



New Prov Press

December 2018
Vol. 55 No. 12

Published monthly to keep friends and members
informed of news and coming events

www.newprovidencepres.org
(865) 983-0182

CANTATA SELECTIONS SET

One of the most beloved Advent happenings at New Providence is the Christmas Cantata. The Cantata, held Sunday, December 9, is presented by the Chancel Choir, a 16-member orchestra, and the talented Peggy Rogers. All of these masterful musicians are kept in line by Rob Britt, Director of Music here at New Prov.

From "Let There Be Peace on Earth" to "All Praise to Thee," this year's Cantata will also include Mack Wilberg's "O Come All Ye Faithful," Thompson's "O Come, O Come Emmanuel" and "A Spotless Rose" by Bryan Greer among others.

The Cantata is presented at both the 9:00 a.m. service and the 11:05 a.m. service.

5:00 P.M. CHRISTMAS EVE FAMILY SERVICE

Our 5:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Service is an intergenerational service that is especially welcoming for families with young children. It is a brief, but very hands-on service, with familiar hymns and the telling of the Christmas story. We will also celebrate the Lord's Supper by intinction, and close with the singing of "Silent Night."

6:30 P.M. CHRISTMAS EVE

Join us at 6:30 p.m. for pre-service music provided by individuals and groups that adds just the right touch to a joyful and reverent Christmas Eve at New Providence.

7:00 P.M. CHRISTMAS EVE

New Providence's 7:00 p.m. Christmas Eve service is a modified version of the traditional Lessons & Carols service that originated in England in the late 19th century. The Chancel Choir will present several anthems in a service that will be interspersed with beloved carols, the telling of the Christmas story, and a brief meditation. The Lord's Supper is celebrated, and the service concludes in candlelight. Many people consider this to be a highlight of their Christmas season, and I hope that you will join us for worship that evening.

11:00 P.M. CHRISTMAS EVE

As we near the end of a hectic Christmas season, stress levels and obligations are on the rise, so why not finish off Christmas Eve with a few moments to slow down and give thanks for the real gift of Christmas? This year, we invite you to join us for our 11:00 p.m. Christmas Eve service. It will be a simpler, more contemplative service, with music provided by Maddie Carpenter and Jordan McCullough and a few instrumental guests. We will sing carols, hear the Christmas story, observe the Lord's Supper via intinction, and worship together for a moment of peace and calm in this harried season. As at 7:00 p.m., the service will conclude in candlelight. If the fanfare and celebration have worn a little thin this Christmas season, join us for the eleven o'clock Acoustic Christmas Eve service in the sanctuary.

CHILDCARE

Childcare is available at all Christmas Eve services.

CAROLING GROUPS

The TLC visitation ministry will sponsor Christmas caroling to our members in assisted living facilities. If you belong to a Geneva Fellowship, Sunday School class, or just want to get a group together to carol to those who can no longer come to church regularly, please contact Margaret Ellen Crawford (984-7619, mecraw12@aol.com).

If you don't have a group to carol with, one is being organized on Saturday, December 22 at 5 p.m. at Alida Graves' (114 Wilson Ave). After caroling, there will be holiday refreshments at Alida's.

Margaret Ellen Crawford

ORNAMENT SALE SUPPORTS MISSION TRIP

We are excited to offer the sixth in our stained-glass ornament series. Knox is this year's featured saint to go along with the Rose, Stephen, Isaiah, Mary Magdalene, and Paul windows. Check to see if you are missing any ornaments from the series, as there are some ornaments from previous years available. Ornaments are \$25 and all proceeds from the sale support the international youth mission trip fund. Sales will continue through December 23 in the Atrium between services.

Jean Blackburn

YOUTH PROGRESSIVE DINNER

On Sunday, December 9, all youth (grades 6-12) will meet at the church at 5 p.m. for our annual progressive Christmas dinner. The evening will conclude with dessert and a white elephant gift exchange (gift limit \$10). Pick up at the church at 8 p.m.

Tracy Luttrell

FROM THE PASTOR

Many times over the last few months, you've heard from me in this column about the visioning work we have been involved in since early in the year. A team of six individuals designed a process to engage our congregation in "soul stirring" conversations over the summer. We asked for input from NPPC

members and friends about who God is calling us to be, and what God is calling us to do in the next 3-5 years of our life together. After compiling and reviewing all that data (with assistance from an upper-level sociology class at Maryville College), those findings became the basis for a November visioning retreat. Dr. Laurie Ferguson led us through a process developed at the Stanford Design School in which we created scenarios describing: 1) what we do best, 2) what we would do if all of that went away, and 3) what we would do if money/image/resources were no object.

