

PROV

MAKE

GROW

UNLEASH

annual report 2025

FROM OUR ELDERS



Stacey Bearden
Discipleship Pastor



Marc Bodenheimer
Elder



Mark Dresbach
Elder



Tex Frazer
Elder



Rich Hatter
Elder



Seth Kehne
Elder



David Lipsey
Elder



Chad Sparks
Teaching Pastor

Over the course of another year, Providence continues to see its mission of Making, Growing and Unleashing Disciples of Christ carried out in so many ways. As you flip through the pages of this pamphlet, you'll read and learn more about the various ministries and strategic efforts through which this mission has been fulfilled in the past year, and how we will continue to work toward accomplishing this mission in the year to come!

We recently celebrated the launch of GreenHouse Church in Lenoir City! Please continue to pray for GreenHouse and our many other church plants. We often say that planting churches is part of the DNA of Providence, and we are always striving to learn and grow so that we can plant churches well.

Our Children's and Student Ministries are thriving! We are blessed to have such amazing staff, volunteers and parents of our young people that are fully committed to helping Make, Grow and Unleash the next generation of disciples!

Relational discipleship is a huge point of emphasis at Providence, and our small groups are the primary way we engage in this practice. It is our hope that everyone in the Providence family would be part of a small group that focuses on multiplying disciples. If you aren't in a group, let us know! We want to get you connected.

Our proposed budget for the coming year has been prayerfully and carefully prepared with our mission at the forefront. We are continually overwhelmed by the generosity of our Providence family that allows us to fund the missions and efforts that are highlighted on the following pages.

We are grateful for the opportunity to shepherd the Providence family through another year. We love each of you and we are thankful for you. Please join us as we pray for each other and pray that God would continue to use Providence to further his Kingdom.

Joyfully,
The Providence Elders

AT THE CORE



Since the start, Providence has remained committed to seven core values that shape the way we carry out our mission of Making, Growing, and Unleashing Disciples of Christ. Our goal is that in every strategy we adopt, and in every adjustment we make along the way, we will be guided by these cultural touchstones.

The Absolute Authority of the Bible

God has spoken, and his communication to us is reliably recorded in his word, the Bible. We think what God says deserves to be heard and obeyed.

Deliberate Growth Environments

We want to create environments in which the Holy Spirit will draw people to Jesus, work in their hearts, and grow them spiritually—no matter what their station in life.

Engaging the Culture

We think the church should imitate Jesus by speaking and living in a culturally relevant way. Worship environments at Providence are designed to make sense to the wider culture.

Authentic Living

Too many times people can feel pressure in a church to act or look a certain way. We are imperfect people seeking life change in Christ, and authenticity is a big deal.

Intentional Multiplication

We are committed to making new disciples, multiplying small group communities, and planting new churches as an outworking of the mandate of Matthew 28:19-20.

Perpetual Improvement

We want to make every effort to do all things with excellence. Improving our structure, strategies, and execution is an ongoing task involving the whole church.

Strategic Service

We want to unleash people to serve God according to their gifts. Ministry is the task of the whole church, and Providence is full of opportunities to serve.

LOOKING BACK

New Staff



Samantha Hicks
Human Resources Director



Miranda Moore
Communications and
Graphic Design Director



Natalie Votaw
Receptionist and
Volunteer Women's Ministry
Coordinator

New Roles



Stacey Bearden
Discipleship Pastor



Tori Corey
Children's Ministry Director



Bess Hitch
Office Manager and
Administrative Assistant

ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS

Learning the language is an essential part of making your way in a new culture. Our ELL classes not only provide a path for people from all over the world to develop their English skills, but receive the love of Jesus through time spent with caring believers. A team of amazing volunteers supports a beginner, intermediate, and advanced class. In 2025, our advanced class saw particular growth. We introduced some students to their first traditional Thanksgiving meal, and at our Christmas party, the gospel was shared in two languages. We're encouraging our most advanced students to attend Engage or MANDay Night for conversation and language immersion, where they can also engage in discipling relationships. Pray for continued growth in our students, and consider coming alongside these folks as they break new ground in both language and faith!



DEEP DISCIPLESHIP

RELATIONSHIPS ON MISSION

We believe that the main vehicle for discipleship is relationships. While Sunday large group services are a big part of learning and growing, it's in small groups that we can be known, know each other, and do the essential work of applying scripture to our lives in community. In keeping with our mission and core values, this year has seen more emphasis than ever on relational discipleship environments. In 2025 (as of this publication) around 100 people at Providence have participated taken part in DSI, a training weekend focused on learning to facilitate and participate in healthy, fruitful small groups. We've also sent teams to train 50 at Park Avenue Baptist Church in Titusville, Florida, and over 40 more in two Zimbabwe communities!



