



THE OLIVE BRANCH

JULY 2024

OLIVE BRANCH CHRISTIAN CHURCH

(Disciples of Christ)

Richard D. Cline, minister
Sara C. Scungio, administrative assistant
757-566-8077 (Church Office)

 Facebook: facebook.com/obccwilliamsburg

Web Address: www.ob-cc.org
Office Email Address: obcc1833@gmail.com
Office Hours: Monday-Friday 8:30 AM – 1:30 PM

 Instagram: [@obccwilliamsburg](https://www.instagram.com/obccwilliamsburg)



**CHRISTIAN CHURCH
(DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)**

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Charles and Naomia Barker joined June 16, 2024
180 Skimino Rd
Williamsburg, VA 23188-2222
H: (757) 206-1978
Charles Cell: (757) 876-5403
Naomia Cell: (757) 876-5929 (Naomia)
Charles Email: charlesbarker52@cox.net
Naomia Email: tnydogluver01@gmail.com

Welcome!

of Frederiksted on the island of St. Croix. St. Croix is the poster child of the quintessential tropical island paradise. When you are approaching Frederiksted by sea, there are no high-rise buildings. None of the typical tourist traps like "Senor Frog" or "Margaritaville" restaurants clutter the end of the docking pier. Only a small town, with plentiful green spaces, laid out in the traditional British colonial pattern of 7 streets by 7 streets.

Polly's is on one of the streets. Ann and I ran inside to escape the rain, and to quench our thirst. The coffee was strong and delicious. It wasn't until I had finished half the cup that I realized my yawns had disappeared. My yawning body was trying to tell my mind what I needed to drink!

As I noted in one of the last Wednesday's Family Night studies on Ephesians, prayer is important. All Christians pray, some more than others. Prayer is also very personal. We all pray differently, both in content and mode. Where are you when you pray? Do you have a set time or place? Do you close your eyes, bow your head, get down on your knees?

Mode is one thing; content is another. Sometimes it is difficult to know what to pray, what words to use, or how to make it sound "professionally religious". My advice is to remember what the Apostle Paul wrote: let the Spirit tell us. "In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans". (Romans 8:26)



YAWNS AND GROANS

I loved the sign so much I took a picture of it. Polly's at the Pier is a restaurant/coffeeshop/bar in the town

Pray what is on your heart. Say your praises, count your blessings, give voice to your concerns, even yell out your complaints. Let the Spirit move you, and you will pray what needs to be said. For just as yawns call for coffee, so does the Spirit lead us to call out what we "ought to pray for... through wordless groans".

Prayer and coffee. A most excellent way to begin the morning!

Blessings,
~Pastor Richard

MEETINGS & BUILDING USE

T.O.P.S.: Tuesdays; 9:30AM; Taylor Hall

Seekers Prayer Group: Tuesdays; 11:30 AM
Adult SS Room

Our Day Out: 2nd Wednesdays; 10AM-2PM;
Branch Hall

Comfort Ministry: 2nd Saturdays; 10 AM
Sandy's Restaurant

DWM Tuesday Bible Study: 3rd Tuesdays; 2 PM;
Taylor Hall

OBCC Men's Meeting: 2nd Thursdays; 9 AM; Branch
Hall with breakfast

4th Thursday Lunch Bunch: 4th Thursdays; 11 AM;
Sandy's Restaurant

Community Cookout: Wednesday nights; 6PM; Branch
Hall; please bring a dish to share



SERVICES & HOURS

Sunday Services:

8:30 AM Branch Hall 11:00 AM Sanctuary

Sunday School:

NFH Sunday School following the 8:30 service

Andy's Sunday School at 9:30

Nursery:

Open on Sundays: 8:15AM-12:15PM

Office Hours:

Mon-Fri 8:30AM-1:30PM



Community Cookout: Wednesday nights, July 10-31,
6-7:30PM; Branch Hall

VBS: August 5-9; 5:30-8PM

Board Meeting: Tuesday, July 30; 6PM; Adult Sunday
School Room



PRAYER LIST

Church Family: Michael Ayers, Mary Best, Jimmy Biggs, JC Biggs, Wally Bowen, Dennis Cotner, Haley Creech, Margie Dieleman, Janet Dombrowski, Steve Garrett, Nancy Griffith, Irma Gustafson, Norm Hall, Petra Hall, Keeta Hodson, Jim Holland, Linda Hutchens, Linda Hutton, Cheryl Johnson, Boyce Mason, Keith McMurdo, Dallas Mitchell, Joann Mitchell, Susan Rinehart, Fred Rothermel, Rudy Ruskey, Bob Schmidt, Rev. Mike Smith, Barbara Thiel, Jerry Van Cleave, Family of Sarah Waid, Mel Watson & Family

