

# Old Providence News

Est. February 2001

Volume 23 Issue 11 November 2023



Old Providence ARP Church

Dear Old Providence Family,

What a joy it is to be writing to you from my office at Old Providence. God has been so gracious and merciful, and continues to work in our church. Our sanctuary refreshing project is underway and we are in the process of choosing things like paint and carpet colors. By the time this newsletter reaches you we will have already elected men to serve as elders and will soon be electing deacons. More and more visitors are attending every week. The Lord has blessed our church in so many ways. And these are just some of the things going on at Old Providence!

What's going on in your life? Can you see God's hand at work? Do you take the time to count your blessings? I grew up singing an old hymn with the lyrics "Count your blessings, name them one by one; Count your blessings, see what God hath done; Count your blessings, name them one by one; Count your many blessings, see what God hath done." How true! I say it all the time in sermons, but your entire outlook on life will change if you just take the time to consider the ways God has blessed and protected you. With Thanksgiving just around the corner, let me also encourage you to thank the Lord in accordance with the commands of His Word.

Psalm 107 offers its readers a glimpse of God's faithfulness and how His sovereign hand is always at work in the lives of His people. The psalmist writes of God's provision in times of great loss and sorrow, His mercy in times of trouble and uncertainty, His sovereignty in times of hope and deliverance, of God's giving and taking away, and even of God's mercy toward those who turned away from Him.

What does the psalmist conclude, and what does God's Word command His people to do in light of such great love? Verse 1 says "Give thanks to Jehovah, for He is good; His love endures forever." In short, we are to offer thanksgiving! And thankfully we are not left to wonder about what giving thanks really looks like. Verse 2 goes on to command "Let the redeemed of Jehovah say so..." In other words, giving thanks is directly linked to offering testimony. As the recipients of such great love, we should share our joy with others and be ready and willing to testify to God's greatness. And one more thing, don't let Thanksgiving Day just be a gateway to the Christmas Holiday season. Instead, make thanksgiving a way of life. Look for the opportunities the Lord gives you to exhibit an attitude of gratitude and to share the hope of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Your Pastor,

Patrick

## November 2023 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 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](https://www.facebook.com/OldProvidenceARPChurchSpottswoodVa) and will post the audio version of those sermons on [sermonaudio.com/oldprovidence](https://www.sermonaudio.com/oldprovidence). You may access our Facebook page, church calendar, edited newsletters, [sermonaudio.com](https://www.sermonaudio.com), announcements, and more by visiting our website at [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 through the One Call System, please call the church office.

Daily Devotionals with our pastor are at 7:00 a.m. through our church's Facebook page via [face-book.com/OldProvidenceARPChurchSpottswoodVa](https://www.facebook.com/OldProvidenceARPChurchSpottswoodVa). Recordings are available through our website [www.oldprovidencechurch.org](https://www.oldprovidencechurch.org) by clicking on the Facebook icon. They are also available through [sermonaudio.com/oldprovidence](https://www.sermonaudio.com/oldprovidence), which may also be accessed from our website, or the sermonaudio app. For a copy of a devotional on CD, please contact Patrick.

Wednesday night Prayer Meeting and Bible Study with Pastor Malphrus are at 6:45 p.m. Our study is an in-depth study of the book of Hebrews.

Please pray for our Officer Elections. The Session will submit the names of the necessary number of nominees for Deacons to the congregation on **November 5<sup>th</sup>**. In a Congregational Meeting on **November 12<sup>th</sup>** the Congregation will select the necessary number of Deacons and choose carpet color. Our Annual Congregational Business Meeting will be after worship on **December 10<sup>th</sup>** for the purpose of approving the 2024 Proposed Budget and electing Congregational Officers.

### Sanctuary Project Implementation

The Sanctuary Refreshing project is moving along well, as you can see by the work in progress as we worship in the sanctuary alongside the construction activities. The construction crew is finishing the stage and choir loft, the electrical crew is bringing the electrical system up to code, the ceiling lights have been shipped out for re-wiring and cleaning, and the Narthex lounge and bathroom are being remodeled and soundproofed! We've only run into a few "surprises" such as a few rotted floor joists in the old pulpit stage. All in all, the work is proceeding well.

Soon paint and carpet color selections will take place. After the Advent and Christmas season we will begin the next phase of renovation with painting and carpeting. The pews will be removed in early January to allow the paint crew to install scaffolding, and once painting is complete, to install carpeting. There is still a lot of work yet to be done, and we don't know yet what surprises are in store. Please continue to pray for the project and the workers.

### Little Lambs and Youth Group



Little Lambs will meet on Sundays, November 5<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>, from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Youth Group will meet on Sundays, November 5<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>, at 5:30 p.m.

