



# the INVITATION

## Rally Day Celebration

The church will begin a new season of Sunday morning study on Rally Day. This year, Rally Day falls on Sunday, September 11th. On that morning, everyone is invited to begin the Rally Day celebration with a continental breakfast, in the Fellowship Hall at 9:00 a.m.

At 9:45, we'll begin a conversation about this year's discipleship opportunities in the Fellowship Hall. Folks will hear from teachers and have an opportunity to visit classrooms before concluding this time of introduction back in the Fellowship Hall. Worship will begin at 11:00 a.m. Following worship, a delicious and healthy lunch will be served at no cost.

Rally Day is an important day in the life of the church. Please join us for the kick-off of this life-changing study. Please don't forget to invite your friends, family, neighbors and colleagues to join you for Rally Day and new study opportunities!



## Experiencing True Life

Studies, beginning September 18, focused on ...

<sup>17</sup> Instruct those who are rich in this present world not to be conceited or to fix their hope on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who richly supplies us with all things to enjoy. <sup>18</sup> Instruct them to do good, to be rich in good [a]works, to be generous and ready to share, <sup>19</sup> storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of that which is life indeed.

<sup>1</sup> Timothy 6:17-19 (NASB)

## Sunday School and Discipleship Opportunities

Confessions & Creeds	Growing Older & Wiser	Jubilate	Genesis	Ready to Launch	Middle/ High School	Growing in Grace and Gratitude	Growing in Grace and Gratitude	Nursery
Adults	Adults	Adults	Adults	Parents & Grandparents	Middle & High School Students	Grades K-5	Children Ages 3-5	Children Ages 0-2
A study of the PC(USA) Book of Confessions	Based on the Book "Growing Older & Wiser"	This study will mirror the sermon focus for the day.	This study will mirror the sermon focus for the day.	This study will focus on parenting and preparing our kids.	A discussion-based study of questions like "Is God Real?"	A class designed to inspire children to learn and practice Christian principles.	A class designed to inspire children to learn and practice Christian principles.	Nurturing childcare.
James Richardson	Diane Stockmeier	Valetta Fellenbaum	Self-led	Connie Salter	Billy Ricketts & Judy Cole	George Fitzgerald, the Neilsons & others	Jennifer Parker & volunteers	Michelle Wofford & volunteers
Room 104	The Parlor	The Choir Room	Room 111	Room 110	Room 200	The Garden Room	Little Lambs Room	The Nursery

# From My Open Door

Jeffrey S. Bell, Pastor

Another school year is upon us. I've had a great summer- workcamp, boating, workcamp, grilling, workcamp, worshipping, workcamp... And I've had some down time- with my family, travelling, stained glass.... I've had time to work through a few projects- gutter cleaning, deck staining, garage organizing... All in all I've had a great summer!

For many, summer isn't much different than the rest of the year. Work continues. Parenting continues, responsibilities continue. And it's ever so easy to get discouraged, distracted and detoured from the responsibilities that God has placed upon us, even as we carry out many of them.

At the end of summer comes Rally Day - September 11th. What's a rally? I went to dictionary.com to check the definition. Here's what I found. A rally is:

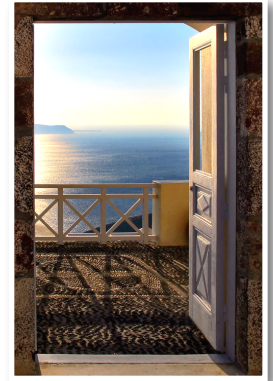


1. to bring into order again; gather and organize or inspire anew;
2. to draw or call (persons) together for a common action or effort; and
3. to concentrate or revive, as one's strength, spirits, etc.

All of these definitions are relevant to our intent in holding a "Rally Day" at Providence.

- Definition 1 is certainly in view as we gear up for another year of Sunday School and Bible study.

- Definition 2 fits because it really is a call to bring people together to share in our common faith, as expressed in Holy Scripture.
- Definition 3 reminds me that every Kirk Night Study or Sunday School session is a "rally" to revive our strength and spirit as we are fed by God's Word with Christ at the center.



Unfortunately, our Kirk Night study and Sunday School attendance has waned over the years. Yes, I know, we're busy, tired, stressed, and torn. Yes, I know, attending worship and Kirk Night takes effort on our part. We go not because we have to, but because of what God promises to do for us and to us through study of His Word- to forgive, to strengthen, to re-fashion us in the image of Christ. And with all of the demands we place on ourselves, it's ever so easy to run away from the growth that God will provide.

Apart from God's Word, anchored in the Gospel, we will never be prepared to face daily challenges and deal with them together in a godly way. Apart from God's Word we are easy prey for the devil. Apart from God's Word, we are susceptible to every wind of teaching that blows through the culture and through the church. And the winds are picking up, my friends!

Rally Day is upon us. I pray that the Holy Spirit will rally us around Christ through God's Holy Word and prepare us to meet the challenges of daily life. Join us for Kirk Night study, Sunday School and worship on Sunday, September 11. God's Word will not return to Him empty, but will accomplish the purpose for which He sent it (Isaiah 55:11)! See you in Church!

## BAPTISM



On August 14, 2016 we welcomed Sofia Anne Swiger, daughter of James and Audrey Swiger, and granddaughter of Sally Parsons, into the Church by Holy Baptism.

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## THIS MONTH AT PROVIDENCE

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### **THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 1**

*Betty Brock's Birthday*  
*Claudia Cosimano's Birthday*  
*Linda Visser's Birthday*

### **FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 2**

*George Fitzgerald's Birthday*  
*Chris Daley's Birthday*

### **SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 4**

9:45am Summer Sunday School  
11:00am Worship and Communion

### **MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 5**

**Labor Day**  
**Church Office Closed**

### **TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6**

*Stephanie Boose's Birthday*  
7:30pm Bells of Providence  
Rehearsal

### **WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7**

*Megan Bell's Birthday*  
7:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

### **THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 8**

*Lisa Olson's Birthday*  
7:00pm Women's Bible Study

### **FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 9**

*Alan Lane's Birthday*  
*Deborah Hensly's Birthday*  
*Tyler Owensby's Birthday*

### **SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 10**

*Joan Roberts' Birthday*

### **SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11**

*Jerry Barnes' Birthday*  
9:00am Continental Breakfast  
9:45am **RALLY DAY**  
Sunday School Assembly for  
all in the Fellowship Hall  
11:00am Worship  
12:15pm Rally Day Luncheon

### **MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 12**

*Susan Ayers' Birthday*  
*Kameron McCubbin's Birthday*  
7:00pm Committee Chair Meeting  
7:00pm Boy Scouts  
7:30pm Committee Night

### **TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13**

*Kitty James' Birthday*  
*Richard Kemmerer's Birthday*  
10:00am Dorcas Circle  
7:30pm Bells of Providence  
Rehearsal

### **WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14**

*Nancy Whitaker's Birthday*  
9:45am Mary & Martha Circle  
7:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

### **THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 15**

**Newsletter Submission Deadline**  
7:00pm Care Team Leaders

### **SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 17**

7:30am Men's Fellowship  
9:00am Courtyard Graces

### **SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18**

*Bonnie Murphy's Birthday*  
*Josh Ricketts' Birthday*  
8:45am Merry Bells Rehearsal  
9:45am Sunday School  
11:00am Worship

### **MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 19**

7:00pm Session Meeting  
7:00pm Boy Scouts

### **TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20**

7:30pm Bells of Providence  
Rehearsal

### **WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21**

6:00pm Kirk Night  
7:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

### **THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 22**

*John Kilday's Birthday*  
*James Richardson's Birthday*  
*Wyatt Deck's Birthday*

### **FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 23**

*Chelsea Hanson's Birthday*  
7:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

### **SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 24**

*Bill Bruce's Birthday*  
*Lena Karn's Birthday*

### **SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 25**

8:45am Merry Bells Rehearsal  
9:45am Sunday School  
11:00am Worship

### **MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 26**

*Lauren Simmons' Birthday*  
7:00pm Boy Scouts

### **TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27**

*William Zimmerman's Birthday*  
7:30pm Bells of Providence  
Rehearsal

### **WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 28**

*Sandy Finch's Birthday*  
*Carolyn Reid's Birthday*  
*Carl Stein's Birthday*  
*Billy Ricketts' Birthday*  
*Maggie White's Birthday*

6:00pm Kirk Night

7:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

### **THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 29**

*Cathy Reese's Birthday*



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## CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR RULING ELDERS

The Congregational Nominating Committee is seeking nominations for Ruling Elder: five positions for the Class of 2020, whose term will begin on February 26, 2017.

You may offer candidates for nomination either by using the form below, or by contacting a Nominating Committee member:

Moderator, Glynn Rogers

Tom Barrow

Travis Cole

Kevin Daley

Carol Hickman

Mike Stockmeier

Donna Zamorski

Nominations should be submitted to a member of the Nominating Committee  
or placed in the offering plate during Sunday morning worship on or before October 2.

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### ELDER NOMINATIONS

Name of nominee

Reason(s) for nomination

Name of nominee

Reason(s) for nomination

Name of nominee

Reason(s) for nomination

Name of nominee

Reason(s) for nomination

Name of nominee

Reason(s) for nomination



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## FAMILY LIFE MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

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September is likely the busiest month of the year for many of us. Kids go back to school; our summer schedules come to an abrupt end; and we see the beginning of a new season all around us. At Providence, it's become our policy to let folks catch their breath from September before kicking off a new season in October.

# FAMILY



Look for the following future events starting in October:

- PPC Men's Retreat: While Providence has sponsored women's retreats for years, we've finally organized a little men's getaway, this year! From Friday, October 21 through Sunday, October 23 we'll gather at a large home on the Outer Banks for a time of rest, relaxation and reflection. Over the course of our time together, we'll have three conversations based on a wonderful book called "*The Man Code*." We'll also enjoy an abundance of free time designed to allow us to simply take it easy!
- Mission Matters Youth Group: This group of middle & high school students will meet at 12:30 on the first Sunday of each month to focus on mission. The first meeting will be on October 2.
- PPC Couple's Retreat: For many PPC couples, this retreat may be the first time (in a long time) that we've been able to focus on our marriage and our faith. On the weekend of March 10, 2017, PPC couples have the opportunity to *officially* spend some time together. The retreat will take place at the Hampton Inn & Suites in Corolla, NC (about 90 minutes from the church). We'll gather on Friday evening after dinner for a time of fellowship. On Saturday morning, we'll have a discussion about how and why we initially got together. On Saturday afternoon, we'll talk a bit about the role that God should be playing in our relationships. On Sunday morning, we'll have a time of worship. During the rest of the weekend, couples are on their own to enjoy meals, have some undisturbed conversations, take a long walk, rest, relax or casually read a book.
- Online Parenting & Grandparenting Resources:

It's our sincere hope that your family will set aside some time for fellowship and spiritual growth in the 2016 - 2017 season. Please contact Pastor Billy if you have any questions ([familylife@provpres.org](mailto:familylife@provpres.org)).

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## MISSION MATTERS

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When Mariah Smith, of *Blankets for the Homeless*, joined us for worship last year, she shared that one of the things that any of us can do to help the homeless population is to provide them with "blessing bags." These brown paper lunch bags usually include contents like bottled water, snacks (breakfast bars, crackers, etc.), toiletries (toothbrush, tooth paste, wipes, etc.) and more.

The *Mission Matters* middle & high school group has provided pre-made blessing bags to help our congregation to easily reach out to those who are in need. For most of us, we're more likely to actually carry bags with us (and help others) when we can just receive pre-made bags - rather than having to go to the store to get all of the contents and build our own bags.

The *Mission Matters* group is not selling these bags, they are providing them for our congregation at no charge. Donations to cover the cost of making bags will of course, be accepted. Be on the lookout for the blessing bag table in the Fellowship Hall!



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## MUSIC NOTES FROM VALETTA

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As we start a new program year, I would like to invite you to become a part of the music ministry at Providence.

Chancel Choir rehearses Wednesday evenings at 7:30, beginning August 31. Youth and adults are welcome to sing in the Chancel Choir. Bells of Providence rehearsals are Tuesdays at 7:30, beginning September 5, and Merry Bells, which meets Sundays at 8:45, will start up again September 18. Kirkmusik (for our youngest musicians) will resume with the start of Kirk Night on Wednesday, September 21. For more information about any of these opportunities, just give me a call at 518-8299.

Many thanks go to the folks who provided special music while the Chancel Choir was on summer break: Sarah Hyslop, Linda Baker, Jane Pritchett, Davis Main, Robin Birdwell, and Gary Reese. We also thank those who sang in our "pick-up" choir.

If you have been thinking about singing in the choir, or trying your hand at ringing bells, but are "on the fence," allow me to share below some of the benefits of belonging to a church music ensemble. This is from one of Michael Kemp's sessions at the Virginia Wesleyan Sacred Music Conference which I attended this summer. Great food for thought!



### **Singing in the choir. . .**

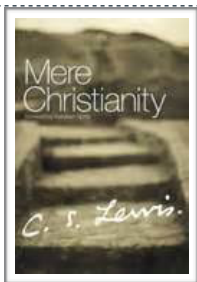
1. **Is an easy way to make new friends and feel part of a group.**
2. **Is therapeutic; rehearsals become a time when singers can put aside, for a while at least, the other pressures and concerns of the day.**
3. **Provides musical memories that can take you momentarily out of difficult situations by calling to mind beautiful music and text.**
4. **Gives members a sense of pride and self-worth.**
5. **Instills beneficial posture and breathing techniques.**
6. **Helps develop better habits of good enunciation.**
7. **Reminds choir members that there are no short cuts to excellence.**
8. **Teaches historical perspective through music and texts written during various periods of history.**
9. **Reminds us of the positive impact a dedicated group can make beyond that which is possible for an individual.**
10. **Conveys that leadership, demeanor and good attitude make a significant contribution to the success of a group.**
11. **Serves as a ministry of the church by adding beauty and aesthetic depth to worship.**
12. **Provides an anchor for regular church participation in a time when secular attractions and pressures pull many away from church participation.**

These benefits are real! Ask any choir member to tell you why they sing in choir, and you will perhaps hear even more reasons. See you in church! *Valetta*

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## KIRK NIGHT

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### **Discussing Mere Christianity: Exploring the history, meaning, and relevance of C.S. Lewis's Greatest Book**

**Fall 2016 Kirk Night begin September 21 6:00-7:15 pm.**

In this 8-session video group study, you will discover why *Mere Christianity* by C.S. Lewis is one of the most read and beloved Christian books of all time. But over 70 years after it was first delivered on radio, what relevance does it have to our world today? A variety of Christian leaders will help us understand the timeless message of C.S. Lewis in fresh ways for a new generation.

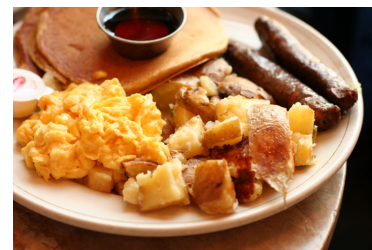
Together we will explore the positive ideas that C.S. Lewis has so eloquently written about in *Mere Christianity* for those who already call themselves Christian. This video study also explains an engaging, winsome and non-threatening way the basic tenets of the Christian faith as illustrated by C.S. Lewis to those who do not claim to be Christian.

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## PPC MEN'S GROUP

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For years, the Providence Presbyterian Church Men's Group gathered once a month for dinner at the church. Last year, we began a new quarterly schedule that allows us to try new restaurants and make a difference in the world. On Saturday, September 10, we'll gather at the church at 7:30 a.m. for a good old-fashioned breakfast before heading out at 8:30 to do a mission project. Then on Thursday, October 6, we'll venture outside the walls of the Fellowship Hall to try a new restaurant for dinner. On Thursday, November 3, we'll get back to our roots and enjoy dinner in the Fellowship Hall.