Friends: The professional and volunteer women and men who protect and defend us, Our Nation, Natasha Angel (Bob & Sharon Herndon's friend), Denny Dasher (Dennis & Anita Dasher's son), Evala (Norm Hall's daughter), Cody Ferguson (Amy Ferguson's nephew), Kourtney Haake (Heidi & Keith McMurdo's daughter), Stephen Humphries (Liz Ripley's son), Kimberlee Nunn Magrill (David Nunn's daughter), Sue Martin (Michelle Wright's sister-in-law), Julie Painter (Anita Dasher's aunt), Zak Reynolds (Larry & Louise Smith's grandson), Andrew Smith (Mary Louise Rich's son-in-law), Bud Smith (Larry & Louise Smith's son), Curt Tench (Teri Tench's grandson), Brenda Walker (Chuck Walker's mother), Mac Young (Joann Mitchell's brother), Jason (Lorraine Beasley's son), Lola (Missy Harbour's friend's niece)



03	Will & Jane Hatcher
06	Richard Cline & Ann Simmons
14	Andy & Ann Bradshaw
25	Bob & Barb Schmidt
28	Andy & Jeanne Bell
30	Todd & Pam Anderson



02	Brenda White
06	Richard Cline
06	Robbi Hutton
07	Chuck Walker
13	Haley Creech
13	Elizabeth Ripley
13	Jeanette McWilliams
14	Richard Bradshaw
14	Will Hatcher
16	Carolyn Hunt
16	Cecelia Ruskey
20	Bonnie Willard

- 20 Paula Thacker
- 21 Ralph Hutton
- 22 Michael Ayers
- 28 Donald White
- 28 Paul Biggs
- 30 Charles Barker
- 31 Jason Waltrip
- 31 John Waltrip



BOARD MEETING

The OBCC Board will be meeting on Tuesday, July 30, at 6 PM in the Adult Sunday School Room.



The OBCC Family extends condolences to the family of Sarah Waid. Sarah passed away on May 31, 2024. A service was held for Sarah at OBCC on Saturday, June 8, 2024.



ELDERS & DEACONS & DEACONESES

		THIS MONTH'S DEACONESS
		Karen Barrow
07/07/2024	Sheila Yeatts Will Hatcher	
	Judy Eley Lois Marshall Joann Mitchell Joshua Fulgham	
07/14/2024	Teri Tench Ann Bradshaw	
	Amy Ferguson Karen Barrow Anita Dasher Danny Pitts	
07/21/2024	Abby Matschke Linda Williams	
	Liz Ripley Jason Teagle Jim Holland Tyler Watson (Kaye Watson)	
07/28/2024	Andrew Pfister Joyce Allen	
	Ann Bradshaw Chuck Walker Bob Herndon Sharon Herndon	



The OBCC Family extends condolences to Mel Watson and family. Mel's father, William M. "Bill" Watson, Jr., passed away on June 6, 2024. A service was held for Bill at Warwick Assembly of God on Friday, June 14, 2024.



OUR DAY OUT-2ND WEDNESDAYS

The theme for June ODO was "welcoming summer" and the Lord provided us with the perfect day, slightly warm, sunny, and a gentle breeze. Gathering time is always fun and entertaining as tales and events of the last several weeks are exchanged. Trips and fun excursions are on the calendar for many and just enjoying a quiet relaxing summer gives others so much pleasure.

Bob Lawrence entertained us with songs of old and encouraged all to join him if they wanted to.

Chef Sheila delighted us with a summer smorgasbord of salads and goodies.

Crafty Jane told us we were making prayer clips, and everyone really enjoyed using their imagination and the wonderful variety of supplies to come up with a beautiful clip.

Our returning Bingo caller, Tyler, and his partner Barb brought laughter and smiles to us all.

For next month, Anita reminded everyone to wear red, white, or blue as we will be decorating with a spirited four of July theme.

Fun, food, friends, and our Christian family makes Our Day Out so special, and I am always so grateful to everyone who helps make it so special!

May God Bless You Always,
Marney Brickhouse, Coordinator



WORSHIP & WONDER SCHEDULE

	Leader:	Greeter:
07/07/2024	Landa Simmons	Cris Simmons
07/14/2024	Ann Bradshaw	Jeremy Dill
07/21/2024	Landa Simmons	Cris Simmons
07/28/2024	Linda Williams	Bob Williams



HOLIDAY OFFICE CLOSING

The office will be closed on Thursday, July 4 and Friday, July 5 for the Independence Day holiday.



