

## Old Providence ARP Church

## Old Providence News

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Dear Old Providence Family,

Do you enjoy reading the Bible? One of the reasons that I enjoy studying God's Word is that I find in it mysteries that baffle the mind. No, I'm not talking about some sort of mystical Bible code or obscure prophesy. Much to the contrary, the mysteries to which I'm referring are stated as clear as crystal throughout the Bible. Take, for instance, the mystery of Romans 5:8 which says "But God demonstrated His love for us in this: That while we were still sinners Christ died for us." The idea that Christ, God the Son, would take on flesh and become one of us, all for the sake of dying for us? And don't miss the qualifier added to the end of the verse. That *while we were still sinners* Christ died for us. Not only did we do nothing to earn such favor from God, instead we did the opposite—we were God's enemies when Christ died for us. This truly baffles the mind!

Another great mystery is that of prayer. The fact that God, Master of the Universe, wants to spend time with you and me in very real and intimate conversation is a true mystery. And not only does God want to spend time with us in conversation, He tells us in Hebrews 4:16 to approach His throne of grace with boldness, asking not only for those things we need, but also for those things we want. If this isn't mind boggling to you then let me encourage you to take the time to reflect on yourself. As I consider my own sinfulness, my own motivations and the sinful inclination of my heart, I am truly amazed that God loves me so much as to invite me to approach Him at all, and what's more, to approach him with my wants. When considering these things, God's Word in Psalm 8 comes to mind when David ponders "What is man that you are mindful of him? The son of man that you care for him?"

The reality is that we do not deserve God's favor or blessings, but He gives them nonetheless. This is all because of our Savior, Jesus Christ. Jesus fulfilled God's law with absolute perfection. He found favor with God that we would not and could not find. And by God's mercy, all those who place their faith in Jesus are credited with His righteousness so that when God looks at His people He does not see our sinfulness, but instead sees the perfect righteousness of Jesus. Let me encourage you to dwell on these things with grateful hearts. Let me also encourage you to search the Scripture for these profound mysteries.

Your Pastor,

Patrick



## **September 2019 Announcements**

### **Erskine College**

Interested students are invited to attend Erskine College on October 27<sup>th</sup> for tours and more. For details and to register go to: [visit.erskine.edu](http://visit.erskine.edu).

### **Bus Trip Update**



The final payment due date for the Ark Encounter & Creation Museum trip from October 10<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> has past. However, if you think you might be able to go, you can contact Martha or Linda. They will put you on a waiting list in case there are any cancellations or possibilities that can be arranged.

### **Pictorial Directory**

It's time to update! Our last directory was printed in 2016. We have a new pastor, and new families; there have been weddings, and babies, and children who are now young adults. We're changing and a new photo directory will help us capture these changes.

It's not too late to sign up for your photography session time on September 23<sup>rd</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup>, or 25<sup>th</sup> by calling the Church Office at 540-377-2911, signing up using the printed sheets in Providence Hall Sundays after Worship Service, or sign up online from Monday afternoons to Friday noon each week at: <https://booknow-lifetouch.appointment-plus.com/b0e09gnk/>

(If you are unable to attend a session, you may submit a photo of your own.)

Our goal is 100% participation. Every participating family will receive a free 8x10 portrait and a copy of our directory, and will have the opportunity to purchase additional portraits. This directory is not only for official church members, but includes all those who are part of the Old Providence Family, so please sign up. Thank you to those who have already signed up!

The Pictorial Directory Committee

## **Upcoming Events**

### **Women's Ministry Window**

All women of the church are invited to attend Women's Ministries at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, September 5<sup>th</sup>, followed by Bible Study at 7:30 p.m. Hope you can join us.

Women's Ministries is sponsoring the Virginia Presbytery Fall Hymn Sing at Old Providence on Sunday, September 22<sup>nd</sup>, at 3:00 p.m. A light dinner will be served. There is a sign-up sheet in Providence Hall or you may call Sylvia Richmond at 540-430-6114.

### **PreSchool**



There are currently two openings in the 3-year-old class and there is a wait list for the 4-year-old class for 2019/2020 PreSchool. The first day of class is Tuesday, September 3<sup>rd</sup>, for the 3-year-old class and Wednesday, September 4<sup>th</sup>, for the 4-year-old class.

