

PROVIDENCE

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH • EST. 1767



Our Vision

As we boldly proclaim the transformative power of God's word, we will inspire with our past, care for all in our present, and nurture disciples for our future.

The Church at Worship

Kickoff Sunday

September 7, 2025

10:30 am

The Rev. Dr. Jody Moore, Pastor

The Rev. Dr. Lal Rodawla, Associate Pastor

Sarah Clark, Children's Ministry Director

Alex Sims, Music Director

Ron Nice, Pianist/Organist

Roy Phillips, Finance Administrator

Ruth Welch, Office Administrator

Officers of the Week

Rolly Chambers

Jackson Clark

Cindy Howard

Welcome and Announcements

Moment for Mission:

Capital Campaign

Prelude

“Blessed Are Ye Faithful Souls”

Johannes Brahms

Gathering as God’s People

Call to Worship

(Based on Psalm 84)

One: How lovely is your dwelling place, O Lord of hosts!

All: Happy are those who live in your house, ever singing your praises.

One: We find strength in you, O Lord.

All: For one day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere, than a thousand elsewhere.

One: Happy is everyone who trusts in you, O God.

*Sharing the Peace of Christ

One: We gather here to worship God with our siblings in Christ.

All: Part of being a disciple of Jesus involves being in community with one another, where we support and uphold each other.

One: We are grateful that God has led us to worship together as a church family.

All: Let us greet one another in the name of Jesus, who binds us together in love and peace.

*Opening Hymn

“Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”

#12

*Opening Prayer

(From God’s People at Prayer, p.79-80)

After Jesus called his disciples, O God, they followed him for years to learn from him. This shows us that giving our hearts to Jesus is not enough—that it is also important for us to keep learning about him. We thank you, that with our Christian education opportunities, we have the chance to grow in our faith, spiritually and intellectually. We thank you for all those many people who have volunteered to serve as teachers for children, youth, and adults in this congregation and pray for your Spirit to continue to guide us. We ask for your guidance in helping us teach about Jesus’ kingdom and his love. Amen

Act of Confession

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

O eternal Lord, you are the source of all truth and wisdom, yet we have arrogantly trusted our own stubborn will and gone on our own paths. You want to show us the way that will lead us to righteousness and contentment, yet we follow our own desires. Pillars of the faith and mentors have offered to teach us, but we have ignored their goodwill and good advice. You, oh Lord, have sought to instruct us in the faith, yet we have neglected our responsibility to grow as your disciples. Forgive us and help us to recommit ourselves to learning more about our faith tradition and what it means to follow your will. Amen.

Silent Confession

Assurance of God’s Forgiveness

*Gloria

“O Lord My God (How Great Thou Art)”

#625 (verse 1)

Hearing God’s Word

Prayer for Illumination

First Scripture Lesson

Luke 14:15-24

p.77, Pew Bible NT

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

Anthem:

“Let Us Build A House”

#301

Chancel Choir

Time with Children

James Hill

Second Scripture Lesson

Proverbs 9:1-12

p. 591, Pew Bible OT

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

Sermon

“Growing in Wisdom and Faith”

The Rev. Dr. Jody Moore

Responding to God’s Word

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

*Communion Hymn

“Take Thou Our Minds Dear Lord”

#707 (versus 1-3)

Invitation to the Lord’s Table

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

One: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to the Lord.

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The Lord’s Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Sharing of the Bread and the Cup

The Communion of the People

* As you pass the bread, you may say, “The bread of heaven.”

* As you pass the cup, you may say, “The cup of salvation”

Prayer after Communion

Being Sent Out in God's Name

Invitation to Giving

Offertory

"Be Thou Our Vision"

Gordon Young

*Doxology

#606

*Prayer of Dedication

(From the *Presbyterian Outlook*, September 7, 2025)

We give because we have been given so much. Lord, take these gifts and use them to faithfully transform others. Allow your work to be continued in the world where it is most needed. Amen.

*Affirmation of Faith

(Excerpts from *A Declaration of Faith*, Ch.8.2)

God sends us to proclaim the gospel. We testify that God is at work here and now when people obey Christ's commission to teach about him and make disciples of all nations, when they spread the good news by their words and embody it in their lives. We believe that God sends us to tell all nations that Christ calls everyone to repentance, faith, and obedience. We are to proclaim by words and deed that Christ gave himself to set people free from sin and self-hatred, from ignorance and disease, from all forms of oppression, and even from death. We must not restrict our proclamation to persons like ourselves. We invite people everywhere to believe in Christ and become his followers. We urge them to join us in telling others the good news and in struggling for justice, compassion, and peace. Amen.

