



Providence Post

JULY/AUGUST 2025



Café Church

This summer we are trying out a new idea for creative worship and fellowship – Café Church. What is Café Church? This is a concept that combines informal worship with coffee fellowship time into one unique experience. The Worship Team is planning two Café Church experiences this summer, which will be held on Sunday, July 6th and Sunday, August 4th during the regular summer worship time of 9:30 AM. Instead of meeting in the sanctuary for worship, we will meet in the fellowship hall around tables (much like we do during coffee fellowship).

Café Church worship will be casual with more contemporary music on guitar/keyboard and less formal liturgy. The “sermon” will be more interactive with Pastor Hilary giving a brief teaching followed by a time for small group Bible study and discussion at your tables (these will be facilitated by Worship Team members). We invite everyone to participate in the discussion, but there is no pressure to do so. We will also be celebrating communion, which will be less formal than during regular Sunday morning worship. We will be using baskets of bread and cups of juice that will be passed around the table to participants. Our hope is to make this a relaxed, informal, and more intimate time of worship.

Here are a few things we ask of you as you join us for Café Church:

- Please join us in person for Café Church worship – there will be no worship livestream on these dates.
- Dress casually and comfortably.
- Feel free to bring a snack or treat to share with everyone, if you wish.
- Keep an open mind – this experience will feel different from regular Sunday morning worship, but we hope it will be edifying (and maybe even fun!)
- Bring a friend, family member, or neighbor to join us. The more the merrier!

We invite you to join us for Café Church this summer at Providence Presbyterian Church. We hope you will join us for these special summer worship experiences!

Blessings,

Pastor Hilary





By Barb Hazlett

(Note: The following highlights are taken from the minutes of the Monday, June 16, 2025, regular Session meeting.)

Clerk's Report: Seventy communicants were served communion on Pentecost Sunday, June 8.

We received a letter from the United Methodist Church of Hollidaysburg to transfer the membership of Mike and Deb McClain to Providence Presbyterian Church. We will welcome them on Sunday, June 22.

Treasurer's Report: The treasurer's report was distributed and discussed. A motion was approved to accept the treasurer's report.

Huntingdon Presbytery Report: The next regular meeting of Huntingdon Presbytery will be on Tuesday, June 24, at the Tyrone Presbyterian Church at 5:30 pm. Pastor Livingston is planning on being in attendance.

Moderator's Report: Pastor Hilary listed all her activities for May 2025. She will be taking five days of vacation plus two days of study leave from Saturday, October 11 through Saturday, October 18, including Sunday, October 12, 2025. The two study leave days will be used to plan for Advent and to read ministry books.

The pastor had some questions regarding the pastor's discretionary fund and she asked for some guidelines from the Session. She suggested the creation of a team to help work through this issue.

Session Team Reports (Chair)

Finance & Stewardship (Sue Whitsel): Per capita for 2025 has been established at \$41.00 per member, and based on 140 members, our total per capita bill from Huntingdon Presbytery will be

\$5,740.00, which we pay in four installments of \$1,435.00. For the period ending through May 30, 2025, there was \$2,914.00 given to our per capita fund, which is unchanged from last month's total. This represents a 51 percent (51%) response, or approximately 71 of our 140 members.

The 2024 vs. 2023 Monthly Financial Summary is summarized below:

	Through 05/30/25	Through 05/30/24
Congregational Giving	\$ 73,862	\$ 76,001
Building Rental Income	1,012	15,612
Special Offerings	4,963	8,056
=====	=====	=====
Total Income	\$ 79,837	\$ 99,669
Total Expenses	\$123,688	\$ 83,774
=====	=====	=====
Surplus (Shortfall)	\$ 43,851	\$ 15,895

Regarding the exterior painting of the church, our committee will work with Kimberly to issue a check (paper or electronic) to the painting contractor for the first third of the total amount of the quote.

We are completing forms for our New Covenant Funds. One form will allow us to assign an up-to-date list of "authorized signers" when money needs to be transferred. The second form simply changes our church's bank of record from the Investment Savings Bank to Reliance Bank. A motion was approved to allow the Finance Committee members (Jane Carothers, Barry Gaut and Sue Whitsel) to be "authorized signers."

