

December  
2018

# The Bell Ringer



## Old Donation Episcopal Church

*Old Donation Episcopal Church is a family: Welcoming All ✝ Growing in God's love ✝  
Joyfully worshiping Jesus Christ ✝ Serving in the power of the Spirit*



## Christmas Worship at *Old Donation*

Friday, 21 December

7:00pm Longest Night - Blue Christmas

Monday, 24 December

5:00pm Christmas Pageant & Holy Eucharist

8:00pm Festival Eucharist with Choir

10:30pm Christmas Lessons & Carols

11:00pm Festival Eucharist with Choir

Tuesday, 25 December

10:00am Christmas Day Holy Eucharist

Monday, 31 December

7:00pm Holy Eucharist & New Year's Eve Potluck Reception

### St. Nicholas

will visit The Gathering  
10:30am  
Sunday, December 2nd



### Virginia Handbell Consort Concert

December 16th at 5:00pm



See page 10 for details

### Advent *Lessons & Carols*

Sunday, 2 December, 10:30am Church

### Movie Night & Cookie Extravaganza!

Friday, December 14th,  
5:30pm

See page 10 for details



### New Year's Eve Holy Eucharist & Potluck Reception

7:00pm in the Historic Church

## From our Rector

"It is I, Jesus, who sent my angel to you with this testimony for the churches. I am the root and the descendant of David, the bright morning star." The Spirit and the bride say, "Come." And let everyone who hears say, "Come." And let everyone who is thirsty come. Let anyone who wishes take the water of life as a gift. *Revelation 22:16-17*

Advent is here. It is a season of invitation and preparation. God's invitation is the last word of the Bible is for us all to 'come' and taste the water of life. It is a free gift, paid for by the Son, Jesus. He is the "bright morning star" whose light overcomes the darkness of the world. *There is a train a'comin. We don't need a ticket, ... we just need to get on board.* (... at least according to the 60's gospel song).

We usually need to do some "course-corrections" so we can grab the train as it leaves the station. Literally, "repent" means to turn. If my back is to the tracks, I'll have a hard time grabbing the handles of the train. So, getting on board means I get ready, but we don't even have to jump. If I just reach out, the conductor will grab and pull me up. As my faith develops, I will hear the knock, open the door and Christ will come in. The Living Water and the fruit covering the Tree of Life will satisfy my eternal hunger. God's love takes root and grows.

Here comes Advent with all its beauty and challenge. We celebrate 3 'comings' in these four weeks. We remember the birth of Jesus in Bethlehem. We anticipate Christ's second coming at the last day. And most importantly, we pray for Christ to be born now in our own hearts to guide and strengthen us for this world. I love the hymns, readings, candles in the wreaths, simple greenery instead of flowers, and sense of reflection. It all provides a sharp contrast to the run, run, run outside (or in the shopping mall). I am inspired by the daily emails that remind me of ways to be an Advent person. The annual handbell concert and Longest Night service change my pace, making me slow down. When I participate fully in Advent, my heart and soul are so much more ready to celebrate Christmas. I invite you to accept God's invitation... Enter into this living relationship with God who first loved you and accept God's gift.

### Lessons and Carols

One of our beautiful traditions will be held Dec 2 at 10:30. Advent Lessons and Carols is based upon the liturgy of King's College, Cambridge. We will have 5 Scripture lessons separated by choir anthems and congregational hymns. The lessons tell the Biblical story of

the Fall and God's loving response through the words of the prophets. We will conclude with Holy Eucharist. (At the same hour, St. Nicholas will be visiting the Gathering.)

### Worship - making it personal

We will make a small change in our worship that I'd like to explain. While our group was in English churches on pilgrimage, we noticed that unlike here, the entire congregation reads the opening prayer in unison. It is known as the "Collect for Purity." In the prayer we ask God, who knows us inside and out, to cleanse "the thoughts of our hearts" so we can love God and "worthily magnify your holy Name." In this first prayer of the worship, we are asking for the Holy Spirit to get us ready and prepared to encounter the living God. Most scholars have said that like the English Church, we should be saying it in unison because it is truly a prayer for the whole congregation to get ready for worship. For Advent through Epiphany seasons, we are going to read it in unison in all services (*if your clergy remember*). In Lent, we will evaluate. I think you will find it helpful.