In the following months, we'll follow the same pattern (breakfast & mission; dinner out; and dinner at the church) each quarter. The many folks who have been a part of this group for years are encouraged to continue to participate (and bring a friend). We're also excited about the possibility of increasing the size of the group by trying some new things. If you have any questions, please contact Pastors Jeff or Billy in the church office.

## ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE

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Patty L. Landrum had been a Presbyterian all her life. Her parents were instrumental in starting Coleman Place Presbyterian Church in Norfolk over 75 years ago and she attended there until it closed a few years back. She was led to attend Providence Presbyterian as she lived in Fairfield and it was convenient for her. She enjoyed her time here and became a member. As she told me, she enjoyed the fellowship she experienced and the pastor. Patty became known as the "Butterfly Lady" because of the gorgeous butterfly pins she would wear on the back of her shoulder. She was a sweet southern lady, always with a big smile. Little did we know what was to follow.

Providence Presbyterian Church has been truly blessed with the gift from The Patty L. Landrum Family Trust. It is obvious Patty took time to consider how she wanted her money to be used and felt the church would be the best source to ensure her wishes were honored.

To ensure all the members of the church understand the "Designated Label" attached to the funds being received from her estate, the following is the precise language used in the trust documents:

1. Eighty Percent (80%) shall be used to fund a College Educational Scholarship named the Butterfly Scholarship in memory of Patty L. Landrum. The terms of the scholarship shall be determined by the Church in its sole discretion.
2. Two and One-half Percent (2.5%) shall be used for the upkeep of the courtyard at the Church.
3. Five Percent (5%) shall be used for the mission Support for Families of Students attending Fairfield Elementary School.
4. Two and One-half Percent (2.5%) shall be used for the music programs at the Church.
5. Seven and One-half Percent (7.5%) shall be used for senior citizens who are in need as determined in the sole discretion of the Church.
6. Two and One-half Percent (2.5%) shall be used as part of the Church's discretionary fund.

As was stated from the pulpit, the estate money (with the exception of #6 above) is not available for day-to-day, week-to-week and month-to-month operations of the church. The weekly tithes and offerings keep the doors open and the church functioning.

In next month's newsletter, we will explain the function of the newly established Endowment Sub-Committee and how one may request funds from one or more of the Designated categories above.

Administration Committee, Glynn H. Rogers, Chair



## Stay Connected

- visit us on the web @ [www.provpres.org](http://www.provpres.org)
- sign up to receive our Friday e-letter
- check out our Facebook page

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### NEWSLETTER INFORMATION

Please e-mail newsletter items  
no later than the 15th of each month  
for the following month's edition to:  
[office@provpres.org](mailto:office@provpres.org)

### Providence Presbyterian Church

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#### Church Staff

Pastor	Rev. Jeffrey S. Bell
Pastor of Family Life Ministries	Pastor Billy Ricketts
Director of Music	Valetta Fellenbaum
Organist	John Dixon
Administrative Assistant	Lisa Nixon
Nursery Supervisor	Michelle Wofford
Treasurer	Carolyn Knowles
Financial Secretary	Ted Salter
Sextons	Gus and Mary Ann Villies

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#### The Session

Moderator: Rev. Jeffrey S. Bell • Clerk of Session: Gary Reese

#### Administration

\*Glynn Rogers, Mike  
Schroeder, Dianne Stockmeier

#### Christian Education

\*Ray Maxwell, Carol Hickman

#### Congregational Care

\*Don Singletary, Karen Moore

#### Fellowship

\*Susan Ayers, Ray Hall

#### Mission/Outreach/Evangelism

\*Cecilia Daley

#### Property

\*George Fitzgerald,  
Riley Hensly

#### Worship

\*Rich Lindgren,  
Cathy Polychroni

\*committee chair

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