

# Old Providence News

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Dear Church Family,

It has been an incredible summer full of many events, great lessons taught, and lots of fun had by our students and their families. In early June, we packed up our bags and headed down to Bonclarken for Quest and Horizon with our youth group. During our time in the mountains, we were able to escape and unplug as we learned more about God and His Word. During the day, we were all over the place as we fished by the lake, swam in the pool, conquered the climbing tower and zipline, and went to the Nibble Nook for our daily sugar intake with ice cream, floats, sodas, etc. But while we had our fun and got burned by the sun during the day, we all came together to worship our creator at night. During Quest, we heard from Reverend Rhett Carson concerning our only comfort. Together, we wondered what and where we place our comfort and hope. Is it in Christ, or is it in the temporal? Rhett also went over the Heidelberg Catechism, specifically question 1. He made sure that by the end of the week, we understood its meaning and how comforting it can be to know that we belong not to ourselves but to the Lord. While during Horizon, our students heard from Mackey Smith and what it means to be united in Christ. He told us about how truly deep the Father's love is for us, how we are absorbed by Christ as the vine and the branch, being nourished and given new life in him. But as the theme says, what does it mean to be united? We were shown that so much can get in the way and at the end of the day we must be united in Christ, it is not an individual thing. We are so grateful for the memories and relationships made during our two weeks there.

We have also had many fun opportunities throughout July for our families to participate in. From the 4th of July Pool Party at the Earman's house, to Game Night at the church, and even Family Movie Night where we celebrated Christmas in July! It has been such a wonderful summer of growth and connecting with our church family.

More than that, we are also thankful for the ways we have been able to serve our church and the surrounding community. The youth and many others helped to make our VBS such a success in the beginning of June. We are so thankful for all the volunteers who pitched in to make VBS such a wonderful week at Old Providence! We also had five of our youth to volunteer to help at Camp Joy Virginia. They spent a week of their summer being a counselor to someone with special needs. They were able to love on them and show them the light of Christ! We were able to even visit them and serve Camp Joy by helping them set up for their annual dance. We are so grateful for Camp Joy Virginia and their ministry as well as the hearts of our students who long to serve.

Throughout July we have been making our way through our series called “Psalms of the Summer”. Together we’ve taken a closer look at Psalms 1, 42, and ended with 100. Our students learned what it meant to be rooted in God and his word, trust to take all their worries and fears to Him, and what it looks like to worship with a heart full of joy. This coming semester we will be starting a series titled Grace 101. In this series, we will explore the biblical meaning of grace, how it shapes redemptive history, and why it remains essential for Christian-living. Throughout our lessons, students will engage with foundational questions: What is grace? How does it connect to good works? Is grace for everyone? The goal of this study is to equip our students with a better understanding of not only grace but why God gave us this wonderful gift. We are very excited for all that will be happening in the fall with Family Ministry at Old Providence!

Blessings,

Will & Elizabeth



### **August 2025 Announcements**

As of publication of this Newsletter, Sunday Morning Worship Services are at 10:00 a.m. and Sabbath School is at 9:00 a.m. Children’s Church and Nursery are available during the Worship Service. Youth Group meets on Sundays at 5:30 p.m. and Little Lambs for ages 3 to 5<sup>th</sup> grade meets on Sundays from 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., unless otherwise announced. Pastor Malphrus posts Sunday morning sermons on [Facebook.com/OldProvidenceARChurchSpottswoodVa](https://www.facebook.com/OldProvidenceARChurchSpottswoodVa) and audio versions on [sermonaudio.com/oldprovidence](https://www.sermonaudio.com/oldprovidence). To access our church Facebook page, edited newsletters, calendar, [sermonaudio.com](https://www.sermonaudio.com), announcements, and more, visit [oldprovidencechurch.org](https://www.oldprovidencechurch.org). For a copy of a sermon on CD, or to add or update your contact information for notifications received via One Call, contact the church office at 540-377-2911 or [adminassist@oldprovidencechurch.org](mailto:adminassist@oldprovidencechurch.org). Wednesday night Prayer Meeting and Bible Study will resume on August 6<sup>th</sup> at 6:45 p.m. and Daily Devotionals will resume on Monday, August 4<sup>th</sup>, at 6:00 a.m. and will continue each week on Monday through Friday on [facebook.com/OldProvidenceARChurchSpottswoodVa](https://www.facebook.com/OldProvidenceARChurchSpottswoodVa). You may access recordings of Devotionals on our Facebook page and audio versions on [sermonaudio.com](https://www.sermonaudio.com). For a copy of a devotional on CD, contact Patrick. Home-based Tuesday night Bible study meets at 7:00 p.m. at the Patterson's home every Tuesday, unless otherwise noted.

### **Women’s Ministries Window**

Women's Ministries will meet Thursday, August 7<sup>th</sup>, at 10:00 a.m. for our Business Meeting and 10:30 a.m. for Bible Study. We will be studying Chapter 10 of *Lessons from the Upper Room, The heart of the Savior*, by Sinclair B. Ferguson.