The remarkable (and gratifying) discovery was the strong sense of coherence and consensus both from listening sessions and from the officers and Associate Pastor Nominating Committee (APNC) members who participated in the retreat. A summary of that data is available for those who are curious to learn more.

Specifically, what we heard is a strong desire for NPPC to be a welcoming congregation that is open and hospitable to all, and that reaches out to engage others who might find a home at NewProv. We hope to foster supportive connections between members of the congregation, while caring for those of all ages. We want to build up our ministries to children, youth and families, and continue our legacy of community service. Those are the passions that rose most strongly to the surface.

Obviously, the first step in implementing those findings is a new staff design, and the visioning team

got to work on that immediately. They have developed a proposal that has been presented to both the session and APNC and has the full support of both groups.

One of the first things we agreed on at the visioning retreat is that the church (as we have traditionally known it) is changing rapidly, and that we are in a unique window of time to

explore some non-traditional ways of living out our calling.

What that staff design proposes is a full-time Pastor/Head of Staff with responsibility for worship, organizational oversight and stewardship. A half-time Director of Care and Formation will tend to adult discipleship and ongoing pastoral care. A full-time Associate Pastor for Church Life and Family Ministries will oversee our welcoming ministry, as well as ministries to children, families and young adults. A full-time Associate Pastor for Emerging Generations and Mission will focus on youth and college ministry, direct our outreach and social justice ministries, and help us figure out how to "tell our story" to folks beyond our walls. Hospital visitation will be shared among those four positions, and both of the Associate Pastors will lead worship regularly and preach bi-monthly. Copies of this proposed design are available as well for anyone who is interested.

Allow me to reflect on that proposal, if I may: these do not look like traditional assignments of responsibilities. Frankly, that is intentional. One of our hopes was to create a staff design that would encourage teamwork and sharing, instead of the "siloing" that sometimes happens. These boundaries are looser, and I believe will foster creative synergy rather than a "not my job" division of labor.

To be honest, there are not a lot of models out there in the Presbyterian world for this kind of structure. But as one of the visioning team

members noted, very few churches have the opportunity that we have to build from the ground up like this. Speaking for myself, were I a recent seminary graduate looking at associate pastor positions, these would be very appealing to me, because they provide a breadth of opportunities without pigeon-holing candidates into being just "the youth pastor," or "the education pastor," or "the missions pastor."

You may be wondering or even worried about whether or not we can afford two associate pastors. But after looking at the numbers, we believe this can be done with minimal additional strain on the budget, and in fact still represents a significant decrease in our personnel budget from just a year ago.

Last week I met with the APNC (Jimmy Beard, Jordis Blackburn, Jason Brooks, Arielle Kilday, Dianne Lashmit, Karen Paxton and Denise Vogado and Dan Young) to get their input. Like most, if not all of the participants in the visioning retreat, they assumed by the end of the weekend that we were almost certainly looking at two associate pastor positions instead of one. They are very excited about the possibilities here, and assuming that you give them the permission to do so, they are not only willing but eager to search for both of those positions at the same time.

However, when we elected those members of the APNC in August, we did not know that we would need two Associate Pastors, and so you deserve an opportunity to weigh in as well. On the first three Sundays of December, representatives from the session, visioning team and APNC will be available in the chapel to answer questions and receive any feedback you'd like to offer. (See below for times). On January 6, we will hold a congregational meeting to give the APNC your blessing to begin those two searches.

This all feels a little bit risky, but at the same time it is incredibly energizing, because we all seem to be on the same page. Mostly, it feels hopeful and faithful, and for that reason, I'm all in. I hope you are too.

*"Here's to the crazy ones...
Because the people who
are crazy enough to think
they can change the world
are the ones who do."*

I welcome your questions and input, and look forward to seeing you at one of the feedback sessions. It is a joy to be the church with you!



Emily Anderson

MEETING TIMES (ALL HELD IN THE CHAPEL)

- December 2, 10-11 a.m. and 12:15-1 p.m.
- December 9, 10-11 a.m. and 12:15-1 p.m.
- December 16, 10-11 a.m.

PWC GATHERING

The women of New Providence will host their annual Christmas Gathering on Thursday, December 6th, at 10:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary. All members of the congregation and friends are cordially invited to attend. Maryville College singing groups, Off Kilter and Lads and Lassies, will perform. Following the concert, refreshments will be served in the Atrium. Attendees are also invited to shop early at the Community Benefit Sale.

Judy Woods

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING CALLED

A Meeting of the Congregation of New Providence Presbyterian Church is hereby called to be held at 12:00 p.m. on Sunday, December 2, 2018. The purpose of this meeting is to elect elders, deacons, and members to serve on the 2019 Church Officer Nominating Committee. Nominations for these offices will be made by the Church Officer Nominating Committee. Other nominations can be made by the congregation during this meeting. Called by the order of Session on October 16, 2018.

Beth Lazar – Clerk of Session and
Rev. Dr. Emily Anderson – Moderator

FROM THE INTERIM ASSOCIATE PASTOR

“Oh, the Places You’ll Go!” by Dr. Seuss is a child’s book that has been very popular with young people in recent years. The book is often used as inspiration and encouragement to them as they step into their next phase of life. I feel we, the New Providence Presbyterian Church family, are starting a new beginning together for “this time and space.” This new beginning excites me, energizes and motivates me, and quite frankly makes me a little anxious, but not fearful. For this is the place where God calls you and me to walk together into the future ... not knowing what the end looks like. Not knowing what God is up to is the most exciting part. Oh, the places we will go!

You have already blessed me in my participation with your Godly service to our church family and community. The clothes offered by the women, the meals provided to those who physically and spiritually seek food, the organization of how the work is accomplished and seeing the children lead worship on Sunday are all things that truly “blessed my heart.” I yearn to experience the places we will go with God!

As you celebrate Thanksgiving with your loved ones this week know that my thoughts and prayers are with you.

Many Blessings, Gloria Mencer

CHURCH CLOSED

The church will be closed on Tuesday, December 25 and Wednesday, December 26 for the Christmas holidays. The church will also be closed Tuesday, January 1. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

YOUTH UPDATE

Eric’s last Sunday with our youth will be December 16 as he wraps up his interim service at NPPC. We joyfully celebrate the new chapter in his life with him and offer him our gratitude for the gifts he has shared with us over these last months together. During the Sunday School hour on December 16, please drop by the Atrium to say goodbye. Our youth can give their farewells during regular youth that same evening.

We would also like to welcome Rachel Britt as our Youth Coordinator for the spring semester. As a child and youth of our church herself, she brings not only a familiar presence but also relevant expertise as a staff member and counselor and our Presbytery’s John Knox Center. Rachel will be a wonderful asset to our program as we continue the visioning process and work to discern what our permanent youth staffing will look like. Rachel’s first evening with our youth will be January 6.

Tracy Luttrell

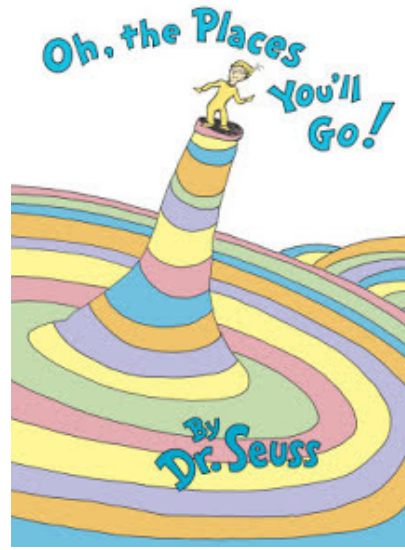
AMAZING PATIENCE AND BALANCE?

We’d like to remind folks that the Wednesday evening Tai Chi class would love to have beginners join us and enjoy the light exercise, the health benefits and the fellowship that come from practicing this ancient martial art. Jeff Ward, with over a decade of experience, leads the class. In Chinese his name translates as “man of amazing patience and balance.” The classes meet Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m. in Eastminster Hall. Watch the bulletin and *New Prov Press* for schedule changes.

Don Myers

COMMUNION

On the first Sunday in Advent, Sunday, December 2, we will celebrate the Lord’s Supper during both services of worship.



CALENDAR FOR DECEMBER 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						01
02 First Sunday in Advent Communion Westminster Bells 9:00AM FirstLight Worship (Sanctuary) 10:00AM Church School 11:05AM Traditional Worship (Sanctuary) 4:30PM iGroup (WH) 6:00PM Youth Dinner (WH) 6:30PM PYC (WH)	03 7:30AM Monday Morning Theologians (Off Campus) 8:00AM CBS Sorting (WH) 6:00PM BSA-Wolf Cubs (REH) 6:30PM BSA-Troop 88 Badge Review (FWH) 7:00PM BSA - Troop 88 (FWH) 7:00PM BSA - Webelo 1 (FEH) 7:00PM BSA-Bear Cubs (REH) 7:00PM BSA-Webelos 2 (RWH) 7:00PM BSA-Tiger Cubs	04 9:00AM Bartlett Adult Day Out (REH) 10:00AM Welcome Table Prep (WH - Kitchen) 1:45PM Centering Prayer (W201) 5:00PM Welcome Table (WH) 5:30PM New Prov Green Team (W202) 6:00PM Men's Lead Team (109) 6:30PM Bereavement/Nurture/TLC Committee (219) 6:30PM Event Support Committee (215) 6:30PM Fellowship Committee (213) 6:30PM Transportation Committee (206) 6:30PM Connections Committee (REH) 6:30PM Facilities Committee (Parlor) 7:00PM Stewardship Committee (109) 7:00PM Advent Yoga (FEH) 7:00PM Budget & Finance Committee (108) 7:00PM Policy Committee (W201) 7:15PM Congregational Life/Deacons (206) 8:00PM Admin Team (Chapel)	05 8:00AM CBS Setup (RWH) 8:30AM Men's Building Square (Atrium) 9:00AM Bartlett Adult Day Out (REH) 10:00AM Lectio Divina Group (109) 10:30AM Widow/Widower Support Group (W202) 2:00PM P.E.A.K. (bus) 3:00PM PEAK and Cloud 9 (208) 4:00PM Lectionary Bible Study (Off Campus) 4:15PM Home School Theatrical Production Class (206) 5:00PM Caroling & Cocoa 5:30PM FirstLight Rehearsal (Sanctuary) 5:30PM Meditation Mindfulness Community (Parlor) 6:00PM Tai Chi Class (FEH) 7:00PM Chancel Choir (Choir Room)	06 7:30AM CBS Pre Sale (RWH) 10:30AM PWC Christmas Gathering (Sanctuary) 1:30PM Home School Chemistry Group (W202)	07 8:30AM CBS (WH)	08
09 Second Sunday in Advent 9:00AM Cantata (Sanctuary) 10:00AM Church School 11:00AM Cantata (Sanctuary) 5:00PM Youth Progressive Dinner (W201)	10 7:30AM Monday Morning Theologians (Off Campus) 8:00AM CBS Sorting (WH) 6:00PM BSA-Wolf Cubs (REH) 6:30PM BSA-Troop 88 Badge Review (FWH) 7:00PM Women's Study Group (Parlor) 7:00PM BSA - Troop 88 (FWH) 7:00PM BSA-Bear Cubs (REH) 7:00PM BSA - Webelo 1 (FEH) 7:00PM BSA-Webelos 2 (RWH) 7:00PM BSA-Tiger Cubs	11 9:00AM Bartlett Adult Day Out (REH) 9:30AM Community Food Connection Board (Chapel) 10:00AM Welcome Table Prep (WH - Kitchen) 1:45PM Centering Prayer (W201) 5:00PM Welcome Table (WH) 6:00PM Children's Committee (206) 6:30PM Worship & Arts Team (Choir Room) 6:30PM Youth Committee (W201) 6:30PM Children's Committee (215) 6:30PM Adult Ed Committee (108) 7:00PM Church in the World (Chapel) 7:00PM Advent Yoga (EH) 7:30PM Discipleship & Education (216)	12 7:30AM Men's Witnessing Square (W201) 9:00AM Bartlett Adult Day Out (REH) 10:00AM Lectio Divina Group (109) 10:30AM Widow/Widower Support Group (W202) 4:00PM Lectionary Bible Study (Off Campus) 4:00PM Christmas Wishes (WH) 4:15PM Home School Theatrical Production Class (206) 5:00PM LIFT Steering Committee Meeting (108) 6:00PM NAMI Group 2 (206) 7:00PM Chancel Choir (Choir Room)	13 9:00AM Quilters (FWH) 10:00AM D & S Community Services Training (FEH) 1:30PM Home School Chemistry Group (W202)	14 6:00PM Parents' Night Out (WH)	15 11:30AM Premier Martial Arts Lunch (WH)
16 Round the Table Carol Sing Money for Manna Third Sunday in Advent 9:00AM FirstLight Worship (Sanctuary) 10:00AM Church School 11:05AM Traditional Worship (Sanctuary) 12:00PM Round the Table Carol Sing (WH) 6:00PM Youth Dinner (WH) 6:30PM PYC (WH)	17 New Prov Press Deadline 7:30AM Monday Morning Theologians (Off Campus) 8:00AM CBS Sorting (WH) 4:30PM iGroup (WH) 6:00PM BSA-Wolf Cubs (REH) 6:30PM BSA-Troop 88 Badge Review (FWH) 7:00PM BSA - Troop 88 (FWH) 7:00PM BSA - Webelo 1 (FEH) 7:00PM BSA-Bear Cubs (REH) 7:00PM BSA-Tiger Cubs 7:00PM BSA-Webelos 2 (RWH)	18 9:00AM Bartlett Adult Day Out (REH) 10:00AM Welcome Table Prep (WH - Kitchen) 1:45PM Centering Prayer (W201) 5:00PM Welcome Table (WH) 6:00PM Leadership Development Committee (108) 7:00PM Session (Chapel) 7:00PM Advent Yoga (EH)	19 8:30AM Men's Building Square (Atrium) 9:00AM Bartlett Adult Day Out (REH) 10:00AM Lectio Divina Group (109) 10:30AM Widow/Widower Support Group (W202) 4:00PM Lectionary Bible Study (Off Campus) 4:15PM Home School Theatrical Production Review Class (206) 5:30PM FirstLight Rehearsal (Sanctuary) 5:30PM Martial Arts Graduation (WH) 5:50PM Meditation Mindfulness Community (Parlor) 6:00PM Tai Chi Class (FEH) 7:00PM Chancel Choir (Choir Room)	20 9:00AM Quilters (FWH) 1:30PM Home School Chemistry Group (W202)	21	22
23 Fourth Sunday in Advent Christmas Joy Offering 9:00AM FirstLight Worship (Sanctuary) 10:00AM Church School 11:05AM Traditional Worship (Sanctuary)	24 Communion Christmas Eve 5:00PM Family Worship Service (Sanctuary) 6:30PM Pre-Service Music (Sanctuary) 7:00PM Lessons & Carols (Sanctuary) 11:00PM Carols, Candlelight & Communion (Sanctuary)	25 Christmas Day - Church Closed	26 Christmas Holiday - Church Closed	27 9:00AM Quilters (FWH) 1:00PM New Prov Press Mailing (Chapel) 1:30PM Home School Chemistry Group (W202)	28	29
30 9:00AM FirstLight Worship (Sanctuary) 10:00AM Church School 11:05AM Traditional Worship (Sanctuary) 6:00PM Vespers Service (Sanctuary)	31 New Year's Eve	Jan. 1 New Year's Day - Church Closed				



RWH - Rear Westminster Hall FWH - Front Westminster Hall FEH - Front Eastminster Hall REH - Rear Eastminster Hall ACS/BCS/MCS - Blount County, Alcoa, and Maryville School Systems

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY NEWS

PEAK AND CLOUD 9

Children will be practicing carols for the holiday season with Ms. Cindy November 28 and December 5. December 5 is the last day of PEAK & Cloud 9 before Christmas break and we will have an end of the semester/Christmas party! Children not going to the Caroling & Cocoa event (see below) will stay with an adult for regular pickup at 5:15 p.m. PEAK and Cloud 9 will resume in the New Year on January 9.

CAROLING & COCOA

The Children's Council invites all families to join us December 5 at 5 p.m. for Caroling & Cocoa. Those interested in caroling will go to Shannondale Assisted Living to carol for residents. The group will arrive at Vienna at 6 p.m. for cocoa. Remember to dress festively!

Please contact Fairlena Googe, children@newprovidencepres.org, 865-983-0182 ext 119 if your child needs a ride or for more information.

ROUND THE TABLE CAROL SING SPECIAL REQUEST

Parents please make note of Round the Table Carol Sing – December 16th at noon – we have a special request for the children to perform at this event. Interested children will be playing "Jingle Bells" on the bells and chimes. Children attending PEAK and Cloud 9 will practice various carols on the last two weeks of programming. There will be plenty of bells for all the kids at Round the Table Carol Sing.

ADVENT BOOKLETS

Children 5th grade and younger can pick up a copy of the 2018 Advent booklet on Sunday, December 2, in their Sunday School class. This booklet is child oriented with daily advent activities and information about different parts of the season.

CLOUD 9 SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS NEEDED!

This fall, Nick Bradford taught a majority of the 4th & 5th grade Sunday

School classes from August into December, but with "Baby" Bradford arriving within the month, Nick won't be able to teach as much. Please consider joining the team to teach these awesome kids once a month in the new year with the new *Feasting on the Word* curriculum. Contact Fairlena Googe, children@newprovidencepres.org, 865-983-0182 ext 119 for more information or go to <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b084dafab2babfa7-201819> to sign up.

DECEMBER NURSERY VOLUNTEERS

During December, our preschool college interns travel home to be with their families, and the department is blessed with new friends visiting during the holidays. When that happens, it is wonderful to have adults available to help balance out our adult to child ratio. If you are interested in being 'on call' for specific dates when there is a need, please go to <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B084DAFAB2BABFA7-ONCALL>.

Fairlena Googe

BARTLETT BUZZ

December is always an exciting time of year as we remember the birth of Jesus! We will be doing several crafts during the month, as well as having Ex Libris and Terry visit with us. Our Christmas Party will be on December 19th. We will be closed the week of Christmas and meet again on January 2.

We are in need of more volunteers. If you have a few hours to spare, we could use your help. We meet on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Call Trish at 268-3810 to find out more or to schedule a visit with us.

Trish Badgett, Parish Nurse

DONATE NOW

Use this QR code or go to newprovidencepres.org/donate.



SUPPER CLUB FOR THE SPRING!

Do you find it difficult to keep up with our ever-growing membership at New Providence? Supper Clubs are the answer! You will have an opportunity to meet with the same small group of friends (6-8) once a month for 4 months (February through May) and really get to know them well! Sign-ups will be in the Atrium or you can contact Susan Young (865-789-0175 or youngsd79@aol.com) for more information. We will have a potluck in Westminster Hall on January 24th to meet in our groups for the first time. Hope you can join us!

Susan Young

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

These are the "Taking the Love of Christ" (TLC) home-bound members whose birthdays occur during December. Shower them with birthday cards to remind them that they are special!

- Kathleen Oakes, December 11th
- Marilyn Hoffman, December 14th
- Elsie Smalling, December 19th
- Sally McNeill, December 26th

Donnae Farley

LECTIONARY READINGS FOR DECEMBER

- December 2: Jeremiah 33:14–16, Psalm 25:1–10, 1 Thessalonians 3:9–13, Luke 21:25–36
- December 9: Malachi 3:1–4, Luke 1:68–79, Philippians 1:3–11, Luke 3:1–6
- December 16: Zephaniah 3:14–20, Isaiah 12:2–6, Philippians 4:4–7, Luke 3:7–18
- December 23: Micah 5:2–5a, Luke 1:46–55 or Psalm 80:1–7, Hebrews 10:5–10, Luke 1:39–45 (46–55)
- December 30: 1 Samuel 2:18–20, 26, Psalm 148, Colossians 3:12–17, Luke 2:41–52

TENDING OUR FLOCK

WE SHARE JOY

- Clark James Ford, son of Ashley (Ezell) & J. Ford, grandson of Jeanne & David Ezell, born November 19, weighed 8 pounds, 3 ounces and was 20.5 inches long.

WE SHARE SORROW

- Lisa Harrell, Jay Buchanan's friend, 11/20
- Connie Snyder, Arlene Austin's sister, 11/18
- Billie Gene Rowland, Jordan & Alex McCullough's grandfather, 11/17
- Wilson McConnell, Jr., Joy Messner's father, 11/17
- Brad Huffaker, 11/14
- Cynthia Lewis, Becky Brown's mother, 11/14

Have a new baby? Dad in the hospital? Someone graduate? Your church family would love to share your joys and your sorrows. Contact Coco (coco@newprovidencepres.org, 983-0182, x102) to share your news.

HEALTH TIPS

TAKING CARE WITH DEMENTIA

About five million Americans have Alzheimer's disease, the most common form of dementia. The disease affects thought, language and memory. You may have a family member with dementia, or you may know someone in your congregation or community. You may be the caregiver, or you may want to help someone who is a caregiver. Understanding the nature of the disease will help you look after a loved one, a caregiver, or yourself.

1. Learn to "speak dementia" - Language shifts with the disease, and a person with dementia may generate conversational language even in the severe stage but have more trouble understanding. Avoid using the verbal shorthand friends and coworkers readily understand. You might say, "I know you like the social stuff," and the person with dementia does not understand what

the "social stuff" is. Consider what language sounds like from their perspective.

2. Sift questions carefully - "Are you ready for the holidays?" The person with dementia may not even know what time of year it is. "What did you have for lunch?" Short-term memory loss will make this question impossible. "Remember? I said I was coming back." No, the person does not remember. Many people with dementia will feel they "should" be able to answer, and the inability to do so causes distress. Craft conversation around a current activity. "Would you like to go for a walk?" "Shall we have a cup of coffee?"
3. Provide orientation hooks - A visit with someone with dementia will go more smoothly if you subtly help the person orient to the moment. "It's a sunny day for the middle of January." "I'm Jane from church, and I enjoy coming to see you on Fridays." "It's almost time for lunch. Are you hungry?"
4. Be invitational - As the disease progresses, even the simplest decisions can be overwhelming. Rather than asking, "What do you feel like having for lunch?" say, "I'll make us some tuna sandwiches." Rather than, "What would you like to do this afternoon?" say, "I brought this photo album to look at together."
5. Be patient - Mental processing for many people slow as part of aging, and dementia in any form slows cognitive responses. As you make conversation, avoid filling every bit of silence. The person with dementia may be trying to form a response, a process which is disrupted by more language coming too fast. Even finding shoes and getting ready to leave the room can take longer, though the person is capable of the task without the stress of being rushed. If your visit wakes someone from a nap, allow time for the person to rouse. Offer a glass of water rather than a rush of language.

Written by Susan Martins Miller/
chreader.org

Trish Badgett, Parish Nurse

TAX PLANNING REMINDER

TAX CREDIT FOR YEAR 2018

Contributions must be received in the church office by Monday, December 31, 2018, at 6:00 p.m. or postmarked by Saturday, December 31, 2018, in order to receive tax credit for Year 2018.

DONATING STOCK

If you plan to donate stock to the church, it must be in our brokerage account by December 31, 2018. Transactions could take up to two weeks. Our Business Administrator, Penny Bever, or any member of staff will be happy to provide the information you will need.

QUALIFIED CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTION

If you are over 70 ½, up to \$100,000 of your annual Required Minimum Distribution from IRAs may be distributed directly to New Providence, enabling you to avoid paying income taxes on that amount. This option is known as a qualified charitable distribution (QCD), and it's available even if you don't itemize your taxes. Consult your tax advisor for more information.

Thank you for your contributions to the church during 2018. Contact Penny (983-0182 ext. 108, penny@newprovidencepres.org) with questions.

Andy Luttrell



Merry Christmas!

RECYCLE FACTS

DID YOU KNOW?

Did you know that 'single-use', a term referring to products – often made of plastic – that are made to be used once and thrown away, has been named Collins Dictionary's word of the year for 2018?

The dictionary defines single-use as "made to be used once only," calling it "a term that describes items whose unchecked proliferation are blamed for damaging the environment and affecting the food chain."

Collins' lexicographers discovered that, "images of plastic adrift in the most distant oceans, such as straws, bottles and bags, have led to a global campaign to reduce their use" and that "the word 'single-use' has seen a four-fold increase since 2013."

While single-use recycling has become an increasingly important sector of recycling, it would be hard to consider plastic recycling as a success story from an environmental perspective. Less than 10% of plastic waste in the U.S. is currently being recycled, and there is the very serious global challenge of ocean plastic and the growing environmental problem of plastic shopping bags to consider as well.

Here are some environmental facts about plastic recycling:

- It takes up to 500 years to decompose plastic items in landfills.
- Each year, roughly 102.1 billion plastic bags are used by Americans.
- Every year, 2.4 million tons of PET plastic is discarded in the U.S. and 26% to 41% of this is water bottles.
- Almost 8 million metric tons of plastic ends up in the world's oceans annually, according to a 2015 study from UC Santa Barbara.
- The plastic waste that is thrown away into seas every year can kill as many as 1,000,000 sea creatures.
- 1,000–2,000 gallons of gasoline can be saved by recycling just one ton of plastics.

SO WHAT CAN WE DO?

Well, as you may know, NPPC recycles Sunday bulletins, the church office recycles its paper and the Welcome Table staff and volunteers make an effort to recycle when they can. But we'd like to do more.

NEW RECYCLING CONTAINERS

In 2016, New Providence was certified as a PC(USA) Earth Care congregation. In support of that initiative, the NPPC Green Team has

purchased a recycling container that is located near the kitchen side entry door of Westminster Hall.

We'd like to encourage ALL groups and individuals to participate by recycling church generated paper, cardboard, metal and plastics #1-#7 – either in the paper collection bins in the mailroom, or in the single stream container in Westminster Hall. Someone will be checking weekly, or more frequently as needed, to dispose of the items at the recycling center. If this program is successful, additional containers will be purchased for other locations within the church.

For more information on what goes and what does not go into the recycling bin, contact any member of the NPPC Green Team. We would also love to hear from you if you or your church-affiliated group would like to volunteer to help take the recycling items to the recycling center.

As the PC(USA) Presbyterian Mission – Earth Care Pledge reminds us: "God calls us to be careful, humble stewards of this earth" and together, we can make a difference.

