



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 May 2022

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<http://providenceccdoc.org> | Rev. Peter Harper, Pastor

From our Pastor

With the warming weather I've been thinking about cicadas and other summer bugs. More specifically, I've been pondering metamorphosis and how it might relate to spiritual growth. Scientifically, there are two different types of metamorphosis: complete and incomplete.

Complete metamorphosis consists of four stages: egg, larva, pupa, and adult. This is the typical caterpillar → chrysalis → butterfly metamorphosis, but it includes all kinds of insects including mosquitos, ladybugs, beetles, and flies. What is always so striking about complete metamorphosis is the changes between the different stages. When the larva enters its pupa stage its cells completely liquify and are reconstituted into the new adult form. If you didn't know better, would you ever assume a caterpillar, a chrysalis, and a butterfly are all the same organism? You may have seen a larval ladybug and never recognized it as such.

Incomplete metamorphosis consists of three stages: egg, nymph, and adult. For some insects the nymphs and adults are extremely alike. The nymphs will visually look very similar, but they are smaller, and lack things like wings and genitalia. As they grow the insect will shed its exoskeleton and expand itself until it is finally an adult. In other insects, such as cicadas and dragonflies, the nymphs look extremely different from their adult forms, but they don't go through a pupa stage. However, when you look closely at a nymph dragonfly or cicada you are able to see what will become its wings, the mouth pieces look similar, the number of legs are the same. They are not as dissimilar as at first glance.

I think these two describe what happens in terms of spiritual growth for most Christians too. Please note, I'm not suggesting one of the following is better than any of the others.

There are the complete metamorphosis folks whose faith looks completely different than it did before. The revival preachers with the big "turned my life around" messages fall in this category. Also in this category are the ex-evangelicals and deconstructionists. Sometimes the faith of our adult lives is completely different from what we grew up with. These folks usually have some type of pupa stages where much of their faith is liquified and reconstituted.

Then there are the incomplete metamorphosis folks. Their faith as adults looks like what they grew up with. There have certainly been times when their faith has broken out of an old exoskeleton, and they have stretched and grown, but all in all their faith is recognizable. Other times the changes look dramatic, but upon closer inspection, you can see the seeds of their younger faith in their adult faith. (I would put myself in this category.)

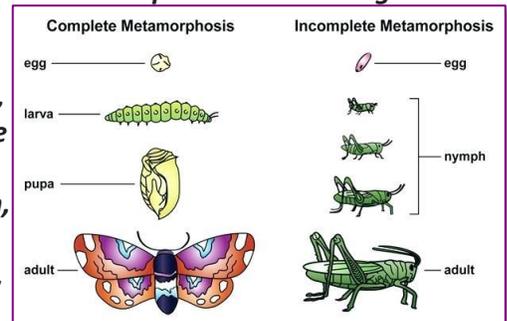
We didn't talk about frogs and how they absorb their tails and gills to grow arms and lungs...

Sometimes, we have to cannibalize unnecessary parts of our faith to allow more useful parts to grow.

As Christians we continue to learn and grow. This is going to lead us to changes in our faith. Change can be scary, and the outcome might be unrecognizable to our former selves. But we must always strive to metamorphose closer to the heart of God.

Blessings,

Peter



Happening at Providence in May

- **May 8** 12:00 PM – **Mother’s Day – No Potluck today**
- May 9 6:30 PM – Providence Board Meeting
- May 23 5:30 PM – Providence Book Club meeting at Ramsey’s (Harrodsburg Road). *(see also below)*
- May 25 9:30 AM – Women’s Service Group Meeting

Each Sunday

9:30 AM Sunday School
10:45 AM Worship Service

Each Wednesday

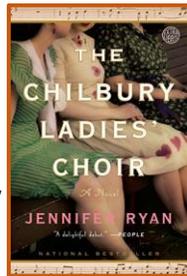
6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal
6:30 PM *Simply the Solution AA Group*

Each Monday and Thursday

10:00 AM Bodies in Motion Exercise Class

Providence Book Club

We will meet on May 23rd, at 5:30 pm at Ramsey’s (Harrodsburg Road). Our book for discussion is “*The Chilbury Ladies’ Choir*” by Jennifer Ryan.



As England becomes enmeshed in the early days of World War II, and the men are away fighting, the women of Chilbury village forge an uncommon bond. They defy the Vicar’s stuffy edict to close the choir and instead “carry on singing,” resurrecting themselves as the Chilbury Ladies’ Choir. We come to know the home-front struggles of five unforgettable choir members: a timid widow devastated when her only son goes to fight; the older daughter of a local scion drawn to a mysterious artist; her younger sister pining over an impossible crush; a Jewish refugee from Czechoslovakia hiding a family secret; and a conniving midwife plotting to outrun her seedy past.

An enchanting ensemble story of the women on the home front that shuttles from village intrigue to romance to the heartbreaking matters of life and death.

MAY BIRTHDAYS

Nat Sumeracki	3
Eddie Cox	9
James Morrow	11
Clarke Toleman	11
Sarah Walker	12
Sarah Moesgaard	16
John Bratton	17
Jesse Downs	19
Emma Whitt	19
Carol Thornton	26
Christopher Hulsing	28
Jan Downs	31
Larry Kinnard	31

Camp Wakon’Da-Ho 2022

Registration forms and detailed information is available in the church office.



Camp Wakon’Da-Ho Events

	<u>Date</u>	<u>Grade</u>
Mini Camp	June 3-5	2-3
CYF I Camp	June 6-11	9-12
Eighter’s Camp	June 12-18	8-9
Junior I Camp	June 20-24	4-5
Camp 101A	June 24-26	K-2
CYF II Camp	June 27-July 2	9-12
Chi-Rho I Camp	July 4-9	6-8
Chi-Rho II Camp	July 11-16	6-8
Junior II Camp	July 18-22	4-5
Camp 101 B	July 23	K-2

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

Contact the church office to add your friends and loved ones to our prayer list. And, we love to hear when people on our prayer list are improving! Please review the list and give us updates.

MEMBERS, FAMILY AND FRIENDS

Martha Morrow, Anne Allen, Pam Ballard (Schweitzer), Don Thornton, Virginia Long, Knox Richards (Payne), Charthorn Renfro, Apryl Tandy, Lee Walker, Nancy Purdy, Carla Amic (Anderson), Pamela Morel (Renfro), Thelma Johnson, Wally Temple (Whitt), Gilbert “Buddy” Littrell, Barry Newcombe, Kandi Gonzalez, (Harper), Ethan Castillo, Gloria Landen (Morrow), Steven Newson, Breann Grissom (Lynch); Evan Whitaker (Walker), Kim Cowherd, Lewis Utz (Kinnard); Jong Family, Rhonda Pope, Janet Gillespie (Draper), Billie Short (Cox), Barbara Travis (Schweitzer), Kim McNeal (Bellman), Sandy Hanson, Molly Reynolds, Brenda Holbrook, Jayne Mattingly, Barry and Nora Brown, Bruce, Jackie B. Miller, Billy Jack Raybun, (Waits); Rhonda Payne, Susie Branham; our Hospice families. We pray for the loved ones and families directly impacted by the COVID pandemic.

PRAYERS FOR THOSE SERVING OUR NATION:

We pray for peace, guidance for our country’s leaders, our military and all who serve our nation: Oliver Jackson, Jake Mackey, Jonathan Haney, Dawson Simpson, Audrey Walden, Alex Pope, Michael Hagan, Jason Rutherford, Trip Browning, Bobby McNeil, Ken Harney, Steven Russell, Noah Davenport, Stephen Rawlings, Takoda Hacker and First Responders.