

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



WELCOME NEW MEMBER!

Waltraud (Trudy) Chism joined July 14, 2024 377 Fenton Mill Rd Williamsburg, VA 23188-1828 H: (757) 532-4177

Welcome!

GOOD FLAVORS

In 1988 I moved to Hanover County to serve as the pastor of Slash Christian Church. It did not take long to discover the crown jewel of that county: the Hanover Tomato. County citizens then and now lax eloquently about their tomato's texture, shape, and flavor – all due to the unique soil characteristics found nowhere else in the Commonwealth. Since it has now been 29 years since I completed my ministry there, I feel it is safe to finally confess the truth: I couldn't tell the difference between a Hanover tomato and one grown in Louisa, Henrico, or New Kent!

But I am not a tomato connoisseur. Those that are will speak of the importance of "terroir", the environmental conditions such as soil and climate, which can impart unique flavors to plants like tomatoes. We often hear wine makers talk in similar ways about the importance of terrain, drainage, sunlight, and water quality on wine grapes, with certain combinations creating unique flavors. Now that same understanding of "terroir" is being applied to oysters!

Last Sunday the congregation presented Ann and me with a gift certificate to mark my 14th anniversary as

your minister. The certificate was to Merroir, a restaurant on the Rappahanock River near Topping, VA. The name of the restaurant intrigued me, so I looked it up. The word *merroir* comes in part from the French word for sea, *mer*. In essence, merroir was crafted with terroir to describe the importance of an oyster's habitat. Just as wines may be affected by soil, sun, and microclimate, oysters are affected by water quality, algae, current and tide, and mineral content of the sea floor. As you can imagine, Merroir's oysters were delicious. Ann and I greatly enjoyed our meal, and thank the church for such a kind gift.

But my trip and subsequent research also prodded me into thinking how important religious "terroir" is to our spiritual development. Olive Branch is a place where faith is born and Christians develop. Part of the process for those who have been "growing" for a while and are established as strong vines, is to provide a "terroir" for newer vines to grow. The longer I am in ministry, the stronger I believe the element of encouragement to be. Simply put, we need to be like Barnabas, one of the early evangelists in the first century church, and a co-worker with the Apostle Paul – encouragers. The very nickname given to Barnabas bears this out: he was "the son of encouragement".

You are called to be encouragers here in this terroir called Olive Branch Christian Church. That is why we pray, meet together, worship and eat together: to see new believers come to faith and mature Christians experience the power of spiritual renewal. Plant your

seeds of encouragement in this unique place and watch them grow!

> 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

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



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



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

Cemetery Clean Up: September 20-30, 2024

Community Fun Day: September 21; 12PM-4PM



PRAYER LIST

Church Family: Michael Ayers, Jeanne Bell, Mary Best, Jimmy Biggs, JC Biggs, Wally Bowen, Linda Brown, Dennis Cotner, Haley Creech, Margie Dieleman, Janet Dombrowski, Steve Garrett, Nancy Griffith, Irma Gustafson, Norm Hall, Petra Hall, Family of John Heslink, Keeta Hodson, Jim Holland, Linda Hutchens, Linda Hutton, Cheryl Johnson, Val Mason, Keith McMurdo, Dallas Mitchell, Joann Mitchell, Susan Rinehart, Fred Rothermel, Rudy Ruskey, Bob Schmidt,

Rev. Mike Smith, Barbara Thiel, Family of Jerry Van Cleave, Gabi Wolverton

Friends: The professional and volunteer women and men who protect and defend us, Our Nation, Natasha Angel (Bob & Sharon Herndon's friend), Brian Bruno (Michelle Wright'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), Julie Painter (Anita Dasher's aunt), Zak Reynolds (Larry & Louise Smith's grandson), Eileen Saltzgiver (friend of the Pesantes), 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)



