Recently, at the Minneapolis/St. Paul International Airport, I enjoyed browsing through the interesting items at the store named, “All Things Minnesota”. I won’t go into detail and list all the funny objects for sale. However, as a pastor and theologian, I cannot resist sharing the captions on one wonderful t-shirt I saw. It said:

**The Ten Commandments Minnesota Style**

- Der’s only one God, ya know.
- Don’t make that fish over the mantle an idol.
- Cussin’ ain’t Minnesota nice.
- Go to church even when you’re up nort.
- Honor your folks.
- Don’t kill. Catch & Release.
- There’s only one Lena for every Ole. No cheatin’.
- If it ain’t your Lutefisk, don’t take it.
- Don’t be bragging about how much snow ya shoveled.
- Keep your mind off your neighbor’s hot dish.

It was funny for me to read...if you need a translation, let me know. It made me wonder what *The Ten Commandments Virginia Style* would look like. Of course, we would need to change that to *The Ten Commandments Northern Virginia Style* to be politically correct.

In any case, it made me think about the Ten Commandments. It is no revelation that the Ten Commandments apply in any location and in any time. They are not a worn out code handed down from an ancient civilization; they are “ten words” of faith given to us by God.

God gave us the Ten Commandments to help set some boundaries for our life as a community. When any society neglects the “Decalogue,” trouble in the community is sure to follow. Do you remember the Ten Commandments? Do you follow them? Have you taught them to your children or to your grandchildren?

I remember teaching a confirmation class of ninth graders at the beginning of my first call out of seminary. I had class of almost thirty young people. I separated the class and handed out a quiz. Out of that entire class, the average youth could only list four of the Ten Commandments; as a class they could only name six. We had work to do, and sure enough memorizing the Ten Commandments was one of their first assignments.

It was a good reminder for me to see that t-shirt at the airport. Hopefully, this reflection will be a helpful reminder for all of you reading this as well. We are called to live together in community, and yes, that does mean obeying the Ten Commandments.

Faithfully,

**Mick**

The Rev. Dr. Michael P. Burns
Pastor
Nickels 4 Nets: A Personal View by Jane Prosperi

Due to the efforts of individuals and groups such as Elden Wright, the Lions Club and the American Red Cross who actively seek blood donations, most Americans can expect to receive the blood products they need during a medical emergency. However, it was my experience in a tropical country of Africa to watch infants and young children lay listlessly while they waited for a family member to donate blood before they would be allowed to receive the blood they needed to battle malaria.

Malaria parasites multiply within red blood cells. Anti-malarial drugs are relatively expensive and scarce in the battle against malaria, thus the prompt infusion of healthy blood into their young bodies was their only hope. Finding a family member at all hours of the day with healthy blood who had not recently made a donation, in villages where the main mode of transportation was on foot, was sometimes an excruciatingly long process.

This heartbreaking scenario could be avoided by protecting these young people and their families with the simple use of mosquito netting over their beds. Most villagers have homes with dirt floors, mud brick walls, thatch roofs and unprotected windows. Distributing bed nets and educating the citizens in their proper use is very effective protection. Prevention is always the best route for good health.

Just $10 will purchase a net to protect a family of five. Our goal at Providence is to purchase 1000 nets. Thank you for your support!
We’re about three months into our campaign to reduce our debt from the very successful recent building and renovation program here at Providence. So, how are we doing? Are we in good shape or not-so-good shape?

The answer is kind of a mixed bag.

We’ve received 138 commitments from our membership for an approximate total of $886,000. It’s clear that we’ve exceeded the minimum dollar amount required to be able to meet our mortgage obligations for the next three years (that’s really good news!). But because our current commitment total is not significantly larger than our required minimum, it means we’ll not be able to make a huge dent in our mortgage principle and thus will continue to pay large amounts of interest, prolonging the period of time before we can retire our debt.

The 138 commitments received thus far include some large ones, some small ones, and a whole bunch of ones in the middle, and each is a commitment to be thankful for. They have been made by members who made commitments to the two prior campaigns (2005 and 2008), by members who did not make earlier commitments, and by newer members who have joined Providence since our building program began. These committed members have gotten us over our minimum hump.

Yet they still represent only about 60% of our membership who annually pledge support for the Providence annual budget.

The byword of our current campaign has been PARTICIPATION . . . by as close to 100% of our membership as possible. Lacking billionaires in our midst, our success as a church family rests on the willingness of everyone (or nearly everyone) to participate, each according to his/her capability, generating commitments that include large ones, small ones, and a whole bunch of ones in the middle. If those yet to make commitments decide to do so at an average similar to those who have already pledged, our ability to beat down our debt will truly be significant. Those who have already pledged have successfully got us over our minimum hump. Pledges from those yet to be heard from can take us well beyond our minimum and put the icing on the cake in this effort.

There is no firm deadline to mark the end of this campaign effort. Participation by members yet to be heard from will be welcomed anytime, and all pledges will be welcomed equally, be they large, small, or in the middle. Taken all together, they can make a positive difference and really change our response to the question “How are we doing?”

Allan Jones
Capital Campaign Chair
KidsQuest Needs You!

Impacting a child for the Kingdom of God. What could be more important and gratifying than that? Make a difference in a child’s life. Please prayerfully consider how you might serve in KidsQuest. Sign up on the poster located in the Commons Area or call Holly Marcario to discuss how your gifts and talents might mesh with these abundant opportunities. The following is a list of ways in which you can impact a child’s life for the Kingdom of God.

**Rock babies and play with toddlers** in the nursery. You would serve alongside our paid childcare providers one hour once every 6-8 weeks at 10:00am and 11:00am.

**Teach Worship KidStyle, which** meets after the “A Time for Children” during worship. You would serve once every 6-8 weeks. The curriculum is fun and easy to use. The kids follow the music and motions on the DVD that is provided. The activity choices are drama, storytelling, games, arts and crafts. You choose to teach in the way you feel most comfortable and feel called to teach. It would be great to have some people on this schedule who do not necessarily have children in the program. And it’s a wonderful way for you to serve as a family.

**Teach at 10:00am.** We need people willing to share the message in the large group and as small group leaders for each age grouping. This can be done on a rotation, although the continuity during this hour allows you to build relationships with the children.

**Leadership** for Christmas Pageant, KidsQuest Mission, Easter Eggstravaganza

“You shall put these words of mine in your heart and soul, and you shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and fix them as an emblem on your forehead. Teach them to your children, talking about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise.” Deuteronomy 11:18-19

Serving Him who Saves,

**Holly**

**Upcoming Big Event**

**Vacation Bible Camp**

Preschool through rising 6th Grade  
Art, Recreation, Music, Science & Exploration

**Invite your friends and neighbors.**

**VBC Ice Cream Social Celebration**  
Friday, July 29 at 6:30 p.m.  
Everyone is invited!!
As I write this, our high school seniors have been graduating, and it’s reminded me of my own high school years.

My big plan after high school was to meet some good friends in college, move to New York City, live in a tiny apartment with them and work as a tour guide at the United Nations! God obviously had other plans for my life!

As I think about our graduating seniors, I’m thankful that they have a church family that has been so committed to sharing God’s love and the good news of Jesus Christ with them. They are ready for what’s next, thanks to the foundation of faith they’ve been given by this congregation.

In any life there are questions, doubts, and choices to be made. I do not worry about this year’s seniors and how they will face those situations, because I know that together we’ve done a good job preparing them. I also rely on the promise of the Holy Spirit to guide them.

As we say goodbye to our fabulous seniors, let’s renew our commitment to the children and youth of this congregation. May we do as excellent a job with them as we have done with those now leaving the nest.

With hope for the future,

Mary Ellen
Great Truths About Life That Children Have Learned

1. No matter how hard you try, you can’t baptize cats.
2. When your Mom is mad at your Dad, don’t let her brush your hair.
3. If your sister hits you, don’t hit her back.
   They always catch the second person.
4. Never ask your 3-year-old brother to hold a tomato.
5. You can’t trust dogs to watch your food.
6. Don’t sneeze when someone is cutting your hair.
7. Never hold a Dust-Buster and a cat at the same time.
8. You can’t hide a piece of broccoli in a glass of milk.
9. Don’t wear polka-dot underwear under white shorts.
10. The best place to be when you’re sad is Grandpa’s lap.

Bulletin announcements you’ll NEVER see at Providence.

The Rector will preach his farewell message after which the choir will sing: “Break Forth into Joy”.

Irving Benson and Jessie Carter were married on October 24 in the church. So ends a friendship that began in their school days.

At the evening service tonight, the sermon topic will be “What Is Hell?” Come early and listen to our choir practice.

Eight new choir robes are currently needed due to the addition of several new members and to the deterioration of some older ones.

Scouts are saving aluminum cans, bottles and other items to be recycled. Proceeds will be used to cripple children.

Potluck supper Sunday at 5:00pm—prayer and medication to follow.

The ladies of the Church have cast off clothing of every kind. They may be seen in the basement on Friday afternoon.
DISASTER PERSONAL CARE KITS

Thanks to all the “helping hands” filling the many zip lock bags to be used for Disaster Personal Care Kits.

All outstanding bags should be returned to the “BIG Black Box” in the Commons Area by July 3. The Personal Care Kits will be used by Presbyterian Disaster Assistance where there have been floods and tornadoes in the US.

Many thanks to everyone for helping neighbors who have experienced a disaster.

Summer Fellowship

Here is the schedule for the rest of the summer!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>Congregation</th>
<th>COMMITTEE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>July 3</td>
<td>G-J</td>
<td>Lydia Circle, Men of the Church</td>
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<td>July 10</td>
<td>K-L</td>
<td>Property, Personnel, Stewardship &amp; Finance</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 17</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>The Sanctuary Choir &amp; Providence Singers</td>
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<td>July 24</td>
<td>N-SI</td>
<td>Pastoral Care, Membership, C&amp;G</td>
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<td>July 31</td>
<td>Sm-Z</td>
<td>CROSSing Paths, WSF</td>
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<td>August 7</td>
<td>A-Ch</td>
<td>Adult, Children’s &amp; Youth ministries</td>
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<td>August 14</td>
<td>C-F</td>
<td>Music &amp; Arts, CL&amp;F, Mission</td>
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<td>Sept. 4</td>
<td>M</td>
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GOOD NEWS DEADLINES

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<tr>
<th>ISSUE</th>
<th>DEADLINE, 2011</th>
<th>SUBMISSIONS TO KATHY KNORR</th>
<th><a href="mailto:OFFICE@PROVIDENCECHURCH.ORG">OFFICE@PROVIDENCECHURCH.ORG</a></th>
<th>(DEADLINES SUBJECT TO CHANGE.)</th>
<th>*NOTE EARLY HOLIDAY DEADLINES.</th>
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<td>OCTOBER</td>
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<td>*DECEMBER</td>
<td>NOVEMBER 7</td>
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Summer 2011

Worship on Sundays
Traditional, 10:30, Sanctuary
Contemporary, 10:30, Fellowship Hall
Summer Fellowship, 11:30, Mission Hall
July 3 and August 7
Communion

Vacation Bible Camp
July 25-29, 9:30am to 12:30pm

July 4, 2011
Church Office Closed

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703-978-4306 Fax
www.providencechurch.org

STAFF
The Rev. Dr. Michael P. Burns, Pastor
The Rev. Mary E. Rodgers, Associate Pastor
Mary Ellen Moss, Director of Youth Ministries
Holly Marcario, Children’s Ministry Coordinator
Joe Moss, Business Administrator
Kathy Knorr, Executive Secretary
Terry Stoneberg, Director of Music
Jane Kaye, Organist
Rick Thiele, Music Leader & Technology Coordinator
Arwen Norman, Children’s Choir Director
Gene Kaye, Providence Singers
Richard Mudd, Sexton
Good News Editor: Kathy Knorr