

PROVIDENCE

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH • EST. 1767



Our Vision

As we boldly proclaim the transformative power of God's word, we will inspire with our past, care for all in our present, and nurture disciples for our future.

The Church at Worship
15th Sunday after Pentecost
September 21, 2025
10:30 am

The Rev. Dr. Jody Moore, Pastor
The Rev. Dr. Lal Rodawla, Associate Pastor
Genie Richards, Director of Youth & Communications
Sarah Clark, Children's Ministry Director
Alex Sims, Music Director
Ron Nice, Pianist/Organist
Roy Phillips, Finance Administrator
Ruth Welch, Office Administrator

Officers of the Week

WENONA VANWINKLE, LYNDY HUNLEY, JO HARDIN

Welcome and Announcements

Moment for Mission: Charles Humphreys Tim Lipka Memorial Golf Tournament

Prelude "How Great Thou Art" Douglas Wagner
Bells of Providence

Introduction Genie Richards Director of Youth & Communication

Gathering as God's People

Call to Worship (From *the Presbyterian Outlook*—September 21, 2025)

One: Turn us, O God,

All: away from the world's temptations and distractions.

One: Return us, O God,

All: to the quiet calm of your presence.

One: Restore us, O God,

All: to the path you call us to follow.

One: Orient us, O God,

All: to the hope of all that is possible through you.

*Sharing the Peace of Christ

One: We gather here to worship God with our siblings in Christ.

All: Part of being a disciple of Jesus involves being in community with one another, where we support and uphold each other.

One: We are grateful that God has led us to worship together as a church family.

All: Let us greet one another in the name of Jesus, who binds us together in love and peace.

*Opening Hymn "Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty" #35

*Opening Prayer (From *Call to Worship resource*, September 21, 2025)

Great God, maker and reconciler of the earth and all that dwells here, champion of the poor, who humbles the proud, draw all people into new unity with you. May we know to whom we belong and act faithfully to care for what you have entrusted us. Help us all, O God of our salvation, for the glory of your name. Amen.

Act of Confession

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

God of compassion and mercy, we are your wounded and wounding children. We bring our wounded selves, our divided society, and our broken world, seeking your healing and transforming grace. It is easy for us to point the finger at others, yet we know that we all need your forgiveness. So we lift up into your presence today, not only the victims of conflicts, but also those we have called enemies. Break down the walls of hatred, distrust and bitterness and open a way for us to reach one another in truth and love. Enable us to build a society where all can belong. Fill us with you Holy Spirit so we may share our gifts in mutual respect and seek the new future which you offer us through Jesus Christ. Amen.

Silent Confession

Assurance of God's Forgiveness

*Gloria "Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me "(verse 1) #582

Hearing God's Word

Prayer for Illumination

First Scripture Lesson Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18 p.577, Pew Bible OT
One: This is the Word of the Lord.
All: Thanks be to God!

Anthem: "A Simple Celebration" Kevin McChesney
Bells of Providence

Time with Children John Graham

Second Scripture Lesson Philemon 1-17 p. 215, Pew Bible NT
One: This is the Word of the Lord.
All: Thanks be to God!

Sermon "God Is At Work" The Rev. Dr. Jody Moore

Responding to God's Word

* Hymn of Response "Will You Let Me Be Your Servant" #727

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

All: Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Invitation to Giving

Offertory "I Love You Lord" Lloyd Larsen

* Doxology #606

Prayer of Dedication (From *the Presbyterian Outlook*, September 21, 2025)

Generous God, what we place before you is but a fraction of all you have entrusted to us. Receive these gifts, we ask, and multiply them for your purpose. Let our offerings become a source of blessing for the most vulnerable, for those in greatest need. May the act of giving, rooted in generosity, loosen our grip on what we possess, and kindle in us a deeper desire to share. Amen.

