



Annual Report 2022

Pastor's Report

Over the past year I have been preaching on the gospel of Mark. Mark is an interesting book - the earliest of the four gospels to be written. So, as we wind up 2022 and look toward 2023, two of Jesus' parables we studied come to mind: The Parable of the Growing Seed and the Parable of the Mustard Seed.

The Parable of the Growing Seed

Jesus also said, "The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground, and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. The earth produces of itself; first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come."

The Parable of the Mustard Seed

He also said, "With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade." (Mark 4:26-32)

Both of these parables have to do with a tiny seed producing a big harvest within the kingdom of God. The first tells us of a seed's gradual growth, while the second **amazes us** with spectacular growth.

In the first parable, after sowing a seed....the farmer goes about his regular activities: sleeping, working, eating. Having sown the seed, he shows no anxiety about the seed's growth. He plants the seed in hope of an eventual harvest. The farmer knows the harvest is the work of God. The farmer knows his job is to sow the seeds.

The second parable talks about a mustard seed. The mustard seed is so small that the naked eye can barely see it. The point is.... great things can come from the smallest beginnings. The first parable is suggesting that it is US who are to plant seeds of the gospel in this world, yet it is God who causes the kingdom to grow. The second parable is telling us the same things as parable #1 - we are to plant seeds of the gospel AND this parable is telling usthat it is not as complicated as we sometimes make it out to be. It is the seemingly small things we do that God will use to change people's lives. It is in the small gestures of love/kindness/obedience in Jesus' name that God will do great things in the world and bring about his kingdom.

Jesus is telling us that he is not expecting us to do it all. Actually, God will do most of it. But God needs our help. Or maybe not "needs"....but "requires" our help to get it done! Our responsibility is to sow - to plant seeds. If we just keep **planting seeds, God will provide the growth**. Keep serving. Keep caring. Keep inviting. Keep sharing. Keep Causing God Joy!

This past year we have seen growth within our congregation numerically, financially (praise God!) and I think most importantly, we have seen growth spiritually. I don't know about you, but I think, there is a greater passion of sharing the good news with others in our community! Remember- we are Sowers. God is the Grower. It is interesting to note that the parable is clear that we do not know how God works the growth part. Verse 27 actually says "As the seed would sprout and grow, the farmer does not know how." We let God worry about the growth, and we are focused on the sowing of seeds! That's what we do as members of Providence - scatter seeds!

As you leave the church property have you noticed the signs '**You are now entering the mission field**'? May it serve as a reminder of your call to go out and scatter seeds.

As always, it is a privilege to serve alongside each of you as we seek to be missionaries in this community!

In Christ,

Bill



Associate Pastor Report

Dear Providence Family,

2022 was an active and lively year. We had a great start of the year with our Mission Fair, where we had 22 mission partners displayed for our congregation. I believe that was a wonderful way to start the year combined with a Congregational meeting.

During this year, our church has hosted several mission trips with AIM (Adventures In Missions) and the goal of getting our congregation more involved during those trips was a success. We had a car wash, packed shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child, participated in our Youth Sunday School, worked together, and also had meals together. During 2022, we also hosted a missionary family during the summer, the Knutzens. We had the opportunity to host children's events with their kids creating a multicultural environment. We had a lovely time receiving Debbi, our missionary leading Hands for Haiti, as we sang with our children and led the children's sermon. Another missionary that came to our campus was Rachel Ortega; what a delight it was to meet her in person and hear about all the good work of spreading the gospel that she has been doing in Asia. Also, it is always great to have Patti Montgomery at our church enlightening us with her work in the middle east. It was a great year for Providence and missions.

During this year, we have continued our Bible Study; throughout the year the Providence Women studied *Twelve Women of the Bible* together and we have grown by praying together every Thursday as we meditate in the Book of Psalm.

The Children's Ministry is lively and full of energy! I praise God for our children and the energy they bring to our church. From Sunday School time to Providence on Wednesday, we enjoy the kids in our church. We had a great time this summer, learning about Jesus and playing together at our last VBS. Our church families have enjoyed the love and care their babies, children, and youth receive here at our church.

Providence On Wednesday is going great! We have adult classes, ESL, youth group, children's class, nursery, and dinner. During 2022 we had eight countries represented in our ESL class, and I believe it is a huge support group for those who are far away from home and have made the US their new home. We had great volunteers working with the children, youth, and dinner time; we praise God for those volunteers.

Our Youth is growing, and it is good to see how they enjoy our church and strengthen their friendships. Our Sports Camp was a great way to get the youth excited to come to church and to meet new volunteers that have been working with them the last semester.

Personally, I have grown with the Stephen Ministry. I concluded the Bridge Stephen Leader's training course this summer, I am working with our Stephen Ministries here at the church, and we had the pleasure of hosting the first Stephen Ministry Jubilee here at our campus where we had several churches involved. My continued education for this year and next year is Pinnacle Leadership Associate with Clergy Collective and Coaching Group, which I have enjoyed and through which I am growing.

