

From the Prayer Calendar
April 9th
Morningside
Camden, SC
(15 members)

IN THE KNOW

Providence Presbytery Weekly News

Vol. 14 Issue: 13 04.03.2017

“Caring for the Stranger: The Church Needed Today” SCCAC Annual Meeting is May 18, 2017. The Host Congregation is Grace United Methodist Church at 410 Harbison Blvd., Columbia, SC. The Ecumenical Worship will be lead by Mark Adams. McClain Social Issue Lecture is “Caring for the Stranger: Immigrants, Refugees, Others.” Networking, Fellowship Meal, and Exhibits. Begins with check-in at 9:30 AM Ends at 2:00 PM For info and to register on-line [CLICK HERE](#)



Join Bethesda Presbyterian Guatemala Mission Trip. Bethesda Presbyterian Church in York is taking a team to work with Dr. Tito Palacios and his mission organization, La Mision, in Guatemala, July 15-22, 2017. At this time we have eight team members and would like to open this opportunity to others in Providence Presbytery. The team could be assisting the work of La Mision in several areas: mobile medical, dental, and eye clinics; construction; children’s ministry; and water filter ministry. One of the great blessings of the trip is to grow the relationships between our brothers and sisters in Guatemala, so fellowship is a big part of the trip. If you are interested in going or would like more information, contact Sarah Childers at schilders@comporium.net or (803)328-1360. Applications will be accepted until April 9, 2017.

Everyone is invited to an Educators’ Gathering this Thursday, April 6, 12:30-2:30 pm, at the Presbytery Office. Feel free to bring your lunch. Our topic of discussion will be Preparing for Confirmation. Come prepared to share the curriculum you use for Confirmation, how you prepare the children leading up to confirmation, etc. If you have read the book or watched the webinar by Rebecca Kirkpatrick, 100 Things Every Child Should Know before Confirmation, please share some of the ideas you use and/or would like to use. We will also discuss other topics for gatherings and future dates to meet.

Grace Presbyterian Church is hiring an Administrative Assistant. The optimal candidate has great people skills (receptionist,) computer skills and attention to detail (bulletin production and membership management.) An understanding of church life is a plus. 15 hours per week. Current AA (who is moving out of town after 16 years at Grace) is there 9-2, M, W and Th, with occasional (rare) days until 4. If you know someone who’d be great for us, please have them shoot us a resume to peggy@gracefortmill.org or drop it by the church (2955 W Hwy 160.) Don’t mail it to that address because we won’t get it!

A move to part-time clergy sparks innovation in congregations. Shrinking attendance and ever-leaner budgets have forced churches to pare back the pastorate, and many wonder how effective ministry can happen when clergy are working just 30, 20 or 10 hours a week for the church. Relearning how to do effective congregational ministry with part-time clergy is no easy task, and denominational officers have no easy answers. The traditional model for mainline churches relies on full-time clergy, and it can be difficult to envision a thriving congregation with a part-time pastor. [Read the Alban Weekly article.](#)

High School Theology Institute this Summer. For the first time ever, Newberry College will host Called to the Common Good: A High School Youth Theology Institute this summer. This nine-day program will offer a unique opportunity for high school youth to examine their Christian faith as a resource for making their world a better place. WHEN Saturday, June 3 – Sunday, June 11, 2017. WHERE Newberry College in Newberry, SC: WHO Students in 10th and 11th grade: COST \$150 enrollment fee includes all meals, housing, program materials, instruction and activities. [Submit your nominations today.](#)



Let the Land Say... Amen. Save the date of Saturday, **May 6th** for a celebration at ACPC of the rich history of the community once known as Clay Hill. Strolling banjos, guided tours by interpreters dressed in Reconstruction Era clothing; period games for kids, wagon rides; a concert and lecture by Bob Carlin, renowned musician and banjo historian; see a short documentary on the history of the church and Clay Hill and the church’s 2017 visit to Liberia. Interpretation will focus on the life of Elias Hill, a formerly enslaved man who led the migration to Liberia after facing acts of terrorism in our area. For more information, visit <http://www.letthelandsay.com/>

Looking for something great to do during Spring Break? A full week of Day Camp to match your Spring Break April 10-14. Monday through Friday 7:15AM-5:30PM for \$225 per camper. Breakfast and Lunch are included for children Kindergarten through 6th Grade. Register Now at www.bethelwoods.org.

