

Old Providence ARP Church

Old Providence News

Est. February 2001

Volume 18 Issue 11 November 1, 2018



Dear Old Providence Family,

Well the air has chilled and the leaves have begun to fall. Thanksgiving Day is coming soon and then, before you know it, Christmas will be upon us. People react differently to this time of year. For some, the holiday season is a time of wonder and magic that hearkens back to fond childhood memories. But for others, the holiday season brings with it a time of varied emotions. While there is joy, the loss of loved ones or separation from family and friends can make the holiday season difficult. And for others still the holiday season holds little or no joy at all. Nostalgia can be both a blessing and a curse.

No matter where you find yourself on the spectrum, let me encourage you to focus on the real reason for celebration. The phrase “Jesus is the Reason for the Season” has been somewhat overused but still, nevertheless, rings true. With Thanksgiving Day quickly approaching, take the time to consider why you should be thankful. Be intentional about reflecting on God’s blessings and remember the words of the Psalmist in Psalm 100 where the reader is instructed to KNOW that the Lord is God and to remember that He is good and that His love endures forever. It is in light of these things that the Psalmist instructs the reader to enter the Lord’s gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise. Our Doxology (praise) must be based on our Theology (the knowledge of the Lord).

Also remember the words of the prophet Jeremiah who, in Lamentations 3, laments over the destruction that befell Jerusalem and his own personal loss. Even so, Jeremiah concluded that no matter what circumstances he faced, the Lord’s love and mercies never end. Like Jeremiah, you too can proclaim “Great is Thy Faithfulness”. Remember these things as we enter into this season of celebration and remembrance. The Lord is good. His love endures forever.

Your Pastor,

Patrick



November 2018 Announcements

Daylight Savings Time ends on Sunday, November 4th. **Set Your Clocks Back on Saturday Night!**

Women's Ministry Window

Women's Ministries will meet on Thursday, November 1st, at 7:00 p.m. followed by Bible Study at 7:30 p.m. We will continue our study of *Living in the Gap Between Promise and Reality* by Iain M. Duguid on Chapter 11 "Crossing the Rubicon" (Genesis 21). Please join us on the first Thursday of every month.

We will visit Beulah Land on Thursday, November 29th, at 7:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome.

Women's Ministries is sponsoring a project to help Kingsway by collecting stuffing and gravy to be given out for Thanksgiving. The collection will run through November 18th. There are collection boxes in Providence Hall for anyone who would like to participate. For more information, contact Gail.

Election of Elders and Deacons

The congregation will select three Elders in a congregational meeting on November 4th. The Session will submit the names of nominees for Deacons to the congregation on November 11th and the congregation will select the necessary number of Deacons in a congregational meeting on November 18th.

Monday Mid-Day

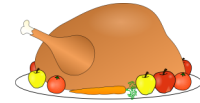
The last Monday Mid-Day program for this year will be held on Monday, November 5th. The program begins at 11:00 a.m. with a light lunch following. Everyone is welcome.

Little Lambs and Youth Group



Little Lambs and Youth Group will meet on Sunday, November 4th and 18th at 5:30 p.m. starting with a light supper. In addition to those days, the Youth Group will meet November 11th but not the 25th. Please come out and join us!

Community Thanksgiving Supper



The Youth Group will host the annual Community Thanksgiving Supper at the Spottswood Community Center on Wednesday, November 21st. This Supper has been sponsored by the Youth Group for many years with the purpose of providing the opportunity for everyone in the community to have a Thanksgiving Meal. The meal is served on a donation basis beginning at 5:00 p.m. The donations received in excess of the cost of the meal provide funds for the activities and ministries of the Youth Group in the coming year. The menu consists of turkey, country ham, dressing, gravy, green beans, sweet potatoes, corn, fruit cocktail, rolls, fancy pies and pumpkin rolls. Please contact Mitchell or Holly, Carrie or Kristi for more information.

Community Events

WRE Fundraiser: The Faithful Men Concert is scheduled for Sunday, November 4th, at Mount Carmel Church at 6:00 p.m.

The Raphine Volunteer Fire Company Thanksgiving Feast will be held at the Firehouse on Saturday, November 10th, at 5:00 p.m.

Operation Christmas Child

If you would like to participate in Samaritan's Purse project, Operation Christmas Child, which collects shoeboxes filled with fun toys, school supplies and hygiene items; and delivers them to children in need around the world to demonstrate God's love in a tangible way, you may pick up boxes from Providence Hall or provide your own. There are handouts with instructions there as well. The deadline to turn in your filled boxes is Sunday, November 11th. Contact Carol, if you have questions.

Salvation Army Bell Ringing



Old Providence will ring the red bell again this year. We will be ringing at Food Lion in Stuarts Draft from 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Saturday, December 1st. The location is a change from the past. If you have any questions, please contact Carol. A sign-up sheet will be available on the table in Providence Hall. Please mark your calendar and sign up for an hour or two to ring the bell!



Poinsettia Orders

It is time to order poinsettias for Christmas. They may be given in honor of or in memory of someone, if you would like, or just to grace the sanctuary. Check future bulletins for details or contact Dot.

November 2018 Calendar of Events

Thursday, November 1

7:00 p.m. – Women's Ministries

7:30 p.m. – Women's Bible Study

Sunday, November 4 – Daylight Savings Time Ends

Congregational Meeting

10:00 a.m. – Sabbath School

10:45 a.m. – Nursery Helpers: Lois and Katie

11:00 a.m. – Worship

Children's Church Leader: Carrie

5:30 p.m. – Children's Fellowship and Youth Group

6:00 p.m. – Session and Deacons meet separately

7:00 p.m. – Session and Deacons meet jointly



Monday, November 5

11:00 a.m. - Monday Mid-Day Program

Wednesday, November 7

6:45 p.m. - Bible Study

Sunday, November 11

Session submits nominees for Deacons

10:00 a.m. – Sabbath School

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

11:00 a.m. – Worship

Children's Church Leader: Karen

5:30 p.m. – Youth Group

Monday, November 12 - Veterans Day

Wednesday, November 14

No Bible Study

Sunday, November 18 – Synod Fall Offering

Congregational Meeting

10:00 a.m. – Sabbath School

10:45 a.m. – Nursery Helpers: Stacy and Kayla

11:00 a.m. – Worship

Children's Church Leader: Dana

5:30 p.m. – Children's Fellowship and Youth Group

Wednesday, November 21

5:00 p.m. – Community Thanksgiving Supper

Thursday, November 22 – Thanksgiving Day

Thursday, November 22 & Friday, November 23

Church Office Closed

Sunday, November 25

10:00 a.m. – Sabbath School

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

11:00 a.m. – Worship

Children's Church Leader: Karleen and Kristin

No Youth Group

Wednesday, November 28

6:45 p.m. – Bible Study

Thursday, November 29

Women's Ministries visits Beulah Land



December Calendar

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| Dec 2 – Communion | Dec 12 – Christmas Dinner |
| - Children's Fellowship and Youth Group | Dec 16 – Christmas Program/Cantata |
| Dec 6 – Women's Ministries & Bible Study | Dec 24 & 25 Church Office Closed |
| Dec 9 – Deacons Meeting | Dec 30 – Breakfast for Young Life |
| - Youth Group | Dec 31 – Church Office Closed |