



The Proclamation

A monthly newsletter of Providence Baptist Church

"To Know Christ and Make Him Known"

Philippians 3:10

June 2009



From the Pastor...

I hope this finds you doing well and anticipating the good blessings of the Lord for the summer. In my household, everyone is so ready to get through school for this year. I am sure many parents and kids join me in this regard. Summer can be a time of refreshing, relaxation, and renewal in the Lord. Take advantage of these "three R's", and be blessed by the Lord in these next three months.

Consider II Thessalonians with me this month. Paul addresses the persecutions that the church was facing. Certainly, there were persecutions on the outside; however, the church was facing problems on the inside also. Some were suffering great trials for their faith, but others had quit working and were idlers. They weren't working because they thought the church should take care of them and/or they had the wrong idea that they were experiencing the day of the Lord—they thought the Lord would return any moment. The Apostle Paul wrote this letter to encourage those who suffered, enlighten the confused, and warn the careless. He reminds us that in times of trial or difficult circumstances *that the essential thing is always faith*. Paul contends that God will *always* see you through, no matter what; therefore, be strong in the Lord! Paul completes chapter one by reminding us that the lost will be eternally separated from God's glory, while the children of God will bring great glory to the Lord. In the meantime, make certain that God is glorified in your life today.

In chapter two, we see Satan seeking to shake and sift the saints, causing them to lose their confidence in God and who they are in the Lord. Satan does this through one of his chief weapons; namely, deception. Now it is safe to say all we have to do is look around and observe that deception is having a heyday in our country, our schools, our families, and even our churches. Yes, deception is perpetuated by Satan. Paul was fighting this weapon of Satan to a great degree. Someone in the church claimed to have a letter from Paul stating that the day of the Lord was at hand. Still others said that they were receiving messages through the Spirit (I Thess. 5:21) which was simply not the case. These early church believers were trapped by the lies of the enemy, and it was causing them to do crazy things. We must make sure that we ourselves are *not* trapped by the lies of the enemy in the modern day church. Know that the Spirit of God in this world today is keeping God's program and "times" on schedule. Beware of modern day "self-disclosed prophets" who contradict what God has already proclaimed in His Word. Listen family of God— *if you stand on the Word* you will **NOT** fall for the devil's lies or be trapped by the enemy. No matter what is happening in this country or our families, as a child of God *you can face tomorrow and the future* with hope, comfort, and blessed assurance because God's mercies are restored to us every day and His Grace will not fail.

We sing an old hymn "Great Is Thy Faithfulness". Be reminded of the first verse again: "Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father, there is no shadow of turning with Thee; Thou changest not, Thy compassions they fail not, as Thou hast been Thou forever wilt be". Take heed, God's faithfulness to us is the basis for our faithfulness to Him. If we truly love Him, we will keep His Word. We **will** wait on the Lord and be patient in times of trial and testing.

We have all enjoyed the first five months of this new calendar year. It is with great anticipation that we look forward to the season and the times of the Lord for summer 2009. Continue to be faithful to God and be involved in the good things that the Lord has provided for us. Again, let me remind you, God doesn't take a three month vacation from His church or His people during the summer. Nor should we! Stay prayed up, 'fessed up, and seek the Lord while He tarries, even in the good 'ole summertime. Rejoice in the Lord always, I say again, rejoice!

*Blessing Always,
Pastor Richard*

Dr. Richard W. Croxton, Senior Pastor



“I Know Not Where the Road Will Lead”

(Words by Evelyn Atwater Cummins, Traditional English melody)

During the earliest days of radio, Evelyn A. Cummins, who was sick at home on a Sunday, heard Dr. S. Parkes Cadman preach a sermon on “The King’s Highway.” As she said: “The title sort of stuck in my head, and I thought I would put down what the King’s Highway meant to me.” This poem was the result.

