



The Proclamation

A monthly newsletter of Providence Baptist Church

"To Know Christ and Make Him Known"

Philippians 3:10


July 2009

From the Pastor...



Enjoy the summer and continue to focus on the Lord God Jehovah in worship, praise, activities and thoughts. He has truly never left you nor forsaken you. You are His focus and the object of His precious love. Hallelujah, what a Savior!

We all seem to enjoy the 4th of July celebrations that are held throughout the nation. Communities and families get together with food, fellowship, fireworks, reflections and homespun fun to remember the freedom that has been granted us through the vision and sacrifice of our forefathers and all those brave men and women who have fought and continue to fight for the ideals of this great nation. God Bless America!

Over the last weeks, we have been reminded of the yearning for freedom and a voice in government as we've watched the events unfold in Iran. A tyrannical dictator by the name of Ahmadinejad has stolen an election by the people. The other guy—Mousavi—is a former Prime Minister of Iran and he was not and is not so great either. It's not that the populace wants Mousavi as their president as much as it is that they want to be free.

Therein lay the beauty of Christianity and our relationship with Jesus Christ. Through his sacrifice on Calvary's tree, Jesus has set us free from being slaves to sin and death. Jesus did something about our sin that we could never do! Without his sacrifice, humankind would have remained in a cyclical loop of being born, living a short while in ever decaying bodies, and then dying. Adam had been formed by the Father as a part of His perfect creation. Adam sinned and Paradise was lost and consequently, Adam's sin swept away the opportunity for humankind to live forever in perfect health and in an absolutely pristine, balanced environment. Your believing in the Lord Jesus Christ and being "washed" in His perfect, sacrificial blood restores that lost opportunity for freedom, balance, established hope, and being forever in Paradise (heaven). You see, when you're set free in Jesus, no person, tyrannical government, event, place or thing can take away your spiritual freedom nor your ultimate destination bought and paid for in full on Calvary's hillside. Satan's lies, action, and attempted "re-shackling" of you just won't stick as you run the race of life in the freedom established by the King of Kings and the Lord of Lords. Take that, Satan! Hear that, Christians!

I came across an interesting article this week regarding the training of a circus elephant. The question was posed as to your wondering why a dinky little rope around the ankle of an elephant is strong and adequate enough to hold that great big elephant. In reality, it isn't—but the elephant thinks it is. When a baby elephant is being trained, a strong chain is placed around its ankle and tied to a post. Of course, the baby tries to get free but it cannot break the chain. When the baby elephant decides it has had enough and gives up, the trainer substitutes a dinky little rope for the chain. In its mind, the elephant has decided that there is no way that it can get free, so it allows the "power" of the rope to enslave it—yes, that dinky little rope. Really, it would be so easy for that massive, grown elephant to get free but it doesn't even bother.

You and I by choice can allow things to enslave us—food, credit cards, wrong passions, wrong values, circumstances, people; however, when Jesus made the choice of Calvary, he gave us the path of freedom, broke the chains that bind us, and gained our victory over sin and death. His was a choice, and our acceptance of his freedom is a choice.

Our entire staff welcomes Brenda Lamberson to the "fold" and we are all praying that your family has a great 4th of July. Thank God for our American freedom. Praise God for our spiritual freedom. Remember, take that dinky little rope off your ankle. Don't give it any power, you wonderfully created and "re-created" child of the Heavenly King. Be free!

**Blessing Always,
Pastor Richard**

Dr. Richard W. Croxton, Senior Pastor



“To God Be the Glory”
Be exalted, O God, above the heavens,
And Your glory above all the earth.
Psalm 108:5 (NKJV)

Occasionally a hymn drops into the furrows of history to be buried and forgotten awhile, only to later spring to life for future generations. That’s what happened with Fanny Crosby’s “To God Be the Glory”. It first appeared in *Brightest and Best*, a little volume of hymns published in 1875 by William Doane and Robert Lowry. This small hymnal proved to be a treasure trove, introducing such classics as “Christ Arose,” “All the Way My Savior Leads Me,” “Savior, More Than Life To Me,” “I Am Thine, O Lord,” “Rescue the Perishing,” “Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross”, and this one—”Praise for Redemption” (as it was originally called).

