

in the KNOW

The weekly communication of Providence Presbytery

| Lancaster | Union | Chester | Kershaw | York |

Guided by the Holy Spirit, our mission is to equip, support, and connect our congregations as they faithfully serve Jesus Christ in a changing world.

November 7, 2011

Volume 7, Number 43

“If you smile when no one else is around, you really mean it.”

[Andy Rooney](#)

From the Presbytery Prayer Calendar

November 13: Ramah Presbyterian Church (York, SC) 37 members

Prayer Request: Our church is saddened by the loss of Betty Patterson on October 28th. Betty was a long time member who was the moderator of the Presbyterian Women of our church and an elder. We are celebrating the continuing success of our Poor Man's Suppers. Almost everyone in the community attends these bi-annual events which provide great fellowship and funds used for worthwhile projects.

Providence Congregations Asked to Begin Dwelling in the Word Exercise

At the October meeting of presbytery, the Mission Discernment Assessment Task Force made its [report to the presbytery](#). As a part of their reporting process, they invited those at the meeting to dwell in [Luke 10:1-12](#) and share at their tables the insights they gained from this missional text. The Task Force has invited and urged our congregations to use this same process of “Dwelling in the Word” over the next 5 months with many groups in your church (Sessions, Boards of Deacons, church staffs, Sunday school classes, Presbyterian Women, etc) using the [Dwelling in the Word Process](#). We will be asking churches who are willing to share at the March 2012 presbytery meeting what God has been up to in their midst over these past five months as they engaged this process with Luke 10 and the Task Force Report. I join the Task Force in urging you and your congregation to be a part of this experiment of discerning what God is up to in our midst! If you have any questions, please feel free to be in touch with me or any member of the Task Force. Members of the Task Force are listed on the front cover of the Task Force Report.

Planned Giving Roundtable Event offered in Charlotte

Come to Myers Park Presbyterian Church Outreach Center November 16th from 10AM to 1PM to join in a roundtable discussion offered by PresbyterianEndowment.org. Presbyterian churches' planned giving programs are being dramatically overshadowed and outperformed by larger non-profits. Great news - We can reverse this trend in our own churches and have the same success if we share resources and great ideas on how to communicate with our congregations. Exchange ideas and materials on planned giving and endowments at this informative event. The cost is \$29 per person. [REGISTER HERE](#).

November Worship 4 YOUth Focuses on Listening, Following and Trusting

Join other youth from around the area as they gather at Bethelwoods on November 13 for another wonderful time of food, games, fellowship and worship. This is a time FOR youth, BY youth. This next session is being led by the youth from Oakland Avenue Presbyterian Church with the theme of

“Listening, Following and Trusting God’s Love.” Registration begins at 5PM with pizza, games music and worship to follow. Worship will end about 7PM. Bring your church youth, bring their friends, use this as outreach. Come join the fun. Call Bethelwoods at 803-366-3722 to register your group or e-mail info@bethelwoods.org. Please register by November 9th. Youth leaders and pastors, if you have a group that is interested in leading one of the Worship 4 YOUTH sessions, please contact Keith Newman or Molly Wickersham at [Bethelwoods](#) or [Kathryn McGregor](#) at the Providence Presbytery office. These are worship and fellowship times at that are for **your** youth (Middle and High School—Grades 6-12). The cost for supper is \$3 per person.

Associate for Racial and Gender Justice to Speak at November GLOCAL Meeting

The Glocal Committee of the Mission and Outreach Ministry Team welcomes you to join us on November 14 at the Presbytery office at 1:30PM to hear Dr. SanDawna Ashley of the General Assembly Mission Council Office of Gender Justice Ministries. The Glocal Committee is involved in a number of initiatives designed to bring about awareness, dialogue and fellowship between Christians and Muslims. The committee is also participating in discussions and activities with the Jewish community and the Bahai community in the Rock Hill/Charlotte area. All are invited to join us for this exciting and informative meeting.

Society of St. Andrew Partners with a new Thanksgiving song to Feed Hungry People

At Thanksgiving, we are thankful for the abundance we have, and we celebrate with a feast. But tens of millions of Americans go hungry, even as the nation celebrates. The Society of St. Andrew, the national gleaning ministry, has teamed up with singer Doug Allen, and songwriter Sam Zamarripa, and a brand-new song called *The Song of Thanksgiving*. This song may be used at home or in churches to give thanks for all that we enjoy. And it will raise money that will be used to feed the hungry. The song is available on iTunes for just 99-cents, and every song purchased will provide 15 servings of fresh fruit and vegetables to some of our neighbors who need it most. Learn more on the Society of St. Andrew website at www.EndHunger.org/Thanksgiving.

November Chaplain Grand Rounds Open to Public

Resiliency and Resolve at End of Life will be presented by George West, Director of Pastoral Care at AnMed Health. The Grand Rounds Seminars are offered monthly at CMC Auditorium from 12PM-1PM. Seminars are Free of Charge and attendees may bring their lunch.