RE:GENERATION

In 2024, Providence had our pilot group for Re:generation—a biblically-based discipleship program offering healing, recovery, and freedom from any type of struggle. Eighteen people representing six churches completed the first group, with three becoming new leaders as Re:Gen continues at Providence. This is a focused environment for people to address specific struggles that can interfere with a life of full surrender to Christ. Participants say they grew in their understanding in God's word, became bolder in sharing their faith, pursued opportunities to serve, and developed a daily habit of being in God's word. Let's celebrate and praise God for his work through this ministry!





Providence is committed to making disciples who make disciples, and one of our primary goals is planting new churches that plant new churches. In 2025, we completed the launch phase of GreenHouse Church, sending out a team of dedicated leaders who have already embedded their lives in the Lenoir City community.



BRIDGE CHURCH (bridgeknox.com)

Providence sent out Bridge Church to be a ministry of reconciliation in the city of Knoxville, and they have now celebrated their seventh anniversary as a church! In 2025, they moved into a permanent location where they are building a strong presence and relationship in their community. In the coming year, pray for Bridge Church:

- To grow with new members and spiritual depth
- For resources to serve their community
- For resources to repair their building





going with GreenHouse to lead vital ministry areas like children's ministry, music, and hospitality. Through your giving, Providence will provide financial support to GreenHouse through 2030 as they move toward full autonomy.

Please Pray for GreenHouse Church

- To reach people in the Lenoir City community
- To keep connecting people into discipleship community
- For the completion of construction in their space
- Financial provision

DISCIPLESHIP DNA

Our planting strategy has developed over the years, learning as we go. One consistent feature is that we don't want to create exact copies of our church. Much like a parent with kids, each church plant has its own unique personality suited for its context. But also like kids, the core DNA of relational discipleship and gospel replication is passed along to every one. The core leaders of GreenHouse have been trained and proven as ministry leaders at Providence, including Dalton Claghorn as teaching pastor/elder and Mark Weaver as an elder. Several Providence volunteers are



Mark Weaver
Elder



Dalton Claghorn
Teaching Pastor



EMMANUEL CHURCH (eknox.org)

By God's grace, Emmanuel has enjoyed a year of encouragement and growth. We've seen folks coming to faith and getting baptized, and welcomed several babies into the congregation (with more on the way). We've been joined by older people who bring with them the welcome ballast of wisdom and life experience, as well as college students and young families, with their optimism and energy. For the coming year, we would love your prayers that the Lord continues to work in us and through us as He has been, and that we continue to grow in the knowledge and love of Him.



REDEEM ALL MINISTRIES (RAM)

One thing that all cultures have in common is the centrality of relationships. This year, a team from Providence was blessed to work with Redeem All Ministries in Zimbabwe to lead DSI training with over 40 people from eight churches in the areas of Kachuta and Mhangura. Pray for the Mupesewa family - Anyway, Maegan, and their kids - who lead Redeem All Ministries. RAM works in Zimbabwe to share the gospel, train leaders, plant churches, and equip people in trades that can support their communities and ministries. Support RAM through your giving, and especially by praying for new church planters in Zimbabwe. Learn more about them at redeemallministries.com.

THE TIMOTHY INITIATIVE (TTI)

Since 2007, The Timothy Initiative has supported the planting of new churches that make new disciples and plant new churches. Indigenous leaders - people being trained to lead and minister in their own culture and location - are at the heart of TTI's planting process. Providence supports TTI financially and personally, helping to reach the goal of a church in every village in Togo and Benin. TTI is also planting churches throughout Africa, Southeast Asia, and Mexico. Our 2026 budget will continue to support The Timothy Initiative as we pray and partner with them. More at ttiglobal.org.

MAKING GLOBAL DISCIPLES



SOUTHERN CONE INITIATIVE

The Southern Cone is a region of southern South America encompassing Argentina, Chile, Uruguay, and Southern Brazil. Through the efforts of the Converge church planting network, the Southern Cone Initiative is committed to seeing a gospel movement spread through multiplying disciples, engaging communities, and planting churches in every community in this geographical region. Providence financially supports Southern Cone Initiative and has an ongoing relationship with its director, Jonathan Matthews. Pray for their efforts in raising up new church planters for new churches to serve these areas. Find Jonathan at reachthecone.com.



