



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 July 2023

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101 Providence Way | Nicholasville, KY 40356 | (859) 272-3655

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

## From Our Pastor

From now until the end of November, we'll be reading from the Gospel of Matthew during Sunday morning worship. [\(You can click here to find the lectionary if you're interested in getting a sneak peek at the scriptures we'll be reading in worship this summer.\)](#) So now is a great time to refresh our background knowledge of the book itself. If you've got a study Bible, I encourage you to check out the information at the front of the Gospel. Most of the following is pulled from Raymond E. Brown's "An Introduction to the New Testament."

We don't know who wrote the Gospel of Matthew. It was NOT the former tax collecting disciple of Jesus, but his name is attached as early as the second century. Because of this long held tradition, it's easiest to refer to the author as Matthew, so we'll do that. Matthew was well educated, knowing Hebrew and likely Aramaic. The Gospel itself is written in Greek sometime between the years 80 and 90 CE.

We refer to the gospels of Matthew, Mark, and Luke as the Synoptic Gospels because they are incredibly similar. The general scholarly consensus is that Mark was written first. Matthew retells about 80% of Mark and probably had a copy in front of him as he wrote. Additionally, Matthew and Luke share a lot of material that is not in Mark. These similarities are attributed to the hypothetical source Q. It's "hypothetical" in the sense that a hard copy has never been discovered itself, but it was most likely a collection of sayings with very little narrative discourse. There are also some stories that are unique only to Matthew that illustrate the author's distinctive source.

None of this suggests that Matthew is a book simply cut and pasted from a few different sources. Rather this understanding allows us to dive deeper into Matthew's Theology and Christology by exploring the ways that Matthew's telling of Jesus' life, teachings, death, and resurrection differ from Mark and Luke. For example, Matthew, as a Jewish Christian, is deeply invested in connecting Jesus to the traditions and expectations of the Hebrew scriptures: "I did not come to abolish the law, but to fulfill it" (Matt 5:17). Matthew also organizes the gospel around 5 distinct discourses or sermons, likely to articulate Jesus as a new Moses who (it was believed at the time) wrote the Pentateuch, the first 5 books of the Hebrew scriptures. The genealogy and birth narratives that Matthew describes also place Jesus squarely in line with Moses and David.

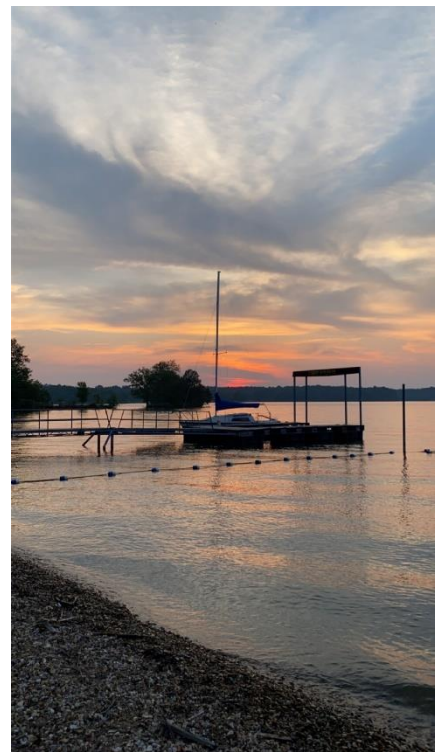
Most importantly, Matthew shares a higher Christology than any of the other Synoptic gospels with Peter's declaration of Jesus as the "Messiah, the son of the living God" in chapter 16 and the elevation of the Son alongside the Father and Holy Spirit at the conclusion of the gospel. For these reasons (and more) the Gospel of Matthew has historically been given precedent over the others. I look forward to exploring this Gospel with you more this summer!

Blessings,

*Peter*



Camp KumBaYa, where Peter was in early June.



Happening At Providence in July

- July 3-6 Peter/Emily out of office
- July 4 Independence Day! (Office Closed)
- July 9 Potluck at 11:45 AM
- July 9 Board Meeting at 12:45 PM
- July 10-13 Camp Providence VBS – 6:30 PM-8:15 PM
- July 26 Service Group at 9:30 am



Each Sunday	Each Wednesday
9:30 AM Sunday School	6:30 PM NO Choir Rehearsal until August
10:45 AM Worship Service	6:30 PM Simply the Solution AA Group

Each Monday and Thursday  
10:00 AM Bodies in Motion Exercise Class

JULY BIRTHDAYS

Caron Tandy	3
Pam Gardner	4
Dona Renfro	8
Tevy Toleman	15
Rose Hall (103!!)	21
Maddie Toleman	26
Ann Rea Anderson	28

KINDOM  
OF GOD  
WITHIN US  
AMONG US

GENESIS 11:1-9 • LUKE 17:20-21 • 2 PETER 1:3  
July 29 - August 1, 2023 - Louisville

The 2023 General Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) will take place in Louisville. GA is an important (and fun) gathering of Disciples from across the US and Canada. If you are interested in going or would like more information contact Peter or head over to [ga.disciples.org](http://ga.disciples.org).

“Camp Providence” VBS



We have VBS coming up this month!  
The dates for “Camp Providence” are July 10<sup>th</sup> -13<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 - 8:15 pm. Ages preschool to 5<sup>th</sup> grade! Come join the fun!

The Service Group is collecting toiletry articles for the homeless shelter in Nicholasville.  
There is a basket in the Narthex for any donations you might like to leave!

Camp Wakon’Da-Ho 2023



Peter Harper, Greg Widener and Adien Downs are going to be at Camp Wakon’Da-Ho the week of July 3-8<sup>th</sup> and would LOVE to receive some letters at camp! If you want to send them a little message...

(Name of Person)  
C/O Camp Wakon’Da-Ho  
7900 E. KY-70  
Yosemite, KY 42566

**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

PRAYERS FOR MEMBERS, FAMILY AND FRIENDS: : The Family of Kandi Green Gonzales, Michelle (Rupp), Jackie Hughes (Slack), fires in Canada, Don Thortorn, Larry Kinnard, Raetta (Hall), Barry & Nora Brown, Charles Teeter, Nan Brown, Aubrey Budzenski (Waits), Shirley Harmon, Jesse Downs, Mackey family (Kinnard), Draper Family, Anna Marie Moesgaard, Jerry Roberts, Jean Haney (Downs, Payne), Rose Hall, Dee Robins (Bellman), Judson Browning, Susan Bourdain, Bobby Potts, Matt, Pamela Morel, Laura Bragg, Brenda Moreland, Boyd Wyatt, Charlotte Reid, Jim G, Jack Morris, Crosby & Dutch (Lanser), Sandy Henson (Roberts), Dora Sweaney (Doane), Bruce, Hadley Gayheart, (Waits), Gayle Harney, Neva Jean Allison. We pray for our Food Pantry, hospice families and for all those serving our nation and community. We also pray for the health and protection of our beloved pets.

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, Bobby McNeil, Steven Russell, Noah Davenport, Stephen Rawlings, Takoda Hacker and First Responders.