I am thankful to God for His providence during the year of 2022, and I am thankful to Providence Presbyterian Church for the year of 2022.

Great things God has done for us!

Cibele



Deacons

Moderator: Sandy Kennemur

Pastors: Rev. Dr. William Ward Rev. Dr. Cibebe Santos

The Office of Deacon as set forth in scripture is one of sympathy, witness, and service after the example of Jesus Christ. The Providence Diaconate has continued its job of keeping the members of Providence active and well cared for. Once again, Beth and Freda have gone above and beyond their shepherding call by organizing fellowships among each group. Sharon has been very busy with many fellowships for various occasions. We heard a report from Dr. Ward about strategic planning and will continue to do our part in making suggestions and implementing the plans. This is my last year serving on the Diaconate and it has been an honor and a privilege. I am grateful for the opportunity. I thank each and every one that I served with. Cassandra Piovoso relocated early in 2022 and has been greatly missed. I appreciate Cynda Schuttera getting the minutes completed in a timely manner and taking over my position as Moderator. The newly elected members will be a great asset. Carry on and walk in Jesus' footsteps.

Blessings, Sandy Kennemur Shepherding: Freda Jasper/Beth Parker Support Groups: Grief Share: Freda Jasper Silver Sneakers - Beth Parker reporting/Brad Parker leading Prayer: Susan Micharlson Visitation: Rev. Dr. Cibebe Santos & Dr. William Ward Missions: Jill Clark Fellowship: Congregation - Sharon Walston / Debra Reece /Tom Rasch Small Group: Cynda Schuttera





Discipleship

The Discipleship Committee met in person and via Zoom on the second Monday of each month in 2022. Members of the Committee were:

JoAnn Meier, Elder	Suzanna Johnston, Elder
Rev. Bill Ward	Rev. Cibebe Santos
Krista Schauss	Cynda Hurley
Logan Talks	Sandy Kennemur
Sandy Peterson	Ray Peterson

The Discipleship Committee oversees and coordinates both Adult and Children's discipleship opportunities.

Adult Ministry

Providence on Wednesday (POW) was held February 2 – April 6 and September 14 – November 6. *The Chosen* was used for the curriculum. There was also an ESL class (English as a Second Language) held as part of POW with many adult volunteers.

Sunday School classes were held, and in the first quarter, Sandy Kennemur and Keith Walston led *The Wired Word*, and the Peterson's taught a class on Paul "*Clash of the Kingdom*". During Lent, a class on the book *The Way: Walking in the footsteps of Jesus* was taught by Rachel and Will Ward. During the summer, Dr. Richard Burnette, Theologian in Residence, taught classes on what Presbyterians believe. Rev. Ward taught a class on the Apostle's Creed that went along with his sermon series. Rev. Peterson filled in for the Apostle's Creed class as needed. JoAnn and Sandy K taught a class on "Intentional Grandparenting". There were two mission Sundays – a report on recent Malawi Trip and update from missionary Rachel Ortega on her service in Thailand. Rachel Ward taught a series on Advent.

Other classes/small groups were offered: BSF, Grief Share, Pastor's Book Club, Women of the Bible Study Group, Silver Sneakers, Women's Prayer Group, Men's Bible Study, LOL Men's Discussion Group, Celebrate Recovery, Noon Men's Bible study, Seabrook Bible Study, Tuesday Theologian in Residence class (summer)

Under the direction of Rev. Peterson, a *Lenten Devotional* guide was published with scripture, devotions and prayers written by Providence members. The devotionals were printed and distributed to the congregation. In addition, Will Ward read the devotional submissions each day, and these were made available on the website and downloadable as a podcast.

Discipleship committee provided desserts for several POW dinners.

Children's Ministry

Children's ministry started the year with two Sunday School classes: Kids Club K-2 and Sonshine Club 3rd grade and up. Faith Alive was used for the main curriculum. During Lent, *The Way – Walking in the footsteps of Jesus* was used for the study. The classes were combined for the

summer with one class for K-5th. For fall, there was one elementary class for k-4th grade. For Advent, a study “God with Us” was used. Children’s Church was offered weekly during Sunday service for K-4th grade. Children 4th grade and up, participate in worship as acolytes.

Music and Bible study were held during POW for children’s program during Spring and Fall. The children participated in a mission opportunity with Samaritans Purse, and sang songs learned at POW several times in worship. They also have assisted with fellowship serving lemonade after worship.

VBS was held July 6 – August 3. The curriculum was “Clean Water for all God’s Children”. Bible study, craft, dinner, and games were a part of the weekly VBS.

The committee established age-appropriate guidelines for Children/Youth programs which were communicated to all parents. Nursery – Birth to 5 years, Elementary – K-4th grade, Youth – 5th and up, Children’s Church – K- 4th grade, Acolytes – 4th and up.