OUR DAY OUT MEMORIAM WALL

When Our Day Out began its ministry on October 15, 2015, we served as a Respite Care group where each

of our "guests" had a "buddy" to help them navigate the programs of the day which included games, music, crafts, a speaker of interest, lunch and BINGO, usually with a special theme. We were blessed to have so many helpers that enabled our Church to fill a vital need in our Congregation at the time.

When one of our "guests" passed away, we would honor their memory on our "Memoriam Wall" with their name and a symbol denoting an interesting fact about their life.

After Covid shutdown and changing of the Church's need to offer Respite Care, the wall was not kept current. Thanks to Jane Hatcher and Sara Scungio, we updated the Memoriam to include the 6 other names of our beloved friends who had passed away. We originally had 19 guests pass through ODO and of those, 13 now adorn the wall.

Due to changes in circumstances, ODO has a new agenda that fills a current need of fellowship among our members. Things don't stay the same, but a vibrant Church is flexible to accommodate change.

I was happy and blessed to head up ODO for a while, but I felt I had started something that I had left unfinished as long as the Memoriam was not current. I hope everyone will stop and view it in Branch Hall, and recall some of your own happy memories of some of the saints who walked among us and are now at home in the presence of God.

~Louise Smith



WORSHIP & WONDER

The sacred space of our Worship and Wonder room contains many special items including a desert box where we retell biblical stories that take place in the desert. Whenever we use the desert box, we begin by saying, "So many wonderful stories happened in the desert that we had to have a piece of it in our room". In the desert box, the children can reenact and retell previous stories using wooden figures and other pieces that help tell the story. Along with the desert box, during our creative time our children enjoy the opportunity to draw pictures, retell other stories like the story of Zaccheus, the parable of Great Pearl, or the story of Jesus and the children. Thank you to Judy Eley for using the memorial funds of her late husband, Robert Eley, to provide all the special materials in this room that make it a truly sacred space for our children.



COMMUNITY COOKOUT

The free community cookout is back for summer! Beginning July 10, we will have a community cookout

from 6-7:30PM on Wednesday nights through July 31. This leads up to our VBS which will be August 5-9. Join us for good food, fun, and fellowship! Please bring a side dish to share. Questions? Contact Abby Matschke.



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL TIME

Camp Firelight is coming our way on August 5-9. We had another planning meeting June 30. Thank you to those who attended. We have a good start of volunteers but can always use more helping hands. Registration is up and running on the church website. If you would like to register for VBS, please visit obcc.org or email/call the office. Hope to see you there!

~Abby Matschke, Coordinator



WORLD OUTREACH NEWS

Thank you for your generous support of our Church World Services Father's Day Tools ministry program! We donated \$1017. Thank you!

~Sheila Yeatts, World Outreach Coordinator



REGIONAL SUMMER CAMP

OPPORTUNITIES

See below to read through all the many summer camp offerings provided by the Virginia Region Camping Ministry:

Triple Camp 1—July 7 - 12, 2024

Craig Springs, New Castle, VA

Triple Camp 1 offers the traditional church camp experience. Open to campers who have completed 3rd through 12th grade.

Camp Price - \$365.00

Triple Camp 2—July 14 - 19, 2024

Craig Springs, New Castle, VA

Triple Camp 2 offers the traditional church camp experience. Open to campers who have completed 3rd through 12th grade.

Camp Price - \$365.00

Family Retreat—July 19 - 21, 2024

Craig Springs, New Castle, VA

When was the last time your family spent quality time together without distractions? Do you want to relax in a rocking chair, play in a creek, and breathe the fresh mountain air? Family Retreat offers an economical way for the whole family to experience camp together for a fun-filled long weekend.

Adults - \$91.00

Ages 6 - 17 - \$68.00

5 and under - Free

For more information, or to sign up for any of these or other available camps, please visit www.ccinva.org/virginiacampingministry



COMMUNITY FUN DAY RAFFLE

The Community Fall Fun Day is coming up! We will be raffling a beautiful handmade granny square Afghan, and a beautiful handmade quilt, both of which are pictured on the right side. Raffle tickets are available for purchase now—contact Sheila Yeatts, Marney Brickhouse, or Barb Schmidt to get your tickets. Our Community Fall Fun Day will be on Saturday, September 21. Hope to see you there!



JULY SPECIAL EVENTS

When we think of holidays or special events in July, we naturally think first of Independence Day. We may even think of summer vacations or other special occasions celebrated within our own families. But one other big special event is beginning in July this year.

