

# Old Providence News

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Old Providence ARP Church

Dear Old Providence Family,

What a joy it is to be writing to you from my office at Old Providence. God has been so gracious and merciful, and continues to work in our church. Lots of folks have recently taken a positive step of faith and have officially joined our congregation. Our sanctuary refreshing project is underway. Soon we will be electing officers and having our congregational meeting. More and more visitors are attending every week. Again, the Lord has blessed our church in so many ways. And these are just some of the things going on at Old Providence!

What's going on in your life? Can you see God's hand at work? Do you take the time to count your blessings? Certainly, none of us can be completely accurate when we attempt to do so. After all, the Lord blesses and protects us in ways that we don't even know about. But are you intentional about dwelling on the Lord's goodness? And if you are, do you take the time to thank Him? With Thanksgiving just around the corner, let me encourage you to thank the Lord in accordance with the commands of His Word.

Psalm 107 offers its readers a glimpse of God's faithfulness and how His sovereign hand is always at work in the lives of His people. The psalmist writes of God's provision in times of great loss and sorrow, His mercy in times of trouble and uncertainty, His sovereignty in times of hope and deliverance, of God's giving and taking away, and even of God's mercy toward those who turned away from Him.

What does the psalmist conclude, and what does God's Word command His people to do in light of such great love? Verse 1 simply says "Give thanks to Jehovah, for He is good; His love endures forever." In short, we are to offer thanksgiving! And thankfully we are not left to wonder about what giving thanks really looks like. Verse 2 goes on to command "Let the redeemed of Jehovah say so..." In other words, giving thanks is directly linked to offering testimony. As the recipients of such great love, we should share our joy with others and be ready and willing to testify to God's greatness.

Admittedly, some are truly frightened by the prospect of testifying to others. Some fret about questions like "what would I say?" or "what if they ask questions that I can't answer?" and some even say things like "I'm just a person, not a pastor, I can't preach to people." But the beauty of Psalm 107 and God's calling for His people is that our testimony is based on what God has done for us. You don't have to be a pastor to tell others about how much God has loved you. You don't have to be an apologist to share with people about how Jesus has changed your life. The Lord gives us the ability to turn every day into Thanksgiving, and He does it through the opportunities He brings our way to testify to His greatness. Keep that in mind today, and every day. And also keep in mind the way Psalm 107 ends. Verse 43 says "Whoever is wise, let him heed these things and consider the great love of Jehovah."

Your Pastor,

Patrick

## November 2021 Announcements



As of publication of this Newsletter, there are two Worship Services each Sunday at 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Sabbath School classes for all ages meet at 10:00 a.m. Children's Church is available during the 9:00 a.m. service only. Nursery is available during the 9:00 a.m. service and 10:00 a.m. Sabbath School hour. Youth Group meets on Sundays at 5:30 p.m. and Little Lambs meets the first and third Sundays at 5:30 p.m. Pastor Malphrus will continue broadcasting his sermons on Sunday mornings at 9:00 a.m. through Facebook.com/OldProvidenceARChurchSpottswoodVa, and will post the audio version of those sermons on sermonaudio.com/oldprovidence. You may access our Facebook page, our church calendar, edited newsletters, announcements, and more by visiting our website at [www.oldprovidencechurch.org](http://www.oldprovidencechurch.org). If you would like a copy of a Sunday sermon on CD, please call the church office.

Daily Devotionals take place Monday through Friday with our pastor. They are available live at 7:00 a.m. through our church's Facebook page, or after through sermonaudio.com or the sermonaudio app. Please see Pastor Malphrus if you need help accessing our Daily Devotionals.

Bible Study and Prayer Service are on Wednesdays at 6:45 p.m. with our Pastoral Intern, James, leading our time of study.

Pat and Susie are hosting a study of the book of Hebrews in their home on Tuesday evenings at 7:00 p.m. It's not too late to join. Contact Pat with questions.

**Elections:** The Congregational Meeting to elect Elders will be held on November 7<sup>th</sup> and the Congregational Meeting to elect Deacons will be held on November 28<sup>th</sup>. Our Annual Stated Congregational Business Meeting to approve the Budget and elect Congregational Officers will be held on December 5<sup>th</sup>. For members who are not able to attend services you may complete ballots at the church office from November 1<sup>st</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> and November 22<sup>nd</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup>. The Congregational Meetings will begin after the 9:00 a.m. Worship Services, the meeting will go into recess, and will be completed after the 11:00 a.m. Worship Services. Please be in prayer for Officer Elections and our Annual Stated Meeting.

## Youth Group Drive Thru Dinner



This Holiday Dinner will take place on Saturday, December 4<sup>th</sup>, from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. and will be the same set up as last year. All dinners must be pre-ordered and picked up via drive thru. The planned menu is: Country Ham, Turkey, sides, and pound cake. Pre-orders must be placed from November 15-29<sup>th</sup> in order to reserve a meal. This may be done by calling the church office at 377-2911, or texting 292-5499 or 292-9718. Please give your name, phone #, and # of dinners when you place your order. The dinner will be served on a donation basis at the time of pick up. The proceeds of the dinner go to help fund the service projects and activities of the Old Providence Church Youth Group. We appreciate your support and are happy we can still provide a Holiday dinner during this time. If you are able to help, please contact Carrie or Kristi.



### **Little Lambs**

Little Lambs will meet on Sundays, November 7<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>, from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. This class is offered for children ages 3 to 5<sup>th</sup> grade. For more information, please contact Amanda.

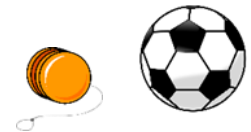
### **Women's Ministries Window**

Women's Ministries will meet on Thursday, November 4<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 p.m. with Bible Study following at 7:30 p.m. All women are invited. We will be studying Daniel 11:2-12:3 in Chapters 14 of our study book "Daniel" by Iain Duguid.

The Women's Ministries is sponsoring this year's project to help Kingsway by collecting dressing and gravy to be given out before Thanksgiving. The collection will run through November 14<sup>th</sup>. There are collection boxes in Providence Hall for anyone who would like to participate. For more information and questions, contact Gail.

The Women's Ministries requests the names of our church family members who are in college or in the military so they can stay in touch with them. Please submit the information to the church office. For questions, please see Shirley before or after Sunday School.

### **Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child**



We are participating in Operation Christmas Child again this year. Shoeboxes and Brochures/Labels/ Envelopes are available for pickup in Providence Hall. Please return filled shoeboxes by Sunday, November 21<sup>st</sup>. The preferred method to pay the \$9.00 shipping cost is online by following the link on the brochure. Contact Carrie with questions.

### **Riverheads Weekday Religious Education**

WRE is up and running at full capacity! Now that school is back in session 5 days a week, so are we! Dana is still the teacher after 33 years of faithful service to WRE. Cathy has stepped in as Dana's assistant and they make a wonderful team! We currently have 542 students attending which is 83% of the student body at Riverheads that has parental permission to attend Bible classes! This is wonderful news as many of these kids do not attend church or Sunday School anywhere else. We are very blessed to have the opportunity to teach them about Jesus and the Bible. Since the beginning of Covid, we have been unable to hold any fundraisers, but with the support of our area churches, we are doing well! The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 15<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 p.m. in the WRE classroom. Thanks and God bless you!

Mary, Riverheads WRE President

## Bus Trip



The Spiritual Care Committee is sponsoring a bus trip to Wohlfahrt Haus Dinner Theatre in Wytheville, VA on Tuesday, November 30<sup>th</sup>, to see "Christmas in the Mountains". The bus will leave Old Providence at 9:00 a.m. and return around 7:00 p.m. The cost of the trip is \$55.00. Sign-up and money for members and active attendees, and their guests, is due by November 8<sup>th</sup>. After this date, we will open it up to the public until the bus is filled. See Martha or Linda to get your name on the list.

## November 2021 Calendar of Events

Tuesday, November 2

7:00 p.m. – Home Bible Study

Wednesday, November 3

6:45 p.m. – Bible Study and Prayer Service

Thursday, November 4

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

7:30 p.m. – Women's Bible Study



Sunday, November 7 – Daylight Savings Time Ends

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

9:00 a.m. – Worship

Children's Church leaders: Carrie and Lois

10:00 a.m. – Sabbath School

11:00 a.m. – Worship

5:30 p.m. – Little Lambs and Youth Group

6:00 p.m. – Session and Diaconate Meetings

Monday, November 8

11:00 a.m. – Monday Mid-Day Last Fall Program

Tuesday, November 9

7:00 p.m. – Home Bible Study

Wednesday, November 10

10:00 a.m. – Announcements for November 14 Bulletin due

6:45 p.m. – Bible Study and Prayer Service

Thursday, November 11 – Monday, November 15

Church Office Closed

Sunday, November 14

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

9:00 a.m. – Worship

Children's Church leaders: Amanda and Vicki

10:00 a.m. – Sabbath School

11:00 a.m. – Worship

5:30 p.m. – Youth Group

Tuesday, November 16

7:00 p.m. – Home Bible Study

Wednesday, November 17

6:45 p.m. – Bible Study and Prayer Service

Sunday, November 21 – Communion & Fall Special Offering for Synod Causes

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

9:00 a.m. – Worship

Children's Church leaders: Patcie and Sue

10:00 a.m. – Sabbath School

11:00 a.m. – Worship

5:30 p.m. – Little Lambs and Youth Group

Tuesday, November 23

7:00 p.m. – Home Bible Study

Wednesday, November 24

6:45 p.m. – Bible Study and Prayer Service

Thursday, November 25 and Friday, November 26

Church Office Closed for Thanksgiving



Sunday, November 28

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

9:00 a.m. – Worship

Children's Church leaders: Dabney and Tina

10:00 a.m. – Sabbath School

11:00 a.m. – Worship

5:30 p.m. – Youth Group

Tuesday, November 30

Bus Trip to Wohlfahrt Haus Dinner Theatre

7:00 p.m. – Home Bible Study

## December 2021



2 Women's Ministries & Bible Study

4 Youth Group Holiday Drive Thru Dinner

5 Little Lambs & Youth Group

Diaconate Meeting

8 Christmas Dinner

23 & 24 Church Office Closed

25 Christmas Day

30 & 31 Church Office Closed

31 New Year's Eve

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