

# 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 well and that, for those of you who were able to attend Homecoming and Special Services, this newsletter finds you refreshed, energized, and excited about the opportunities God has provided. I think the word “opportunity” is rather interesting and challenging. If you google “opportunity” or retrieve your handy dictionary and look it up, you’ll find that “opportunity” is defined as “a set of circumstances that makes it possible to do something.”

Consider the first part of this definition, that opportunity begins with “a set of circumstances.” I find this interesting because the world is wide open as to the opportunities that God provides through the circumstances we face. We are always given the opportunity to follow God’s Word and will, no matter what. We are also given the opportunity to testify to His greatness and the wonder of our Lord, Jesus Christ. And we dare not forget the opportunity God gives us to pray on all occasions, as Ephesians 6 says. All of this is wonderfully interesting because we never know what circumstances God will bring our way in order to do these things. How wonderful and exciting it is that God allows us to be a part of His grand redemptive plan for His people!

Now consider the second part of the definition, that opportunity “makes it possible to do something.” I find this part of the definition challenging because it reveals that the value of any opportunity is determined by how you and I respond to the circumstances we face. I fear that far too often we miss the opportunities God gives us. Take, for instance, the opportunities we have to engage in evangelism and support missions. The world is full of lost people who have no hope. As Jesus had compassion on those who were like sheep without shepherds, we should have compassion on those who do not know Him. The only remedy for this situation, of course, is to spread the gospel of Jesus Christ. Yet, when we do not take advantage of the opportunity to either directly share the truth of Christ or support those who do, the opportunity to do God’s will simply passes by.

We need not fool ourselves. If we refuse to act on God’s opportunities, He will give those opportunities to those who will act. Instead, let us pursue God’s glory. Let us focus our hearts and intentions on the gospel of Jesus Christ. And, as a result, let us take the opportunities God brings our way. God has blessed us in so many ways. Let us be a blessing to Him.

Your Pastor,

Patrick



## September 2022 Announcements

As of publication of this Newsletter, we have Sunday Morning Worship Service at 10:00 a.m. and Sabbath School at 11:10 a.m. Children's Church is available during the Worship Service. Nursery is available during the Worship Service and during Sabbath School. Youth Group meets every Sunday at 5:30 p.m. Little Lambs will meet the first and third Sunday monthly from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Pastor Malphrus will broadcast his sermons on Sunday mornings at 10:00 a.m. on Facebook.com /OldProvidenceARPChurchSpottswoodVa and will post the audio version of those sermons on sermonaudio.com/oldprovidence. If you need help accessing online sermons, please contact Patrick. You may access our Facebook page, edited newsletters, sermonaudio.com, announcements, church calendar, and more by visiting our website at oldprovidencechurch.org. For a copy of a Sunday sermon on CD, call the church office.

Live Daily Devotionals with our pastor are at 7:00 a.m. Monday through Thursday through our church's Facebook page via facebook.com/OldProvidenceARPChurchSpottswoodVa or our website www.oldprovidencechurch.org by clicking on the Facebook icon. Recordings will be available afterwards through sermonaudio.com, which may also be accessed from our website, or the sermonaudio app.

Weekly Bible Study and Prayer Services are on Wednesdays at 6:45 p.m.

The 2022 Election Process for Elders and Deacons will begin September 11<sup>th</sup> with the distribution of Nominating Forms. There will be a Congregational Meeting on September 18<sup>th</sup> for members to submit names for consideration as Elders and Deacons. Please be in prayer for our Officer Elections.

### Women's Ministries Window

Women's Ministries will meet on Thursday, September 1<sup>st</sup>, at 7:00 p.m. with Bible Study following at 7:30 p.m. Our Bible Study is based on the book, "Faith in the Face of Apostasy: The Gospel According of Elijah & Elisha", by Raymond B. Dillard. We will cover Chapter 9 in September. All women are welcome to the meeting and/or the Bible Study.

Update: The deadline to register for our Women's Weekend Retreat which is on September 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> is September 6<sup>th</sup>. Please contact Sylvia for more information.

### WRE Update

Riverheads WRE met on August 15, 2022. Classes are going well, and they have some new students. A Praise Night fundraiser was held in May. Mountain Messengers is having a benefit concert for Riverheads WRE at Raphine Christian Church on September 18<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. The next WRE meeting is scheduled for November 21<sup>st</sup> at 7:00 p.m. All are welcome. Donations may be mailed to Riverheads WRE, PO Box 352, Greenville, VA 24440.

