

January 5, 2015

CONNECTIONS



Mission Collection Project
page 3



Tackling Hunger - page 3



Worship and Music
page 4

INSIDE THIS EDITION

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| CONNECTING | 2 |
| MISSIONS | 3 |
| MUSIC MINISTRY | 4 |
| EDUCATION MINISTRY | 4 |
| NEW MEMBERS | 5 |
| DATES TO REMEMBER | 6 |



Connecting...

As we move toward the end of our celebration of Advent and Christmas, I want to offer “thank you’s” in a number of directions. First of all, thank you for your patience and willingness to adjust the Sunday schedule for the past two Sundays. The change was necessary the first of the two Sundays because of the beautiful music provided by our Sanctuary Choir. The second Sunday just made sense because of it being the Sunday in between Christmas and New Year’s. I realize that the change knocks us out of our normal rhythm; but, both the attendance for both days was very good.

Our Advent and Christmas celebration had many facets and you were supportive all along the way. When I look back over the events of the past few weeks, I am reminded of how many people are required and involved to make it complete. The Staff do their part and, I might add, they do it well; but, the so many members of the congregation contribute time and energy in partnership with the Staff. It all comes together to make a wonderful celebration of our Lord’s birth.

This coming year is going to be interesting for all of us. There is more than a little mystery that characterize the months ahead. Providence will be making important decisions as you shape the future of this great church. Yet, I have total confidence that God is going to lead you into a new level of excitement and anticipation of the years ahead. Change is usually a challenge for all of us; but, it is also the way God often does His best work.

For the moment I just want to thank you for your interest and support of this past Advent and Christmas. My prayer is that the excitement of the past few weeks will carry over into this new year.

Grace and peace,

ON RECORD - December 28th

Worship Total 348

Christian Stewardship

| | |
|----------------------------------|----------------|
| Average Weekly Requirement | *46,009.55 |
| Year-To-Date Budget Requirements | \$2,392,497.00 |
| Year-To-Date Budget Received | \$2,378,660.42 |
| Campaign To-Date Receipts | \$5,636,024.87 |
| Year-To-Date Campaign Receipts | \$55,206.12 |
| Year-To-Date Bank Note Balance | \$821,000.00 |

**The average weekly requirement is the annual budget divided by 52 weeks.*



It Matters (Believe!) as of 12/29/14
Commitment Cards Received: 398
Amount Pledged: \$1,810,865

Sunday in Worship

January 11 - 8:30am & 11:00am

Dr. Al Cadenhead

“True Religion or Just Ritual?”

Amos 5: 21-24

January 18th, 8:30am & 11:00am

Rev. Tiffany Triplett Henkel

Pastor, Metro Baptist, New York City, NY

January 25th, 8:30am & 11:00am

Dr. Al Cadenhead

“The Danger and Heartbreak of No Purpose”

Matthew 6: 25-33; John 15:2

February 1st, 8:30am & 11:00am

Dr. Al Cadenhead

“The Importance of Punctuation Marks”

Ecclesiastes 3: 1-8

January Mission Collection Project

Our churchwide mission collection project for January is for the Salvation Army Center of Hope.

We are collecting NEW umbrellas and spiral bound notebooks. Located north of Uptown Charlotte, the Center provides emergency shelter for

approximately 300 homeless women and children each night. Collection boxes are located in the Fellowship Hall hallway for your donations.

Your help will allow the Salvation Army to best assist these families by providing them with hope for a better future for the women and their children.



Souper Bowl of Caring - February 1, 2015

TEAM UP to tackle hunger and poverty. Since 1990, young people have been teaming up around the time of the Super Bowl Football game to collect dollars and food for local charities. In total, more than 100 million has been collected.

JOIN THE MOVEMENT that is 25 years strong. This year the Souper Bowl of Caring celebrates its 25th anniversary, and we want you to be a part of this important milestone. When you join this movement that



gives 100% to charity, you become a champion for your neighbors in need.

CIRCLE THE DATE!

February 1, 2015.

On “Souper Bowl Sunday,” we will collect cans of food and dollars to fight hunger. 100% of our collection will stay in Charlotte to be given to our neighbors in need through Loaves and Fishes. On that Sunday, we invite children, grades 1-5 and their families to join us for a soup lunch in the Crouch Fellowship Hall following the 11:00am worship service.

BE A CHAMPION!

Tackle Hunger with us in 2015!

RECREATION & FELLOWSHIP

Winter and Spring Sports for Children

In January, registration will begin for Tiny Tots Basketball. This program will take place on Wednesday afternoons from 4:00-5:00pm during the month of February. Tiny Tots is an instructional program for boys and girls, ages four and five.

Spring Soccer is right around the corner, too and registration starts Monday, February 2nd. The season will begin in April. Age divisions are Under 5, Under 7 and Under 10. We are always looking for players and coaches.

For more information about sports and activities offered by Providence, visit our website www.sportsquestministries.com.

- *Randy Ballard*
PBC Recreation Director

A Past That Propels Us Forward!

It was January 2014 and I was in the vestibule of the First Baptist Church in Charleston, SC. The Festival Choir was taking a break and I had the opportunity to mingle with a few folks. As niceties and greetings ended, a couple of smiling faces asked me, "Can we get a copy of your résumé?" And so it began ... a year that would change our lives, our church ... and our address. As I look back on this significant life change, I am filled with gratitude, and as I look to the future, I am filled with hope and excitement!

