



The Providence Press

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

Volume 24: Issue 3 ~ Powdersville, South Carolina 29611

March, 2018

Dear friends,

All around us, spring is making itself known – despite the fact that according to the calendar it is still winter. Along the roadsides, Bradford pears are in full bloom. In my own garden, the early cherry and the star magnolia drip in blossoms. Tender plants, such as the little hydrangea I planted last spring, are beginning to break dormancy and leaf out.

All of those signs of life are encouraging, but they also are cause for fear. If the inevitable late freeze hits, that hydrangea may not only get nipped by the cold – it might actually be killed.

It strikes me as appropriate that we move through the season of Lent during this “in-between” season of the year. Lent, like the natural world around us, offers glimpses of warm, life-giving spring while at the same time revealing the cold barrenness of the fading winter. I find these changes of season can sometimes serve as a metaphor for my own Christian walk. There are times when my relationship to God and my experience of community is warm and life-giving. And there are times when God can seem distant, the community silent, and all is cold and barren.

Moving through Lent as we move from winter into spring reminds us that the cold winter days will give way to the warmth of spring. Those barren days will once again be filled with light and joy. We do not arrive at the glory of Easter resurrection without first experiencing the darkness of the cross.

My prayer for you during the waning days of Lent is that you will discover moments of brilliance and light in the midst of all that seems dark. In the words of poet Ted Loder, may God hold us in this Lenten time so that we might truly experience the life of Christ.

With Lenten prayers,
Terri

*“Catch Me in My Scurrying”
Ted Loder*

Catch me in my mindless scurrying, Lord,
and hold me in this Lenten season:
hold my spirit to the beacon of your grace
and grant me light enough to walk boldly,
to feel passionately,
to love aggressively;
grant me peace enough to want more,

to work for more
and to submit to nothing less,
and to fear only you ...
only you!
Bequeath me not becalmed seas,
slack sails and premature benedictions,
but breathe into me a torment,
storm enough to make within myself
and from myself, something ...
something new,
something saving,
something true,
a gladness of heart,
a pitch for a song in the storm,
a word of praise lived,
a gratitude shared,
a cross dared,
a joy received. ...



God's Abundant Table

A five-week study led by Pastor Terri Price
every **Wednesday** in the month of **March** at **6:00 pm**



Building & Grounds

Nothing to report!
God bless, Richard Witmer

Christian Education

Nothing to report!
God bless, Cyndi Everette

Evangelism/Nurture

A poster with a light blue, textured background. The text is in a dark blue, serif font. It lists ten guidelines for fasting during Lent, attributed to Pope Francis. At the bottom, there is a logo for 'pietrafitness.com' and a small circular logo for 'PIETRA FITNESS'.

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

Making a Difference in Missions

Hi all from Missions, hope everyone has been enjoying some warmer weather though not all sunshine. Not a lot of news during these early months of the year, just to report what has been given to PERC. I just delivered 44 pounds of food and miscellaneous items of hygiene products. I also

delivered an additional 34 pounds of soup from our Souper Bowl of Caring Sunday. Great job there folks!

Please keep in mind, March and April have been designated as CANNED FRUIT months. As usual, they are deeply appreciative of any items donated.

Thank you and blessings to all, The Missions Team

Parish Nurse –March is National Nutrition Month

Eat Right And Reduce Food Waste

Whether it's starting the day off right with a healthy breakfast or fueling before an athletic event, the foods you choose can make a difference. Preparing your foods to go further, by planning meals and snacks in advance can also help to reduce food loss and waste.

People rarely talk about the foods they toss out, yet the topic of food waste is getting a lot more attention these days. It's been estimated that Americans throw away 90 billion pounds of food each year either at home or when eating out. That amount does not even include the food that goes uneaten at the grocery store or crops that are left in farmers' fields. Not all food wasted can be saved and eaten, however. A lot of food waste could be prevented, especially at home.

A Good Place to Start is Right in Your Own Kitchen

- Plan meals based on the food you already have on hand.
- Look in the refrigerator, freezer, and pantry for foods that need to be used up.
- Pay attention to expiration dates on foods.
- Write a list of the ingredients you will need.

Buy only the amount that can be eaten or frozen within a few days. This is especially important for perishable food, like fresh fruits, vegetables, meats, dairy products, and seafood.

Get creative with leftovers

- Transform meals into soups, salads, or sandwiches by cutting up leftover meats and veggies.
- Use as topping for salads or cooked grains like rice or pasta.
- Combine to make soup, then enjoy or freeze for future use.
- Wrap in a tortilla or stuff into a pita for a satisfying sandwich.

Master the Shelf Life of Foods

- Many foods and drinks purchased at the grocery store include a date, which indicates when it should be used or sold by. Because these dates refer to the product's quality, it does not necessarily mean they should be thrown out.
- "Use by", "Best by" and "Best Before" dates are found on foods, such as mustard, salad dressing and ketchup. These products usually don't need to be refrigerated until opened. In many cases, they are safe to eat beyond the date as long as they have been stored properly.
- "Sell by" dates are displayed on perishable foods, such as meats and dairy products. It is possible these foods may be used a few days after that date, as long as they are stored in a safe temperature.

Practice Good Food Safety

- Don't risk eating or drinking anything that you suspect has spoiled.
- Eat leftovers within 3 to 4 days (or freeze for up to 3-4 months).
- Store foods in the pantry so products with closer dates are up front.
- Place foods that could spoil quickly within sight, such as in the front of the refrigerator or on the counter (if they are not perishable).
- Wait to wash produce until right before serving.

Pick up a Wellness Word Bulletin in the Narthex for more information!