Being Sent Out in God's Name

*Affirmation of Faith: (From *The Belhar Confession*)

We believe in one holy, universal Christian church, the unity of the communion of saints of the entire human family. And we believe that that this unity of the people of God must be manifest and active, in that we love one another; that we give ourselves willingly and joyfully to one another, that we are share one

Lord, for one cause, with one hope, which is the height and the breadth and the depth and the love of Christ, forever and ever. Amen.

* Closing Hymn	"Called as Partners in Christ's Service"	#761
* Charge and Blessing		
* Postlude	"Seasons (Autumn)"	Antonio Vivaldi

Announcement:

Thank you to Charles Humphreys and Genie Richards, who are serving as our liturgists in worship today. Genie is our new Director of Youth & Communications.

Providence in Prayer

Acute Concerns

Ian Etter, Ricky Lewis, Earl Gabbard, Jenny McGuire, Kathy Cathey, Stef Good, Sadie Zielinski, Raymond Fung, Bob and Yasmin Craig, Willie Rea, Betsy Peace, Jaiden Dean, Ray Ball, Rev. Steve Lindsley, Maggie, daughter of a friend of Gale Kinney, Jan Chandler, William Dixon, Morgan Jeffares, Calista Jane, Ava, a friend of Carleen Clewis, Charlie Starks, Everette, Richard Dickey, Jenny Gidaro, John Gidaro, Ann Arentz, Lynda Hunley's friend Evan & his family, Joyce Pate, Tim Good's friend, Sean Byrd, Jaiden Dean, Anne Causey, sister to Nancy Burton.

Chronic Concerns

Nell Kilpatrick's daughter, Isabel Kilpatrick, Bo Hardee, Kim Hintz's mother, Sandy, Zachary Coger, Yo Yee Chacko, Martha Gilbert's mother,

Grieving

Friends and family of Mosie Grotophorst on her passing on September 9, 2025

Friends & family of Louise Simpson (Al Yount's Mother in Law) on her passing.

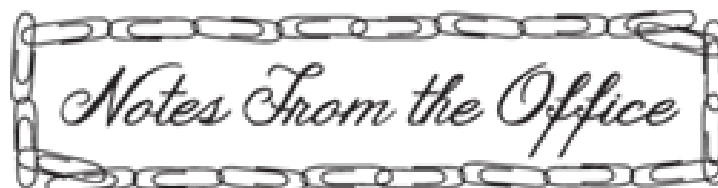
Friends & family of Fielding Scarborough on his passing August 31.

Friends and family of Bill Dickey, Dave's uncle on his passing August 31.

Friends & family of Louis Mitford Pate, Jr. (Frances Hill's father) on August 29, 2025 prayers for his wife Joyce, spouse of 59 years.

Friends and family of Marilyn Rathbun, on her passing 8/18/2025

Friends and family of Julie Brammer on her passing



For those of you who are involved in planning and setting up meetings and other activities in any of the PPC campus buildings, please contact the Church Office with time, location and duration of your meeting (preferably by e-mail) so that they can be added and updated to the church calendar. This should be done at least two weeks in advance if possible, and helps assure conflicts with previously scheduled events can be avoided or managed. Checking the church calendar on the PPC web site when planning for your meeting is encouraged. Meeting rooms and the CLC Parlor are frequently in use. If requested, the doors can be scheduled to be unlocked 15 minutes prior through 15 minutes after the start of your meeting to allow members to get in.

REMEMBER PICTURE DAY?

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL? BACK IN THE DAY?

HORNED RIMMED GLASSES?

CREW CUTS? BOUFANT HAIRDOS?

Thank goodness, we don't look like THAT anymore!

Picture Days are coming to Providence Presbyterian Church. We need to update our PPC Directory and are making it SUPER easy for you to get your picture done.

Stop by the foyer of the CLC (the gym) on one of these days before Sunday School 9:15AM or right after church 11:45AM:

September 28

October 5

October 12

No reservations needed. We'll snap a photo and send it to the directory.



