



THE OLIVE BRANCH

MAY 2023

OLIVE BRANCH CHRISTIAN CHURCH

(Disciples of Christ)

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

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



PRECIOUS MEMORIES

"Mother's Day is celebrated on the second Sunday of May. The holiday began as mothers supporting world peace, but over time has become a celebration of all the hard work moms do every day. On Mother's Day, children cook breakfast for their moms, buy them flowers and shower them with small surprises..." (U.S. Department of State, 2023)

Memories are funny things. We can be in the midst of our ordinary routines of cleaning, relaxing, reading, only to hear or see or read something that suddenly triggers a memory from long ago. That is what happened to me when I read the sentence above: "On Mother's Day, children cook breakfast for their moms, buy them flowers and shower them with small surprises." I started to remember the Mother's Days I spent with my mom, and the gifts given.

One gift I remembered was one I made in church. It was a bar of Ivory soap that tapered on each end. The teacher hollowed out a depression, which we children filled with small plastic flowers around which melted wax was poured. The result was a bouquet of flowers, set in its own fragrant vase. Tacky? Certainly. But not to my mother. She was thrilled to receive such a gift! I remember that it set for years in her bathroom, long after the plastic flowers had faded. Thank you, mom.

God bless moms, of everywhere and time, for their encouragement and love. For the way they could smile when sad and made us feel safe when scared. For their lessons on life and family. For loving us when we were fairly unlovable. For standing up for us when others would not. For showing us how to put others first, for letting others take the credit for what they had done. But most of all, thank you for allowing us to experience through you, how great God's love as a parent is for each of us.

"Precious memories, how they linger, how they ever flood my soul. In the stillness, of the midnight, precious sacred scenes unfold." If your mother is still alive, give her a precious memory to remember as you thank her for all she has done. If your mother, like mine, has passed, then welcome your precious memories, wherever and whenever they come. They are gifts from the Spirit, to keep us aware, of how precious is this gift of life.

Blessings,
~Pastor Richard



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

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

Afternoon Delight: 1st Tuesdays; 2 PM; hosted in homes
Janet Dombrowski, Coordinator

Girl Scouts Troop 1385 Meetings:

Alternate Wednesdays; September 7-June 14, 2023
6:30-8:00 PM; Adult Sunday School Room

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

Family Night:

Potluck with bible study returns after the Easter season
6 PM; Branch Hall Watch emails for details.



MOTHER'S DAY BLANKET ORDER DATES SET

On April 30 & May 7 look for blanket order slips n Sunday bulletins. These gifts help those in need around the world, given in honor of mothers everywhere.



PENTECOST GIVING

May 21 & 28. Flyers will be in the bulletins.



PRAYER LIST

Church Family: Pat Allred, Michael Ayres, Haley Creech, Doug Dill, Emily Dill, Janet Dombrowski, Phyllis Gardner, Nancy Griffith, Chris Lambert Family, Jean Lawrence, Diana Love, Dallas Mitchell, Joann Mitchell, Diane Mongold, Elna & Danny Pitts, Fred Rothermel, Grayson Savage, Barb Schmidt, Stan Stefancic, Roy Sullivan, Dale Teagle, Barbara Thiel, Jerry Van Cleave, Sarah Waid, Tyler Watson, David Willard, Bob Williams, Ronnie Yeatts

Friends: The professional and volunteer women and men who protect and defend us, Our Nation, Jane Crowder (Sharon Herndon's friend), Denny Dasher (Dennis & Anita Dasher's son), Karen Disse (David & Carol Pitts' daughter), Anne Finelli (Val Mason's sister), Sally Byrd Fucella (Janet Neal's friend), Meredith & Betty Garrett (Connie Cason's aunt & uncle), Evela Gordineer (Norm Hall's daughter), Donna Hankinson (Bell's neighbor), Chris Hunt (Cindy Robertson's son-in-law), Linda Jacobs (Josh Fulgham's friend), Debbie Lindsay (Janet Neal's friend), Barbara Kendrick (Cheryl Johnson's sister), Steve King (Sharon Herndon's

friend), Jane Marshall (Val Mason's sister), Melissa Norman (Anita Dasher's sister), Curt Norseman (Liz Ripley's friend), Wayne & Charlotte Parrish (Jim & Anne Holland's friends), Cindi Pere (Anita & Dennis Dasher's friend), Marolyn Pierce (Carolyn Hunt's sister), George Pipkin (Sheila Yeatts' niece's father), Tricia Rainone (Anita & Dennis Dasher's daughter), Zak Reynolds (Larry & Louise Smith's grandson), Ray Riha (Watsons' friend), Logan Ripley (Liz Ripley's grandson), Lisa Schumann (Jeanne Bell's sister), William (Bill) Slauson (Maralyn Carr's brother), Linda Stallings (Bob & Sharon Herndon's friend), Harry Stewart (Bob Schmidt's friend), Shannon Storman (Don White's daughter), John & Gail Trumbower (Gene & Cheryl Johnson's daughter-in-law's parents), Chrissy Vitek (Irma Gustafson's granddaughter), Darlene West (Elizabeth Ripley's sister), Jason (Lorraine Beasley's son), Lola (Missy Harbour's friend's niece), Jimmy Barber and Donald Fleichman (Doug Dill's friends)



- 01 James & Anne Holland
- 09 David & Colleen Wright
- 17 Dennis & Sharon Cotner



- 03 Connie Cason
- 04 Martha Garrett
- 07 Ginny Hammack
- 08 Donna Haulsee
- 17 Vicki Anderson
- 23 Katie Lambert
- 25 Kimberlee Bartley
- 27 Curtis Morse
- 30 Melody Lambert



ELDERS & DEACONS & DEACONESSES

		THIS MONTH'S DEACONESS
		Karen Barrow
05/07/2023	Richard Bradshaw Doug Dill	
	Judy Eley Tracy Creech Will Hatcher Lois Marshall	
05/14/2023	Marney Brickhouse Linda Williams	

	Missy Harbour Ryan Matschke David Love Janet Dombrowski	
05/21/2023	Will Hatcher Ann Bradshaw	
	Jane Hatcher Andy Bradshaw Joann Mitchell Joshua Fulgham	
05/28/2023	Andrew Pfister Joyce Allen	
	Sheila Yeatts Karen Barrow Anita Dasher Maralyn Carr	



ST. OLAF FOOD SHARING PROGRAM

Spring is here and school is winding down. The food need in our community is NOT winding down. Your generosity ensures that those in need have enough to eat. Thank you!

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



PENTECOST GIVING

This special giving opportunity is set for May 21 & 28. The Pentecost Offering supports Disciples new church development. Planning, nurturing, and sustaining new congregations is part of the Disciples' vision. This offering supports the specialized ministry of new church development through both regional and general programs. Gifts for this offering are divided equally between the region in which they're given and the New Church Ministry.



OUR DAY OUT-2ND WEDNESDAYS

What a beautiful sunny balmy day we enjoyed for ODO. The theme was April showers bring May flowers, and we have only to look at our cemetery to know that is true.

Our guest entertainer was Steve Hall, who played and sang beautifully. Per Ellen Waite's request, we had a hymn sing which was delightful. Everyone was in good voice and Judy Eley even joined me for a well-received, special duet.

Our own Chef Shelia was touring the White House with her son, so Joann Mitchell provided us with a delicious lunch of barbeques, baked beans, slaw, and fluff. Great job, Joann! Crafty Jane was not feeling well, but reminded everyone that she will use their haikus next month.

Tyler, too, was not quite up to par, but hopefully will be back next month to call bingo. We did Bingo the old fashion way and everyone won a prize. It was truly delightful to have our old friend Vicki Anderson join us. Her great laugh brightened the day!

Next month our theme will be Derby Day. We are encouraging the ladies to wear neat hats and the fellows a dashing tie or sweater.

My special thanks to all who help make ODO a wonderful and fulfilling time each month. I am so blessed to be able to be a part of this group.

May God Bless You Always,
Marney Brickhouse, Coordinator



HOLIDAY OFFICE CLOSING

The office will be closed on Monday, May 29, for the Memorial Day holiday.



I AM SOOOO GRATEFUL

After just more than 8 years in the OBCC office, I am retiring to start new adventures. I have been blessed in many ways during this fantastic ride. When the OBCC family welcomed me on May 15, 2015, I said that the job description checked off all my requirements, wishes, and hopes for my last job before retirement. I had no idea how true it was to be!

I will miss this wonderful family, the work we did together, and the many ways you supported me. I am grateful beyond measure for your love and acceptance. I am honored to have been a part of your journey. My last day in the office will be May 25, 2023. I look forward to seeing all the love and good work you spread in our community far into the future.

Grateful,
~Susan Campbell Fournier, Administrative Assistant



EASTER GLORY AT OBCC
Thanks to Irma Gustafson





SPECTACULAR SPRING AT OBCC

Thanks to Irma Gustafson & Steve Perger



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL TIME....

Hero Hotline is coming our way on July 17-21st. We had our initial planning meeting in April. Thank you to those who attended. We have a good start of volunteers, but still need many more helping hands.

Stonehouse has opted out of partnering with us this year. With this being said, I know our OBCC family will be more than willing to make this year a great experience. There will be signup sheets in the Branch Hall and in the narthex.

Our next planning meeting will be Sunday 5/21/23, right after Church. Lunch will be provided.

Hope to see you there.

~Abby Matschke, Coordinator



(History.com Editors)

Mother's Day is a holiday honoring motherhood that is observed in different forms throughout the world. In the United States, Mother's Day 2023 will occur on Sunday, May 14. The American incarnation of Mother's Day was created by Anna Jarvis in 1908 and became an official U.S. holiday in 1914. Jarvis would later denounce the holiday's commercialization and spent the latter part of her life trying to remove it from the calendar. While dates and celebrations vary, Mother's Day traditionally involves presenting moms with flowers, cards and other gifts.

Celebrations of mothers and motherhood can be traced back to the ancient Greeks and Romans, who held festivals in honor of the mother goddesses Rhea and Cybele, but the clearest modern precedent for Mother's Day is the early Christian festival known as "Mothering Sunday."

Once a major tradition in the United Kingdom and parts of Europe, this celebration fell on the fourth Sunday in Lent and was originally seen as a time when the faithful would return to their "mother church"—the main church in the vicinity of their home—for a special service.

Over time the Mothering Sunday tradition shifted into a more secular holiday, and children would present their mothers with flowers and other tokens of appreciation. This custom eventually faded in popularity before merging with the American Mother's Day in the 1930s and 1940s.

The origins of Mother's Day as celebrated in the United States date back to the 19th century. In the years before the Civil War, Ann Reeves Jarvis of West Virginia helped start "Mothers' Day Work Clubs" to teach local women how to properly care for their children.

These clubs later became a unifying force in a region of the country still divided over the Civil War. In 1868 Jarvis organized "Mothers' Friendship Day," at which mothers gathered with former Union and Confederate soldiers to promote reconciliation.

Another precursor to Mother's Day came from the abolitionist and suffragette Julia Ward Howe. In 1870 Howe wrote the "Mother's Day Proclamation," a call to action that asked mothers to unite in promoting world peace. In 1873 Howe campaigned for a "Mother's Peace Day" to be celebrated every June 2. Other early Mother's Day pioneers include Juliet Calhoun Blakely, a temperance activist who inspired a local Mother's Day in Albion, Michigan, in the 1870s. The duo of Mary Towles Sasseen and Frank Hering, meanwhile, both worked to organize a Mothers' Day in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Some have even called Hering "the father of Mothers' Day."

FUN FACT:

Did you know? More phone calls are made on Mother's Day than any other day of the year. These holiday chats with Mom often cause phone traffic to spike by as much as 37 percent.





ONE DAY IS NOT ENOUGH!

MOM CLEANS THE HOUSE AND COOKS THE MEALS
REGARDLESS OF THE WAY SHE FEELS,
AND IF SHE WORKS OUTSIDE THE HOUSE
SHE HURRIES HOME TO FEED HER SPOUSE.

IT SEEMS HER WORK IS NEVER DONE
FROM FIRST ALARM TILL SETTING SUN.

SHE'S WIFE AND MOTHER, MAID AND NURSE.
WHEN THINGS GO WRONG THEY JUST GET WORSE,
BUT THROUGH IT ALL SHE WEARS A SMILE
WHILE SCRUBBING FLOORS OR WAXING TILES.

HER SON'S NEW BIKE BUYS HAPPINESS
FROM MONEY SAVED TO BUY HER DRESS.

SHE SEEMS CONTENT TO SACRIFICE
TO BUY HER HUSBAND SOMETHING NICE,
AND ONCE A YEAR SOMEONE WILL SAY,

"HAVE A VERY HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!"

SOMEHOW ONE DAY IS NOT ENOUGH
THE JOB'S TOO HARD, THE ROAD TOO ROUGH.

A LITTLE KINDNESS SHOWN EACH DAY
CAN MEAN SO MUCH ALONG THE WAY
SO SHE WILL KNOW WE TRULY CARE
AND APPRECIATE HER BEING THERE!

May Harrison
2023



AN AMERICAN SOLDIER

I'm a somber flag-draped coffin at Dover, Delaware, a soldier's last homecoming from somewhere "over there." I'm a long-cherished memory no medal can replace, a legacy of heartache that time cannot erase.

I'm a bugler blowing taps beside a hero's grave, a scene often repeated in the "land of the brave." I'm a dream deferred forever that can never come true, a flag folded in a wooden frame in colors red, white, and blue.

I'm the latest Gold Star family looking at an empty chair as they gather at the table to say a mealtime prayer. I'm a child without a father to play catch with me, a widow whose shattered dreams were never meant to be.

I'm a triple amputee with limbs no longer there. People stop and stare at me when I'm out in my chair. I'm a homeless vet in Washington, but no one knows me well. I gave all to fight for freedom; I know that war is HELL!

I'm a monument in Washington where cherry blossoms bloom, a sentry on guard duty beside the Unknown's Tomb. I'm someone who fought for freedom, a name carved on "the Wall." I'm every American soldier - God bless us one and all!

Clay Harrison

2023

~SAVE THE DATE~

2023 DWM WOMEN'S RETREAT

OCTOBER 6-8, 2023

HILTON GARDEN INN; LYNCHBURG, VA

Questions? CONTACT: Marney Brickhouse

cbrickhouse6@cox.net; 757-880-2545



FAITH

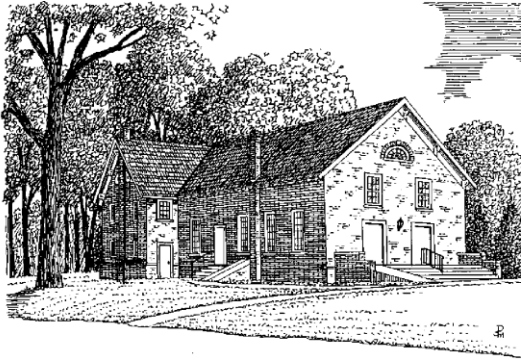
LOVE



HOPE

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