



The Proclamation

A monthly newsletter of Providence Baptist Church

"To Know Christ and Make Him Known"

Philippians 3:10

August 2009



From the Pastor...

The summer is going by so quickly and soon the kids will be back in school. Even now, we're beginning to formulate plans for Thanksgiving and Christmas among the church family and community. Woosh! Life is moving quickly.

As a plea and reminder, I want to once again earnestly ask for your prayers and petitions before the Lord on behalf of the pastor and staff. We depend upon your prayers. We need your prayers! At times, we all have the potential to be weak vessels but God still wants to use us!

One of the deacon servants gave me a timeless article written years ago by Charles H. Spurgeon. It got my attention and precipitates my humbly asking for your constant and consistent prayers! Please read and heed the words of Spurgeon

as you take them to heart.

The prayer meeting is an invaluable institution in ministering strength to all other meetings and agencies. This brings a further observation. This united prayer should specially be made for the ministers of God. It is for them in particular that this public prayer is intended. Paul asked for it: "Brethren, pray for us" (1 Thess.5:25). God's ministers will always confess that this is the secret source of their strength. The prayers of the people must be the might of the ministers. Keep in mind why the minister more than any other person in the church needs the earnest prayers of the people. Is not his position the most perilous? Satan knows if he can once smite through the ministers heart, there will be a general confusion among God's people. It is around the standard bearer that the fight is thickest. There the battle-axes ring upon the helmets and the arrows are bent upon the armor, for the foe knows that if he can cut down the standard, he will strike a heavy blow and cause deep discouragement. Press around your minister, then, you men at arms! Knights of the red cross rally to his defense, for the fight grows hot. The person you call to the office of the ministry needs you to stand fast at his side in his hourly conflicts. The life of a minister is so perilous that I may well cry, "All hands on deck!" Let every saint give himself to prayer; let even the weakest saint become instant in supplication.

The minister, standing in such a perilous position, has a solemn weight of responsibility resting on him. Every man should be his brother's keeper to a degree, but woe to the watchmen of God if they are not faithful. It is to the watchmen's hands that the blood of souls and the ruin of men are required if they fail to preach the gospel fully and faithfully. There are times when this burden of the Lord weighs upon God's ministers until they cry out in pain as if their hearts would burst with anguish. There will come times with every preacher of the gospel—if he is faithful to what he should be—when he will be in dread suspense for his hearers and must call upon his God for help since he is overwhelmed with the burden of men's souls. Do pray for those in the ministry. If God gives a minister to your church and you accept the gift most cheerfully, do not so despise both God and the minister as to leave the minister without your prayers.

(message continued on page 4)

Dr. Richard W. Croxton, Senior Pastor



Music Ministry

“Trusting Jesus”

***The word of the LORD is proven; He is a shield to all
who trust in Him”***

2 Samuel 22:31 (NKJV)

Riverboat pilot turned Methodist preacher, Edgar Stites, the author of “Beulah Land”, also wrote another well-known hymn “Trusting Jesus.” It was published in a newspaper, and a clipping of the poem was handed to the great evangelist D.L. Moody in Chicago. Moody, after reading the poem, passed it on to his song leader, Ira Sankey, asking Sankey to write a tune. Sankey agreed on condition that Moody vouch for the doctrine taught in the verses, which he did.

Who is this Ira Sankey who wrote the popular tune to “Trusting Jesus”? Sometimes called the “Father of Gospel Music”, Sankey was born in 1840 in Pennsylvania and came to Christ as a teenager in a revival meeting. When the War Between the States broke out, he joined Union forces and often led the soldiers in singing during chapel services.

He took time in the middle of the Civil War to marry Fanny Edwards, daughter of a Pennsylvania state senator, and after the war the couple settled down in Newcastle, Pennsylvania. Ira found a job with the Internal Revenue Service. The couple had two sons, and joined the Methodist Episcopal Church where Ira led the singing.

It was in Indianapolis, Indiana, in June of 1870, while attending a YMCA convention, that Sankey met D.L. Moody. Moody, hearing Sankey lead the singing, began peppering him with questions, “Where are you from? Are you married? What is your business?”

Moody, with his usual directness, told Sankey that he’d have to give up his job with the IRS to become the song leader for his campaigns. “I have been looking for you for the last eight years,” said Moody.

