

Old Providence ARP Church

Old Providence News

Est. February 2001

Volume 21 Issue 8 August 1, 2021



Dear Old Providence Family,

There's a quote circulating out there that shows up on everything from the world wide web to bumper stickers, from t-shirts to refrigerator magnets. And almost as varied as its usage is its origin! If you google this particular quote, you'll see that everyone from Tim Tebow to Barbara Marshall has been given credit for saying it. The quote is simple, yet profound, and says something to the tune of, "I don't know what the future holds, but I know who holds the future." The ultimate meaning of this quote, of course, is that while we do not know everything that will happen in the days that lie ahead, we know God, and God not only knows the future, He holds the future!

There are many places throughout God's Word that points to the truths. Certainly, Romans 8:28 comes to mind that says, "And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose." But other passages come to mind like my own, personal favorite, which relates to life and God's sovereignty. Deuteronomy 29:29 says, "The secret things belong to the Lord our God, but the things that are revealed belong to us and to our children forever, that we may do all the words of this law." In other words, while what has been revealed belongs to all of God's people, that which is secret belongs to God. And make no mistake about it, God takes ownership and responsibility for all those things that belong to Him.

I hope that the aforementioned quote and these Bible passages are as comforting to you as they are to me. I also hope that you can examine your life and, in doing so, you see God's faithfulness at work. Take Old Providence, for instance. God has been faithful to our congregation for the better part of 3 centuries! I'm writing this newsletter in July, but by the time it reaches you (Lord willing) we will have already celebrated Homecoming and Special Services. Last night the Evangelism Committee met to discuss logistics for Homecoming and the biggest problem we face is finding enough room for everyone to have a place to eat. What a wonderful problem to have!

Other wonderful things are going on, too. More people are joining. Babies and adults are being baptized. More and more visitors are attending. We have even been blessed with a new Pastoral Intern, James MacDougall. James has already had the opportunity to preach a few times and takes part every week in leading both worship services. In addition, when our mid-week services resume on September 8th, James will be leading them. We're also working together on a college/young adult ministry and a men's ministry. Having a Pastoral Intern allows us to expand our ministry and evangelism efforts at Old Providence and invest in

the future. The Lord has seen fit to not only preserve Old Providence, but to make us grow, and to Him alone be the glory. What a faithful God we serve!

As you consider the future, especially in light of the world in which we find ourselves, do not lose sight of God's faithfulness. Remember that God never calls on His people to know all that will transpire. Instead, God calls us to know Him. Remember that He holds the future, yes, but more importantly, that He holds you. Let us praise God for His faithfulness.

Your Pastor,

Patrick



August 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 adults 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.

Pastor Malphrus will continue broadcasting his sermons on Sunday mornings at 9:00 a.m. through Facebook.com/OldProvidenceARPCChurchSpottswoodVa, 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. If you would like a copy of any Sunday sermons on CD, please call the church office.

Lots of exciting things are happening at Old Providence!

Daily Devotionals, which will take place Monday through Friday with our pastor, will resume on Monday, August 9th, at 7:00 a.m. If anyone needs help accessing our Daily Devotionals, please see Pastor Malphrus. Daily Devotionals are available live at 7:00 a.m. through our church's Facebook page, or after through sermonaudio.com or the sermonaudio app. Also, Prayer Meetings will resume on Wednesday, September 8th, with our Pastoral Intern, James MacDougall, leading our time of study.

On Sunday, September 12th, we will have only one morning Worship Service at 11:00 a.m. so that we can all celebrate Rally Day together. Immediately after the Worship Service we will enjoy games and lunch on the grounds. Meat will be provided but we ask that our folks bring side dishes and desserts. Our full Sabbath School program for all ages will resume the following week on September 19th at 10:00 a.m.

We are also looking forward to resuming our Monday Mid-Day Program in the Fall. Stay tuned for other announcements concerning new ministry opportunity at Old Providence!

Women's Ministries Window

Women's Ministries will meet on Thursday, August 5th, at 7:00 p.m. with Bible Study following at 7:30 p.m. All women are invited. We will be studying Daniel 8 in Chapters 9 and 10 of our study book "Daniel" by Iain Duguid.

Old Providence PreSchool Update



The 2021/2022 PreSchool Classes will begin on Tuesday, September 7th, for the 3-year-old class and Wednesday, September 8th, for the 4-year-old class. Currently, there are a few openings. Please call Robyn or the church office for availability.

Community Event

Raphine Volunteer Fire Company's BBQ Chicken Fundraiser will be held on Saturday, August 7th, at the firehouse at 11:00 a.m.

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Beloved Old Providence family,

Greetings once again in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ! I hope this letter finds you well and enjoying the beauty of a summer day. Things are pretty warm here in sunny, Oklahoma. Unfortunately, our cool breeze has turned into a hot blast. When the wind blows now, you get the same sensation as when you open the oven door! The Sutton family has remained busy as we have continued to enjoy the blessings that God has poured out upon us. Holly has remained active with the Chaplains' Wives group on post, all the while maintaining the household and caring for us all. Dylan is busy with summer courses and is in the process of filling out scholarship applications for college. As of now, his plans are to commission as an officer in the Air Force upon graduation. Harper Grace continues her riding lessons and is now taking swimming lessons, as well. Callie Mae is developing quite the personality as she learns new motor skills each day.

As for the ministry side of things, to say that it has been busy would be an understatement. We are in the midst of "Summer Surge" here when we get all of the high school graduates. We even receive a good many high school juniors who will complete Basic Training this summer and then go back home to finish up their studies before returning to complete their advanced training next summer. Our incoming groups are now bigger and younger than at any other point in the year. You can imagine the challenges that can present! I have been blessed with the opportunity to temporarily serve as the Battalion Chaplain for 2 Battalions now, which means that I try to care for the spiritual needs, morale and resiliency of about 2200 Trainees and 250 permanent party (Drill Sergeants, Battalion Staff, etc.). It is a blessing...but it is exhausting at the same time! We continue to see God move throughout the Battalions and trust that He will continue to do so as long as we seek to serve Him faithfully.

In closing, I thank you all for your continued support through your calls, texts, letters and prayers. Please continue to pray for the young men and women who are stepping out to serve their country. Pray also for those who are deployed across the globe that they will soon safely return home to their loved ones. Pray for peace so that, though we all stand ready to fight if needed, we will only exist as a highly trained force and never have to engage. The Sutton family sends our love to you and we hope to visit soon. May God continue to bless you all richly and may He also bless the ministry of Old Providence Church!

Yours in Christ,

CH (CPT) Mitchell A. Sutton, United States Army

August 2021 Calendar of Events

Sunday, August 1

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

Thursday, August 5

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

7:30 p.m. – Women's Bible Study

Sunday, August 8

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

9:00 a.m. – Worship

Children's Church leaders: Amanda and Vicki

10:00 a.m. – Sabbath School

11:00 a.m. – Worship

6:30 p.m. – Diaconate Meeting

Wednesday, August 11

7:00 p.m. – Session Meeting

Sunday, August 15

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

9:00 a.m. – Worship

Children's Church leaders: Patcie and Sue

10:00 a.m. – Sabbath School

11:00 a.m. – Worship

Sunday, August 22 – COMMUNION

Special Offering for WRE

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

9:00 a.m. – Worship

10:00 a.m. – Sabbath School

11:00 a.m. – Worship

Sunday, August 29

8:45 a.m. – Nursery Helpers: Kevin and Tonya

9:00 a.m. – Worship

Children’s Church leaders: Laurin and Kristi

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.

September 2021



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| 2 Women’s Ministries & Bible Study | 13 Monday Mid-Day Program resumes |
| 5 No Little Lambs/Youth Group | 19 Little Lambs resumes/Youth Group |
| 6 Labor Day – Church Office Closed | 26 Youth Group |
| 7 PreSchool begins | 27 Monday Mid-Day Program |
| 12 Rally Day and Sabbath School Picnic | |