and bring it with you! Any questions, call Tammy.

Erskine College achieves distinction in national rankings

Erskine was ranked as the second-best baccalaureate institution in the South in U.S. News & World Report's "America's Best Colleges" edition for the second consecutive year. That assessment came shortly after the new Forbes.com rankings listed Erskine as 95th among 569 undergraduate institutions. The "Best Baccalaureate Colleges" in the U.S. News rankings are institutions that focus on undergraduate education and offer a range of degree programs.

Forty-eight schools are listed in the South's best baccalaureate colleges and U.S. News ranked Erskine ahead of all South Carolina schools in the category. Among the statistics that helped Erskine achieve the #2 ranking were: overall score (96); peer assessment score (3.0); average freshman retention rate (76%); average graduation rate (67%); percentage of classes under 20 (77%: 2007); percentage of classes over 50 (0%: 2007); student/faculty ratio (12:1, 2007); percentage of faculty who are full time (82%: 2007), SAT/ACT 25th-75th percentile (983-1205: 2007); freshmen in top 25% of high school class (57%: 2007); acceptance rate (66%: 2007); and average alumni giving rate (29%: 2007).

Forbes.com and the Center for College Affordability and Productivity (CCAP), inaugurated the new Forbes rankings. In the report, CCAP ranks the institutions based on the quality of the education they provide and how much their students achieve. Among colleges and universities in the state of South Carolina, only Wofford College was ranked ahead of Erskine and only those two schools were among the top 100 institutions in the Forbes.com rankings. *Article taken from Fall 2008 Inside Erskine, a publication of the Erskine Alumni Association.*

Where would you like to serve?

Worship ☺ Community Ministries ☺ Congregational Ministries ☺
Building & Grounds ☺ Missions ☺ Christian Education ☺
Stewardship & Finance ☺ Administration

The Holy Spirit has given each Christian special gifts for building up the church. Use your gifts to strengthen and encourage the church. Make a commitment to serve in one of the areas of Providence! Sign up sheets are in the Narthex. Below is a list of each committee along with the Chairmen serving that committee.

Elders

Wes Marquand: Clerk of Session, Worship & Music

Ron France: Voice Moderator of Session, Missions & Evangelism

Bob Bassett: Christian Education & Discipleship

Deaconate

Lyle Branagan: Chairman of the Diaconate

Michelle Marquand: Administration & Supplies

Jim Davignon: Building & Grounds

Rick Hoover: Community Ministries (Outreach)

Emma Hoover: Congregational Ministries (Inreach)

Betty Holt: Stewardship & Finance

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Danny & Adam Vanzant
2320-B Pineview Ln
Gastonia NC 28054
704-869-8575 (same #)



The Women's Shelter of Gaston County

Dinners Needed

The Women's Shelter is in need of meals. The Shelter cooks breakfast and serves sandwich lunches daily, but come dinner time they are short handed and cannot prepare a meal. All their meals are provided by donations from area businesses, churches, and individuals. If you are able to help out with a meal on one of the dates listed below, contact **Carol Shrum** at her home number, 704-862-9966 or by email at SBOUQUET@aol.com. The number of residents change daily, so when it gets close to the day you choose, call Carol and find out the actual people that are there that day. Meals can be simple, and can be bought. Pizza \$5 specials are always a treat. A big pot of soup with a salad is a favorite. If kids are there, always nice to have a special dessert treat for them! Is best to bring everything in disposable containers. When the shelter is full, there is 25 people. Ask a friend to go in on a meal with you! This is a great Outreach opportunity!

Also, remember, when you are cleaning out your closets, they are always in need of seasonal clothing of all sizes for women and all age children. They will provide you with a donation slip for your taxes.

February: 5, 6, 17, 18, 19, 20, 23, 25, 26

March: 3, 5, 6, 11, 17, 18, 19, 20, 23, 25, 26, 30, 31

April: 1, 8, 15, 16, 21, 22, 23, 27, 29, 30

May: 6, 7, 13, 19, 20, 21, 25, 27, 28

June: 3, 10, 16, 17, 19, 22, 24, 29, 30



**Jewels for Jesus
resumes practice
February 4th!**



**That's exactly
what Sean Demers
did! Welcome to the
adult choir Sean!**

A Message from Pastor Gilbert . . .

I have a friend named Danny, who has an interesting quote on his Facebook page that goes like this: "I'm more like I am now than I ever was." It's one of those quotes that makes you stop and think for a moment – and then you think, "Exactly!" As some of you know, I've been reading a couple of books lately, one entitled *Margin* and the other *The Overload Syndrome*. They are written by Richard A. Swenson, a medical doctor turned cultural analyst and futurist. (No, I don't know what a futurist is!) They are full of food for thought. In a chapter on possessions, the doctor prescribes remedies for "curbing the clutter." His first prescription is a call to think of owning things as a liability and not an asset, and in that paragraph says this: "Remember: Everything we own owns us. We are free in accordance with the number of things we can do without." (*The Overload Syndrome*, p. 164) I thought of my friends quote when I read that and how to combine the two into a new quote: I am more myself when I have less. And then I thought of those passages of scripture that remind us that we are a work in progress and that we make progress in being who God made us to be as we let loose of the things in life and grasp more of Him. "Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is." (1 John 3:2) "Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." (Matthew 6:19-21)

Now the challenge is how to break free from the "things" that own me! Dr. Swenson has many good ideas, but one I like in particular. It has to do with birthday parties, and I know some of you have stopped having those – but hear me out. Throw yourself a birthday party at any time during the year and invite all your friends to come to your house and not bring a present. When they come, invite them all to take something home with them. I like that idea. But now I'm wondering who will end up with my grandmothers serving fork! Another of life's dilemmas.