## Little Lambs

Little Lambs will resume on Sunday, September 18<sup>th</sup>, and will meet every first and third Sunday each month from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. All children ages 3 to 5<sup>th</sup> grade are invited to attend. Contact Amanda with questions.

## Preschool Update



The 2022/2023 Preschool session will begin Tuesday, September 6<sup>th</sup>, for 3-year-olds and Wednesday, September 7<sup>th</sup>, for 4-year-olds. There is still time to register and there are spaces available in both classes. Forms and details available at [oldprovidencechurch.org](http://oldprovidencechurch.org).

## Monday Mid-Day 2022 Fall Program

From the Spiritual Care Committee: Our Fall Monday Mid-Day Program will resume on September 12<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 a.m. Please join us for presentations on various topics and a light meal. The cost of the meal is \$3.00. A meal sign-up sheet has been posted by the kitchen door. If you would like to sponsor or help with a meal, please see Linda or Martha.

September 12	“Augusta Co. Courthouse Nov. referendum”
September 26	“Augusta Co. Regional Jail”
October 10	“Mission Trip”
October 24	“Augusta Co. School System”
November 7	“Advancing Nations - Missions”

## Fellowship Fridays

You may have seen in a bulletin or heard through One Call an announcement of Fellowship Fridays; we certainly hope you have. Fellowship Fridays are fun nights to gather, typically the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of the month, with your church family. We have events planned through the end of the year and hope you will join in when you are able. Our prayer is that through Fellowship Fridays we will have the opportunity to get to know each other better and enjoy some fun times. As Patrick preached through 1 John, we learned we are called to love one another. Time spent together will help us know and love each other better.

Currently, we ask for an RSVP text or call to Joanie by Wednesday before the event so that proper planning for food and the event can be made. If childcare is needed, please contact her by Tuesday evening so that we can arrange for sitters. Due to Labor Day weekend, we will only have one Fellowship Friday in September: Friday, September 16<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.!!!! More details to follow. Hope to see you there.

## September 2022 Calendar of Events

### Thursday, September 1

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

7:30 p.m. - Women's Bible Study

### Sunday, September 4

9:45 a.m. - Nursery Helpers: Kevin and Tonya

10:00 a.m. - Worship

Children's Church Leaders: Carrie and Lois

11:10 a.m. - Sabbath School

No Little Lambs & Youth Group

### Monday, September 5 - Labor Day

Church Office Closed

### Tuesday, September 6 - Bulletin Deadline

First Day of PreSchool

### Wednesday, September 7

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

### Thursday, September 8 - Monday, September 12

Church Office Closed

### Sunday, September 11 - Rally Day & Sunday School Picnic - Election Process Begins

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

10:00 a.m. - Worship

Children's Church Leaders: Amanda and Vicki

Rally Day Activities and Picnic

5:30 p.m. - Youth Group



**Monday, September 12**

11:00 Monday Mid-Day Program

**Wednesday, September 14**

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

**Friday, September 16**

6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. - Fellowship Friday

**Friday, September 16 & Saturday, September 17**

Women's Weekend Retreat

**Sunday, September 18 - Congregational Meeting to Submit Names for Elders & Deacons**

9:45 a.m. - Nursery Helpers: Cindy and Vicki

10:00 a.m. - Worship

Children's Church Leaders: Patcie and Sue

11:10 a.m. - Sabbath School

5:00 p.m. - Diaconate Meeting

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

**Wednesday, September 21**

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

**Sunday, September 25**

9:45 a.m. - Nursery Helpers: Shirley and Laurin

10:00 a.m. - Worship

Children's Church Leaders: Dabney and Tina

5:30 p.m. - Youth Group

**Monday, September 26**

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

**Wednesday, September 28**

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

## October 2022



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| 2 Little Lambs & Youth Group<br>Special Offering for Foreign Missions | 21 Fellowship Friday   |
| 6 Women's Ministries & Bible Study                                    | 22 Virginia Presbytery location TBD  |
| 7 Fellowship Friday   | 23 Youth Group   |
| 9 Youth Group<br>Diaconate Budget Meeting 5:00 p.m.                   | 24 Monday Mid-Day Program  |
| 10 Monday Mid-Day Program   | 30 Youth Group<br>Breakfast for Young Life 9:00 a.m.<br>Reformation Sunday |
| 16 Little Lambs & Youth Group   | Truck or Treat 5:00 p.m.   |