

Old Providence ARP Church

Old Providence News

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Dear Old Providence Family,

God is good—what a simple phrase this is, but what grand implications it has! As I reflect on my own life, I can see God’s sovereign hand at work, directing my paths and shaping the reality of my existence. Praise be to God that this is true not only when I think back on good times and positive experiences, but also when I consider times of great difficulty. I know that I am not unique in this practice. As your pastor, you have given me the great honor of ministering to you in both good times and bad. I have heard you express the same sentiment in times of difficulty and in times of ease: No matter what, God is good.

First, let me say “Thank You!” for being such an encouragement to me. But second, let me encourage you to hang on to your faith and continue in the practice of taking the time to remember God’s blessings. On Father’s Day I had the honor to preach from Psalm 103. The focus of my sermon was on God functioning as our Heavenly Father. In just 14 verses God reveals so many ways in which he cares for us, renews us, forgives us, and enables us to serve him. God does all of these things by His mercy alone, through grace alone. Yet we must be on guard. In the first two verses of Psalm 103 we are given two commands. The first command is, in light of God’s mercy, to praise the Lord and bless His name with every bit of ourselves. The second is to not forget what God has done.

God’s Word teaches us something about ourselves. We have a natural tendency to forget the Lord. We can forget God when our life is difficult and when trouble comes. We do this by taking our eyes off God and focusing on our circumstances. Yet, much in the same way, when we experience times of prosperity and ease, we can also forget God. We do this by resting on our circumstances and forgetting how much we need God’s grace. Let me encourage you to heed the command of Scripture—praise the Lord and remember his goodness at all times. Practicing gratitude is a life changing discipline that will bring you immeasurable peace.

Your Pastor,

Patrick



July 2019 Announcements

Women's Ministry Window

Please note date changes: All women of the church are invited to attend Women's Ministries on, **Tuesday, July 2nd**, (not Thursday, July 4th) at 7:00 p.m. followed by Bible Study at 7:30 p.m. In August we will meet on **Thursday, August 8th**, (not Thursday, August 1st). Hope you can join us.



Vacation Bible School

Don't forget to register for Bible School by calling the church office or go to www.oldprovidencechurch.org and click on "News and Events", and VBS Registration Form to print and mail to O.P. or drop off at church office. VBS "In the Wild" will be held from Sunday, July 7th – Thursday, July 11th, from 6:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. each evening beginning with a light supper. This is an animal-themed program that traces the life and ministry of Christ through daily "Encounters with Jesus".

The Adult Bible School Class will study the same scripture passages as the children, about the life of Jesus. All adults are welcome to join us for "Encounters with Jesus".

Special Services

Sunday, July 28th – Wednesday, July 31st

7:30 p.m.

Dr. Kyle Sims, pastor of the First ARP Church of Lancaster, South Carolina, will be leading our special services and focusing on the theme of "Getting Back to the Basics: A Study on what it means to be the Church". In 2005, Kyle accepted a call as minister to the First ARP Church. In 2010, he graduated from the Erskine Theological Seminary's Institute on Reformed Worship with a Doctor of Ministry degree. Kyle is also a volunteer Chaplain with the Lancaster City Fire Department which allows him to minister to the community as well his congregation. As a former basketball player, Kyle has enjoyed coaching youth basketball in the Moriah Church League and Hope on the Hill League. He resides in Lancaster with his wife Kelly and their four children. Kyle and our pastor have become very good friends over the years and are currently working together on various denominational committees. We are grateful that the Lord has brought Kyle to us for special services. The series of services will conclude on Wednesday evening following the service with a time of fellowship, and homemade ice cream and desserts provided by the congregation.



PreSchool



Update: There is one spot left in the 4-year-old class and two left in the 3-year-old class for the 2019/2020 school year. Please continue to spread the word.



Flowers

If you would like to provide flowers for church on a Sunday morning, please write on the calendar which is located on the table outside the history room or contact Lois.

Community News

The Raphine Volunteer Fire Company Fireworks and Ice Cream Social (Sponsored by City National Bank) will be held on Saturday, July 6th, at the Firehouse beginning at 8:30 p.m. Food and drinks will be for sale at 6:00 p.m. and the Band will start at 7:00 p.m.

The Rockbridge Area Hospice invites you to attend: Grief to Growth Support Group on Wednesday evenings for 8 weeks beginning August 7, 2019 at Buena Vista Presbyterian Church. For more information, or to register please call Sudan Harrison, at 540-463-1848

July 2019 Calendar of Events

Tuesday, July 2

7:00 p.m. – Women's Ministries

7:30 p.m. – Women's Bible Study



Thursday, July 4 – Independence Day

Church Office Closed

Friday, July 5

Church Office Closed

Sunday, July 7

10:00 a.m. – Sabbath School

10:45 a.m. – Nursery Helpers: Kay and Emma

11:00 a.m. – Worship

Children's Church Leader: Carrie, Connie and Lois

Sunday, July 7 – Thursday, July 11

6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. - Vacation Bible School

Sunday, July 14

10:00 a.m. – Sabbath School

10:45 a.m. – Nursery Helpers: Joy and Carrie

11:00 a.m. – Worship

Children's Church Leader: Karen, Holly , and Justine

Noon – Deacons Meeting

7:00 p.m. – Session Meeting

Sunday, July 21

10:00 a.m. – Sabbath School

10:45 a.m. – Nursery Helpers: Laurin and Adam

11:00 a.m. – Worship

Children's Church Leader: Stacy , Dana , and Kristin

Sunday, July 28

10:00 a.m. – Sabbath School

10:45 a.m. – Nursery Helpers: Karleen and Marvella

11:00 a.m. – Worship

Children's Church Leader: Karleen, Tina, and Dabney

Sunday, July 28 - Wednesday, July 31

7:30 p.m. - Special Services

Monday, July 29 - Thursday, August 1

Family Bible Conference at Bonclarken

August 2019



- 1 Women's Ministries and Bible Study
- 11 Rally Day and Sunday School Picnic
Deacons Meeting
- 25 WRE Special Offering
Communion
- 29 Women's Ministries visits
Beulah Land