PC Youth Day Coming Soon

There's still time to register for Youth Day on November 19, 2011! The Celtic Cross Leadership Team is planning a new and exciting program entitled "One Tribe". Enjoy a day of fun, fellowship, food, football game, and recognition of the Outstanding Church Youth Leader nominees and overall winner. [Find out more online.](#)

E3 Workshops Address Children's Ministry & Parenting

Check out these and all of the great workshops to be offered at E3 in the online [workshop catalog](#) and [register](#) using our easy online registration. As always E3 is a FREE training event offered by your Education and Equipping Ministry Team. Questions? Email [Kathryn McGregor](#) or call her at 803-328-6269

Church Seeking Recommendation for Sound System Installer

Beaver Creek Presbyterian Church is seeking recommendations for reputable companies that install church sound systems. Contact Donna Sawyer, Buildings and Grounds Chairman, at (803)273-3834 or dusawyer@comporium.net. An alternate contact is Martha Ussery at (803)273-8788 or mlussery@mac.com.

GLOCAL Committee to Host Presbyterian-Muslim Potluck

Everyone in Providence Presbytery is invited to an after-church potluck luncheon on Sunday, December 4, 2011 beginning at 1:30PM at the Oratory in Rock Hill (434 Charlotte Ave). Take advantage of this opportunity to meet and get to know our Muslim neighbors here in the Upstate for fellowship and dialogue. Meat will be provided by our Islamic brothers and sisters and we are invited to provide vegetables, breads and desserts. (NO bacon/pork products or ingredients). [See the flyer online.](#) *Church secretaries, please put in your bulletin.*

Educational Opportunities: [EEMT Leadership Scholarships Available](#)

Kerygma Webinar Answers Your Questions

Kerygma was founded in 1977 with one course of study. The Kerygma Program's quality resources continue stimulating faith and challenging minds! Kerygma courses will transform and revitalize adult Bible study in your congregation. Kerygma studies are for all learners from beginning to advanced. Attend one of the 60 minute webinars to find out about Kerygma, their theological stance, unique educational approach and how easy it is to find and train leaders. Webinar dates are [Wednesday, November 9th, 1:00 p.m. EST](#); [Thursday, November 17th, 10:00 a.m. EST](#); [Tuesday, November 22nd, 3:00 EST](#). Click on the date you wish to attend to register.

Centering Prayer Workshop Offered in December

Calvary Lutheran Church is offering a Centering Prayer Workshop December 3rd from 10AM-4PM at 950 Bradley Street, Concord, NC. The day will include four talks about Centering prayer: Prayer as relationship; the method of the prayer; Use of the sacred word; and Our relationship with God. You will experience two periods of Centering Prayer. Presenters: *Katie Crowe* is the Minister for Service and Missions at First Presbyterian Church and co-coordinator of Contemplative Outreach of Charlotte. She graduated from Princeton Theological Seminary. Katie has practiced and taught Centering Prayer for over five years. *Ann Starrette* is the Director of Spiritual formation at Davidson United Methodist Church and The Lydia Group Retreat Ministry, which she founded in 1998. Ann also presents the Welcoming Prayer Workshop. We hope you can join us December 3 at Calvary Lutheran Church, 950 Bradley Street, Concord, NC. [Register for this workshop.](#) For more information visit our website at <http://www.cpcharlotte.org>.

Presbyterian Outlook Webinars Available at Providence Presbytery Office

Providence Presbytery offers a group showing of a variety of webinars for churches provided by the Presbyterian Outlook. All webinars are FREE to participants and are held at 2:00 pm on Tuesday afternoons at the presbytery office. The group will share in conversation following each hour and half long webinar. Upcoming webinars include:

Nov. 29: Turnaround Strategies for your Church: Outcome-based decision-making

Jan. 10: Turnaround Strategies for your Church: Raising up new leadership

Feb. 14: Turnaround Strategies for your Church: Rethinking affiliation

March 13: Turnaround Strategies for your Church: Rethinking stewardship

April 10: Turnaround Strategies for your Church: 21st century communicating

May 8: Turnaround Strategies for your Church: Ending power struggles

More information on particular webinars can be found at the Presbyterian Outlook's homepage under "Special Offers": <http://www.pres-outlook.com/>. You may register to join the group showing for any or all of the upcoming webinars by contacting Kathryn McGregor at kmcgregor@providencepres.org or 800-922-1609, ext. 6.

Upcoming Fall Conferences at Montreat Conference Center – www.montreat.org

Multicultural Institute :November 8-11 Courses offered include The Spanish Immersion (*begins November 7*); Leaven in the Mix: Facing Race & Culture in Congregations;

Multicultural Church 101: Leadership for the 21st Century; **and** Raising Kingdom Consciousness in Us & in Our World Co-sponsored by the Presbyterian Multicultural Network and Montreat Conference Center. More information and register online:
<http://www.montreat.org/current/multicultural-institute-2011>

Preaching and Worship for Advent Workshop at Montreat November 10

In an exciting new partnership, Montreat Conference Center will host Wake Forest University School of Divinity for a timely one-day program on [Preaching and Worship for Advent](#). The program is open to all denominations and will be held in the conference center's Convocation Hall on **Thursday, November 10**, beginning with registration at 9:30am. Workshop leaders Gail O'Day and Jill Crainshaw will provide preaching and worship resources for the Sundays from Advent to Epiphany, Year B. They will also engage workshop participants in the larger ministry questions suggested by this season: What does it mean to nurture a community to wait in expectant hope? How does a community shape its life around the presence of Emmanuel, God-with-us? What is the impact of preaching and worshipping according to the liturgical year on pastoral work and congregational formation? Cost for this program, including lunch, is \$40. Please [click here](#) for more information and to register online.