For the next thirty years, the names of Moody and Sankey would be linked in the world’s greatest evangelistic undertakings. As the nineteenth century wore to a close, Sankey’s beautiful voice became raspy due to overuse in the great halls and arenas where Moody preached, and his eyesight failed due to glaucoma. His years of notes and research on gospel music as well as the only manuscript of his autobiography were lost in a fire; that his work lives on! He composed the music to above twelve hundred songs during his lifetime, including “Faith Is the Victory”, “The Ninety and Nine”, “A Shelter in the Time of Storm,” “Under His Wings”, and this one— “Trusting Jesus.”

*Simply trusting every day, trusting through a stormy way;
Even when my faith is small, trusting Jesus, that is all.*

*Brightly doth His Spirit shine into this poor heart of mine.
While He leads I cannot fall, trusting Jesus, that is all.*

*Singing if my way is clear, praying if the path be drear;
If in danger, for Him call, trusting Jesus, that is all.*

*Trusting Him while life shall last, trusting Him ‘till earth be past;
‘Til I hear His final call, trusting Jesus, that is all.*

***Trusting as the moments fly, trusting as the days go by;
Trusting Him whate’er befall, trusting Jesus, that is all.***

From the Youth and Children's Pastor...

Michael Small

A Call to Faithfulness

I have to say I am often surprised at the number of people who stop going to church during the summer. It would be amusing if it were not so sad. It's as if to say, "Jesus, I'm yours September through May, but June through August is mine." I wonder how my wife would feel about such an arrangement, "Honey, I promise to be faithful 75% of the time."

Though it's doubtful that Jesus would have dropped 3K to perfect his tan in Tahiti, there is nothing wrong with resting regularly (even God did it, Gen. 2:1-3). Our attitude as Christians, however, should be that we BELONG to Jesus Christ. The Bible says, "You are not your own, you were bought with a price" (1 Cor. 6:19-20). Belonging to someone else means I no longer have any rights of my own. I have no rights, no dreams, no purpose apart from that which is given to me by my Master. I am the property of Jesus Christ.

It may seem to some that church attendance is not really that important. We can be "good enough" Christians just having a daily quiet time. There are several problems with this philosophy:

1. God desires corporate worship. We don't get to decide how to worship Him, He does. (Heb. 10:26). Our ultimate purpose is His glory (Is. 43:7).
2. We are not very good at holding our lifestyle or doctrine in check on our own. The Bible says that we sharpen one another (Pr. 17:17), i.e., we don't grow right without others.
3. The church needs everyone. The Bible says that the church only functions correctly when everyone in it is doing what they are supposed to do (Eph. 4:16). At Providence we are so blessed with only a small portion faithfully serving. Imagine the blessings that would come if everyone were actively serving!!!

I often hear from so many frustrated Christians who feel like they are stuck in their walk. When I pry a little deeper, I typically find that there is some area that they have stopped being faithful in, be it tithing, worship, evangelism or a daily quiet time. Jesus teaches us that the one who is faithful in a few things will be given more (Mt. 25:21). Jesus gave 100%, what about you?

PLEASE HELP!!! Michael's phone died shortly before the mission trip. He got a new phone but lost all of his contacts. If you want to stay on the contact list please send a text of your name to 804-832-0195 so he can make the update.

Coming in August

8/11: Pool Party @ Buntings—Children and families will leave the church at 4pm to have a pool party and cookout at the Buntings. Thanks Stuart and Beth!

8/20 : Cookout @ Beaver Dam— Youth bring your fishing poles, Frisbees and volleyballs. We will meet at the church at 10am and will leave for the park. We will eat lunch there at 12 and return around 3pm.

8/21 : Tides Baseball Game—Families are invited to see the Norfolk Tides play. Please pay \$12 per ticket by August 5.

8/25 : Children's Back to School Party— Meet at the church at 12 noon (the rest is a surprise).

"Shoeboxes coming together to change the world"



This year, the Providence Family is supporting Operation Christmas Child (OCC) again.

August Items that can be eaten or worn (hard candies, gloves, scarves, sunglasses, caps, hats, bangles, necklaces, etc.)

*****DO NOT INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:** chocolate, tinned food or cakes, or any other food, medicine or vitamins, war related items (toy guns, etc.), fragile items, liquids or aerosols of any kind, dangerous items (sharp items, marbles, scissors or razors), novels, or anything political or racial in nature.***



Shoe Box Packing Day: Sunday, August 30

We need **YOUR** help filling and wrapping the shoe boxes!

Come enjoy a church-wide covered dish luncheon following the 10:30 a.m. worship service and stay to help pack the boxes!

