



# THE OLIVE BRANCH

## OCTOBER 2023

# OLIVE BRANCH CHRISTIAN CHURCH

(Disciples of Christ)

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

**Web Address: [www.ob-cc.org](http://www.ob-cc.org) (with Facebook link)**  
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**Office Hours: Monday-Friday 8:30 AM – 1:30 PM**



### JUST SOME MINOR ADJUSTMENTS

Family Nights started back in September, and the lesson from September 20 is one I wish to share. We are using the book, "Rediscover Jesus," by Matthew Kelly, a prolific author and speaker. In the chapter we studied, Kelly emphasizes the transformative power of the Bible, and how too many Christians today are Biblically illiterate. He gives several reasons: people are intimidated by the ancient texts, or too busy, or lack the patience needed to read and develop a relationship with God's Word. But one reason really stood out for me: "We know the Word of God has the power to transform our lives... and the often-avoided truth is that we don't want our lives transformed."

Wow! I think a lot of us resemble that! We don't mind God tweaking or fine-tuning our lives, but transforming us? Sounds too real. I want to say what Robert Duvall as Harry Hogge said in "Days of Thunder,": "No, no, no, no, sir! Can't use them. Don't want them. Couldn't afford them if I did." Tweaking gives me the power to select what I want to change, what I can use, what I can afford to change – transformation puts it totally in God's hands.

But as Kelly concludes, "God is not in the business of tweaking. He's in the business of transformation." This transformation far exceeds any goal we might have to improve ourselves or to live the way we think we should. As we undergo this process, we're not merely becoming a better person. The way we think and view things, our attitude and feelings about people, and the decisions we make, gradually change to be more in sync with the way Jesus lived and talked and prayed.

There is a very religious-sounding word for this process: sanctification. Its most basic meaning is to set something or someone apart for God's special use and purpose. But it also refers to the progressive work of God to make a believer more like Jesus Christ. I don't know about you, but I know that my life has always needed more than just minor adjustments to be more like Christ. I need spiritual transformation.

So where are you? Is Christ so clearly reflected in your lives that you are only asking for minor adjustments? Or are you in need of a stronger dose of transformation? Good questions to ponder as we begin a new season.

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: 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturdays; 10 AM  
Sandy's Restaurant

DWM Tuesday Bible Study: 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays; 2 PM;  
Taylor Hall

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

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

4<sup>th</sup> Thursday Lunch Bunch: 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays; 11 AM; 501 Galley

Family Night: Wednesdays beginning October 11 at 6PM; Branch Hall

Blessing of the Animals Service:  
Wednesday, October 11; Branch Hall; 6 PM

Minister's Meeting: Wednesday, October 18; Branch Hall; 1 PM

OBCC Board Meeting: October 24; 6 PM, Adult SS Room

Shower by Rosa Griffin & Family: Saturday, October 28; 1PM—5PM; Branch Hall



### 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



Fall Family Fun Day: Saturday, October 14; 12PM—4PM

Reconciliation Giving: October 1

Family Night: Wednesdays beginning October 11 at 6PM; Branch Hall

Blessing of the Animals Service:  
Wednesday, October 11; Branch Hall; 6:00 PM

OBCC Board Meeting: October 24; 6 PM, Adult SS Room



### PRAYER LIST

**Church Family:** Anita Dasher, Janet Dombrowski, Phyllis Gardner, Nancy Griffith, Irma Gustafson, Keeta Hodson, Linda Hutton, Cheryl Johnson, Jean Lawrence, Diana Love, Dallas Mitchell, Joann Mitchell, Dianne Mongold, Cecelia Ruskey, Bob Schmidt, Barbara Thiel, Jerry Van Cleave, Sarah Waid, David Willard, Ronnie Yeatts

**Friends:** The professional and volunteer women and men who protect and defend us, Our Nation, Natasha Angel (Bob & Sharon Herndon's friend), Dave Archibald (Larry & Louise Smith's son's friend), Denny Dasher (Dennis & Anita Dasher's son), Cody Ferguson (Amy Ferguson's nephew), Nancy Ferguson (Amy

Ferguson's mother), Jane Marshall (Val Mason's sister), Douglas Morse (Naomia Barker's brother), Jesse Moseley (Kaye Watson's father), Melissa Norman (Anita Dasher's sister), Julie Painter (Anita Dasher's aunt), Cindi Pere (Anita & Dennis Dasher's friend), Marolyn Pierce (Carolyn Hunt's sister), Tricia Rainone (Anita & Dennis Dasher's daughter), Zak Reynolds (Larry & Louise Smith's grandson), Logan Ripley (Liz Ripley's grandson), William (Bill) Slauson (Maralyn Carr's brother), Harry Stewart (Bob Schmidt's friend), Darlene West (Elizabeth Ripley's sister), Jason (Lorraine Beasley's son), Lola (Missy Harbour's friend's niece)



- 18 Joyce Allen & Mark Pfister
- 20 Sean & Dawn Gormus



- 01 Kevin Waid
- 01 Sarah Whitehurst
- 02 Steve Perger
- 08 Nicholas Onesty
- 10 Courtney Holt
- 12 Mike Garrett
- 14 Norman Larkin
- 14 David Pitts
- 15 Nancy Cates
- 16 Riley Jones
- 17 Dustyn Meadows
- 19 Linda Heslink
- 21 Devon Watson
- 23 Josephine Gardner
- 27 Daniel Abid
- 27 Morgan Onesty
- 29 Nancy Griffith
- 29 Sarah Waid



### ELDERS & DEACONS & DEACONESSES

		THIS MONTH'S DEACONESS
		Linda Brown
10/01/2023	Andrew Pfister Joyce Allen	
	Sheila Yeatts Karen Barrow Anita Dasher Maralyn Carr	
10/08/2023	Mel Watson Don White	

	Kaye Watson Devon Watson Tyler Watson Liz Ripley	
10/15/2023	Roy Henk Andy Bradshaw	
	Ann Bradshaw Chuck Walker Bob Herndon Sharon Herndon	
10/22/2023	Richard Bradshaw Marney Brickhouse	
	Judy Eley Tracy Creech Will Hatcher Lois Marshall	
10/29/2023	Marney Brickhouse Will Hatcher	
	Missy Harbour Ryan Matschke David Love Janet Dombrowski	

Crafty Jane, who suggested dot day, gave us free rein with squiggly lines, dots, and colors. All of the "budding artists" showed lots of promise and kept Jane smiling. She handed a box of DOT candy to all her fledgling artists.

Tyler was back from vacation, so he and Barb made us smile and laugh calling Bingo. Candy is still the number one prize.

It gives me so much pleasure each month to watch everyone taking a day off to laugh, pray, eat, be crafty, and just enjoy being together. Thanks to each and every one of you as I feel so blessed to be doing this program!

May God Bless You Always,  
*Marney Brickhouse, Coordinator*



**BOARD MEETING**

The OBCC Board will be meeting on Tuesday, October 24, at 6 PM in the Adult Sunday School Room.



**GENEROSITY OF TIME APPRECIATED**

Thanks to our guest preachers on October 1 (Hunter Creech) and October 8 (Landa Simmons). Their generous contributions allowed Pastor Richard to take a well-deserved vacation.



**BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS**

Bring your beloved creatures to Branch Hall for a special blessing service. The service will begin at 6:00 PM on Wednesday, October 11. Enjoy fellowship, faith, and food!



**OUR DAY OUT-2<sup>ND</sup> WEDNESDAYS**

A beautiful day and a fun theme, "Dot Day" provided us with a lot of laughter and fun. The spirit of the Lord was in our hearts as we explored this whimsical journey. Christy Jensen read the Dot Story and followed up with dot games that many of us played in grade school. Memory lane is wonderful. Keeping to our theme of round dots, Chef Sheila tickled our tastebuds with delicious meatball subs and a beautiful green pea salad that Kay used to make; the recipe is in our cookbook. Dot cupcakes made by Joann before her surgery were delicious and a favorite with Tyler.





**FAMILY NIGHTS ARE BACK!**

Family Night is back! We are continuing our study through *Rediscover Jesus*. Family Night will meet again on Wednesdays, beginning October 11 at 6PM in Branch Hall. Please bring a dish to share.



**WORLD OUTREACH NEWS:**

**RECONCILIATION SUNDAYS—SEPT 24 & OCT 1**

Your Reconciliation Ministry gifts help support pro-reconciliation/anti-racism programs through camp, education, conference, and relationship-building in each expression of our Church. Thank you in advance for your support.

~Sheila Yeatts, World Outreach Coordinator



## OBCC MEN'S MINISTRY

Our men's group met on September 14<sup>th</sup> with fourteen men in attendance. We were treated to another delicious breakfast by Sheila with assistance from Carolyn Hunt. We discussed plans for the fall season.

We plan to provide Thanksgiving meals again to needy families. Bob Mongold will contact Wendy Satchel, the Executive Director of Faith in Action to identify the families. Bob will also ask Wendy to attend our next meeting on October 12 to give us an update on Faith in Action.

We will also support the Family Fun Day in October by organizing a Scavenger Hunt around the church building and along the nature trail. We are planning a social event with wives and guests if possible before the weather turns cold. We also plan to assist with the Nativity Scene which is being planned for the week before Christmas this year.

Our December meeting plans also include a tentative visit to Steve Perger's forge in Toano. We have seen many creative pieces from Steve's forge and look forward to seeing his workplace and the train he erects for the Christmas season.

We always welcome more of the men of the church for a great breakfast and good fellowship on the second Thursday of each month.

*~Jim Hunt*

ALL SAINTS DAY



### ALL SAINTS' DAY---HEADS UP!

This service will be on Sunday, November 5<sup>th</sup>. On that day, we will remember our loved ones, friends, and church members who have passed away since last year's service. If you wish to have someone's name listed, please call or e-mail the church office by the end of Tuesday, October 31<sup>st</sup>. Please include a full name, month of death, and relationship.

Names already on the list are:

Jacqueline McSherry  
Virginia Pauline McKown  
Barbara Wheeler  
John Savage  
Bob Phillips  
Barbara Carter Kendrick  
Arlean Rodgers  
Elna Pitts  
Evelyn Dale Gardner Teagle



## COMMUNITY FUN DAY

Mark your calendars! Our Fall Family Fun Day for the community will be on Saturday, October 14 from 12 PM—4 PM. There will be a live band, food, raffles, baked goods, Raney the clown, face painting, a nature trail walk, a scavenger hunt, a silent auction, and so much more! Tickets are now on sale for handmade quilts and Afghans by Disciples Women's Mission. You can get tickets to sell now—contact Sheila Yeatts with any questions. Thank you!



### SPECIAL THANKS

I would like to thank our family at Olive Branch for all the encouraging messages during my hospitalization and recovery. Your warm thoughts and prayers have supported me each and every day.

*~Dianne Mongold*



### 4<sup>TH</sup> THURSDAY LUNCH BUNCH

Just a friendly reminder that the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday Lunch Bunch will be meeting on Thursday, October 26, at 501 Galley at 11 AM. If you have any questions or would like to join, please contact Louise Smith at 757-603-1907. Hope to see you there!



### ONLINE DIRECTORY: PICTURES NEEDED

The OBCC Directory is now online! You can access your account at [members.instantchurchdirectory.com](http://members.instantchurchdirectory.com). We would greatly appreciate any pictures you could add to the directory to help our newer members put faces to names. If you have any questions regarding how to access your account or add a picture, please contact the office and Sara will be happy to help.



### OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD SHOEBOX/CHRISTMAS CHILD COMING!

Our next effort will be the Shoebox Project. Distribution day is October 15. Due date for all boxes is November 12. Boxes will be available in the lobby & narthex with a sheet of instructions with boy/girl label.

The mission of Operation Christmas Child is to demonstrate God's love in a tangible way to children in need around the world. Through this project, Samaritan's Purse partners with the local church worldwide to share the Good News of Jesus Christ and make disciples of the nations.

Samaritan's Purse has collected shoebox gifts filled with toys, school supplies, and hygiene items for children around the world. Since 1993, more than

198 million children in more than 170 countries and territories have received an Operation Christmas Child shoebox. The project delivers not only the joy of what, for many kids, is their first gift ever, but also gives them a tangible expression of God's love.

This whole process is made possible by caring individuals who pack shoeboxes full of quality gifts for children in need. Many of these shoebox packers also use our Follow Your Box feature to discover the country where their gift will be delivered.

More than 9,000 year-round volunteers also get the word out about the Samaritan's Purse project across the U.S. In addition, some 80,000 short-term volunteers serve in more than 4,000 drop-off locations open across the country every year during National Collection Week, the third week in November. Each shoebox collected then travels to one of our processing centers to be inspected and prepared for international shipment by 90,000 volunteers. All of this is supported by the 30,000 volunteers in our prayer network.

I would like to challenge people who are preparing shoebox gifts to also write a letter showing God's love. What's written there may be very simple, but those simple words could completely change somebody's life.

~Sheila Yeatts, World Outreach Coordinator



## SPECIAL THANKS & DEDICATION

A special thank you to the Colonial Heritage Woodworkers Club for building the beautiful planter pictured below. This is a wonderful addition to our Sanctuary Garden, and all the hard work that was put into this project is truly appreciated! There will be a dedication service on Sunday, October 22 immediately following the 8:30AM worship service. Please gather at the Sanctuary Garden for this service.



## SHOEBOX GIFT IDEAS



### "WOW" ITEM

- Soccer ball with pump
- Doll
- Stuffed animal
- Shoes



### TOYS

- Toy cars
- Jump ropes
- Yo-yos
- Toys that light up and make noise (with extra batteries)

### PERSONAL CARE ITEMS

- Toothbrushes
- Washcloths
- Combs
- Hairbrushes
- Small water bottles



### SCHOOL SUPPLIES

- Pens, pencils, sharpeners, crayons, and markers
- Notebooks and paper
- Coloring and picture books
- Solar calculators



### ACCESSORIES

- Socks
- Sunglasses
- Jewelry and watches
- Flashlights (with extra batteries)



### DO NOT INCLUDE

candy; toothpaste; gum; used or damaged items; scary or war-related items; seeds; food; liquids or lotions; medications or vitamins; breakable items or glass containers; aerosol cans



## BRIDGES OF CHANGE

You may have noticed baskets/tubs for Bridges of Change. It is a domestic violence shelter in New Kent. They have an ongoing need of the following items: Laundry Detergent, Paper Towels, Black ink Pens, Small notebooks for Journaling, Dryer Sheets, Talc-Free Baby Powder, Hair Spray, Shampoo and Conditioner, Napkins, Toilet Paper, Air Freshener Spray, Lysol Spray, Foil, Baggies, Baby wipes, Diapers, Dishwashing Detergent, Hand and Body Soap, Feminine Hygiene Products (not bladder leakage pads), and Razors. If you are out shopping and think about picking up some of these items, just drop them off at Church and I will arrange a pickup. Thank you!

~Abby Matschke



## OBCC LIVE NATIVITY COMING DEC 16!

Outside from 5-8 PM. Help to make this the best one ever! We are still looking for a donkey as well as volunteers to help out. Please Contact Ann Bradshaw if you can participate or help.

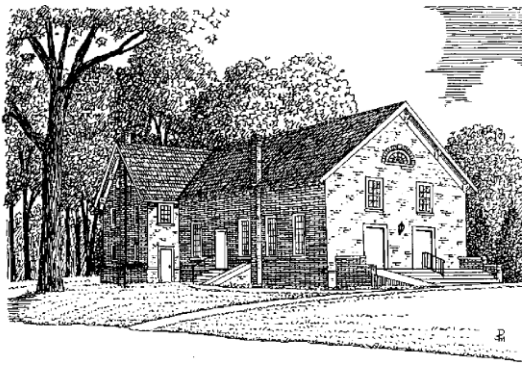


## HOLIDAY ITEM YARD SALE SET

On November 18 from 8 AM–1 PM, holiday décor and holiday gift items along with baked goods will be on display in Branch Hall. Holiday décor & holiday gift items are being accepted beginning November 1.

Be sure to check out your unused items to donate to this important fundraising effort. Thanks!

~Sheila Yeatts



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## **The Olive Branch**

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



*October*