Board of Pensions Education Series: Board of Pensions will be offering three FREE seminars in January for BOP Members. Westminster Presbyterian Church in Charleston, SC will host Benefits Overview for Lay Plan Members on Jan. 17, 11AM-1PM; Render unto Caesar Seminar for Ministers on Jan. 18, 8:30AM-5PM; and Render unto Caesar Seminar for Treasurers and Administrators on Jan. 19, 8:30AM-5PM. Make your reservations by visiting <http://www.cvent.com/d/fcq7ns> between October 3 and Dec. 16. Questions? Email the BOP Member Education Team at education@pensions.org or by phone at 800-773-7752 ext. 7223

Around the Presbytery

The Atlanta Sacred Chorale, a choir of 50 singers directed, by Dr. Eric Nelson, will be in concert at **Unity Presbyterian Church**, in Fort Mill, SC on Saturday, November 12th at 7:00 pm. The event is free and open to the public. An offering will be taken up during the performance. The address for the church is 303 Tom Hall Street. For more information, please contact the church office at 803.547.5543, or the church's Web site at www.UnityFortMill.org.

Covenant Presbyterian Church in Rock Hill (on the corner of Mt. Gallant Road and Celanese Road) invites everyone to the church's annual auction on Saturday evening, **November 19th**. There will be a raffle for some great prizes. First prize is a 32" flat screen tv; second prize is a \$100 gas gift card; and third prize is a \$50 gift card for groceries. Supper will be provided. Costs per plate are; children 3 and under are free, children 4 to 12 are \$3.00, and everyone 13 and older are \$5.00 with no family paying more than \$20.00. There will be a bake sale and small craft sale which will begin at 5:45 p.m. and the auction to begin at 6:45 p.m. Please come and join us for a wonderful time together. For questions, please call the church office at 366-8223.

Covenant Presbyterian Church invites you to purchase a Smoked Turkey at our annual SMOKED TURKEY SALE ON NOVEMBER 22 & 23, 2011. The \$25 Smoked Turkeys weigh between 10 and 12 pounds. Quantities are limited...**you must reserve a Turkey before Nov 21st.** CALL 366-8223 to reserve yours today. On Tuesday (11/22) the turkeys will be ready for pick up 10AM-6PM. Turkeys will be ready for pick up Wednesday (11/23) 4PM- 6PM.

Positions Available

First Presbyterian Church of York, SC is seeking to fill a children's ministry position. [See the Job Description Online.](#)

Check out the events below on the [Presbytery Calendar](#)--for event details, click on the event!

2012 Presbytery Meeting Schedule

3/15	First Presbyterian Church, York
6/24	Bethelwoods Camp and Conference Center
10/14	Bethesda Presbyterian Church, McConnells

Coming This Week

11/8	Common Ground Planning Team 12:30-1:30PM (Presbytery Office-Living Room)
11/8	Year D Webinar--2PM (Presbytery Office)
11/10	Committee on Ministry--5:30PM (Presbytery Office)
11/10	Confirmation Cluster Planning--1:30PM (Presbytery Office)
11/11-13	Fall Lay School of Theology (White Oak Conference Center)
11/13	Worship 4 Youth--5-7PM (Bethelwoods)

Next Week

11/14	GLOCAL : ShaDawna Ashley--1PM (Presbytery Office)
11/15	Second Harvest Partners--10AM (Belair UMC, Indian Land)
11/17	EEMT Meeting--6:30PM (Presbytery Office)
11/19	Presbyterian College Youth Day

Coming Soon!

11/29	Presbyterian Outlook Webinar--2-4PM (Presbytery Office)
12/1	Presbyterian Foundation--Magic of Christmas at Charlotte Symphony
12/4	Presbyterian/Muslim Potluck Luncheon--1PM (Oratory, Rock Hill)
12/6	Presbytery Christmas Open House--11AM-1PM and 5PM-7PM (Presbytery Office)
12/15	Second Harvest Partners--10AM (First Calvary Baptist)
1/8	E3 Event--1:45-5:30PM (Rock Hill First Presbyterian)
4/26-29	National Multicultural Conference (Charlotte)

Please submit articles to jill@providencepres.org with In the Know and the date you would like your article to run in the subject line by Friday at 5 PM for the following Monday's issue.

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“Instead of nit picking about what the retailer in your town calls the holiday, be patient with the people who work there. Give them a warm smile and a kind word. Even if they aren't allowed to wish you a "Merry Christmas" that doesn't keep you from wishing them one.”

[Read More from the “Open Letter from Jesus about Christmas”](#)

From the Presbytery Prayer Calendar

November 20: Riverview Presbyterian Church, Fort Mill (141 Members)

Prayer Request: We'd like to thank God for recent renewal and focus as we seek to serve God and our neighbors. We pray for clarity and direction as we explore new ministry opportunities. We pray for our community as we reach out in faith. We pray for the leap of faith we have taken in our 2012 budget, specifically taking on funding a full time pastor for the first time in several years.

