

## PROVIDENCE BAPTIST CHURCH OF GREENSBORO

### PASTORAL SEARCH

Providence Baptist Church of Greensboro, North Carolina, invites applications and nominations for the position of Pastor and Senior Minister. The Providence pulpit is vacant in the wake of the death on March 12, 2015, of Dr. Howard Allen Chubbs, our esteemed pastor for forty-nine years.

Now in its 150<sup>th</sup> year of service to the Greensboro community, Providence is the oldest African American Baptist congregation in North Carolina. The committee seeks a Pastor with outstanding pulpit strength to present the gospel message effectively. The Pastor also should have good pastoral strength to relate to the needs of individual members. Strong administrative skills will help in leading a ministry staff and in planning and coordinating worship. Progressive, visionary leadership will help our church to continue to fulfill its mission role in the broader community and to grow our ranks, especially among young adults. Resumes or inquiries should be sent to the Pulpit Committee at this email address: [pbcpulpitsearch@bellsouth.net](mailto:pbcpulpitsearch@bellsouth.net), or at the church address 1106 Tuscaloosa Street, Greensboro, North Carolina 27406.

# **PROVIDENCE BAPTIST CHURCH OF GREENSBORO**

1106 TUSCALOSSA STRET

GREENSBORO, NORTH CAROLINA 27406

## ***PASTOR SEARCH***

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### **CHURCH PROFILE**

**Prepared by the PULPIT COMMITTEE OF PROVIDENCE BAPTIST CHURCH  
May 2015**

This document contains important facts and other information regarding Providence Baptist Church of Greensboro, North Carolina.

## Church Profile

### PROVIDENCE BAPTIST CHURCH Greensboro, North Carolina

- I. HISTORY OF PROVIDENCE.** Founded a year after the Civil War in 1866, Providence is the oldest African-American Baptist Church in Greensboro, North Carolina. The church was organized under a brush arbor near East Market Street on land donated by Zephaniah Mitchell, an ancestor of the present Dean family. In 1871, five years after its founding, Rev. Albert Cowan built a one-room frame building for both religious services and secular education. In 1876, the founders erected the first brick church for African Americans in North Carolina.

Because of urban redevelopment, the old Providence site was demolished, and the members temporarily held Sunday services in the Richard Berry Harrison Auditorium on the campus of North Carolina A & T State University. Smaller groups met in the evenings at the church parsonage. In December 1967, the church moved to a new \$288,000 edifice on Tuscaloosa Street in the Benbow Park section of Greensboro. In February 1986, the church completed the new Providence facility at a cost of \$950,000. In 2007, the church built the \$4 million Howard Allen Chubbs Family Enrichment Center, which was dedicated on November 4, 2007. This facility enabled the church to expand our ministries, religious leadership, and fellowship among the parishioners and the wider community.

Providence has been blessed with ministers who sought collegiate and theological education. Among the ministers to lead Providence were Dr. James Scarlette, who served for thirteen years; Dr. J. Walter Tynes, who served for twenty-six years; Dr. Lorenzo Lynch, who served for six years before moving to Durham, NC; and Dr. Howard Allen Chubbs, who served for forty-nine years: from March 1966 until he entered into eternal rest on March 5, 2015.

- II. WORSHIP STYLE.** Worship services at Providence are intentionally spirited and full of the vitality traditional to the Black religious experience. The rich heritage of this congregation serves as the basis on which its future hopes and dreams are built. The combination of good music and powerful preaching produces a worship experience that is intellectually challenging as well as emotionally satisfying.

**III. CONGREGATIONAL LIFE.** Providence Baptist Church has a membership of approximately 1200 persons. Fifty-nine percent of the membership is female; approximately forty-one percent is male. The church currently holds one weekly public worship service every Sunday morning at 10:55 AM. Members of the church represent various occupations and professions, including business owners, physicians, lawyers, university professors and administrators, elected and appointed government officials, public school teachers, and many others. Several members are retired. Even though many members of Providence are successful and accomplished, all members enjoy equal status within the fellowship. No professional titles or honorifics are used among the members or in official church publications.

**IV. OUR STRENGTH AND WEAKNESSES.** Providence has a long and proud history in the Greensboro area, and the church is very highly respected throughout the community. The church has a strong emphasis on education, and its programs to support education are among the best in the region. Among the important educational initiatives are a vibrant Sunday School, a robust scholarship fund that supports every Providence graduate who goes to college, a well-regarded Vacation Bible School, a successful SAT Prep Program that draws students from across the region, and an active Girl Scouts program. The music program at Providence is excellent and diverse, including a classical sanctuary choir, a gospel choir, a men's chorus, and a children's choir. The church finances are professionally well managed, and there is no significant debt.