### Stewardship

We are doing well for this point in the schedule. We had very good response to our "Celebration of Ministry" in September. More people found ministries for their time and talent. Financial pledges are doing well with many new members submitting their pledge for next year. About a dozen folks have been meeting in a new series of discussions about "Ministry of the Baptized" coming to understand why and how God invites us ALL to use our gifts and talents as leaders in the Church. Weekly one-minute stewardship videos have helped people understand the impact of ODEC in many different areas of life. If you have questions about getting involved with your talents or making a financial pledge, give us a call. If you haven't yet submitted your pledge, please get it in. We make staffing and budget decisions based upon what you tell us we can count on for the next year.

### Building Progress and Donations

The work in the kitchen is exciting! *Lots happening!* Read about it on page 5. If you are new, and want to know more about the program, or are now able to make a pledge or donation to the Building Campaign, this is a very important time. Call the office or talk with me. We have a team of folks who are able to help you help our part of God's dreams for the long-term mission of ODEC become reality. If you find it advantageous to make some end of the year charitable gifts for tax purposes, ODEC is a most worthy recipient.



## From our Assistant Rector

My friends,

Two weeks ago I went to a Gathering of Leaders conference at Camp Allen, in the Diocese of Texas. The conference was a group of Episcopal priests, who came together to share new ideas and ways to build and engage the church. The theme for this year was Racial Reconciliation, and though the topic is a hard one, the days spent there were *invigorating*. But one thing in particular came up for me constantly: the Mission of the Holy Spirit.

Our parish has spent some time with racial reconciliation, in various forms and capacities, over the past year and a half. And yet, I feel - and hear from many of you - that it still seems as though we aren't doing enough. How can we bridge this gap? How can we do more to be aware of our (our = white people) privilege, even if that privilege is unintended? How can we make a change, a difference?

We have the answer *right in front of us*. We go there, two Sundays a month to serve food, one Sunday a month to celebrate Holy Eucharist. The Mission of the Holy Spirit, 2:30pm every Sunday (for us, the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month in particular for H.E.). There you'll find an incredible group of energetic, passionate, faithful Christians who are hungry for Christ, who sing their hearts out, who have so much to give, and who are all, with little exception, black.

My heart hurt at this conference, because suddenly I realized that I have been with them almost every month for three years, and I know the names of maybe 4 of them. I sit beside the altar, separate from the congregation. I smile, I say hello, maybe share a few words, but my time there is fleeting and I've done little to engage in real relationships. What a loss, for me. To not have been creating friendships with people whom I so greatly admire, to not be taking advantage of this opportunity to do what I *say* I want to do - be in communion with people who don't look like me, and share our stories.

I started, last Sunday, to make some changes myself. I sat in the congregation with them, got there a few minutes early, laughed and talked, and then had an

*Continued on page 5...*

## From our Youth Minister

It's the season of Advent once again, and it is without a doubt my favorite time in the church calendar. I always get so caught up in the wonderful anticipation of knowing that something very special is about to happen. When I stop to consider that the phrase "God incarnate" means "God in the flesh," that "Emmanuel" means "God with us," I am always amazed.

Why do we suppose Jesus was brought into the world as a baby, and not as a mighty ruler? What is the design behind God showing intense vulnerability like this?

Although Jesus was indeed God incarnate, he was also fully and utterly human. This means that in his physical form, Jesus was no different from any other infant. He was fragile and small and was not immune from danger or sickness. He was not a baby made of steel. He even nearly became the victim of a genocide, and his parents had to flee to Egypt to protect him. Perhaps one reason Jesus came as an infant was so God could show us what true dependence on Him looks like. As a baby, Jesus was completely dependent on his parents, but also on God, to sustain him and preserve his life.

As I write this, I'm very close to my due date - by the time Bell Ringer is mailed out, I may very well have a baby girl at home with me! (Unless she takes a while... fingers crossed she shows up sooner than that.) The fact that she will be totally and completely dependent on me sometimes bowls me over. I am also amazed by the fact that she doesn't just belong to me - she is God's and was formed and created by Him. She is totally dependent on Him, even though she won't realize it yet. Even in her vulnerable, tiny little state, the God of all creation pays special attention to her. God's heart is for those in need, the children, the weak, the vulnerable, the fragile. He cares most for the least of these, and the concerns of the powerful, the strong, and the rich will always take a backseat. Why? I believe it is to model for us how we ought to live. If we don't follow the lead of Jesus and fight for the most vulnerable, who will?

