

Providence Profiles

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

Volume XXV

January 2009

Number 1

*“For I know the plans I have for you,”
declares the Lord,
“plans to prosper you
and not to harm you,
plans to give you hope
and a future.
Then you will call upon me
and come and pray to me,
and I will listen to you.
You will seek me and find me
when you seek me
with all your heart.”*

Jeremiah 29: 11-13



January 2009

12 Jim Davignon
19 Rick Hoover
27 Marnita Causby



Stewardship Report

November 2008

	<u>Nov. 08</u>	<u>Year-to-Date</u>	
		<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>
INCOME:			
Tithes & Offerings	\$14,304	\$129,544	\$127,967
EXPENSES:			
Benevolent Gifts	\$ 1,067	\$ 12,251	\$ 12,833
Ministry & Worship	6,154	71,793	75,212
Christian Education	270	2,465	2,979
Office & Administration	908	8,157	8,617
Building & Grounds	1,664	27,128	28,050
Fellowship	<u>(145)</u>	<u>345</u>	<u>1,100</u>
TOTAL	\$ 9,918	\$122,139	\$128,791

**Opportunities for Service
January 2009**

Ushers

- 4 Bob Bassett Rick Hoover
- 11 Bob Bassett Karen Branagan
- 18 Bob Bassett John Currence
- 25 Bob Bassett Wes Marquand

Children's Church

- 4 Trummer Baker
- 11 Evelyn Leigh
- 18 Michelle Marquand
- 25 Lynn & Gustavo Lopez

Nursery Volunteer (if needed)

- 4 Michelle Marquand
- 11 Julia Davignon
- 18 Erin France
- 25 Karen Branagan

Acolytes

- 4 Sean Demers
- 11 Sydney Marquand
- 18 Bryson Bassett
- 25 Aaron Conley



January 11th

Hostesses: Men of the Church

(Two men can volunteer to warm and serve and others can volunteer for clean up.)

Called to Serve

Officer Training Seminar

January 31, 2008

First ARP Church, Gastonia

Speaker: Dr. Mark Ross

“The Keys to the Kingdom”

This is a great opportunity for the training of new officers, the renewal of current officers, as well as, a wonderful time of fellowship. Whether you are an active or inactive elder or deacon, or whether you believe that you are called to serve as an elder or deacon in the future, we encourage your participation in this event.

Registration	9:30 – 10:00 am
1 st Session	10:00 – 11:00 am
Break	11:00 – 11:15 am
2 nd Session	11:15 – 12:15 pm
Lunch	12:15 – 1:15 pm
3 rd Session	1:15 – 2:15 pm
Break	2:15 – 2:30 pm
4 th Session	2:30 – 3:30 pm

Reservations need to be made by January 26th. If you would like to attend, please let Pastor Gilbert know.

2009 Directories are being finalized for distribution by the end of January. If there are any changes that need to be made to your information, please notify Tammy ASAP. If you have a suggestion on something that would be helpful to have included in the directory, we welcome all suggestions! Remember, as you are notified of changes in your monthly newsletters throughout the year, please update in your directory!



Reminder: A calendar is posted next to the secretary's desk. The purpose of this calendar is for committee chairmen, deacons and elders to record upcoming meetings, events, or requests within the church. The secretary then has the information to list in upcoming bulletins and newsletters. ALL notifications need to be posted prior to the 4th Sunday of the previous month in order to have them listed on the calendar in the upcoming newsletter. For notices to be posted in the weekly bulletin, post by the Thursday prior to the particular Sunday where it needs to be listed.

Deadline for all other newsletter information will be needed by the 4th Sunday of the month to be listed in the upcoming newsletter.



from your church secretary!

Challengers Youth - What's coming up?

180 Weekend

Wednesday, January 28
Friday & Saturday, January 30 & 31, 2009
Cost: \$30 per student

Middle School

Speaker: Jeremy Kingsley
Worship Band: Chris Orr

High School

Speaker: Brody Holloway
Worship Band: Topher

Final reservations need to be in by January 15, 2009. If you are going, let Ron and Jackie France know ASAP.

More information @ www.180weekend.com

Please note on the calendar that there will be no youth meeting on January 18th.

March 20-22, 2009 – 1st and 2nd Presbyteries Middle School Retreat, Bonclarken – will have more details for Feb. newsletter.

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No Choir Practice for Jewels for Jesus

You have the month of January off! Enjoy your break and be ready to work hard in February! You have done great this past year! Thank you so much!





**January 11, 2009
11:00 am Worship Service
Installation and Ordination**

November 9th, a congregational meeting was held to elect two deacons and a treasurer. Gary England and Evelyn Leigh have rotated off serving on the diaconate.

Deaconate

Lyle Branagan (2011)	Emma Hoover (2010)
Jim Davignon (2011)	Betty Holt (2009)
Rick Hoover (2010)	Michelle Marquand (2009)

Treasurer - Ron France

Lyle Branagan and Jim Davignon are our newly elected deacons. They will begin their three year term this month. Ron France was elected to continue to serve as our church treasurer. You do a great job Ron! Thank you to all for your willingness to serve.