The word “highway” appears in several important Old Testament passages. The “kings highway” of Numbers 20:17 and 21:22 was the major north-south trade route in Transjordan from Arabia to Damascus. Isaiah 35:8 is part of a prophecy of God’s blessing extended to his people: “And a highway will be there; it will be called the Way of Holiness.” Isaiah 40:3 is associated with the promised coming of Christ: “In the desert prepare the way for the Lord; make straight in the wilderness a highway for our God.”

At some time during life’s pilgrimage, all believers will ask the probing question, “Why?” In a difficult circumstance they feel uncertain as to where the road leads and how long it is. It remains a mystery whether or not the road ahead is “rough or smooth, uphill or down.” And as it continues they wonder whether they will pass through the light or the darkness. Yet those on the King’s highway know that this path to God is the way of truth and love.

Christians take great comfort in the realization that saints of all ages and some of their own loved ones have reached the end of the road, and moreover, that other friends and family members are with them on their pilgrimage. Thus, without straying and without fear they press on to the end, when the “why” will be revealed. — Phillip Higgins, Associate Pastor/Music

*I know not where the road will lead I follow day by day,
or where it ends: I only know I walk the King’s highway.*

*I know not if the way is long, and no one else can say
but rough or smooth, up hill or down, I walk the King’s highway.*

*And some I love have reached the end, but some with me may stay,
their faith and hope still guiding me: I walk the King’s highway.*

*The way is truth, the way is love, for light and strength I pray,
and through the years of life, to God I walk the King’s highway.*

*The countless hosts lead on before, I must not fear nor stray;
with them, the pilgrims of the faith, I walk the King’s highway.
Through light and dark the road leads on ‘till dawns the endless day,
when I shall know why in this life I walk the King’s highway.*

From the Youth and Children's Pastor...

Michael Small

How should Christians view suffering?

It has been asked by some, "If God is so good, why do so many bad things happen?" Spend any time ministering to people and eventually someone will ask you "Why?". We call the nature and purpose of God into question for the most part because we tend to assume that God desires us to be happy. But this assumption is only half-true. Certainly God does not delight in our misery, Jesus wept at the tomb of Lazarus, But his chief desire is not our happiness either. What He delights in above all is His own glory... and many times, if not all the time, our suffering is necessary to accomplish this. Consider the following passages:

Then Jesus said to His disciples, "If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross and follow Me (Matt 16:24). Those who carried a cross were often stripped naked, dragged through town, beaten, spit upon, chastised and abused by crowds and the destination, of course, was to die by crucifixion.

"And He has said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for power is perfected in weakness." Most gladly, therefore, I will rather boast about my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me. Therefore I am well content with weaknesses, with insults, with distresses, with persecutions, with difficulties, for Christ's sake; for when I am weak, then I am strong" (2 Corinthians 12:9-10) . Paul "wore the marks of Christ" on his body for the sake of the gospel.

Jesus speaking to Peter said, **"Truly, truly, I say to you, when you were younger, you used to gird yourself and walk wherever you wished; but when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands and someone else will gird you, and bring you where you do not wish to go."** Now this He said, signifying by what kind of death he would glorify God. **And when He had spoken this, He said to him, "Follow Me!"**" (John 21:18-19, NASB95) Don't miss that last part. He was destined to glorify God with his death (Peter is believed to have been crucified upside down).

My hope for myself and my family is not that God will relieve us from any suffering, but that, should we suffer that it would be for His glory (cf. Phil. 1:20-21) and that it would be a door for the gospel to others who are hurting (cf. 2 Cor. 1:3-6). May each of us have the attitude of Job who, after losing his wealth and children in a single day: **"Then Job arose and tore his robe and shaved his head, and he fell to the ground and worshiped. He said, "Naked I came from my mother's womb, And naked I shall return there. The Lord gave and the Lord has taken away. Blessed be the name of the Lord." Through all this Job did not sin nor did he blame God" (Job 1:20-22).**

Coming in June

June 3—Year end party for Youth @ Carter's Cove—Leave church @ 6pm.

