

# Old Providence News

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Old Providence ARP Church

Dear Old Providence Family,

It's been said of the seasons that "April showers bring May flowers", but what does May bring for you? If your family is anything like ours, May is an extremely busy month. With May comes the end of our school year, and that means lots of projects and programs. But even though May is busy, when all is said and done, we get to enjoy summer break. It's hard to believe. It seems like we were celebrating Christmas just last week, but summer really is just around the corner. And I don't know about you, but I'm excited for some lazy summer days.

Another thing I am particularly excited about this summer is our Vacation Bible School at Old Providence. This year's theme is "The Great Jungle Journey: An Epic Cruise from Genesis to Revelation from Answers in Genesis." Maybe you recognize the name "Answers in Genesis". We have used their VBS curriculum for the last few years. They are also the group that owns and operates the Creation Museum and Ark Encounter. If you look up our VBS curriculum on their website, you'll see that it says: "Every day, our kids are bombarded with questions: Did God really create everything? Why do bad things happen? Was Noah's ark real? Why do I need to be saved? Can I trust the Bible? At The Great Jungle Journey, your kids will explore the biblical answers to these questions as they set off on an epic adventure from Genesis to Revelation."

Doesn't this sound exciting? Though we'll still be in Spottswood, we'll cruise through jungle rivers, learn about God's creation and His power, and be reminded of who He created us to be. Please mark your calendars and be in prayer for this exciting week that will be here before you know it! As you'll see, we've planned our VBS week earlier in the summer so as not to compete with other churches, carnivals, vacations, etc. So don't let it slip up on you! Also, please consider volunteering your time and energy for this worthwhile event.

Your Pastor's Wife (and VBS Director),  
Amanda

## May 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/OldProvidenceARPChurchSpottswoodVa** 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**. 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.

### Women's Ministries Window

Women's Ministries will meet on Thursday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>, at 10:00 a.m. for a meeting, followed by Bible Study at 10:30 a.m. We will be studying Chapter 2:10-23 of Haggai, and Chapters 6 and 7 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.

Bonclarken is the conference center of the Associate Reformed Presbyterian (ARP) Church and is in Flat Rock, N.C. Bonclarken's mission is "to provide and promote a Christian environment for inspiration and renewal, worship, education, fellowship, and recreation by the power of the Holy Spirit." A variety of camps and conferences for children, teens, adults, and families are offered: visit [www.bonclarken.org](http://www.bonclarken.org). Each year the gift shop at Bonclarken requests donated items to sell and the proceeds go toward the operational expenses of Bonclarken. Items that sell well are craft items, especially ones that have "Bonclarken" or "ARP" on them. Other ideas include handmade gift cards, hanging kitchen towels, wooden items, Christian books, sealed lip balm, playing cards, individual packages of Kleenex, costume jewelry, and baby items. Children's items suggested are grab bags with fun items, coloring books, crayons, small trucks and cars, and inexpensive items that children can purchase for Mom and Dad. Used clothing or toys are not recommended. **Women's Ministries is now collecting items for the Bonclarken Gift Shop until Sunday, June 9<sup>th</sup>**. Collection boxes are in Providence Hall. For questions, please contact Gail.

## **Monday Mid-Day Program**

Our next Monday Mid-Day Program will be on May 6<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 a.m. with guest speaker, Sgt. Josh Graves with the Augusta County Sheriff's Dept., on the topic "Scams & Spams". He will be sharing ways to protect ourselves from becoming the victim of an internet, phone or in person scam. The program will be followed by a light lunch and fellowship.

On May 20<sup>th</sup> Rachel B. will be our guest speaker sharing about the "Valley Mission". She has served as the Director of Marketing and Development at Valley Mission for the past three years. Her tenure has been marked by her profound influence on both the organization and the individuals it serves. Her deep sense of family and community connection has been a guiding force throughout her career and remains a core element of her identity. Working for the Valley Mission brings her great joy. At Valley Mission, Rachel enjoys spearheading strategies and initiatives that bolster the organization's mission to support the homeless community. Her work entails close collaboration with volunteers, managing community service groups, and organizing collaborative projects that engage and benefit everyone involved. Rachel also oversees the two thrift stores that help bring in the operating income to keep the shelter running. Beneath her professional accomplishments lies the simple truth that people and relationships stand at the forefront of her motivation. The Valley Mission has seen significant growth, not only in its outreach capabilities but also in its ability to foster hope, support and love to provide the tools for rebuilding lives.

## **Upcoming Graduates**

Please provide names, schools, activities and future plans for upcoming College and High School Graduates by Wednesday, May 15<sup>th</sup>, to the church office. They will be listed in the bulletin and newsletter in June.

## **PreSchool Graduation**



Everyone is invited to attend the Old Providence PreSchool Graduation on Thursday, May 16<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 p.m. in the Old Providence Sanctuary.

## **Community Events**

There will be a Raphine Volunteer Fire Company BBQ Chicken Fundraiser on Saturday, May 11<sup>th</sup>, at 11:00 a.m. at the firehouse.

Staunton Choral Society's Spring Concert "Our Journeys, Our Stories, Our Hope" will be held on May 5<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 p.m. at Christ Lutheran Church.

## **Sanctuary Refreshing Update**

Hallelujah!! The Sanctuary Refreshing Project is winding down. The lights have been refinish-ed and installed, and the last of the touch ups have been completed. We are evaluating our audio-visual needs and will be making decisions in the coming weeks. Thank you to everyone for your prayers, patience, support, input, and labor to bring us to the finish line. Thanks be to God for his blessings and care.

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

May's suggestion from the year-round guide to maximize your impact for the Gospel: Personal Care Items.

## **Vacation Bible School**

Vacation Bible School at Old Providence ARP Church will be held June 2<sup>nd</sup>-June 6<sup>th</sup> from 5:30-8:30 p.m. nightly. Supper will be provided at 5:30 p.m. and classes will be available for children ages 2-12 years old. Nursery will also be provided, as well as an adult class, which will be taught by Pat. For more information call the church office at 540-377-2911.

## May 2024 Calendar of Events

### Wednesday, May 1

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

### Thursday, May 2

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

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

### Sunday, May 5

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

9:00 a.m. - Sabbath School

10:00 a.m. - Worship

Children's Church Leaders: Carrie and Lois

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

### Monday, May 6

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

### Wednesday, May 8

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

### Sunday, May 12 – Mother's Day

Special Offering for Missions

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

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, May 15

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

**Thursday, May 16**

7:00 p.m. - PreSchool Graduation

**Sunday, May 19**

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

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, May 20**

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

**Wednesday, May 22**

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

**Sunday, May 26 - COMMUNION**

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

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, May 26 – Memorial Day**

Church Office Closed

**Thursday, May 30**

Women's Ministries visits Beulah Land

**June 2024**

2-6 Vacation Bible School 5:30-8:30 p.m.

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

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

11-13 Gen. Syn. Meeting at Bonclarken

16 Father's Day

17-22 Middle School Conference at Bonclarken

23 Diaconate Meeting 4:00 p.m.

24-29 High School Conference at Bonclarken

30 Breakfast for Local Missions - TBD

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