### Women's Ministries Window

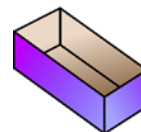
Women's Ministries will meet on Thursday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>, at 10:00 a.m. for a meeting, followed by Bible Study at 10:30 a.m. We will be studying Chapter 10 in the book entitled, *Revelation for You*, by Tim Chester, which covers Revelation 21:9-22:21.

### Monday Mid-Day 2023 Fall Program

Please join us for the last Fall Session of our Monday Mid-Day Program on November 6<sup>th</sup> with Rev. Patrick Malphrus speaking on "The ARP Church Today". Stay for lunch after the program.



### Operation Christmas Child



Please help yourself to boxes and supplies in Providence Hall. There is a \$10 shipping charge per box. If you don't want to fill a box, but would like to support OCC, you may make a donation through the church by noting that on your check. There are opportunities to build a box online as well. The deadline for turning the boxes in is November 19<sup>th</sup>, no later than 11:00 a.m. Let's reach for a goal of 75 boxes in 2023!!! For more info contact Carol. For helpful links, visit [www.samaritanspurse.org](http://www.samaritanspurse.org): "How to pack a box", Amazon Storefront for OCC, Build a Box Online, Volunteering, Gift Suggestions, and to find out if something can/cannot be packed.

### Home Bible Study

Susie and Pat will host a Bible study in their home at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday evenings, beginning November 7<sup>th</sup>. We plan to study **I Peter** and focus on living a victorious life in Jesus Christ through the power and guidance of the Holy Spirit, all to the glory of the Father. All are invited, so bring your Bibles and come join us. See Susie or Pat with questions.

### PreSchool Fundraiser

The Old Providence PreSchool Committee is selling wooden Christmas ornaments to raise funds for the preschool. They have a picture of the church and Est. 1742 etched on them. A sample is hanging on the bulletin board in the sanctuary. The cost is \$15, and you may contact Kay to order. Make checks payable to Old Providence PreSchool.

## Community Thanksgiving Supper



The Community Thanksgiving Supper sponsored by the Youth Group will be held on Saturday, November 18<sup>th</sup>, at the church from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. All dinners must be preordered by Sunday, November 12<sup>th</sup>, by calling the church office (540-377-2911) or texting (540-292-5499) or 540-292-9718). When ordering please specify whether you will be picking up orders or dining in. If you want to help by contributing food for the meal, please complete a donation form found in Providence Hall. Thank you!

## November 2023 Calendar of Events

### Wednesday, November 1

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

### Thursday, November 2

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

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

### Sunday, November 5 - Daylight Savings Time Ends

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

9:00 a.m. - Sabbath School

10:00 a.m. - Worship

Children's Church Leaders: Carrie and Lois

5:00 p.m. - Little Lambs and Youth Group



### Monday, November 6

11:00 a.m. – Last Monday Mid-Day Program for Fall Session

### Tuesday, November 7

7:00 p.m. – Home Bible Study

### Wednesday, November 8

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

### Sunday, November 12

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

9:00 a.m. - Sabbath School

10:00 a.m. - Worship

Children's Church Leaders: Amanda and Vicki

5:15 p.m. - Men's Signing Group

5:30 p.m. - Youth Group

**Tuesday, November 14**

7:00 p.m.- Home Bible Study

**Wednesday, November 15**

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

**Saturday, November 18**

4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. - Community Thanksgiving Supper

**Sunday, November 19**

Fall Special Offering for Synod Causes

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

9:00 a.m. - Sabbath School

10:00 a.m. - Worship

Children's Church Leaders: Patcie and Sue

5:00 p.m. - Diaconate Meeting

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

**Tuesday, November 21**

7:00 p.m. - Home Bible Study

**Wednesday, November 22**

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

**Thursday, November 23 & Friday, November 24**

Church Office Closed – Happy Thanksgiving!



**Sunday, November 26 - COMMUNION**

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

5:30 p.m. - Youth Group

**Tuesday, November 28**

7:00 p.m. - Home Bible Study

**Wednesday, November 29**

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

## December 2023



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|---|--|------------------------------------|
| 3 Diaconate Meeting 5:00 p.m.                                 | 10 Youth Group 5:30 p.m.                   | 25 <b>Christmas Day</b>            |
| Little Lambs 5:30 p.m.  | 13 Christmas Dinner 6:30 p.m.              | 29 Church Office Closed            |
| Youth Group 5:30 p.m.   | 17 Christmas Program/<br>Cantata 6:00 p.m. | 31 Breakfast for Local<br>Missions |
| 7 Women's Ministries 10:00 a.m.<br>And Bible Study 10:30 a.m. | 22 & 25 Church Office Closed               | New Year's Eve                     |

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