



# The Providence Press

*'Come Worship With Us  
as We Grow in Wisdom and  
Grace'*

**Volume 24: Issue 2 ~ Powdersville, South Carolina 29611**

**February, 2018**

Dear Friends,

As we enter the “dark” days of Lent, Thomas Merton writes, “We must remember the original meaning of Lent, as the *ver sacrum*, the Church’s ‘holy spring’ in which the catechumens were prepared for their baptism, and public penitents were made ready by penance for their restoration to the sacramental life in communion with the rest of the Church. Lent is then not a season of punishment so much as one of healing.”

We all need healing of one kind or another, don't we?

I need healing from my sometimes impatience – especially when driving behind someone who is impeding my progress. I need healing from my preoccupation with trivial and unimportant things. I need healing from my endless “wants” that have nothing to do with what I need.

As we begin the season of Lent on Ash Wednesday – February 14, this year – I am turning my mind away from those distractions and shortcomings and *lack*. I am turning my mind *toward* the Holy One – the One who came among us, who lived in our midst, who suffered and died for us, who was resurrected that we, too, might be reborn. I am recommitting to intentional time in prayer, in Scripture, and in meditation. I am wading into the “holy spring.”

I invite you to step into the waters with me. Join me in what Merton calls “the sacramental life in communion.” Join me in Christ.

In Christ,  
Terri



# COMMITTEE REPORTS

## Building & Grounds

Stay warm!  
*God bless, Richard Witmer*

## Christian Education

2018 is here! I hope you had a great Christmas and New Year. The last youth group meeting for 2017 included some games and snacks to see us through to the New Year.



Youth Group has just picked back up with a refresher class on the CS Lewis classic “The Screwtape Letters”. Come join the class for interesting conversation with a youthful twist.



Adult 2 Sunday School is planning a multigenerational Sunday School class beginning February 18th. Thank you Robin Bell!



Sold! But this time with a twist. We're putting the youth to work!



Your help is needed with Christian Education. We need nursery workers and children's church leaders. Our youth from the youngest through high school need your guidance and support.

While you give of your time, I promise, you will receive much more in return.

*Blessings, Cyndi Everette*



### **Evangelism/Nurture**

Please pray for our sick and those having surgery.

With God's grace and peace we care, *Lowry Wilson*

### **Making a Difference in Missions**

Hi folks, not a lot going on in the month of February but we do want to remind you to bring canned meats all this month as well as personal hygiene items to be donated to PERC, our local Food Pantry located in Piedmont. Our first Sunday in February is "SOUPER BOWL OF CARING SUNDAY." On our Souper Bowl Sunday, we will be collecting cans of soup, which will be delivered to PERC. If you forget your soup and still want to take part, you may make a monetary donation collected by the youth which will also be sent to PERC.

February 18th is the First Sunday in Lent

and is designated as wear your Blue Providence T-Shirt to church Sunday. If you don't have a blue T-shirt, just wear anything BLUE and we'll have a BLUE-OUT. This BLUE-OUT is a testament of Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, which is just one of the ministries supported by the annual offering we give, One Great Hour of Sharing. Also on this day is the Universal Day of Prayer for all students across the world. So say an extra prayer today!

*Blessings, The Missions Team (Sherrie, Stefanie, Sean, Peggy, & Linda)*

### **Parish Nurse -February is Gang Prevention Awareness Month**

#### **Alzheimer's and You Series at Foothills Retirement Community**

During the month of **March**, the Foothills Retirement Community will offer an educational series focusing on unique challenges presented by Alzheimer's disease and caregiving for those with dementia. These sessions will be led by Karen Nichols, Executive Director at Foothills, and member of John Knox Presbyterian Church. They will be held each **Thursday in March from 6 to 8 pm** in the Foothills Chapel. Please RSVP for any session by Calling 864-303-1977.

### **The Flu is Spreading Rapidly Right Now.**

We encourage everyone:

- To wash your hands frequently
- Stay away from others if they are sick
- Cover your cough/sneeze
- Avoid shaking hands; share a word of kindness
- Drink lots of liquids
- Get plenty of rest

Surveillance can tell us the trend of influenza in SC, but it cannot tell us exactly how many cases of influenza there are in the state. This is because not everyone who gets the flu goes to the doctor to get tested and we have no way of monitoring these unreported cases of flu.

### **Did You Know?**

- Youth join gangs for protection, enjoyment, respect, money, or because a friend is in a gang.

- Youth are at higher risk of joining a gang if they engage in delinquent behaviors, are aggressive or violent, experience multiple caretaker transitions, have many problems at school, associate with other gang-involved youth, or live in communities where they feel unsafe and where many youth are in trouble.
- To prevent youth from joining gangs, communities must strengthen families and schools, improve community supervision, train teachers and parents to manage disruptive youth, and teach students interpersonal skills.

### Popular Culture

Apart from personal reasons for joining a gang, media presentations make gangs seem very appealing. The “hip” lifestyle and sensational portrayals of gangs and their members have a significant influence, particularly on more susceptible youth. Increased media popularization of gang culture has led to the point that a lot of young people in America recognize the look, the walk, and the talk of gang members. Many mimic it in parts or in whole. Many try it out as a personal style. Play groups, break-dancing groups, taggers (I.e. graffiti artists), and school peer groups experience with gang life. The diffusion of street gang culture in modern-day movies, music, and clothing merchandizing has served to intertwine gang-culture with the general youth subculture.

### Individual Risk Factors

A number of personal risk factors make children more likely to join gangs.