June 6—Minigolf @ Pirates Cove for Youth—leave church @ 5pm.

June 22-26—Sports Camp for children— 9am-12pm.

June 28— 5pm-8pm: First day of VBS, dinner provided.

June 29-July2—9am-12pm: VBS, commencement Thursday @6 w/dinner.



"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

WDLC
NEWS

Tiny Press News



Weekday Learning Center

Linda Nuttall, Director

June is busting out all over.....
Flowers, birds singing, warmer weather,
End of school, VACATION!!

Preschool is over for another year...
and what a wonderful year we have had.
The children were great!!

Our theme this year for our Promotion and Graduation was "1 2 3 Jesus Loves Me."

Promotion was as always a real treat as our 2 and 3 year old classes sang, smiled and were very cute for their parents. We successfully promoted 12 two year olds and 30 three year olds.

Our Pre-K really did a great job as they sang with much enthusiasm and joy. Ms. Tina's class recited John 3:16 with hand motions. We graduated 38 Pre-K students into the Kindergarten program for the fall.

For each age level a video was made to show the parents some pictures of our "WONDERFUL YEAR TOGETHER."

Thanks to everyone for their support this year.

We have openings in all of our programs for the fall. Please call 804-642-5112 and talk to Ms. Linda about enrolling in preschool.

Have a wonderful summer!



Dear Church Family,

Thank you so much for your cards, visits, and prayers. My thanks also to those who visited the doctor's office with me, as well as those who cleaned my house gutters.

*Though I was badly injured when I fell, I thank the Lord for preserving me a whole longer. "The Lord is my strength and shield; my heart trusts in Him and I am helped."
(Psalms 28:7)*

You are a wonderful family, Providence Baptist, and I thank you and the Lord for all your caring and praying for my recovery.

Love in Christ,

Fred Wyndham

JUNE 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 7pm VBS Teachers Mtng in Fellowship	3 6pm Youth leave for Carter's Cove	4 7 pm Madge Dudley Group 7 pm Joy Group	5	6 Fellowship Hall reserved 5pm Youth leave for Pirates Cove
7 9 am Recognition of Graduates 6pm Jimmy Hogge	8 7pm Stewardship Committee	9 7 pm Commission Keepers	10 5pm VBS Drama Team Mtng	11 6:30 pm Nominating Committee	12	13 Fellowship Hall reserved
14 5pm VBS Teacher Meeting 6PM Joani Tabor in Concert	15	16 10am RSW/Alice Fields Group 7 pm Sisters in Christ	17 5pm VBS Drama Team Mtng	18	19	20 Fellowship Hall reserved
21 Happy Father's Day 2:30 pm Gloucester House	22	23	24 5pm All worker's Meeting	25 Wedding Rehearsal	26 7PM Wedding	27 Fellowship Hall reserved
	Sports Camp Monday - Friday			9:00 am - 12 Noon		
28 5-8 pm VBS (dinner will be provided for the children & workers this evening)	29	30	VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 9 AM - 12 NOON Monday-Thursday Thursday: Commencement 6 PM; Hotdog Supper 7PM			