We also talked about a previous Session motion allowing the church treasurer to transfer up to \$10,000 from our accounts without requiring any additional Session approval. Since this motion was enacted at least 15 years ago, we would like to increase this amount to \$15,000, which would allow for inflation. This type of transfer would only be used for emergencies when funds up to this pre-set limit are needed quickly. Transfers exceeding this amount would always be brought to Session for approval. A motion was approved to increase the transfer limit from \$10,000 to \$15,000.

Congregational Care (Gail Irwin): The schedules for June and July were updated for cards/flowers/transportation. Summer hours for Sunday's worship service will go into effect on June 1—pickup times will be changed accordingly.

Pastor Hilary and members of our team visited and delivered communion to eleven home-bound

congregants. During these visitations, we were joined by other members of the Presbyterian Village at Hollidaysburg who desired communion. The next scheduled visits for home communion will be in August.

Charyl Gardner organized the next delivery of birthday cakes to the Presbyterian Village on Friday, July 25.

The committee decided to use our funds to purchase commercial foil for the kitchen and stamps for the church office as we use these items regularly.

Mission (Judy Hartzell): The team reviewed and discussed possible ways that we could support the Lexington Lighthouse.

Our congregation donated many items to the Families United for Change and their "CC's Boutique." Donations included umbrellas, purses, sunglasses, scarves, personal care and make-up. Additional gifts were provided by the Outreach committee following their yard sale. The Boutique was very successful and we thank all who donated.

There was a special meeting with the Blair County Human Services Leadership team at the Green Bean coffeehouse on Friday, June 13. Pastor Livingston and two of our members attended and found it very worthwhile.

The Pentecost offering has been completed and our church will get to keep 40% of the total collection. Our share will be \$316.40.

Nine members and non-members have registered for Krislund Camp and have paid their fees. An informational meeting for campers and parents is scheduled for Sunday, July 6, following the worship service.

As part of our mission support for the month of June, we gave the following: The Door - \$600; Krislund Program/Staff - \$300; Krislund Capital Campaign - \$700.

For the Altoona Food Bank in June, we are asking for donations of peanut butter and jelly. The Providence Food Pantry is asking for donations of any non-perishable food items and personal care items such as soaps, deodorant, toothpaste and toothbrushes, Band-Aids®, etc.

Outreach (Jane Yerty): Our team reviewed the recent Yard Sale and discussed various options for next year. The profit was \$1,069.60, which will be used for Krislund Camp scholarships.

Nine campers will be attending Krislund this year, this is a blend of kids attending church and youth activities and their invited friends. We will hold a Parent & Camper meeting on Sunday, July 6, following worship, at 10:45 pm. This meeting will include a review of transportation, camp expectations and needs, as well as a social opportunity to get to know your fellow campers.

Volunteers have been setup to stock our Community Library.

Mike and Deb McClain gave an update on the Garden, which is going well. They discussed plans for the shared community bed and availability of harvested items. All beds are reserved; some have not been planted yet.

The team discussed visitor bag usage. They are planning to highlight this with a display or place them nearby when the name tags arrive.

We also reviewed our April Showers giving event for Family Services. We are very thankful for the excellent response from our church family. Geoff Geesey will take over B.J. Crownover's job of delivering monthly donated items to Family Services. The team discussed the possibility of highlighting two items each month as our giving focus.

Outreach is requesting that Session consider having all teams contribute to a handout and email that would be available on the first Sunday of each month. This will include all the opportunities for giving and service throughout the month. Our church family can then have this handy on their refrigerator. For example:

Pentecost Offering

Items for Food Bank, Pantry & Family Services

Ushers, volunteers for Soup on Saturday needed, etc.

Pastor Hilary asked each team to come up with a list of service/giving opportunities for our next Session meeting.

Property (Bruce Hazlett): There are two companies that will possibly be moving into The Mill (the

former textile factory building located on Eighth Avenue and 24th Street). Our church has been asked about the availability of our parking lots during the week. Session discussed this but didn't come to any conclusions. Pastor Livingston will contact Ginny Rainey at Huntingdon Presbytery and then set up a Zoom meeting to discuss this.