05 Skip & Christy Jensen 27 Johnny & Lisa Johnson



01 Scott Boyd

04 Christopher Gordineer

07 Cindy Robertson

11 Ellen Waite

11 James Allred

12 Christina Jones

13 Loretta Garrett

13 Madison Williams

15 Jeremy Wright

15 Ryan Matschke

20 Roy Sullivan

21 **Brandon Starkes**

21 Todd Meadows, Jr.

23 Kim Riffle

24 Michael Heslink

26 Tyler Watson

27 Susan Rinehart

28 Arayna Lambert

28 Jovce Allen

Bradley Watson 31

31 Kylie Rutherford



ELDERS & DEACONS & DEACONESSES

		THIS MONTH'S DEACONESS
		Teri Tench
08/04/2024	Kim Riffle Don White	
	Haley Creech (Maralyn Carr) Tracy Creech Will Hatcher Jeremy Dill	
08/11/2024	Richard Bradshaw Andy Bradshaw	
	Missy Harbour Dennis Cotner Ryan Matschke David Love	
08/18/2024	Will Hatcher Linda Williams	
	Judy Eley Lois Marshall Joann Mitchell Joshua Fulgham	
08/25/2024	Teri Tench Ann Bradshaw	
	Amy Ferguson Karen Barrow Anita Dasher Danny Pitts	



Worship & Wonder, WORSHIP & WONDER SCHEDULE

	Leader:	Greeter:
08/04/2024	Linda Williams	Bob Williams
08/11/2024	Ann Bradshaw	Jeremy Dill
08/18/2024	Landa Simmons	Cris Simmons
08/25/2024	Landa Simmons	Cris Simmons

The OBCC Family extends condolences to the family of John Heslink, Jr. John passed away on July 10, 2024. A service was held for John at OBCC on Tuesday, July 16, 2024.



OUR DAY OUT-2ND WEDNESDAYS

It was a beautiful day for our patriotic celebration at Our Day Out. Everyone wore red, white, and blue. Chef Sheila made two beautiful cakes and decorated then with fruits in keeping with our patriotic theme. Check out the picture below! Our voices raised in beautiful harmony to the national anthem, God bless America, America the Beautiful, and more. Christy Jensen was her usual clever self and delighted us with facts and myths about our flag and its colors and what they stand for. Did you know that only one other country celebrates July 4th?

Fried chicken and wonderful salads accompanied our delicious cake dessert. Judy and Ethel were the craft helpers as Jane was not able to be here although she provided the neat craft material for stars and stripes.

Bingo leader Tyler was his usual clever self, and his big smile makes the game so much more fun. Anita and I really enjoyed decorating the hall with flags, statues, Stars and Stripes.

For next month, we decided to make the theme Summer Heat, not that it's been hot this year. Fellowship, family, faith, fun, and food remains the reason ODO was started. I feel very blessed every time we get together and hope that if you need a lift of all or only one of the five "F's", please join us!

May God Bless You Always, Marney Brickhouse, Coordinator















VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Camp Firelight is here! Join us for VBS August 5-9 beginning with dinner at 5:30PM. Thank you to those who have signed up to volunteer! Registration is up and running on the church website. If you would like to register for VBS, please visit ob-cc.org or email/call the office. Please register as that helps us know how much food to prepare. Thank you and we hope to see you there!

~Abby Matschke, Coordinator



FAMILY CAMP REPORT

Family camp is a little-known camp held after the last triple camp each year at Craig Springs deep in the mountains about an hour from Roanoke. Cheryl Johnson and I attended the weekend camp this year and had a great time of fellowship and gathering. There were very capable staff and volunteers who led the weekend activities.

The director was Michael Stump and assistant leader was Robin Gradwell-Lancaster. Elaine Austin was the worship leader and centered the sessions around water and Worship and Wonder. Little Emerson, an up and coming 4-year-old, had to correct Elaine when she put a piece of blue felt representing the Red Sea. Emerson said, "It wasn't blue but red." Susan Baum was camp nurse, Jasmine Heath had us all involved in music, and Teresa Anderson had everyone making crosses or key chains.

