

# Old Providence News

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Old Providence ARP Church

Dear Old Providence Family,

I hope that this Newsletter finds all of you doing very well and enjoying a warm and beautiful April. Whether it's in the growing grass or the blooming flowers, the evidence of new life is all around us, and all of it points to God's faithfulness. Do you take the time to dwell on God's faithful love and mercy? And do you take that next step of thanking God for what He has done? Psalm 107 tells all of God's people to "Give thanks to the LORD for He is good; His love endures forever. Let the redeemed of the LORD say so..." Clearly, God commands His people to be thankful for what He has done and to testify to His goodness and generosity. But rather than viewing this passage as just another command, it should also be viewed as an opportunity.

Having an attitude of gratitude changes everything. Just think about what it means to be a truly grateful person. First off, starting with you, if you have an attitude of gratitude your world could be transformed into a place of opportunity. Whether it's the opportunity to be grateful for how God is working or the opportunity to testify to His love, new opportunities abound every day. Second, think about what having an attitude of gratitude could do for the people in your life and the way that you interact with them. Third, think about what having an attitude of gratitude could do for your relationship with the Lord and how you evaluate life as a whole. And fourth, think about what having an attitude of gratitude could do to how you spend your time and resources.

Certainly, there are more implications and applications than the four I've just listed, but these should serve as wonderful incentives to practice having an attitude of gratitude. Even so, allow me to offer a fifth. Just think about what Old Providence would look like if all of us had attitudes of gratitude. What kind of testimony would we have in our community and beyond? How might the Lord use us? What an exciting thing it is to know that the Lord is working! And what a wonderful thing it is to be a part of the Church He is building.

Your Pastor,

Patrick

## April 2024 Announcements



As of publication of this Newsletter, we have Sunday Morning Worship Service at 10:00 a.m. and Sabbath School at 9:00 a.m. Children's Church is available during the Worship Service. Nursery is available during the Worship Service and during Sabbath School. During the school year Youth Group typically meets every Sunday at 5:30 p.m., and Little Lambs meets the first and third Sunday monthly from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Pastor Malphrus will post his Sunday morning sermons on **Facebook.com/OldProvidenceARChurchSpottswoodVa** and will post the audio version of those sermons on **sermonaudio.com/oldprovidence**. To access our Facebook page, church calendar, edited newsletters, sermonaudio.com, announcements, and more, visit our website: [oldprovidencechurch.org](http://oldprovidencechurch.org). For a copy of a Sunday sermon on CD, or to add or update your contact information for notifications received via the One Call System, call the office.

Daily Devotionals with our pastor are at 6:00 a.m. through our church's Facebook page and recordings are available there and via our website. Audio versions are available through sermon audio.com, the sermonaudio app or our website. For a copy of a devotional on CD, contact Patrick.

Wednesday night Prayer Meeting and Bible Study with Pastor Malphrus meets at 6:45 p.m.

### Monday Mid-Day Program

Our next Monday Mid-Day Program will be on April 8<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 a.m. with our guest speaker Rev. Dr. Horace Douty with the topic "The Waters of Rockbridge". The program will be followed by a light lunch and fellowship. Rev. Dr. Horace Douty was raised in the Timber Ridge area of Rockbridge. He graduated from Washington and Lee University and later earned his doctorate from Seminary. In 1957 he was ordained a Presbyterian pastor and served in active ministry for more than 65 years. After living away from Rockbridge for half a century, he moved back in 2004. He and his wife, Ellen, live near Lexington and they have four grown children between them. Rev. Douty has authored several pieces for The Rockbridge Historical Society titled "Proceedings of the Rockbridge Historical Society". His books volume I and II are entitled "History Lessons from a Country Church". He prepares and presents weekly videos for YouTube featuring nature, history lessons, sermons and prayers.

On April 22<sup>nd</sup> Leah C. from Dept. of Wildlife Resources. The title of her presentation is "From the Rare to the Abundant - Furbearers of Virginia". She will talk about all furbearers, including some trapping information, as well as summarize some recent/current/upcoming projects on the Dept. of Wildlife Resources. She began her work spotted skunks, gray foxes, muskrats, and weasels. She is the statewide Furbearer Biologist with DWR in late January 2024. Prior to this, she worked with the Dept. of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) as a state zoologist, working on various projects, including surveys for rare pollinators and freshwater mussels. She has lived and worked in Virginia for 12 years, with most of that time in Warren County. Her background is in wildlife population ecology and has trapped mammals ranging from mice to wolves.

## **Sanctuary Refreshing Update**

The Sanctuary Refreshing project is winding down! Thanks be to God that everything is coming together so well, and on schedule. The last touch up items and installing the lights will carry over for another few weeks. As we return to the sanctuary we are continuing to evaluate our audio-visual needs and make wise decisions. Please continue to pray for the safety of the workers as we cross the finish line.

## **Women's Ministries Window**

Women's Ministries will meet on Thursday, April 4<sup>th</sup>, at 10:00 a.m. for a meeting, followed by Bible Study at 10:30 a.m. We will be studying Chapter 5 in the book entitled, *The Next-To-Last Word* by Michael P.V. Barrett. All women are invited to join the meeting and/or the Bible Study.

## **Operation Christmas Child Year-Round Shoebox Shopping**

April's suggestion from the year-round guide to maximize your impact for the Gospel: Stuffed Animals.

## **Community Events**

The next Raphine Volunteer Fire Company BBQ Chicken Fundraiser will be held on Saturday, April 20<sup>th</sup>, at the firehouse at 11:00 a.m.

## **Bonclarken 2024 Calendar**

Bonclarken is the conference center of the Associate Reformed Presbyterian (ARP) Church and is in Flat Rock, N.C. Details/Reservations: <https://www.bonclarken.org> or call 828-882-2735.

## April 2024 Calendar of Events

### Wednesday, April 3

6:45 p.m. - Prayer Meeting and Bible Study

### Thursday, April 4

10:00 a.m. - Women's Ministries

10:30 a.m. - Women's Bible Study



### Sunday, April 7

8:45 a.m. - Nursery Helpers: Ashlie, William and Blake

9:00 a.m. - Sabbath School

10:00 a.m. - Worship

Children's Church Leaders: Carrie and Lois

VBS Meeting after Worship

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

### Monday, April 8

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

### Sunday, April 14 - Communion

8:45 a.m. - Nursery Helpers: Cindy and Gratia

9:00 a.m. - Sabbath School

10:00 a.m. - Worship

Children's Church Leaders: Amanda and Vicki

5:15 p.m. - Men's Singing Group Rehearsal

5:30 p.m. - Youth Group

### Wednesday, April 17

6:45 p.m. - Prayer Meeting and Bible Study

**Sunday, April 21**

- 8:45 a.m. - Nursery Helpers: Terri and Sally
- 9:00 a.m. - Sabbath School
- 10:00 a.m. - Worship  
Children’s Church Leaders: Patcie and Sue
- 4:00 p.m. - Diaconate Meeting
- 5:30 p.m. - Little Lambs and Youth Group

**Monday, April 22**

- 11:00 - Monday Mid-Day Program

**Wednesday, April 24**

- 6:45 p.m. - Prayer Meeting and Bible Study

**Sunday, April 28**

- 8:45 a.m. - Nursery Helpers: Amanda and Isabella
- 9:00 a.m. - Sabbath School
- 10:00 a.m. - Worship  
Children’s Church Leaders: Dabney and Tina
- 5:15 p.m. - Men’s Singing Group Rehearsal
- 5:30 p.m. - Youth Group

**Monday, April 29**

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



**May 2024**



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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2 Women’s Ministries 10:00 a.m.<br/>Women’s Bible Study 10:30 a.m.</li> <li>5 Little Lambs &amp; Youth Group 5:30 p.m.</li> <li>6 Monday Mid-Day 11:00 a.m.</li> <li>12 Mother's Day<br/>Special Offering for Missions</li> <li>16 PreSchool Graduation 7:00 p.m.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>19 Diaconate Meeting 4:00 p.m.<br/>Little Lambs &amp; Youth Group 5:30 p.m.</li> <li>20 Monday Mid-Day 11:00 a.m.</li> <li>26 Communion<br/>Youth Group 5:30 p.m.</li> <li>27 Memorial Day – Church Office Closed</li> <li>30 Women’s Ministries visits Beulah Land</li> </ul> |
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\*Please keep in mind, calendar dates are tentative and could change or cancel after publication of the newsletter.