Do you want to know what is going on in the youth & children's ministry all the time?!?!? Now you can. You can follow the ministry on Twitter. Our URL is:



www.twitter.com/pbc_youth

(Don't forget the underscore.)

Also there is a link there to our facebook page so you can become a total PBC Youth fanatic!!

(From the Pastor ... continued)

The preservation and health of the minister is one of the most, vital points to the church. You may lose a sailor from the ship, and that is very bad— both for him and for you—but if the captain should be washed overboard, what is the vessel to do? Therefore, though prayer is to be made for every person in the church, yet for the minister is it to be offered first and foremost because of the position that he occupies? And then, how much more is asked of him than of you? If you are to keep a private table for personal spiritual growth, he is, as it were, to keep a public table—a feast of good spiritual things for all comers. How shall he do this unless his Master gives him rich provisions? If you are to shine as a candle in a house, the minister is to be a lighthouse to be seen far across the deep. How shall he shine the whole night long unless his is trimmed by his Master and fresh oil is given him from heaven? The minister's influence is wider than yours: if it is for evil, he shall be a deadly Upas tree whose spreading boughs poison all beneath his shadow. But if God makes him a star in His right hand, his ray of light shall cheer with its genial influence whole nations and whole periods of time. If there is any truth in all of this, I implore you to generously and constantly pray for those who minister to you.

Simply said, the staff and I covet your prayers as we minister and preach in His name and in your midst and throughout the community. Together let's make a different world in the name of Jesus.

**Blessings Always,
Pastor Richard**



Who joined in June & July 2009.

- Miguel & Christi Feliciano**
- Anastasia De La Cruz**
- Austin Hammock**
- Brenda Lamberson**
- Rene' Moring**



“He Himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light” John 1:8

Our duty as Christians is not to be the light for others, but rather to let the light shine in us for others to see. If we are lazy in our spirit, and are judgmental with ourselves and others and if we keep negativity in our life, then how does Jesus shine in us? We put the flame out and Jesus is not allowed to shine through us. We must always be mindful to the needs and situations of others. We must never let the light in us go out just as John never did. John was a true man of God who loved Jesus and loved the people Jesus loved. He wanted others to “glow” so he spread the word and let his light become a widespread fire. May our light become a widespread fire also!

In Christ,

Heather Berry



As the last weeks of summer vacation approach, there is so much to be done in preparation for the opening of preschool in September. We are still accepting registration for all age levels: 2, 3, and Pre-K.

On our list of “To Do’s”: continue enrolling students, repaint our sign, clean the office, organize the library, update the staff handbook, and the list goes on...

Our Pre-K workbooks have arrived, as well as many other craft supplies. There is still a lot of shopping to do such as buying glue sticks, pencils, paint sets, crayons, construction paper...

We welcome to our staff Kendall Tayman and Gina Cook, teachers for our three year old program. These ladies will add much to our preschool both spiritually and academically.

Thank you Providence for your continued prayers.

Weekday Learning Center Preschool

Providence Baptist Church

804-642-5112

Now registering for the Fall Programs:

2 years olds: 2 days a week

3 year olds: 3 days a week

Pre-K(4's): 4 days a week

All classes 9:30-12:30

August 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 6 pm Joint Worship@ Gloucester Point	3 6:30 p.m. Grow visitation 7:30 p.m. Deacon's Meeting	4	5	6	7	8
9	10 6:30 p.m. Grow visitation	11 Terrific Tuesday Pool Party @ Buntings	12 Wild Wednesday 6:30 pm	13	14	15
16 2:30 p.m. Gloucester House 6:00 pm Diane Carden & Friends	17 6:30 p.m. Grow visitation 6:30 p.m. Stewardship Committee Meets 7pm Music Comm.	18	19 5:00 p.m. Youth Council 5:45 p.m. Church Council	20 Cookout @ Beaverdam Lv at 10:00 am	21	22 Fellowship Hall Reserved
23	24 6:30 p.m. Grow visitation "W Team"	25 Children's Back to School Party Meet at 12	26	27	28	29 Sanctuary Reserved For Wedding
30 Covered Dish Luncheon/Pack Day for OCC	31 6:30 p.m. Grow visitation All Teams					

