



The Proclamation

A monthly newsletter of Providence Baptist Church

"To Know Christ and Make Him Known"

Philippians 3:10



From the Pastor . . .

It is my sincere hope that this finds you basking in the good things of the Lord and that you are His compelling light shining in a sea of darkness!

As of this writing, Mahmoud Ahmadinejad has fired off two short range missiles and one long range missile in defiance of the world and as a perceived threat against Israel. There can be no doubt that we are in perilous times and that the agenda and mission of the Iranian leader (wrongly elected) is to amass an arsenal of nuclear weapons to use against Israel. We must be in prayer and constantly guided by the Biblical reminder that "If my people are called by my Name, shall humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land" (II Chronicles 7:14). Christians must stay strong, continue to take a stand for Christ and fight the good fight of faith. Could it be that this world, and the United States of America are reaching a place for which there is no remedy? The text of II Chronicles 36: 15-16 is haunting in the year of 2009. . .



The Lord, the God of their fathers, sent word to them through his messengers again and again, because he had pity on his people and on his dwelling place. But they mocked God's messengers, despised his words and scoffed at his prophets until the wrath of the Lord was aroused against his people and there was no remedy.

Yes, difficult days are on the world stage; however, as I look around and seek to minister in the name of Jesus, it is easily observable that there are many difficult situations right in our midst. Many are suffering the physical pain and emotional anguish of cancer and limited in their physical capabilities. Folks lose loved ones, become heartbroken because of a wayward child, and constantly try to make ends meet. Andre Crouch gave a testimony in song many years ago in response to difficult times. "Through it all, I've learned to trust in Jesus, I've learned to trust in God....Through it all I've learned to depend upon His Word." WOW!

Depend upon His Word? Let's take a fresh look at Psalm 23. Though often read at funerals, the message is for us today. Our Savior who died for us also lives for us right now and guides us as a shepherd guides and cares for his sheep. Now let's get some of that "blessed assurance" right now. The Shepherd feeds and leads us. Sheep have essential needs of grass and water to live and the shepherd provides these necessities. God meets your everyday needs also. You don't need to worry!

Sometimes we like sheep begin to wander. If we do, He seeks us and restores us. More than ever, we need to know the right path to go. He shows us that path and goes before us to prepare the path and help us find the way. Even if we encounter danger along the way, difficult circumstances, or attacks from Satan, we need not be afraid for He is always with us.

This psalm reminds us that any of us can walk through a dark valley. Getting through the "Red Sea" of difficulty and at the end of the dark valley, the Good Shepherd has a special blessing for you. You have the opportunity to drink again of the "refreshing waters" of the Savior and receive the Spirit's anointing. Your Savior doesn't just put a band-aid on your difficulties...He cares for every hurt, heals every bruise, and hides you underneath His protective wing of love.

As you continue your journey, you will increasingly look back over your life and surely see that His goodness and mercy have sustained you. Be of good cheer! Jesus really has overcome this world. Be assured that as the Good Shepherd, He will never lead you where His love and grace cannot keep you. Now... who's afraid of the bad wolf or the world?

Blessings Always,
Pastor Richard

Dr. Richard W. Croxton, Senior Pastor



Like a River Glorious

**“I will extend peace to her like a river...”
(Isaiah 66:12)**

In 1876, while vacationing in the south of Wales, Frances Havergal caught a severe cold and suffered inflammation of the lungs. Being told by doctors that she might die, she replied, “If I am really going, it is too good to be true.” Her friends were amazed at how peacefully she faced the prospect of dying. That same year, she wrote this hymn:

*Like a river glorious, is God’s perfect peace,
Over all victorious, in its bright increase.
Perfect yet it floweth, fuller every day,
Perfect, yet it groweth, deeper all the day.
**Stayed upon Jehovah, hearts are fully blest,
Finding, as He promised, perfect peace and rest.***

Three years later, while meeting some boys to talk with them about the Lord, she had to endure some cold, wet weather and became chilled. As her fever grew worse, her family became alarmed. It gradually became apparent that Frances, 42, was dying. One day, as one of her doctors left the room, he said, “Goodbye, I shall not see you again”.

“Then you really think I am going?” asked Frances.

“Yes.”

“Today?”

“Probably.”

“Beautiful,” said Frances. “Too good to be true.”

Soon afterward she looked up smiling and said, “Splendid to be so near the gates of heaven!” She asked her brother to sing some hymns to her, then he said to her, “You have talked and written a great deal about the King, and you will soon see Him in all His beauty.”

“It’s splendid!” she replied. “I thought He would have left me here a long while; but He is *so* good to take me now.”

A little later she whispered, “Come, Lord Jesus, come and fetch me.”

A terrible rush of convulsions seized her, and when they ceased, the nurse gently laid her back on her pillows. Frances’ sister later wrote: “Then she looked up steadfastly, as if she saw the Lord. Surely nothing less heavenly could have reflected such a glorious radiance upon her face. For ten minutes we watched that almost visible meeting with her King, and her countenance was so glad, as if she were already talking to Him! Then she tried to sing, but after one sweet, high note, “HE—,” her voice failed and her brother commended her soul into the Redeemer’s hand.”

Phillip Higgins
Associate Pastor/Music

Thoughtful Theology

from youth & children's pastor Michael Small

Understanding How Salvation Works Part 1: Faith and Milkshakes

When I was in college a friend of mine scoffed at the idea of justification by faith. In his mind it seemed ridiculous that God would choose to save people simply on the basis of something as arbitrary as whether or not they believed a story; namely, the resurrection. Perhaps you have struggled with this same issue, so let me try to give you a better understanding of salvation by way of illustration.

Let's say my son wants a milkshake. We go to the ice cream shop and I buy him one. Before my son can drink the milkshake, I have to give him a straw. After he gets the straw he can drink the milkshake. No one would say in this situation that having a straw *earned* him a milkshake. In fact, he did nothing to earn the milkshake since I bought it for him. Having the straw simply allows him to drink the milkshake that was already purchased for him.

In the same way, God bought our salvation through the death of His Son Jesus Christ. "In Him we have redemption (i.e. we were purchased) through His blood" (Eph. 1:7). By faith we have access to the salvation that was already purchased for us. "For by grace you have been saved *through faith*, and that not of yourselves it is the gift of God" (Eph. 2:8). We are not saved because of our faith, but through it, just as my son would receive his milkshake through a straw.

Someone may object, "Isn't it still arbitrary that only those who have straws get milkshakes?" But this is not accurate either. It is more appropriate to see both the straw and the milkshake as gifts. That is, not only have I received my salvation, I have also received faith as a gift. Peter writes to those who "received a faith of the same kind as ours" (2 Pt. 1:1). In Acts 14:38 it says that, "as many as had been appointed to eternal life believed". They were appointed for eternal life and as a result, they believed.

So, the two go together. Those who have been given salvation have also been given faith through which they can receive their salvation. Faith then is not a sign for God to know who to save, but a sign for us to know that we have been saved. "The one who believes in the Son of God has this testimony in himself.... And the testimony is this, that God has given us eternal life" (1 John 5:10-11).

Coming in OCTOBER

5th Quarters for youth after GHS football games: Petsworth: 10/2, Newington: 10/23, Gloucester Pt.: 10/30

10/9: **Family Night @ Pirates Cove**— \$15 person, \$40 family max for pizza, mini-golf, and ice cream. We will leave from the church at 5 and arrive back between 9-10pm.

10/16: **Soup Kitchen** (5-8) - Youth and children work together to serve meals to our community.

10/21: **Kid's Movie Night** (7:30pm) - Parents & youth can attend the business meeting while kids watch a fun, wholesome movie with popcorn and drinks

10/31: **Kids Carnival**: from 5-8pm we will have carnival themed games & trunk or treat provided by WDLC for the kids. We will follow this activity with our 2nd annual **Judgment Walk** from 8:30-10pm for the youth.

Follow the youth & children's ministry at twitter.com/psc_youth



Leaf Peepers! Come join us for a day trip to Graves Mountain Lodge Apple Festival in Syria, VA. The date is October 10, 2009. We will be leaving Providence at 8:30 a.m. and returning, hopefully, between 8 and 9 p.m. There is a sign up sheet on the bulletin board beside the church office. . Only 15 more seats are available!