The Property team is waiting for bids from three contractors for repair or replacement of our handicapped ramp and the steps to the church office.

Exterior painting work is expected to begin in mid-July. The contractor has been contacted and Bruce will place a purchase order with Kimberly to start the work.

Worship (Rick Herbster): We will ask families to be liturgists for July and August.

Peggy Horner made a list of places where people can serve the church. Rick will distribute the list to Session members so that they can add service opportunities that are specific to their team.

The Worship team discussed the logistics of Café Church. Participants will sit at tables in the Fellowship Hall. We will set up the room during our next meeting on Wednesday, July 2. We will not need acolytes or liturgists for these services. Coffee and tea will be available and we will ask people to bring a snack to share if they wish to do this. Music will be accompanied by piano/guitar. Gathering music will be played at the beginning of the service and we will sing songs from the white praise books. Regular offerings can be placed in the black boxes in the sanctuary, but an offering will be taken up at the tables and that money will be used for the Krislund Camp fund. Communion will be passed at each table and some people will be asked to make bread. *[See Pastor Livingston's "Café Church" article on the front page.]*

Carol Adams found information showing that Sunday, September 28, is the 130th anniversary of the laying of the cornerstone of our building. We discussed the possibility of incorporating this information into our worship service on Sunday, September 28, 2025.

Summer schedule:

July 6 - "Café Church" and Communion
July 20 to July 24 - Vacation Bible School,

Theme: "Magnified"

July 27 - "Casual Dress" for church, Church Picnic at DelGrosso's Park

August 3 - "Café Church" and Communion

September 7 - Worship returns to 10:15 am "Rally Day"

October 5 - World Communion Sunday

Old Business: We have provided our tax exempt status to the name tag vendor and can now place the order and move forward with this project.

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Nancy Woomer	3
Brian Rutter	6
Annie Stanek	7
Becca Gallace	9
Peggy Horner	13
Elizabeth Miller	15
Jen Braun	16
Wendy Manfred	16
Ellie Herbster	19
Jemmings Lantz	25
Carol Wyerman	25
Steve Parsons	28
Cookie Hall	30
Heather Wisor	30

Dave & Marcia Dravis	3
Tom & Linda McKee	15
Al & Rita Holtzinger	23
Lee & Jeannine Fagley	26



Presbyterians in the Press

Carol Adams appeared in the May 26 edition of the *Altoona Mirror* in an article about the Gold Star Memorial which was unveiled at the Van Zandt VA Medical Center in Altoona. Gold Star mother Carol, whose son Sgt. Brandon Adams, died of wounds in Iraq, was a guest of honor at the Memorial Day ceremony.

AUGUST

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Jane Falco	2
Carol Young	3
Marsha Hansard	6
Vivian Markley	8
Michael Pizur	9
Rick Herbster	12
Donnie Gallace	13
Dave Dravis	15
Bev Moss-Oswalt	15
Holynn Treese	16
Paul M. Conway	17
Tom Costea	18
Erika Pizur	21
Kai Thompson	21
Barry Gaut	22
Charlotte Hall	24
Kaylee Zeigler	24
Bobby Brook	25
Jimmy Gallace	26
Tony Gallace	26
Nancy Donlan	29
Sue Payne	29

Rick & Ellie Herbster	1
Jason & Devyn Little	3
Mike & Gail Irwin	7
Bob & MaryAnne Hollingsworth	8
Dwayne & Jane Yerty	8
Jeff & Amanda Stanek	13
Dave & Carol Adams	14
Steve & Carole Parsons	14
Brad & Suzanne Slep	14
Richie & Sue Slep	24
Dewey Adams & Jane Carothers	27



Just a reminder that the Per Capita amount for 2025 is \$41.00 *per member*. Please try to meet your per capita obligation this year by using the special [blue envelope](#) in your box of offering envelopes. Thank you!