As it turned out, “Praise for Redemption” wasn’t much of a hit. It wasn’t widely sung nor included in many hymnals; it just lay hidden for eighty years.

In 1954, Billy Graham was planning an evangelistic crusade at London’s Harringay Arena. As Cliff Barrows, music director for the Graham team, was compiling hymns for the *Greater London Crusade Song Book*, Rev. Frank Colquhoun, a prolific British preacher at Norwich Cathedral and a great lover of hymns, approached him. Colquhoun gave Barrows a copy of “Praise for Redemption,” with its exuberant chorus “Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord! Let the earth hear His voice!” Though unfamiliar with the hymn, Barrows decided to use it anyway.

Meanwhile problems were mounting for Rev. Graham. The British Press was critical of the young evangelist and an Anglican bishop predicted he would return to America with “his tail between his legs”. Funds were short, forcing the Graham team to take pay cuts. A member of Parliament threatened a challenge in the House of Commons, accusing Graham of interfering in British politics under the guise of religion. Friends in high places were advising Graham to cancel or postpone the meetings. Graham, shaken, dropped to his knees repeatedly, beseeching help from heaven.

As it turned out, Harringay Arena was packed for three months, and the crusade sparked a sense of revival across Great Britain. “To God be the Glory” seemed a fitting theme. Fanny Crosby’s old hymn was sung almost every night in Harringay, launching it into worldwide popularity as one of Christianity’s favorite hymns.

*To God be the glory, great things He hath done, so loved He the world that He gave us His Son,
Who yielded His life, an atonement for sin, and opened the life-gate, that all may go in.*

*O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood, to every believer the promise of God;
The vilest offender who truly believes, that moment from Jesus a pardon receives.*

*Great things He hath taught us, great things He hath done, and great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;
But purer, and higher, and greater will be our wonder, our victory, when Jesus we see.*

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the earth hear His voice!

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the people rejoice!

O come to the Father through Jesus, the Son,

And give Him the glory great things He hath done!

I hope and pray that God will receive the glory due his Name from us, His people, this summer! God bless you and your family as you seek to praise Him for all He has done for you.

From the Youth and Children's Pastor...

Michael Small

Overview of the Summer: Youth

Summer is an exciting time here at Providence. We have so much coming! In July we will begin our Sunday Night Slam (5:30-7:30pm) which will feature everything from games & music to food and roundtable discussions. Every week will be different so don't miss out.

In Acts 1:8 Jesus tells his disciples to witness to "Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, and the ends of the earth." Our Wednesday night program (6-7:30pm) will follow this same model as we use this time to minister to church members, our community, surrounding communities and

internationally.

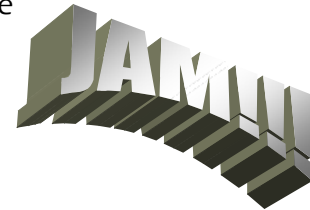
Also, don't miss our Thumpin' Thursday events, which serve the purpose of... well... just hanging out and having a super awesomtacularific (that's right) time. We will be doing everything from bowling to beach bumming.

Finally, we've got some great multi-day events such as Helping Hands camp, Youth VBS (and YES we will have more messy games), and back by popular demand, the Youth Evangelism Conference. So invite everyone you know, & if you've been gone,



Need I Say More?

now is the time to come back because summer '09 at PBC is the



Overview of the Summer: Children

Looking for something for your kids to do this summer?



At Providence, we've got activities to keep kids busy all summer long. On Sunday Nights from 6-7, kids will have a different missions focus every week.

On Wednesday Nights we have fun events like food nights, craft nights and game nights with a lesson related to what they are learning in Children's Church and Sunday School. Children will receive a weekly "faith journal" that will teach them valuable Bible Study skills at home. Once a month they will have a "mystery night" with

Pastor Michael. (Who knows what will happen?)

Finally, don't forget our "Terrific Tuesdays" through out the summer. We will have a day at the beach, a swimming party and cookout, a day at the Children's Museum in Richmond and a bouncin' "Back to School" party in August. So... **don't miss it!**

Coming in July

7/9 Youth Day at Coquina Beach – We will meet at the church at 7am, have some cereal & head out. We will return at about 11pm. Lunch and Dinner are on you.

7/14 Children's Museum—We will leave from the church at 9am, the cost is \$6-8 depending on how many children come. Lunch is on you.

7/23 Youth Bowling Day at Naval Weapon Base—We will leave at 5pm, the cost is \$12 for bowling & food.

7/26-29 Youth VBS 6-8pm. Munchies served nightly. Messy Games & Pizza on Wednesday 8-9.

7/28 Children's Day at Yorktown Beach—we'll leave from the church at 9am and return between 1-2pm.

Youth Mission Trip to Nashville

We will be commissioning those attending the mission trip on Sunday, July 5 at 9am. Please continue to be in prayer for the following who are attending the Youth Mission Trip:

Cody Chasm
Karen Croxton
Wren Croxton
Rebecca Hade
Sarah Hade
Wes Hade
Kristin Handy
Justin Hansford
Taylor Sites
Michael Small
Sarah Small
and
Megan Turner

We will be leaving on July 12th at 6 a.m. and arriving back late on July 18th. Providence will be hosting a special service on Sunday, July 19th at 6 p.m. to allow those serving to share their experiences with the church.

We would also like to say:

THANK YOU!!!

To all of you who generously contributed their time and money to help support this ministry to the poor.



"Shoeboxes coming together to change the world"

This year, the Providence Family will have the opportunity to support Operation Christmas Child (OCC) again. We will be accepting ready-made shoeboxes, and taking up special offerings for OCC as in past years. Additionally, we will be collecting specific items during each of the summer months on a specific Sunday, to fill empty shoeboxes by the end of August. **All items must fit inside a standard sized shoebox, and must be new items.**

Targeted collection items

May: Toys (small bears, soft toys, tennis balls, finger puppets, puzzles, yo-yos, building blocks, small musical instruments, trucks and cars, dolls, clip on earrings, etc.)

June: Hygiene Items (toothbrush, toothpaste, hairbrush, comb, hair clips, bar of wrapped soap, etc.)

July: Educational Supplies (felt pens, pens, pencils, pencil sharpeners, erasers, coloring books, notebooks, pencil case, chalk, stickers, etc.)

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

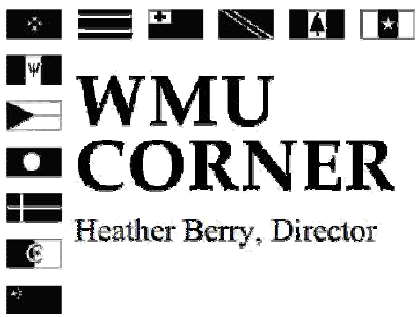
*****DO NOT INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:** *chocolate, tinned food or cakes, or any other food, medicine or vitamins, war related items (toy guns, etc.), fragile items, liquids or aerosols of any kind, dangerous items (sharp items, marbles, scissors or razors), novels, or anything political or racial in nature.****

A labeled receptacle has been placed in Goodwyn Hall for collection purposes. This month, on VBS Sunday, June 28, we will have baked goods available in Goodwyn Hall between the morning services, and we will be collecting the June hygiene items at that time.