August Birthdays

- Ethan Brown, Sandra West
- Ainslee Brown, Eddie Latimer
- Misty Eichler, Elizabeth Jarrells
- Lauren Blake, Alyssa Burgess, Renaye Dame, Amber Greene
- Lisa Carroll, Ginger Enz, Leigh Haley, Troy Moncrieff
- Kristen Greene, Paul Lemon, Elizabeth Smith, Martha West
- Estelle Cade, Pamela Leigh, Joy Loveland, Sonja Smith, Trenton Ward
- Leann Calvert
- Kevin Spivey, Alberta Troutman
- Garrett Croxton, Cameron Farinholt, Colby Henson, Walter Kahle, David Loase, Michael Munn, Garrick Williams
- James Garrett, Jennifer Goode
- Billy Hammock, Elaine Minnick, Dustyn Tayman
- Bryan Burgess, Angela Gray, Beth Peck
- Caroline Bunting, Gary Ogden, Brittany Teague, Frances West
- Heather Bloemhard, Brian Gray, Wiley Hogge, Marie Hudgins, Lauren Motley, Jerry Watford, Savannah Williams
- Larry Smith
- Jason Hanley, Olivia Jones, Kaleb Sweat
- Natalie Barefoot, Stephen French, Megan Garcia, James Hall, Ronald Harris
- Angie Rainey, Nena Smith-Kirk
- Jeffrey Setterholm, Maranda West
- Mavis Greene, Ellis Hogge, Hayden Leigh
- Gabriella Hansen, Tammie Spivey, Jill Ward, Eva Whitcomb
- Heather Berry, Erin Goode, Emily Parks, Alex Webb Steven Rozecki,
- Kristin Ipock, Megan Lewis,
- Cheryl Hensley, Jeri Smith
- Hilda Carmine, Eric Johnson, David Merritt, Ryan Snead
- Ellie Hines
- Donna Brown, Ralph Haley, Rene' Moring
- Richard Grimes, Kathryn Royals

HIGHLIGHTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

*Sunday
afternoon
rehearsals begin
September 13
4-5:30 p.m.
SIGN UPS for
the Choir and
the IN-HOUSE
CHOIR
RETREAT
September 25-
26 are on the
table in the
Goodwyn Hall!*



*We are inviting
singers from
other churches
in our
community to be
a part of the
Living-Singing
Christmas Tree
this year. Please
keep the
ministry of the
LSCT in your
prayers!*



Attention Ladies of the Church

If the Lord is leading you to serve as part of an ongoing Women's Ministry, please fill out a yellow Women's Ministry survey form located in various places of the church. We need your input and value your perspective on ministry needs of women! After filling out the brief survey, please turn this in to the church office or hand it to Wanda Hansford.



**Sunday
September 13
6:00 P.M.**

Come see the ministry opportunities at Providence starting this fall! There will be stations set up in the Fellowship Hall that represent the children's and youth programs, missions programs, Music, Discipleship Training, Sunday School, etc. Bring the family for an evening of church family fellowship.

Don't miss this exciting evening!

Weekly Ministry Opportunities

Church Staff

Sunday

Worship and Praise Celebration.....9:00 & 10:30 a.m.
Children's Church.....9:00 a.m.
Discipleship Classes.....5:00 p.m.
Evening Worship Service.....6:00 p.m.

Monday

Pastoral Staff Prayer Time.....9:30 a.m.
GROW Visitation.....6:30 p.m.

Tuesday

Staff Meeting..... 10:30 a.m.

Wednesday

Discipleship Classes.....6:30 p.m.
Prayer Meeting/Bible Study.....6:30 p.m.
Men's Ministry (S7 & S9).....6:30 p.m.
Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal.....7:30 p.m.

Thursday

Worship Team Rehearsal.....7:00 p.m.

Every Member*A Minister*
Senior PastorDr. Richard W. Croxton
Associate Pastor/Music.....Rev. Phillip Higgins
Associate Pastor/Children & Youth.....Rev. Michael Small
Senior Pastor's SecretaryWanda Hansford
Administrative Assistant.....Brenda Lamberson
Weekday Learning Center Director.....Linda Nuttall
Organist.....Kenneth Brown
TreasurerJerry West
Financial SecretaryJean Brown
Custodian.....Jay Rector

Office Hours

Monday through Thursday — 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Friday — 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon

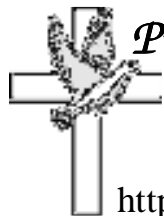
Phone: 804.642.5812 FAX: 804.642.4902

Email: pbcoffice@pbc.hrcoxmail.com

Website: <http://www.providence-baptist.com>

The purpose of "The Proclamation" is to inform our members and those interested in the exciting ministries and activities that God has led us to accomplish through Providence Baptist Church and to encourage them in their daily walk with Christ.

Articles must be submitted to the Church Office by the 10th of each month and may be edited for length and content.



Providence Baptist Church

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED