

Old Providence News

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Old Providence ARP Church

Dear Old Providence Family,

Spring seems to be on its way! Robins are in the yard and yesterday I saw the first groundhog of the season. Green onions are popping up in my yard and the weather is undoubtedly warmer...some days. I've also noticed that some trees are budding, and I've even seen a few daffodils starting to come up. All of this being said, I do realize that March could bring all sorts of harsh weather. I've even been told that some of your largest snows come in March. But even so, the changing of seasons is inevitable, and with Spring comes Easter and celebrating Christ's resurrection. Let us all glory in the tangible reminders of the season that point to the newness of life. But in addition, let us turn our minds to the passion of our Savior's crucifixion, the glory of His resurrection, and what these things really mean for us.

God's Word tells us in I Corinthians 15: 16-19 that *"If the dead are not raised, not even Christ has been raised. And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is worthless; you are still in your sins. Those, then, who have fallen asleep in Christ have also perished. If we have put our hope in Christ for this life only, we should be pitied more than anyone."* Do you get what those verses mean? The proof of Christianity and our hope for the future are both founded upon Christ's resurrection from the dead, which points to our resurrection in Him. This is true to the point that, as verse 19 says, if Jesus was not raised from the dead then we are to be pitied above all others. Why? Because if Jesus is not alive today then our entire faith is a lie. But praise be to God, Jesus is alive and His promise of life to those who trust in Him is sure!

The risen Jesus being alive today, and the promise of eternal life for those who trust in Him, is what sets Christianity apart from every other religion on earth. We do not follow the ancient teachings of fake prophets or adhere to the lofty philosophies of mere men, long in the grave. We serve the risen Savior! Jesus is alive. And the promise made to those who trust in Him is the promise of life eternal. God's Word continues in I Corinthians 15: 20-22 by saying *"But as it is, Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep. For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead also comes through a man. For just as in Adam all die, so also in Christ all will be made alive."* Let these words encourage you as you consider Christ's sacrifice and glory. Also, let these truths encourage you to commit anew to being a regular part of the life at Old Providence, and certainly plan to worship with us this Easter. Details for our Easter services are found within this newsletter.

Your Pastor,

Patrick

March 2024 Announcements



As of publication of this Newsletter, we have relocated worship services as the Sanctuary is closed for the next phase of work. We worship in Providence Hall with two services. At 9:00 a.m. we worship with the Choir, and Children's Church and Nursery are provided. Sabbath School begins at 10:10 a.m. and concludes at 10:45 a.m. A second service is held at 11:00 a.m. but the choir is not present at this service, nor is there Children's Church or Nursery. Pastor Malphrus will post his Sunday morning sermons on [Facebook.com/OldProvidenceARChurchSpottswoodVa](https://www.facebook.com/OldProvidenceARChurchSpottswoodVa) and will post the audio version of those sermons on [sermonaudio.com/oldprovidence](https://www.sermonaudio.com/oldprovidence). To access our Facebook page, church calendar, edited newsletters, sermon audio.com, announcements, and more, visit our website: [oldprovidencechurch.org](https://www.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.

Home Bible Study meets at Susie and Pat's home at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday evenings.

Sanctuary Refreshing Update

We are getting closer! Painting, carpet, balcony safety railings, bathroom and lounge, and most of the electrical work have been completed. We are now beginning the finishing of the wood floors which should be completed in early March. At that point we will reinstall the pews and repair any scratches and dings from their removal and storage, we will put the finishing touches on the floor moldings, install blinds, and work on the inevitable "touch up" items. A few of the refreshing activities may carry on for a while longer, such as sound and video updates, as well as finishing the overhead lights. But we are still planning to be back in the sanctuary for worship by Easter or sooner. Please continue to pray for the safety of the work crews.

Women's Ministries Window

Women's Ministries will meet on Thursday, March 7th, at 10:00 a.m. for a meeting, followed by Bible Study at 10:30 a.m. We will be studying Chapter 1 of Haggai, and Chapters 3 and 4 in the book entitled, *The Next-To-Last Word* by Michael P.V. Barrett. All women are invited to join us.

Little Lambs and Youth Group

Little Lambs for children ages 3 to 5th grade will meet on Sunday, March 3rd from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Parents are invited to stay and participate as well. We will not meet on March 17th but will instead meet on March 24th for our Easter Egg Hunt! For more details, please contact Amanda M.

Everyone is invited to join us for the **Easter Egg Hunt** at Old Providence on **Sunday, March 24th**, starting at 3:00 p.m. There will be Fun Games, Food and a Bible Lesson. Hope to see you there!

Youth Group will meet on March 3rd, 10th, 17th and 24th. Please contact Patrick with questions.

Monday Mid-Day 2024 Spring Program

Our Monday Mid-Day Program resumes on March 4, 2024, at 11:00 a.m. with speaker, Kim W. sharing about "Helicopter Air Ambulance Operations", followed by a light lunch and fellowship. The program takes place in Providence Hall. The cost of lunch is \$4.00 and there is a sign-up sheet to help with meals by the kitchen door. The next one will be on March 18th with Patcie Brevard sharing "How God Has Used My Everyday, Ordinary Life". The Spring schedule will continue April 8th, April 22nd, May 6th and May 20th. Details to follow soon.

Easter Sunday

On Easter Sunday, March 31st, there will be a Sunrise Worship Service at 7:00 a.m. outside at the Stone Hall so please bring lawn chairs/blankets. Immediately following that service, we will have breakfast available in Providence Hall. We will have Sabbath School at 9:00 a.m. and Worship Service at 10:00 a.m. Children's Church will meet, and Nursery will be available for the 10:00 a.m. service.

Operation Christmas Child Year-Round Shoebox Shopping

This month's suggestion from the year-round guide to maximize your impact for the Gospel: Quality Crafts such as handmade scarves, hats, gloves, clothing and no-sew projects. For more ideas visit: samaritanspurse.org/operation-Christmas-child.

Weekday Religious Education Update

There are two fundraisers planned for Riverheads WRE. A Cake Walk will be on March 16th starting 6:00 p.m. at the Mint Spring Ruritan building. A Praise Night will be held on April 28th at Raphine Christian Church starting at 6:00 p.m.

March 2024 Calendar of Events

Sunday, March 3

8:45 a.m. - Nursery Helpers: Ashlie and Gracia

9:00 a.m. - Worship

Children's Church Leaders: Carrie and Lois

10:10 a.m. - Sabbath School

11:00 a.m. - Worship

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



Monday, March 4

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

Tuesday, March 5

7:00 p.m. - Home Bible Study

Wednesday, March 6

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

Thursday, March 7

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

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



Sunday, March 10 - Daylight Savings Time Begins

8:45 a.m. - Nursery Helpers: Amanda and Isabella

9:00 a.m. - Worship

Children's Church Leaders: Amanda and Vicki

10:10 a.m. - Sabbath School

11:00 a.m. - Worship

5:30 p.m. - Youth Group

Tuesday, March 12

7:00 p.m. - Home Bible Study

Wednesday, March 13

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

Saturday, March 16

Virginia Presbytery Meeting

Sunday, March 17

8:45 a.m. - Nursery Helpers: Carol and Laurin

9:00 a.m. - Worship

Children's Church Leaders: Patcie and Sue

10:10 a.m. - Sabbath School

Sunday, March 17, Continued

11:00 a.m. - Worship

4:00 p.m. - Diaconate Meeting

5:30 p.m. - Youth Group

Monday, March 18

11:00 - Monday Mid-Day Program

Tuesday, March 19

7:00 p.m. - Home Bible Study

Wednesday, March 20

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

Sunday, March 24 - Palm Sunday (Might be one service depending upon the refreshing status.)

Spring Synod Offering

8:45 a.m. - Nursery Helpers: Sally and Vicki

9:00 a.m. - Worship

Children's Church Leaders: Dabney and Tina

10:10 a.m. - Sabbath School

11:00 a.m. - Worship

3:00 p.m. - Easter Egg Hunt

5:30 p.m. - Youth Group



Tuesday, March 26

7:00 p.m. - Home Bible Study

Wednesday, March 27

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

Thursday, March 28 - Maundy Thursday

6:30 p.m. - Communion and Dinner

Friday, March 29 - Good Friday

Church Office Closed

Sunday, March 31 - Easter Sunday

7:00 a.m. - Sunrise Service

8:00 a.m. - Easter Breakfast

9:00 a.m. - Sabbath School

9:45 a.m. - Nursery Helpers: Amanda and Isabella

10:00 a.m. - Worship

Children's Church Leaders: Laurin and Kristi



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