Has your church started?

Providence Congregations Asked to Begin “Dwelling in the Word” Exercise

At the October meeting of presbytery, the Mission Discernment Assessment Task Force made its [report to the presbytery](#). As a part of their reporting process, they invited those at the meeting to dwell in [Luke 10:1-12](#) and share at their tables the insights they gained from this missional text. The Task Force has invited and urged our congregations to use this same process of “Dwelling in the Word” over the next 5 months with many groups in your church (Sessions, Boards of Deacons, church staffs, Sunday school classes, Presbyterian Women, etc) using the [Dwelling in the Word Process](#). We will be asking churches who are willing to share at the March 2012 presbytery meeting what God has been up to in their midst over these past five months as they engaged this process with Luke 10 and the Task Force Report. I join the Task Force in urging you and your congregation to be a part of this experiment of discerning what God is up to in our midst! If you have any questions, please feel free to be in touch with me or any member of the Task Force. Members of the Task Force are listed on the front cover of the Task Force Report.

Check out these Featured E3 Workshops

FOR Youth Ministers, Children's Ministers, Sunday School Teachers, Parents, AND Youth

Two innovative workshops are offered to help **Youth Leaders** in their ministries with teens: “Creative Discipline for Youth” and “They really ARE wired that Way: Exploring Brain Development in Adolescents.”

Children's Ministry is also a featured area at E3 this year. Exciting workshops for those ministering to children are "Forming Faith – Forming Brain: Exploring Brain Development in Children" and "When you have more Time than Lesson."

Parents, You are sure to enjoy the workshops offered for you; "Children and Chronic Illness: Resources for Pastors, Educators and Parents" and "Faith in Children's & Adolescent Literature."

Youth interested in Worship Planning can participate in "Worship Matters: A workshop for Youth" --a two-session workshop that culminates in a Worship Service to be presented on March 4, 2012 at Great Falls Presbyterian Church. Participants are required to complete a Participation Contract with their parents to participate in this workshop.

Check out these and all of the great workshops to be offered at E3 in the online [workshop catalog](#) and [register](#) using our easy online registration. As always E3 is a FREE training event offered by your Education and Equipping Ministry Team. Questions? Email [Kathryn McGregor](mailto:KathrynMcGregor) or call her at 803-328-6269

Church Seeking Recommendation for Sound System Installer

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Join in Charlotte's 36th Citywide Interfaith Thanksgiving Service

You are invited to join in Charlotte's 36th Annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Service to be held at Temple Beth El, 5101 Providence Road on Tuesday, November 22, 7PM. All are warmly welcomed to this citywide event to give God thanks and praise through the beauty and the rich tapestry of faith traditions in our region. Sponsored by Mecklenburg Ministries, this celebration invites Charlottean's of different races, cultures and faiths, to join together as one in gratitude. The evening will be filled with music by the 200 person-strong Interfaith Adult and Children's Choirs, and the words of youth and interfaith Clergy from throughout Charlotte. The message, "The Gratitude Factor," will be delivered by Msgr. John McSweeney from St. Matthew Catholic Church. Last year, close to 1,500 took part in this celebration of peace, thanksgiving and unity in our city. Interested in joining the Interfaith Adult Choir or the Interfaith Children's Choir? Contact Mecklenburg Ministries at (704) 565-5455 or visit www.meckmin.org.

Educational Opportunities: [EEMT Leadership Scholarships Available](#)

Special Webinar for members of Providence Presbytery churches

Don't miss this exciting webinar, "What's to Become of our Church: Trajectories of Hope" to be offered Tuesday, Dec. 6 – 2PM at Rock Hill First Presbyterian Church. Pastors, church staff, and members of churches are all welcome to come and hear Rev. Jack Haberer, Editor of Presbyterian Outlook, address the issues confronting the PC(USA) following the passing of nFOG and 10A. In this 90 minute webinar, Jack will: Sort between the facts and fictions of our present challenges; Count the cost differences of "separation" and differentiation"; Summarize why and how Christians of good will can serve together in constructive tension amid tense disagreements; Assess major trends in biblical studies and missional theology that give rise to great hope for the church; and Help you and your congregation steer through the stormy seas. *Following the webinar, there will be time for discussion.*

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Around the Presbytery

Cancer Support Group. The next meetings will be **Nov. 17 and Dec. 15.** @ 7pm and is for cancer survivors, from diagnosis and thereafter. The group meets monthly at Oakland Avenue Presbyterian Church, 421 Oakland Ave, Rock Hill. Parking is in the rear of the church from Park Ave, use the main/rear entrance, then proceed to room 2108. This group is led by survivors with a health care professional at every meeting. Open to anyone in our community, for men and women, participants can gain additional insight and strength to help physically, emotionally and spiritually. The next meetings will be **Nov. 17 and Dec. 15.**

Covenant Presbyterian Church in Rock Hill (on the corner of Mt. Gallant Road and Celanese Road) invites everyone to the church's annual auction on Saturday evening, **November 19th**. There

will be a raffle for some great prizes. First prize is a 32" flat screen tv; second prize is a \$100 gas gift card; and third prize is a \$50 gift card for groceries. Supper will be provided. Costs per plate are; children 3 and under are free, children 4 to 12 are \$3.00, and everyone 13 and older are \$5.00 with no family paying more than \$20.00. There will be a bake sale and small craft sale which will begin at 5:45 p.m. and the auction to begin at 6:45 p.m. Please come and join us for a wonderful time together. For questions, please call the church office at 366-8223.

