



The Olive Branch

## DECEMBER 2017

### OLIVE BRANCH CHRISTIAN CHURCH (Disciples of Christ)

**Richard D. Cline, minister**  
**Susan C. Fournier, secretary**  
**757-566-8077 (Church Office)**

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**Office Hours: Monday-Friday 8:30AM – 1:30PM**



#### **WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!**

Susan Rinehart joined the OBCC family on November 12<sup>th</sup>.

Jane Speegle joined the OBCC family on November 26<sup>th</sup>.

We welcome them both to the OBCC family!

#### **WELCOME BACK!**

Scott & Peggy Boyd have returned to us from Florida. They are living in Lanexa and look forward to rejoining the OBCC family.

#### **TRY BEING AN ENCOURAGER**

The Sunday before Thanksgiving I preached a sermon which had as its theme the importance of being an encourager. My text for that day was a passage from I Thessalonians 5:11 – “Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.” I pointed out that too many people, including Christians, instead of encouragement have the cursed of discouragement. Like Eeyore in Winnie the Pooh, we too often tend to be pessimistic, gloomy, and negative thinking. This is not what Christ has called us to be! We need to build up, not tear down, others. We need to encourage people with our words and actions. Then I challenged the congregation to make it a practice to say one encouraging word to someone every day. I ended with the promise that if we did, we would witness a miracle in our lives and the lives of those we touched.

On Monday I had a member visit me, who started our conversation by pointing at her toes and saying, “Look what you did! You stepped all over my toes

Sunday!” To which I replied, “I meant no harm, but I needed to hear that sermon just as much as anyone else.” It is far too easy to be a curmudgeon, especially at this time of the year. Thanksgiving and Christmas have the potential to bring out the best – and the worst – in us. The stress of making sure everything is just right, of keeping the Christmas spirit, of spending time – or making time – to be with family and friends, is hard.

But don’t give up! We need to become sons and daughters of encouragement! After all, is not God the ultimate example of encouragement? For as Paul put it in Romans 8, if God “... did not spare His own Son, but handed Him over on our account, then don’t you think that He will graciously give us all things with Him? So who can separate us? What can come between us and the love of God’s Anointed? Can troubles, hardships, persecution, hunger, poverty, danger, or even death? The answer is, absolutely nothing.”

So encourage each other with these words!

Blessings,  
~Pastor Richard



#### **WHAT I HAVE EXPERIENCED AS BOARD CHAIR**

A Pastor who has a heart for the Lord and for us. His compassion for us goes beyond just caring. It includes helping us to grow in our worship and knowledge of the Lord and to grow in the effectiveness of our service in His name.

Elders who are relevant and inspiring in their communion meditations and family care.

Deacons who show friendliness and hospitality to everyone who attends all our church activities.

Deaconesses who prepare the Lord's Supper elements for numerous services and clean up afterward.

Energetic, competent program leaders and committee chairs who have a heart for the Lord, our faith community, and for those in our area who need someone to care about them.

Imaginative, innovative teachers who are faithful to the Lord and to all who seek to learn.

Hospitality hosts who plan, prepare, serve, clean up, and rearrange two fellowship halls for so many meals and activities.

A voice choir and bell choirs who provide music, the language of the soul, for a variety of different worship services.

Many of our faith community silently do good works for people in need and for helping agencies in the area.

God's will happens when we are open to His work in us and through us, not when we focus on our own personal needs or ideas or on what we do or say.

God is always acting in history to complete His purposes: sometimes for us; sometimes with us; sometimes ahead of us; sometimes in spite of us, but never because of us.

God is preparing leaders through whom he can do his work in and through Olive Branch in 2018.

My prayer is that everyone in our faith community experiences a new sense of who Christ is during this Christmas season and that 2018 will be a year of growth in the knowledge of the Lord and in his service.

Take Care,  
~Fred



## CWF NEWS

### Dinner

The CWF Dinner will be December 11th at 6:30 pm. Please bring a dish to share. We will have our famous story teller, Carole Kerr, reading a Christmas story, AND Richard Cline will provide a special program for Christmas thoughts. All women are welcome to this dinner. You may bring

a friend with you as we are celebrating the Christmas season in fellowship together.

### Yard Sale

CWF held a quick Yard Sale in November to sell baked goods and the Christmas items remaining from the Community Fun Day store. Many thanks to those who contributed and helped out. The effort netted about \$1,100!!! CWF will do this again next year.

