



THE OLIVE BRANCH

NOVEMBER 2025

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



GIVING THANKS

November is a wonderfully strange month. It begins with All Saints Day on the first day of November and concludes its final week with Thanksgiving Day. I think of it this way: we begin November in communion with the saints, and end with a feast with family and friends. Yet on both days, we gather to give thanks. We thank God for the lives of the saints of the church and for our loved ones who have passed, and we thank God for the blessings we have received.

The church calendar has All Saints Day Sunday on November 2. As part of our morning worship, we will have a roll call of our church members and friends who have passed since the last All Saints Day. We will give thanks to God for the gift of life, and for their lives, and for the time we spent with them.

It is not meant to be a time to cry, though some will. It is not a time to doubt the goodness of God, though some may. It is a time when we celebrate this wondrous and magical thing we call life, and to thank the One who created our lives. It is a day in which we are soberly reminded of how fragile life is, and of the earth-shaking reality that we are not invincible and will not be taking our material possessions and worldly accomplishments to the next life.

Sorry if that last part brings you down! But it does put our lives into their proper perspective. Each day is a gift from God. Each day is a gift to enjoy being in the company of those we love. Each day is a gift to use as God intended us to use it – to love as God loves us.

So, join your brothers and sisters on All Saints Day, and sing with joy that beautiful song:

“For all the saints who from their labors rest, who Thee by Faith before the world confessed, thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest. Alleluia! Alleluia!”

And when we sing the verse, “O blest communion, fellowship divine, we feebly struggle, they in glory shine; yet all are one in thee, for all are thine,” give thanks for those we have loved and who have loved us, the living and the dead – all good gifts from God.

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

Family Nights: Wednesday evenings; 6PM; Branch Hall; Please bring a dish to share



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



Branch Hall Reserved: November 1; 3-5PM

Annual Congregational Meeting & Luncheon:

November 9; following 11AM service

Regional Clergy Training: November 15; 10AM-4PM;

Branch Hall

Thanksgiving Special Giving: November 16 & 23

DWM Yard Sale: November 22; 8AM-1PM; Branch

Hall

Christmas Decorating: November 29; 10AM



PRAYER LIST

Church Family: Kay Ainsworth, Pat Allred, Michael Ayers, Jeanne Bell, Trudy Chism & Family, Bob Eber, Nancy Griffith, Irma Gustafson, Norm Hall, Petra Hall, Bob Herndon, Linda Heslink & Family, Keeta Hodson, Jim & Anne Holland, Linda Hutton, Cheryl Johnson, Edie Larkin & Family, Lois Marshall, Dallas & Joann Mitchell, Fred Rothermel, Cecelia Ruskey, Bob Sharp, Mike Smith, Kaye Watson & Family, Brenda White, Ronald White, Sheila Yeatts & Family

Friends: The professional and volunteer women and men who protect and defend us, Our Nation, Kevin Barker (Naomia & Charles Barker's son), Rusty Copeland (Chuck Walker's friend), Jane Crowder (Sharon Herndon's friend), Sean Dill (Teri Tench's grandson), Evala (Norm Hall's daughter), Cody Ferguson (Amy Ferguson's nephew), Clara Grace Goins (Patti Banks' granddaughter), Reilly Ruby Houchens (Connie Cason's great-granddaughter), Jimmy Hunt (Carolyn & Jim Hunt's son), 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), Lisa Pipkin (Sheila Yeatts' sister), Rose Pitts (friend of

David & Carol Pitts), Mike Poland (Andy & Ann Bradshaw's son-in-law), Phil Reynolds (Larry & Louise Smith's son-in-law), Sheila Rinehart, Pam Swift (Susan Kohlman's friend), Harriet Wright (Cleve Wright's mother), Jason (Lorraine Beasley's son), Mo (friend of Cheryl & Gene Johnson)



10 Dennis & Anita Dasher



- 01 Curt Griffin
- 02 Andy Bradshaw
- 02 Sanford Wanner
- 06 Cheryl Johnson
- 06 Hunter Creech
- 08 Irma Gustafson
- 08 Jeremy Dill
- 09 Danny Pitts
- 10 Elaine Henk
- 15 Abby Matschke
- 15 Linda Brown
- 16 Anita Dasher
- 18 Becky Owens
- 20 Mary Apperson
- 22 Caitlin Rutherford
- 25 Doug Dill
- 25 Pat Allred
- 28 Sara Scungio
- 30 Naomia Barker



ELDERS & DEACONS & DEACONESSES

		THIS MONTH'S DEACONESS
		Dennis Cotner
11/02/2025	Richard Bradshaw Abby Matschke	
	Amy Ferguson Dennis Cotner Ethel King David Love	
11/09/2025	Hunter Creech Sheila Yeatts	
	Tracy Creech Haley Creech (Maralyn Carr) Judy Eley Lois Marshall	
11/16/2025	Teri Tench	

	Harold Barker	
	Linda Garrett Steve Garrett Patty Barker Jeremy Dill	
11/23/2025	Missy Harbour Mel Watson	
	Liz Ripley Jason Teagle Jan Smith Joann Mitchell	
11/30/2025	Andrew Pfister Joyce Allen	
	Marney Brickhouse Chuck Walker Bob Herndon Sharon Herndon	



OBCC sends condolences to Linda Heslink and family on the passing of John "Jack" Heslink. Jack passed away October 25, 2025. A service was held at OBCC on October 30, 2025.



DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS

Don't forget to turn your clocks back November 2 or before bed on November 1!



HOLIDAY OFFICE CLOSING

The office will be closed on Thursday, November 27 and Friday, November 28 for the Thanksgiving holiday.



ANNUAL CONGREGATION MEETING

The Annual Congregational meeting and luncheon will be held on November 9 after the 11AM service.

The main issues that will require congregational approval will include the following:

- * 2026 Budget
- * Election of new officers & positions

During the annual meeting the congregation will also entertain new business brought forward.



SAMARITAN'S PURSE MISSION

Samaritan's Purse provides relief to those who have experienced significant losses due to natural disasters. Your gift to "Where Most Needed" equips them with the resources—including personnel, materials, supporting services, and equipment—to fulfill their mission of relief and evangelism. I encourage you to think of how you can support this ministry and their great efforts to support God's children everywhere!

Our next effort will be the Shoebox Project. Due date for all boxes is November 16. Boxes will be available in Branch Hall & narthex with a sheet of instructions with boy/girl label.

~Sheila Yeatts, World Outreach Coordinator



OUR DAY OUT-2ND WEDNESDAYS

Our Halloween ODO for October was so much fun and costumes were amazing. Thanks to all who came and made it special. Ten years ago, October 21, 2015, was the first meeting of ODO and we shared memories of that beginning. I then gave everyone a pumpkin and a magic marker and instead of carving, we drew faces. Melvin and Elaine were the co-winners, but all of us had smiles and a round of applause for a job well done. The small pumpkin jar filled with candy corn had us



WORSHIP & WONDER SCHEDULE

	Leader:	Greeter:
11/02/2025	Teri Tench	Jeremy Dill
11/09/2025	Trina Eber	Bob Eber
11/16/2025	Ann Bradshaw	Dennis Cotner
11/23/2025	Linda Williams	Bob Williams
11/30/2025	Teri Tench	Jeremy Dill



OBCC sends condolences to Edie Larkin and family on the passing of Norman Larkin. Norm passed away October 7, 2025. A graveside service was held at OBCC on October 23, 2025.



OBCC sends condolences to Waltraud Chism and family on the passing of Trudy's sister, Brigitte Bowers. Brigitte passed away September 28, 2025, and a service was held at Bucktrout Funeral Home on October 9, 2025.



OBCC sends condolences to Sheila Yeatts, Missy Harbour, Abby Matschke, and family on the passing of Sheila's niece, Samantha Pipkin. Samantha passed away October 10, 2025, and a service will be held at OBCC on November 8, 2025.



OBCC sends condolences to Lois Marshall on the passing of her friend, Harry D. Wood, III. Harry passed away in October.

guessing, but Joann came the closest as there were 97 and she said 95.

Bob Lawrence won the best costume and he made a very believable Moses. Joann the skeleton was our chef as Sheila was with family and she delighted our taste buds with German potato salad, knock worst, sauerkraut, and cupcakes.

Crafty Jane helped us make a clever hat decoration. Bingo is always fun and we are blessed by lots of prizes supplied by our heartfelt congregation. Tyler's laughter and the antics of those who almost win makes a great way to finish our day.

My thanks to all who help me make this day a wonderful way to get to know each other and have fun doing it! Hope to see everyone next month as we take time to say thanks to our creator for all the blessings He bestows on us!

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



CHRISTMAS ANGEL TREE

The Salvation Army Angel Tree tags will be available the first week of November and gift bags are due by December 8.

~Sheila Yeatts, World Outreach Coordinator



HOLIDAY ITEM YARD SALE

On November 22 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. Thank you!

If you are interested in and willing to help volunteer for the yard sale, please contact Sheila Yeatts. Thank you!



CHURCH DECORATING PARTY

Come and help get the church ready for Christmas on November 29 at 10AM. Please contact Sheila Yeatts, Missy Harbour, or Abby Matschke to say yes. Thank you!

~Sheila Yeatts, Missy Harbour, Abby Matschke



DWM CIRCLE OF GRACE

Our October meeting started with a delicious lunch of salads and finger sandwiches provided by our talented members. Eating together, laughing, and sharing stories is so special.

Our theme this year is Women in the Bible and our speaker, Jane, treated us to the story of Miriam. The lives of these women are so incredible, and Jane made us all feel the joy, pain, and spiritual connection in her life. As a special treat, Jane asked Louise to write a poem about Miriam which she shared. The discussions that followed are always interesting and remind me that we are so blessed to be surrounded in our church with so many caring, kind, and giving women who share their talents and abilities.

Next month Ethel will be our speaker, and we welcome all to join us!



OBCC LIVE NATIVITY COMING DEC 20!

Our Live Nativity with live animals will be on December 20 outside from 3-6 PM. There is a signup sheet outside the Church Office on the bulletin board. If you would like to help in any way, please Contact Bill and Susan Simpson. Email simpsonw474@gmail.com. We will be serving a variety of soups, crackers, and desserts along with hot chocolate and hot apple cider in Taylor Hall and the Sanctuary. Thank you for your willingness to help make this a great day for our community!



WORLD OUTREACH NEWS: THANKSGIVING SUNDAYS—NOV 16 & 23

This special giving opportunity occurs on November 16 & 23. Use a special giving envelope found in the pews. Write Thanksgiving Offering in the memo line of your check. This offering is one of 6 special offerings

throughout the year. Giving thanks for your generosity!

~Sheila Yeatts, World Outreach Coordinator



DWM CHRISTMAS DINNER

Mark your calendars! The annual Christmas dinner will be held in Branch Hall on December 8 at 6 PM. No need to bring a dish. All food will be provided. Bring your appetite and plan for an enjoyable evening of good food and fun.



SPECIAL THANKS

Dear OBCC Family, We would like to thank you so much for all the cards, phone calls, prayers, and the bereavement basket. We certainly appreciate all the love and kind words that were expressed and shown.

~Kaye, Mel, and the entire Watson Family



FALL FAMILY FUN DAY THANKS

What a great day we had—lots of fun had by all! The music was outstanding as well as the silent auction, games, face painting, and bounce house fun. We served 108 lunches to our friends and church family. I would like to thank everyone who helped to make this Community Fun Day a great success! We are so blessed as a church to give back to all. Thank you all!

~Sheila Yeatts

NEWS

DC TRIP TO THE BIBLE MUSEUM

A group of us went to The Museum of the Bible in DC in October. It is truly fascinating to see all the different Bibles. We encourage everyone to go at least once.



Translation:
Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon, provider of the Esagla and the Ezida, son of Nabopolassar, king of Babylon, am I, I built the palace for my royal dwelling in the district of Kadingira, which is within Babylon.



CHRISTIAN HOSPITAL MUNGELI NEWS

The Christian Hospital Mungeli has announced it will open a four-year Bachelor of Science program in Nursing beginning in the fall of 2026. Construction has begun on a new floor to house additional classrooms and administrative space. A critical nursing shortage exists in India, and this new program will join our existing three-year General Nurse Midwife (GNM) program as the only nursing programs in our district. At full strength, the program's enrollment will cap at 120 students. Our GNM program has an enrollment of 90 students, 30 in each class. Already, the Rambo Committee has raised almost 20% of the needed \$66,000 needed to fund the construction of a second floor on our current nursing school and ensure funds for the first year of faculty salaries. The New BS in Nursing program will have to meet all the standards of the Indian Nursing Council in order to receive accreditation in April of 2026. Praise God from whom all blessings flow! Pictured below is Ms. Sakai Nag, who received best outgoing student at a recent graduation from our three-year General Nurse Midwife program.

~Landa Simmons





Olive Branch
Christian Church

Christmas

YARD SALE

7643 RICHMOND ROAD,
WILLIAMSBURG

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 22

8AM-1PM



Olive Branch
GALA DINNER EVENT BY
CANDLELIGHT

Sunday, December 14th , 2025
6 o'clock in the Evening
In Branch Hall

Menu

Asparagus Stuffed Chicken Breast
Lemon & Herbs Infused Angel Hair Pasta
Field Green Salad with Beets, Shredded Carrots,
Candied Pecans, Red Onion & Blue Cheese Crumbles
Finished with a Raspberry Vinaigrette Dressing
Dinner Rolls
A Medley of Fruit Pies & Chocolate Eclairs

Reservations Required by Monday, December 8th
Open to Church Family Members

Join us for a Festive Evening of Fellowship,
Musical Entertainment by "Lady and the Tramps"
Complimentary Door Prizes



Please RSVP to Linda Brown:
LindaBrownintheGardens@gmail.com
Or (Land Line) 757-707-3907 (No Texting)

Attire: Coat & Tie





BRAVE SOLDIERS MARCHED OFF TO WAR,
MANY NEVER MADE IT HOME,
LEAVING WAITING LOVED ONES,
TO CARRY ON ALONE.

SOME CARRY MENTAL SCARS,
OTHERS MAIMED FOR LIFE,
HORRIBLE, HORRIBLE MEMORIES,
ADDED TO UNDESERVED STRIFE.

MANY ARE NOW PRODUCTIVE,
USING THEIR TALENTS AND THEIR SKILLS,
PICKING UP WHERE THEY LEFT OFF,
BEFORE GOING TO THE BATTLEFIELD.

THE GRAVES OF MANY SOLDIERS,
ARE IN OUR CEMETERY,
LOOK CLOSE YOU'LL SEE THE FLYING FLAGS,
WITH THEIR HONORING FLURRY.

LET US NEVER FORGET,
THE TEARS THAT ARE NOW DRIED,
SHED BY GRIEVING LOVED ONES,
FOR THEIR SOLDIERS WHO HAVE DIED.

IF YOU ARE A VETERAN,
WE SALUTE YOU ON THIS DAY,
WE WILL NEVER FORGET YOU,
FOR THE PRICE YOU WERE WILLING TO PAY.

WE THANK YOU GOD FOR YOUR LOVE,
YOUR SON WAS SACRIFICED TOO,
SO ALL THE SOLDIERS OF THE CROSS,
COULD NOW COME HOME TO YOU.

~Louise Smith

**FATHER WE COME BEFORE YOU,
HUMBLY BOWING DOWN,
PARTAKING OF HOLY MANNA,
LOVINGLY PASSED AROUND.**

**THE PILGRIMS PREPARED A FEAST,
OF WILD GAME THEY HAD KILLED,
WITH ABUNDANCE OF VEGETABLES,
HARVESTED FROM THE FIELD.**

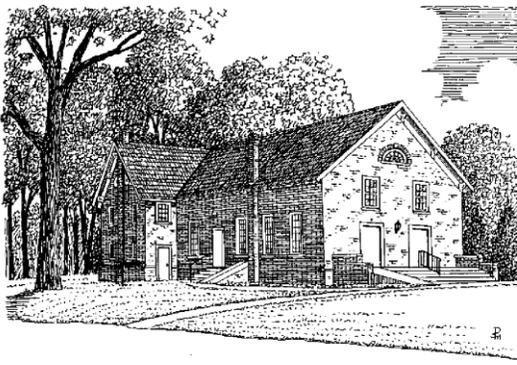
**LORD WE WERE SO HUNGRY,
OURSELVES WE COULD NOT FEED,
JESUS PROVIDED THE BANQUET,
BECAUSE HE KNEW OUR NEED.**

**IT IS AT THIS TABLE,
OUR LORD JESUS DID PREPARE,
WITH HIS BODY AND HIS BLOOD,
WE GATHER HERE TO SHARE.**

**AS WE LEAVE HIS TABLE,
WE'RE FULLY SATISFIED,
GRATEFUL TO THE HOST,
THAT NO ONE WAS DENIED.**

**WE ARE SO VERY THANKFUL,
WE CELEBRATE ALL THROUGH THE YEAR,
IN MEMORY OF OUR SAVIOR,
WHO CALLS HIS CHILDREN NEAR.**

~Louise Smith



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The Olive Branch

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**7643 Richmond Road
Williamsburg, VA 23188-7024
(757) 566-8077**

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*Note: No longer wish to receive our
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Please contact the church office.*