## **Little Lambs and Youth Group**



Little Lambs for children ages 3 to 5<sup>th</sup> grade meets on Sundays from 4:00 to 5:00 p.m. We would love to have your children join us on Sunday afternoons! For more details, please contact Elizabeth.

The Youth Group meets regularly on Sundays at 5:30 p.m. with a time of study and fellowship. For questions, please contact Will.

## **College Students' Addresses**

Please provide addresses to the church office for college students who would like to receive the Old Providence News while away at school.

## **Homecoming and Special Services**

Make plans now to attend Homecoming on Sunday, September 14<sup>th</sup>. We will have Sunday School at 9:00 a.m. and Worship Service at 10:00 a.m. followed by a Covered Dish Meal. Special Services will be held nightly at 7:00 p.m. from Sunday, September 14<sup>th</sup>, through Wednesday, September 17<sup>th</sup>. We will have an Ice Cream Social provided by the congregation after the Wednesday night service on September 17<sup>th</sup>. A Children's Program will be offered during each night of Special Services, and nursery will be available. Little Lambs and Youth Group will not meet on Sunday, September 14<sup>th</sup>, due to Special Services. A Congregational photo will be taken on Homecoming after the Worship Service and before the meal.

Rev. Morrie Lawing, who is the Executive Director of Outreach North America (ONA) for the Associate Reformed Presbyterian (ARP) Church as of January this year, will be our guest speaker for Homecoming and Special Services. As the home missions agency of the ARP Church, ONA is committed to spreading the Word of God by helping presbyteries plant and support mission congregations across the nation. Rev. Lawing holds an M.Div. from Erskine Theological Seminary and a B.S. in Management and Finance from Virginia Tech. His first call was as Associate Pastor at Bartow ARP in Florida (1993-1996). From 1996 to 2005 he was the founding pastor of Ballantyne ARP Church in Charlotte, NC. In 2005 he became the founding pastor of Christ Church ARP in Denver, NC. Morrie and his wife Lori have been married for 36 years. The Lawings have five children and eight grandchildren.

## AUGUST 2025 Calendar of Events

### Sunday, August 3

9:00 a.m. - Sabbath School

9:45 a.m. - Nursery Helpers: Ashlie and Terri

10:00 a.m. - Worship

Children's Church Leaders: Carrie and Elizabeth

4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. - Little Lambs & 5:30 p.m. - Youth Group

### Tuesday, August 5

6:30 p.m. - Christian Education Committee Meeting

7:00 p.m. - Home-based Bible Study

### Thursday, August 7

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

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



### Sunday, August 10

9:00 a.m. - Sabbath School

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

10:00 a.m. - Worship

Children's Church Leaders: Amanda and Vicki

4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. - Little Lambs & 5:30 p.m. - Youth Group

5:00 p.m. - Diaconate Meeting

### Tuesday, August 12

7:00 p.m. - Home-based Bible Study

### Sunday, August 17

9:00 a.m. - Sabbath School

9:45 a.m. - Nursery Helper: Vicki and Sally

10:00 a.m. - Worship

Children's Church Leaders: Patcie and Sue

4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. - Little Lambs & 5:30 p.m. - Youth Group

**Tuesday, August 19**

7:00 p.m. - Home-based Bible Study

**Sunday, August 24 – Communion**

Special Offering for WRE

9:00 a.m. - Sabbath School

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

10:00 a.m. - Worship

Children’s Church Leaders: Dabney and Tina

**Tuesday, August 26**

7:00 p.m. - Home-based Bible Study

**Sunday, August 31**

8:00 a.m. - Breakfast for Local Missions

9:00 a.m. - Sabbath School

9:45 a.m. - Nursery Helpers: Carol and Stephanie

10:00 a.m. - Worship

Children’s Church Leaders: Laurin and Kristi

4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. - Little Lambs & 5:30 p.m. - Youth Group

**SEPTEMBER CALENDAR**



- |                                    |                                   |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1 Labor Day – Church Office Closed | 14 HOMECOMING & Covered Dish Meal |
| 4 Women’s Ministries 10:00 a.m.    | No Little Lambs & Youth Group     |
| Women’s Bible Study 10:30 a.m.     | 14-17 Special Services 7:00 p.m.  |
| 7 Rally Day and Picnic             | 17 Ice Cream Social 8:00 p.m.     |
| Little Lambs & Youth Group         | 21 Little Lambs & Youth Group     |
| Diaconate Meeting 5:00 p.m.        | 22 Monday Mid-Day 11:00 a.m. TBD  |
| 8 Monday Mid-Day 11:00 a.m. TBD    | 28 Little Lambs & Youth Group     |

**Upcoming Event**

November 12 - Day Trip: Riverside Dinner Theater in Fredericksburg “White Christmas”

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