



# PROVIDENCE TIMES

Happenings on Harshaw

2252 Harshaw Road Murphy, NC

Tuesday, December 2, 2025

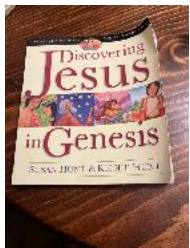
## Here We Go Again ... The Inaugural Monthly Newsletter!!!

Way back in September of 2022 we put out the "Inaugural Quarterly Newsletter" for Providence. Unfortunately, due to workloads, other priorities, and COVID (why not blame everything on COVID?), no other newsletter saw the light of day. That does not mean a newsletter was not needed or desired but just that no more were produced. That all changes today! You are reading the new "inaugural" newsletter, and it comes with a new commitment — that is to produce a monthly newsletter that you can expect on the first Tuesday of each month, and this time we have a *team* to back it up. We are committing to six months of newsletters, and then we will evaluate and make any needed changes, so please ... provide us with feedback — likes, dislikes, and, especially, *whether or not you find it helpful!* If there is content you would like to see, please let us know. Our goal right now is to keep it fairly short, focused, interesting, helpful, and spiritually encouraging. If you have suggestions, please bring them up with Jennifer or you can send them to [jenniferleandro@protonmail.com](mailto:jenniferleandro@protonmail.com).



Jennifer, Pastor Dave, & Claire

### Book Review



Do you ever start reading a book and you're already wanting to recommend it?! Well, that's what happened with this book. It's about discovering who God is and then finding covenant values such as stewardship, worship, trust, thankfulness, and love.

Sometimes it's nice to pause our adult literature and read something well written for children. It's the gospel done in a story form that draws you in and makes you want to keep reading to see what happens next. From Sir John with his wisdom to his wife Miss Jenny and her shortbread cookies, you will enjoy the characters!

This book will be available on the book stand in the foyer. — Claire

### How Many nonagenarians Do You Know?!



A wonderful time was had by all as we and many of Marilyn's family members and friends celebrated a milestone that not everyone reaches. Marilyn turned 90 years of age on November

13. All of the children in attendance gathered 'round Marilyn and Terry as we sang a hearty happy birthday in her honor. There were many delicious food offerings and each had a story as to its significance in relation to Marilyn. A heartwarming side note, Terry and Marilyn, who were high school sweethearts, will celebrate 68 years of holy matrimony on December 28!! When asked their secret of longevity (age and marriage), Marilyn simply replied, "God has always been there for us." Amazing grace!

## A Warm Welcome!



Our newest member here at Providence Church, Jonathan Riley, was received during our worship service on November 16. He came by way of Grace PCA in Blairsville, GA, and has been involved with the PCA for his entire life. He displays a true servant's spirit, and we are thrilled to have his fellowship. Jonathan is the manager of CarQuest Auto Parts in Hayesville, NC, and welcomes opportunities to assist with related needs. If you have not yet met Jon, please make a point to introduce yourself and extend him a warm welcome!

## Driveway Caution

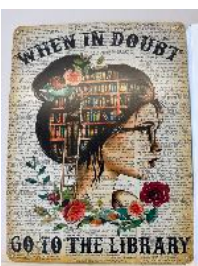


STOP... look both ways ... and THEN go! A couple of people have experienced the following scenario when departing the church: They approach the bottom of the driveway, while still rolling look both ways for traffic, turn right onto

Harshaw, and a car shows up out of nowhere inches from his or her bumper. The caution is to make sure you **STOP** before looking because cars often fly around that curve at the bottom of Harshaw. Yes, that should go without saying, but *some of us need a reminder.* 😊

## What's New in the Library?

We have some new books! The children will be delighted to know there are four new ones for them. For those of you who are B.B. Warfield fans, we have a 10-volume commentary set of his writings! So come in and see if one or two spark your interest. See Claire, and she will be glad to help check them out.



## Love to Learn



Both the men's and women's groups are well into a rather intense study of the Book of James, but it's never too late to jump in. Per Augustine of Hippo, "The Bible is shallow enough for a child not to drown, yet deep enough for an elephant to swim," so do not hesitate to take the plunge and join us. The women's group meets at 10 a.m. each Monday at the church and the the men's group at 8 a.m. each Wednesday in the church parlor.

## Website Coming Soon

It's been a while coming, but it now finally looks like Providence will soon have a new website (around or shortly after Christmas)! It will be a complete replacement, including a new (easier to remember) site address: [pc-murphy.org](http://pc-murphy.org) (*any guesses what the "pc" represents? Hint - it does not stand for "politically correct" or "personal computer"*). In preparation for the new website, we recently had a slew of pictures taken of the church and of our various activities. If you'd like to see several of the pics, scan the QR code with your phone (*not publicly discoverable - only via the QR code/link*).



## Accessing Our Online Library

You can browse and see every book we have and then request it or come in and help yourself! All the books have numbers and they are on the shelves in numerical order. We get new books often, so check in and see if something catches your interest! When you type in your search, you'll need to make sure you spell everything correctly. Unfortunately, our system will show we don't have what you want if you are even one letter off! Questions? Talk to Claire.

## Can You See Us Now?!

We have yet another new sign! The letters for our “sign on the hill” are now much larger than before, so that it’s far easier to read going eastbound on Hwy 64, and it should stand out really well at night once we get a light operational again. If we cut down several trees (future plan?), it should make the sign visible as well for westbound traffic. Please thank our deacons for all they’ve done to make this happen. Between our upcoming new website and two new signs, we hope to attract more souls to worship and fellowship with us. PLEASE PRAY TO THIS END!



### Be Like the Bereans!



In the Book of the Acts of the Apostles, verse 17:11, Luke proclaims of the Bereans, “*Now these Jews were more noble than those in Thessalonica; they received the word with all eagerness, **examining the Scriptures daily** to see if things were so.*” Reading the entire Bible can seem like a daunting endeavor. It’s best to divide it up into small, “digestible,” portions and meditate on God’s word accordingly. Here are two suggested plans to help keep you on track in examining God’s word:

- ➔ [M’Cheyne Bible Reading Plan](#)
- ➔ [Navigators Bible Reading Plan](#)

### Provoking Thought

When I am mindlessly surfin’ the internet, I incur very few, and quite often zero, interruptions. When I am working on something that I hope will advance the Kingdom of God, interruptions abound!!! Coincidence?! I think not; make of it what you will. — J

### Financial Update - November

We will be moving our monthly financial update from the bulletin to our newsletter. Please look for this so that you’ll know, month by month where we stand. As a reminder, there will be a congregational meeting after our worship service on December 14. Here is a financial summary as of the **end of November**:



Avg. monthly giving:	\$11,059
Avg. monthly expenses:	\$11,660
Monthly giving budgeted:	\$12,667
General account:	\$12,815
Mercy account:	\$8,364

### Upcoming Events

In the near future, these will be found on the “Upcoming Events” page on the new website.

- ➔ Wreath Making (10-1pm, Sat 12/13)
- ➔ Congregational Mtg (12:30pm, Sun 12/14)
- ➔ Christmas Gathering (7pm, Thur 12/18)
- ➔ Christmas Day Service (10am, Thur 12/25)

More event details available [online](#).

## From The Treasury of David, Spurgeon’s Classic Work on the Psalms



“What a blessed (shall I say duty or) privilege is prayer! Now, meditation is a help to prayer. Gersom calls it the nurse of prayer. Meditation is like oil to the lamp; the lamp of prayer will soon go out unless meditation cherish and support it . . . Meditation hath a double benefit in it – it pours in and pours out; first, it pours good thoughts into the mind, and then it pours out those thoughts again into prayer; meditation first furnisheth with matter to pray and then it furnisheth with a heart to pray.” – Thomas Watson