As we contemplate Advent, I pray that we may all take time to consider this. May we open our eyes to how upside-down and wonderful is it that our all-powerful God has shown us beauty in being vulnerable, so we have no choice but to be as dependent on God as a newborn child, and to care for others as He would.

Merry Christmas!

~Marta

## Vestry

### Interested in Serving on Vestry?

Nominations for Vestry are due in December. Potential vestry members are:

- “members in good standing” which means active communicants, confirmed or received.
- members of the Congregation who are faithful in worship, prayer and stewardship of their gifts and financial resources and involved in the life of the parish by attending parish events.
- willing to provide their God-given leadership abilities to the parish as liaisons to a Commission of the Vestry. Having experience serving on a commission is helpful.
- willing to make a three year commitment to be available for monthly Vestry meetings, usually the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday evening of the month, and for Vestry Commission meetings, usually the first Wednesday evening of the month.
- able to communicate daily via email and conduct business using electronic attachments.
- willing to be the “eyes and ears” of the Parish and represent its needs and concerns.

For more information, or to express interest contact Vestry members: Laura Hicks, John Brown, Vicki Dorsett, Chip Saunders, or the Clergy.



### 2018 Vestry

Bill Waide, *Senior Warden*  
Laura Hicks, *People's Warden | Finance*  
John Brown, *Buildings & Grounds*  
Vicki Dorsett, *Good News*  
Chip Saunders, *Congregational Care*  
John Sherman, *Building & Facilities Planning*  
Michelle Stephenson, *Parish life*  
Holly Swanson, *Day School*  
Rebecca Barrio, *Christian Formation*  
Mitch Bean, *Outreach*  
Brad Croteau, *Historic Traditions*  
Brennon Pope, *Stewardship*  
Megan Barrio, *Youth Representative*

## Worship

### Advent Events



**Longest Night - Blue Christmas** Friday, 21 December at 7:00pm. A service for those who don't feel particularly “merry” this season.

**Christmas Eve Pageant and Eucharist** on December 24th at 5:00pm has a cast of our children and youth for a traditional Christmas pageant and carols, true to the Scriptural accounts, followed by Holy Eucharist. The service typically lasts less than one hour, no sermon

**Christmas Eve Festival Eucharist** on December 24 at 8:00 and 11:00pm. The full choir sings at both services, so everyone may participate in the best offering of thanksgiving to God. The 11:00pm service is preceded by 30 minutes of Christmas Lessons & Carols, starting at 10:30pm.

**Christmas Morning Holy Eucharist** at 10:00am. This service is a quieter reflective service including carols and communion. It is often the perfect ending to a morning that might have started early with gift opening as we give thanks for the greatest gift of all.

### Poinsettias For The Church



If you would like to donate poinsettias for the Christmas services, they are \$12 and sign-up sheets are now outside the Parish Hall or order [online](#).

### Paws, Prayers & Praise

Holy Eucharist is December 9th at 5:00pm in the church. This is a great opportunity to bring a guest, furry or otherwise, who might not attend a regular Sunday service!



### Annual Parish Meeting

The Annual Meeting of Old Donation Episcopal Church is scheduled for Sunday, January 27th 9:15am in the Church.

# Building & Facilities

## BUILDING PLAN UPDATE

### PROGRESS! (and in time for Oyster Roast!)

Many of you noticed major improvements in our kitchen. Scott Crumley and his merry band of workers and sub-contractors were able to get the majority of the kitchen renovation new equipment installed and running before the Oyster Roast. It was miraculous to have it completed on time. The new walk-in refrigerator/freezer, the larger capacity ice maker and convection ovens were invaluable additions.

The project would not have been successful without Scott's tenacious work and oversight, Greg Burroughs for his knowledge and contacts, AND the coordination (and hands-on work) of Betsy Morris. She credits a large team for help, especially with logistics for the clean-out of the pantry including: Bill Waide, Bruce Woodhouse, Keren and Jim Pernini, Ben Perry, Zachery Bowles, Hayden Bowles, Steve Kamperschroer, Dave Wilkinson, and Gretchen Hood; plus Tony Putzig, Betts Werbiskis, and the entire Oyster Roast and Kitchen Design Teams. Betsy knows there were others, so please don't feel slighted! The rest of the kitchen redesign work will be done over the course of the next two months, trying to work around our many events and outreach meal prep.

Major thanks to all! A full report after all the work is completed will include pictures and a listing of our kitchen design team. But nothing beats a personal tour and inspection, so do your own walk-about.