The XXXIII Olympics Games will take place in Paris, France. These games will include sporting events such as swimming, gymnastics, track and field, rowing, weightlifting, boxing, beach volleyball, water polo, equestrian, surfing, skateboarding, diving, and badminton, just to name a few. There is even a new sport being added to the Games this year—breaking, or breakdancing.

For the first time in the history of the Olympic Summer Games, the Opening Ceremony will not take place in a stadium. Paris 2024 is breaking new ground by bringing sports into the city and the same will be true of the Opening Ceremony, set to be held in the heart of the city along its main artery: the Seine. Taking on a new guise, the parade of athletes will be held on the Seine with boats for each national delegation. These boats will be equipped with cameras to allow television and online viewers to see the athletes up close. Winding their way from east to west, the 10,500 athletes will cross through the centre of Paris, the overall playing field for the Games. The parade will come to the end of its 6-kilometer route in front of the Trocadéro, where the remaining elements of Olympic protocol and final shows will take place. 80 giant screens and strategically placed speakers will allow everyone to enjoy the magical atmosphere of this show reverberating throughout the French capital. The Opening Ceremony for the Olympic Games Paris 2024 will be the largest in Games history.

Over a billion viewers from around the world are expected to stream the Opening Ceremony based on data from Ceremonies past. Over 3 billion watch the Games, supporting their country's teams and players in each event. Will you be tuning in and cheering on Team USA? The Opening Ceremony will begin Friday, July 26 at 1:30PM EDT. The Games will continue through the Closing Ceremony on Sunday, August 11 at 3PM EDT.



Isaiah 52:9

Burst into songs of joy together, you ruins of Jerusalem, for the Lord has comforted His people, He has redeemed Jerusalem.

**In the carefree days of Summer
When I was but a child,
We children looked for things to do
To make our days worthwhile.**

**We had specific chores to do,
Our parents did insist.
The fun-loving kids that we were,
We often would resist.**

**But there were consequences
For work we left undone,
That put an awful crimp
In our school vacation fun.**

**Hot weather in the South
Felt too oppressive to endure,
Cool breezes in the evening
We welcomed, to be sure.**

**One special night in July,
As fireworks lit up the sky,
We soon came to understand
As we learned the reason why.**

**For on July 4, 1776
Our forefathers did declare,
"Freedom from the Brits",
And joy was everywhere.**

**Because of the Declaration of Independence,
We make a promise to our Maker,
"America is our treasured land,
And we shall never forsake her."**

"Long May Freedom Ring"! ~Louise Smith

Ephesians 5:19b

Sing and make music from your heart to the Lord.

One of our many blessings
Here at Olive Branch
Is a choir of Heavenly voices,
Our Worship to enhance.

Members willing attend practice,
To sing in one accord,
With vibrant sounds of music
To praise our risen Lord.

We have our "Maestro" Emilio
To harmonize each part,
And Steve on clavinova
Engages his whole heart.

They all reveal their talents
And share a special gift,
Of love for God through song,
Our spirits to uplift.

They gladly accept new faces,
Who have their gift to share,
So come on out to practice
And occupy a chair!!

"Thanks for the joyful noise" ~Louise Smith

Free Community Cookout

Wednesday July 10, 17, 24, & 31
6 - 7:30PM

Olive Branch Christian Church
7643 Richmond Road
Williamsburg

Questions?

757-566-8077



Save the Date!



★★★ VIRGINIA DISCIPLES WOMEN PRESENTS ★★★

SOWING

SEEDS OF FAITH

A Women's Retreat

OCT 11-13, 2024

W.E. Skelton 4-H Educational Conference Center
at Smith Mountain Lake

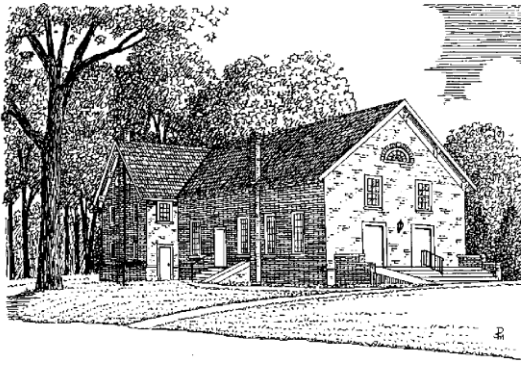


I said, 'Plant the good seeds of righteousness, and you will harvest a crop of love.'

Hosea 10:12



Email 2024.VDW.Retreat@gmail.com to join email list
Join our Facebook group to get updates:
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/415828094313416>



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Williamsburg, VA 23188-7024
(757) 566-8077**

Electronic Service Requested

*Note: No longer wish to receive our
newsletter? Address changed?
Please contact the church office.*

