

The Bell Ringer

November
2016



Old Donation Episcopal Church

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



The 82nd Annual *Old Donation* Oyster Roast

Saturday, November 19th

Our Annual Fundraiser to support Outreach

10:00am to 3:00pm

All Saints' Sunday

November 6th

Please join us & bring photos of the saints in your life to place around the church as a sign of the cloud of witnesses that surround us!



Veterans' Sunday

November 13th

Active Duty and Veterans, please dress in uniform for this special service.

November: Ingathering Month!

Feel free to bring your pledge card to the altar during the offertory any Sunday in November.

Thanksgiving Day Service

10:00am Holy Eucharist



We will make
Advent Wreaths
between services on the
1st Sunday of Advent,
November 27th!

From our Rector

When you read this, I am in Israel beginning our 10 days of pilgrimage. You will be receiving daily blog emails from our group of 25 ODEC adults. It is a trip of a lifetime. We will visit holy sites, including Bethlehem, Nazareth, Jericho, Galilee, and Jerusalem. Look for our notes and please keep us in your prayers.

October Blessings: “St. Francis Day” blessing of the animals was one of the best days of the year. The next week Hurricane Matthew did some significant damage, but the 120 of us who could safely come to Church gave thanks to God for what we still had. It was a sweet day, made more real with so many displaced with major losses. Oct 16 was one of those huge days in our parish. 28 made Confirmation / Reception commitments to follow Christ as part of the church. The 10:30 service was packed like Christmas Eve. The Holy Spirit was large and live. That night we heard wonderful witnesses as the dozen youth pilgrims to Ireland told us how God was apparent in their adventure. Oct 23 (is after I write but), will be a day of joy and opportunity with baptism and blessings for our pilgrims headed to the Holy Land. Can it get better than October?

Our Capital Campaign (*Faithfully Preserving our Heritage & Building our Future*) is doing very well. We will make the bulk of visits in the next 6-8 weeks. There has been some confusion about the *goal*. Our Master Plan identifies long-term NEED as \$5.7M. But that includes parts (like replacement of Alfriend House) that do not have to be done immediately. We have options to make great improvements from \$1M up.

We have no expectation that everyone can make a contribution at any specific level. The real goal is to ask every member to give what they wish, knowing all will be used well. The hope is that everyone will receive a visit to receive a plan booklet and have their questions answered. Out of thanksgiving for Old Donation and God’s work, we ask you to prayerfully consider making a *responsible* and *generous* pledge that can be paid over five years, and your annual pledge. We want people to do something about which they feel good, AND will fit their plans and capability. We have visited over 80 homes and already have funds that put us over \$2.3 million. Where you can, I hope you will add your part. EVERY gift is significant as we work together.



From Our Assistant Rector

I am a mosquito magnet. All bugs, really, not just mosquitos. And I think the mosquitos in Virginia Beach are extra stealthy, of a variety I’m not familiar with, because I hardly ever notice them. A year ago, I made the mistake of sitting outside down by the lake behind my house one evening, to work on my sermon. I woke up the next morning with over thirty bug bites— thirteen on one foot alone (I’ve got a picture to prove it!). Oh, the scratching I did! I itched and scratched, itched and scratched, and no words of admonition were going to stop me. No sound reasoning, no arguments to the contrary, no former experience of scarring or the fact that really, scratching only makes it itch more. Because— don’t we all know?— in the moment, scratching is so rewarding.

“For the time is coming when people will not put up with sound doctrine, but having itching ears, they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own desires, and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander away to myths.” 2 Timothy 4:3-4

Need I say more?

We (the collective, general we) want a faith that is comforting, that fits the parameters of our daily lives. We want to decide what to believe, and for God to affirm it. We want to be comfortable, to do what we want, what comes easy. We do *not* want to be challenged, or told that our beliefs don’t line up, that our actions fall short of our lofty words. And so when those things begin to happen, when our ears begin to itch, we sometimes start to scratch. It’s much easier to find people to affirm that what we’re doing is right than to allow ourselves to be challenged to be better. But we only grow when we’re challenged. We form deeper relationships when we enter into the hard places, when we step out of our comfort zone, when we search for deeper meaning and re-examine long-held beliefs to be sure they still hold.

And so, if things have been coming very easy to you and you’ve been feeling comfortable and content for a while, take a step back and examine your faith and how you’re living. It’s possible that you’ve been scratching a few too many itches.



Paws, Prayers & Praise

Eucharist is November 13th, 5:00pm in the church. This is a great opportunity to bring a guest, furry or otherwise, to Sunday service!



Several weeks ago, and coincidentally on the second anniversary of my mom's passing, Boo Boroughs stopped us in the ODEC parking lot to arrange for a meeting to discuss the Capital Campaign. A few days later Carl and I sat down for an informative hour plus with Boo and Carol Gurioli. Not only did we learn more about the church and its long interesting history, but also we got to know each other a little better. We left the church thinking about how we might be able to contribute to this place we consider our church home.

As a little background, Carl's parents were members of another Episcopal church in the area. When his mother passed away suddenly in 2005 his father wanted to find a different place to worship. ODEC was closer and exactly what our family needed as Father Bob welcomed us with open arms. Carl's family are long-time Episcopalians but I, on the other hand, grew up as a Maronite/Catholic in Lebanon and the Middle East and was only an occasional church goer - my most memorable church moment being during my freshman year of high school in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia where I was confirmed by an Italian priest smuggled in as a "gardener" by the Army Corps of Engineers for our Friday morning services.

Since joining Old Donation we have come to realize how much the church has meant to us and to our family. Our only child Isabel was baptized in the church. She attended the wonderful day school and loves any and everything to do with Old Donation. Carl's sister was married at Old Donation. And my mother, a reluctant Catholic, was given her final rites by Father Bob and laid to rest behind the church after a beautiful service, seamlessly orchestrated by the parish office, and a personable sermon by Father Bob. Our warm and talented hospitality team followed with an elegant reception that also truly helped my grieving family.

As is apparent, Old Donation has been there throughout the years for our family and we have committed to being there for the church and our community for the sake of our daughter's second family and for the many generations to come.

~Julie Saad Sterzing

From Our Youth Minister

The month of October was full of important events for our youth, the two that spring to mind first are Confirmation and the Stockholder's Dinner. Even though I was not able to be present for these events, I received a great report about them from Elizabeth. She called me while I was in San Diego and told me all about the beautiful service. She then proceeded to tell me about the Stockholders' Dinner: how impressed she had been with each of the youth presentations, their level of preparation, and how well-spoken they were. She also told me that it was clear God had worked in the lives of our youth during their pilgrimage. Elizabeth and I are so proud of these youth, and we look forward to seeing what comes next for them.

November is a busy month, so please don't forget to check the calendar in the center pages of the Bell Ringer. Make sure you don't miss out on anything happening with EYC and the J2A programs.

Thanks,

~AJ Lambert

Call for Prayer Chain Volunteers

Searching for a ministry at Old Donation? The Prayer Chain may be your calling. The Prayer Chain is a group of parishioners who offer prayers for those in need. We receive a private e-mail from the church telling us about a Prayer need. The need may be a pending surgery, struggle with emotional issues or even a death. The requests can be for Parishioners or friends of Parishioners.

We need more Prayer Warriors and YOU could join us. Please notify Keren Pernini, gardengal64@live.com

Also, and this is REALLY important. We can't pray if we do not know your need. These requests are private and our group holds them as sacred. Please contact the church or Father Bob, Father Fred or Mother Ashley. Let us add our prayers to whatever troubles you.

2016 Vestry

George Butler, *Senior Warden*

Bill Dullaghan, *Christian Formation*

Stacey Howeth, *Outreach*

Carol Gurioli, *Day School*

Jeff Hood, *Stewardship*

Rich Kuhr, *Finance*

Sharon Payne, *People's Warden, Building & Facilities Planning*

John Brown, *Buildings & Grounds*

Vicki Dorsett, *Congregational Care*

Laura Horvath, *Parish Life*

Chip Saunders, *Evangelism*

Ryan Piston, *Youth Representative/Christian Formation*

Family Fun



Come on out to Alfriend House at 4:30 on Saturday, November 12 for a BAKE DAY! We'll make all sorts of goodies to share during coffee hour after the 10:30 services on Sunday the 13th. Dinner will be provided on Saturday, and Sunday will be all hands on deck helping to set up, serve, and clean up coffee hour. Join us for one or both days, it's going to be a blast and a great way to serve our community. All donations from coffee hour will go to the Mission of the Holy Spirit whose children are in desperate need of our help! Questions? Contact [Mother Ashley](#).

Wednesday Night Series

The B-I-B-L-E, That's the Book for Me



We read & hear Scripture every week. We study it daily; seeking understanding & wisdom in order to live as God's people & followers of Jesus. Reading, by definition, is interpretation. This three week series will attempt to introduce some of the methods scholars use to interpret Scripture, and how those theories might give us deeper insight into our own reading & study of Holy Scripture.