Green Team members: Ginny Ayers, Angela Groenhout, Emily Yarborough, John Pittenger, Phil Mummert, John Clark, Don Hodges, Sarah and Thomas Small

Emily Yarborough

SUNDAY MORNING LEADERSHIP FOR DECEMBER

FIRSTLIGHT SERVICE AT 9:00 A.M.			
	Elder Greeters	Ushers	Children's Time
2	Carrie Eaton, Bill Savell, Hayley Lynn	Tom Raines*, Peggy Raines, Sally Daley, Terry & Judy Woods	Paula King
9	Bryan Kilday, Gabie Kerr, Chad Rogers	Judy Woods*, Connie & Jack Jackson, Ron & DeAnne Gibbs	Susan Young
16	Bobbie Briggs, Jenifer Greene, Bill Yarborough	Jack Jackson*, Connie Jackson, Bobbie Briggs, Vandy Kemp, Dan Crawford	Renée Nasrollahi
23	Maxey Long, Laura Shamiyeh, Nick Bradford	Jenn Hardy*, Claude Hardy, Roy & Ruth Fox, Martha Cobb	Andy Luttrell
30	Ayak Cinkoc, Carrie Eaton, Bill Savell	Judy Woods*, Lee & Liz Huffaker, Terry Woods	Rusty Winchester

TRADITIONAL SERVICE AT 11:05 A.M.			
	Elder Greeters	Ushers	Children's Time
2	Tyler Johnson, Kate Clabough, Bobbie Briggs	Jason Brooks*, Ann Spencer, Lynne Musick, Phil Mummert, Susan Young	Paula King
9	Tracy Luttrell, John Pittenger, Michelle Huntoon	Karen* & Ken Paxton*, Bud Gangwer, Barbara Hall, Jeanne Ezell	Susan Young
16	Kate Clabough, Tyler Johnson, Mike Teffeteller	Bill Morton*, Jane Morton, Tom & Eva Carpenter, Mot Krick	Renée Nasrollahi
23	Jane Morton, Andrew Irvine, Bobbie Briggs	Stephanie Bell*, Dennis & Ann Cherry, Jack Bell, Jeff Pezick	Andy Luttrell
30	Ayak Cinkoc, Carrie Eaton, Bill Savell	Dan Cox*, Barb Cox, Liz Heid, Hardy & Sarah DeYoung	Rusty Winchester

* Head Usher

MINISTERS & SUPPORT

The Reverend Doctor Emily J. Anderson	PASTOR
The Reverend Gloria Mencer	INTERIM ASSOCIATE PASTOR
The Reverend Doctor Stan Rushing	PARISH ASSOCIATE
Rob Britt	DIRECTOR OF MUSIC
Peggy Rogers	ORGANIST & DIRECTOR OF HANDBELLS
Brian Hampton	INTERIM FIRSTLIGHT COORDINATOR
Cindy Sugg	DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S MUSIC
Eric Minton	INTERIM YOUTH & COLLEGE AGE COORDINATOR
Fairlena Googe	INTERIM CHILDREN'S COORDINATOR
Leah Thomas	INTERIM CHILDREN'S FACILITATOR
Trish Badgett	PARISH NURSE
Amelia Geis-Scott	WELCOME TABLE COORDINATOR
Ray Bryant	FACILITIES MANAGER
Penny Bever	BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR
Coco Everett	COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR
Paige Reed	INFORMATION COORDINATOR



703 West Broadway
Maryville, Tennessee 37801
Return Service Requested



Non-Profit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Maryville, Tenn.
Permit No. 120

WHAT'S INSIDE

Christmas Eve Services	1
Amazing Patience and Balance?	3
Bartlett Buzz	5
Cantata Selections Set	1
Caroling Groups	1
Childcare	1
Children's Ministry News	5
Church Closed	3
Communion	3
Congregational Meeting Called	3
December Birthdays	5
Donate Now	5
From the Interim Associate Pastor	3
From the Pastor	2
Health Tips	6
Lectionary Readings For December	5
Ornament Sale Supports Mission Trip	1
PWC Gathering	3
Recycle Facts	7
Sunday Morning Leadership For December	7
Supper Club for the Spring!	5
Tax Planning Reminder	6
Tending our Flock	6
Youth Progressive Dinner	1
Youth Update	3

DATES TO REMEMBER FOR DECEMBER

2	Communion Westminster Bells play in Traditional Service Called Congregational Meeting
6	Presbyterian Women's Christmas Gathering
7	Community Benefit Sale
9	Chancel Choir Cantata
12	ChristmasWishes Celebration
16	Round the Table Carol Sing and Lunch
17	New Prov Press Deadline
24	Christmas Eve 5:00 p.m. Family Worship Service 6:30 p.m. Pre-service Music 7:00 p.m. Lessons, Carols and Communion 11:00 p.m. Carols, Candlelight and Communion
25	Christmas Day - Church Closed
26	Church Closed
1/1	Church Closed