### **NOTE:**

As you unpack holiday decorations this year, it is the ideal moment to sort out things you will never use again for next year's CWF sale. If you cannot store donation items yourself, please contact Sheila Yeatts (757-880-3317) to get them to OBCC.

God Bless!

~Kay Ainsworth, CWF Director



## CWF TUESDAY MORNING CIRCLE

The Tuesday circle met on November 14th at Interlude with eleven present. We miss those unable to attend. After a lunch with a birthday cake for Elaine and Cheryl Johnson, we went over upcoming events. Elaine presented our lesson on forgiveness, with discussion and a clip of the movie, *The Shack*, in which Max forgave the man who killed his daughter. Another very interesting lesson--Thank you, Elaine!

Our next meeting will be December 12<sup>th</sup> 11:45. Come join us for lunch, fellowship, and a very interesting lesson.

~Donna Haulsee



## MONDAY CWF WILL MEET

on December 18th. Please join us then and on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of each month as we meet in Andy's Sunday School room at 7:00 pm. Right now the group is studying Ephesians.

~Carole Kerr



Busy times for youth....Activities, school, football games, sports....oh my!

~Abby Matschke





## AFTERNOON DELIGHT

The next meeting will be at 2:00 PM on Tuesday, December 5<sup>th</sup> at the Barber home. Come to enjoy the last gathering of 2017!

Hope to see you!  
~Dick & Betty Barber



**Church Family:** Pat Allred, Vicki Anderson, Michael Ayers, Charles & Betty Boy, The Boyd Family, Duie Brantley Family, Gertie Duke, Nancy Griffith, Lucy Hall, Lena Jeffries, Skylar Jensen, Ruby Jones, Jeanne Lawrence, Mary Lee Leary, Diana & David Love, Val Mason, Dallas Mitchell, Perger Family, Susan Pruitt, Cecelia Ruskey, Ellen Sullivan, Phyllis Taylor, Richard Thiel, Doris Turner, Sarah Waid, Dennis Williams, Michelle Wright

**Family and Friends:** The professional and volunteer women and men who protect and defend us, our nation, Susan Bookless (friend of Carole Kerr), Cynthia Dea (Kay Ainsworth's niece-in-law), Linda Dupue (friend of Maralyn Carr), Charles Friend (Emily Friend's brother), David Hunt (Jim Hunt's brother), Robert & Wilma Jefferson, (friends of Irma Gustafson), Barbara Johnson (Robin Moscati's mother), Mary Mamaras (relative of Ryan Matschke's roommate), Janet Marshall Family (sister of Robin Moscati), David Martin (friend of Schmidts), Ken McCrickland (friend of Thackers), Anita McCauley (Virginia seminary student), McGowan Family (co-workers of Karen Barrow), Susan Moffatt (friend of Schmidts), Becky Mullins (Stacey Mullins' Aunt), Bryson Phenicie (Dallas & Joann Mitchell's nephew), Marolyn Pierce (Carolyn Hunt's twin sister), June Shipley (mother of Farm Fresh Manager), Charlie Tench (Larry & Louise Smith's son-in-law), Rosemary Thomasson (Emily Friend's mother), Dora Vass (cousin of Irma Gustafson), Jamie Ware-Jondreau (friend of Carol Pitts), Noel (friend of Thackers), Denise (Jason Campbell's sister)



Dear OBCC family:

Being in the hospital or recovering from Surgery is never fun. It has been a challenging experience and I appreciate your many acts of kindness. The many lovely cards of kind, sincere and comforting words, your genuine concern, phone calls and prayers

were quite healing; I am touched and grateful. God Bless everyone now and always,

Sincerely,  
~Phyllis Taylor



## Worship and Wonder (Ages 3-8)

- December 3 Missy Harbour, Kim Riffle
- December 10 Linda Williams, Carolyn Hunt
- December 17 Ann Bradshaw
- December 24 Linda Williams
- December 31 Ann Bradshaw, Kim Riffle



- December 3 Louise Smith
- December 10 OPEN
- December 17 Judy Eley
- December 24 OPEN
- December 31 OPEN



Are Sunday flowers something you like to see? The 2018 calendar will go up in December right under the 2017 one (which, you will note, has a few openings). Show how much you like Sunday flowers by adding your name in a blank space or two (maybe more!).



## SCRIPTURE SELECTIONS

The following scriptures will be used during the Sunday worship services this month.

