

# PROVIDENCE

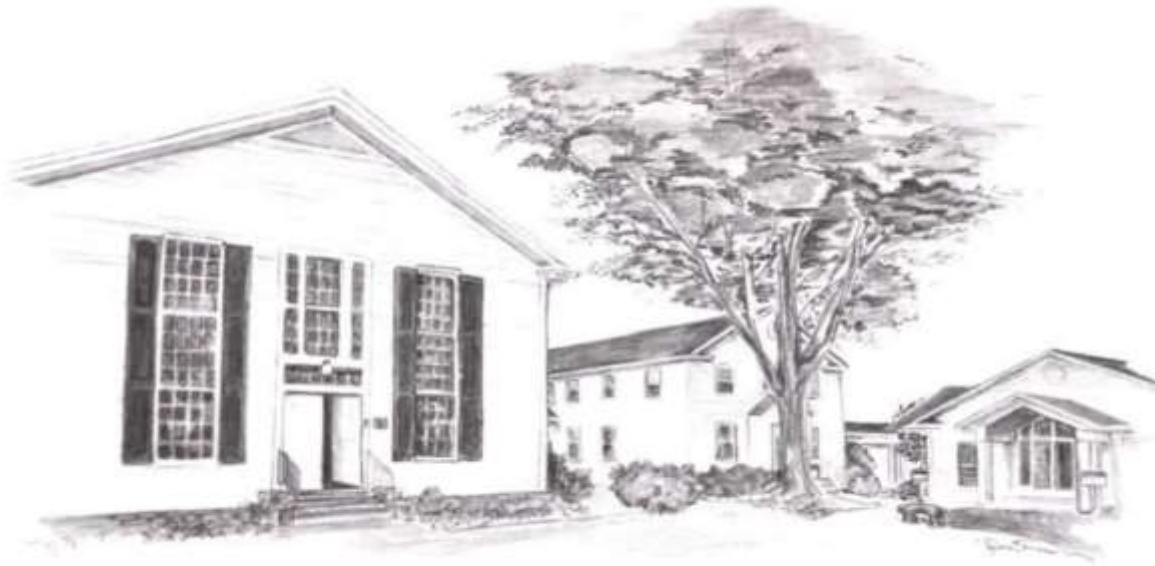
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH · EST. 1767

## Connect & Grow

Woven together in our faith



Christian Education Offerings  
2023 – 2024



## **GROWING THROUGH FAITH IN CHRIST SINCE 1767**

Providence Presbyterian Church came to life from the influx of Ulster Scots to the American ‘promised land’ in the 1700s, a group of people shaped by faith and the idea of a new frontier. They migrated south, took part in the Revolutionary and Civil Wars, and established deep roots in Mecklenburg County. It’s no surprise that Providence Road – one of Charlotte’s main thoroughfares – takes its name from our church while other roads, such as Rea Road and McKee Road, are named for members of the PPC congregation over the past 250+ years. ‘Providence’ expresses the founders’ firm trust in the faithfulness of God to work all things for God’s purpose, which is a bedrock tenet of our Presbyterian faith. One of the original seven colonial Presbyterian churches in the county, PPC served as the center of the Providence Community. Though that community has grown exponentially over the years as Charlotte has become more and more populated, the same could also be said of the church today: it still sits at the center of many of our community member’s lives.

Starting with our first minister Rev. William Richardson 1767, to today’s Interim Pastor Fred Lyon, our church has had its fair share of servant leaders. Many worked to grow our congregation from one generation to the next— through times of want and times of wealth. Among those were enslaved communicants who, though denied full membership in the church, contributed much to it during the time prior to the Emancipation Proclamation. They were instrumental in building the “new” sanctuary of 1858. This is the historic building where we continue to meet for worship today.