July & August Donation Needs

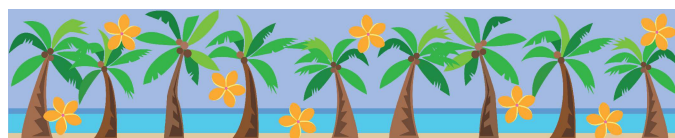
Providence Presbyterian Church is collecting the following items for Family Services on the second Sunday of the month. **July** items may be left on Sunday, July 13, and **August** items on Sunday, August 10. Please place items on the designated shelves located in the 24th Street hallway adjacent to the Fellowship Hall. Thanks!

July Category: Cleaning Products

All-purpose cleaners
Degreasers
Oven cleaner
Rubber gloves
Mr. Clean Magic Eraser®
Mops, brooms, dust pans
High efficiency laundry detergent
Fabric softener sheets
Garbage bags—all sizes
Ceramic stove top cleaner
Facial Tissues

August Category: School Supplies

Backpacks/lunch boxes
Composition notebooks
Books/folders
Glue sticks
Children's scissors
Crayons/markers
Pens/highlighters
Pencils/erasers
Pencil cases
Mechanical pencils/lead refills
Play dough
Facial Tissues





Our annual Church Family Picnic will be held on Sunday, July 27, at DelGrosso's Amusement Park, beginning at 1:00 pm. Dinner will be served at 5:00 pm, and will include a half chicken, potato salad, baked beans, ice cream, and soft drinks. The reduced cost will be \$10. Bottles of water and snack bags will be available at our pavilion. All-day ride tickets, including the water park, will be available at a reduced rate of \$15. Bingo will be available to play during the afternoon at our pavilion with prizes given to the lucky winners. Sign-up sheets are posted in Fellowship Hall. DelGrosso's will need a firm count by Sunday, July 13, so please, check your calendars and make your reservation and payment by that date. Hope to see you there!

Casual Dress Sunday will be observed on Sunday, July 27. Since this is our Church Family Picnic day, the Worship team encourages our congregation to participate in a "Casual Dress Sunday." Break out those Bermuda shorts, clam-diggers, pedal pushers and Providence T-shirts!

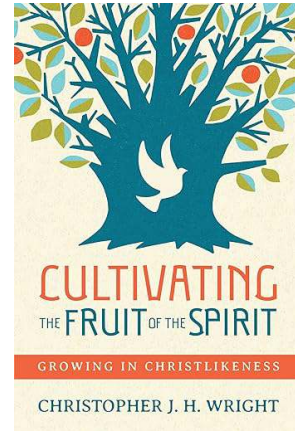
Vacation Bible School will be held at Providence Presbyterian Church from **Sunday, July 20, to Thursday, July 24.** Our theme will be "Magnified—Discovering the Bigness of God and the Smallest of Things." This year at VBS we will be offering dinner every evening. Monetary donations to help offset the cost of providing this meal for those in attendance would be greatly appreciated. VBS is open to all kids from age 3 to sixth grade. Please invite your family, friends and neighbors to join us for what will certainly be a great time for all!

Special Music - Anyone interested in providing special music for our summer services should contact a member of the Worship team.

New Church Directory - Please join us in our new Church Directory. You will get to know each other and be able to put a name to a face! The Photo Dates are on Tuesday, September 16, and Wednesday, September 17, from 2 to 8:30 pm. Sign-up information to be announced. You will get a free directory and an 8 by 10-inch portrait just for participating. You will also have the

opportunity to buy additional portraits.

Don't miss out on making a treasured memory—our new Church Directory won't be complete without you! Questions? Call Barb Hazlett or Sue Whitsel.



Fruit of the Spirit Bible Study

Join us for our Thursday morning Bible study group at 11:30 am in the Fellowship Hall. We're discussing the video study, "Cultivating the Fruit of the Spirit"—it corresponds with Pastor Hilary's sermon series on the "Fruit of the Spirit."

You can also read the accompanying book, *Cultivating the Fruit of the Spirit: Growing in Christlikeness* by Christopher J.H. Wright.

Books can be purchased on Amazon at

<https://a.co/d/8Z6TPIS>

or anywhere you purchase books.

(Note: The next-to-the-last character in the above web address is a lowercase "L")

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