June Birthdays

- | | |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1-Richard Croxton, James Hall, Teresa Marshall, David Redd, Nicole Teagle 2-Kellie Howard, Stephen Joyce, Patrick McManus, David Pickett, Nicole Shannon 3-Matthew Johnston, Taylor Johnston, Dustin Parks 4-Haily Bray, Amber Byrd, John Matthews, Leisa Stamper 5-Wendy Ealey, Gerrie Leek, Jo Thompson 6-Sтивен Altrath, Skyler Bauman, Mary Lynne Stairs, Alice West 7-Glenda Britton, Gregory Shaffer 8-Melissa Nabors, Barbara Pearson 9-Margie Ambrose, Christy West 10-Britnee Redd, Joyce Simmons, James Smith, Elsie Whitby 11-Tyler Guy, Mary Elizabeth Hall, Laura Harless, Sarah Ratliff Mick Sites 12-Mary June Hogge, Zachary Troutman 13-Andrew Haley 14-Haiden Bray, Debbie Milby, Annette Norman, Ali Walke 15-Kelsey Wheeler, Chuck Wood 16-Isaiah Bishop 18-Amy Brown, Anita Starr Davis, Lindsey West, Penny Williams | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 19-Kathleen Hardy, Ashlee Voegtly 20-Bryan Redd, Mary Slater Riley, Amanda Santore 21-Christopher Early, Michael Greene, Rachel Hoare, Emily Hogge, Carol Marcolini, Carla Mendoza, James Owens, Wayne Petty, Philip Ridge, Shawn Watkins 22-Rodney Botts, Karen Hogge, Brian Stewart 23-Joel Arrington, Tina Brock, Don Conway, Kay Stevens 25-Sтивен Blake, Cynthia Tillage 26-Merrette Blake, Winfred Hudgins, Chris Murr, Mike Snow 27-Wren Croxton, Shannon Halterman, Kolly Handy, Kimberly Leggett, Rhonda Sites 28-Patrick Lemon, Dawn Lemon, Craig Martin 29-Deborah Weiler, Melissa Whiting 30-Cierra Bowman, James Drulia, Kim Jenkins, Michael McCrea |
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HIGHLIGHTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS



JOANI TABOR IN CONCERT

SUNDAY, JUNE 14 6:00 PM

Joani Tabor will be in concert here at Providence Sunday evening, June 14, 6:00 p.m. Joani sings for the Lord, forever embracing her motto, "*Nothing's Gonna Steal My Joy*". The impact on her listeners is unmistakable. Joani, with bubbling personality, conveys her enthusiastic faith in concert—and it is powerful. Joani combines sincerity with excellence of presentation. Her delightful, multi-styled mix of music renews the hearts of listeners regardless of their age. Joani quickly gained national recognition with an impressive "Female Vocalist of the Year" and Gold Cross award-winning musical career. Joani's clear voice, which covers an astonishing four octaves, has been described as "intense vocal artistry". She also plays the piano, flute and organ.

*Audiences find her warm stage presence
and unassuming manner very refreshing.*



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
JUNE 28TH -JULY 2

**Teachers and helpers
are needed!**

(Please call Pastor Michael)

Strap on your sandals for fun, adventure, and God's love--in Rome

Join us as we explore a crowded Roman marketplacetiptoe past Roman guards
....encourage Christians in an underground church...and visit Paul for daily discoveries about God's love! Rome....where the Bible comes to life!

Race a chariot, try on a toga....nibble on a rat (actually it's chicken)...and experience the power of Scripture and the courage of the early church! Rome...where the Apostle Paul is your Bible teacher! Each day we will visit Paul's cell, soaking in Scripture as Paul shares what he's writing and applies it to kids' experiences. To hear from Paul, chained to a Roman guard...it's memorable learning-and powerful!

**Sunday, June 28: Vacation Bible School Kickoff
5-8 PM**

(dinner will be provided for those attending VBS this evening)

Monday, June 29 - Thursday, July 2

9 AM - 12 Noon

Thursday July 2 VBS Commencement

6 PM

Hot Dog Supper

7 PM

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	<i>A Minister</i>
Senior Pastor	Dr. Richard W. Croxton
Associate Pastor/Music.....	Rev. Phillip Higgins
Associate Pastor/Children & Youth.....	Rev. Michael Small
Administrative Assistant.....	Wanda Hansford
Weekday Learning Center Director.....	Linda Nuttall
Organist.....	Kenneth Brown
Treasurer	Jerry West
Financial Secretary	Jean 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

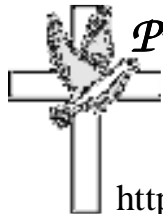
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Website: <http://www.providence-baptist.com>

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