Habitat for Humanity

Habitat for Humanity of Charlotte has served thousands of families in the Charlotte area. Seeking to put God's love into action, Habitat brings people together to build homes, community and hope. Providence Presbyterian Church's recently revised vision statement says, "We reach out to the hurting and those in need with concrete expressions of God's love (our time, talent, and resources)." Habitat's mission directly aligns with the mission of Providence Presbyterian Church, which has resulted in a long-term relationship.

PPC first became active with Habitat in 1996, building six new homes in the Crestdale neighborhood in Matthews. In 2005, Habitat launched the Critical Home Repair Program which identifies homes with unsafe or woefully inadequate living conditions and makes repairs allowing homeowners to remain in their homes. PPC has sponsored fourteen Critical Home Repairs providing money and labor.

James 2:14 says:

"What good is it my brothers and sisters, if you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, and one of you says to them, "Go in peace, keep warm and eat your fill", and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead."

PPC's Outreach Committee has multiple opportunities to **live out your faith with good works!**

Volunteer opportunities with Habitat are available to PPC members. All opportunities need both skilled and unskilled workers and we have several ways to volunteer:

1. PPC has in the past partnered with Habitat of Charlotte and the Critical Home Repair program to sponsor a home repair in Charlotte. Based on previous experience, the home needed significant repairs, including reworking the kitchen and baths and making repairs to the deck, siding, etc. We have not been assigned a house yet and will keep you posted over the next couple of weeks.
2. PPC volunteers with Habitat throughout the year! A group of volunteers from PPC works with Habitat on the **third Wednesday** of every month. We go where they need us including installing siding, hanging doors, attaching trusses, installing windows, building handicap ramps, etc. This is a great opportunity for fellowship with a great group from PPC. For more information, contact Dudley Stone at 704-564-9812 or dudleydstone@gmail.com.
3. Habitat Charlotte has provided yet another opportunity for giving back by volunteering to repair and build homes in Avery County after the devastation wrought by Hurricane Helene. A lady up there told me that many of the people in Avery County had lost hope. She said that people they didn't even know coming from Charlotte and other places to help put their lives back together renewed their hope. We plan on other trips to Avery County. Please let Dudley know if you would be interested in this special opportunity.

Fall Tuesday Pastor's Bible Study

Beginning on September 16th, we will have a Bible Study for six consecutive Tuesdays from September 16th until October 21st. We will miss one week of Bible study for a Charlotte Presbytery meeting on October 28th, but then the Bible study will continue for two more weeks on November 4th and 11th.

We will gather at 11:00 am and plan to meet for an hour. We will meet in person in the conference room in the Administration Building and also provide a Zoom link for those who want to join on-line. We will be studying the same passage on Tuesday that we will hear in worship the following Sunday.

Here is the schedule of classes for the fall of 2025:

Date	Bible Passage We Are Studying
Sept 23	Genesis 32:22-31
Sept 30	Ephesians 4:1-16
Oct 7	2 Timothy 2:8-15
Oct 14	Luke 18:1-14
Oct 21	Genesis 12:1-7
Oct 28	No Bible Study (Charlotte Presbytery Meeting)
Nov 4	Luke 19:1-10
Nov 11	Luke 12:22-34

Here's the Zoom link if you want to join these Bible studies on-line:
Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87630215253?pwd=1xa3WhzixMeWzwrfER1PvEbRsAeDI6.1>

Meeting ID: 876 3021 5253

Passcode: 914911

The Worship Committee invites and encourages members to contribute fresh floral arrangements in our Sanctuary on Sundays. Contributions may be in memory or honor of loved ones, or to celebrate special events such as weddings, baptisms, or special events and seasons on the Church calendar. To schedule an arrangement, please contact Phyllis Long at longphyllis93@gmail.com or 704-299-9599.



Did You Know...

