



THE OLIVE BRANCH

MAY 2026

OLIVE BRANCH CHRISTIAN CHURCH

(Disciples of Christ)

Richard D. Cline, minister
Tanya O. Weyland, administrative assistant
757-566-8077 (Church Office)

 **Facebook: facebook.com/obccwilliamsburg**

Web Address: www.ob-cc.org
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Office Hours: Monday-Friday 8:30 AM – 1:30 PM

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



UNEXPECTED GIFTS

When I opened the door of my truck last Tuesday, in the cupholder of the center console sat a brand-new Yeti mug. How it got there I haven't a clue! Sometime in the five hours the vehicle sat in the church parking lot, someone gave me this much appreciated but entirely unexpected gift. Not a card, not a hint, of the giver was found.

There is a special power attached to gifts, especially the unexpected ones. These gifts are not given in obligation as part of a celebration or annual observance. They are given purely to encourage or brighten the day of another. Perhaps the giver thought I needed something to bring a bit of joy to my day – which it most certainly achieved.

But of course, we are the recipients of many good gifts. Our Lord daily provides us with seen and unseen gifts, answered prayers, blessings large and small. For the most part these gifts come as surprises, at just the right time, in just the right place. When they come, they set up fireworks of joy, as we know that, indeed, we are loved and encouraged to keep going.

Do you know someone in need of encouragement? Someone that might benefit from an unexpected gift? This someone could be a neighbor, a friend, your spouse, your parents, your child. It could even be a stranger. Be a surprise gift giver! It doesn't have to be large; you don't have to over think it. Just be spontaneous.

So, give thanks to God for good gifts, praise God for the gift of Christ, and be on the lookout for daily blessings. Also consider the power of surprise gifts given to others. A Yeti cup might not solve the world's problems, but it brought a joyful smile to my face last Tuesday. To my unknown giver: thank you!

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

Girl Scouts Troop 1385 Meetings:
Alternate Wednesdays until June 3, 2026
6:30-8:00 PM; Adult Sunday School Room

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

3rd Thursday DWM Circle of Grace: 3rd Thursdays;
11:30AM; Taylor Hall

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



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

Kids Sunday School upstairs Education Building 9:30

Nursery:

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

Office Hours:

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

(friend of James & Pat Tabb), Marney (Marney Brickhouse's daughter)



- 01 Jim & Anne Holland
- 03 Dale & Connie Cason
- 04 Mike & Jody Hebbard
- 06 Wayne & Tiena Kusmira
- 09 David & Colleen Wright
- 17 Dennis & Sharon Cotner



Mother's Day Blankets: Names due May 4

Pentecost Giving: May 17 & 24

Church Office Closed: May 25



- 01 Sonny Watson
- 03 Connie Cason
- 04 Martha Garrett
- 05 Wally Bowen
- 08 Donna Haulsee
- 10 Mike Heslink
- 13 Sarah Allred
- 17 Vicki Anderson
- 21 Mary Louise Rich
- 25 Kimberlee Bartley
- 28 Trina Eber



PRAYER LIST

Church Family: Pat and son Jimmy Allred, Michael Ayers, Patti Banks, Family of David Barrow, Mary Bates, Jeanne Bell, Melvin Braxton, Phyllis Gardner, Amy Gilliam, Nancy Griffith, Irma Gustafson, Norm Hall, Petra Hall, Family of Keeta Hodson, Jim & Anne Holland, Linda Hutton, Cheryl Johnson, David Love, Dallas & Joann Mitchell, Steve Perger, Danny Pitts, Fred Rothermel, Cecelia Ruskey, Kelsey Sherazi, Mike Smith, Ellen Waite, Brenda White

Friends: The professional and volunteer women and men who protect and defend us, Our Nation, Karen Barker (Naomia & Charles Barker's daughter), Kevin Barker (Naomia & Charles Barker's son), Jane Crowder (Sharon Herndon's friend), Zully Dasilva (Rose Griffin's niece), Evala (Norm Hall's daughter), Cody Ferguson (Amy Ferguson's nephew), David Held (Andrew Pfister's friend), Reilly Ruby Houchens (Connie Cason's great-granddaughter), Jim Jegel (Diane Wright Jegel's husband), Steven Laplante (Bob & Carol Sharp's son), David Leatherman (Jim & Anne Holland's grandson), Ben Manning (Cheryl & Gene Johnson's friend), Rae Meriaux (Jim & Carolyn Hunt's friend), John Morris (Naomia Barker's brother), Lisa Pipkin (Sheila Yeatts' sister), Mike Poland (Andy & Ann Bradshaw's son-in-law), Hannah Rideout (Perry Yeatts' friend), Sheila Rinehart, Bud Smith (Louise Smith's son), John and Michelle Troy (friends of the Pergers), Lisa Vallandingham (Nicki Hood's mother), Tefvik Vatansever (Cheryl & Gene Johnson's grandson), Gladys Watson (Mel Watson's mother), Terrell Wynne (friend of Carol & David Pitts) Jason (Lorraine Beasley's son), Mo (friend of Cheryl & Gene Johnson), Carolyn



ELDERS & DEACONS & DEACONESSES

		THIS MONTH'S DEACONESS
		Dennis Cotner
05/03/2026	Abby Matschke Harold Barker	
	Linda Garrett Steve Garrett Patty Barker Jeremy Dill	
05/10/2026	Missy Harbour Mel Watson	
	Maralyn Carr Dennis Cotner Patti Banks Danny Pitts	
05/17/2026	Bob Herndon Chuck Walker	
	Betty Boley Jason Teagle Anita Dasher Amy Ferguson	
05/24/2026	Kim Riffle Dianne Mongold	
	Ethel King Jan Smith	

	Danny Kelley Betty Bennink	
05/31/2026	Linda Williams Abby Matschke	
	Mike Hebbard Jody Hebbard John Henderson Jerry Henderson	



WORSHIP & WONDER SCHEDULE

	Leader:	Greeter:
05/03/2026	Linda Williams	Bob Williams
05/10/2026	Teri Tench	Jeremy Dill
05/17/2026	Ethel King	Danielle Kelley
05/24/2026	Bob Eber	Trina Eber
05/31/2026	Ann Bradshaw	Dennis Cotner

beautiful strawberry cake with yummy icing. Tyler, whom we all love, was delighted with his special dessert. Not spoiled just LOVED!

Crafty Jane showed us how to create butterflies with moving wings. Both Norm and Bob brought their A-Game and created exquisitely beautiful butterflies.

Bingo always pleases everyone and the prizes included lovely small plants and two large bowls, one of which held sweets (candy) and the other salty treats (chips). Everyone went home with a smile especially Norm who seems to get the "lucky" card (sorry, Anita).

Next month we will be honoring "Mothers" and I hope all who come will be able to share a thought or special story.

Enjoy the beauty all around us as God has blessed us with a gorgeous spring. Sorry about all the pollen!

May God be with you and keep you safe always,
~Marney Brickhouse, Coordinator



OBCC sends condolences to the family of George "David" Barrow. David passed away on March 15, 2026. A Celebration of Life service will be held at OBCC on Saturday, May 2, 2026 at 11:00AM



OBCC sends condolences to the family of Todd Meadows. Todd passed away on March 29, 2026. A Celebration of Life service was held at OBCC on Monday, April 6, 2026.



OBCC sends condolences to the family of Keeta Hodson. Keeta passed away on April 12, 2026. A Celebration of Life service will be held at OBCC on Saturday, May 9, 2026, at 1:00PM.



OUR DAY OUT-2ND WEDNESDAYS

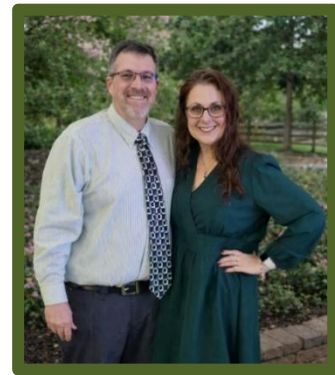
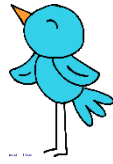
It was a beautiful but windy day for Our Day Out and because of the new roof being put on our other building, we met in Taylor Hall.

Gathering time was especially nice as we all had a chance to meet and chat with our new church secretary Tanya.

Our theme was spring and Anita and I had so much fun adding spring like touches to the hall. Christy delighted us with her usual humor and interesting information, then Tanya shared her story with us. That led us to others in the group who told us how they came to OBCC.

Chef Joann and her side kick Anita dazzled us with sliders, great salads, wonderful deviled eggs and a





A SPECIAL THANK YOU

I am deeply grateful for the delicious dinner and beautiful celebration you so thoughtfully hosted as a farewell. It meant so much to be surrounded by such warmth, kindness, and fellowship in that special time together.

Thank you also for the many cards and extremely generous gifts. Each one was a touching reminder of the love and encouragement I have been blessed to receive from this church family. Your support throughout my time here has truly meant more than I can express, and it has been a joy and privilege to serve alongside you these last three years.

As I step into this next chapter, please know that I carry your inspiring love and encouragement with me. I look forward to keeping in touch and continuing to hold you all close in my heart and prayers.

For those of you who asked, here is my new mailing address: 2828 Innsbruck Drive, Apt I (the letter i), St. Louis, MO 63129.

With heartfelt gratitude and love,
Sara Scungio



Office Update



HELLO FROM YOUR NEW ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Hello OBCC family! My name is Tanya Weyland, and I would like to take the time to introduce myself as your new Administrative Assistant. My husband, Tony and I reside in Lanexa, we have 4 children, 7 grandchildren and 2 dogs. Previously, I served 11 years as a Ministry Assistant at a church in Texas. I look forward to meeting each of you and pray that I am able to serve your church family to the best of my ability. Please stop by and say hi!

~Tanya Weyland



DWM CIRCLE OF GRACE

The beautiful flowers and trees in our cemetery and sanctuary garden brought smiles to all who joined us

for our meeting. Thoughtful salads, fruits and sandwiches enhanced our luncheon and conversation was wonderful.

We have been enjoying sharing Women of the Bible for this past year and discussed what we would like to study next. Several wonderful ideas were suggested for next month and follow-up plans were made.

Kay shared some information on the DWM fall retreat, which will be held in September instead of October. Next month, she hopes to have registration forms available.

Tanya and Sara joined us, which gave us a chance to say hello and goodbye. Tanya shared her story and encouraged all of us to either call or visit the office to say hello, as she loves the warm and welcoming spirit that she has already received. Sara shared details of her visit to her new place of employment, as well as her adventures in finding her new apartment. She will miss us but is so excited for this new chapter in her life.

Circle of Grace is just one way for us to gather together to share our love for each other and the blessing of our Lord.

~ Marney Brickhouse



MEN'S ministry **OBCC MEN'S MINISTRY**

Our men's group continues to meet on the 2nd Thursday of each month. Approximately 10-14 men meet for a delicious breakfast meal prepared by Sheila, assisted by Carolyn Hunt. Danny Kelley leads a devotion for each meeting, followed by a program and a short discussion of upcoming projects.

Our March program was provided by Christina Scordo from the Williamsburg Christian Academy (WCA). Christina gave a interesting overview of WCA and their various programs. It was refreshing to hear about a school that emphasizes Christian Values in all their programs. Many will remember former OBCC members Carole Kerr and Jane Vaught, who were faculty members at WCA. Christina herself also has family ties to OBCC. Thanks to Will Hatcher for facilitating Christina's presentation.

The Men's Group also successfully completed two projects in the past month. First, John Speegle, Dennis Dasher, Will Hatcher and I removed the leaves from the Sanctuary Garden which allowed the Disciple Women to do some planting and prepare the garden for Holy Week. Our second project was to prepare breakfast for the attendees of the Easter Sunrise Service (and others). Doug Dill planned the menu, purchased the food and arrived at 3:30 to begin the preparation. His helpers were Steve White, Bob Williams, Will Hatcher and Jim Hunt. It was a beautiful day for the service. The sunrise and garden were spectacular, and the breakfast was enjoyed by all who attended.

Our next meeting will be on Thursday May 14 at 9:00. If you haven't attended one of our meetings and are available, please join us.

~ Jim Hunt



CHRISTIAN HOSPITAL MUNGELI NEWS

Dr. Vinod Ekka, Director of CHM recently shared updates about the happenings in Mungeli. New equipment, restructuring for more efficiency, and new construction are all a part of his report. Here's just a portion of what he shared:

· **Dialysis Unit Progress Report**

We are pleased to report that the Dialysis Unit of our hospital is functioning efficiently and steadily progressing in its services. Over the past six months, a total of 60 dialysis procedures have been successfully conducted, reflecting the growing trust of patients in our facility. The unit continues to provide safe, quality, and compassionate care to individuals suffering from renal ailments. The consistent performance of the unit demonstrates our commitment to improving healthcare services and supporting patients in managing chronic kidney conditions with dignity and hope.

· **Report on Procurement of New Nursing Skill Lab Equipment**

The School of Nursing has recently strengthened its skill laboratory by procuring new training equipment,

including an Indian-made Palpation Model. This addition marks a significant step toward enhancing practical and competency-based learning for nursing students.

These training aids will create a safe and controlled environment for repeated practice, helping students build competence, reduce errors, and improve patient care outcomes in clinical settings.



Report on Shifting and Installation of Solar Plates

To reduce the high electricity expenses of the hospital, the solar plates were shifted from the RAMBO School Building to the Hospital Building. The solar plates are now being installed on the rooftops of the IPD Building and the Chapel Building to ensure maximum sunlight exposure and efficient power generation.



Progress Report on College of Nursing Construction

The construction work of the College of Nursing is progressing steadily and efficiently. Structural development is moving forward as per the approved plan and timeline. Bricks required for the construction are being manufactured onsite by the vendor. Overall, the project is advancing smoothly, reflecting careful planning, coordination, and commitment toward establishing a well-built institution.

