



Providence Prophet March 2020

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Page 2: Calendars • Birthdays • Prayer Concerns • and more

101 Providence Way | Nicholasville, KY 40356 | (859) 272-3655
<http://providenceccdoc.org> | Rev. Jerry Shepard, Interim Pastor

Get Rid of the Fat!

The title above is not a new exercise or diet program at Providence. It was the practice of Christians in the past to get rid of the fat in their kitchens by cooking up food that would be forbidden in the fasts of the Lenten season. Fat Tuesday precedes Ash Wednesday, which is the first day of Lent. You may know Fat Tuesday better by the name, Mardi Gras. I doubt there are many Mardi Gras partygoers in New Orleans who are thinking about their preparation for the Lenten season. But as a Christian, I pray that we will embrace this season as a special time for our spiritual renewal.

Lent is a time for **Reflection, Repentance, Restoration, and Redirection**. All of these activities take place in worship and/or in personal times of prayer and Bible reading. Worship and devotional time are essential for a full Christian life and Lent is the perfect time to give them the attention they deserve.

Reflection: We assess the condition of our lives. How are we spending our resources and our time? How are we living out our baptism? Do our lives make a real difference in the lives of others? Do we feel close to our families, our neighbors, God?

Repentance: Repentance is saying we are sorry and that we will not do it again. Have we hurt others, neglected our families, said hurtful things, or wasted our resources or opportunities? When we repent we are not only sorry for our sins, but we are determined not to repeat them.

Restoration: Lent is a time to try to restore relationships that we have neglected or damaged. Send a handwritten note to someone you appreciate who has blessed your life (but you've never told them). Arrange for a face-to-face meeting to apologize and seek restoration for a broken relationship. Don't put it off! Pray to God for courage and just do it! You will feel a weight taken off your shoulders and you will be blessed by the restoration of an important relationship.

Redirection: The literal meaning of repentance is to turn around and go in a different direction. If we have found that we have been drifting away from God or the church, it is time to redirect ourselves back toward them. If we have fallen into harmful habits or a risky lifestyle, it is time to redirect ourselves to a better way of living. Lent is the time to get on the right track that will bring us satisfaction and peace.

A great opportunity to grow in your faith this Lenten season will be in the Adult Discipleship Class study about how to live out our Christian walk with Jesus. Beginning March 8, I will be leading the study of Adam Hamilton's book, *The Walk*, at 9:30 in the adult classroom. Sign up for a book Sunday in the narthex.

This Sunday we will have a time of confession as a part of our Lenten worship. Lent is a designated period to confess our sins before God. Frances Cadle, our Student Intern, will be preaching, "The Wilderness," and Jiann Burford will be helping her with the service. I hope you will be in worship as we begin the Lenten season.

Blessings,

Jerry

Lenten Season 2020 at Providence



- On February 26th, we celebrated Ash Wednesday with a community service at South Elkhorn Christian Church in Lexington.
- We continue our tradition of bringing non-perishable canned and boxed food offerings each Sunday during Lent to bring forward during Worship Service to support hospice patients who are struggling financially. Your gifts are a blessing to God's children.
- On March 8, the Adult Discipleship class (Adult Sunday School), led by Rev. Jerry begins a new study based on the book, *The Walk*, by Adam Hamilton.

- Again this year during Lent, we will collect our Special Easter Offering with a goal of one month's mortgage payment of \$5,183. Please note in the memo on your check or offering envelope "Special Easter Offering."
- Holy Week is April 6 – 10th – Plans for daily Community Worship services and Maundy Thursday will be announced.
- The Youth Group is offering Easter lilies for sale to decorate the sanctuary on Easter Sunday in memory or honor of a loved one.

Week of Compassion

Thanks to all who contributed to the Week of Compassion offering.

We collected \$440 for disaster relief and community development in impoverished countries. Your gifts save lives!

Easter Lilies

Youth Group Mission Trip Fundraiser

Again this year, the Youth Group is offering Easter Lilies for sale to decorate the sanctuary and narthex, or for your personal use. Each potted lily may be purchased for \$15.00 each.

You can designate your purchase in memory or in honor of a loved one and a list of donations, memorials and honorariums is then included in the Easter Sunday bulletin.

Watch for the order form in the Sunday Bulletin beginning later this month.



Happening at Providence

- March 1 2:00 PM – Worship Service at Bridgepointe
- **March 8** **SPRING FORWARD! DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME BEGINS – SET YOUR CLOCKS ONE HOUR AHEAD**
- March 8 12:00 PM – All-Church Potluck
- March 8 12:45 PM – Providence Board Meeting
- March 23 5:30 PM – Providence Book Club at Bronte Bistro, at Joseph-Beth Booksellers.
- March 25 9:30 AM – Providence Women’s Service Group
- March 29 Deadline to order Easter Lilies

Holy Week Community Services and Maundy Thursday Service the week of April 6 – 10 to be announced.