As with any organization, Providence has some challenges, including (1) the limited opportunities for worship with only a single Sunday morning worship service; (2) the need for a more robust community outreach and missions program; (3) the absence of more young members (19-45 year-olds) in the congregation; (4) the need for more women in senior leadership roles, and (5) the absence of modern digital and electronic communications.

**V. PASTORAL ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES.** The Pastor, with the Deacons, provides spiritual leadership to the church. The Pastor is called first to a ministry of preaching, teaching of the Word, and administration of the sacraments. Accordingly, the Pastor will be expected to preach, teach, call on the sick, perform marriages, conduct funerals, lead the Church delegations at meetings of the associations, state and national conventions, and be available for community projects. The Pastor, in conjunction with the lay leadership of the Church, is responsible for organizing the work of the Church in all departments. The Pastor's advice is to be sought by committees of the Church and by the elected officials of the Church.

**VI. OUR STRUCTURE.** In addition to the Pastor, the officers of the Church are (a) the Deacons, (b) the Trustees, (c) the Church Clerk, (d) the Assistant Clerk, and (e) the Treasurer. There also is a Finance Committee, whose members, in addition to the

Treasurer, are (a) the Finance Chair, (b) the Business Manager, and (c) the Budget Committee Chair.

## **VII. BOARD ROLES, RESPONSIBILITIES AND RELATIONSHIPS.**

**a. Deacons.** The Deacons assist the Pastor in supervising the activities of the Church.

**b. Trustees.** The Trustees have legal supervision of the temporal needs of the Church. They have charge of the property of the church, including keeping the property insured; making necessary repairs and alterations, securing the services of such persons as may be required by the Church for the orderly maintenance of the meetinghouse and other property. The Trustees perform all duties required of them by the laws of the State of North Carolina for a religious corporation and as provided in the New Hiscox Guide for Baptist Churches.

## **VIII. STAFF ROLES, RESPONSIBILITIES.**

**a. Clerk.** The Church Clerk keeps true and accurate records of the business meetings of the Church. The Clerk preserves and keeps safe the records of the Church in the archives of the Church and affixes the official seal of the Church where required.

**b. Assistant Clerk.** The Assistant Clerk assists the Church Clerk as necessary.

**c. Finance Committee Chair.** The Finance Committee Chair is the chief financial officer of the Church. The Finance Chair supervises the activities of the Business Manager and Treasurer and participates in the deliberations of the Budget Committee.

**d. Business Manager.** The Business Manager handles most of the business affairs of the Church. The Business Manager reviews invoices, writes checks to pay bills, and prepares the financial reports. All bills are approved for payment by the Business Manager.

**e. Treasurer.** The Treasurer is the chief custodian of the Church's funds. The Treasurer makes sure that all money received by the Church is accounted for weekly. The Treasurer countersigns all checks, after receiving the authorization order.

**f. Budget Committee Chair.** The Budget Committee Chair convenes the Budget Committee prior to the annual church meeting. The Budget Committee Chair prepares and presents the Budget Committee report, which is included in the annual church report.

**IX. MINISTRIES.** Providence has a variety of ministries to fulfill the spiritual needs of the members and to serve the larger community. Among the ministries of the church are the Alert Circle, the Christian Fellowship Hour, the Community Service Guild, the Drama Guild, FIRSTFRUITS, the Health Ministry, the Julia Hyatt Missionary Circle, the Men's Fellowship, the Library Committee, the New Member Greeters, the Philathea Missionary Circle, the Rosa Rucker Missionary Society, and the Singles Ministry, and several others.

**X. OUR FACILITIES.** Providence Baptist Church sits on the historic east side of Greensboro, North, Carolina. The church edifice, located at 1106 Tuscaloosa Street, was initially constructed in 1967. In 1987, the church expanded to include a 4,252 sq. ft. sanctuary with a seating capacity of approximately 700, multiple classrooms, and a fellowship hall. In 2007, the \$4-million Howard Allen Chubbs Enrichment Center, with a connecting breezeway to the main sanctuary building, was added. The Enrichment Center is approximately 54,000 sq. ft. and includes a 5700 sq. ft. multi-purpose room with stage and audio-visual equipment. The multi-purpose room is the site for a variety of church and community activities. The building also includes several conference rooms, a nursery, a choir/music room, storage space, and additional offices.