The PUPS committee finalized the renovation of the remaining Children’s ministry rooms in the Mills Building. For Fall, all classes were moved to the Children/Youth Center.

Youth Ministry

Youth Sunday School was held, and the main curriculum used was Dwell. They also studied the Lenten book The Way, the Apostles Creed and Advent “God with us”. Session approved a Youth Ministry committee as a subcommittee of Discipleship. The committee met frequently and planned and assisted with several events – Upwards Sport soccer camp and Messtravaganza. Both of these were community outreach events.

During the summer, Rachel Ward and Suzanna Johnston hosted a Zoom gathering called “Girl Talk” for girl’s 4th grade and up. The group celebrated at the end of summer with a pizza lunch.

A youth Bible study was added for the Fall POW with Rachel Ward, Cade Reddy and Rich Prange leading. The youth had a December fellowship gathering.

2022 was a busy year, and saw the growth in discipleship in both adult, youth, and children’s ministry. The Lord was faithful, and participation in discipleship opportunities increased. The Discipleship Committee is excited about the year ahead and praying for the Lord’s guidance.



I believe the purpose of the fellowship committee is to Cause God Joy by bringing together our church family in special events throughout the year.

There were many opportunities for gathering in 2022. In January, we set up and prepared a light breakfast bar for our Session and Deacon members at their officer retreat.

February was our second annual Super Bowl tailgate party, which is held after our 10:30 service. Wings and hotdogs were offered along with a large variety of appetizers and other typical tailgate fare. More than 80 church members attend this popular event.

Our committee prepared 2 different soups for the Maundy Thursday Meager meal. On Easter Sunday, between the 2 services, we served a light brunch in the pavilion.

In May, we held a Mother's Day luncheon which the men prepared and served. Entertainment was our own Guitar Gospel Group. This was a delightful event, thoroughly enjoyed by the 60 ladies who attended. We were very grateful to Keith Walston, Tom Rasch, Larry Holdren and Brad Parker for preparing the meal and for the men who served it.

On Father's Day we served root beer floats and cookies after the 10:30 service.

September was a busy month: JooSoo's 10th anniversary reception, Stephen Ministry Jubilee, and the Kickoff breakfast signalled the beginning of Fall worship.

Many members of our committee helped with the weekly Wednesday night dinners, the Halloween trail, and the Christmas walk. We also served lemonade on the lawn after the second service.

Our efforts are willingly and enthusiastically given to enhance the spirit of community, both within our church family and outside our church family.

Respectively Submitted by Sharon Walston

Chairperson of the Fellowship Committee

Grief Share

In October 2020, Providence launched its initial GriefShare program.

On February 13th we will begin our sixth group. Our previous group had 19 participants along with 6 facilitators.

GriefShare is a 13 week, Christ based, international program open to the community with the mission to help and encourage fellow members after the death of a spouse, child, family member or friend. We meet weekly in the Mills Education Center from 6 – 8 PM. The key elements of this program are the videos, the support group discussions and a workbook for journaling and study exercises based on the video and Bible verses.

On Sunday, November 13th, the GriefShare facilitators and the Stephen Ministers jointly hosted a “Surviving the Holidays” luncheon seminar. A video was shown during lunch followed by small group discussions. The community was invited and 45 people attended. We are planning on hosting this event again this year.

The “facilitators” from our church are Carol Moorehead, Susan Patton, Freda Jasper, Ron Montgomery, Jerry Pinkerton, and Logan Talks. We have all experienced the death of someone we loved dearly, so we lead with compassion. All who have attended have testified as to how much this program has helped them navigate through their grief. The warm, friendly environment develops caring friendships. At the conclusion of each semester of GriefShare, the group plans a get together at an agreed upon location. Participants are invited to attend future meetings as long as they feel it will help.

If you or someone you know is grieving, please contact Carol at 973-214-2529 to register or you can sign up at the church office anytime. There is a one-time \$25 fee for supplies.