With the Joy of Christmas still filling our hearts, I am so thankful for the many, many people that contributed to the successes of the worship experiences this season at Providence. Each

service was so special and seemed to draw us closer to one another and to Christ. I pray that this joy will catapult us into 2015 and that our worship will continue to shape us into the image of Christ.

As we look to 2015, we are excited about what's coming! Here are a few Music and Worship highlights that we can all look forward to this year:

- *More Communion Celebrations in Worship*

- *A Holy Week Presentation of John Rutter's "Requiem" by the Sanctuary Choir followed by the celebration of EASTER*

- *Our High School Choir will travel to Chicago for their summer choir tour followed by a Home Concert on June 21st.*

- *A church-wide musical will be presented July 30-August 2 ... Auditions will be held in early spring*

- *And before you can say "Fa-la-la-la-la," we'll be making Advent and Christmas preparations once again!*

Perhaps something in this list has you intrigued. Have you considered "connecting" with the Music Ministry? January is a perfect time to join an ensemble! Maybe you play an instrument and would like to use those gifts ... we may have opportunities for that as well. Don't let 2015 pass you by ... we hope to see and hear from you soon!

Soli Deo Gloria!

Tim Hill

DISCIPLESHIP

Wednesday Evening Programs for January

Join us in 2015 for our Wednesday evening times of Adult Learning and Bible Study. Our focus for the first two weeks of January will be the final pieces of our "Christianity 101" series. We will be concluding with a brief review of what we have covered so far, and finish with our biblical role in God's hopes and dreams for you and me. The Gospel of

John and The Gospel of Matthew will be our sources.

Then on January 21st and 28th, Dr. Cadenhead and our own Rev. Kate Perry will guide us through the vital information we all need to know about for "Life Planning".

January 7- Shining the Light in the New Year, Part I
(Dr. David Jordan)

January 14- Shining the Light in the New Year, Part II
(Dr. David Jordan)

January 21- Life Planning Part I
(Dr. Cadenhead and Rev. Kate Perry)

January 28 - Life Planning Part II
(Dr. Cadenhead and Rev. Kate Perry)

Celebrating Births

- *Caroline James Ridenhour*, daughter of Matthew & Abby Ridenhour on December 29, 2014. Grandparents are Monty & Geri Ridenhour.

A Preview of Children's Ministry in 2015

Exciting things will be happening in 2015 in our Children's Ministry. This year we have focused on "Tell Me the Story of Jesus". We will begin the year with a learning opportunity for parents. Dr. Janice Haywood, a children's specialist and professor at Campbell Divinity School, will be with us Thursday, February 5th to speak to parents about sharing the story with children. Dr. Haywood has focused

much of her ministry on laying foundations of faith in the lives of children. She will share her insights with us during a lunch meeting in the Crouch Fellowship Hall.

On April 19th, we will continue to focus on "Tell Me the Story of Jesus" as we celebrate our annual Children's Sunday. We are looking forward to having our children lead us in worship on this special day.

Summer will arrive before we know it! Plans are underway for Vacation Bible School from June 22-26 and PassportKids Overnight Camp from July 12-15. And of course, we will have many day camp opportunities for our children.

If you would like more information on our Children Ministry, please call Julia Wright at 704-366-4030, ext. 140.

Welcome New Members



Andrew Barnett

Joined December 28, 2014 by confession of Christian faith & baptism.
Drew is the son of Jason & Becky Barnett.



This Month:

Deacons on Call: (704-366-4030 x147):

January 7 - 13: Carl Brooks

January 14- 20: Bill Caldwell

January 21-27: Todd Erwin

January 28 - February 3: Penny Hewett

Ministers on Call:

January 9-11: Julia Wright (704-458-3710)

January 16-18: Andy Smith (704-763-9475)

January 23-25: Richard Landers (704-608-3371)

January 30 - February 1: Randy Ballard (704-650-9449)

In Sympathy

- Garo Aghjayan & family in the death of his grandfather, Robert Blake.
- Becky Barnett & family in the death of her grandmother.
- The family of Rev. Patricia L. McBrayer in her death.
- Donna Newman & family in the death of her mother, Bertie Dale Lee Newman.

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Upcoming Events

Be sure to mark your calendars for these upcoming events on our church calendar. Don't miss them!



Primetimers for January

Reservation deadline for Primetimers (Thursday, January 15th, Noon) is Monday, January 12th. Guest Speaker is author, Robert Whitlow. 704-366-4030 x211 or contact the Church Office.



Sunday Worship Guest Preacher

Rev. Tiffany Triplett Henkel, Pastor, Metro Baptist, New York City, will be our guest preacher on Sunday, January 18th for both 8:30am & 11:00am services.



Quarterly Church Conference

Wednesday, February 11th, 6pm, Crouch Fellowship Hall

Next Connections is February 2, 2015 (1st Monday)

Deadline for submitting articles, photos, announcements, etc, is **Thursday, January 15th**. Articles should be 300 words or less. Please email your submissions to: dgrosch@providencebc.org. Thank you!



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Check Out Our Website!
www.providencebc.org



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Connecting People and God in Christ.

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