Dates to remember:

1. May 31: Collection Day for **Toys**
2. June 28: Collection day for **Hygiene items**
3. July 26: Collection day for **Educational Supplies**
4. August 23: Collection day for items that can be **eaten or worn**
5. August 30: **OCC Shoebox Pack Day:** Covered Dish luncheon after Sunday services to precede the filling of shoeboxes. *This is also the deadline date for those who have packed their own shoeboxes at home and boxes that have been collected from co-workers, friends, neighbors, etc.*
6. September 13: **"Shoebox Sunday"** celebration/dedication of shoeboxes to be held in conjunction with the Fall Kickoff
7. September 14: **Shoeboxes delivered** to distribution center site


Tiny Press News
Weekday Learning Center
Linda Nuttall, Director


WMU
CORNER
 Heather Berry, Director

Preschool ages 2-4

The lazy, crazy days of summer... July 4th celebrations, Vacations, Picnics, Swimming, Fishing and all sorts of fund family activities. Summer is a great time to lounge by the ocean, enjoy the breeze and thank God for our many blessings.

I thank God for Weekday Preschool and the many families that I have gotten to know. I am excited by the families that draw closer to God because of their child. I thank God for all teachers and their talents.

This summer, I pray that God will bless all teachers with rest and fresh ideas of how he would have them teach children. I pray for students to enjoy their summer. I pray that God will lead me, as Director, to move forward in the education and the spiritual teaching of God's preschool.

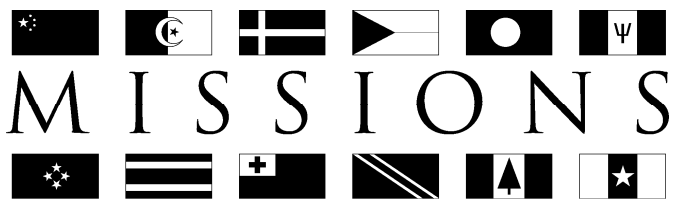
Thank you for your prayers,
Linda Nuttall

Wow! June sure has been a quick month! As I prepare to take over as the WMU Director, I am reminded daily that I am not alone. I have all of you and my family in support of me. Most of all, I have God! He gives me strength and courage everyday to do the things I think cannot be done. He gives me hope, that as a part of the Body of Christ, we can change the world. He also gives me unconditional, everlasting love— love that I can, in turn, give to others that need, want and desire it. These things are the reason I am so excited for the adventures we will have as a church in ministering to those around us. Whether it be in our own community, the country or the world, we as Christians and missionaries are called to "love each other" (John 15:17). So go out today, smile and say "I love you" as an ambassador of Christ. Remember, the body of Christ cannot function without each and every one of us!

WMU Officers for 2009-2010
 Heather Berry—Director
 Ann Hogge—Assistant Director
 Secretary—Nancy Redd
 Treasurer—Mona Hogge
 Church-Wide Missions Consultant-Christy West
 WOM Consultant—Lisa Carroll
 Youth on Missions—Michael Small
 Acteens Director—Tina Fulcher

*In Christ,
Heather Berry*


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


MISSIONS



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 9:00 a.m.- 12:00 noon VBS	2 6:00 p.m. VBS Commencement 7:00 p.m. Hotdog Supper	3	4 Happy 4th of July
5 5:00-9:00 p.m. Independence Day Celebration	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13 7:00 p.m. Church Council	14	15 6:30 p.m. Quarterly Business Meeting	16	17	18
<i>Youth Mission Trip to Nashville, TN</i>						
19 Joint Worship @ Living Word	20	21	22	23	24	25 5:00-7:00 p.m. Paul Lemon's Class Fellowship
26 6:00 p.m. Youth Mission Trip Report	27	28	29	30	31	
<i>Helping Hands Youth Community Service Mission</i>						