We welcome members and visitors alike to share in worship and connect to God's people and purpose. A wonderful side benefit of visiting us is the opportunity to stroll a property rich in history. Our first 'pulpit,' also known as Preaching Rock is at the entrance to the cemetery, where markers pre-date the Revolutionary War. Continue through the back gate, and visit the historic enslaved cemetery, a sad reminder of a dark period of our history. This path leads to the nearby spring that first drew worshipers to this spot and provided water for baptisms, as well as drinking water for people and their horses.

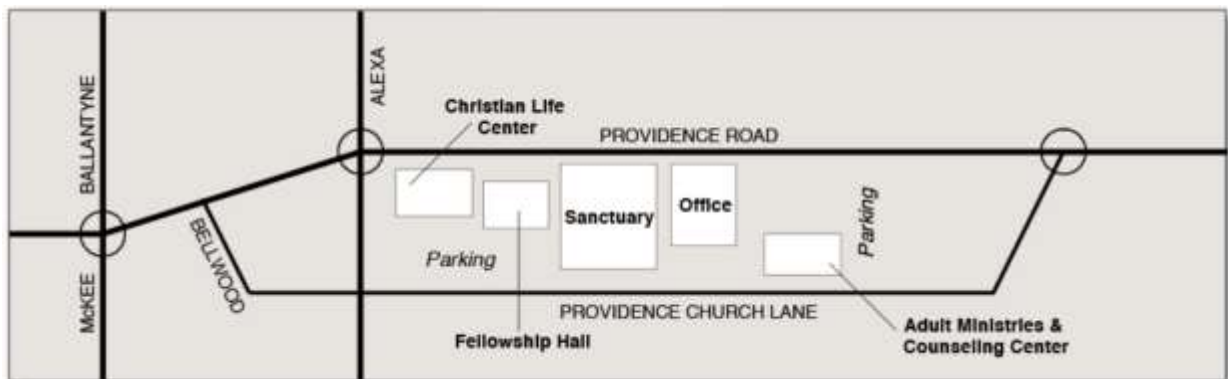
History is too valuable a teacher to be forgotten. We seek to learn and grow from the lived faith of Providence's fathers and mothers, sisters, and brothers. And where their lived experiences were less than consistent with the gospel, reflecting instead their cultural milieu, we seek forgiveness and reconciliation.

### CAMPUS MAP

AMC – Adult Ministries & Counseling Center

CLC – Christian Life Center (Gymnasium)

FH – Fellowship Hall



# Share. Learn. Support. Grow.

Whether on Sunday mornings, Wednesday evenings, or throughout the week, adults of all ages and stages gather to live into faith together.

## ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL at 9:30 AM

### **Faith Foundations**

**AMC, Room 402**

CONTACT: John Heiskell, [jheiskel@ix.netcom.com](mailto:jheiskel@ix.netcom.com)

*We learn and support each other as we study the foundations of our Presbyterian faith in Scripture and the writings of Christian theologians and teachers.*

### **Gen X & Y**

**CLC, Parlor**

CONTACT: Jessica & Nick Turkas, [jacksturkas@gmail.com](mailto:jacksturkas@gmail.com)

*We offer engaging conversations around parenting, relationships, and self-care with core Christian values as our foundation. Our class serves parents, partners, and young-ish adults.*

### **Providence Class**

**FH, Room 104**

CONTACTS: Barbara Bissell, [barbarabissell43@gmail.com](mailto:barbarabissell43@gmail.com) (or)  
Phyllis Edwards, [phyllis2000@bellsouth.net](mailto:phyllis2000@bellsouth.net) (or)  
Ron Coffman, [rcoffman@sprintmail.com](mailto:rcoffman@sprintmail.com)

*Each Sunday, a class member volunteers to read one of the chapters of our study aloud and we have in-depth discussions.*

### **Sojourners**

**FH, Room 103**

CONTACT: Bret Myers, [agmyers4@carolina.rr.com](mailto:agmyers4@carolina.rr.com)