Summer Camp Counselors Needed. Bethelwoods is seeking committed Christian College Age Students as summer camp counselors for the Summer 2017. Staff training begins May 17. If you are interested, download our application at <http://www.bethelwoods.org/summer-staff.html>.

Affirmation of York County has been busy preparing for our future as a faith based support group for the LGBTQ+ community in and around York County.

Our new Vision and our Mission Statement follow.

Vision: Sexuality and gender are no longer the basis for discrimination nor the barriers for acceptance and inclusion. **Mission Statement:** Affirming the God-given worth of LGBTQ+ people, we support the LGBTQ+ community, their families and friends. Our second quarter meetings will be held at Epiphany Lutheran Church, 2370 West Main Street, Rock Hill, SC at 7:00 pm on April 11, May 9, and June 13. We would love to have you join us.

Fall 2017 Ministry Development Services Retreats. Coming **September 2017 A Pastor's Theology of**

Risk Retreat: This retreat will challenge pastors and other church leaders to expand their capacity for taking the boldest risks, for maximizing creativity, and for recognizing the difference between a call and a gamble. Participants will explore their personal fears and barriers to taking risks as a first step to envisioning a theology of risk. This retreat is about releasing the greatest potential for the most creative and spiritually balanced leadership. All ministry leadership involves some degree of risk. But, it's one thing to admire those who take heroic and holy risks, and it's quite another to be the one called to take the risks. More details to follow.

Coming October 2017--Zeroing in on Personal Voice Retreat: In ministry, we spend a lot of time empowering others to claim their own voice. Over time, it's easy to find the best ways to keep peace in our congregations, but we often lose our own sense of unique voice. This three-day retreat will look at personal strengths, gifts, passions and interests but will also explore most deeply the questions, "What do I want my life to speak?" More details to follow. [Visit their website.](#)

The Zephyr Point Preaching Pastors Conference is designed for pastors who want to improve upon their preaching style and technique. To be held at Zephyr Point Presbyterian Center on Lake Tahoe on May 1-3, the program is specialized to the conference's guest speaker and can cover fields including contextual preaching, theology of preaching, homiletic theory, and biblical study and interpretation. Although the conference is rooted in Presbyterian (USA) theology and pedagogy, the program is open to qualified Pastors from any Christian faith tradition. [See the brochure.](#)

Quick Links

Providence Presbytery
Resource Center
Bethelwoods
South Carolina Inn
PC(USA)

Contact Us

Mark Verdery
Rose Lemmons-Berry
Inez Glasgow
Dot Killian
Ann White
Barbara Kurz
Jill Wilson



Ministry Development Services

COMING SOON

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|---------|--------------------------------------|-------------------|--------------|
| 4/6 | Educators Gathering | Presbytery Office | 12:30-2:30PM |
| 4/10 | Presbyterian Women Coordinating Team | Presbytery Office | 5PM |
| 4/22 | Presbyterian Women Spring Gathering | Bethesda(K) | 9AM |
| 4/28-30 | Confirmation Cluster Retreat | Bethelwoods | |
| 5/7 | Review and Evaluation | Presbytery Office | |
| 5/11 | Committee on Ministry | Presbytery Office | 5:30PM |
| 5/15 | Hunger Action Team | Presbytery Office | 6PM |
| 5/16 | Administrative Ministry Team | Presbytery Office | 5:30PM |
| 5/18 | Coordinating Team | Presbytery Office | 5:30PM |

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 April 23rd
 Mt. Tabor
 Union, SC
 (13 members)

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New Worshiping Community Kick off is this Tuesday. Join us in prayer or in person for this exciting new worshiping community beginning at 5:30 on Tuesday, April 18th. We will gather in the Tower Room at Covenant Presbyterian at 1830 Celanese in Rock Hill. Children in grades 3-6 will enjoy dance classes and games. [Find out more.](#)



Helping ruling elders in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) function as spiritual leaders in their congregations is the focus of a series of monthly articles set to premiere in mid-April. Titled Regarding Ruling Elders: A Monthly Series for Spiritual Leaders, the series is free and will be available online in three languages: English, Spanish, and Korean Information about the new series as well as archived articles and other resources for ruling elders is available at pcusa.org/rulingelders.