The cost of the trip is \$15 per person. Lunch and dinner are up to the individual. Lunch will be at the festival. We will be stopping at the Cracker Barrel for dinner on the way home.

There is a lot of walking on this trip so wear comfortable shoes! Any questions? Please call the church office at 642-5812 or Cheryl Grimes at 693-6226.



FAMILY DINNER MENUS

OCTOBER 2009

5:15 P.M.

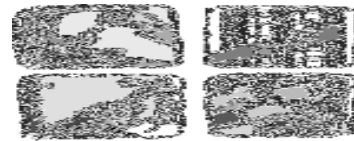
1ST WEDNESDAY: MEATLOAF, POTATO CASSEROLE, GLAZED CARROTS, ROLLS & DESSERT

2ND WEDNESDAY: BAKED CHICKEN W/DRESSING, SWEET POTATO CASSEROLE, BEANS, ROLLS & DESSERT

3RD WEDNESDAY: SALAD & POTATO BAR

4TH WEDNESDAY: PORK CHOP CASSEROLE, PEAS, ROLLS & DESSERT

PLEASE JOIN US FOR THESE DELICIOUS MEALS AND FELLOWSHIP!



Men On Mission

LOST OR FOUND

The profound author Oswald Chambers once wrote. "The Christian life is stamped all through with impossibilities, human nature cannot come anywhere near what Jesus Christ demands, and any rational being facing His (Christ's) demands must honestly say that it can't be done apart from a miracle"...Exactly!!

How wonderful the miracle of salvation, how precious the gift God has given. Unfortunately, many times we forget that it is God who has a purpose for our lives. We too often want to be the one who takes the glory that God deserves. We want to claim "We did it," We found it, "I was the one"!

The miracle is that GOD found us while we were still sinners. He was the one who came down to earth and gave his all for me. He is the one who deserves all honor, praise, and glory.

How simple that message "I was lost but now am found". What a wonderful miracle God has brought in my life.

May we as men on mission never forget HIS gift and the miracle of His finding this lost sheep wandering in the wilderness of this world.

May this reminder stir our souls daily to seek HIS perfect will for our lives and to grasp that knowledge and serve Christ in and where he calls.

Come and join in on all that God is doing in the men's ministry every Wednesday evening and then on Saturday "October 24th" at 8:00 a.m. Let's come together and see all that our Lord can do through our faithfulness to him.

Your Brother in Christ,

Pat Lemon



"MASTER PIECE IN THE MAKING"

Women's Get Away is being planned for Eagle Eyrie on November 6-8. Contact Heather Berry @ 832-1819 for more information.



“I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst. “John 6:35

Why is food important? Doesn't food sort of give us a hope for tomorrow? When you are not sure where your next meal will come from then you lose your hope. It's like having Jesus in your life— He is our eternal hope. We need Him to help nourish our bodies, minds, souls, and spirits. If you walk through life without Him, you never experience the life of true hope, peace, joy and happiness; as a result, you live a malnourished life. Just as we need food to sustain physical bodies, so we need Jesus to sustain spiritual bodies and to live eternally! Here on earth, there are many starving people, not only for food and physical nourishment, but people also looking for true peace, joy and happiness. As Christians, it is our responsibility to reach out to our community and our nation and show them the love of Jesus, and thus help to better their lives circumstance. (see Matthew 10:42) We can help them have a HOPE for a tomorrow.

World Hunger Day is October 11th. Every penny donated will go to help those in need.

In Virginia—(50% of the proceeds will go right here in Virginia and also help assist the BGAV) *Eleven percent of children fall into the category of “food insecure”.

*616,000 people in Virginia struggle to find enough food each week, with 176,000 going to bed hungry every night.

Nationally—(25% will help those in other countries get a cold cup of water and a warm meal). *One billion people in the world are undernourished. *65% of the worlds hungry live in only 7 countries. *Every 6 seconds a child dies from hunger related causes.

Please visit www.freerice.com and you can help those in need with just the click of your mouse.