During World War II, a portion of the cemetery fence was dismantled and donated as scrap metal to the United States. The decorative black fence that runs along Providence Church Lane replaced it and was completed in 1995.

The Cemetery Committee

PresBees' Annual Honey Sale Today!!!

Sunday, September 21

9:00—10:30am and following the service.

Alternate date, Sunday, September 28

Times remain the same

A difficult winter resulted in a smaller harvest than last year. Only 8oz bottles will be available, \$8.00 each.

Thanks in advance for supporting the bees!

Update on Moment for Missions

Many of us recognize that Providence Presbyterian Church is very active reaching out to the community and sharing our blessings with those in need. We regularly have Moments for Mission in worship so that the congregation can hear about the opportunities we have to serve. We ask those who are providing a Moment for Mission to speak for three minutes or less. We schedule those Moment for Missions in advance. If you are interested in scheduling a Moment for Mission, please contact one of the pastors. Here is the schedule of the upcoming Moments for Mission that have been planned for the late summer and fall of 2025.

Moment for Missions at Providence Presbyterian Church

- * September 21: Charles Humphreys—Tim Lipka Memorial Golf Tournament
- * September 28: Presbyterian Church (USA)'s Peacemaking Offering
- * October 5: Directory Update / Membership Committee—Ed Day
- * October 12: Charlotte Rescue Mission Thanksgiving Turkeys/Meals
- * October 19: Introduction to the Fall Stewardship Campaign
- * October 26: Hearing how our Stewardship benefits the PPC Preschool
- * November 2: Youth speaks on what our church's support means to our young people (Stewardship related)
- * November 9: Stewardship Message
- * December 7: Endowment—Kathy Dannels

Everybody's pet is the most photogenic, most adorable, most comical, right? So, starting Sunday, Sept 14th, bring your cash to "vote" for your favorite fur baby!! Don't be shy, they are depending on you! We have had many entries, and they are all winners! Come support those PPC Pets!!! All proceeds are part of our September Outreach and go directly to support the Humane Society of Charlotte.



Women's Fall Luncheon

Sunday, October 12 @ 11:45am in the CLC.

Bring your favorite salad to share

All women are welcome! We look forward to food and fellowship with you!
Contact Kat Mandujano familiamandujano16@gmail.com or Carol Gabbard - lydiacarolg82@gmail.com with any questions.

PPC Book Club will read the following books this year. All meetings are held in the church parlor and begin at 7pm. All are welcome! Please contact Leigh Myers at amyers@carolina.rr.co with any questions.

September 30—The God of the Woods by Liz Moore
October 28—The Story She Left Behind by Patti Callahan Henry
December 2—The Lion Women of Tehran by Marjan Kamali
January 27—American Princess by Stephanie Marie Thornton
February 24—The Ride of Her Life by Elizabeth Letts
March 31—Killing Jesus by Bill O'Reilly
April 28—Culpability by Bruce Holsinger
May 26—Theo of Golden by Allen Levi
Summer (date TBD) - The Correspondent by Virginia Evans



Celebrate 50 Years of Stephen Ministry!

Founded in 1975, Stephen Ministries is celebrating its 50th year of equipping God's people for ministry! To commemorate this milestone and all that God has done over the past half a century, Stephen Ministries is conducting a celebratory tour across the U.S. in 2025 and 2026. These one-day events will feature Stephen Ministries' Founder and Executive Director, Dr. Kenneth Haugk, and other key teaching faculty from Stephen Ministries St. Louis.

The next event will be held on Saturday October 4 from 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM at First Baptist Church in Fort Mill, SC. Everyone is welcome to attend.

This special hope filled, and insightful event will not only look back at the past but also into the future – equipping and inspiring you for building a more caring world. A group of PPC's Stephen Ministers will be attending, and you are invited to join them. Expect a day filled with encouragement, fellowship and learning.

