

Old Providence ARP Church

Old Providence News

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Introducing the MacDougall's... James MacDougall was hired to be our Pastoral Intern at Old Providence and began his time with us on May 1st. We are excited that the Lord has brought James and Elizabeth to us and are grateful for their ministry.

Dear Old Providence Family,

As many of you already know, Elizabeth and I joined Old Providence Church last September. It has since been our genuine pleasure to worship with you, and as Covid restrictions abate (hopefully soon) we look forward to fellowshiping in expanded activities and events. We so want to get to know you better. Making it harder, in addition to social restrictions, those masks that we are not very fond of keep us from seeing your beautiful faces, so please be patient with us as we learn to recognize you by name!

Elizabeth and I have known each other since high school (actually we were birthed by the same doctor, though three years apart), and even went to the prom together in the suburbs of Baltimore Maryland. We met as band members in a tiny contemporary Christian music group and have since both enjoyed singing in choral groups. A couple of our favorite oratorios are Brahms' *Ein Deutsches Requiem* and Handel's *Messiah*. While Elizabeth enjoys hiking, piano, gardening (and is a voracious reader), I have a few guitars that I try to keep in tune and pretty much enjoy any sport, especially golf and tennis.

Our 2020 move to Raphine came as the result of Elizabeth accepting a professorship at Bridgewater College. Her early professional years were with the CIA, but since then she has taught at universities (thanatology) and privately practiced in geriatric neuropsychology (testing and measuring dementia). My occupation has morphed from accounting to technology consulting, but until a few years ago I had a parallel career as a pilot in the Air Force Reserves.

But those vocations are behind me and as Patrick says, I have put my hand to the ministerial plow. As for my pastoral calling, I have had some sense of that all my life (literally since I was an early teenager in the nascent PCA), but never more strongly than when I was retiring from the military. It was then that I enrolled in Reformed Theological Seminary, initially to simply be a better student of Scripture and serve my local congregation. But as that degree progressed, it became clearer that God was not just asking me to be an educated layman, but was prodding me to engage in full-time ministry – to apply His whole counsel as an ordained minister. I cannot think of anything more important than handling God's Word rightly, and my unquenchable desire

is to see His people engage in the Word with a thirst for sanctification and holiness, living out daily life in joy and thanksgiving, all to His glory.

As I humbly work with the Old Providence session, Reverend Malphrus, our presbytery, and of course, you – I do so with ongoing gratitude that you have allowed me to be your Pastoral Intern.

James and Elizabeth



June 2021 Announcements

As of publication of this Newsletter, Sunday Worship Services are being held in an abbreviated format at 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Sabbath School partially resumed with a few classes for adults meeting at 10:00 a.m. Our full Sabbath School program for all ages will not resume until August. Children's Church has resumed for the 9:00 a.m. service only and leaders are needed – contact Patcie to help. Nursery has resumed for the 9:00 a.m. service and 10:00 a.m. Sabbath School hour – contact Amanda to help. The Session has decided that it is best if everyone who is able to wear masks do so while inside the church facilities.

Pastor Malphrus will continue broadcasting his sermons on Sunday mornings at 9:00 a.m. through our church's Facebook page, and will post the audio version of those sermons on sermonaudio.com/oldprovidence. If you would like a copy of any Sunday sermons on CD, please call the church office.

We are taking the summer off for Daily Devotionals and we will resume on August 9, 2021.

Women's Ministries Window

Women's Ministries will meet on Thursday, June 3rd, at 7:00 p.m. with Bible Study following at 7:30 p.m. All women are invited. We will be studying Daniel 5 in Chapter 6 of our study book "Daniel" by Iain Duguid. Women's Ministries is collecting items for Bonclarken Gift Shop. Boxes are in Providence Hall and items are due by June 6th. Contact Gail if you have questions.

Old Providence PreSchool Update



There are currently openings in the 3-year-old class for this fall. For details, please call the church office or visit www.oldprovidencechurch.org.

June 2021 Calendar of Events

Wednesday, June 2

6:30 p.m. – Session and Diaconate meet jointly

7:00 p.m. – Session and Diaconate meet separately

Thursday, June 3

7:00 p.m. - Women's Ministries

7:30 p.m. – Women's Bible Study

Congratulations Graduates!

Sunday, June 6 – Graduation Sunday

8:45 a.m. – Nursery Helpers: Laurin and Stacy

9:00 a.m. – Worship – Recognize Graduates

Children's Church

10:00 a.m. – Sabbath School

11:00 a.m. – Worship

5:30 p.m. – Youth Group

Tuesday, June 8 – Thursday, June 10

General Synod Meeting at Bonclarken

Sunday, June 13

8:45 a.m. – Nursery Helpers: Lois and Katie

9:00 a.m. – Worship

Children's Church

10:00 a.m. – Sabbath School

11:00 a.m. – Worship

6:30 p.m. – Diaconate Meeting

Monday, June 14 – Saturday, June 19

Middle School Conference at Bonclarken

Sunday, June 20 – Father's Day/Special Offering for Camp Joy

8:45 a.m. – Nursery Helpers: Terri and Karleen

9:00 a.m. – Worship



Children's Church

10:00 a.m. – Sabbath School

11:00 a.m. – Worship

Monday, June 21 – Saturday, June 26

High School Conference at Bonclarken

Sunday, June 27

8:45 a.m. – Nursery Helpers: OPEN

9:00 a.m. – Worship

Children's Church

10:00 a.m. – Sabbath School

11:00 a.m. – Worship

*Please keep in mind, calendar dates are tentative and could change or cancel after publication of the newsletter.



July 2021

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| 1 Women's Ministries & Bible Study | 25-28 Special Services |
| 5 Church Office Closed – Independence Day | 26 ARP Women's Ministries |
| 9 & 12 Church Office Closed | Annual Meeting at Bonclarken |
| 11 Session and Diaconate Meetings | 25-29 Family Bible Conference |
| 25 Homecoming | at Bonclarken |

Community Event

Raphine Volunteer Fire Company's Annual Fireman's Carnival will be held June 16th – June 19th.