Alternative Gift Fair at Oakland Ave Presbyterian: Join us as we celebrate Christ's birth through giving gifts that help our community and world. The Alternative Gift Fair on Sun., Nov. 20 from Noon-4pm includes booths from local and global helping agencies, a Silent Auction, a 10,000 Villages Shop, and Luncheon (donations appreciated). Location- 504 Oakland Avenue, Rock Hill. Questions? Call the church at 803-327-2006.

Covenant Presbyterian Church invites you to purchase a Smoked Turkey at our annual SMOKED TURKEY SALE ON NOVEMBER 22 & 23, 2011. The \$25 Smoked Turkeys weigh between 10 and 12 pounds. Quantities are limited...**you must reserve a Turkey before Nov 21st.** CALL 366-8223 to reserve yours today. On Tuesday (11/22) the turkeys will be ready for pick up 10AM-6PM. Turkeys will be ready for pick up Wednesday (11/23) 4PM- 6PM.

Hermon Presbyterian Church and St. Mary's Catholic Church will join in our Annual Ecumenical Thanksgiving Worship celebration on Wednesday, November 23 at 6:30PM at St. Mary's. Father Agustin Guzman will deliver the homily with music by the combined choirs of Hermon and St. Mary's. The service was begun in the 1990's, and is one of many joint efforts of the two congregations. The public is invited. For further information, contact Dot Killian at dot@providencepres.org or (803) 517-7870.

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11/17	EEMT Meeting—6:30PM (Presbytery Office)
11/19	Presbyterian College Youth Day

Next Week

11/21	Preparation for Ministry Meeting—4PM (Presbytery Office)
11/24	Give Thanks for the Lord is Good
11/24-25	Presbytery Office Closed

Coming Soon!

11/29	Presbyterian Outlook Webinar—2-4PM (Presbytery Office)
12/1	Presbyterian Foundation--Magic of Christmas at Charlotte Symphony

12/2 Presbytery Office Closed
12/4 Presbyterian/Muslim Potluck Luncheon—1PM (Oratory, Rock Hill)
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Office)
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1/8 [E3 Event—1:45-5:30PM \(Rock Hill First Presbyterian\)](#)
4/26-29 National Multicultural Conference (Charlotte)

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November 21, 2011

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“Not what we say about our blessings, but how we use them, is the true measure of our thanksgiving.”

-W.T. Purkiser (1910-1992) preacher, scholar, and author in the Church of the Nazarene)

From the Presbytery Prayer Calendar

November 27: Rock Hill First Presbyterian Church, Rock Hill, SC (386 Members)

Prayer Request: Please join us in prayers of gratitude to Almighty God for divine guidance and direction during the weeks of study and preparation of our newly updated Mission Statement; for the four young families and other new members who have recently joined our congregation; and for the leadership of our church staff and the dedication of our church officers during this interim period. Also, in prayers for divine guidance and support to be with our Pastor Nominating Committee that was recently elected by the congregation; and in prayers for wisdom and discernment to be with the person whom the Holy Spirit is preparing to accept the call to be our next Installed Senior Pastor.

Last Week's Email and Website Difficulties Solved

We apologize for any inconvenience you experienced last week when our network was down. Our web and email servers were not functional when our IP address was changed by our service provider. Due to the IP address change, some Earthlink customers should go back in and "accept" our emails because we are getting returned emails from some Earthlink email addresses. Again, we apologize for the inconvenience and appreciate your patience.

Capital Campaign Stewards Wish Happy Thanksgiving to Our Churches

As Thanksgiving approaches, the Capital Campaign Committee extends a [BIG Thank You](#) to all of our churches for their participation in our Life for Today, Faith for Tomorrow Capital Campaign. If you would like to see where we stand on the Capital Campaign, [the Update is available online](#). As we wind up the three year Capital Campaign, we would like to especially thank the [churches who have completed their pledged givings](#). Our hope is that each of our churches will be able to complete their pledge before the end of 2011. [Thanks to our Stewards](#) for personally visiting the churches of Providence Presbytery on November 13 and 20.

Presbytery Open House Welcomes Church Members/Friends as well as Church Staff

The staff of Providence Presbytery cordially invites all members and friends of the churches of Providence Presbytery to its OPEN HOUSE on Tuesday, December 6 from 11AM-1PM and 5PM-7PM at the Presbytery Office (515 Oakland Avenue, Rock Hill, SC). Refreshments will be served. Please let us know by November 30 if you plan to attend, but feel free to drop by if your plans change. 1-800-922-1609, 803-328-6269, iglasgow@providencepres.org.