*Closing Hymn

"I Love to Tell the Story"

#462

*Charge and Benediction

Postlude

"If Thou But Suffer God to Guide Thee"

J.S. Bach

Bulletin Announcements:

New Church Year/Sunday School Classes Begin Today

On this Kick Off Sunday, we want to extend a special thank you to everyone who will be teaching classes for children, youth, and adults over the next year. We encourage everyone to find a Sunday School class or other study group to participate in during the new year to help you grow in faith. Copies of the 2025-26 Christian Education Booklet are available for anyone who wants to learn about the various educational ministries available at Providence Presbyterian Church.

Visitor Information Session:

Join us for our next visitor info session on Sunday, September 14th, at 9:30 a.m. in the lobby of the Christian Life Center. This session is a great opportunity to learn more about membership and ministries at PPC. If you are interested in learning more about our congregation and making new connections, we hope you will join us!

Providence in Prayer

Acute Concerns

Mosie Grotophorst, Jenny McGuire, Kathy Cathey, Stef Good, Sadie Zielinski, Raymond Fung, Bob and Yasmin Craig, Willie Rea, Betsy Peace, Jaiden Dean, Ray Ball, Rev. Steve Lindsley, Maggie, daughter of a friend of Gale Kinney, Jan Chandler, William Dixon, Morgan Jeffares, Calista Jane, Ava, a friend of Carleen Clewis, Charlie Starks, Everette, Richard Dickey, Jenny Gidaro, John Gidaro, Ann Arentz, Lynda Hunley's friend Evan & his family, Joyce Pate, Tim Good's friend, Sean Byrd, Jaiden Dean, Anne Causey, sister to Nancy Burton..

Chronic Concerns

Nell Kilpatrick's daughter, Isabel Kilpatrick, Bo Hardee, Kim Hintz's mother, Sandy, Zachary Coger, Yo Yee Chacko, Martha Gilbert's mother,

Grieving

Friends & family of Fielding Scarborough on his passing August 31.

Friends and family of Bill Dickey, Dave's father on his passing August 31.

Friends & family of Louis Mitford Pate, Jr. (Frances Hill's father) on August 29, 2025 prayers for his wife Joyce, spouse of 59 years.

Friends and family of Marilyn Rathbun, on her passing 8/18/2025

Friends and family of Julie Brammer on her passing



This is September Outreach at PPC, and we are honoring our furry family members by supporting the Humane Society of Charlotte. We want our church family to send in photos of their pets or grand-pets or just your favorite pet image. Be creative – put your pet in costume or even a stuffed animal in costume! Points for creativity!! You can email to

laura.grayson222@gmail.com as a jpg or pdf or put in the Outreach Box in the church office by September 10th.

Any size greater than 4x6 will do but color preferred. In the courtyard during September, the remaining 3 weeks of the month, you can vote for your favorite image by contributing a donation in their honor. Yes, you can vote as many times as you like!!! The pet, and family, with the most votes, will get a special thank you in our PPC e-blast! All proceeds will go to support the Humane Society of Charlotte.

Sisters Small Group will meet Tuesday, September 9th (9:30-11:30) in the upstairs youth room of the CLC. This year we will be studying the book, Seamless—Understanding the Bible as One Complete Story—by Angie Smith. We meet twice monthly on Tuesday mornings, September through May. All are welcome to join us. For more information or questions, please contact Kim Sumrell at 704-575-9428, ksumrell@icloud.com or Elizabeth Gill at 704-607-9117.

Fall Tuesday Pastor's Bible Study

Beginning on September 16th, we will have a Bible Study for six consecutive Tuesdays from September 16th until October 21st. We will miss one week of Bible study for a Charlotte Presbytery meeting on October 28th, but then the Bible study will continue for two more weeks on November 4th and 11th.

We will gather at 11:00 am and plan to meet for an hour. We will meet in person in the conference room in the Administration Building and also provide a Zoom link for those who want to join on-line. We will be studying the same passage on Tuesday that we will hear in worship the following Sunday.