The underlined passages are the primary passages for Pastor Richard's sermons.

- December 3 Traditional
- December 10 Advent
- December 17 and
- December 24 Holiday
- December 31 Selections

**SERVING THIS MONTH**

**Elders**

- December 3 Skip Jensen, Jim Thacker
- December 10 Joyce Allen, Ralph Hutton
- December 17 Fred Rothermel, Robbie Robertson
- December 24 Donna Perger, Judy Eley
- December 31 Landa Simmons, Joyce Allen

**Deacons**

- December 3 Lisa Day, Phillip Day,  
Tracey Hutton, Tracy Creech
- December 10 Abby Matschke, Boyce Mason,  
Elna Pitts, Danny Pitts
- December 17 Cindy Robertson, Lewis Williams,  
Harold Barker, Patty Barker
- December 24 Will Hatcher, Jane Hatcher,  
Mel Watson, Kaye Watson
- December 31 Janet Neal, Phyllis Taylor,  
Kevin Waid, Harold McKeel

**Deaconess**

Emily Dill



- 14 Hunter & Tracy Creech III
- 23 Larry & Louise Smith
- 27 Katie & Christopher Lambert
- 31 Diane Jegel



- 04 Theresa Dickerson
- 04 Donna Garrett
- 04 Dana Rothermel
- 06 Kay Ainsworth
- 08 Taylor Cline
- 08 Skylar Jensen
- 08 Fred Rothermel
- 09 Virginia Wright

- 11 Denise Benson
- 12 Robert Hutton
- 12 Robert Wilkins
- 13 Tracy Creech
- 13 John Stall
- 13 Debbie Wilkins
- 16 Wayne Jones
- 16 Karen Marrow
- 16 Cleve Wright
- 17 Dawn Gormus
- 20 Todd Meadows
- 20 Ellen Sullivan
- 20 Ronnie Yeatts
- 22 Bryant Walker
- 22 Holly Ward
- 23 Patrick Gormus
- 23 Jim Thacker
- 24 Keeta Hodson
- 27 Becky Baker
- 29 Ashleigh Daniels
- 29 Janet Morris



**FOOD SHARING PROGRAM UPDATE**

While we may be Christmas decorating, shopping, and wrapping gifts, some of our neighborhood families are worrying about important things, such as whether or not there will be enough food for their next meals. Your food donations during December will make Christmas merry for our neighborhood families.

Wishing you a Merry Christmas  
~Jane & Will Hatcher



Monday, December 25  
Monday, January 1



**Hope | Peace | Joy | Love**



## ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS ACTIVITIES

- Sunday, 11/12 *Angel Tree Wishes on tree*
- Sunday, 12/10 *Christmas Giving*  
11:00 AM Performance  
(Woodside HS)  
Potluck Meal after 11 AM Service
- Monday, 12/11 6:30 PM  
CWF Christmas Dinner (NFH)
- Tuesday, 12/12 *Angel Tree Gifts Deadline*
- Wednesday, 12/13 11:00 AM – 2:00 PM  
Our Day Out (NFH)
- Friday, 12/15 7:00 PM  
Backstage Performance (NFH)  
*Christmas Carol*
- Sunday, 12/17 *Christmas Giving*  
11:00 AM  
Hand bells
- Sunday, 12/24 8:30 & 11:00 AM  
(both in sanctuary)  
Christmas Cantata  
7:00 PM  
Christmas Eve Service
- Monday, 12/25 OFFICE CLOSED
- Sunday, 12/31 Regular Sunday services
- Monday, 1/1 OFFICE CLOSED

been a great help to our military since the Revolutionary War!

Linda Lucas from Master Gardeners gave a very informational presentation on gourds and squash, with a demonstration of shredding spaghetti squash (looks very similar to pasta!). When we see this produce in the grocery store we don't know the history of how it came to our shores so long ago. Linda informed us! She was very interesting and enlightening. She brought materials for our guests to make Thanksgiving cards to take home to send to a loved one.

A wonderful family-style lunch included ham, sweet potatoes from Andy's garden, green beans, cranberry salad, and homemade bread (compliments of Barb Schmidt). Elna brought a fine array of pies for our dessert. Marney decorated beautifully for fall. She and Sheila together turned out a delectable meal.

Donna Perger had Advent Wreaths to be made, complete with candles, to take home and use during the Advent season. Jane came to help Melissa work on the Mural that continues to hang in the NFH. We hope it is completed next month but a work in progress is fun to have hanging around!