WMU Events Coming up:

October 16th—Soup Kitchen—5-8 pm in the Fellowship Hall

October 25th—Pastor Appreciation Day

November 6-8—Women's Getaway to Eagle Eyrie

November 8th—Christmas Stockings for Troops in Afghanistan

November 22nd—Lottie Moon Mission Study



Fall...falling leaves, pumpkins, cool nights, fresh apples, candy corn, haystacks, football games, scarecrows...

We are settled in with our 77 children ready to enjoy the Fall season.

Our calendar for October

- 1 Picture quilt in the hallway
- 1 Family Pancake Breakfast 2's & 3's
- 2 Family Pancake Breakfast Pre-K's, 2's
- 6-10 Community Helpers week
- 7&8 Chapel
- 15 Fire Drill
- 21&22 Chapel
- 22 Pre-K to pumpkin in patch
- 22/23 Fall Festivals

Music every Tuesday with Pastor Phillip

Music every Friday for the W/F 2's

We have a college student, Rachel Halabuk, that is doing her internship for a Child Development degree in Early Childhood Education. Rachael will be assisting in all of the classrooms from now until January. She is very helpful and is enjoying herself.

We will be collecting Farm Fresh receipts, Campbell soup labels and box tops for Education. We ordered Crayola Class Packs of crayons, 18 three pound tubs of Crayola play dough, and 2 tubs of sidewalk chalk from last years collection of Farm Fresh receipts. Thank you for collecting!!!



**Thank God
for our children!**



October 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 WDLC Pancake Breakfast 7pm Madge Dudley Group 7pm Joy Group	2 WDLC Pancake Breakfast "5th Quarter" for Youth after GHS Football @ Petsworth	3 6pm Children's Ministry Meeting @ the Buntings Pot Luck Dinner
4 12:00 p.m. LSCT Pizza Luncheon & Rehearsal 4:00 p.m. Churchwide Picnic @ Crim's	5 6:30 p.m. Grow visitation 6:30 p.m. Personnel Committee	6 10:00 am RSW/Alice Fields 2 pm Cemetery Committee Mtg. 7pm Commission Keepers	7 10:45 a.m. Bible Study	8 Leave @ 10:30 a.m. Ladies to Eastover Tea Time Luncheon	9	10 Fellowship Hall Reserved
11 World Hunger Day 4:30 p.m. LSCT Rehearsal 7:30 p.m. Deacon's Meeting	12 Staff Retreat Church Office Closed 6:30 p.m. Grow visitation	13 10:00 a.m. RSW/Alice Fields Group	14 10:45 a.m. Bible Study	15	16 Soup Kitchen 5:00-8:00 p.m. Fellowship Hall Reserved	17 11:00 a.m. Sarah Small Baby Shower Fellowship Hall 7:30 p.m. Kid's Movie Night
18 2:30 Gloucester House 4:30 p.m. LSCT Rehearsal	19 6:30 p.m. Grow visitation 7:30 p.m. Church Council	20 WDLC Trip to Pumpkin Patch 7pm Sisters in Christ	21 10:45 a.m. Bible Study 7:30 p.m. Business Mtg.	22 WDLC Trip to Pumpkin Patch 1:00 p.m. Director's Mtg. Fellowship Hall	23 "5th Quarter" for Youth after GHS football game @ Newington	24 8:00 a.m. Men's Ministry Breakfast in Fellowship Hall
25 Pastors Appreciation Day 4:30 p.m. LSCT Rehearsal	26 6:30 p.m. Grow visitation	27	28 10:45 a.m. Bible Study	29	30 "5th Quarter" for Youth after GHS football game @ Gloucester Pt.	31 Trunk or Treat/Fall Carnival 5-8 Youth Judgment Walk 8:30-10:00 pm