General Assembly Continues to Update Educational Materials to Reflect nFOG

The General Assembly of the PC(USA) is in the process of updating the denomination educational materials to reflect the changes made with the passage of nFOG. Recently released are the [Advisory Handbook on Preparation for Ministry in the Presbyterian Church \(U.S.A.\)](#)Al, and the [2011-2013 Advisory Handbook for Ministry Committees/Commissions](#) . Both are available for download at www.pcusa.org.

E3 Workshops help Christians Grow in their Faith

Maybe you've determined that your focus needs on your Spiritual Life in 2012. If so, E3 has some GREAT Workshops focused on Spirituality this year. "The Practice of Sacred Reading" and "Lord, Teach Us To Pray: Prayer Practices for Christ's Disciples" explore interesting techniques for building your devotional skills. Check out these and all of the great workshops to be offered at E3 in the online [workshop catalog](#) and [register](#) using our easy online registration. As always E3 is a FREE training event offered by your Education and Equipping Ministry Team. Questions? Email [Kathryn McGregor](mailto:KathrynMcGregor) or call her at 803-328-6269. **Insure you get the workshops you want...REGISTER THIS WEEK!**

Advent Devotions Help You Focus Your Family on Christ this Christmas

Passing the Peace is an Advent devotions and giving program to help keep us focused on Jesus' coming while we also provide a meaningful gift to feed hungry children and adults here in the United States. Through daily devotions, scriptures, and prayers, this Advent Devotions program will nourish your spirit while providing an opportunity to feed the hungry. For each day in Advent, this booklet provides: by email a suggested scripture reading; a reflection prepared especially to help you prepare yourself for the coming of the Christ Child; a prayer to help you move into each day more prepared to receive God's grace, and to share God's grace with others. As we welcome the Prince of Peace into our lives this Advent season, take time to reflect, as our writers do: Where have you witnessed, or where have you been an instrument of, God's peace in the world? During your journey through this season of hope, love, joy, and peace - think of ways you might begin Passing the Peace to others. All materials for this Advent devotional program are free from the Society of St. Andrew. To order a church sample kit or a personal packet: [Learn more online](#) or Contact the Society of St. Andrew online: www.endhunger.org/advent.htm or by phone: 800-333-4597

Join in Charlotte's 36th Citywide Interfaith Thanksgiving Service

You are invited to join in Charlotte's 36th Annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Service to be held at Temple Beth El, 5101 Providence Road on Tuesday, November 22 at 7PM. All are warmly welcomed to this citywide event to give God thanks and praise through the beauty and the rich tapestry of faith traditions in our region. Sponsored by Mecklenburg Ministries, this celebration invites Charlottean's of different races, cultures and faiths, to join together as one in gratitude. The evening will be filled with music by the 200 person-strong Interfaith Adult and Children's Choirs, and the words of youth and interfaith Clergy from throughout Charlotte. The message, "The Gratitude Factor," will be delivered by Msgr. John McSweeney from St. Matthew Catholic Church. Last year, close to 1,500 took part in this celebration of peace, thanksgiving and unity in our city. Interested in joining the Interfaith Adult Choir or the Interfaith Children's Choir? Contact Mecklenburg Ministries at (704) 565-5455 or visit www.meckmin.org.

Call Fair Scheduled for February 2012 at CTS

Columbia Theological Seminary will host its seventh annual Call Fair for Pastor Nominating Committees on Friday, **February 17, 2012**, from **1:00 to 4:00** p.m. The event is designed to help connect graduating seniors with congregations and organizations that have openings for leadership positions. The registration form is [available online](#). For more information about the Call Fair and student placement, contact Judy Graves in the Office of Student Services at gravesj@ctsnet.edu or 404-687-4523.

Second Harvest Partners Gives Away 198 Turkeys

Faith Presbyterian Church and Belair United Methodist Church cooperatively sponsored the Second Harvest Partners Mobile Food Pantry in Indian Land on November 15th where 198 recipients received a free turkey voucher along with the food brought on the the Second Harvest truck. As of November 19th, 128 turkey vouchers had been redeemed for an approximate total weight of 1900 pounds. Twenty-six churches are currently partnering to bring food to hungry people throughout York County in the Second Harvest Partners program. They have served over 4,000 people in 2011. These churches are also joining together to participate in the Habitat for Humanity of York County “Faith Build.” If you have interest in participating in this group of mission oriented churches, contact Dot Killian at dot@providencepres.org for information.

Has your church started?

Dwelling in the Word Exercise Encouraged: See October Presbytery Meeting Results

At the October meeting of presbytery, the Mission Discernment Assessment Task Force made its [report to the presbytery](#). As a part of their reporting process, they invited those at the meeting to dwell in [Luke 10:1-12](#) and share at their tables the insights they gained from this missional text. [A compiled version of the Insights gathered at the Presbytery Meeting is available here](#). The Task Force has invited and urged our congregations to use this same process of “Dwelling in the Word” over the next 5 months with many groups in your church (Sessions, Boards of Deacons, church staffs, Sunday school classes, Presbyterian Women, etc) using the [Dwelling in the Word Process](#). We will be asking churches who are willing to share at the March 2012 presbytery meeting what God has been up to in their midst over these past five months as they engaged this process with Luke 10 and the Task Force Report. I join the Task Force in urging you and your congregation to be a part of this experiment of discerning what God is up to in our midst! If you have any questions, please feel free to be in touch with me or any member of the Task Force. Members of the Task Force are listed on the front cover of the Task Force Report.