### City Review of the Site Plan

We received the second round of review comments on our Site Plan for the building project from the City in mid-November. These appear to mostly be clarifications, though some often develop into more serious questions. The architect and engineers are addressing them and expect to resubmit the updated Site Plan soon. We must have approval of the Site Plan from the City before we can begin construction.

In the meantime, the architect (Ionic) and your Building Commission continue to refine the project design, while the construction company (Hoy) is collecting budget estimates from multiple subcontractors and developing some roof options for our review. We are finally getting enough definition of costs to help us see areas needing

another look and to begin identifying how much we can tackle in this phase of the Master Plan. We are moving from dreams into practicality.

### The Capital Campaign Continues

As such, this a perfect time to thank everyone who has pledged and contributed over the last three years of the Build Capital Campaign. For those of you that are new to Old Donation, welcome! If you have found a ministry or activity to join, you know that we need more space!!!! And, perhaps you have attended one of Father Bob's presentations on the building project. To date, we have

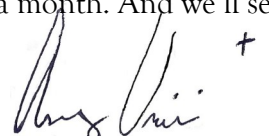
- Renovated the entire Day School wing and put on new roof.
- Painted the church and repointed the bricks.
- We are in the process of renovating the kitchen

If you are new to ODEC or are now in a good position to make a new gift to the Capital Campaign, this is an excellent time. We know that to do everything we would like to accomplish will take every campaign dollar we have, and more. There are a number of ways to make a contribution. *For more information on the project from the Campaign Team, please contact Mr. Tom Cantrell, [757-620-9327](tel:757-620-9327) or [ptc@cantrell.ws](mailto:ptc@cantrell.ws).*

*continued from page 3...*

honest and open conversation with one of the women following the service about my desire to know her, and the community, better. I want to do more; to have the difficult conversations, in time; but, to start by being friends. And she was *so happy*.

So we're going to do it. We're going to live into our calling to heal the brokenness of the world, to be in relationship with those who don't look just like us, to start doing some things *together* instead of as separate communities. We have so much to give to one another. I invite you to join me in this! Has your heart been hurting? Have you maybe wondered what the big deal about racism is, why it feels like we're still talking about it all the time? Have you perhaps been wanting to do more, to form relationships yourself? Now is your chance! We're not talking revolutionary stuff here, friends. Just attending church together. Once a month. And we'll see what happens from there.







## All That's Cool in Sunday School

Cycle 3: Emmanuel- God With Us!  
December 2nd-23rd

### Drama with Brennon & Courtney Pope

Activity: Charades

Focus: Responding to Gifts we are given

### Kitchen with Rebecca Barrio

Activity: Baking Christmas cookies

Focus: Sharing our Gifts with other people

### Story with Heather Floyd

Activity: Christmas stories

Focus: The Gift of Christmas and the gift of Story

### Art with Denise Wilkinson

Activity: Creating wrapping paper and coupon books

Focus: Offering ourselves as Gifts.

## Children's Sunday School Project

We are going to send Christmas gift bags for men to the Union Mission Ministries, a local non-profit that helps the homeless. The gift bags will help men in the shelter find employment. Please consider donating one or more of the following items:

- Bus Pass (available at some area Food Lions or visit <https://gohrt.com/fares/where-to-buy/> for more options)
- \$5 Fast Food Gift Card
- Wallet
- Small Manicure Set

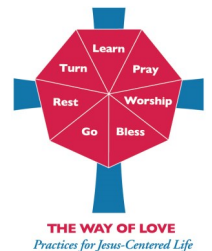
A donation box will be set up outside the Parish Hall.  
All donations are due by Sunday, December 16th.

## Adult Formation

### Journeying the Way of Love

Led by Mother Ashley

This four week course walks us through what it means to live into the season of Advent, with tools to use each day of the week to keep us actively engaged with our faith. Together we'll look at the Way of Love as a rule of life (and what that even means), incorporate the first two chapters of Luke, and discover how to *wait* and *do* at the same time.



**Advent 1:** Saying "Yes" to the Journey

**Advent 2:** A Journey with the Ones You Love

**Advent 3:** A Journey with Community

**Advent 4:** A Journey with the World

## Youth Sunday School

**Rite 13:** In the month of December, the group will be talking about stereotypes of men & women, being made in God's image (icons & angels), and the final letter of the ACTS acronym for prayer: supplication.

