



OUR MISSION:

*TO SHARE GOD'S LOVE BY LOVING ONE ANOTHER AND BY LOVING OUR NEIGHBORS AS OURSELVES.
NURTURING FAITH • SUPPORTING CHURCH • SERVING NEIGHBORS*

Providence Prophet August 2020

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<http://providenceccdoc.org> | Rev. Jerry Shepard, Interim Pastor

From the Heart

Have you ever thought about your obituary? What will it say about your life? What accomplishments will it laud? What will it say about your life's work? I recently heard about a woman whose obituary declared, "She hated Tom Brady." What? Did I hear that right? I know lots of people hate the New England Patriots and their Hall of Fame quarterback, Tom Brady, because they've won more Super Bowls than any other football team. (Oh yeah, they were caught cheating a couple times too!) But why would anyone put their hate for a quarterback in their obituary? Perhaps they wanted to say, they belonged to a group of other Tom Brady haters. I don't mean that there was a Tom Brady Hater Club or anything like that. What I mean is that a hatred (or is that envy?) for Brady was something that bound this woman together with others who felt the same way. That belonging to the Brady Haters, was something worth mentioning in her obituary which seemed to declare, that she belonged, she was somebody.

We all need to belong. Belonging is in the human DNA. I heard a broadcast the other day with David Lammy, who has written a book in which he contends that our need to belong can make or break society. What I gleaned from the interview was that our need to belong is so strong that we can identify with a "tribe" and conclude that those who are not in that tribe are the enemy. We certainly can see this in American politics when people identify with a political party and view those of the other party as a genuine threat to them. The hostility that has developed over the years between people of opposing parties has made dialogue with each other impossible because of the explosive hatred that exists. We even lose the perspective that we are all Americans.

The tribalism has contributed to the horrendous spread of the Corona Virus. Some tribes have rejected reports of the seriousness of the virus as well as the science that has instructed us on measures to combat it. (Masks and social distancing). The inability to trust those of a different tribe has led to tens of thousands of deaths and economic disaster. As David Lammy warned, this tribalism is breaking our society.

The Bible gives us a far broader view than that of tribalism. The Bible teaches us that we are all created by God. Regardless of tribe, nation, political view, class, or religion we have one Creator. Jesus fought against tribalism in his day as he embraced the hated Samaritans, brought healing to the sick whom society regarded as sinners, touched the rejected lepers, and treated women as equals worthy of respect. The early church moved from being exclusively Jewish to inviting all people into the church. We may not all look alike nor think alike nor live alike, but we are all related. We are all offspring of the Gracious God of the universe. We all belong in the human race, and that is more important than any tribal identity. Thanks be to God!

Glad to Belong with You,

Jerry

Your Fair Share



Your pledge helps us plan for the coming year. If you intended to pledge but haven't yet done so, it's not too late and we are still accepting pledges.

Please remember Providence in your prayers as you consider what God asks you to do to contribute "Your Fair Share" to our mortgage campaign.

**Bob Bellman
Campaign Chairperson**

Report from the Search Committee

In July the Search Committee recommended candidate **Rev. Peter Harper** to the Board to be called as Senior Minister and all active members were mailed ballots to vote on calling Rev. Harper. **BALLOTS MUST BE SUBMITTED BY AUGUST 3!** Be a part of making history by casting your ballot for our next pastor.

Happening at Providence in August

- August 3 7:30 PM – Search Committee Meeting
- August 3 5:30 PM – Providence Book Club Meeting at the Andersons.
- August 4 7:00 PM – “Hope, Healing and Wholeness” 8-week Bible study for women led by Jenifer Payne (859-230-8634) begins via ZOOM.
- August 10 7:30 PM – Providence Board Meeting via ZOOM
- August 26 9:30 AM – Providence Women’s Service Group

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

Candy Shepard	2
Zaya Walker	2
Bob Bellman	9
Miriam Brown	10
Joy Mattingly	10
Kathryn Drydyk	16
John Downs	20
Kathryn Deann Draper	20
Linda Grubbs	21
Elijah Hack	22
Terry Bullock	24
Theresa Draper	26
Matthew Todd Wells	27
Sharon Heathman	28
Liam and Zoey Downs	29
Josh Hamilton	30
Brittany Jones	30
Gavin Rutherford	30
Ali Anderson	31

Providence Women’s Service Group News



Beginning this month and continuing through September, we are collecting individual size personal care items such as lotion, shampoo, soaps, etc. for donation to the Jessamine Co. Homeless Shelter.

Personal-size items are available at many stores such as WalMart, Kroger, etc. Or, when you stay at a hotel, save those unused toiletry items – soaps, shampoos, toothpaste, etc. – and bring them to place in the donation box in the church narthex.

Although the 2020 Holiday Marketplace has been cancelled, we are continuing to collect items for Granny’s Attic and the Holiday Room. If you have cleaned out closets or are downsizing, bring those extra items to the church M-F between 10:00 AM and 2:00 PM, or call Eddie Cox (859-753-8915) or Susan Kinnard (859-494-0204). We need children’s toys, books and games, puzzles, etc. **No Clothes, Shoes or Electronics please.**

Feeding Our Neighbors

It is amazing how much a small church can do when reaching out to help others. With all of your donations and help from surrounding neighborhoods, we have delivered 251 bags of groceries. That’s \$5,000 worth of food!

We learned last week that we are the only church or organization that has reached out to help this community. We had a generous donation of books and magazines and have placed one in each bag.

You only have to watch a little of the news to realize that minimum wage jobs that have been lost will not come back anytime soon. We will help as long as we can. Please continue to donate your extra books and magazines. Appropriate books and children’s books can also be placed in the library box at one of their mobile home parks. Thank you so much for all your generosity!

Theresa

Prayer Concerns

We continue our prayers for all those on our prayer list, as well as all those on the front lines of the COVID19 pandemic – our courageous health care workers, first responders and military personnel called in to assist, and our leaders: Ben Hack, Sarah Walker’s girls Hannah and Carol, Darlene Shepherd (Marie’s niece), Jenifer Payne, Amanda Rawlings and Whitney Heet (sister and cousin of Josh Hamilton), Michael Wade and Cole Wade (Pam Gardner’s sons.) Larry and Susan Kinnard have children, a grandchild and in-laws in healthcare and police enforcement. They are Chrystal and Jeff Mackey, Larry and Tria Kinnard, Trisha and Lee Garrett, Presha and Scott Hall and Courtney Hall. Please contact us if you know of others to add to the list.

MEMBERS, FAMILY AND FRIENDS

The Family of Veda Hodges, The Family of Claude Carter (Fern), Jackie Bellman, Don Cutter, Larry Kinnard, Bess Wilson, Barbara Travis (Schweitzer), Barry Brown, Gayle Harney (Bellman), Roy and Dollie Payne, Jackie B. Miller (Waits), Molly Reynolds (Roberts), Tim Lam (Kinnard), Ben Lyons, Bobbie Scrimshaw (McCarter), Jayne Mattingly, David Cowan, Mary Marshall (McCord), Beverly McNeal (Roberts), Jean Christian (Hufford), Billy Jack Raybun (Waits), Kim McNeal (Bellman), Joyce Hack, Roberta DeHaven (Heathman), Rhonda Payne, Susie Branham (Whitt), our Hospice families.

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, Takoda Hatcher and First Responders.

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 percentage of your estate or specific amount to go to the church upon your death. Everyone can participate and there is no minimum participation level.