



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 October 2026

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

From Our Pastor

When was the last time something was spoiled for you? I don't mean the food in the fridge that has transformed from leftovers to science experiment, I mean a book, movie, TV show, sporting event? So much of our entertainment is the prolonged building up of tension followed by its release in a succinct manner. The Hero's Journey is great and all, but how do they defeat the BigBadEvilGuy? The entire ball game was fine, but most of all we talk about was the last second shot/kick/catch/hit. How does the detective piece together all the clues? How does the surgeon save the patient?

A spoiler "cheats" you out of that emotional roller coaster. The tension doesn't build as much when you already know the outcome and therefore the release is dampened. Because of the broadcast delay I will often get a score update on my phone before the play even begins. One notification on my phone tells me the field goal is good while the same players on TV are barely running onto the field to attempt that field goal. I watch the kick with zero anxiety.

In Indiana, I lived down the street from a sizable printing press. It was hard to believe the stories one of the workers told about the time they printed the final Harry Potter book: "they had this place locked down like Fort Knox; they practically strip searched us every time we left the building." All in the hopes that the manuscript wouldn't get stolen and leaked.

Some of the best movies play with these expectations of big reveals. In Inception, does the spinning top fall over indicating DiCaprio's character was back in reality, or does it keep spinning suggesting that he was still dreaming? Memento (another Christopher Nolan film) has a non-linear narrative structure. So, while you know what happens at the end (which is shown in the beginning) the why and how you get there is the big reveal.

But my favorite is Big Fish. The main character has his death "spoiled" by a witch in childhood; she whispers to him the exact way he's going to die. Throughout the movie he finds himself in dangerous and scary situations, but he always has a moment of clarity and thinks "this isn't how I die." When he's traveling through a dark, thorn-choked forest that threatens to swallow him up: "this isn't how I die" and a path opens up before him. He volunteers to confront a man-eating giant that's pillaging a village because "this isn't how I die." The giant moves on and leaves the village alone.

Far from being a negative, his "spoiled" death frees him to live a bolder, fuller life. It is not a life free from danger and turmoil, but the paralyzing fear he might otherwise feel is mitigated and he does things he would not normally do.

This is the gospel in a nutshell. We can follow along with Jesus' life and teachings, we can become experts in his words and not be surprised or devastated at his arrest and murder. Because we know what happens: he is resurrected, he comes back! And because he lives, we are made whole and welcomed into a full relationship with God. This does not mean our lives are without hardship. But we need not fear the thick dark forests before us. We do not fear the giants that stand in our way.

So SPOILER ALERT: Jesus dies at the end, but this is not THE END. He comes back! And the same power that brings Christ back to life is extended to you in love!

Blessings,

Peter

Happening At Providence in October

- October 9 Prodigy Parent’s Night Out @ 5:30 PM
- October 11 Potluck @11:30 AM
Board Meeting @ 12:30 PM
- October 18 Commitment Sunday
- October 28 Women’s Service Group @ 9:30 AM
- October 30 Prodigy Parent’s Night Out @ 5:30 PM

Each Sunday

9:30 AM Sunday School
10:45 AM Worship Service
6:00 PM Mattingly Basketball

Each Wednesday

6:30 PM Simply the Solution AA Group
6:30 Girl Scouts
6:45 PM Choir Practice

Each Monday and Thursday

10:00 AM Bodies in Motion Exercise Class
6:00 PM Boy Scouts (Monday ONLY)
7:00 PM Table Tennis Club (Thursday ONLY)

Each Saturday

10:00 AM Table Tennis Club

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

Sydney Robbins	4
Debbie Lynch	14
Triston Cox	15
Jenifer Payne	15
Josh Sumeracki	23
Kristi Newton	27
Emily Lanier	30
Shon Newton	30
Brad Sumeracki	30



Our Nominating Committee is currently forming. If you would like to make recommendations for that committee those will need to be sent in by October 11th.

We are now collecting “gently used” items for **Granny’s Attic AND Little Elves**. Items may be brought to church, Monday – Thursday 10 – 2 and Sundays.

Items Needed:

Christmas Items, home goods, children’s games & toys, adult games, jigsaw puzzles, sports stuff, kitchen supplies, etc.
NO SHOES, CLOTHES, OR ELECTRONICS PLEASE.

Our Youth are working hard to revitalize the loft area into a space they can call their own. Please visit their amazon wishlist if you would like to help provide some of the things they’ll need to accomplish this! https://www.amazon.com/registries/gl/guest-view/1QAT1YWCBYBHU?ref=cm_sw_r_mwn_ggr-subnav-share_FCSA14B2DPDB0A7GG1XN&language=en-US

For World Communion

Sunday this week (October 4th) we will be having a food drive! Items such as canned fruits, meats (chicken or tuna), pasta, boxes of mac-n-cheese are always needed. But we certainly will not turn away other items.

We have committed to providing 10 jars of peanut butter and 10 boxes of crackers per month to families through the school system. We drop these off by the 15th of each month. If you are able to bring a few of each they can be left in the narthex or church office.

We’re always striving to better track our lists of prayer concerns. We will continue to utilize the bulletin for more acute prayer situations and this newsletter for longer-term or continuing situations. Please review this list and let us know if anyone needs to be removed or moved to the bulletin or updated in any way. -Thank you

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: Joyce McGee, Lindi Campbell (Gardner), The Charles Family, Rev. Bill Watson (Anderson), Roy Payne, Roger (Waits), Carl Williamson, Debbie Hardin, Darel Young (Lanser), Rev. Ted Faulkner (Whitt), Charlotte Haney (Downs/Payne), Jackie Miller (Waits), Tonya Wells (Waits), Shannon Richmond (Waits), Dillon Lynch (Lynch), Danny Arvin (Anderson), Bridgette (Kristi), Caroline M (Anderson), Kevin Van Wert, Shannon Richmond (Waits), War in the Middle East, David Brooks (Lynch), Mary Boswell (Dues), Glenda Harper, Randy (Anderson), Mary (Kristi’s mom), Mia Anderson, Nancy Purdy, Mike Bossey, Beth Waits, Albert Smith (Bratton), Jane Rothwell (Slack), Jack Hudson (Doane), Mike (Gardner), baby Aspen Lynn Patty (Lynch), Dianne Sparrow, Courtney Burton, Scott Godsey (McGee), Cheryl Wright (Lynch), Mildred Lansaw (Lynch), Iva Clay (Anderson), Gaines Womac, Darrel Malcom (Widener), Jenny Vanderpool (Lanier), Pamela Morel, Marcia Davis, Mike Harney (Bellman), Loretta Mullins, Don Thornton (Whitt), Lucy Widener, Debbie Hamilton, David Reynolds (Slack), Denia Tackett (Bellman), Lena R. Gregory (Fern), Brent Gardner, Jack Switzer, Jerry Roberts, Stuart Kearns (Roberts), Barry & Nora Brown, Nan Brown, Susan Bourdain, Jack Morris, Billy Gayheart (Waits). We pray for our Food Pantry, hospice families and for all those serving our nation and community.

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, Keven Widener, Austin Beetlestone, Aaron Farrar and First Responders.