~Landa Simmons



NEW ROOF

The Education Building received its new roof during the week of April 6-11. We are very thankful for this much-needed upgrade.





**WHEN GOD MADE YOUR MOTHER,
HE DESIGNED HER JUST FOR YOU,
TO TEACH YOU IMPORTANT LESSONS,
IN ORDER TO LIVE A LIFE THAT'S TRUE.**

**TRUE TO THE GOSPEL,
THAT JESUS CHRIST IS LORD,
GRANTING YOU SALVATION,
THAT YOU COULD ILL AFFORD.**

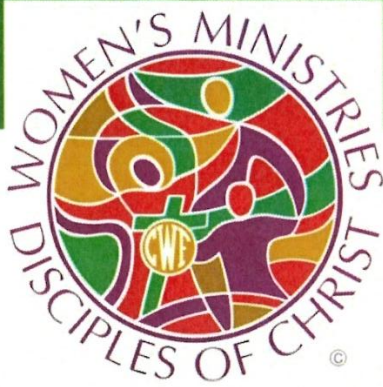
**FOR YOU SEE IT IS A GIFT,
ABSOLUTELY FREE,
BUT IT COST HIM DEARLY,
CRUCIFIXION ON A TREE.**

**TEACHING THIS IMPORTANT LESSON,
ABOUT GOD'S SAVING GRACE,
SHE FITTED YOU FOR HEAVEN,
TO SEE HIS HOLY FACE.**

**SOMEDAY YOU'LL STAND TOGETHER,
YOUR DEAR MOTHER AND YOU,
BESIDE GOD'S THRONE OF LIFE,
AS MOM'S WORDS TO YOU COME TRUE.**

~Louise Gatling Smith

**Virginia
Disciples
Women
Regional Retreat**



**September
18 - 20,
2026**

"Sprouting Our Faith"

Keynote Speaker: Dr. Erin Reibel

"For as the earth brings forth its sprouts, and as the garden causes what is sown in it to sprout up, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to sprout up before all the nations"

Isaiah 61:11 ESV

Dr. Reibel is a dynamic, thoughtful and inspirational speaker who has served in multiple settings.

The VDWM Retreat means fellowship with old and new friends, learning and growing our faith through worship and study, and having fun together. Bedrooms are single to triple, twin or full beds, with a private bathroom.

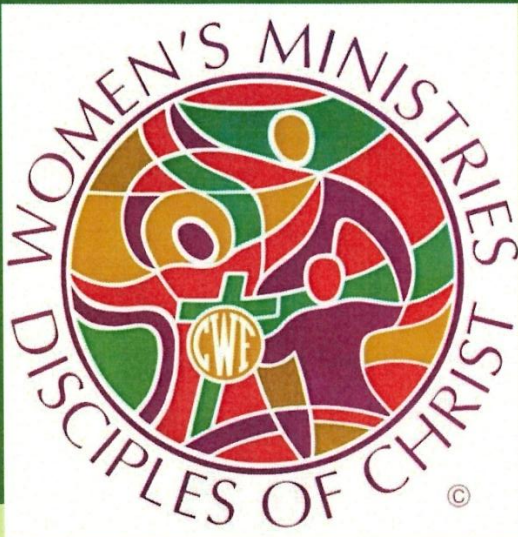
The retreat is Friday dinner through Sunday morning worship.

LOCATION:

**WE Skelton 4-H Conference Center
Smith Mountain Lake, VA**

**Registration opens May 1st, 2026 and closes Aug. 15, 2026
Please see registration form for cost details.**





Virginia

Disciples Women

Regional Retreat

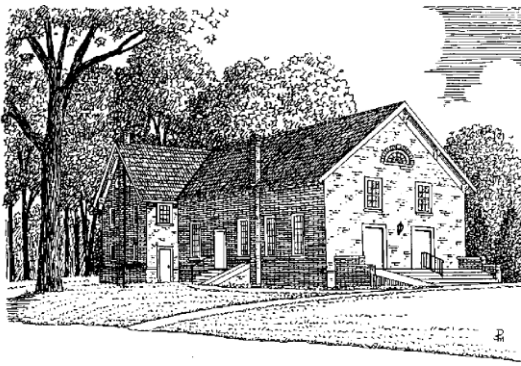
SEPTEMBER 18-20, 2026

W.E. SKELTON 4-H CENTER
SMITH MOUNTAIN LAKE, VA

SAVE THE DATE!

MORE INFO TO COME!

**IF YOU ARE A DISCIPLES AND A WOMAN,
THEN YOU ARE A DISCIPLES WOMAN!**



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The Olive Branch

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Please contact the church office.*