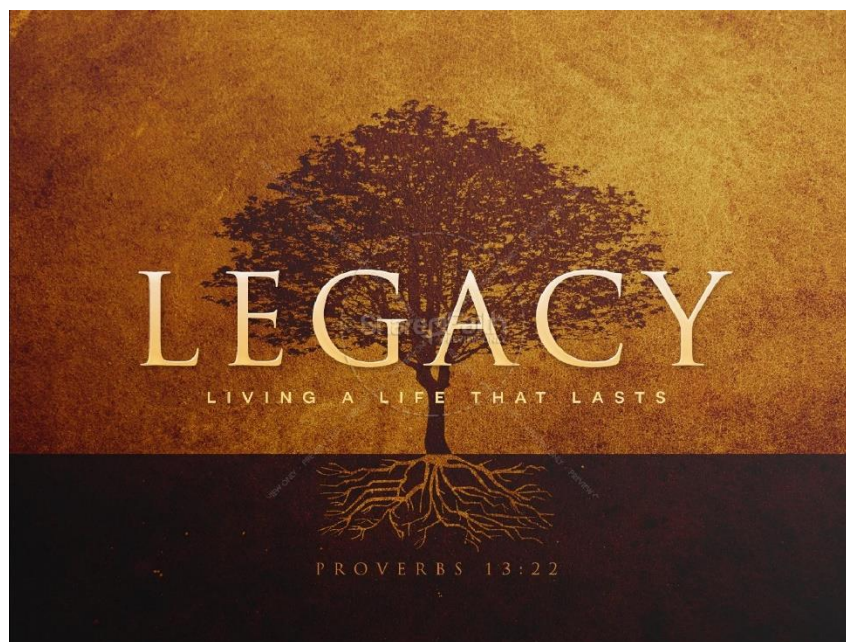
Legacy Fund

The Legacy Committee oversees the Providence Church Legacy Fund. Members of the committee include the following: Pat Shelburne, JoAnne Brandes, Joe Patton, Briggs Jones, Don Schuttera, Carolyn Martin, Richard Moorehead, and Larry Holdren.

During the year the Committee accomplished the following:

1. The Legacy Fund ended the year with \$188,500 showing a loss of \$11,800 for the year. Our return for the year was a loss of 8.5% as compared with the S & P loss of over 18% for the year.
2. During the year the Legacy Fund continued the Birthday Club for members to support the Legacy Fund. This resulted in over \$8,800 being contributed to the Fund during the year.
3. As a result of our investment returns, the Committee elected to leave the returns in the fund for future use and to allow the fund to continue to grow.

For 2023, the Committee plans to work with individual members who might consider leaving a portion of their Estate to the Fund for the future of the Church.



Missions

Providence Mission Ministry: 2022 Overview

Focus on Budget Supported Ministries

- **FOUR** the number of missionaries present on campus to enjoy respite care provided by the Missions Team.
- **SEVENTEEN** Minute for Missions (M4M) given of our **TWENTY-TWO** ministries; **TEN** were presented by ministry representatives.
- **THREE** M4Ms given for ministries supported outside the Mission budget: Adventures in Mission, Ukraine and Uganda.
- **FIVE** ministry representatives gave presentations to the Mission Team during its monthly meetings.



Mission Trips

- **FOUR** weeks – two in May and two in August. Chris Daly represented Providence on medical mission trips to Uganda.
- In May, a group of **FIFTEEN** local Presbyterians enjoyed a bus trip to Thornwell, gaining a better understanding of their work.
- A Mission trip to Malawi's Ministry of Hope (MoH) occurred in September where MoH was presented with over **FOURTEEN THOUSAND** dollars for Crisis Nursery, Lean Season Feeding, Medical Supplies and Education Scholarships. Rita Jones and Fran Hallam both participated.

Donations Outside of 2022 Budget

- **THREE** "special" offerings held on Palm Sunday and Mother's Day reflect a total of **\$3,155**. Supporting MoH Lean Season Feeding, Presbyterian Communities of SC and HHI Pregnancy Center.
- **TWELVE** very generous monthly bin collections for six different ministries: Deep Well, Neighborhood Outreach (both ESL and Backpack School Supplies), Sandalwood, Hopeful Horizons and Operation Christmas Child.
- **SIXTEEN** Providence members attended FCA Fundraising Banquet.
- **FIFTY-TWO** weeks in 2022, **26** volunteers delivered healthy food to Sandalwood Community Food Pantry (**156** hours).
- **SEVENTY-FIVE** Thanksgiving baskets were filled and distributed to those less fortunate.
- **FIVE HUNDRED** Christmas shoeboxes were packed and shipped for Operation Christmas Child.
- In partnership with women's Circles, **THIRTY** backpacks were packed with school supplies and distributed to children.
- **FIFTY-SEVEN** pounds of religious literature shipped to Love Packages for distribution worldwide.
- **ONE HUNDRED SIXTY-THREE THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED AND SIXTY-SIX** dollars supported mission ministries in 2023. **\$90,000** from Mission budget and **\$73,966** from additional donations. Add to this all the "in-kind" donations of food, turkeys, stuffed animals, toys, food, games, etc..



A **MILLION** thanks from your Mission Team: Bob Bishop, Lynn Clanton, Jill Clark, Ruth Germany, Sheryl Holdren, Jeanne Maguire, Jo Prange, Gerry Pinkerton & Ben Reece.



Outreach and Membership

2022 was an exciting year for the Outreach and Membership Committee.

We welcomed 50 new members to Providence Presbyterian in 2022! New member classes will be held through 2023.

Providence continued to offer prior weekly services on WHHI-TV aired four times a week. You can set your DVR for 6:00 a.m. or 10:30 a.m. either Saturday or Sunday. However, with the help of Will Ward as our Digital Media Coordinator, we have substantially increased traffic to the Providence Website and Social Media pages. The current 8:30 and 10:30 service is available to stream live off the Providence Website (providencehhi.org) and Facebook. We average over 100 viewers each Sunday morning. We also aired on WHHI our 2nd annual Providence Christmas special.