**J2A:** The group will continue their lessons in their new Confirm not Conform curriculum, as well as brainstorming for their 2020 pilgrimage!

**J2A-C:** On November 25, the group looked at the world as a village of 100 people. On Sunday, December 2, the group will have a guest speaker, Ms. Viscardy-Bowman, who will be talking about Afghanistan and Gender Equality. Then everyone in J2A-C will have a celebratory brunch at 9:00am on Sunday, December 9, to celebrate their five years together!

## 2018 Christmas Pageant

### Sun. December 2 - Pageant Sign Ups

Pageant sign up sheets will be posted in the Day School hallway and outside of Parish Hall. Please provide an email so we can send the script home for practice. Children up through 6th grade needed!

### Sun. December 9 - Pageant Roles Assigned & Posted

### Sun. December 16 - Speaking Parts Read-Through

12:00pm in historic church. This is only for those with speaking parts.

### Sun. December 23 - Pageant Dress Rehearsal

12:00pm in the Church. This is for all roles.

### Mon. December 24 - Christmas Pageant

Program starts at 5pm. Report to Alfriend House between 3:30-4:00pm.

## Coming in 2019!

Gear up for some exciting classes!

- Father Bob will teach a *traditional* bible study on Revelation
- Will Skiles, our resident history professor, returns with a class on the German church's response to Nazi Germany
- The Rev. Kipper DeGavre will begin her course on "What Anglicans Believe"
- And more...!



## Episcopal Youth Community

Unless otherwise noted, EYC schedule is as follows:

5:00pm- Music & scripture at the Sundays@5 service

5:15pm- EYC to the Parish Hall for devotional time & discussion, prayer, icebreakers & supper.

6:15pm- Games and hang out time! (High school in Alfriend House, Middle School in Parish Hall.)

7:00pm- Pick up

Sunday, December 2- EYC

Sunday, December 9- EYC



Sunday, December 16- EYC Ugly Christmas Sweater Christmas Party in Alfriend House.

Sunday, December 23- No EYC (Christmas Break)

Sunday, December 30- No EYC (Christmas Break)

Sunday, January 6- EYC Returns!



# Advent Inspiration

A DAILY REFLECTION AND SUGGESTION  
FOR LIVING THE ADVENT LIFE

Old Donation Episcopal Church



You can find your daily Advent Inspiration on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [Pinterest](#) starting 2 December.



For whatever reason, I rarely carry much cash these days. The only thing that I regularly pay cash for is a haircut every 4 weeks or so. That's it, otherwise it all goes on the card. Looking now, I have \$33 in my wallet, and that's only because Gretchen went to the ATM a week or so ago and handed me \$40 afterwards, with a comment like, "Don't come back asking for any more."

So, here's the good news (and the "challenging"? news). We have had a really great start to our "asking for money" to support God's mission for next year. As of today you have made 191 pledges for \$508K. That's better than the last couple of years at this point in the drive. But we still have 50 or more of you from whom we expect to receive a pledge. So, let me ask YOU (even if I'm not supposed to ask Gretchen). If you haven't submitted your pledge, or didn't even receive a request, we hope you will pledge this year. Getting your estimate of giving in to us as soon as possible is very helpful because the vestry is working on budgets right now.

There are so many good things happening at ODEC right now. Our worship, our education programs, and our service to those in need are really alive. We have a lot for which to be thankful. Please help us keep serving God and God's people by making a pledge and being an active participant in this wonderful mission and ministry.

~Jeff Hood

[Click here to pledge online](#)

[Click to print a pledge card](#)

## Legacy Society of 1637

When you next come to the altar to share in the communion of all the saints, ponder the legacy of those saints who now are present in spirit only. What they have left to be shared by you, your Old Donation family, and those of generations to come. Think of the legacy you will leave.

For more information, contact the church office, or Planned Giving member Earl Morris: 757-464-1062 or by email: burrova@verizon.net

## Treasurer's Notes...

### 2018 Charitable Deductions

For those who so generously support Old Donation Episcopal Church with their monetary contributions, please be aware that donors must deliver checks **on or before Monday, December 31, 2018** in order to claim a charitable deduction for 2018. According to IRS policy, checks that arrive to the church on or after Tuesday, 1 January, 2019 will not qualify for a deduction in 2018, even if the check is past-dated to 2018, or was actually written in 2018. However, under the so called "mailbox exception," checks that are written, mailed **and postmarked** in 2018 will be deductible in 2018 even if the church does not receive them until 2019.

Therefore, to ensure you receive the proper credit for a 2018 contribution on your end-of-year statement, please ensure checks are placed in the Sunday, December 30, 2018 offering, or mailed **and postmarked** by December 31, 2018. Your help in this matter will be appreciated.

~Ned Kuhns



### CY 2018 Commission Expenses

We want to close our 2018 financial accounts records as early as possible in the coming year. **To accomplish this, a cutoff for the submission of all Church expenses for 2018 has been established as of Friday, January 4, 2019.** All commission members who have expenses to be paid with 2018 Church funds should submit those expense documentations by that date. Requests for payments received after January 4, 2019 will be recorded against budget year 2019 funds.

~Ned Kuhns, Treasurer

## Valuing our Blessings

Total Pledge and Plate Received	\$521,323
Total Pledge and Plate Budget (YTD)	\$534,000
Budget Received Difference	-\$12,667
Number of Pledging Units to General Fund	214
Building Fund	\$334,735
Mission of the Holy Spirit	\$4,236
Outreach (all other)	\$4,557
Clergy Discretionary Fund	\$8,011
Worship	\$10,864
Julia Tucker Scholarship Fund (Day School)	\$2,745



## Old Donation Episcopal Day School

### Merry Christmas from our Day School!

The Thanksgiving and Christmas season is such a wonderful time of year. The children are so excited... talking about Santa and presents, etc...but we like to turn their thoughts away from themselves and talk about how they can help others! We started the season off with a can food collection which was delivered to The Mission of the Holy Spirit.

In December:

- our 3-year-olds collect funds to support F.O.R. Kids Inc. The teachers purchase toys, clothing and toiletries that the teachers deliver just in time for Christmas!
- our 4-year-olds bring in stocking stuffers for the Salvation Army stocking program
- our kindergartners are encouraged to do an extra chore at home to earn money for the Church's Angel Tree project. The class counts all of the money and the teacher shops and brings back the gifts for the children to see.

While taking an active role, the Day School children experience the joy of giving! If you would like to see our sweet children, stop by anytime between 9:00am and 12:00 or join us for our Christmas Sing-A-Longs on December 17<sup>th</sup> or 18<sup>th</sup> at 11:30am in Tucker Hall.

### REGISTRATION FOR 2019-2020

Registration for Previous Families and Parishioners will be filled on a first come/first served basis beginning Tuesday, January 15<sup>th</sup> at 11:30am.

REGISTRATION WILL BEGIN PROMPTLY AT 11:30AM  
IN THE DAY SCHOOL OFFICE.

Please e-mail [Tricia](#) or [Jody](#) for the registration form, or download it from the [Day School website](#).

PARISHIONER DATE:

**Tuesday, January 15, 2019**

11:30am: Day School Office

Classes for Ages 2 - Kindergarten

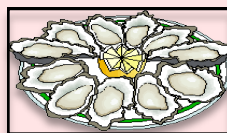
Early Drop and Extended Day Available

[odeds@olddonation.org](mailto:odeds@olddonation.org)

Call anytime for a tour! 499-2283

[www.olddonation.org](http://www.olddonation.org)

## Oyster Roast Thank You



God has certainly blessed us this year! Our annual oyster roast was very successful and we owe it all to you! It's wonderful to gather together as a community

in Christ for such a great cause. We would like to especially recognize our area leaders and faithful youth that volunteered!

Many of our areas significantly increased their revenues from last year and we are happy to report that we have raised roughly \$12,000 for our Outreach Ministry.

The weather was amazing and the addition of the B-Sides band this year set the tone for a fun and exciting day. Thank you to all who volunteered and to those who came out to enjoy great food, fun and fellowship!

**\*\* Please be on the lookout for our survey and provide any feedback to help us get better\*\***

Love and Light,

*~ Tony Putzig and Betts Werbiskis, Chairs*



### ODEC Men's Breakfast Fellowship 'Tis the Season

It's true! Our ODEC Men's Breakfast Fellowship (MBF) meets in all seasons and all weather. Come winter, we wear our especially prized, ugly Christmas sweaters, together with light-up socks - an array of ill-fitting and uncoordinated apparel. You see, at 7:00am each Wednesday we have only ourselves to account to for our choices in dress, as we gather in Tucker Hall for breakfast and fellowship.

All men are welcome! We have met continuously since the '80s, growing in faith and friendship. We open with prayer, followed by breakfast and a program, ending promptly at 8am. Our \$2 menu, legendary in our eyes, is prepared weekly by a few of us who can still get up early. Even on \$2, we save up money and make periodic donations to ODEC's outreach programs.

We enjoy programs of conversation, videos or Bible discussions. These programs are presented by a member on a rotating basis.

Come, join us some Wednesday morning. We want you! Use this Advent Season to make it a Men's Breakfast Fellowship season and get ready for Christmas!

## What's Going On



### Ladies' Game Night

Friday, December 7th, 7:00pm - 10:00pm,  
Alfriend House

Upcoming: 4 January and 1 February!

Let Martha Wilson know if you need a babysitter.  
310-430-2306 (call or text)

### Movie Night and Cookie Extravaganza!

Pizza, Movie & Cookies!  
Friday, 14 December  
5:30pm in the Parish Hall

Please bring a dozen cookies  
for sharing.  
RSVP by December 12th!



### JOY Dinner Group

Friday, 14 December, 5:30pm  
New River Taphouse on Pleasure House Road  
RSVP to David Eckhardt: 395-0008

**CREW** Christians Reuniting Every Week: young(ish) adults, most with kids in tow, gathering for support in this crazy thing called life. Each Thursday is dinner, conversation, prayer, and fun, 5:30-7:00pm. Join us! **This month**, stay tuned for more information on our "CrewMas" party at the Warneke's house! And as always, contact Mother Ashley with questions/interest.



### Special Music: Virginia Handbell Consort

Sunday, 16 December  
5:00pm in the Church.

**Coffee Hour Sign up!** Our new Coffee Hour format is taking root! We appreciate the commissions and groups in the church who have signed up and hosted the setup and cleanup of our weekly coffee hour. A new Coffee Hour Calendar is on the Parish Life bulletin board for you to sign up! If your commission hasn't signed up yet, it's time! While hosting, promote your commission and provide information to everyone! Maybe you'll attract some new members! Thank you to everyone for being part of our Coffee Hour joint effort!

## Outreach

### Beans & Rice Ministry

No questions asked.  
9:00-11:00am in the Historic Church.  
December 15th & January 19th

### Feed My Sheep

Sunday, 9 December  
The 2nd Sunday of every month ODEC prepares and serves a mid-day meal to folks in need in Norfolk sponsored by Outreach as "Feed My Sheep." Usually the meal is prepared in the kitchen the morning before. Servers depart directly after the 10:30am services. Please email Melissa Waide, or call 718-8599 if you are interested in helping now or in the future. Peace!

### Bayside Feeding

On Tuesday, 4 December at 7:15pm we will provide dinner to the homeless at **Bayside Presbyterian Church**. With the new Facility on Witchduck Rd there are fewer in want, but there are always some that need help.

We will set up the dining room and put out the food, serving fried chicken, mac and cheese, green beans and salad. If you like to bake we would love brownies or cupcakes. Bring your goods to the church on the 4<sup>th</sup> by 5:00pm.

Want to help? Please call or text *Betts Werbiskis* 434-2557

### Angel Tree 2018

Our annual Angel Tree is here - full of names of children who have a parent in prison. Angel Tree is a national program to deliver gifts to these children who are often neglected. We will sponsor 90 children (36 families) and they all live in Virginia Beach. That's 90 clothing gifts and 90 fun gifts! Please pick names from the tree, sign the register with who you have chosen, go shopping, wrap the gifts and bring them back. Place everything in the big red box and all will be delivered to the children. Instructions sheets are available. ALL GIFTS must be returned by Wednesday, 12 December. If you want to help deliver the gifts or help in any way, contact Vaughn Wilson at 460-4723. Thank you!





## Birthdays

03 Finn Malcom  
Laura Hicks  
Jennifer Schmidt  
Kim Tibbitt  
04 Katie Parker  
Susan Stephenson  
Shannon Somers  
05 M. Scott Laine  
Martha Gentry  
Bruce Woodhouse  
06 Jonna Walker  
Tim Colvin  
Madison Myers  
Jim New  
07 Patricia Cheshire  
08 Heather Mills  
Greg Burroughs  
Deb DeMarco  
09 Evan Weintraub  
Jessica Epps  
Amber Smith  
10 Kevin Keller  
11 Rebecca Schweiger  
Gary Kline

12 Sean Hurley  
Megan Johnson  
13 Karen Dudley  
Megan Barrio  
David Foley  
14 Donald MacDougall  
Kelly Good  
Eliza Hailey  
15 Forrest Newhall, III  
Barbara Lifland  
Jackie Murray  
Kelly Routh  
17 Dean Buckius  
Heather Heying-Hunt  
Bethany Walpert  
18 Debbie Rose  
Dan Ries  
Joseph Varnecky, III  
Shannon Koprowski  
Nolan Miani  
19 Rebecca Barrio  
Connor Malcom

## December Celebrations

Holly Waide  
20 Bob Randall  
Keith Houtwed  
21 Lenore Quandt  
Trudy Gross  
22 Ginny Cranford  
Kane Eaton  
23 Jesse Malcom  
David Eckhardt  
24 Michael Davis  
Lew Friedrichsen  
25 Lukas Howard  
26 Ethan Merry  
Coyle Moore  
Kai Baxter-Smith  
JJ Fite  
27 Laura Buckius  
Lily Koprowski  
28 Lyra Gurioli  
29 Adela Merry  
30 Timothy Merry  
31 James Baker  
Betsy Morris  
Kevin Lind

## Anniversaries

1 Dick & Ellie Kreassig  
3 Richard & Rose DeLacey  
5 Holly & Patrick Swanson  
8 Peter & Ann Hatchard  
13 Paul & Darlene Castellano  
15 Dave & Denise Wilkinson  
Jean & Bill Holt  
Emily & Justin Medlin  
Lauren & Curtis Moore  
17 Ashley & Ben Urquidi  
18 Dan & Courtney Miani  
Leslie & Robert Miller  
Keith & Meredith Moore  
19 Brian & Katie Wubker  
Barbara & John Guthrie  
27 Marta & Drew Cohen  
31 Cheryl Kepner & Jimmy Kolb



### We welcome our newest members:

Jon Johnson & Renee Ambrose  
Russell & Judith Sheldon  
Carolyn & Scott Bergen  
Rose & Richard DeLacey



**NEW  
YEAR'S  
EVE**

**HOLY EUCHARIST &  
POTLUCK RECEPTION**

**DECEMBER 31 | 7PM**

Old Donation Episcopal Church

### Coming in 2019!

**Chili Cook-Off,  
Sunday 20 January, 3:00pm**

Make your best chili, be it beef, chicken or vegetarian, and compete for prizes! To be judged by our best tasters! Look for more information on the Parish Life bulletin board.

**Coffeehouse Open Mic Night,  
Saturday, 2 February, 6:00pm**

Enjoy coffees, teas, desserts and lots of fellowship. Our own stars will provide all the entertainment! All acts welcomed! Sign-up for acts will be on the Parish Life bulletin board prior to the event. A karaoke machine will be available as well.

## Weekly Worship Schedule

8:00am Holy Eucharist, Rite I  
9:15-10:15am Christian Formation  
10:30am Holy Eucharist, Rite II  
10:30am The Gathering  
5:00pm Sundays@5 Informal HE

## 2nd Sunday of the Month

5:00pm Paws, Prayers & Praise  
Holy Eucharist

## Thursday

10:00am Holy Eucharist  
11:00am Bible Study



## OLD DONATION EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Jesus Christ, Head of the Church  
The Rt. Rev. Herman Hollerith, IV, *Bishop*  
The Rev. Robert J. Randall, Jr., *Rector*  
The Rev. Ashley E. Urquidi, *Assistant Rector*  
The Rev. Fred Poteet, *Priest Associate*  
Mrs. Marta Cohen, *Youth Minister*  
4449 N. Witchduck Road, Virginia Beach, 23455  
Phone: 757-497-0563  
[odec@olddonation.org](mailto:odec@olddonation.org) | [www.olddonation.org](http://www.olddonation.org)

## OLD DONATION EPISCOPAL DAY SCHOOL

Tricia Crawford & Jody Baker, Day School Directors  
Phone: 757-499-2283  
Ages 2, 3, 4 and Kindergarten  
Day School Hours: 9:00 am - 12:20 pm  
Monday - Friday  
Early Drop Off & After School until 2:20 pm  
[odeds@olddonation.org](mailto:odeds@olddonation.org)

ELECTRONIC SERVICE REQUESTED

Old Donation Episcopal Church  
4449 N. Witchduck Road  
Virginia Beach VA 23455

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