

# Old Providence News

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Dear Old Providence Family,

Happy New Year! It's hard to believe that 2025 is over. It seems like only yesterday we were celebrating 2025's arrival, and now Christmas has come and gone and 2026 is upon us. How could time move so quickly? Indeed, there are those that look at the New Year as just another page on the calendar. But I think this time of the year is special. The New Year is a time when people look back on the previous year and forward to the next. Sure, there's nothing magical about flipping the calendar's page, but it is, nonetheless, sobering and thought provoking.

I wonder, how did you process the close of 2024? Were you filled with hope and excitement at the prospect of new opportunities? Perhaps you were on the other end of the spectrum and looked at the year ahead with less optimism. Or maybe you started 2025 with the simple notion of taking things one day at a time. No matter what your outlook was last year, the New Year always presents an opportunity to consider how you should move forward.

Let me encourage you to embrace the Biblical mindset of moving forward into the future. In James 4, God's people are warned against the arrogance of proceeding into the future with no regard for God. James wrote that the correct way to proceed into the future is by seeking God's will. The question we all face, then, is one of discerning God's Will for our lives.

Thankfully, God does not leave us wondering about His will and how to discern it. In Romans 12, God's people are commanded to not conform to the pattern of the world around us, but rather, to be transformed by the renewing of our minds. The only way this renewal is achieved is through studying God's Word, spending time with God in prayer, participating in the life of the Church, yielding to the Holy Spirit's direction and calling, and continually evaluating your relationship with the Lord. If you will do these things, God's Will for your life will become apparent and His direction for 2026 will become abundantly clear.

Don't take my word for it, though! After giving the command to be transformed by the renewing of your mind, God promises in His Word that if you will do so, "Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—His good, pleasing and perfect will." What a wonderful promise this is and what a wonderful God we serve! Let us proceed forward into 2026 with every hope for God's blessings. But let us also proceed forward into 2026 with the renewed commitment to seek God's Kingdom first.

Happy New Year!

Patrick



## January 2026 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 Kingdom Choir for ages 3 to 5<sup>th</sup> grade meets on Wednesday nights during our Family Night. Family Night normally takes place each Wednesday with dinner provided from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. and then continues with activities for the whole family. Daily Devotionals take place at 6:00 a.m. Monday through Friday each week on [facebook.com/OldProvidenceARPCChurchSpottswoodVa](https://facebook.com/OldProvidenceARPCChurchSpottswoodVa). You may access recordings of Devotionals on our Face-book page and audio versions on [sermonaudio.com](https://sermonaudio.com). Pastor Malphrus posts Sunday morning sermons on [Facebook.com/OldProvidenceARPCChurchSpottswoodVa](https://Facebook.com/OldProvidenceARPCChurchSpottswoodVa) and audio versions on [sermonaudio.com/oldprovidence](https://sermonaudio.com/oldprovidence). To access our church Facebook page, announcements, edited newsletters, calendar, [sermonaudio.com](https://sermonaudio.com), and more, visit [oldprovidencechurch.org](https://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). For a copy of a devotional on CD, contact Patrick. Home-based Tuesday night Bible study meets at 7:00 p.m. at Susie and Pat's home every Tuesday, unless otherwise noted.

The proposed 2026 Budget and the candidates for Congregational Offices were approved on Sunday, December 14<sup>th</sup>. We thank the Congregational Chairman – Finley; Vice Chairman – Glenn; Receiving Treasurer – Terri; Disbursing Treasurer – Carrie; and Memorial Treasurer – Kay for their willingness to serve the church.

### End of Year and New Year Reminders



Treasurers of all church organizations are reminded to submit their yearly reports by Thursday, January 15<sup>th</sup>, so the annual report to Synod and Presbytery can be prepared. Please leave them in the Administrative Assistance's mailbox in the hall next to the office. Committee Chairmen, please provide event dates for the 2026 Church Calendar to the church office as soon as they are available and any changes for bulletin backs no later than January 15<sup>th</sup>.

### Women's Ministries Window

Women's Ministries will meet Thursday, January 8<sup>th</sup>, at 10:00 a.m. for our Business Meeting and 10:30 a.m. for Bible Study. We will be studying the first 4 chapters in *Learning to Love the Psalms* by W. Robert Godfrey. All woman is invited to attend the meeting and/or Bible Study.

## **Our Daily Bread**

January is the month in which we take orders for Our Daily Bread. This devotional can be ordered through the Women's Ministries on a donation basis. Available in regular and large print, this monthly publication includes a daily scripture and devotional reading, as well as a plan for reading through the Bible in a year. Please see Libby or Shirley to renew or start your subscription.

## **Cemetery Cleaning Reminder**

The Cemetery Trustees will be cleaning the cemetery on Saturday, February 28, 2026. All flowers/decorations that you wish to save need to be removed prior to this date. Any flowers/decorations remaining in the cemetery on Saturday, February 28, 2026, will be discarded.

## **Bad Weather Closings**



We make our decisions on cancellation of service based on safety concerns. We evaluate conditions at the church and in the immediate area around the church as well as on the weather forecasts available to us. When we cancel Sunday morning services or other major events, we will announce these closings by: One Call System (phone, text and email); Web Page: [oldprovidencechurch.org](http://oldprovidencechurch.org); and TV: Channel 3 (Sunday Service or major events only).

JANUARY 2026 Calendar of Events

**Thursday, January 1 – New Years Day**

Church Office Closed

*Happy New Year!*

**Sunday, January 4**

9:00 a.m. - Sabbath School

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

10:00 a.m. - Worship

Children's Church Leaders: Carrie and Elizabeth

5:30 p.m. - Youth Group

**Tuesday, January 6**

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

**Wednesday, January 7**

6:00 p.m. - Family Night

**Thursday, January 8**

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

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



**Sunday, January 11**

9:00 a.m. - Sabbath School

9:45 a.m. - Nursery Helpers: Stacy and Sally

10:00 a.m. - Worship

Children's Church Leaders: Amanda and Vicki

5:00 p.m. - Diaconate Meeting

5:30 p.m. - Youth Group

**Tuesday, January 13**

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

**Wednesday, January 14**

6:00 p.m. - Family Night

**Sunday, January 18**

Special Offering for WRE

9:00 a.m. - Sabbath School

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

10:00 a.m. - Worship

Children's Church Leader: Patcie

5:30 p.m. - Youth Group

**Tuesday, January 20**

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

**Wednesday, January 21**

6:00 p.m. - Family Night

**Sunday, January 25**

9:00 a.m. - Sabbath School

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

10:00 a.m. - Worship

Children's Church Leaders: Dabney and Tina

5:30 p.m. - Youth Group

**Tuesday, January 27**

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

**Wednesday, January 28**

6:00 p.m. - Family Night

**Thursday, January 29**

7:00 p.m. - Women's Ministries Visits Beulah Land

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