We'll spend some time engaging the field of hermeneutical scholarship - which simply means using theories, methods, and insights of how we interpret Scripture. Through that lens, we can enter into the ancient world of storytelling and Historical analysis. That will give us a better understanding of the intricacies of the Bible and how we study it.

Don't forget your Bibles!

Young Adults

Confirmation may be passed, but our meetings are far from over! Come on out to Alfriend House on Thursday evenings from 6:00-7:30 as we gather for food, fellowship, and faith. Keep a look out for more information on specific dates, as the group is still determining how frequently we will meet. Contact [Mother Ashley](#) with questions!

Sunday Adult Forum

Saints of Today



Since its beginning, the Church has designated some holy and godly people as Saints of the Church. In more recent years, emphasis has shifted to the work of all believers as set forth in our Baptismal Covenant. In this series we will examine the lives of people today who live into these promises and look for signs of sainthood.

Nov. 6 People Who Make a Difference in Their Communities: Church of the Savior, Washington D.C. Comprised of ordinary people making extraordinary commitments. Led by Kipper deGavre.

Nov. 13 People Who Strive for Radical Justice: Jonathan M Daniels, Episcopal seminarian and civil rights activist who was martyred in 1965 saving the life of a young civil rights worker. Led by Jim Ring, friend of Jonathan and classmate at VMI

Nov. 20 People in Leadership Roles Who Shape Our Faith and Inspire Others: Pope Francis. Known for his humility, emphasis on God's mercy, concern for the poor and commitment to interfaith dialogue. Led by Fr. James E. Parke

Another Option...

In addition, Mary Poteet will continue to lead the video/discussion group on the New Testament, located in the library. This is an excellent opportunity for deeper biblical learning and conversation in a relaxed, supportive environment!

Sunday School News

Sunday School continues to go strong! There was, however, a mistake in last week's Bell Ringer—the age breakdown for class is as follows: preK-1st, 2nd-4th, 5-6th. Our 5-6th grade class took their formation into their own hands and spoke up when things weren't working for them, and we listened! We've modified curriculum, and are now meeting in the front room of Alfriend House. Just a reminder that our children have voices and needs, and we want to honor them!

The 82nd Annual Oyster Roast



Old Donation Episcopal Church

Saturday, Nov 19th 10:00am-3:00pm

Volunteers are Needed for:

- Kitchen
- Oyster Shucking
- Raffle Ticket Sales
- Silent Auction Room
- White Elephant Room
- Book Room
- Bake Room
- Set-up
- Cashiers
- Dining Room Servers

Oyster Roast!

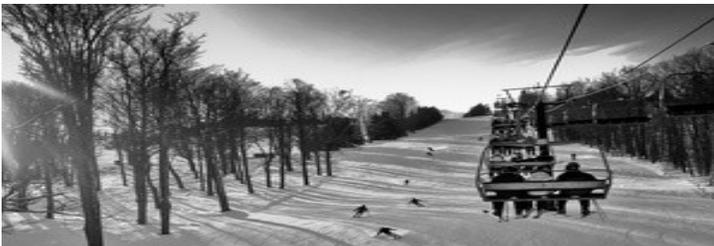
Start counting ... Just 33 days left until we tempt your taste buds with fare at our 82nd Annual Oyster Roast: Brunswick Stew, barbecue, and oysters galore - raw and steamed. November 19th is the day from 10 AM to 3 PM. More goodies for your holiday table will be available for purchase in the Bake Room including pickled watermelon rind, the famous ODEC pickles, cakes, pies and more. You can still order Brunswick Stew to take home and share with family and friends and Carol Gurioli has plenty of volunteer opportunities that could use your talents.

Bring your treasures in now for the Silent Auction and White Elephant rooms. Please, no clothing or electronics.

[Click to Sign up Here!](#) OR odecoysterroast@gmail.com | [Fact Sheet HERE!](#)

Winter Weekend

Winter is coming! You know what that means?! Winter Weekend! Woohoo! We will be taking a trip up to Massanutten Ski Resort for a weekend of skiing, tubing, snowboarding, snowball fights, and of course Chick-fil-A!!! I'm kidding about the Chick-fil-A part... well, mostly kidding! We will be going over Martin Luther King Jr. weekend, which falls on January 13th-15th. RSVP to [AI](#) if your youth plan to attend! The cost is \$110/person, which covers food, gas, and activities fees. Trust me, you don't want to miss out on all the fun!



EYC Schedule

NOVEMBER

Sunday, November 6th - Laser Tag

Drop-off: 4:00pm

Pick-up: 8:00pm

Sunday, November 13th - EYC

Middle School - 4:30-5:30pm

Dinner - 5:30-6:00pm

High School - 6:00-7:30pm

Sunday, November 20th - EYC

Middle School - 4:30-5:30pm

Dinner - 5:30-6:00pm

High School - 6:00-7:30pm

Sunday, November 27th - NO EYC

Thanksgiving Weekend!

Kairos for Women in Virginia (VCC-W

Nov 3-6, 2016)

Hello Brothers and Sisters in Christ. As you are reading this I am probably on my way or am already on the "inside" at the Virginia Correctional Center for Women (VCC-W) in Goochland. The experience of serving with a Kairos Team is priceless. The AGAPE LOVE shown through your prayer support, in the cookies shared, and in the monetary support sent from this congregation is the stuff upon which the delivery of hope to a hopeless filled population is made possible. I just want to say, "THANK YOU" ahead of time. Teaching and about the road toward personal relationship building with God through Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior is the greatest gift offered. **Please continue to pray cover for the team and the participants as we share ministry.** You will truly be hearing more from me in the future about this beautiful ministry. In His Name ~ Frankie Ring

Interested in Serving on the Vestry?

Potential vestry members are:

- 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 3rd 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 and to express interest contact outgoing Vestry members George Butler, Bill Dulaghan, Stacey Howeth or the Clergy.

Healing Have you noticed that children are normally quite open, willing to ask for what they think they need or want? I wonder if that is one reason that Jesus told his disciples that we must become like little children to enter the Kingdom of Heaven. Coming to a healing prayer minister during Communion time is a way of admitting need and being vulnerable just as a child does. Know that you are always heard and loved, and that the act of praying together that you initiate creates blessings for all of us.

Our training sessions for healing prayer ministers focus on how we follow Jesus' model as recorded in the Gospels. Soon we will have healing prayer ministers at all our Sunday services. There is still time to join us if you feel a call to add your voice to that of other parishioners seeking prayer for any kind of healing. **Resources this month:** *Matt 19:13-14; Mark 10:13-16.* ~ [Carol Gurioli](#)

"News from the Day School"

As has been the tradition at ODEDS, a chapel service prior to Thanksgiving will be dedicated to collecting canned goods and non-perishable food items for *The Mission of the Holy Spirit*. By doing this, we have the opportunity to help our children understand how important it is for those of us who have so many gifts to share with those who need our help.

Will you be voting? We will! Children will be voting on "what" they want on the bulletin board. The theme this year is "What is your favorite Thanksgiving food?" Candidates are...Turkey, Pumpkin Pie, and cranberry sauce! Good Luck candidates!

Stop-n-Shop... Handmade Items and products from Pampered Chef, Thirty One, Tupperware, Stella and Dot and more! We have ONE DAY where lots of vendors fill Tucker Hall and orders will be ready for Christmas gift giving. Stop by and browse Wednesday, November 30th... 9:00am - 2:30pm.



We have 2 OPENINGS for 4-year-olds and 1 opening for a 2 1/2 year old! Call 499-2283 or email odeds@olddonation.org
~ Janet Brown & Jody Baker

Walk the Labyrinth for the Capital Campaign

As part of the spiritual component of the Capital Campaign, Fridays are designated as Labyrinth Days. On November 11, we will have a Parish Labyrinth Walk. Guides will be at the entrance at 11:00 and 3:00. This is a prayerful, meditative time to offer the Capital campaign prayer as you walk. Information will be available at the entrance to the labyrinth.

Outreach! Bayside Feeding

For one week, during Winter Shelter, Bayside Presbyterian Church offers shelter for up to 80 less fortunate people in our community, and serves them a warm meal each night of that week. ODEC, as a part of Outreach, will provide a meal on the night of Thursday, November 17. We will set up between 7:30 and 8:00pm, with dinner served between 8:30-9:00pm. While there, we will also make ham and cheese sandwiches for their lunches for the next day.

We need Volunteers from ODEC to help us serve the meal, make the sandwiches, and clean up. For more information, or to volunteer with the Feeding, please contact Linda Kuhr 420-1511.

November Celebrations

Birthdays

- | | |
|---------------------|------------------------|
| 1 Lynette Lewis | James Keller |
| 2 Melissa Moore | Helen Heselius |
| 4 Anne Scharenberg | Matthew Bulleit |
| Deniece Cheri | 11 Sandra Wills |
| 5 Betsy VanderWilt | Diane Bolin |
| Hayden Bowles | 12 Gail Varnecky |
| 6 June Schweinfurth | Madeline Schulz |
| Michele Suttle | 13 Bonney Ball |
| Trey Dudley | 14 Jocelyn Felton |
| 7 Gisella Battersby | 15 Kevin O'Flaherty |
| Christina Wyman | 17 Michelle Stephenson |
| Phil Luebbert | 18 Murrey Loflin |
| 8 Robert Burns | Allison Myers |
| Rebecca Hailey | 19 Joyce Osterman |
| 9 George Butler | Drew Luebbert |
| Mark Sinclair | 20 Page Cranford |
| Harry Lustig | 21 Jill Ghormley |
| 10 Jack Barry | 22 John Jarvis |
| JoAnn MacDougall | Sherrie Coyle |
| | Kirsten Holt |

- | |
|----------------------|
| 23 Larry Phillips |
| Michael Fitch |
| 24 JoAnne Newhall |
| Beth Holland |
| Liudmila Malone |
| 25 Judy Lee |
| Susan Meredith |
| Casey Gregerson |
| Roland Westleigh |
| 26 Katie Fite |
| 27 J. D. Ball |
| Bill McAree |
| Charlie Swift |
| 29 Chuck Applebach |
| Matt Jackson |
| Scott Almond |
| 30 Elizabeth Simpson |
| Ray Foberg |
| Brennon Pope |
| Corey Schweiger |
| Gwynneth Anderson |

Anniversaries

- | |
|------------------------------|
| 2 Catherine & Kevin Rubel |
| Cassie & Landon Wellford |
| 4 Sara & Mike Check |
| Adda Winkes & Tim Kunkel |
| 7 Jacquelyn & Truman Baxter |
| Boo & Greg Burroughs |
| 9 Christina & Bill Wyman |
| 10 Beth & George Weeks |
| 12 Christin & Heath Leggett |
| 13 Valerie & Mike Casey |
| 14 Liane & Kevin Long |
| Melissa & Bill Waide |
| 17 Rita & Harry Lustig |
| 21 Nancy & Tom Cantrell |
| Ginny & Page Cranford |
| Cynthia & Paul Wise |
| 22 Gloria & John Brown |
| 23 Mike & Amber Lovejoy |
| 24 Doralece & Bill Dullaghan |

Rise in Glory

Ed Peabody



Thank you!

The prayers and cards on my behalf were deeply appreciated. Many, many thanks to you with love to our congregation. ~ Flossie Chandler.

Capital Campaign and Tax Savings

For some, a tax smart way to contribute to the ODEC Capital Campaign is to make a direct transfer from a retirement account to the Church, especially for those who are facing a Required Minimum Distribution (RMD).

By making the donation directly from your custodian to the Church you will not have to show it as income adding to your adjusted gross income. Adding to your adjusted gross income can change the taxability of all other income on your return especially the Social Security. An additional advantage for those with a RMD is that there is no withholding of Federal or State taxes so the entire amount of the distribution will go the Capital Campaign.

Taking advantage to this recent tax change can be an efficient method of contributing to the church for annual as well as special pledging. Check with your tax advisor to see if this is advantageous to you and if it is, contact the Church for help if needed.

Valuing our Blessings

Total Pledge and Plate Received	\$487,493
Total Pledge and Plate Budget	476,430
Budget / Received Difference	11,063
Number of Pledging Units To General Fund	260
Building Fund	\$35,170
Mission of the Holy Spirit	10,018
Outreach (all other)	2,302
Clergy Discretionary Fund	7,451
Worship	6,661
Julia Tucker Scholarship Fund (Day School)	1,191

Building Fund Capital Campaign Pledges:

Families and individuals have the ability to fulfill their gifts through the transfer of publicly traded stocks, bonds or mutual funds. We have found that each company/fund may have different processes to complete the transfers. If you desire to use this method, please contact Ned Kuhns, our Parish Treasurer at 757-552-0292 or Diane Miller, our Parish Accountant at 757-497-0563 to discuss the details. They will provide guidance and assist you in accomplishing your transfers.

Weekly Worship Schedule

Sunday

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite I
9:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II
9:30-10:15 a.m. Christian Formation
10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II
10:30 a.m. The Gathering

2nd Sunday of the Month

5:00 p.m. Paws, Prayers & Praise
Holy Eucharist

Thursday

10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist
11:00 a.m. 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 Urquidi, *Assistant Rector*

The Rev. Fred Poteet, *Associate Rector*

AJ Lambert, *Youth Minister*

4449 N. Witchduck Road, Virginia Beach, 23455

Phone: 757-497-0563 Fax: 757-497-9291

Church E-mail: odec@olddonation.org

Parish Web Site: www.olddonation.org

Old Donation Episcopal Day School

Janet Brown, Day School Director

Phone: 757-499-2283 Fax: 757-497-9291

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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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

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