



2807 Lee Road 166 / Opelika, Alabama 36804

NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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EAST ALABAMA CHURCH IS GETTING INVOLVED *Providence Baptist Finds New Ways to Reach Community*

BEAUREGARD, Ala. — When Providence Baptist Church opens the doors of its new fellowship hall to the community Sunday May 3, it will have reached another milestone of its mission to become a vital member of its community.

The new fellowship hall will be a useful new medium for Providence to reach East Alabama Dr. Rusty Sowell, pastor of the church, said. He added that churches around the country are establishing such a model.

The new building will serve as a temporary sanctuary for its growing congregation of more than 400 members. The new fellowship hall is also available as a community emergency shelter in times of crisis.

Many of the church's community outreach programs are performed in its current fellowship hall. The new and bigger facility is equipped with a bigger kitchen, restrooms with showers and a media compatible audio system, increasing the utility of the church.

"We are excited about the direction God is taking us," Dr. Tom Smith, music minister at

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Providence, said. “We hope to use our new facility to reach further into our growing community.”

The church not only serves the Beauregard community, but also the East Alabama community with its ministries. Providence’s recreational fields have been used for events such as the CAST Ministries’ “Run, Walk and Roll.” This Christian organization works with amputees to help them cope with their limb loss.

The church is also involved with community sports. Dads on the Ball is a youth baseball camp that teaches baseball fundamentals and helps develop stronger relationships between fathers and sons. Providence has even helped the community youth athletic association by providing an area for the expanding tee ball league.

In the future, the church plans to build a new sanctuary and children’s building. Currently, the old sanctuary and children’s building are used for the church’s services, Vacation Bible School programs and Camp Providence, the church’s summer camp.

Plans for Providence extend as far as 30 years from the present. The church hopes to make improvements to current facilities to make them more useful to the community. With improvements and renovations to the current facilities and recreational fields and the planned construction of an assisted living facility, the church is seeking to become a pillar of the community.

“We are simply following God’s calling,” Gene Gwaltney, education minister at the church, said. “This is all possible because of our obedience to the Lord and his provision.”

Providence Baptist Church is located in the Beauregard Community of Lee County at 2807 Lee Road 166. Worship times are each Sunday at 8 a.m., 10:30 a.m. and 6:15 p.m. Sunday

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school is at 9:15 a.m. Providence offers a wide range of music and mission opportunities for all ages, as well as men's and women's ministries. Contact the church office (334-745-4608) for more information.

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