BINGO is always looked forward to along with the fun prizes. Thanks Larry! He takes a lot of flak from those who don't seem to have a card that wins!! Until that person finally wins twice in a row!! Then he becomes an OK guy!

We praise God for the uniqueness of ourselves, the special children of His that we all are. We celebrated the November birthdays Irma Gustafson and Pat Allred. God is good, and Thanksgiving reminds us of just how blessed we all are.

Next month we will be looking for Santa. Sure hope he's able to find us!



## OUR DAY OUT



November 8 proved to be rainy with a bone-chilling wind that our bodies were not accustomed to, but at 9:45 our group began arriving with bright, smiling faces, flooding the Fellowship Hall with sunshine of sorts. We had another wonderful day for the 31 folks who were there. We remembered our Veterans with a sweet story read by Carole about a service dog who was suffering from PTSD because of the trauma he suffered in Afghanistan. We learned that these four-legged heroes have



Love in Jesus Name, Blessings,  
~Louise Smith, ODO Coordinator



## **WALKING WITH OBCC**

Thank You for supporting The Walk to End Alzheimer's 2017 Champaign!

It has been a privilege and honor to represent OBCC as Chairperson for THE WALK TO END ALZHEIMER'S 2017 Champaign.

OBCC made a commitment to support the Williamsburg Alzheimer's Association with a donation of \$3,000.00; an increase of \$500.00 over last years \$2,500.00. At this time, I am thankful and pleased to report a total donation of \$3,861.00. Once again OBCC went above and beyond its commitment.

God truly touched the hearts of our Church family and visiting friends who gave generously in support of the Alzheimer's Association. I greatly appreciate all the thoughtful donations. Please know that each gift will play a major part in working to advance care, support and research in finding a cure for this dreaded disease. We are a mission-supportive church family.....a team for Christ.

To the following, thank you for contributing your time and talents in promoting the success in reaching our goal. My sincere appreciate to everyone for your support:

Pastor Richard, Susan Fournier, the Alzheimer's Caregivers who so graciously shared their personal experiences--Val Mason, Janet Dombrowski, Keeta Hodson, Clay Harrison for his deeply, heart-felt poem, Keeta Hodson for her support on purple Sunday, Patty and Harold Barker, Christy Jensen, Elain Henk, and Irma Gustafson. A big thank you goes out to Joyce Allen and Andrew Pfister for his willingness to take charge of the Car Raffle Tickets and organizing the Disciple Walkers Team on Saturday, 28 October 2017. And to Mr. Boulftali, of Jimmy's Oven & Grill, who willingly shared his facility in support of The Walk to End Alzheimer's and contributed generously to the Alzheimer's Fund.

We need not look outside the walls of our church...our personal experiences convince us to claim the challenges. THE END OF ALZHEIMER'S STARTS WITH YOU.

*~Phyllis Taylor*



The Disciple Walkers team participation in this year's Walk to End Alzheimer's, exceeded expectations, despite some less-than perfect circumstances. For the past several years our team has mustered at least 20 walkers each year. However, with some of our most loyal walkers inconveniently out of town, and this year's walk conflicting with our Community Fun day here at OBCC, this year's team managed only nine walkers, but proudly bolstered four first timers. And after two straight years in the top 5 teams for raising money, we fell to sixth, out of a whopping 80 teams. Exceeding our goal of \$3,000, having raised just over \$3,800. Thank you, to all who walked, donated, or otherwise contributed to our team's success in this year's walk.

*~Andrew Pfister*



## **WORLD OUTREACH NEWS**



### **CHRISTMAS OFFERING SET FOR DECEMBER 10 & 17**

This offering---one of four annual special giving Sundays---provides a wide range of services in our region. Camps, conferences and retreats provide an setting of hope and renewal. Revitalized and new congregations as well as hard-working pastors and leaders are supported. New ministers are called, commissioned, and ordained. Pastoral care for pastors and congregations provides essential support in times of crisis. This offering also makes ministries of reconciliation and anti-racism come alive. These funds also help to connect congregations to give witness to ministries of justice, hope, and compassion.

Your generosity makes the difference in our shared ministries. Become a light of revelation and hope.

Please be sure to mark your gift clearly as Christmas Offering.



### THANKSGIVING OFFERING REPORT

A total of \$1,216.00 has been collected for our World Service work. Thank you for your generous donations!