Providence continued hosting impactful community outreach events with the support of Rachel Ward as Providence's Program Manager.

St. Patrick's Day parade included a float from Providence as well as our resident member Bagpiper, and this will continue in 2023.

Easter Sunday included the egg hunt for children between the two morning services along with light refreshments.

Halloween brought our very successful Trail or Treat event, which was attended by many nonmembers, including volunteers. The event took place throughout the church grounds and received very positive feedback from the 300+ attendees.

The Christmas Walk was held in December with a live telling of the Christmas story, food, games, amazing light display, live entertainment & fun for all. This event was attended by about 350 people.

Other major outreach activities were the Wednesday night dinners with accompanying Bible Study classes, ESL classes & programs for children.

Personnel

In exercising its responsibility for the Church's role as employer, the Personnel Committee exercised the following responsibilities: developed and reviewed personnel policies and procedures, kept current written job descriptions of all positions, assisted in the preparation of an employment letter to all new employees, prepared compensation recommendations for all church employees prior to the beginning of the fiscal year, promoted good management practices, and endeavored to maintain an environment which will attract and retain competent personnel in order to insure the successful operation of Providence Presbyterian Church.

Members of the committee include Erin McMackin, JoAnne Brandes, Carolyn Martin, Carol Wilson, Tom Jasper, and Rev Bill Ward.





PUPS Property Use/ Program Support

The PUPS committee had a productive year with many projects completed and others underway.

- The final four classrooms in the Mills Building were completed: new flooring was laid, walls were removed, and new décor was added. These rooms are being used by the children and youth of the church.
- The South Forest Beach project was completed late in the year. This involved removing all of the chain link fencing that bordered the church property on two sides. Once the fence was removed, the area was shredded of small tree and debris to create a much-improved appearance to the property. In 2023, the intent is to put down layers of mulch and weed control to maintain the work that has been done.
- Plans for the Chapel in the Woods were completed, and construction is underway. The chapel is scheduled to be completed by June of 2023. Kenneth Scott Builders, Inc. is heading up the construction.
- Parking lot improvements will be made in 2023 as the gravel supplier could not get the amount of stone needed to complete the parking areas.
- A gravel area will be created behind fellowship hall for the smoker and another area for the dumpsters. This project was also moved to 2023 due to the lack of stone.
- The decorating committee has been gathering quotes and looking at materials to refurbish the parlor in the Mills Building. This will be completed at some point in 2023.

PUPS held two church wide workdays, one in the spring and one in the fall. Both days were productive. Some jobs that were completed were clearing brush, cleaning up the church property, power washing all walkways, and sealing the benches used for the 8:30 outdoor service. PUPS would like to see more members of the congregation involved in these workdays.

Submitted by Don Schuttera



Session

The year 2022 was very successful for Providence Presbyterian Church in many areas:

- Membership growth
- Financial strength-showing an increase in revenue and a decrease in expenditures.
- Continued improvements were made to our 26-acre campus.
- Support of our 22 Mission Ministries remains strong.
- A long-term planning program is being finalized.

Providence thanks the Class of 2022 Elders for serving the past 3 years – JoAnn Meier, Warren Norris, Jo Prange and Don Schuttera. We welcomed 4 new Elders representing the Class of 2025 – see below.

Class 2023

Suzanna Johnston

Erin McMackin

Brad Parker

Laura Walston

Class 2024

Sheryl Holdren

Tom Jasper

Rick Reichel

Craig Schauss

Class 2025

Joe Kyle

Carol Moorehead

Jill Schrott

Greg Viveni

We are thankful that member Larry Holdren will be again serving a 1-year term as Church Treasurer and that member Carol Wilson will be again serving a 1-year term as Church Accountant.

Providence members are continually encouraged to participate on one or more of our standing committees:

- Care and Safety
- Discipleship

Session Continued

Session Continued

- Mission
- Outreach and Membership
- Personnel
- Property Use/Program Support
- Stewardship
- Strategic Planning
- Worship and Music

Again, we are very thankful for 2022. Our desire to “Cause God Joy” drives us. We ask that you prayerfully consider joining us in support of the mission and ministry of Providence Church.

Rick Reichel

Clerk of Session

Shepherding

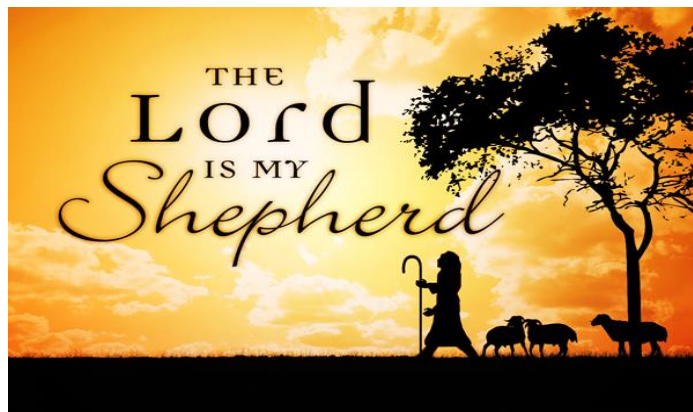
The Shepherding Committee ministers in the lives of church members through prayer, communication and strengthening relationships.

