



THE COMMON LIFE

A MONTHLY LETTER FROM PROVIDENCE CHURCH · LEXINGTON PARISH

SEPTEMBER 2026

WORSHIP · DISCIPLESHIP · HOSPITALITY · MISSION

VOL. I, NO. 1



A Beginning

The gathered church · September 6, 2026

FROM THE PASTOR

New Beginnings

Yesterday, by God's grace, we held our first worship service in Lexington. It was a glorious day, with friends and family joining us in this new endeavor. We witnessed a whole bunch of baptisms, we sang and prayed together, and we sat together for a very special meal. In fact, something you may not have thought about is that several of our youngest parishioners received Communion for the first time.

It truly was a day of new beginnings - and the Bible has a lot to say about new beginnings.

For example, in Philippians 3:13-14, we are reminded that we should forget what lies behind while we strain forward to what lies ahead. Meanwhile, in Jeremiah 6:16, we are told to go back to the old - the ancient paths - to find the good way, to walk in it, and to find our rest there.

I think the specific work we are doing in Lexington - pursuing what we believe to be biblical worship, in a new place, with a new group of people - sits right in the middle of that biblical tension.

We should not bring the baggage of our past - hurts, cares, worries, insecurities, anxieties, and, above all else, our sins - with us as we press forward. The finished work of Jesus Christ on the cross has ultimately separated all of those things from us. At the same time, we are trying to strain forward into what lies ahead by recovering the old, biblical traditions.

This is a good and important work that each of you and your families are endeavoring to do. Keep it up!

Finally, I want you to see God's grace and glory in all the pictures of new beginnings that He showed us last Sunday. There was the seemingly mundane, but not unimportant: new signs, beautiful aesthetics, and delicious, fresh coffee. Moving from glory to glory, we also had baptisms, where we witnessed children being made new creatures in Christ, and Communion, as God renewed His covenant with us, granting us a fresh start for the new week.

And that, brothers and sisters, is the glory of God: that in His infinite wisdom, a new beginning is not a one-time event. Rather, we get to experience new beginnings week after week, as He is eternally faithful to do it again for our good.

Amen and amen!

THE MONTH BEFORE US

FRI · SEPT 11 & 25

Pastor Biette's Office Hours · Lexington

An opportunity to visit, talk, pray, or simply have a cup of coffee with Pastor Jason.

SUN · SEPT 13 & 20 · 10:00 AM

Children's Catechism (under 12)

Adult Sunday School: On Worship

SUN · SEPT 13 & 20 · 11:00 AM

The Lord's Day · Worship

SUN · SEPT 27 · 11:00 AM

Worship & Our First Fellowship Meal

Our first fellowship meal will immediately follow worship. Details to come.

SEPT 27 - OCT 1

CREC Presbytery & General Council · Nashville

Pastor Jason will be in Nashville for Presbytery and the CREC General Council, along with Pastors Hurt, Davis, Simmons, and Presiding Minister David Cooper.

LOOKING AHEAD

SAT · OCT 3

Opening Day of Archery Season

We report. You decide. :)

SUN · NOV 1

Reformation Day Celebration · Lynchburg

Immediately following our service. More details to come.



Baptism and the covenant promises.



Another child welcomed through baptism.



Gathered around Word and Sacrament.



A people joined together in thanksgiving.

A PARISH CATECHISM

What Does It Mean to Be a Parish?

You may have noticed that our full name is Providence Church · Lexington Parish. The word parish is important to us - and it means a couple of things.

First, we are quite literally a parish of Providence Church in Lynchburg. We are a new work, but we are not beginning alone. Our relationship with an established congregation provides us with pastoral oversight, accountability, protection, and the wisdom that comes from being part of a mature church body. As God blesses this work and we grow, we hope eventually to be constituted as a congregation in our own right.

But we may just decide to keep Parish in our name.

Historically, a parish is a church understood in relation to a particular place and people. And that expresses something important about what we hope Providence will become in Lexington. God has not called us to be Christians in the abstract. He has placed us here - to worship, work, raise our children, practice hospitality, serve our neighbors, and share life together.

Each Lord's Day, God gathers us around Word and Sacrament. Then He sends us back into our homes, workplaces, neighborhoods, schools, shops, farms, and dinner tables to live faithfully before Him.

So Lexington Parish describes both what we are now and something of what we hope to become: a church under faithful oversight today, growing toward maturity tomorrow, and always a people rooted in this particular place for the worship of God and the good of our neighbors.

By God's grace, this is our parish.

FOR OUR PRAYERS

- Give thanks for Providence's first Lord's Day in Lexington and for all those who labored to make it possible.
- Pray for our newly baptized, that they would grow in the grace and knowledge of Christ and be surrounded by a faithful church throughout their lives.
- Pray for our families and children, that our homes would be places of worship, hospitality, joy, repentance, forgiveness, and Christian love.
- Pray for Lexington and the surrounding communities, that God would give us opportunities to love our neighbors and use Providence for the good of this place.
- Pray for our pastors and the broader Church, particularly as Pastor Jason and the other ministers travel to Nashville for Presbytery and the CREC General Council.



"His mercies are new every morning."

LAMENTATIONS 3:23