~ Sheila Yeatts



### MARK YOUR CALENDAR

**UPCOMING OBCC EVENTS:** (Save these dates & watch for details in newsletters and bulletins)  
Comfort Ministry: 12/2 10:00 AM  
Office Closed: 2 Mondays 12/25 & 1/1  
Comfort Ministry: 1/6 10:00 AM  
Elders Meeting: 1/29 6:30 PM



### CHURCH SERVICE REMINDER

If you attend the later service at OBCC, be sure to join you OBCC family in the sanctuary at 10:55 AM to greet each other and hear all the important news before the worship service begins. By gathering for greeting and announcements just before 11, we can make sure that the service does not run too long....and that you can move on to other fun activities with your OBCC family or your own.

See you in the sanctuary at 10:55 AM!



### FAMILY NIGHT CONCLUDES 2017 WITH A REPORT FROM ANN BRADSHAW

about her India trip on Wednesday, December 6.

**This is a regular Family Night potluck dinner.**

Come join in the fellowship and food starting at 6:00 PM in the New Fellowship Hall! Regular Family Night will resume in January.



### BACKSTAGE SHOW COMING ON DECEMBER 8:

The Backstage Production troupe will share its latest show with the OBCC family at 7 PM on December 8 in the New Fellowship Hall. It's their way of saying thank you for all that the OBCC does for them. Plan to join them for a brief performance of *Oliver Twist & the Christmas Cantata*.



### REPORT OF OBCC LEADERSHIP ELECTIONS (servie begins January 1)

Here is the list of newly-elected OBCC leaders. Thanks to these folks, **and** thanks to the continuing leaders and committee members. Special thanks to the about-to- retire members, who have given of their talent and time to the OBCC family!

BOARD CHAIRMAN (2-yr/2 term max)  
Doug Dill

BOARD VICE CHAIR (2-yr/2 term max)  
Robbie Robertson (2<sup>nd</sup> term)

RECORDING SECRETARY (2-yr/3 term max)  
Maralyn Carr

TREASURER (2-yr/3 term max)  
Cindy Robertson (to complete 1-yr of term)

CLERK (2-yr/3 term max)  
Mary Lee Leary (2<sup>nd</sup> term)

FINANCIAL SECRETARIES (3-yr/2 term max)  
Richard Bradshaw  
Joyce Allen (2<sup>nd</sup> term)

ELDERS (3-yr/1 term max)  
Bob Lawrence                      Kim Riffle  
Josh Fulgham                      Chuck Walker

DEACONS (3-yr/1 term max)  
Donna Haulsee                      Andrew Pfister  
Linda Williams                      Janet Dombrowski  
Stacy Mullins                      Mary Lee Leary  
Val Mason                              Lisa Day (new term)

DEACONESS (2-Yr/2 term max)  
Karen Marrow  
Barb Schmidt  
Nancy Griffith (2<sup>nd</sup> term)

TRUSTEE (5-yr/2 term max)  
Kay Ainsworth



### STEWARDSHIP AND FINANCE NEWS

This committee presented the budget at the recent congregational meeting. It was approved. Your giving in 2018 brings OBCC programs to life!

~Jim Hunt





## BETHLEHEM WALK



**Ask Jim & Paula Thacker about their experience with this unique outing:**

Bethlehem Walk returned again on Wednesday, November 29, 2017. The interactive outdoor drama where guests experience first century Bethlehem continues through Sunday, December 3rd. As you enter the city, allow the sights, sounds and smells to carry you to a period of time that changed the world. Journey through the heart of the city to the marketplace that is bustling with activity from over a dozen authentic shops; enjoy samples from the baker's shop, see the blacksmith at work making crucifixion nails, marvel at the potter's crafts and listen for the rumor of a king's birth from excited townspeople.

The tour is outside and takes approximately 45 minutes. Wait times for the event could be anywhere from 1 to 3 hours. Dress appropriately for the weather. The rough terrain is not suitable for wheelchairs; however we do have "chariots" to accommodate you. Admission is free and parking is available on the property. Shuttle service is provided to and from satellite parking locations. Donations to help defray all associated costs are accepted, and Bethlehem Walk T-Shirts will be available for purchase (all proceeds go towards associated expenses).