October Birthdays

- Shirley Shiflett, Heather Waddles
- Christopher Berry, Kimberly Dunnigan
- Brenda Bray, Michelle Firth, Annette Greene, Terry Griffith, Tyler Hines, Mary Lemon, Dianne Owens, Danette Stout, Allan Weiler
- Angela Healy, Sarah Hogge, Kathryn Parnell
- Michael Dunnigan, Bill Sterling
- Doug Blaylock
- Chelsea Guy, Ethan McAvoy
- Pam Anderson, Joshua Botts, Berniece Dunston, Joy Klein, Amber Smith, David Williams
- Aaron Guy, Amy Smith, George West
- Austin Halterman, Robert Peck
- Austin Hansford
- Chloe Berry, Lori Graves, Ashlee Green, Gary Snead, Judy Snead, Genova Waddles
- Robin Parnell, Sharyn Robins
- Bonnie Ambrose
- Terri Haynie, Madison Hogge, Daniel Lopez, Sinto Snow, Angelina Wicker,
- Nancy Guy, Garrett Moncrieff, Carl Turner, Kenny Wynne
- Ethan Connaughton, David Hall, Mackenzie Hartman, Joshua Hartman, Dennis Hoare, John Thomas
- Laura Bass, Connie Howie, Debbie Kuehl, Stephanie Shackelford
- Alexia Adams, Linda Templeman, Patty West
- Sabastian Gandee, Kelvin Halterman, Kristyn Ober, Catie Shannon, Michael Small,
- William Simmons, Natalie Small, Lorin Timbal
- Derek Insley, Irma Oliver
- Rodney Johnston, Trevor Zens, Daniel Motley Matt Holm, Kristina Sedgwick, Brandy Steele
- Hannah Cranford, Harry Gary, Nikki Newsome, , Brian Williams
- Linzie Coleman, Sophia Connaughton, Melody Rodgers
- Jerry Crosswell, Teresa Drulia, Ben Hines, Buddy Hogge, Elaina Ward
- Tom Crim, Christopher Smith
- Crystal Dugan, Stephanie West

HIGHLIGHTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

Bluegrass Music



**Jimmy Hogge Band
in concert!**

Church
Picnic



**Please bring a covered
dish to share!**

FAMILY NIGHT

Church Wide Fall Picnic

At Tom & Barbara Crims House

Inflatables and hayride for the kids

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4TH

4:00 P.M.

****Church will provide Barbeque & Brunswick Stew**

PROVIDENCE FALL SCHEDULE

Beginning October

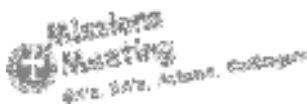
SUNDAY EVENINGS

(First Sundays are Family Night)

- 4:30 PM LSCT Rehearsal
- 5:30-7:30 PM Sunday Night Slam
- 6:30 PM Discipleship Classes
- 6:30 PM Mission Friends, GA's, RA's, Acteens, Challengers
- 6:30 PM Worship Service
- 6:30 PM Women's Ministry

WEDNESDAY EVENINGS

- 5:15 PM Family Meals
- 5:45 PM Kingdom Kids Choir
- 5:45 PM WOW Youth Drama & Music
- 6:15 PM AWANA (Children)
- 6:30 PM Bible Study/Prayer Meeting
- 6:30 PM Wed. Night Witness (Youth)
- 6:30 PM Men's Ministry
- 6:30 PM Women's Ministry
- 7:30 PM Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal



Weekly Ministry Opportunities

Church Staff

Sunday

Worship and Praise Celebration.....9:00 & 10:30 a.m.
Children's Church.....9:00 a.m.
Sunday Night Slam5:30-7:30 p.m.
Discipleship Classes.....6:30 p.m.
Mission Friends, GA's, RA's, Acteens, Challengers...6:30 p.m.
Evening Worship Service.....6:30 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.
Family Meals.....5:15 p.m.
Kingdom Kids Choir 5:45 p.m.
WOW Youth Drama & Music5:45 p.m.
AWANA (Children)6:15 p.m.
Prayer Meeting/Bible Study (Sanctuary)..... 6:30 p.m.
Men's Ministry (S7 & S9).....6:30 p.m.
Women's Ministry (Friendly Classroom)..... .6:30 p.m.
Wed. Night witness (Youth)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

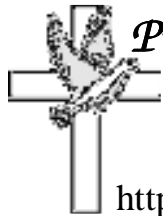
Phone: 804.642.5812 FAX: 804.642.4902

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

3501 Providence Road
Hayes, Virginia 23072
804.642.5812

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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED