



PROVIDENCE TIMES

Happenings on Harshaw

2252 Harshaw Road Murphy, NC

Tuesday, January 6, 2026

All Aboard the SS Revelation!

That's Sunday School — Not Steamship



What comes to mind when you think about Revelation, the last book of the Bible? One goal, as we begin to study this book in mid-January, will be to address misperceptions. Revelation *should not* leave us fearful and confused; it *should not* be avoided as something impossible to understand; it *should not* be thought of as only of value for the future or only for the past! While Revelation is not without certain challenges, we *can understand it*; it was given to provide us with hope and encouragement today as we continue our journey.

In this study, we will learn each of the primary views or interpretations that are taken of the book, and we will see why one particular view most consistently represents the text of the book while taking into account the context of the whole Bible. We will proceed to study the entire book, chapter by chapter.

Please consider joining us for this study on Sunday mornings at 9:30 a.m. Among the opening words are these: “Blessed is the one who reads aloud the words of this prophecy, and blessed are those who hear, and who keep what is written in it, for the time is near,” (Rev 1:3). There is great blessing to be found in the study of this book ... don’t miss the boat!



What's Happening?!



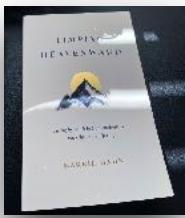
Although a good calendar may not seem terribly *exciting*, we would all agree it can be very *helpful*. The new Providence website features a very versatile “Event Calendar” that is intended to be the primary way to know exactly what is happening at Providence, and when! It features multiple different views that will show up in different ways, depending on where you are on the site. For example, the [home page](#) has a simple list of very near-term events (showing date, time, and a link for more details). Click on “[Events](#)” from any page, and you will see ten upcoming events along with several details for each, including pictures! You can also choose to view by month or day or individual event. As well, it allows you to

subscribe so that the events show up on your personal calendar (Google, Apple, etc.). And, as with the rest of the site, it helps that the event calendar has a “responsive design” (adjusts to fit screen for any device - phone, computer, tablet, etc.). Finally, and most importantly, with [this](#) calendar, unlike on our old website, people have been designated to keep it up to date, so you can actually depend upon what it says. Our encouragement to you is to use it ... you won’t regret it! Click either calendar icon above in the heading for access.

(Editor's Note: This is part of a series we will run over the next few months, highlighting various aspects of our new website.)

Library News

“Give yourself unto reading.” –
C.H. Spurgeon



This month, we purchased two copies of Limping Heavenward by Karrie Hahn. This is the perfect book with which to do a buddy read with someone who deals with chronic suffering. If you would like to learn more about this author, click [here](#) to listen to an interview conducted by Nathan W. Bingham of Ligonier Ministries. We also have several other new books, including three more for the kids!

If you are dealing with a personal issue and looking for a related book, please allow me to help you find what you need. I will NEVER share what you check out with anyone. Pastor Hina is the only other person who can see what is checked out, and he is the one who will acquire the books you may need that we do not have. If you wish not to write down what you checked out, please text me the title and author and I'll put it in the system. I'm in the church directory. – Claire



Providence Directory

Do you know how to get ahold of anyone in the church and do it quickly? Have you gotten GPS directions to people's homes by simply clicking on a link or called another church member by just touching a name? Do you know how to find everyone that has a birthday this month? This is a reminder about our Church Directory app (also accessible online, via web browser). It is full featured and extremely useful. Make sure to install it and use it! Directions can be found on our new website by looking under “Resources” in the menu bar.

CONSTRUCTION CORNER

HVAC: Hooray! There are two new mini-splits in the fellowship hall. The rest of the church has functioning heat and air. PTL!!!!

Fellowship Gathering aka Coffee Conference

Ladies and ... well ... ladies! Some of us have been gathering quite regularly on Saturday mornings at 11 at the [Rare Bird Emporium](#) for fun fellowship, fabulous conversation, and a frou-frou hot or cold beverage. If you frown on frou-frou, simple cups of coffee, espresso, or tea are also available. Every week is different depending on who shows up and what is going on in our lives, but every “conference” is a unique and wonderful blessing to those who attend. The more the merrier so please come join us. We make every effort to get the word out on the off chance that we are not meeting, but never hesitate to text or call Jennifer (see church directory) to make sure it is happening on any particular Saturday. Hope to see you there!!!



byFaith Magazine

The PCA publishes an online magazine called byFaith that is chock full of interesting information, with sections for news, culture, theology, and more. You may subscribe to receive via e-mail daily devotions (Monday through Friday) and/or to their biweekly newsletter. Full disclosure, I had difficulty getting past the “Confirm Humanity/I’m not a robot” rigmarole, causing me to question my own species, but I finally convinced them (and myself) of my humanity, praise God! Check out the website at [The Magazine of the Presbyterian Church in America](#). – J

“ALAS, HOW MUCH TIME HAVE I LOST
AND WASTED, WHICH, HAD I BEEN WISE,
I SHOULD HAVE DEVOTED TO READING
AND STUDYING THE BIBLE!”

John Newton

Wise Insight into the 5th Commandment



"Honor your father and your mother that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you." God said this to Moses on Mount Sinai. Children are not only to obey, but to obey correctly.

My family says, "You have to do the right thing at the right time in the right way." That means you have to obey by doing the right thing, right away, cheerfully. We are to obey our parents because we love God, and God put our parents in charge of us. This is hard! We cannot do this without God's help. We are unable to obey perfectly, but God will forgive us in Christ. But if we think, "God will forgive me, so I can do whatever I want," this is wrong. I am thankful that the Holy Spirit helps God's people to be obedient! — Sarah Randall

Heartfelt Message from Marilyn Frederick

I want to thank all of you at Providence for your love and care for Terry and me, especially over these very difficult past few weeks. Terry thought the world of our church family, and it has been abundantly obvious that our church family loves Terry and me. Sunday, December 28, would have been our 69th wedding anniversary! God has blessed me so many times over with Terry as my husband, with Jackie and Brad being here through all of this, and with all of you. Terry's memorial service was a real blessing -- extremely difficult -- but still a blessing. I couldn't have done it without my family there, and without you, my church family. Words cannot express how much I love you all and appreciate all the love offerings of food and spiritual sustenance. May God bless you richly, as he has me and my family. (You can find Terry's obituary [online here](#).)

Wreaths of Wonder !!!



You may ask why "of wonder." Well, I (Jennifer), grumbled upon learning of this event, wondering if I was even capable of constructing a wreath worthy to adorn anything. *But*, it's not about me, and I am thrilled to announce that our first annual wreath-making luncheon was a **HUGE** success. Kudos to Susan Bekken for facilitating this event, and many thanks to all who brought supplies, greenery cuttings, and grub. The grub was really good, which was no wonder at all, and my wreath?! I've submitted it as "Best in Show" but have yet to receive an award. Hmph!!! To see more photos, [click here](#).

Why Corporate Prayer?

Welsh expositional Protestant preacher, Martin Lloyd-Jones, believed that praying together is not optional but is a fundamental, Spirit-led, doctrine-grounded activity that expresses and builds up the life of the local church. We meet most weeks for corporate prayer, where around the throne of grace we humble ourselves and let our requests be known to God (Phil. 4:6). We will make the weekly prayer sheet available on the website behind a password-protected wall. An e-mail will go out announcing its availability. We hope you will join us as we strengthen our bonds with each other and our Father above.

Financial Update - December

Here is a financial summary as of the end of December:

Avg. monthly giving: \$11,102
 Avg. monthly expenses: \$11,708
 Monthly giving budgeted: \$12,667
 General account: \$10,915