### 2017 Schedule (remaining)

December 1, 2017, 6 – 10 PM

December 2, 2017, 4 – 9 PM

December 3, 2017, 3 – 8 PM

### Location

Salem Baptist Church (Broad Street Campus)  
465 Broad Street Road, Manakin, VA 23103  
(6 miles west of Short Pump)



## COMMUNITY FUN DAY!!

Love is a reason for giving, and that is what we did at our community fun day. I want to thank everyone who took time out of their busy lives to cook, bake, help, work, sell, set up, clean up--- everything that made that day the success that it was.

We offered homemade BBQ, Brunswick stew, and hot dogs, along with Cole slaw, baked beans, and chips. Our chefs did an amazing job cooking our lunch.

We had many different activities. Our kid section offered hay rides, a bounce house, cotton candy, face painting, pumpkin painting, and apple cider. We had a great band playing on the front stoop. *Work in Progress* even had some of their fan club coming out to listen.

Inside, we had our bake sale, silent auction, raffle, a Christmas shop, and gift shop. All of these areas helped to make our event a huge success.

It takes many hands to make light work, and I cannot thank everyone enough for all of the help we had making this day a success.

~Sheila Yeatts



## FOOD FOR THOUGHT: *The Lord's Prayer*

*The Lord is my Shepherd* (Relationship!)

*I shall not want.* (Supply!)

*He maketh me to lie down in green pastures* (Rest!)

*He leadeth me beside still waters* (Refreshment!)

*He restoreth my soul* (Healing!)

*He leadeth me*

*in the paths of righteousness* (Guidance!)

*For His name's sake* (Purpose!)

*Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death* (Testing!)

*I will fear no evil* (Protection!)

*For Thou art with me* (Faithfulness!)

*Thy rod and thy staff they comfort me* (Discipline!)

*Thou preparest a table before me*

*in the presence of mine enemies* (Hope!)

*Thou annointest my head with oil* (Consecration!)

*My cup runneth over* (Abundance!)

*Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life* (Blessing!)

*And I will dwell in the house of the Lord* (Security!)

*Forever.* (Eternity!)

~provided by, ~Kim Riffle



## Visual Worship Group

Dear Friends in Christ,

I am excited to share with you a creative way to enhance your time spent in God's Word. Beginning on January 21, 2018, a Bible Journaling group will be forming. We will meet in the Youth Sunday School Room during the Sunday School hour beginning at 9:45 AM. This class will be open to

ages from 12 to adult and will meet regularly one Sunday of each month. For examples and introduction please search YouTube for videos about "Visual Faith", "Bible Journaling", or "Visual Worship". Our first meeting will be an introduction to the purposes, materials, tools and techniques of Bible Journaling. We will complete a journal page. I will have materials for all participants who respond to this invitation by January 15, 2018. Please let me know if you will be attending by emailing Donna at [cardcraft@cox.net](mailto:cardcraft@cox.net) or calling 757-566-3145. Let's get together and release our pent up creativity to worship and praise our God.