The year 2022 has been one of growth and stability for the Shepherding Committee. Leadership grew as an additional seven group leaders were appointed. Ten continuing group leaders provided stability and excellent modeling of duties for new leaders. Fifty new members of Providence were assimilated into our eleven shepherding groups.

Shepherding group leaders continued to provide care and fellowship to members through sharing contact information of all the members within each group and sending cards for occasions such as birthdays, illness, and death of loved ones. Additionally, group leaders encouraged fellowship by coordinating gatherings for members within their group. Shepherding deacons oversee activities and support group leaders.

The shepherding committee is creating a new opportunity for members to make social connections with others at Providence. The launch of our new **Young at Heart Club** will be Saturday, February 18th. As part of the Shepherding Ministry here at Providence, we envision a group of young-at-heart adults coming together monthly to enjoy one another's company at various venues within our local area. Not only do we want to create fun opportunities in which to build deeper relationships among our members, we also want to create fun opportunities to which we could invite our friends and neighbors.

Our membership is ever changing. There is a balance between new member growth and those moving away or those who pass away. Our shepherding deacons continue to keep shepherding group leaders and our staff updated with revised information about members.





Stephen Ministry provides one-to-one care, support, encouragement, and prayer for members and friends of Providence as they negotiate the many life transitions we all encounter from time to time. Our objective is to support God's people so they, in turn and in time, are able to do God's work in the church and the world. Stephen Ministry meets twice a month for devotion, business meeting, continuing education, and peer supervision. We currently have 11 active Stephen Ministers and two Stephen Ministers on Leave of Absence.

2022 was a busy year for Stephen Ministry. We sent one person to **Leadership Training** and two people to 13 weeks of **Stephen Minister Training** classes, followed by Commissioning during the worship service on **Stephen Ministry Sunday**. A **Stephen Minister is available at the Chancel** for prayer each Sunday at the conclusion of the 10:30 service of worship. This year we began an **Outreach** program intended to make regular contact with homebound members of the church who are unable to attend services. In September we hosted a half day "**Stephen Ministry Jubilee**" for Stephen Ministers of the low country, presented by the **Lowcountry Stephen Leaders Group** in which we are active. That event brought 65 low country Stephen Ministers to our campus for continuing education, networking, fellowship, worship, and lunch. Also, in September we sponsored a "**Lunch N Learn**" program at which Kathryn and Maury Purcell spoke and co-sponsored our second annual "**Surviving the Holidays**" luncheon with GriefShare. In December we presented our annual candlelight "**Service of Remembrance**" in the Mills Building Chapel and enjoyed a holiday party for Stephen Ministers and spouses. We also staffed information tables after each service in the month of December to promote Stephen Ministry and encourage registration for a new Stephen Minister Class to be taught in 2023.

Stephen Ministry at Providence is strong and healthy as it continues to serve God by providing caring support and encouragement to His people.

Submitted by Susan Patton and Larry Holdren, Stephen Ministry Team Leaders

STEWARDSHIP

Time ♦ Talent ♦ Treasure

Stewardship

The year of 2022 turned out to be an outstanding year for the Church in programming as well as financially. Our budget for 2022 was determined based on our 2021-year end results and the adding of additional programming and resources to the Church.

We ended the year with over \$1,100,000 in revenue which is a record for the Church. This was in addition to Special Mission giving of over \$65,000 for specific Mission projects. For this, the Stewardship Committee thanks you for your generous contributions throughout the year. Our committee continues to carefully monitor all expenses to be sure that your money is being spent wisely.

During the year, the Stewardship committee monitored several of our operating expense accounts such as Insurance, Equipment Maintenance, and Leases to insure we were getting the best rates possible. We also invested some of our reserve funds in a ladder CD program to earn more money on our inactive funds.

Our budget for 2023 is listed below and you will note that it has increased in several categories to support the ongoing work of the Church. Again, we appreciate your continuing support of Providence and Causing God Joy!

	2022 Actual	2022 Budget	2023 Budget
Receipts	\$1,126,982	\$949,843	\$1,142,075
Added Mission Giving	\$65,758		
Total Giving	\$1,192,740		
Expenses			
Personnel	\$567,668	\$534,643	\$655,475
Discipleship	\$15,005	\$12,500	\$13,000
Deacon Ministry	\$9,184	\$5,000	\$12,500
Worship & Music	\$38,785	\$32,900	\$53,350
Outreach/Membership	\$57,134	\$45,000	\$48,950
Care/Safety			\$5,000
Stewardship/Admin	\$57,626	\$62,300	\$66,500
PUPS	\$178,223	\$167,500	\$187,300
Missions	<u>\$88,795</u>	<u>\$90,000</u>	<u>\$100,000</u>
Total Expenses	\$1,012,420	\$949,843	\$1,142,075

Strategic Planning

2022 Strategic Planning Team

Focus and Milestones:

1. Re-established Strategic Planning Team to review previous strategic plan, progress toward goals and determine appropriate planning horizon for next 1-3 years.
2. Three strategic goals developed and approved by Session (see figure 1)
3. Focus groups held with three segments of the Providence congregation to gather input and direction toward approaching and meeting strategic goals.
 - New member within past three years
 - Parents of Providence youth and children
 - Middle School Youth
4. Established a call to action for Providence leadership to launch work toward our three strategic goals.
 - Gain “buy-in” to strategic plan (The Plan).
 - Connect all committees (teams) through Circle of Spiritual Growth and Ministry (see figure 2 below).
 - Each committee (team) to advance one measurable item to be included on the Providence Dashboard (see figure 3 below).
5. Leadership and staff retreat held January 28, 2022 to gain “buy-in” for The Plan and to establish a structure to ensure progress and achievement.

Figure 1

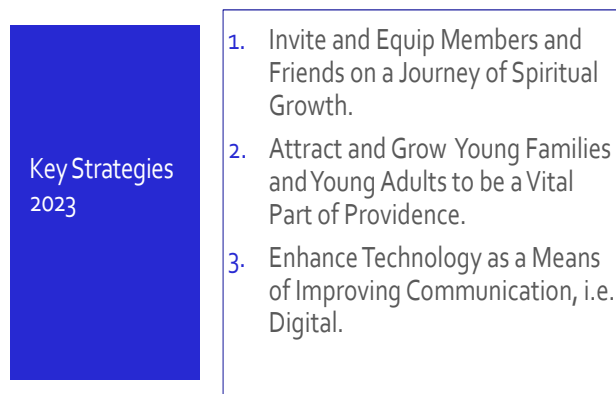


Figure 2

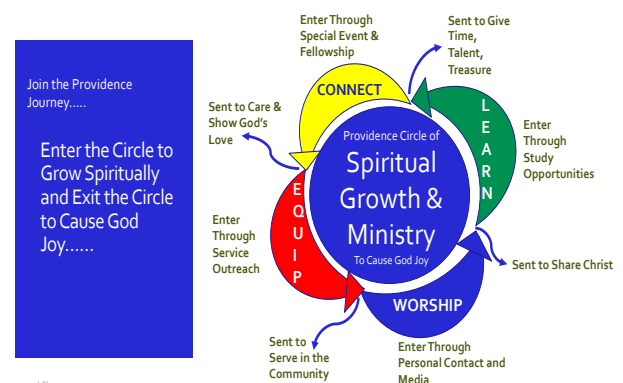


Figure 3

PROVIDENCE DASHBOARD

Jan - December 2022

<u>INCOME</u> (YTD)	Actual.	1,126,981	Budgeted	949,843.	177,138
<u>EXPENSE</u> (YTD)	Actual	1,012,429	Budgeted	949,843.	(-62,586)
<hr/>					
<u>NET</u> (YTD)	Actual	\$114,561			

Average Worship Attendance for December

Aug	In-Person	In-Person	<u>In-Person</u>	-----LiveStream-----		
	<u>8:30</u>	<u>10:30</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Website*</u>	<u>FB**</u>	<u>Total</u>
2017			249			
2018			237			
2019			223			
2020(COVID)			108			
2021			170			
2022			273	55	51	106

*. Unique devices watching on our website on Sunday Morning.

** Facebook Live One minute or more views

	<u>New Members</u>	<u>Total Members</u>
2017	13	441
2018	33	474
2019	25	485
2020	7	451
2021	38	427
2022	50	464 (427 + 50 – 13)

Women's Ministry

Ruth's Circle

Ruth Circle meets on the second Monday of the month. We have fellowship and Bible study and some charity projects.

This year, we and Mary/Martha Circle gave backpacks to the children of the English as a Second Language students. We also sent a donation to Thornwell for Berkele Cottage. In October we made 14 fleece blankets for the cottage for Christmas. Each girl plus the house teaching parents and their children could open the packages at their Christmas party.

We are studying Shannon Bream's book, "Mothers and Daughters of the Bible Speak." We have had great discussions on the women represented in the book.

Ruth Circle is open to any woman in the church, and we would welcome your participation.