**XI. OUR COMMUNITY.** Providence is located in Greensboro, the third largest city in North Carolina. The population of Greensboro is approximately 290,000. Greensboro is part of the metropolitan region called the TRIAD, consisting of the cities of High Point, Winston-Salem, and Greensboro. Long a center of textile, furniture, and tobacco production, Greensboro has emerged as a major educational and medical center. North Carolina A&T State University and Bennett College for Women are in the immediate neighborhood of the church. In 1960, four North Carolina A&T students launched a sit-in movement, which sparked civil rights demonstrations across the country. The Elon University School of Law is a short distance downtown just west of the church. Other important educational institutions in Greensboro are the University of North Carolina at Greensboro (UNCG), Guilford College and Guilford Technical Community College. The Joint Center for Nanotechnology, a partnership between North Carolina A&T and UNCG, is in the near vicinity of the church.

Outstanding health care is available in Greensboro through the Moses Cone Medical Center (which includes Wesley Long Hospital and Women's Hospital) and several other nearby facilities.

Even though it is a small city, Greensboro has entertainment and cultural opportunities that match those of many larger communities. The Greensboro Coliseum, which includes a nationally regarded Aquatics Center, regularly hosts major sports events and musical performances. The International Civil Rights Center and Museum, which commemorates the courage of the "A&T Four," is located on the city's major downtown street. Among other museums located in the city are the Children's Museum, the Greensboro Historical Museum, the Greensboro Science Museum and the Weatherspoon Art Museum at UNCG. The Steven Tanger Center for the Performing Arts, a 2500-seat venue that will host major national and local performances and other activities, is under construction and will open in 2017.

Greensboro is ideally and centrally located in North Carolina - about three hours to the beach in one direction and three hours to the mountains in another. By car, Greensboro is 75

minutes to Raleigh, 90 minutes to Charlotte, and five hours to both Washington, D.C., and Atlanta. Direct airline service is available from the city's Piedmont International Airport to Atlanta, Charlotte, Chicago, Philadelphia, New York, and Washington, D.C., with convenient connections from those cities to almost anywhere in the world.

## **XII. SEARCH COMMITTEE.**

The members of the Search Committee are listed below:

- **Marlin Dabney** is a trustee and a member of the Male Chorus, and he has served on the Men's Day Steering Committee.
- **Gloria Feimster**, a member since 1960, has served Providence in many capacities. She currently is chair of the Deaconess Board, vice chair of the Spiritual Choir, and a member of the Community Service Guild. Among several other previous roles, she has been a trustee, chaired the Women's Committee, been president of the Singles Ministry, and president of the Alert Missionary Circle.
- **Edward Fort** is a Deacon and a former chair of the Board of Deacons. He is a teacher of the Adult Sunday School Class and a member of the Male Chorus. He was chair of the Expansion Committee during the building of the Chubbs Enrichment Center and now directs the Family Life Institute.
- **Maggie Foxx** is a third-generation member of Providence. Over the years, she has been a member of the Children's Choir, the Drama Guild, and secretary of the Youth Group.
- **George Johnson** is a trustee and has served on the Constitution Revision Committee and the Men's Day Steering Committee.
- **Lisa Johnson-Tonkins** is a third-generation member of Providence. Over the years, she has been a trustee and has participated in the Children's Choir, the Youth Choir, and the Sanctuary Choir, and has been a member of the Constitution Revision Committee.
- **James Smith** is former chair of the Board of Trustees during the construction of the Chubbs Enrichment Center. He is a member of the Men's Chorus and has been chair of the Men's Day Committee.
- **Henry W. B. Smith** is *ex officio* member of the Pulpit Committee and chair of the Board of Deacons and Lay Leader of the Congregation.

## PRINCIPAL CHURCH OFFICERS

Henry W. B. Smith  
Jan E. Pritchett

Chair, Board of Deacons  
Vice Chair, Board of Deacons

J. Benjamin Brown  
Michael D. McKinney

Chair, Board of Trustees  
Vice Chair, Board of Trustees

Quiester Craig  
T. O. Stokes, Jr.  
Larry B. Smith  
Thelma J. Feaster  
Gladys A. Robinson

Chair, Finance Committee  
Treasurer  
Assistant Treasurer  
Clerk  
Assistant Clerk

Contact: George R. Johnson, Jr.  
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