*A class open to all ages and stages. Each class begins with a prayer and contains a lot of discussion, using the Bible, lesson plans, and books as a base.*

## **WEEKDAY SMALL GROUPS**

### **Adelphi**

**2nd Tuesdays, 7pm**

CONTACT: Brenda Stone, brendaruthstone@gmail.com

*We are a service-oriented circle and are involved in, and even provide leadership for, many of PPC's outreach programs.*

### **Agape**

**2nd Tuesdays, 10am**

CONTACT: Wendy Felker, wld5610@hotmail.com

*The word "agape" is the highest form of love and members of this group. We practice 'agape' through fellowship and Bible study.*

### **Book Club**

**Last Tuesdays, 7pm**

CONTACT: Leigh Myers, amyers@carolina.rr.com

*We meet once a month to discuss a novel chosen by the group. Members take turns facilitating discussions. We are open to all book lovers – men and women.*

### **Care Team**

**Weekly via e-mail**

CONTACT: Anne Wood, anniebduck@windstream.net

*We call and visit those who cannot get to church or who are recovering from illness or dealing with urgent situations. This is a personal, pastoral ministry.*

### **Esther**

**Third Thursdays, 6pm**

CONTACT: Leigh Myers, amyers@carolina.rr.com

*Join us for fellowship, prayer, plenty of laughter, and meaningful book discussions relevant to our faith journey. We support one another as we face the joys and worries of aging parents and young adult children.*

### **Faith & Justice**

**Monthly on Sundays**

CONTACT: Gail Kinney, gdkinney2@gmail.com

*We promote awareness, advocacy, and action as we seek to protect the rights of all human beings.*

### **Like Naomi**

**3rd Tuesdays, 11:30am**

CONTACT: Christy Smith, christyks@att.net

*We are a group of widowed and single ladies who meet for lunch to share, support, and enjoy fellowship together.*

### **Literary Group**

**Tuesdays via Zoom, 11am**

CONTACT: Adèle Daniels, adanielscs@gmail.com

*Our focus is on the literary classics, and we enjoy lively discussion and camaraderie. Book selections are made as a group. Tuesdays change throughout the year; contact Adele for exact dates.*

### **Men's Fellowship**

**Bimonthly on Fridays, 7am**

CONTACT: Bret Myers, agmyers4@carolina.rr.com

*A men's Bible study group where current topics and discussions lift our hearts and minds toward loving God and neighbor, near and far, for a world of good.*

### **Monday Manna**

**Weekly via Zoom, 10:30am**

CONTACT: Anne Wood, anniebduck@windstream.net

*A men's and women's Bible study group that takes a deep look into biblical history, research and understanding.*

### **Prayer Shawl Ministry**

**Monthly**

CONTACTS: Daisy Risser, daisyaday96@gmail.com (or)  
Martha Gilbert, marthabg@carolina.rr.com

*We knit beautiful shawls for our members and friends who are experiencing illness or trauma as well as prayer blankets for small children when they are baptized.*

### **Presbyterian Women**

**Seasonally**

CONTACTS: Susan Chase, sbchase61@aol.com (or)  
Kristin Dickey, kristin.dickey@windstream.net

*We are an inclusive, caring community of women, committed to working toward God's promise of wholeness for all people.*

### **Sisters**

**Bimonthly on Tuesdays, 9:30am**

CONTACT: Kim Sumrell, ksumrell@icloud.com (or)  
Elizabeth Gill, eligill@me.com

*Join us for fellowship, faithful conversations, and prayer as we study God's message for our lives through the Bible and other faith related literature.*

### **Stephen Ministers**

**Monthly, 7pm**

CONTACTS: Jane Bauer (or)  
Jay Witherspoon

*Lay caregivers who complete training to serve those experiencing difficult times. If you ever have an urgent need, call 704-779-9795.*