Jo Prange, Leader



Women's Ministry

Mary Martha Circle

Circle Leader: Kathy Carter
Lesson Leader: JoAnn Meier

Providence Presbyterian's Mary Martha Circle meets the third Wednesday of each month—September through May. Last fall our Circle started meeting again in member's homes. The Circle provides members an opportunity for small group Bible Study, prayer time and supports various mission projects. The Circle just completed studying the Book of Esther using the Fisherman Bible Study Guide "Wisdom for Today's Woman." Mary Martha Circle has also provided support for many years to several cottages at Thornwell Children's Home in Clinton, South Carolina. In addition, the Circle joined Ruth Circle last summer in providing backpacks for students who live near the church.

The Circle also provides opportunities for members to enjoy fellowship with one another. Last May, our Circle had an end-of-the-year celebration and included members of Ruth Circle, and in December, our Circle enjoyed a Christmas brunch together. All Providence ladies are welcome to attend any of our meeting. To find out more contact Kathy Carter at 843-671-2425 or kcarter@cssSC.com.



Worship and Music



W&M members during the 2022 year included Gene Ann Ellison, Melba Hildenbrandt, Sue Mountan, Warren Norris (Chair), Beth Parker, Brad Parker, Sue Parsons, Joe Patton, Jill Schrott, JooSoo Son, Rev. Bill

Ward and Nicky Wynne. The Worship & Music Committee meets the first Tuesday of the month in the library.

In accordance with the Town of Hilton Head, Covid restrictions have been relaxed, including no mask mandate for attendees or musicians at either service. Providence has made a gradual but safe return to normalcy. Since the nature of the virus continues to change, Providence will take any necessary steps going forward to help maintain a safe and healthy worship environment.

With the change in worship service times implemented last year, Providence continues to offer two services on Sunday morning at 8:30 and 10:30. Sunday School classes continue to be held at 9:30 AM. The 8:30 service (outside or Chapel in the Woods) has gained tremendously in popularity, with the latest attendance numbers reaching into the seventies. Many visitors have heard the music and come to worship at our beautiful back property location. The traditional 10:30 service has seen increasing attendance numbers as attendees have felt increasingly more comfortable with in-person worship in the Sanctuary. Session approved having one service at 9:30 AM on those years when Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve fall on a Sunday. Services continue to be made available via Live-Streaming, Facebook, the Providence Website and on WHHI.

Providence enjoyed having Richard Burnette, Executive Director of Theology Matters, as a guest Theologian in Residence this past summer. Richard taught a series entitled "Do You Believe This?" which was extremely informative. Providence looks forward to hosting the Theology Matters conference again in March, 2023.

A "Christmas Eve Ushers Guideline" was developed and implemented for 2022. The document specifies duties for Ushers and helps to make the worship experience special for the many who attend this beautiful service. Additionally, Providence has "Head Ushers" each Sunday to insure everything goes well at the 10:30 service. The Head Usher also serves as an additional level of security during worship and works cooperatively with the Care & Safety Outreach Ushers in the Narthex while the service is ongoing.

JooSoo Son, Traditional Music Director, was recognized for her ten years of service to Providence. Her musical talents are surely Causing God Joy! The Chancel Choir praises God with their voices every Sunday they sing as they strive to enhance the worship experience for all.

The Bell Choir, instrumentalists, trios, quartets and soloists also do their part to enhance the worship service with special music throughout the year.

For the first nine months of 2022, Providence celebrated Communion using the self-contained elements at both services. Although the 8:30 service continues using the self-contained elements, the traditional 10:30 service began celebrating Communion with a return to using the serving trays with bread, juice and Communion Servers beginning with World Communion Sunday in October. This practice has continued into 2023. Our membership continues to be connected through our small groups, committees, and church leaders so that needs can be addressed.



Providence Memories





Multicultural WORSHIP



PROVIDENCE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH PROMOTES DIVERSE FAMILY OF FAITH

BY AMY OZYNE BRIDGESON

The Rev. Dr. William Ward of Providence Presbyterian Church wants his church to be a multigenerational, multicultural family of faith. He has already accomplished that through his diversified staff.

While some denominations don't allow women to be ministers, the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) does. At Ward's right hand are three women who keep the church running.

Associate Pastor for Family Ministries and Missions, the Rev. Dr. Chole Simon, was born and raised in Brazil and is the mother of three young children. The church's music director and organist, Dr. Joshua Son, hails from Seoul, South Korea, and is the mother of six children.

Administrative assistant Mary Daly, originally from Virginia, brings another level of diversity — she has

cerebral palsy. Annie, Mary's service dog, accompanies her to work each day where she has become known as the Administrator of Love and Joy.

"So often we're just all the same," Ward said. "This is just another way that we've tried to have our church staff reflect real life. I always thought that was something very special about Providence that you don't see many places. We also try to reflect our community in our ministries."

Located at 171 Cordillia Place, on Hilton Head Island, Providence is just down the road from Woodhaven Villas and Cordillo Courts, where many Spanish-speaking immigrants live. To minister to their neighbors, the church offers a weekly English as a Second Language class. A church bus picks up participants from both neighborhoods and takes them home afterward.