Sundays

9:30 AM Sunday School
 10:45 AM Worship Service
 12:00 – 2:00 PM Youth Group (TBA)
 1:30 PM Slavic Church

Each Monday, Wednesday

10:00 AM “Bodies in Motion” Exercise

Each Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday

7:00 PM Slavic Church

Each Wednesday

6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

Matthew Jacobs	2
Beth Waits	2
Randy Cox	3
Bethany Jacobs	6
Keith Wilson	15
Patsy Samples	17
Anneliese Jones	18
Bryson Anderson	21
Charlie Slack	22
Matt Anderson	24
Jennifer Robbins	24

Providence Search Committee

Our Search Committee met last month and completed updating the church profile. Committee members are working on the job description and will meet with Disciples Regional Interim Minister, Dean Phelps, to begin the next step in our search. Members of the committee are: Charlie Slack, Chairman, Bob Bellman, Eddie Cox, Jennifer Sumeracki, Caron Tandy, Beth Waits, Sarah Walker

Providence Garden 2020



Carl is preparing the ground for the Providence garden and now is the time reserve your plot. Plots are also available for neighbors in our community.

Contact **Carl Waits**, at carl.waits@twc.com or 859-948-5527.

Touch the Wound: Drug User Harm Reduction and the Church

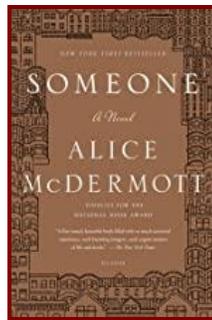
Hillary Brown
 Exec. Dir., Steady Collective
 March 7, 2020



Since 2010, heroin overdose death rates have quadrupled in the US. Opioid and methamphetamine use continue to rise while evidence-based treatment options remain underfunded and inaccessible to many. We address the role the church can play and what Christians can do to reduce the harms experienced by people who use drugs and their families. We explore congregations that are showing up to support harm reduction in Appalachia, one of the hardest hit regions.

Register at www.lextheo.edu/webinar-series/
 Deena Ainslie 859-280-1212 dainslie@lextheo.edu

Providence Book Club



At our March 23rd meeting we will discuss “Someone” by Alice McDermott.

An ordinary life – its sharp pains and unexpected joys, its bursts of clarity and moments of confusion – lived by an ordinary, but unforgettable woman is the subject of this novel.

Marie Commeford, a girl in thick glasses, observes her pre-Depression world from a Brooklyn stoop. Through her first heartbreak and eventual marriage; her delicate brother's

brief stint as a Catholic priest and his emotional breakdown; her career as a funeral director's "consoling angel"; the deaths of her parents and the births of her children – we follow Marie through the changing world of the twentieth century and her Irish-American enclave.

Rendered with remarkable empathy and insight, it is a novel that speaks of life as it is lived daily, with passion and heartbreak, a crowning achievement of one of the finest American writers.

Christian Church Outdoor Ministries

Camp Wakon’Da-Ho 2020 schedule and registration forms are available in the church office and at ccinky.net website. Click on the “ministries” tab.

Spring Work Weekend is March 20-22 and is open to adults and youth grades 6-12.



Providence Legacy Fund - We invite you to prayerfully consider becoming part of our church legacy this year by designating Providence in your Will or as a beneficiary of a life insurance policy and adding your name to our Legacy Book. You can designate a specific amount or a percentage of your estate to go to the church upon your death. Everyone can participate and there is no minimum participation level.

Prayer Concerns

PRAYERS FOR THOSE SERVING OUR NATION:

Let us pray for peace, guidance for our country’s leaders, our military and all who serve our nation: Alex Pope, Michael Hagan, Shawn Davenport, Ricky Highnote, Jason Rutherford, Trip Browning, Bobby McNeil, Ken Harney, Steven Russell, Bradley Clark, Noah Davenport, Stephen Rawlings and First Responders.

MEMBERS, FAMILY AND FRIENDS

Jackie Bellman, Ben and Tracee Lyon (McCarter), Mary Lee Mattingly, Barry Brown, Gayle Harney (Bellman), Eddie Payne, Norman Flynn, Jackie B. Miller (Waits), Molly Reynolds (Roberts), Ivan Doane, Tim Lam (Kinnard), Barry Newcombe, Margaret Ann Milburn (Mattingly), Bobbie Scrimshaw (McCarter), Bruce and Marlene Gosney (Schweitzer), Jayne Mattingly, David Cowan, Mary Marshall (McCord), Beverly McNeal (Roberts), Jean Christian (Hufford), Billy Jack Raybun (Waits), Kim McNeal (Bellman), Lyng Moesgaard (Downs), Nina Fashchuk (Lanser), Joyce Hack, Roberta DeHaven (Heathman), Rhonda Payne, Susie Branham (Whitt), our Hospice families.

~ Please contact the Church Office with additions or corrections. ~