- **Antisocial behavior.** Children whose antisocial behavior consistently worsens are most likely to join gangs
- **Alcohol and drug use.**
- **Mental health problems.**
- **Victimization.** Children who are victims of abuse or neglect are more likely to join gangs
- **Negative life events.** Youth-particularly boys-who experience negative life events also are most likely to join gangs. These events include failing a course at school, being suspended from school, having a fight

or problem with a friend/romantic association, and the death of someone close.

- **Weaknesses in family structure.** Children from a single-parent household, multiple family transitions, or caretaker changes, poverty, and general financial stress are potential risk factors.

For more information on gangs, pick up Wellness Words bulletin on the narthex table or at the office entrance table. For more information, or to report gang activity in your area, contact the U.S. Dept. of Justice, District of SC. Greenville Main Phone: 864- 282-2100.

*Stay well, Julia Palmer*

### Presbyterian Women

The PW Morning Group meets on the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of each month at 11:00am in one of the private dining rooms. Our lesson is being taught by Ann Broom, a Christian Educator. Following our meeting, those who would like have lunch in the Foothills Dining Room, are welcomed.

### Providence Preschool

We can't believe we are almost half way through the school year. January was a fun month doing all things winter, including icy centers (see picture below)! The students even learned how to make their own snow during science time. The Kindergarteners get to go on a field trip this month to Publix to learn all about how a grocery store works. All the teachers and kids work so hard! We love them so. February will be a busy month celebrating Jesus' LOVE for us all.

*~ Sheree Beal, Director*





The Young at Heart

had a great time in January with lots of laughter and fellowship. Those who don't attend are missing out on a good time and good food. We will be going to

**Serving the Church in February**

**Liturgists**

- Feb. 04 Debbie Clapp
- Feb. 11 Leah Bagwell
- Feb. 18 Suzanne Goodman
- Feb. 25 Dennis Olenwine

**Acolytes**

- Feb. 04 Communion
- Feb. 11 Lillian Goodman
- Feb. 18 Mary Lorraine Metcalf
- Feb. 25 Sean Hogan

**Flowers** None

- Feb. 04
- Feb. 11
- Feb. 18
- Feb. 25

**Greeters**

- Feb. 04 Peggy Ragsdale & Paul Gillespie
- Feb. 11 Lowry Wilson & Cyndi Everette
- Feb. 18 Sherrie Tootill & Jan Tanner
- Feb. 25 Marian Graham & Jennifer McCalla

**Ushers**

- February Terry Clark, Joey Ford, Sam Ricker, Donnie Robertson

**Nursery**

- Feb. 04 Wanda Witmer
- Feb. 11 Jennifer McCalla
- Feb. 18 Angie Rochester, Libby Metcalf
- Feb. 25 Cyndi Everette

**Children's Church**

- Feb. 04 Hogan Family
- Feb. 11 Melissa Clark
- Feb. 18 Shane Metcalf
- Feb. 25 Hogan Family

**Time with Children**

- Feb. 04 Becky Kay
- Feb. 11 Becky Kay
- Feb. 18 Jennifer McCalla

J. Peters at 115 Interstate Blvd., Anderson, SC 29621 (I-85 Exit 19) on **Feb. 27 at 5:00 pm**. Please contact Julia Palmer @ 864-630-5030 if you are interested in going so we can give the restaurant a count.

Feb. 25 Jennifer McCalla



- |                 |                     |
|-----------------|---------------------|
| Angie Rochester | Ashley Mixon        |
| Carol Nicholson | Christine Duke      |
| Elsie Lutz      | Greg Wilson         |
| Jean Connolly   | Joey Ford           |
| Melissa Clark   | Richard Witmer      |
| Scott Hogan     | Stephanie Hemingway |
| Suzette Garland | Wanda Witmer        |



Providence Care

offers a monthly grief support group led by Chaplain Andre Kroneman.

If you or someone you know needs this service, please feel free to attend. It is open to everyone!

**Date:** First Tuesday of every month (**Feb. 6<sup>th</sup>**)

**Location:** Ellenburg Hall

**Time:** 2:00pm – 5:00 pm

**Cost:** FREE

<http://providencecanhelp.com/>



**LENT**



*Worship service is at 6:30 pm*

**God's Abundant Table** – A five-week study led by Pastor Terri Price begins **Wed., Feb. 28 at 6:00 pm**

## *Serving You at Providence*

### *Presbyterian Church*

Stated Supply Pastor, Rev. Terri Price  
Donna Robertson, Clerk of Session  
Director of Music, Tim Gossett  
Church Secretary, Mary Rivera  
Financial Secretary, Donna Robertson  
Sexton, Sherrie Tootill  
Treasurer, Lewis Clapp  
Preschool Director, Sheree Beal

**Church Office Hours: 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM**  
**Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday**  
**Telephone Number: 864.605.1011**  
**Terri's E-mail: [minister@providence-church.com](mailto:minister@providence-church.com)**  
**Terri's Cell Number is 864-616-9992**  
**Mary's E-Mail: [office@providence-church.com](mailto:office@providence-church.com)**  
**Donna's E-Mail: [donna@providence-church.com](mailto:donna@providence-church.com)**  
**Sheree's E-Mail: [preschool@providence-church.com](mailto:preschool@providence-church.com)**  
**Website: [www.providence-church.com](http://www.providence-church.com)**

#### ***Session Members:***

***Class of 2018*** – Larry Brock, Cyndi Everette, Peggy Ragsdale, Linda Threatt  
***Class of 2019*** – Jane Broderick, Shane Metcalf, Lowry Wilson  
***Class of 2020*** – Robin Bell, Julia Palmer, Richard Witmer

*"I have decided to stick with love. Hate is too great a burden to bear."  
~Martin Luther King, Jr.~*



### **The Providence Press**

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Greenville, South Carolina 29611-7404

**Address Correction Requested**

[www.providence-church.com](http://www.providence-church.com)