In Christ, ~Donna Perger

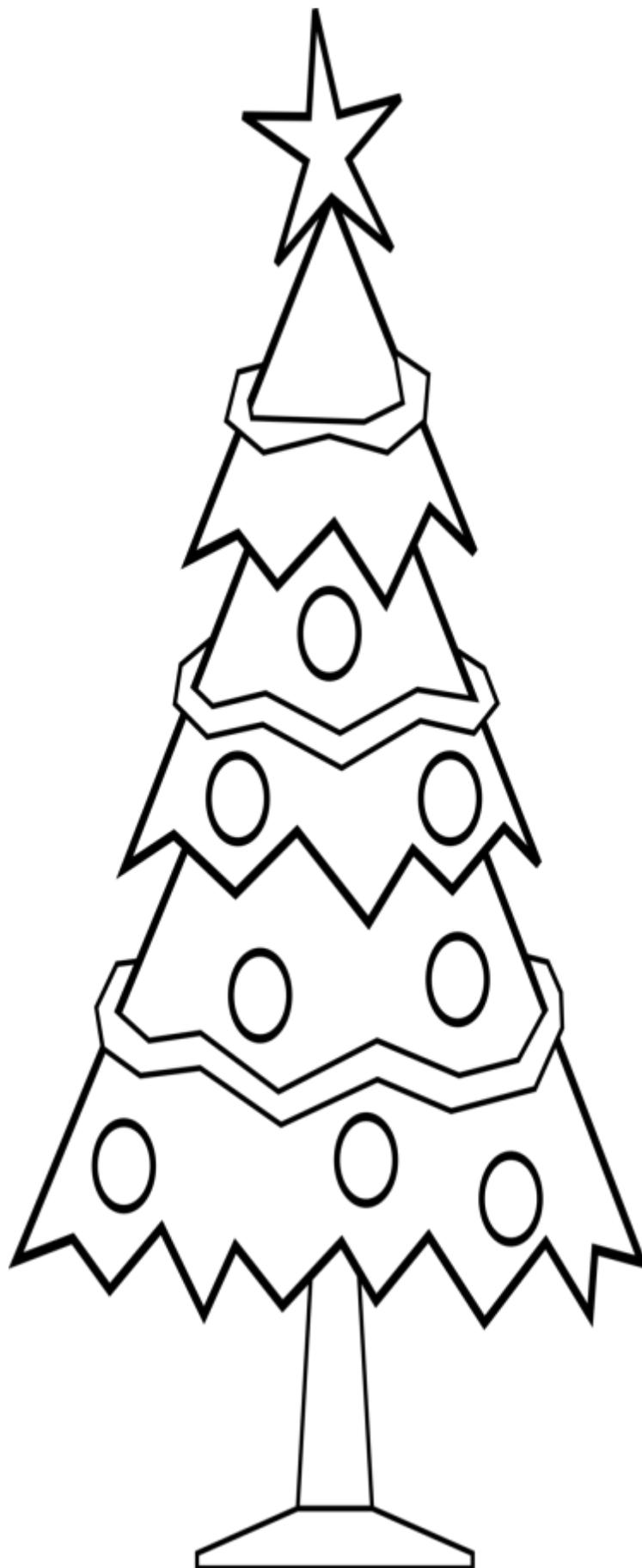
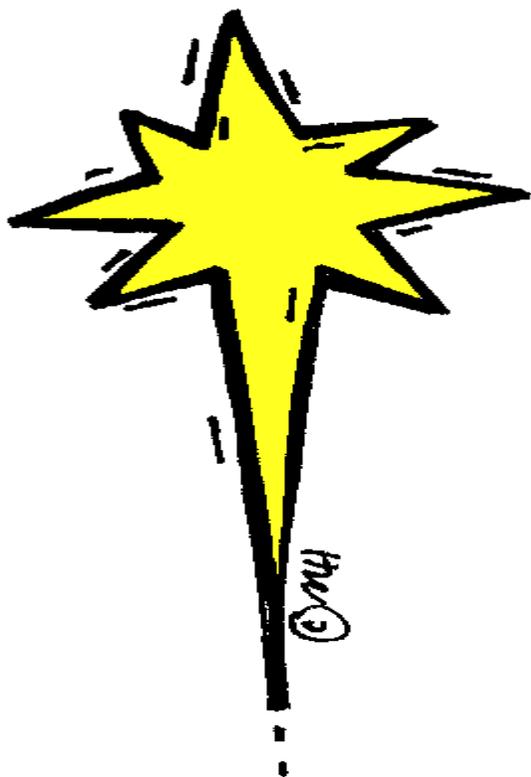


**UPDATED OBCC DIRECTORY TO BE PRINTED** in January each year from now on.

If you have revisions to information for the 2018 edition, please let the office know by January 8.

Directories will list the names of member & friends for whom we have address, phone, and/or e-mail. It will include an updated list of leaders and committee members, as well as a variety of community resource contact information.

The directory should be available in late January for pick up at the church.





## CHRISTMAS IS THE BEST OF TIMES

SNOWFLAKES ARE WALTZING WITH THE WIND;  
CHRISTMAS IS IN THE AIR;  
CHOIRS ARE SINGING, BELLS ARE RINGING,  
KNEES ARE BENT IN PRAYER.  
It's THE HAPPIEST TIME OF THE YEAR  
WHEN HEARTS ARE ALL AGLOW.  
JOY REIGNS SUPREME WITH LOVED ONES NEAR  
AND BLESSINGS SEEM TO FLOW.  
THERE ARE TREASURES IN THE KITCHEN -  
PLUM PUDDINGS, MINCEMEAT PIE  
AND TRAYS OF HOME-BAKED COOKIES  
FOR FRIENDS WHO WILL STOP BY.