### **Monday Mid-Day**

The Fall series of the Monday Mid-Day program resumes on Monday, September 9<sup>th</sup>, at 11:00 a.m. with guest Dalton Campbell speaking on Retirement and Investments. A light lunch is served following each program (volunteer sign-up sheet to prepare meals on wall outside kitchen). The cost of the meal is \$3.00 per person. Meetings will be held on September 23<sup>rd</sup>, October 7<sup>th</sup>, October 21<sup>st</sup>, and November 4<sup>th</sup>. Everyone is welcome .

## **Little Lambs and Youth Group**



It's that time of year for Little Lambs and Youth Group to resume. Youth Group will resume on Sunday, September 8<sup>th</sup>, at 5:30 p.m. and will typically meet every Sunday. Little Lambs will resume on Sunday, September 15<sup>th</sup>, and will typically meet on the first and third Sundays of each month beginning with a light supper. Please join us!

## **Community News**

On September 20<sup>th</sup> (6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.) and 21<sup>st</sup> (8:00 am. – 1:30 p.m.) Emmanuel Baptist Church is sponsoring "Ladies Retreat 2019 - All things for Good" with guest speaker Jim Savastio from the Reformed Baptist Church of Louisville. This FREE retreat including lodging, breakfast, and lunch will be held at the Augusta Conference Center in Fort Defiance. Register by September 7<sup>th</sup> at <http://ebc-verona.net/ladiesretreat18> or by contacting Shannon Wilfong at 540-292-9520 or [TruthHonorWisdom@gmail.com](mailto:TruthHonorWisdom@gmail.com).

The Raphine Volunteer Fire Company BBQ Chicken Fundraiser will be held at Raphine Christian Church on Saturday, September 14<sup>th</sup>, at 11:00 a.m.

Praise Night for Weekday Religious Education will be held on Sunday, September 29<sup>th</sup>, at 6:00 p.m. at Raphine Christian Church.

## September 2019 Calendar of Events

Sunday, September 1

10:00 a.m. – Sabbath School

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

11:00 a.m. – Worship

Children's Church Leaders: Carrie , Connie, and Stogdale

Monday, September 2 – Labor Day

Church Office Closed

Tuesday, September 3

Preschool Begins



Wednesday, September 4

6:45 p.m. – Bible Study

Thursday, September 5

7:00 p.m. – Women's Ministries

7:30 p.m. – Women's Bible Study

Sunday, September 8

10:00 a.m. – Sabbath School

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

11:00 a.m. – Worship

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

5:30 p.m. – Youth Group resumes

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

7:00 p.m. - Session and Diaconate meet jointly

Monday, September 9

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

Wednesday, September 11

6:45 p.m. – Bible Study

Sunday, September 15

10:00 a.m. – Sabbath School

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

11:00 a.m. – Worship

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

5:30 p.m. - Little Lambs resumes/Youth Group

Wednesday, September 18

6:45 p.m. – Bible Study

Sunday, September 22

10:00 a.m. – Sabbath School

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

11:00 a.m. – Worship

Children's Church Leaders: Karleen ,Tina and Dabney

5:30 p.m. – Youth Group

Monday, September 23

11:00 a.m. – Monday Mid-Day Program

Wednesday, September 25

6:45 p.m. – Bible Study

Sunday, September 29

9:00 a.m. – Breakfast for Young Life

10:00 a.m. – Sabbath School

10:45 a.m. – Nursery Helpers: Connie and Scott

11:00 a.m. – Worship

Children's Church Leaders: Kristi and Laurin

5:30 p.m. – Youth Group

## October 2019

- |         |                                     |    |   |
|---------|-------------------------------------|----|---|
| 3       | Women's Ministries and Bible Study  | 19 | Virginia Presbytery at Timber Ridge ARP |
| 6       | World Wide Communion Sunday         | 20 | Little Lambs/Youth Group                |
|         | Little Lambs/Youth Group            | 21 | Monday Mid-Day Program                  |
|         | Special Offering for Rebekah Carson | 26 | Women's Ministries Annual VA            |
| 7       | Monday Mid-Day Program              |    | Presbyterial Meeting at Ebenezer        |
| 11 & 12 | ARP Women's Ministries Annual       |    | ARP Church                              |
|         | Meeting at Bonclarken               | 27 | Reformation Sunday                      |
| 13      | Youth Group                         |    | Trunk or Treat                          |
|         | Diaconate Budget Meeting            | 31 | Women's Ministries Visits Beulah Land   |