Educational Opportunities: [EEMT Leadership Scholarships Available](#)

Special Webinar for members of Providence Presbytery churches

Don't miss this exciting webinar, “What's to Become of our Church: Trajectories of Hope” to be offered Tuesday, Dec. 6 – 2PM **to be held at Rock Hill First Presbyterian Church**. Pastors, church staff, and members of churches are all welcome to come and hear Rev. Jack Haberer, Editor of Presbyterian Outlook, address the issues confronting the PC(USA) following the passing of nFOG and 10A. In this 90 minute webinar, Jack will: Sort between the facts and fictions of our present challenges; Count the cost differences of “separation” and differentiation”; Summarize why and how Christians of good will can serve together in constructive tension amid tense disagreements; Assess major trends in biblical studies and missional theology that give rise to great hope for the church; and Help you and your congregation steer through the stormy seas. **Following the webinar, there will be time for discussion.**

Centering Prayer Workshop Offered in December

Calvary Lutheran Church is offering a Centering Prayer Workshop December 3rd from 10AM-4PM at 950 Bradley Street, Concord, NC. The day will include four talks about Centering prayer: Prayer as relationship; the method of the prayer; Use of the sacred word; and Our relationship with God. You will experience two periods of Centering Prayer. Presenters: *Katie Crowe* is the Minister for Service and Missions at First Presbyterian Church and co-coordinator of Contemplative Outreach of Charlotte. She graduated from Princeton Theological Seminary. Katie has practiced and taught Centering Prayer for over five years. *Ann Starrette* is the Director of Spiritual formation at Davidson United Methodist Church and The Lydia Group Retreat Ministry, which she founded in 1998. Ann

also presents the Welcoming Prayer Workshop. We hope you can join us December 3 at Calvary Lutheran Church, 950 Bradley Street, Concord, NC. [Register for this workshop](#). For more information visit our website at <http://www.cpcharlotte.org>.

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Providence Presbytery offers a group showing of a variety of webinars for churches provided by the Presbyterian Outlook. All webinars are FREE to participants and are held at 2:00 pm on Tuesday afternoons at the presbytery office. The group will share in conversation following each hour and half long webinar. Upcoming webinars include:

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More information on particular webinars can be found at the Presbyterian Outlook's homepage under "Special Offers": <http://www.pres-outlook.com/>. You may register to join the group showing for any or all of the upcoming webinars by contacting Kathryn McGregor at kmcgregor@providencepres.org or 800-922-1609, ext. 6.

Board of Pensions Education Series: Board of Pensions will be offering three FREE seminars in January for BOP Members. Westminster Presbyterian Church in Charleston, SC will host Benefits Overview for Lay Plan Members on Jan. 17, 11AM-1PM; Render unto Caesar Seminar for Ministers on Jan. 18, 8:30AM-5PM; and Render unto Caesar Seminar for Treasurers and Administrators on Jan. 19, 8:30AM-5PM. Make your reservations by visiting <http://www.cvent.com/d/fcq7ns> between October 3 and Dec. 16. Questions? Email the BOP Member Education Team at education@pensions.org or by phone at 800-773-7752 ext. 7223

Around the Presbytery

GLOCAL Committee to Host Presbyterian-Muslim Potluck

Everyone in Providence Presbytery is invited to an after-church potluck luncheon on Sunday, December 4, 2011 beginning at 1:00PM (**Please Note TIME CHANGE**) at the Oratory in Rock Hill (434 Charlotte Ave). Take advantage of this opportunity to meet and get to know our Muslim neighbors here in the Upstate for fellowship and dialogue. Meat will be provided by our Islamic brothers and sisters and we are invited to provide vegetables, breads and desserts. (NO bacon/pork products or ingredients). [See the flyer online](#). *Church secretaries, please put in your bulletin.*

Hermon Presbyterian Church and St. Mary's Catholic Church will join in our Annual Ecumenical Thanksgiving Worship celebration on Wednesday, November 23 at 6:30PM at St. Mary's. Father Agustin Guzman will deliver the homily with music by the combined choirs of Hermon and St. Mary's. The service was begun in the 1990's, and is one of many joint efforts of the two congregations. The public is invited. For further information, contact Dot Killian at dot@providencepres.org or (803) 517-7870.

Positions Available

First Presbyterian Church of York, SC is seeking to fill a children's ministry position. [See the Job Description Online](#).

Bethesda Presbyterian Church in York is seeking a full time Director of Youth and Children's Ministries. Primary duties include oversight of a comprehensive and expanding ministry for children and youth (pre-school – 12th grade) and providing leadership to volunteers involved in this ministry. Qualifications, a job description, and an application are available at www.bethesdapres.org or by calling 803-328-1360. Applications should be submitted no later than January 15, 2012.

Check out the events below on the [Presbytery Calendar](#)--for event details, click on the event!