GLOBAL PARTNERS

Providence partners relationally and/or financially with organizations internationally in order to support local and indigenous discipleship in ways we couldn't do by funding trips to all these countries. In 2026, we continue to partner with these organizations:

- **Favor International, Africa**
- **Redeem All Ministries**
- **Southern Cone Initiative**
- **Nova Campinas, Brazil**
- **Atitude Church, Brazil**
- **MEPI, Calicanto, Honduras**
- **Horizon Missions, Ukraine**
- **Bridges International (CRU)**
- **The Timothy Initiative**
- **Hope Roberts (Philippines)**

MAKE GROW UNLEASH

A photograph of several children in a church setting, with their hands raised in the air. In the background, a television screen displays a white dove, a symbol of the Holy Spirit. The children are wearing casual clothing, and the atmosphere appears to be one of active participation in a service.

MORE THAN JUST NUMBERS

As a church, we partner with each other to accomplish the mission of Jesus. As the body of Christ, we have each been equipped with gifts that support and advance this mission to make, grow, and unleash disciples. Each new person who follows Jesus, is changed by Jesus, and joins in mission with Jesus is a fulfillment of our purpose, bringing glory to God and more of his joy to the world. Whether through serving coffee on a Sunday morning, telling a Bible story to a toddler, leading a small group, or telling your own faith story, you are a part of the mission.

Even though we don't talk a lot about giving, Providence continues to be a deeply generous church full of people who faithfully steward their resources, knowing that the local church is the hope of the world. It is because of this generosity that the partnerships, church planting, and weekly gathering discussed in the preceding pages can happen.

On the facing page, you will find the proposed budget for 2026, outlining how your giving will support making disciples in the coming year, God willing. Our elders and staff are committed to full transparency in all matters including finances, and we invite you to reach out with any questions about the budget. We are stewards: people entrusted with the care and management of someone else's resources. The resources we have belong to God, and for his glory, we seek to deploy them faithfully.



OPERATIONS

\$846,439 (2025: \$858,898/-1.5%*)

Operations encompasses the staffing and resources to oversee our facility, administration, and organizational needs.

- Capital improvements
- Facility maintenance and repairs
- Utilities and lawn maintenance
- Information technology
- Stage design
- Church administration
- Staff development
- Staff compensation*

PLANTING and PARTNERSHIPS

\$785,871 [Planting: \$204,500; Missions 231,500]
(2025: \$659,504/+19.2%*)

Planting and Partnerships covers staffing and resources for church planting, partnerships with community ministries, international ministry, and global missions.

- Missions administrative costs
- Local partnerships
- Church planting
- International ministry partners
- Mission trips
- Staff compensation

GATHERED ENVIRONMENTS

\$385,821 (2025: \$361,704/+6.7%*)

Gathered Environments includes staffing and resources for large group environments and production.

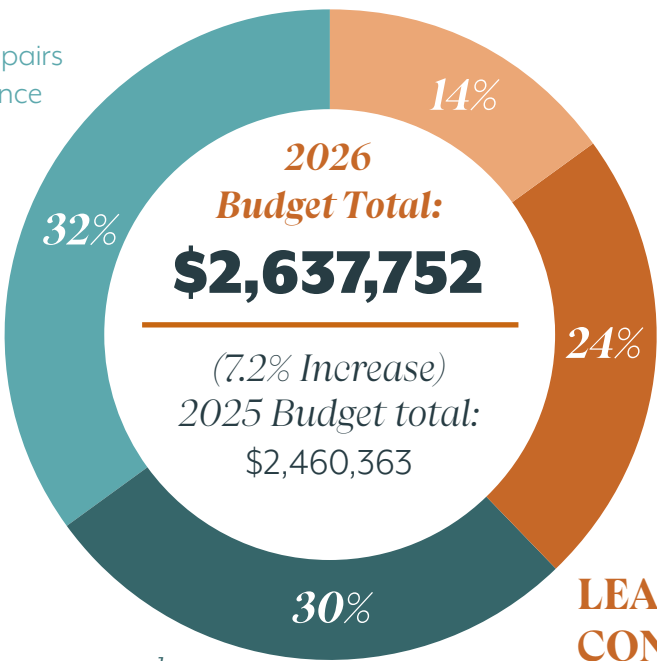
- Communications technology
- Design and video
- Environmental design
- Media resources
- Creative and design resources
- Music equipment and technology
- Sunday services
- Staff compensation

LEARNING and CONNECTING

\$619,621 (2025: \$580,254/+6.8%*)

Learning and Connecting provides for staffing and resources for discipleship in age and gender focused ministry areas.

- Children's ministry
- Student ministry
- Care and counseling
- Adult small groups
- Connections
- Men's and women's ministry
- Discovery classes
- Staff compensation



*Staff compensation is distributed within each of these four main categories. For a detailed budget or other questions, email info@providencechurch.com

THE MISSION OF PROVIDENCE CHURCH IS
**TO GLORIFY GOD BY
MAKING
GROWING
UNLEASHING
DISCIPLES OF CHRIST**

**PROVIDENCE
CHURCH**