Stay well, Julia Palmer

Presbyterian Women

The PW Morning Group meets on the 1st 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

Registration has been a big success for our upcoming school year. We are nearly full in every single classroom! March will be another busy month for us. We are holding our 2nd annual Parent's Night Out. The kids will have tons of fun together playing outside, eating pizza and watching a movie. We will be celebrating Dr. Seuss, holding our spring book fair and Men Who Matter Most event, and preparing for Easter. Whew! So much fun in the month of March.

~ Sheree Beal, Director

Worship

In a recent session and PW meeting, our study and devotion dealt with suffering and thought provoking questions about if it had purpose. The outcome was, yes! Suffering is something we should not deny ourselves or others and it is our faith that carries us through it. "It is, what it is..."

None of us can run away from how it can and will touch our lives. We also should not trivialize how we or anyone else feels during those times. It was stated that Jesus stands with the suffering, not to make us feel better, but to make us not feel alone. Those words had a strong impact on me. Not feeling alone is what makes our faith during suffering communal. "We stand with each other, just as Jesus stands with us." Think about that; I did.

- As we enter this season of Lent, consider joining the church in the meaningful planned programming offered during the month of March. Terri will lead a Bible study on Wednesday evenings, and there are special services planned during **Holy Week**

following Palm Sunday. During Advent we were waiting on the birth of a newborn king. During Lent, we have several opportunities to experience a solemn time that led up to the death of Jesus so that we can come back together on Easter and praise His resurrection. The open cross! Please prayerfully consider your attendance.

Holy Week and Easter Services



Come Worship With Us!

March 25: Palm Sunday – procession of palms with children

March 29: Maundy Thursday Service

March 30: Good Friday Service – Stripping of the church

April 1: Easter Sunday

- A cross will be placed outside the sanctuary on Easter Sunday to decorate with fresh flowers. Please bring what you can to add to the cross before we enter the sanctuary and any extra flowers to share with others to adorn it.
- The church will be decorated with hydrangeas on Easter Sunday. Please be on the lookout in the church bulletin for more information on ordering and cost.
- If you are interested in helping with our Worship service as a liturgist, usher, greeter or serving on the committee, please contact Shane Metcalf or Robin Bell.

Robin Bell, Worship Co-Chair



The Young at Heart had a great time in We will be going to an Italian restaurant on **March 27 at 5:00 pm**. Location will be announced. Please contact Julia Palmer @ 864-630-5030 if you are interested in going so we can give the restaurant a count.



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!

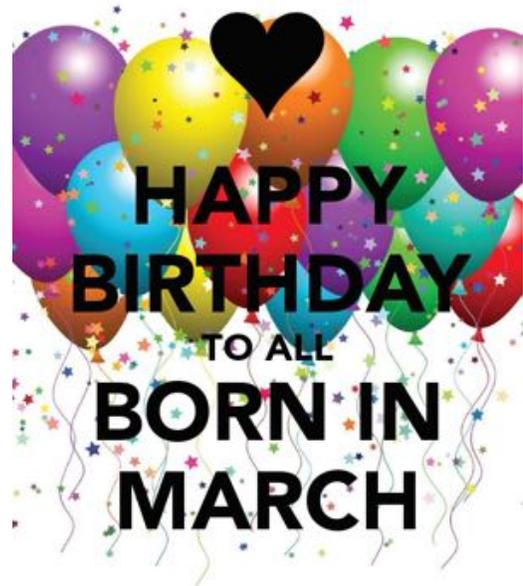
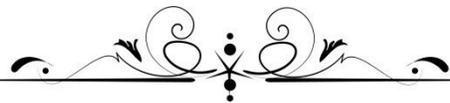
Date: First Tuesday of every month (**Mar. 6th**)

Location: Ellenburg Hall

Time: 2:00pm – 5:00 pm

Cost: FREE

<http://providencecanhelp.com/>



Al Marshall
Caroline Campion
Donna Robertson
Jennifer McCalla
Libby Metcalf
Philip Duke
Suzanne Goodman
Val Dyches

Cameron Hogan
Cathy Redd
Haley Smith
Kyle DeKoning
Lori Smith
Sherrie Tootill
Todd Duke



Holy Week

Serving the Church in March

Liturgists

Mar. 04 Lewis Clapp
Mar. 11 Jeff Price
Mar. 18 Carl Spence
Mar. 25 Dennis Olenwine

Acolytes

Mar. 04 Sara Everette
Mar. 11 Communion
Mar. 18 Brad Rochester
Mar. 25 Erika Clark

Flowers

Mar. 04 Shane & Amy Metcalf
Mar. 11
Mar. 18
Mar. 25

Greeters

Mar. 04 Melissa & Hanna Clark
Mar. 11 Jane Broderick & Debbie Clapp
Mar. 18 Peggy & Gary Morris
Mar. 25 Laura & Chuck Soby

Ushers

March Shane Metcalf, Randy Parker,
Peggy Ragsdale, Becky Kay

Nursery

Mar. 04 Wanda Witmer
Mar. 11 Jennifer McCalla
Mar. 18 Angie Rochester
Mar. 25 Cyndi Everette

Children's Church

Mar. 04 Brad Rochester
Mar. 11 Alora Holloway
Mar. 18 Hogan Family
Mar. 25 Melissa Clark

Time with Children

Mar. 04 Becky Kay
Mar. 11 Becky Kay
Mar. 18 Jennifer McCalla
Mar. 25 Becky Kay



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
Terri's Cell Number is 864-616-9992
Mary's E-Mail: office@providence-church.com
Donna's E-Mail: donna@providence-church.com
Sheree's E-Mail: preschool@providence-church.com
Website: 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

"The best preparation for tomorrow is doing your best today."

~H. Jackson Brown, Jr. ~



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Providence Presbyterian Church
4000 Highway 153
Greenville, South Carolina 29611-7404

Address Correction Requested