2012 Presbytery Meeting Schedule

3/15	First Presbyterian Church, York
6/24	Bethelwoods Camp and Conference Center
10/14	Bethesda Presbyterian Church, McConnells

Coming This Week

11/21	Preparation for Ministry Meeting—4PM (Presbytery Office)
11/24	Give Thanks for the Lord is Good
11/24-25	Presbytery Office Closed

Next Week

11/29	Presbyterian Outlook Webinar—2-4PM (Presbytery Office)
12/1	Presbyterian Foundation--Magic of Christmas at Charlotte Symphony
12/2	Presbytery Office Closed
12/4	Presbyterian/Muslim Potluck Luncheon—1PM (Oratory, Rock Hill)

Coming Soon!

12/6	Presbytery Christmas Open House—11AM-1PM and 5PM-7PM (Presbytery Office)
12/15	Second Harvest Partners—10AM (First Calvary Baptist)
1/8	E3 Event—1:45-5:30PM (Rock Hill First Presbyterian)
4/26-29	National Multicultural Conference (Charlotte)

Please submit articles to jill@providencepres.org with In the Know and the date you would like your article to run in the subject line by Friday at 5 PM for the following Monday's issue.

in the KNOW

The weekly communication of Providence Presbytery

| Lancaster | Union | Chester | Kershaw | York |

Guided by the Holy Spirit, our mission is to equip, support, and connect our congregations as they faithfully serve Jesus Christ in a changing world.

November 28, 2011

Volume 7, Number 46

“And the day came when the risk it took to remain tightly closed in a bud was more painful than the risk it took to blossom.”

Anais Nin

From the Presbytery Prayer Calendar

December 4: St. Paul's Presbyterian

Prayer Request: Please join us as we lift up in prayer our sponsored ‘family in need’, and all of those trapped in poverty at this time. Please ask that God wrap His loving arms around those who have lost loved ones represented on our Memorial Tree. We ask that you also pray for Bobby and Linda Wade who both have cancer.

Presbytery Open House Welcomes Church Members/Friends as well as Church Staff

The staff of Providence Presbytery cordially invites all members and friends of the churches of Providence Presbytery to its OPEN HOUSE on Tuesday, December 6 from 11AM-1PM and 5PM- 7PM at the Presbytery Office (515 Oakland Avenue, Rock Hill, SC). Refreshments will be served. Please let us know by November 30 if you plan to attend, but feel free to drop by if your plans change. 1-800-922-1609, 803-328-6269, iglasgow@providencepres.org.

E3 Workshops offer Worship Training

“Traditional and Contemporary- What’s the Problem?” And “Resources for Music Ministry” are offered for those interested in Worship, answering your questions around music resources and traditional and contemporary worship services. Check out these and all of the great workshops to be offered at E3 in the online [workshop catalog](#) and [register](#) using our easy online registration. As always E3 is a FREE training event offered by your Education and Equipping Ministry Team. Questions? Email [Kathryn McGregor](mailto:KathrynMcGregor) or call her at 803-328-6269. **Insure you get the workshops you want...REGISTER THIS WEEK!**

Register Now for 2012 Presbytery Mission Trips

In 2012 Providence Presbytery is offering a variety of ways for Presbyterians to experience mission from a different perspective; to journey beyond the borders of our everyday lives; to develop and use new skills and understanding; and to explore what God intends for each of us. These life changing opportunities are: **Youth Mission Retreat 2012** at Bethelwoods-March 16-17, 2012. Participants will join with other Middle and High Schoolers of our presbytery to serve others and learn ways to alleviate hunger in our area. **Dental and Optical Mission to Honduras 2012-May 25 - June 2, 2012**. Health workers and non-technical volunteers will be spending a week working in the mountains near La Esperanza operating dental and medical clinics for the poverty stricken people of that area. Find out more or Register at www.providencepres.org/missiontrips.

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Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary offers M.Div.'s Full Scholarships

"The Covenant Scholarship Plan," the centerpiece of the school's new strategic plan, will maximize enrollment at 130 students (inclusive of all master's degree programs) in order to provide a full-tuition scholarship for every student by Fall 2015 and, in addition, a stipend to cover living expenses for every student by Fall 2021. In covenantal exchange for their financial aid, students will be required to engage in service throughout their time at the Seminary. [Read more about this revolutionary program>>](#)

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Columbia Seminary offers Thompson Scholars Program on Young Adult Ministry

How can congregations reach young adults ages 18 to 35 when so many of them see the church as unhelpful or non-essential? That's the challenge participants will explore during Columbia Theological Seminary's 2012 Thompson Scholars program, May 1-4, 2012. Qualified applicants will be accepted until the maximum enrollment of 15 participants is reached. The program cost, \$175 per person double/\$230 single (limited availability), covers the course fee, three night's lodging on the seminary campus, and meals. For an application, [click here](#).

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FIRST PRESBYTERIAN, ROCK HILL will sponsor a *TASTE OF CHRISTMAS COOKIE WALK*, during Christmasville, Friday, December 2, 4:30 P.M. – 7:30 P.M., and Saturday, December 3, 1 P.M. – 3 P.M. Follow the luminaries from Main Street to the Ministry Center door. Purchase empty boxes for \$6 each and select homemade cookies from a huge assortment to fill your boxes to overflowing. Homemade pies and cakes and gently used Christmas décor will also be for sale. Proceeds go to the church mission projects.

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