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Women's Ministries at Providence

Please join us as we study
Paul's Letters to Maturing Churches

January 5, 2009
6:30 pm at the church

We continue to meet the first Monday of each month at 6:30 pm at the church. Please join us this year! We have a nice time of fellowship with Bible Study, snacks, prayer time and a little business. We would love to have all the ladies join us!



To the Hardworking Choir:
I would like to say a big CONGRATS! to you all. The Cantata was a great success and I thank you so much. I truly appreciate all of your hard work and there are no words that can fully express my gratitude for all of you putting up with me! Also, thanks to all of you for the gift. I pray you all have a fun and safe New Year.
In Christ, Josh

Thank you so much for remembering me this Christmas! I received so many goodies! I was just flabbergasted! It means a lot to me that you always remember me!

Love, Olivia Burton

I love you all and appreciate all you do for me, and I thank you very much for my Christmas gifts!

Love, Rosa Santelli

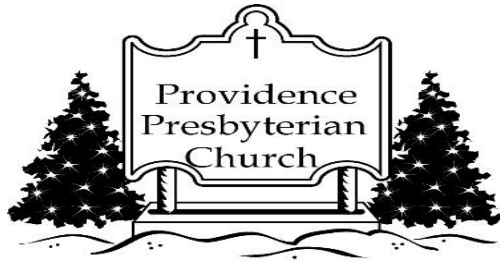
Thank you so much for the lovely things given to me for Christmas. You have been so kind and generous this whole year – I am just overwhelmed! Thank you so much for loving me!

Love, Betty Holt

Thanks to all who ordered poinsettias – 34 in all! Our sanctuary looked beautiful!! Thank you to all the 'little elves' that helped decorate prior to Christmas and to take down the decorations after.



Thank you for filling all of our 26 Christmas wishes on our Angel Tree! You were a blessing to several families! We also had families outside of our church helping to fill these wishes! May God Bless You in the coming year!



Early November we held a yard sale to raise funds for our new church sign. Several items were donated; thank you so much! We raised \$410! We still have items in storage that we hope to have another sale in early Spring. Keep this in mind when you do your Spring cleaning! In December, the Women's Ministries worked with our friend Carol Shrum (manager of the Farmers Market), to have a bake sale at the yearly Christmas Craft Show. Thank you so much Carol for helping us set this up! We had so many yummy homemade goodies to sell, and they did sell! This was also an opportunity to let people know about Providence! This fundraiser brought in over \$200! Thank you ladies for all your hard work baking all day to provide goodies for our sale! As of November 30th, the sign fund has a balance of \$3,339.81. Continue to pray for the deacons in regards to this project and others that require the means of time, talent and finances to accomplish.

A Special
THANK YOU

On behalf of the Women's Ministries of Providence, we thank Lyle & Karen Branagan for their hospitality in hosting our largest Christmas Party ever! We had over 30 people join in the fun as we 'stole' white elephant gifts back and forth! Linda England got the final steal from Jim Davignon for the flavored coffee (with a little help from her husband, Gary!), while Allyson Bassett was disappointed to leave without her Disney keyboard! Bob Bassett is always a good sport leaving with a gift he will never use! We won't be looking for that one next year Bob! We all had a great time together! Thanks Karen & Lyle!

A Message from Pastor Gilbert . . .

Noise! Nobody likes noise, at least not the kind that we usually mean when we say noise. When we say noise we usually mean something that could be described as "loud", "harsh", "nonharmonious", "unpleasant", "undesired", or one of my favorites, "racket", as in "cut out all that racket!" So, for instance, we would never think to put the word "joyful" with the word noise, although we can listen to a group of children playing like children do (rather noisily) and smile because they are doing what children do and just being children. Let those children turn 15 years old and turn up "their" music and suddenly they are making too much noise, even though they are still doing what children do!

Well, be thankful that God is not like us – and we should be thankful numerous times every day! God tells us to "make a joyful noise." (Psalm 98:4; 100:1) I have a good friend that says they can't read a lick of music but enjoys making a joyful noise, singing praises to God. I can't tell you how good it makes me feel for God's children to "get it." You see a lot of God's children believe that when it comes to praising God in song that they are to be seen and not heard because they can't sing a lick. But God never said that being able to carry a tune was a prerequisite for singing praise to Him. As a matter of fact, we were created to sing praise to Him (Psalm 148) and that praise is accomplished in the making of a joyful noise – carrying a tune is not required!

One of the wonderful things that God has shared with us is the ability to gaze in wonder, and to rejoice in heart when we see children doing what children were created to do – noisily playing together and enjoying the company of each other as we watch over them from a distance. That's what God is doing – rejoicing as His children noisily praise Him, enjoying the company of fellow believers as He watches over us. That's what we were created to do. Now, go praise God with a joyful noise – God said so!