THE DECORATIONS ARE IN PLACE,  
SOME HEIRLOOMS FROM THE PAST,  
FOND MEMORIES FROM BYGONE DAYS  
THAT CAME AND WENT TOO FAST.  
THE SIDEWALK SANTAS' WORK IS DONE  
FOR THIS IS CHRISTMAS EVE  
AS WE CELEBRATE CHRIST'S BIRTHDAY  
BECAUSE WE STILL BELIEVE.  
CHRISTIANS BELIEVE IN MIRACLES  
AND UNSEEN THINGS ABOVE  
FOR CHRISTMAS IS THE BEST OF TIMES  
WHEN WE RECEIVE GOD'S LOVE!

Way Harrison  
2017



NFH-New Fellowship Hall  
 OFH-Old Fellowship Hall  
 EB-Education Building  
 SANC-Sanctuary

# December 2017

Monthly Planner

| Sunday   | Monday   | Tuesday  | Wednesday                                 | Thursday  | Friday   | Saturday                                 |
|--|--|--|---|---|--|--|
|  |  |  |   |   | 1  | 2<br>10:00 AM Comfort Ministry (SS Room) |
|  |         |   |   |   |  |  |
| 3<br>8:30 AM Worship<br>9:45 AM Sunday School<br>11:00 AM Worship<br>11:00 AM Worship & Wonder Church<br><i>Advent</i>   | 4<br>10:00 AM Prayer Group (EB)  | 5<br>10:00 AM TOPS (OFH)<br>2:00 PM Small Group Mtg<br>6:30 PM Hand Bells Rehearsal (OFH)<br>7:15 PM Choir Rehearsal (SANC)  | 6<br>6:00 PM Family Night (NFH)           | 7<br>10:30 AM Disciples Men Bible Study (EB)<br>7:30 PM Handchimes (OFH)  | 8<br>7:00 PM Backstage Special Performance (NFH) | 9  |
| 10<br>8:30 AM Worship<br>9:30 AM Dominion Village<br>9:45 AM Sunday School<br>11:00 AM Worship<br>11:00 AM Worship & Wonder Church<br>11 AM Woodside HS Performance & 12:30 PM Lunch (NFH)<br><i>Advent</i>                      | 11<br>10:00 AM Prayer Group (EB)<br>6:30 PM CWF Christmas Dinner (NFH)                   | 12<br>10:00 AM TOPS (OFH)<br>11:45 AM CWF Tuesday Morning Circle (All are welcome. Please bring a dish to share. (Interlude-5395 Riverview Rd)<br>6:30 PM Hand Bells Rehearsal (OFH)<br>7:15 PM Choir Rehearsal (SANC) | 13<br>10:00 AM -2:00 PM Our Day Out (NFH) | 14<br>10:30 AM Disciples Men Bible Study (EB)<br>7:30 PM Handchimes (OFH)   | 15<br>5:00 PM Backstage Productions (EB)         | 16                                       |
| 17<br>8:30 AM Worship<br>9:45 AM Sunday School<br>11:00 AM Worship<br>11:00 AM Worship & Wonder Church<br><i>Advent</i>  | 18<br>10:00 AM Prayer Group (EB)<br>7:00 PM CWF Monday Evening Circle (EB)               | 19<br>10:00 AM TOPS (OFH)<br>7:15 PM Choir Rehearsal (SANC)  | 20  | 21<br>10:30 AM Disciples Men Bible Study (EB)<br>5:00 PM Burnt Ordinary Meal<br>7:30 PM Handchimes (OFH)            | 22<br>5:00 PM Backstage Productions (EB)         | 23                                       |
| 24<br>8:30 AM Worship<br>9:30 AM Dominion Village<br>9:45 AM Sunday School<br>11:00 AM Worship<br>11:00 AM Worship & Wonder Church<br>7:00 PM Christmas Eve Service (SANC)<br><i>Advent</i><br>Cantata (2 services in sanctuary) | 25<br>10:00 AM Prayer Group (EB)<br>6:30 PM Elders Meeting (OFH)<br><b>OFFICE CLOSED</b> | 26<br>10:00 AM TOPS (OFH)<br>7:15 PM Choir Rehearsal (SANC)  | 27  | 28<br>10:30 AM Disciples Men Bible Study (EB)<br>11:00 AM Naomf's Lunch Bunch (Jimmy's)<br>7:30 PM Handchimes (OFH) | 29<br>5:00 PM Backstage Productions (EB)         | 30                                       |
| 31<br>8:30 AM Worship<br>9:45 AM Sunday School<br>11:00 AM Worship<br>11:00 AM Worship & Wonder Church<br>New Year's Eve   |  |  |   |   |  |  |



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# The Olive Branch

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