Learn more and register here:

https://www.stephenministries.org/events/event_50th_anniversary_FM.cfm

If you have questions, or would like to talk about attending please contact any of your Stephen Leaders – Jay Witherspoon, Pastor Lal, Becky Boeschel, Lynn Finlon

Please help us feed our youth each Sunday during Big Youth Group.

You can bring the entire meal yourself, or share the meal with another family.

DIETARY RESTRICTIONS: Please be sure to include a vegetarian option when planning your meal.

INSTRUCTIONS: You can bring your meal to the CLC, unless otherwise noted, by 5:00 on the day you signed up. Please plan to stay and serve the youth the meal and clean up afterwards. The kitchen generally has plates, utensils, napkins and serving utensils.

Sign up here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090948A4AC28AAF85-58478627-ppcyouth>

Thank you for your support of PPC Youth!

Take time to meet Genie Richards, our Director of Youth and Communication!



Genie Richards is a lifelong Presbyterian, born and raised in Wake Forest, NC. She moved to Charlotte in 2015 to attend Queens University of Charlotte, where she earned both her undergraduate degree (2019) and a master's degree in organizational development (2023.) Over the past six years, Genie has worked with youth from middle school through college in both church and nonprofit settings across the Charlotte area.

Her ministry began at Myers Park Presbyterian Church, where she served with the Outreach Team and led youth through CROSS Missions, an urban service-learning ministry. She later served as Assistant Director of Residence Life and Housing at Queens University of Charlotte, where she developed a student curriculum focused on social engagement and belonging, values she continues to bring into her work with youth and families.

Genie is deeply passionate about cultivating the church as a “third place” for youth—an essential space outside of home and school where young people feel seen, supported, and spiritually grounded. She is especially committed to helping youth navigate the transition to adulthood within a church that not only nurtures them but also fosters the next generation of church leaders.

Having experienced firsthand the impact of a transformative youth ministry growing up in the PC(USA), Genie is honored and excited to join the team at Providence and walk alongside the next generation in faith and formation.

Outside of work, Genie loves spending time outdoors with her husband, Pedro, and their dog, Pasta. She's an avid reader (or audiobook listener), paddleboarder, and mixed-media artist.

**Providence Presbyterian Church extends our Christian sympathy
to the family and friends of Mosie Grotophrost**

Our heartfelt condolences are with Diane Baker (Duane) of Matthews, NC, Wally Grotophorst (Mary) of Hamilton, VA, Lynda Horvath (Fran) of Arlington, VA, and Fred Grotophorst of Waxhaw, NC, and their families upon the passing of their mother, Mosie Grotophrost, on Tuesday, September 9, 2025.

A Celebration of Life service is scheduled for Saturday, September 27th at 2:00 pm.
A reception will follow in the church's fellowship hall.

Please keep Mosie's family in your prayers.

Cards of sympathy may be sent to:

Diane and Duane Baker
1413 Willow Oaks Trl.
Matthews, NC 28104
dianegbaker@gmail.com

MEMORIAL SERVICE:

- Saturday Sept 27 at 2:00 pm in the SANCTUARY
- Reception following in the Fellowship Hall
-

INSTRUCTIONS FOR FOOD DROPOFF:

"Nut free" food is preferred.

Friday, Sept 26 DROPOFF - Fellowship Hall Kitchen, 9:30 am - 12:00 pm

Saturday, Sept 27 DROPOFF - Fellowship Hall Kitchen, 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

If you have questions regarding food items, please call or text Nancy Ott at 704-516-1586.

Thank you for your support of this important ministry!

Monday Manna Bible study will begin our fall study of Galatians on Monday, October 6 from 10:30- noon. We meet on Zoom and welcome all who want to engage in the in-depth study of this letter from Paul to the Galatian church. There are some of us who take turns leading each week but that is not a requirement to join the group. Please contact Anne Wood and we'll make sure you get the zoom link. anniebduck@windstream.net.