Here is the schedule of classes for the fall of 2025:

Date	Bible Passage We Are Studying
Sept 16	Philemon 1-17
Sept 23	Genesis 32:22-31
Sept 30	Ephesians 4:1-16
Oct 7	2 Timothy 2:8-15
Oct 14	Luke 18:1-14
Oct 21	Genesis 12:1-7
Oct 28	No Bible Study (Charlotte Presbytery Meeting)
Nov 4	Luke 19:1-10
Nov 11	Luke 12:22-34

Here's the Zoom link if you want to join these Bible studies on-line:
Join Zoom Meeting:

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87630215253?
pwd=1xa3WhzixMeWzwrER1PvEbRsAeDI6.1](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87630215253?pwd=1xa3WhzixMeWzwrER1PvEbRsAeDI6.1)

Meeting ID: 876 3021 5253



Last Sunday, we welcomed Ching Wen Chuang and Tammy Smith as members of PPC.
Ching was also baptized.

WELCOME CHING AND TAMMY

PresBees' Annual Honey Sale

Sunday, September 21

9:00—10:30am and following the service.

Alternate date, Sunday, September 28

Times remain the same

A difficult winter resulted in a smaller harvest than last year. Only 8oz bottles will be available, \$8.00 each.

Update on Moment for Missions

Many of us recognize that Providence Presbyterian Church is very active reaching out to the community and sharing our blessings with those in need. We regularly have Moments for Mission in worship so that the congregation can hear about the opportunities we have to serve. We ask those who are providing a Moment for Mission to speak for three minutes or less. We schedule those Moment for Missions in advance. If you are interested in scheduling a Moment for Mission, please contact one of the pastors. Here is the schedule of the upcoming Moments for Mission that have been planned for the late summer and fall of 2025.

Moment for Missions at Providence Presbyterian Church

- *August 31: Humane Society
- * September 7: Capital Campaign Update
- * September 14: Ollie Tree
- * September 21: Charles Humphreys—Tim Lipka Memorial Golf Tournament
- * September 28: Presbyterian Church (USA)'s Peacemaking Offering
- * October 12: Charlotte Rescue Mission Thanksgiving Turkeys/Meals
- * October 19: Introduction to the Fall Stewardship Campaign
- * October 26: Hearing how our Stewardship benefits the PPC Preschool
- * November 2: Youth speaks on what our church's support means to our young people (Stewardship related)
- * November 9: Stewardship Message

Chancel Choir Rehearsal Update

The Providence Presbyterian Church Chancel Choir is moving their rehearsal time from Thursday evenings to **Sunday mornings at 9:15 am** in the Choir Loft **starting September 7**. This new schedule makes it easier for singers to come together in preparation for worship on the same day.

If you have a love for singing and would like to be part of a welcoming community that leads in worship each week, we invite you to join us! No audition is required—just bring your voice and a willingness to share in music and fellowship.



Come be part of the choir family and help lift praises to God through song!

PPC Book Club will read the following books this year. All meetings are held in the church parlor and begin at 7pm. All are welcome! Please contact Leigh Myers at amyers@carolina.rr.co with any questions.

**September 30—The God of the Woods by Liz Moore
October 28—The Story She Left Behind by Patti Callahan Henry
December 2—The Lion Women of Tehran by Marjan Kamali
January 27—American Princess by Stephanie Marie Thornton
February 24—The Ride of Her Life by Elizabeth Letts
March 31—Killing Jesus by Bill O'Reilly
April 28—Culpability by Bruce Holsinger
May 26—Theo of Golden by Allen Levi
Summer (date TBD) - The Correspondent by Virginia Evans**



Celebrate 50 Years of Stephen Ministry!

Founded in 1975, Stephen Ministries is celebrating its 50th year of equipping God's people for ministry! To commemorate this milestone and all that God has done over the past half a century, Stephen Ministries is conducting a celebratory tour across the U.S. in 2025 and 2026. These one-day events will feature Stephen Ministries' Founder and Executive Director, Dr. Kenneth Haugk, and other key teaching faculty from Stephen Ministries St. Louis.

The next event will be held on Saturday October 4 from 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM at First Baptist Church in Fort Mill, SC. Everyone is welcome to attend.

This special hope filled, and insightful event will not only look back at the past but also into the future – equipping and inspiring you for building a more caring world. A group of PPC's Stephen Ministers will be attending, and you are invited to join them. Expect a day filled with encouragement, fellowship and learning.

Learn more and register here:

https://www.stephenministries.org/events/event_50th_anniversary_FM.cfm

If you have questions, or would like to talk about attending please contact any of your Stephen Leaders – Jay Witherspoon, Pastor Lal, Becky Boeschel, Lynn Finlon