There was freedom to roam or just sit on the rocking chairs on the porch. Playful prayer stations were a big hit and several people wrote letters to God. All ages were represented from a baby of 10 months to three ladies in their 80's. I asked Cheryl her favorite part and she of course mentioned the children and how peaceful the area is. My daughter, Cherrine, and son, Neal, joined in a card game. The game involved 7 decks of cards, so shuffling was an issue that had us laughing so hard that my sides ached.

The camp is not promoted, and registration needs to be updated but well worth the trouble. I saw a car from Florida. My son, Neal, and a friend came from Indiana. Bon Air Christian Church was well-represented. It would have been nice to get to know the other campers better. There should be an opportunity next year.

~Elaine Henk



BRIDGES OF CHANGE

Bridges of Change is a domestic violence shelter in New Kent that helps the surrounding community. They are currently in need of several items including:

Trash Bags
Antibacterial Wipes
Paper Towels
Diapers Size 4
Laundry detergent
Toilet Paper
Aluminum Foil
Cleaners for Kitchen and Bathrooms
Swiffer pads

If you are out at the store, please consider picking up an item or two. Anything helps! You can drop off items at Church and I will arrange a pickup. There is a bin outside the office. Thank you!

~Abby Matschke



CEMETERY CLEAN UP

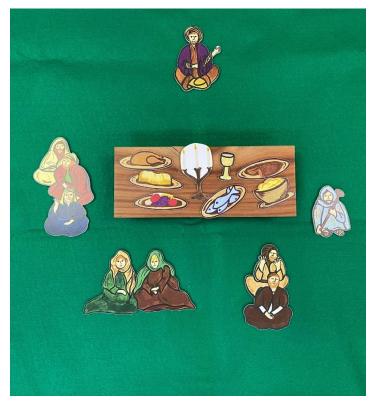
The semi-annual clean-up will occur between September 20 & 30, 2024. If you would like to save anything, please remove it before then. Non-perishable items left in place will be moved near the shed area next to the parking lot. Thanks for helping the committee to keep our cemetery one of the most beautiful in the county.

~Cemetery Committee



Worship & Wonder WORSHIP & WONDER

On Sunday, July 7, our Worship and Wonder lesson was the parable of the Great Banquet. The people asked Jesus about the Kingdom of Heaven. He told them about how a man invited the poor, the lame, the blind and the crippled to come to a great feast in his home!





FALL FAMILY FUN DAY

Mark your calendars! Our Fall Community Fun Day will be on Saturday, September 21 from 12 PM—4 PM. There will be live music, food, raffles, baked goods, and a silent auction. Contact Sheila Yeatts with any questions.

<u>WE NEED YOUR HELP!</u> If you are able to volunteer and/or supply baked goods, please contact Sheila Yeatts. We need baked goods of all kinds- cookies, breads, smaller items, and even a few cakes and pies would be great! There are also plenty of other volunteer opportunities available. Thank you for your willingness to help make this a great day for our community!



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!





NOSPITAL SE

CHRISTIAN HOSPITAL MUNGELI NEWS

The Director of the Christian Hospital Mungeli, our Global Mission partner since 1896, recently shared the following about a nursing student:

"Ms. Tanvi Masih is an orphan admitted to School Of Nursing at Christian Hospital Mungeli for the General Nursing and Midwifery three-year course in the class of 2022-2025. She had completed her 12th grade in Burgess Hindi Medium School with the support of the diocese of Chhattisgarh. With the help of hostel superintendent, Ms. Shailja Masih, she had joined the GNM course. During her admission, Ms. Shailja Masih assured her she would pay her fees to the school management committee; however, only 25000/- Rs has been paid from synod towards her academic fee. She has due for GNM first, second, and third year. The Burgess school and hostel itself is now on the verge of closing and any support from them in the near future is not expected.

Tanvi is a God-fearing student and wants to continue working for the marginalized once she finishes her studies.

The grant received from Rambo committee has been utilized to help waive this student's course fee."



The Rambo Committee is a recognized partner of Global Ministries in support of the work of the Christian Hospital Mungeli. Olive Branch Christian Church has been an integral part of our mission in support of this rural mission hospital in north central India.

~Landa Simmons



Would you like a brother or sister in Christ to call you and check in on you?

Bob Lawrence is looking for anyone interested in receiving a service of receiving phone calls every morning in order to check in and make sure all is well. This is especially meant for those who are homebound or live alone and have no one to ensure they are safe and healthy. If you are interested in this type of service, please contact the office with your home phone number, cell phone number, and emergency contact's name and number. If you would prefer to be called after a certain hour of the day, please also let us know your preference. We also ask that you provide dates of travel plans so that we know not to disturb you with these calls during that time.

If you are interested in receiving daily check-in calls like this, please contact the office with your information. Likewise, if you are interested in helping Bob to make these daily check-in calls, please contact Bob Lawrence at (757) 234-1352.

God bless you all with good health, prosperity, and lots of loving friends!

~Bob Lawrence



ST. OLAF FOOD SHARING PROGRAM

First and foremost, we are grateful for your cheerful giving spirit that supports our St. Olaf Food Sharing Program. After our food drop- off in our church parking lot on June 15th, we delivered to St. Olaf 630 food donations and a check for \$4125.00 from the accumulated cash and checks you have contributed to this community outreach mission. Your extraordinary giving provides additional supplemental food support for 3618 individuals in our neighborhood. St. Olaf sent us a letter expressing their appreciation. The letter is attached on the next page of this newsletter.

We realize providing additional nourishment to our neighbors is not just a shared responsibly; it is a purposeful act of becoming more Christ like. Your support is a service of joy.

Reminder: the food donation box is outside of the Pastor's Office and a food basket is located in Branch Hall at the main entrance.

Check donations: Make the check to OBCC, designate in the check note line St. Olaf Food Sharing.

Thanks be to God, together we are committed to this mission!

~Steve Perger, Jane & Will Hatcher, Andrew Pfister, Joyce Allen



St. Olaf Food Pantry

104 Norge Lane Williamsburg, VA 23188 • 757-903-2868

Pastor Richard Cline
7643 Richmond Road
Williamsburg, VA 23188-7074

June 17, 2024

Dear Pastor Cline,

On behalf of St. Olaf Food Pantry Ministry, I would like to extend my sincere appreciation for your recent food drive benefiting St. Olaf Food Pantry.

Without the support of community partners like you, we could not continue to provide for those facing food insecurities in our area. Your efforts brought us over 400 pounds of food and other needed items along with the most generous donation of \$4,125.00. Your donation will go a long way towards our regular pantry and our Children's Summer Program that provides food for the children not receiving meals at school during the summer break. We are blessed to have you as our partners in fighting hunger in our area.

The peace of Christ be with you,

Donna M. Hametton

Donna M. Hamilton

Director - St. Olaf Food Pantry

St. Olaf Catholic Church

As a faith community working together, we will continue to bridge the gaps in the lives of the hungry; we can continue to show our love for our neighbors in part because of your commitment to making a positive change in our world.

Vacation Bible School is such a special time, when many children of all ages, Come from the surrounding community, To learn from Christian sages.

Volunteers who love the Lord, Come to plant a little seed, Into the heart of each child, That to Jesus, it will lead.





They will learn new music, And sing a familiar song, That tells them of God's love, To Jesus they belong.

Recreation will be fun, while developing some new skills, As they come to depend on others, Learn the need that teamwork fills.

Crafts teach a sense of accomplishment,
As little hands design a creation,
Later shown off to their families,
In joyful celebration!

Meals are served in abundance,
Provided by hands of love,
Who grew and prepared the food,
And blessed by God above.

Jesus said to let the children come, And forbid them not, For such is the Kingdom of Heaven, We, like Him, love each one a lot.



~ Louise Smith

II THESSALONIANS 3:10B

IF A MAN WILL NOT WORK, HE SHALL NOT EAT...

THE DAYS ARE HOT AND HUMID,

THE CORN IS GROWING HIGH,

PRODUCE HAS BECOME PLENTIFUL,

HARVESTING OF VEGETABLES IS NIGH.

IT'S TIME FOR PREPARATION,
OF WINTER'S NEEDED FOOD,
CANNED, FROZEN, OR PICKLED,
IT ALL TASTES VERY GOOD.

SCHOOL WILL SOON BE STARTING,
SUPPLIES THE CHILDREN WILL NEED,
NEW CLOTHES AND SHOES TO PURCHASE,
THE BUDGET, PARENTS MAY HAVE TO EXCEED.

WE'RE THANKFUL FOR GOD'S RICH BLESSINGS,
DURING WORK AND SCHOOL AND PLAY,
AWARE THAT GOD STRENGTHENS AND PROVIDES,
TO GRANT OUR NEEDS EACH DAY.

~Louise Smith

Save the Date!



★ VIRGINIA DISCIPLES WOMEN PRESENTS

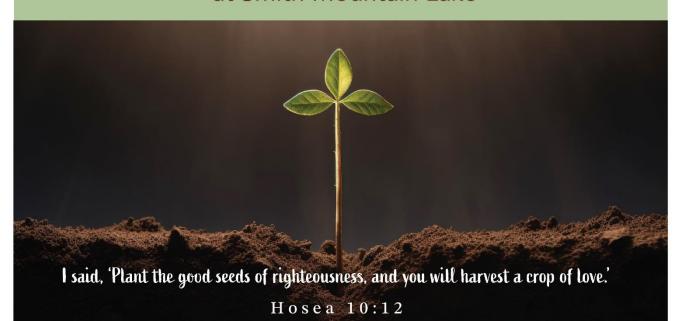
SOWING

SEEDS OF FAITH

CA Women's Retreat

OCT 11-13, 2024

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





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

Disciples Women

- Email 2024.VDW.Retreat@gmail.com to be added to our email distribution list for all future updates.
- Join our private Facebook group https://www.facebook.com/groups/415828094313416 to get all updates and meet other Disciples Women interested in attending.

Register On-line for the 2024 Fall Retreat at: https://www.ccinva.org/disciple-women



··· Micha brones wo		the good seeds of righteousness, will harvest a crop of love.
SEEDS OF A Women's	Pottent WE Skelton	T 11-13, 2024 4-H Educational Conference Center at Smith Mountain Lake
	Registration	
Name:		hone:
Address:	City/St	ate/Zip
Email Address:	Church:	
Please list any specific dietary requests or allerg		odging/mobility accommodation requests:
Registration costs vary only by number of Friday October 11 and run through 12pm Two (2) nights of lodging accommodations of the Linen for each person in room Dinner on Friday 10/11; Breakfast, Lu Facility fees and taxes, speaker hono	on Sunday October 13. The repations (Oct. 11 and 12) in room anch and Dinner on Saturday 10 rariums	gistration fee includes: that includes private bathroom
Circle your requested lodging accommo Single Occupancy (one person in room / limited availability)	Double Occupancy (two people in room)	Triple Occupancy (three people in room)
\$293.45 per person If you selected double or triple occupant the same room as you.	\$214.83 per person	\$188.62 per person
1)	2)	
Want to bring your child with you? Con	ntact us (email below) about co	ests and parent/child opportunities.
	Payment	
At least 25% of total cost is required at tir	me of registration, with remaining	ng balance due by August 31, 2024.
Checks should be made payable to Chris 1290 Enterprise Drive, Lynchburg, VA 245	tian Church in Virginia and mai 501	led to:

A limited number of partial scholarships are available to assist with retreat costs . Check to receive information on how to apply. Scholarship applications are due June 30, 2024.

Bible School 2024 is Coming!!!

WHAT: 5 weekday evenings of food, Bible study, and fellowship.

CAMP FIRELIGHT- Campers accompany Counselor Sam and Lu during each assembly session and learn to face their fears while trusting in God. With the help of Lu, the Lightning Bug, and the Camp Counselor Guidebook, Counselor Sam and the Campers explore timeless Bible stories showing how Old and New Testament Bible figures trusted God, faced their fears, and went on to do great things in God's name.

There will be classes for adults and children (grouped by age).

WHEN: August 5-9, 2024 **TIME**: 5:30 to 8:00 pm

WHERE: Olive Branch Christian Church; 7643 Richmond Rd; Williamsburg, VA 23188

Dinner will be at 5:30 pm followed by classes and activities from 6:00 – 8:00 pm

Classes will be held for preschoolers (age 3 to those who will enter kindergarten), those who will enter grades 1 - 3, grades 4 - 6, middle school, and high school. There will also be an adult class.

HOW TO REGISTER: Fill out the form below and return it to the church office or just drop it in the offering plate on Sunday morning. Online submission is available at www.ob-cc.org.

NOTE: We are collecting school supplies:

backpacks, glue sticks, pencils, pens, markers, tissues, wide-ruled and college-ruled paper

	Bible School 2024
Registrant Name (s)	
Address	
Phone number	E-Mail
	Preschool (age 3 to those who will enter kindergarten in the fall)
	Students who will enter grades $1-3$ in the fall
	Students who will enter grades 4 – 6 in the fall
	Students who will enter/be in Middle school in the fall
	Students who will enter/be in High School in the fall
	Adult
Please exclude me/	my child from identifiable photography
Parent/Guardian Name	2
Phone number, □ same	as above or
Church affiliation	
IN CASE OF AN EMERG	ENCY IS THERE ANOTHER PERSON WE CAN CONTACT?
Name	Relationship
Phone Number(s)	
Allergies - NONE KNOW	N or list



Bon Air Christian Church Help Build Hope/Whole Church Mission Project: Framing a House!

When: Saturday, Sept. 7, 2024

Gathering and worship: 8:30 AM

With 100+ volunteers, we will finish by early afternoon! Where: Bon Air Christian Church – Front parking lot

2071 Buford Rd., N. Chesterfield, VA

Who can participate: Anyone with an interest, ages 12 and up. Friends and family are welcome to join us in this

holy work. NO CONSTRUCTION EXPERIENCE or SKILLS NEEDED!!

Affordable housing is a far-reaching issue, and we're reaching out to help. We will need 100+ volunteers, including 25-30 Crew Leaders who have some building experience. The Crew leaders will be needed also on Friday, Sept, 6, 5:30-8:30 PM. This is a highly organized and prescribed process, and Help Build Hope, from Louisville, KY, will guide us through it. HBH will provide the power and hand tools for the project. Lunch and snacks provided by BACC. Folks who have participated in these builds talk about what an amazing process it is!

Registration: All participants must be registered to participate. Here is the link and QR Code:

https://crossroadsmissions.breezechms.com/form/BonAir24



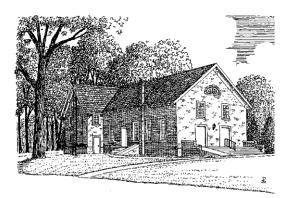
If you can serve as a crew leader, please email worship@baccdoc.org.

Cost and Donations: The total project is estimated at \$8,000-11,000, depending on the cost of lumber. Make checks out to Bon Air Christian, with "House Framing" in the memo line. Donations can also be made through the church's Givelify, https://giv.li/fun3vg

Questions about the project? Email Bon Air Christian at worship@baccdoc.org or Cathy Law at catherinelaw804@gmail.com.



Questions? Contact Missy Harbour for more information.



The Olive Branch

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