### **Thank God I'm Forgiven for Men**

**Monthly**

CONTACT: Bret Myers, agmyers4@carolina.rr.com

*We celebrate the joy of God's forgiveness through fellowship and serving those in need.*

### **Thank God It's Monday for Men**

**4th Mondays, 7pm**

CONTACT: Phil Kinney, pdkinney1@gmail.com

*A group of senior men who share a monthly meal, discuss a wide range of topics, keep up with personal health issues and make donations to serve community outreach organizations.*

### **Trinity Prayer Group**

**3rd Tuesdays, 10am via Zoom**

CONTACT: Anne Wood, anniebduck@windstream.net

*We meet monthly to update the church prayer list and help others with needs they may have.*

## Wednesday Night Circle

Monthly, 7pm

CONTACT: Mary Lee Hayes, maryhayes14@icloud.net

We are a little older, but welcome younger women to join this group of faith-filled, servants' hearts. We have fun and take care of one another as a support group. We also have discussions about the books we're reading.

**Part of growing deeper in Christ is committing to personal study and spiritual conversations with others.**

For detailed information and descriptions of this year's Sunday School Classes, Circles, Small Groups or to learn how to join these groups, find contact information for each group at the end of this booklet.



# Music Ministry

At Providence we want everyone to be involved in music-making, whether in a choir, as instrumentalists, or simply as a member of our most significant musical ensemble – the congregation!

## THURSDAY EVENINGS

### **Providence Handbells**

**AMC, Room 405, 5:45pm**

*We play bells in worship a few times each quarter. Instruction is provided as we learn about God through song.*

### **Adult Choir**

**AMC, Room 407, 7:00pm**

*For high school and up, no prior singing experience is necessary, and we are open to all. We sing for the 10:30am worship service on Sunday and throughout the summer.*

### **Children's & Youth Choirs**

**AMC Room 407, 4:00pm**

*For children age-3 through 5th grade – come dance, learn, and sing about God's love through song. We meet on Sunday afternoons in the fall and early spring.*

CONTACT: **Music Director, Frank Archer, [Frank@PPC1767.org](mailto:Frank@PPC1767.org)  
Organist and Senior Choir, Ron Nice, [niceronleigh@gmail.com](mailto:niceronleigh@gmail.com)**

### **Community Concerts**

CONTACT: Adèle Daniels, [adanielscs@gmail.com](mailto:adanielscs@gmail.com)

*We partner with city-wide music and arts organizations such as the Charlotte Singers and C. N. Jenkins Memorial Presbyterian to offer seasonal concert to our neighborhood and community.*





# Children's Ministry

Where the Word of God is taught with affection so that children may seek and find God in their own lives.

## CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL at 9:30 AM

Ages 3 to 5<sup>th</sup> Grade

CLC SECOND FLOOR  
Room 216

*The Children's Library is open in the Lower Level of the Christian Life Center (CLC) in Room 11.*

## CHILDREN'S CHURCH

Children are welcome to enjoy music, drama, games, crafts, and lessons, and learn how to praise God and share the love of Jesus. Children will follow a Deacon out of the Sanctuary directly following the Time with Children during worship.

## CHILDREN'S FELLOWSHIP and JUNIOR YOUTH

Children and youth in 4th and 5th grade gather several times a year to learn how they can make a positive impact in this world through play, activities, fellowship, and Christian-based service to others.

CONTACT: **Sarah Clark, [Sarah@PPC1767.org](mailto:Sarah@PPC1767.org)**



# Youth Ministry

PPC's Youth Ministry walks alongside of Middle and High School Youth on their spiritual journey. Through a combination of scripture study, service, and fellowship, we want all Youth to understand how their story fits into God's story and know they are loved by God. All Youth are welcome – period.

## YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL at 9:30 AM

All Middle and High School Youth meet on the second Sunday of every month for a time to dive deep into the stories of the Bible, explore the different liturgical seasons of the church, and be in community together. While every morning looks a little different, you will always find friends, snacks, and laughter!

