



THE OLIVE BRANCH

JULY 2025

OLIVE BRANCH CHRISTIAN CHURCH

(Disciples of Christ)

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

f 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)



WELCOME NEW MEMBER!

Mary "Katie" Gay joined June 15, 2025
5551 Scottsview Drive
Providence Forge, VA 23140-4470
Email: mkjg5551@gmail.com
Phone: (804) 514-6069

Welcome!

A LONG WINDING ROAD

From North to South, it measures 469 miles. It begins in Virginia at the Shenandoah National Park and ends in North Carolina's Great Smoky Mountains National Park. Construction on the Blue Ridge Parkway began on September 11, 1935, as a project for the Works Progress Administration (WPA), a public works program established by President Franklin Roosevelt during the Great Depression. Construction was completed in 1966, all except a 7.7 mile stretch near Grandfather Mountain that was finished in 1987. It is a long and winding road that would, if one was to keep to the speed limits without stopping, take 10 hours to drive. But what would be the fun of that? Think of all the overlooks, hiking trails, and attractions you would miss!

The Beatles sang about a long and winding road located in Scotland near a farm owned by Paul McCartney. But the long and winding road is more than just a physical roadway; it can serve as a metaphor for the twists and turns of life. Can anyone really look at

his or her life and see a straight line? A life without surprising twists, turns, and stops? A life that turned out exactly the way it was planned? I know I can't.

Yet still I believe there is a plan and a purpose for our lives. I believe the words God spoke to Jeremiah in 29:11 – "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." I can't see that plan nor completely understand it. All I can do is enjoy this life I have been blessed with, with people that I love, with relationships that build up – and not be in such a hurry to see each day end. Like the Blue Ridge Parkway, life's long and winding road was never meant to be rushed through, but enjoyed – minute by minute, hour by hour, day by day.

Safe travels!

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

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

3rd Thursday DWM Power 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

Nursery:

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

Office Hours:

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



Family Nights: Wednesday nights beginning June 18 at 6PM; Branch Hall; please bring a dish to share

Art with Abby: July 13; 12PM; Branch Hall

DWM Power of Grace: July 17; 11:30AM; Taylor Hall

Community Cookout: Wednesday nights starting July 9; 6PM; Branch Hall; please bring a dish to share

VBS: July 28 - August 1



PRAYER LIST

Church Family: Pat Allred, Michael Ayers, Jeanne Bell, Dennis & Anita Dasher, Janet Dombrowski, Nancy Griffith, Irma Gustafson, Petra Hall, Jack Heslink, Jim & Anne Holland, Linda Hutton, Cheryl Johnson, Lois Marshall, Dallas Mitchell, Fred Rothermel, Cecelia Ruskey, Family of Phyllis Taylor, Barbara Thiel, Brenda White

Friends: The professional and volunteer women and men who protect and defend us, Our Nation, Kevin Barker (Naomia & Charles Barker's son), Jamie Byer (Liz Ripley's grandson), Wythe Clark (Sheila Yeatts' brother), Jane Crowder (Sharon Herndon's friend), Sean Dill (Teri Tench's grandson), Evala (Norm Hall's daughter), Cody Ferguson (Amy Ferguson's nephew), Nancy Fletcher (Cheryl & Gene Johnson's friend), Larry Godwin (Carol Pitts' friend), Kourtney Haake (Heidi & Keith McMurdo's daughter), Ken Kunde (Barbara Thiel's brother), Lisa Johnson (Cheryl & Gene Johnson's daughter-in-law), Steven Laplante (Bob & Carol Sharp's son), David Leatherman (Jim & Anne Holland's grandson), John Morris (Naomia Barker's brother), Douglas Morris (Naomia Barker's brother), Mike Palmeri (Joann Mitchell's close friend), William Campbell Pfister (Andrew Pfister's uncle), Lisa Pipkin

(Sheila Yeatts' sister), Mike Poland (Andy & Ann Bradshaw's son-in-law), Sheila Rinehart, Eileen Saltzgiver (friend of the Pesantes), Howard Thackston (Cheryl Johnson's nephew), Harriet Wright (Cleve Wright's mother), Mac Young (Joann Mitchell's brother), Christian (Missy Harbour's friend), Jason (Lorraine Beasley's son), Mo (friend of Cheryl & Gene Johnson)



- 03 Will & Jane Hatcher
- 04 David & Carol Pitts
- 06 Pastor Richard Cline & Ann Simmons
- 14 Andy & Ann Bradshaw
- 28 Andy & Jeanne Bell



- 02 Brenda White
- 06 Pastor Richard Cline
- 06 Robbi Hutton
- 07 Chuck Walker
- 13 Haley Creech
- 13 Jeanette McWilliams
- 13 Elizabeth Ripley
- 14 Richard Bradshaw
- 14 Will Hatcher
- 16 Carolyn Hunt
- 16 Cecelia Ruskey
- 20 Bonnie Willard
- 20 Paula Thacker
- 21 Ralph Hutton
- 22 Michael Ayers
- 22 Lindsay Huntsinger
- 28 Paul Biggs
- 28 Donald White
- 30 Naomia Barker
- 30 Charles Barker
- 31 Jason Waltrip
- 31 John Waltrip



ELDERS & DEACONS & DEACONESSSES

		THIS MONTH'S DEACONESS
		Edie Larkin
07/06/2025	Hunter Creech Sheila Yeatts	
	Tracy Creech Haley Creech (Maralyn Carr) Judy Eley	

	Lois Marshall	
07/13/2025	Teri Tench Harold Barker	
	Linda Garrett Steve Garrett Patty Barker Jeremy Dill	
07/20/2025	Missy Harbour Mel Watson	
	Liz Ripley Jason Teagle Jan Smith Joann Mitchell	
07/27/2025	Andrew Pfister Joyce Allen	
	Marney Brickhouse Chuck Walker Bob Herndon Sharon Herndon	

all enjoyed using our imagination and created some beautiful shells.

Bingo master Tyler helped us finish the day with laughs and fun and some really delicious prizes.

Love, caring, and kindness made for a very special day. Hope to see you all next month when we celebrate the red, white, and blue spirit of our nation!

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



SPECIAL THANKS

Thank you, Church Family, for all the prayers, cards, visits, and food you supported me with during my recovery from my accident. All are so much appreciated. Thank you!

*Blessings,
Cecelia Ruskey*



Worship & Wonder

WORSHIP & WONDER

Worship & Wonder will not meet through July and August. We will reconvene in the fall. Have a great summer!



HOLIDAY OFFICE CLOSING

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



OBCC sends condolences to the family of Phyllis Taylor. Phyllis passed away on May 24, 2025. A celebration of life service was held at OBCC on Wednesday, June 4.



OUR DAY OUT-2ND WEDNESDAYS

With a nice warm, breezy day, our ODO summer fun began beautifully. We were a small group as many were on vacation. I had asked Tyler if he would tell us a little about Summer fun and where he enjoyed it most. His thoughts touched all our hearts and his most fun place to vacation, Myrtle Beach, brought a smile to us all. A lively discussion of fond memories and enjoyable vacation spots had the morning passing quickly.

Chef Sheila and her crew, Anita and Jane, fixed a delicious lunch with salads galore, Barb's bread, and cookies and ice cream. Crafty Jane took an idea from Kay, who on one of her cruises decorated shells. We



FAREWELL BLESSINGS

We had our last Sunday with Janet Dombrowski on June 15 and wished her safe travels and many blessings both in worship and in Sunday School. We wish her all the best as she moves to Richmond to be closer to family.





FAMILY NIGHT RETURNS!

Family Night is back! Come join us for Family Night on Wednesday nights beginning at 6PM in Branch Hall. Join us as we learn more about English cathedrals from Jan Smith:

English medieval cathedrals are among the most magnificent buildings in England, embodying earthly and spiritual power. Offering a glimpse of heaven on earth, the medieval master builders created stunning places of worship that remain standing and in use after nearly 1,000 years. This course will cover the beginnings of Christianity in England, basic cathedral architecture and terminology; characteristics of Anglo-Norman, English Early Gothic, Decorated Gothic, and Perpendicular Gothic cathedral architecture; and introduce the power struggles between Rome, the English Clergy, and the English monarchy.

Come join us for this exciting look into English cathedrals and, as always, please bring a dish to share for dinner. We look forward to seeing you there!



COMMUNITY COOKOUT

The free community cookout is back for summer! Beginning July 9, we will have a community cookout starting at 6PM on Wednesday nights through July 23. This leads up to our VBS which will be July 28 - August 1. This will coincide with our Family Night study on English Cathedrals with Jan Smith beginning at 7PM. Join us for good food, fun, and fellowship! Please bring a side dish to share.



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL REQUEST

From July 27-30, VBS will need fresh fruits & vegetables for its supper meals. Please consider how you can provide something for this week. Any and all veggies are welcome! With your help, this will be a great week! Plan to drop off your donations, Sunday, July 27 or Monday July 28 before 3PM, or Wednesday, July 30 before 3PM at the latest. Contact Sheila Yeatts with any questions. Thank you!



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Epic Australia is coming our way on July 28 - August 1. If you are interested in volunteering to help with VBS, we would certainly love to have you come out and help! We can always use more helping hands. If you

would like to register for VBS, please visit ob-cc.org, fill out the form attached to this newsletter and submit to the office, or email/call the office. Hope to see you there!

~Liz Ripley, Coordinator



DWM POWER OF GRACE

We had a lovely time together learning and being in fellowship together with the ladies of our church. Below are some photos from our first meeting in May.

Are you interested in a women's Bible study in the evening? We are looking to start a new group in September that meets in the evenings for all women, but especially to give opportunity to those who work during the day to come and join us for fellowship, prayer, and study. If you are interested, please contact Sheila Yeatts





AFTERNOON OF ART

Join us for an afternoon of art after the 11AM worship service on Sunday, July 13. We'll meet in Branch Hall and enjoy good food, art lessons, and fellowship. Food and supplies will be provided, please bring \$20 to cover costs. If you are interested in attending, please contact Abby Matschke (757-532-8552) to ensure there will be enough supplies and food. Thank you!



WORLD OUTREACH NEWS

Thank you for your generous support of our Church World Services Father's Day Tools ministry program! We donated \$1135. Thank you!

~Sheila Yeatts, World Outreach Coordinator



ST. OLAF FOOD SHARING PROGRAM

Your caring response to Jesus' loving command "Feed My Sheep" will make a beneficial difference in the daily lives of our neighbors, who need supplemental food support. Your 566 food donations and \$792 check/cash contributions will provide essential "Daily Bread" for our neighbors' nutritional needs.

Grateful for your longstanding, faithful participation in one of our church's outreach missions that invests in our neighbors who confront food insecurity.

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



FALL TRIP TO BIBLE MUSEUM

There is a sign-up sheet posted in the back of the Sanctuary for anyone interested in going to the Bible Museum in DC this fall. This is to see how many people would be interested in going, so I can figure out cost, date, and the best way to plan. Thank you!

~Abby Matschke



FALL FAMILY FUN DAY

Mark your calendars! Our Fall Community Fun Day will be on Saturday, September 20. There will be live music, food, raffles, baked goods, and a silent auction. Contact Sheila Yeatts with any questions.



SPECIAL THANK YOU

A very special thank you to Luxterra (Hamilton) Electrical for not only fixing our phone issue, but also doing so for no charge!

Service manager Mike Jones came out within a couple days of calling for help with the issue, identified where the short was in a corroded phone jack attached to our phone in the Branch Hall kitchen, and resolved the issue immediately. He then sent us an email later that day stating, "There will be no charge for the repair. We appreciate the good work you do for the community. Keep it up."

Thank you for all your hard work, support of our service, and kindness shown to your community, Mike and Luxterra!



Bible School 2025 is Coming!!!

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

Epic Australian Adventure- We're going on an epic adventure through Australia, and you're invited! Jesus, who tells us, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life," (John 14:6) will be our guide as we encounter amazing animals, lush landscapes, stunning sea life, and wondrous wilderness.

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

WHEN: July 28-August 1, 2025 **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 canned goods

Bible School 2025

Registrant Name (s) _____

Address _____

Phone number _____ **E-Mail** _____

Class (Please circle)

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 _____

Phone number, same as above or _____

Church affiliation _____

IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY IS THERE ANOTHER PERSON WE CAN CONTACT?

Name _____ **Relationship** _____

Phone Number(s) _____

Allergies NONE KNOWN or list _____

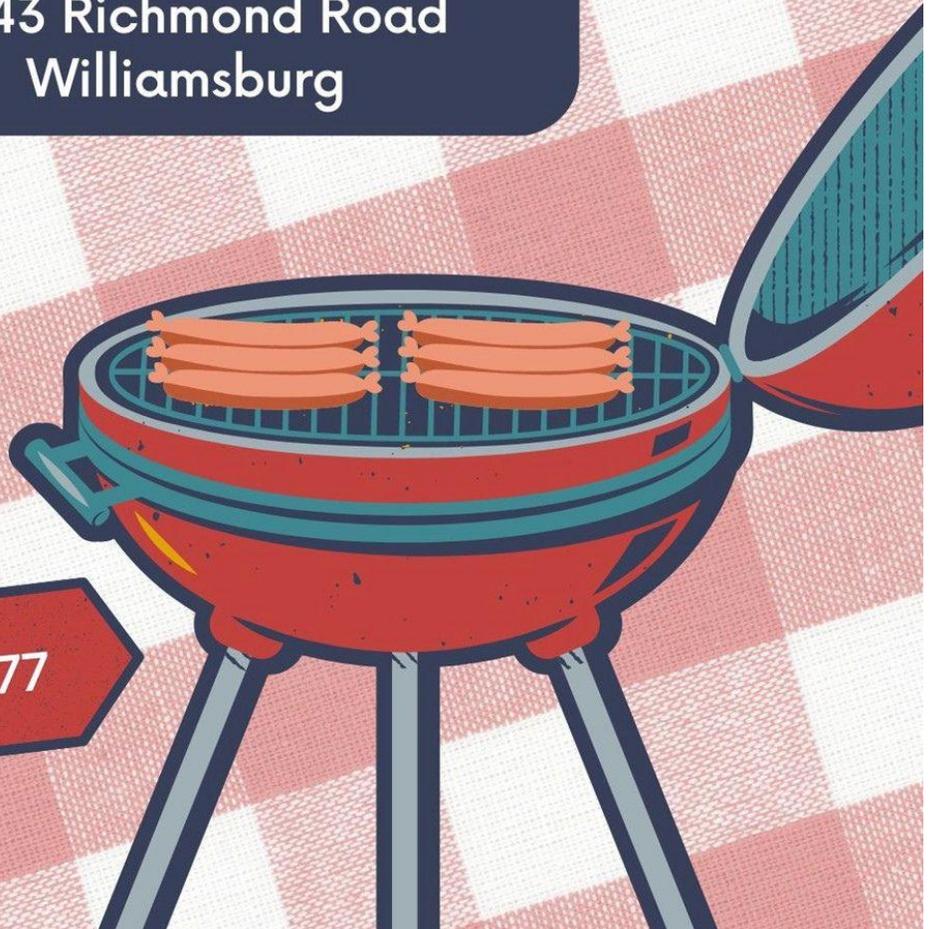
Free Community Cookout

Wednesday July 9, 16, 23
6 - 7:30PM

Olive Branch Christian Church
7643 Richmond Road
Williamsburg

Questions?

757-566-8077



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL,
HOLDS MEMORIES FOR ME YET,
HELD ONCE A YEAR DURING SUMMER,
HOW CAN ANYONE FORGET.

WE PLEDGED OUR ALLEGIANCE,
TO GOD'S HOLY WORD,
TWO FLAGS, AMERICAN AND CHRISTIAN,
IMPORT MEANINGS TO BE HEARD

WE LEARNED SPECIAL SONGS,
SOME FOR FUN, SOME FOR PRAISE,
THERE WERE CRAFTS TO BE MADE,
WONDERFUL REMINDERS OF VBS DAYS.

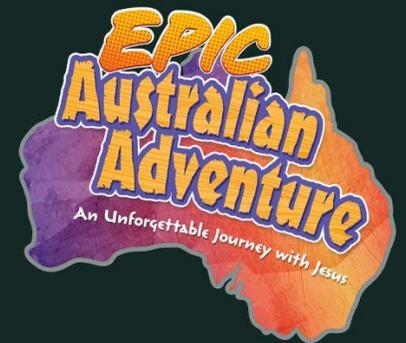
WE LEARNED STORIES OF JESUS,
HOW TO FOLLOW WHERE HE'D LEAD,
HOW WE COULD COUNT ON HIM,
IN OUR TIMES OF NEED.

RECREATION IS ESSENTIAL,
KIDS NEED TO MOVE AROUND,
JOINING TOGETHER IN TEAM WORK,
WHERE UNITY IS FOUND.

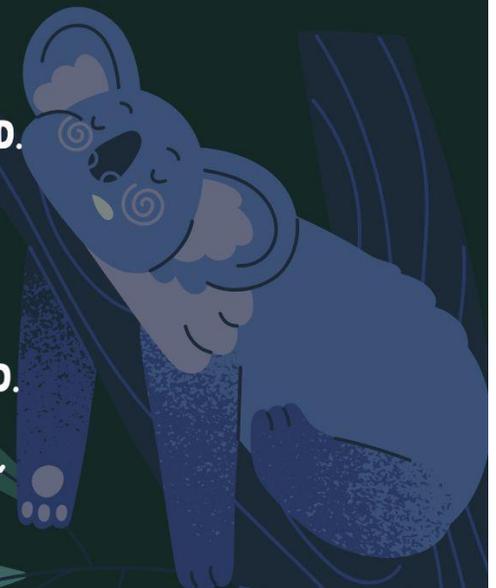
FOOD, ALWAYS FOOD,
TO BE EATEN WITH OUR FRIENDS,
SAD, ALWAYS SAD,
WHEN BIBLE SCHOOL CAME TO AN END.

IT'S REALLY A BEGINNING,
OF A CLOSER WALK WITH THE LORD,
LEARNING TO PUT ON OUR ARMOR,
DEPENDING ON GOD'S MIGHTY SWORD.

PARENTS, BRING YOUR KIDS TO VBS,
OUR LEADERS ARE IN PLACE,
WAITING TO TEACH YOUR CHILDREN,
ABOUT GOD'S LOVING GIFT OF GRACE.



*Come
Join!
us!*



Louise Smith

**★ The Continental Congress,
On July 4th, 1776,
★ Signed the Declaration of Independence,
★ The Colonies' past they would fix.**

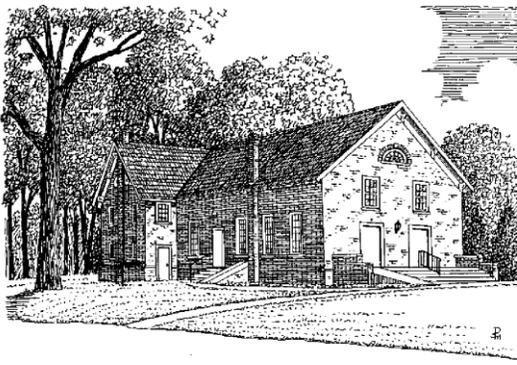
**★ They would be free of British rule,
★ To make decisions on their own,
To become America,
The name we call our Earthly home.**

**We were a feisty Nation,
The Brits abandoned the battlefield,
The Revolution was over,
Our Freedom was for real.**

**I pray I am as determined,
To free my Soul from sin,
My name is in the Lamb's Book,
My new home I'll enter in.**

Long may Freedom ring!

~Louise Smith



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The Olive Branch

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Olive Branch Christian Church
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Electronic Service Requested

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