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Covenant Hosting BBQ Fundraiser. Join us for great BBQ at Covenant Presbyterian at 1830 Celanese Road Rock Hill, SC on May 6. Proceeds from the event to support Providence Presbytery’s office and Bethelwoods. [Find out more.](#)

Proposed amendments Voting Tally available online. The latest voting tally on proposed amendments to the Book of Order can be found at <http://www.pcusa.org/resource/ga222-voting-tallies/>



Hands & Feet mission initiative leads up to 223rd General Assembly (2018).

Presbyterians are invited to send mission teams to the Presbytery of Giddings-Lovejoy as part of an initiative called “Hands & Feet” leading up to the 223rd General Assembly (2018). The ... [Continue Reading](#)

Join us for a Syrian Friendship Benefit Dinner for the Education of Syrian Refugee Children on Saturday, May 6th from 5 to 7PM. [Dine in or take out] The dinner will be held at the Activities Center of Oakland Avenue Presbyterian Church [across Oakland Ave from the Presbytery office]. Cost per plate [completely tax deductible]: \$20. (Checks made out to Providence Presbytery) Tickets may be purchased ahead of time in the office of Oakland Ave Pres Church. Meal is catered by Jasmine’s Middle Eastern Grill of Charlotte, and includes grilled chicken, kebabs, rice, salad, hummus, baba ganoush and baklava. This meal allows us to continue our support of the schools established by the Synod of Syria/Lebanon. These schools provide education for the Syrian children living in refugee camps within Syria and in Lebanon.

Summer Camp Counselors Needed. Bethelwoods is seeking committed Christian College Age Students as summer camp counselors for the Summer 2017. Staff training begins May 17. If you are interested, download our application at <http://www.bethelwoods.org/summer-staff.html>.

Join your Brothers and Sisters on the Interfaith Charity Walk. On Saturday, May 13th at 9:00 am, the Children of Abraham will sponsor the “Interfaith Charity Walk for Humanity” in downtown Rock Hill. This is a 1 mile walk which will bring together Christians, Muslims, and Jews to walk together and bring attention to different social service agencies in our community. Along the walk you will be able to learn about these different organizations and make donations toward these organizations if you would like. We will begin at Fountain Park and end at the Rock Hill mosque. Please feel free to contact Sam McGregor at pastor@allisoncreekchurch.com for additional information. [Find out More.](#)

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Presbyterian Mission Agency Newsletter now available online. Check out the current issue of [New Church New Way online.](#)

Director of Music position available. Unity Presbyterian Church in Fort Mill, SC has a full time (40 plus hours per week) Director of Music position available. The current director is retiring on July 1, 2017 after a very successful 23 years in the position. Unity holds two traditional worship services each week. The individual in this position must have a high skill level in conducting both youth and adult choral ensembles and possess significant experience in conducting instrumentalists accompanying the choir. This individual will also have skills in performance on the piano and will be required to occasionally assist the Music Associate/Organist. The Director of Music is an important member of the Unity staff and, as such, must be positive, supportive, and willing to work as a team member to further the worship and spiritual vitality of the congregation. Interested individuals should send their resume to Brian Rayl at Bdrayl77@gmail.com.

Dreaming about cultivating generosity in your congregation or mid-council? We’re dreaming with you! And this year’s Stewardship Kaleidoscope conference can help you bring those dreams to life! Stewardship Kaleidoscope is an annual event offering plenary speakers, workshops, and worship experiences, with incredible networking opportunities for all who are passionate about stewardship and generosity. Since you’ve attended a previous Stewardship Kaleidoscope event, we thought you’d want to be among the first to know about this year’s event! [See More online.](#)

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