**Small Group for 6-12<sup>th</sup> Grade**

CLC SECOND FLOOR  
Room 206

## CONFIRMATION

PPC Youth in 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grade are invited to take part in the journey of Confirmation. Through a combination of Sunday morning activities, retreats, service projects, and off-campus excursions, Confirmands learn about their Christian faith, the PCUSA tradition, and the world around them. We want youth to be confident in God's love for them, our love for them, and to know that they belong at PPC.

**CONTACT: Emily Hall, [Emily@PPC1767.org](mailto:Emily@PPC1767.org)**





## **BIG YOUTH GROUP**

Youth Group is a time for Middle and High School (6-12) to bring their whole selves to fellowship with others. We have fun, serve our community, and learn what it means to be disciples of Christ. Join us!

Sunday Evenings in the CLC

4-4:30pm      Open Gym  
4:30-5:30pm   Programming  
5:30-6pm       Dinner

CONTACT: **Emily Hall, [emily@ppc1767.org](mailto:emily@ppc1767.org)**

## CONTACTS

Frank Archer, *Music Ministry*.....frank@ppc1767.org  
Jane Bauer, *Stephen Minister*.....waltjaneb@aol.com  
Barbara Bissell, *Providence Class*.....barbarabissell43@gmail.com  
Susan Chase, *Presbyterian Women*.....sbchase61@aol.com  
Sarah Clark, *Children's Ministry*.....sarah@ppc1767.org  
Ron Coffman, *Providence Class*.....rcoffman@sprintmail.com  
Adèle Daniels, *Music Committee & Literary Group*.....adanielscs@gmail.com  
Kristin Dickey, *Presbyterian Women*.....kristin.dickey@windstream.net  
Phyllis Edwards, *Providence Class*.....phyllis2000@bellsouth.net  
Wendy Felker, *Agape*.....wld5610@hotmail.com  
Martha Gilbert, *Prayer Shawl Ministry*.....marthabg@carolina.rr.com  
Elizabeth Gill, *Sisters*.....eligill@me.com  
Emily Hall, *Youth Ministry*.....emily@ppc1767.org  
Mary Lee Hayes, *Wednesday Night Circle*.....maryhayes14@icloud.net  
John Heiskell, *Faith Foundations Class*.....jheiskel@ix.netcom.com  
Gale Kinney, *Faith & Justice Group*.....gdkinney2@gmail.com  
Phil Kinney, *Thank God It's Monday for Men*.....pdkinney1@gmail.com  
Rev. Fred Lyon, *Interim Pastor*.....fred@ppc1767.org  
Bret Myers, *Thank God I'm Forgiven for Men and Sojourners*.....agmyers4@gmail.com  
Leigh Myers, *Book Club and Esther*.....amyers@carolina.rr.com  
Daisy Risser, *Prayer Shawl Ministry*.....daisyaday96@gmail.com  
Rev. Lal Rodawla, *Associate Pastor*.....lal@ppc1767.org  
Christy Smith, *Like Naomi*.....christyks@att.net  
Brenda Stone, *Adelphi*.....brendaruthstone@gmail.com  
Kim Sumrell, *Sisters*.....ksumrell@icloud.com  
Jessica & Nick Turkas, *Gen X & Y Class*.....jacksturkas@gmail.com  
Jay Witherspoon, *Stephen Minister*.....jwspoonjr@yahoo.com  
Anne Wood, *Care Team & Trinity Prayer Group*.....anniebduck@windstream.net

## WORSHIP

*As a congregation, Providence seeks to embody a generous, welcoming spirit in all aspects of church life, including our worship. We hope you will join us!*

**SUNDAY SCHOOL – 9:30am**

Education classes before Worship

**SUNDAY SERVICE – 10:30am**

Worship in the Sanctuary at 10:30am

**PROVIDENCE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

10140 Providence Church Lane

Charlotte, North Carolina 28277