July Birthdays

- Phyllis Christensen, Dane Coates, Peter Hogge, Andy Schramm, Jordan Simpson, Joshua West, Deanna Wood
- Barbara Burgess, Harold Custis, Jennifer Lawrence, Avery Smith
- Jennifer Lawrence, Avery Smith, Devin Coates, Amy Crotty, Mitchell Hogge
- Jason Gaya
- Ryan Burris
- Maria Northrop
- Micah Jenkins, John Jones, Kayla Massengill, Wayne Matthews
- Timothy Motley, Alex Reyes, Pamela Wood
- Scott Ambrose, Earl Matthews, Taylor Rowe
- Curtis Hogge
- Betty Dunn, Emily Ratliff
- Stuart Bunting, Tiffany Carr, Pam Turner, Michael Williams
- John Altemus, Justin Poole, Andrew White
- Courtney Davis, Tracy Langwell
- Susan Mongold, Grace Walker
- David Blond, Sierra Chestnut, Anastasis De La Cruz, Della Garrett, Jimmy Moore, Michele Richmond
- Tracey Parks, Sarah Small
- Tyler Hall, Megan Turner, Laura West
- Roger Burris, Beverly Chaney, Kandy Insley, Hannah Roberts, Barbara Williams
- Rilee Dalton, Tina Haynes, Logan Hutson, Mick Sampson, Kelsey Young
- Cameron Bishop, Alexander Hanna, Thomas Hedrick
- Sue Marshall, Taylor Williams
- Betty Brown
- Samantha Belvin, Robbie English, Denny Insley, Melody Seys, J. Tyson
- Christina Carr, Sean Eckhart, Caroline Fulcher, Phyllis Harwood, Sandra Loveland, Alyssa Ondarza, Frances Simmons
- Jeanette Knight
- Donna Coates
- Cody Chasm, Mildred Hall, Jan Marshall, Eden Stanley, Helen Watkins.
- Ben Borden, Jimmy Guy, Delbert Hogge, Christina Motley, Mary Thomas.
- Keith Bloemhard, Scott Brown, Irene Carr, Melissa Hansen, Leonard Turner, Brian Watkins

HIGHLIGHTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS



Independence Day Celebration

JULY 5 INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION AT PROVIDENCE

Come together and celebrate the birth of our country
and God's blessings extended to us!

Schedule of events:

- 5:00 p.m. Fun & Festivities begin for all ages
6:00 p.m. "Box Dinner" served (fried chicken, potato salad,
marinated vegetables, ham roll, homemade pound
cake). Child's meal (fried chicken, chips, applesauce
& cookie).
\$4.00 adult, \$2.00 child, \$12.00 maximum for
families.

(Please pick up your tickets in advance from the church office)

- 7:00 p.m. Music by "Born Again"
9:00 p.m. Fireworks

It is with great pleasure and anticipation that we welcome Ms. Brenda Lamberson to the Providence family and church office staff. Brenda will serve in the capacity of Administrative Assistant with general and specific duties. She comes to us with a solid background of office management and integration.

Wanda Hansford will continue in the role of coordinating special projects as the Pastor's Personal Secretary.

Please do not hesitate to get to know Brenda and call upon her for any of your church needs. Her office hours will be from 8:00-4:00 Monday through Thursday and 8:00-12:00 on Friday.

Blessings Always,
Pastor Richard

Dear Church Family,

I would like to take the opportunity to thank Pastor Croxton, the Personnel Committee and each of you for the opportunity to become part of the Providence family and office staff. I come to Providence with great enthusiasm, excitement and spiritual joy to begin a new career. I feel the Lord has directed me at this time in my life to work where I can share my religious values not only in my personal life, but in my job as well. I have 6 grandchildren, 4 of whom live in Gloucester and have been associated with the Weekday Learning Center and the church for several years, so I knew this is indeed where I wanted to be.

I will strive to do my very best to become a valued part of the staff and church family and hope each of you will not hesitate to call upon me at anytime.

Thank you and God bless you all,
Brenda Lamberson

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

Bible Study.....10:45 a.m.
Skater & Sport's Ministry..... 3:00 p.m.
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@pb.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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Hayes, Virginia 23072
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<http://www.providence-baptist.com>

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED