

The BellRinger



September
2022

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*

• Sunday, 11 September •

Christian Formation & Sunday School Begin

11:15am - noon for all ages -

See pages 4-5 for full information.

Blessing of the Backpacks, our Students & our Teachers



See page 6 for all the details!

From our Rector

"For everything there is a season... a time to be born... a time to kill and a time to heal; ... a time to break down, and a time to build up;" The writer of Ecclesiastes gives us wisdom especially true for today. During the past 30 months, there was a lot of breaking down of what was normal in all parts of life. Some elements died while others healed. In the process of rebuilding, we adapted and explored, discovering unexpected blessings in almost every aspect. New friends have joined our journey and brought their own gifts and talents. Plus, our campus space has doubled in capacity!

This month it is "time to re-build" some more. I realize some have gotten out of the 'habit' of Church and Formation. As I often argue, all of healthy life is having healthy habits. More God is essential to the healthiest lives. I am hoping our new adapted routines can become habitual for you and your families and friends. All is subject to change, but we are taking lessons learned to try to make the best offerings.

Sunday WORSHIP and FORMATION

Sunday mornings will expand Sept 11. With your survey guidance in May, our worship line-up becomes: 8:00am RITE I, 10:00am in the Church is RITE II traditional with choir and organ; 10:00am in the Great Hall for the Gathering with contemporary music and Gathering Band; and 5:00pm in the Church with informal Eucharist and contemporary music by Random Acts, and Paws, Prayers & Praise every 2nd Sunday at 5:00pm.

Four Sundays between now and Advent we will combine the two 10:00am services outside in the Eden Chapel (or Great Hall if weather is bad). Those are: Sept 11 for kick-off to Fall, Oct 2 for Blessing of the Pets, Oct 23 for Stewardship message and meal, and Nov 13 for the Sunday closest to Veteran's Day.

Children's chapel will continue during the two 10:00am services. This has been very successful and we are expanding it to include a special section for older children in grades 2-5. All children will leave together and separate into different classrooms for age-appropriate teaching of Bible stories.

Youth classes and multiple Adult classes resume Sundays after the 10:00 services. All this is detailed on page X. Confirmation, Middle School retreats, High School pilgrimage, and multiple adult offerings will provide something for everyone!

Bible Study resumes Thursday mornings at 11:00am and Wednesday night programs will gradually resume for more study and spiritual growth. Education for Ministry and Sacred Ground are back for more offerings.

What else?

- Read inside and you will see Oyster Roast is back!
- We need more Chalice bearers (Eucharistic Ministers) because we will go back to offering bread and wine.
- We need more lectors (readers) because we will return to reading all the Scriptures at most services.
- The St. Cecilia Choir and Gathering Band are anxious for more singers.

Outreach: Serving our community

During the pandemic I joined the Board of Directors for Dos Santos which offers food support to the Eastern Shore Latinx community. We had been supporting this ministry for about 6 years, including a couple youth trips and financial aid. Last month a team of 8 youth and 9 adults from ODEC spent a hot Saturday moving their thrift store to a new location and painting new rooms. Thursday, Sept 29 we host a concert fund-raiser in the Great Hall. I hope you will all attend and be generous for this critically vital work.

On September 18 we feed folks in Norfolk with "Feed My Sheep" so Saturday is also a work day in the kitchen assembling meals.

Thursday evenings beginning 15 September we are part of a team from the Norfolk Urban Renewal Center greeting and organizing VB youth at the Williams Farm Rec Center. It is easy and mostly being present. Watch for details!



Personnel Changes

A few months ago, our Deacon Genevieve Nelson took a leave of absence to do discernment with Bishop Susan Haynes. I was recently informed that the discernment process will be extended and as such there is not a plan for Genevieve to return to her ministry at ODEC. I spoke recently with Genevieve and she wished to let you all know she is healthy and happy, and that she will keep us in her prayers. I invited her to join us at some events or for worship to continue our friendship and catch up with the work with Becoming Beloved Community, where she was so vital, and of course, promised our prayers for her and her family.

Diane Miller, who has been our Parish Accountant for 22 years, has left her position with plans to pursue other opportunities. We thank her for her service and wish her the best. Terri Piston is your staff contact for all things financial, and we will continue to assess any additional staffing requirements. Of course, Ned Kuhns continues as Treasurer and Jean Hudson as assistant Treasurer.

From our Associate Rector

2 Timothy 1:7 - For God has not given us a spirit of fear and timidity, but a spirit of power, love, and self-discipline.

This verse impressed itself on my heart when I was 18 years old, the summer after my freshman year of college. As a teenager, I was shy and awkward. I had a small group of friends with whom I was exceedingly close and open, but I could not find the words to relate to anyone else. This verse was a revelation to me. God was reaching out to me through this letter to Timothy and telling me that I did not have to be afraid. It was only later that I began to take hold of what replaced the spirit of fear in us, power, love, and self-discipline. I was able to do this because I discovered something more about this verse.

When we hear “spirit” in this verse, we tend to think of our own spirit, some ineffable quality of self. But Jesus has told us that he has sent the Holy Spirit to us, and here, God is giving us this Spirit. I think the writer is pointing to the fact that this spirit is not our spirit responding favorably to God, but the very Spirit of God made manifest in us, and the Spirit of God casts out fear. We do not have to elbow out fear ourselves, but simply allow the Spirit to rule in our hearts, to let the Spirit put aside our tendency towards fear and cultivate within us the power, love, and self-discipline that allows us to be all that God calls us to be. This is always encouraging to me because it is not dependent upon my own strength, but God fills me up to do the work given to me. I hope as we move into our regular rhythm for Fall, you will also feel the Spirit moving within you to do the work before us. We have much to look forward to, both to feed us and to send us out.

After Formation has kicked off on September 11, Bob+ and I will lead a two-week study on Sunday Morning about how to approach the Bible, acknowledging that it is ambiguous, ancient, and diverse, and examining how those facts make it a practice of wisdom to read the Bible in our own time. After that, I will lead a Sunday Morning class on the Torah, the first five books of the Bible, using what we learned about how to read the Bible through the lens of wisdom.

On Thursday morning at 11am starting on September 22 after the Eucharist we will delve deeper into the same topics we’re discussing on Sundays, giving you more chance to ask questions and explore. A whole host of other classes and activities will be starting as of September 11, so I invite you to check out what’s coming in this BR! Grace and Peace to y’all! ~ Lissie+



High School Students & Parents!

Informational Meeting with Eastern Shore Chapel & All Saints'
Sunday, 25 September at 6:30pm in the ODEC Great Hall.



J2A Youth Pilgrimage is BACK ! This year we are joined by youth from Eastern Shore Chapel and All Saints'. Our HS class will immediately be working toward a pilgrimage to Ireland for June 2023. Regular attendance in Sunday School classes and other events is mandatory. More info on 11 September and at the above meeting.

Children's Chapel

Pre-K - 1st Grade & 2nd Grade - 5th Grade

Canterbury & Salisbury Rooms \ddagger 10:00am

Calling all children 5th grade and under! Starting 11 September, we will embark on our Children's Chapel Fall Curriculum during the 10:00am service. We will have two classes for Children's Chapel every Sunday, one for younger children and one for older children, so if your older children

have been wondering if Children's Chapel is right for them, we have a place for them! We'll be discussing Old Testament figures like Joseph and Moses this fall, along with engaging activities to help your children unlock the Bible. Follow the crucifer during our Song of Praise at the 10:00am service to join the fun!

YOUTH: Forming Faithful Jesus followers!

Sunday School formation is getting back to business in a big way. Beginning Sept 11, classes for Middle School and High School kick into gear. The "Journey to

Adulthood" curriculum which we used successfully has been completely updated and revised. Classes will meet 11:15am - Noon, the same as do the adult classes.

The curriculum combines Bible studies, prayer and meditation methods, and real life practical application of our faith. The goal is to develop the spiritual foundation for a faithful Christian adult, hence the name, Journey to Adulthood. Each year has a culminating event such as a retreat, pilgrimage or mission trip to celebrate, practice, and develop faith.

Middle School will meet in Coventry Room in the Cathedral Wing. Mentors are: Hannah Karlins, Tom and Carolyn Gerace, and Vicky Koch.

High School class will meet in Alfriend House, St. Dominic room. Mentors will be: Tony Putzig, Zach & Janet Neumann.

Confirmation: Confirmation will be one of the couple milestones for the High School class. These classes will include preparation for those who wish to be Confirmed. It is likely that our bishop will visit some time after the first of the year.

Youth Formation

Middle School

Coventry Room

High School

Alfriend House

11:15am
to
noon

Adult Formation

11 September: Options! Options!



18 & 25 September: How Does the Bible Actually Work?

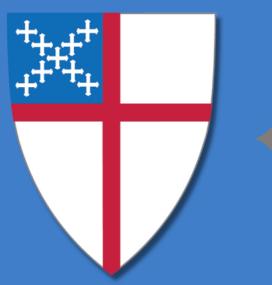
Great Hall \ddagger 11:15am - noon

September 11: Bob+ and Lissie+ explain what is coming up, and with Marti Jones, talk about hospitality and a welcoming Church. Sept 18 and 25: Using Pete Enns' new book "How the Bible Actually Works" we will talk Scripture: Ancient, Ambiguous, and Diverse.

Have you wondered about terms like "inspiration, inerrant, and authority" and how to apply the Bible in our lives? Come, let's talk!

In theology, the classic question is “How do we know what we say we know about God?” In this 5 session course we will examine stories of the Bible, and how they shape our understanding of scripture, our liturgy, our ethics and of God.

We will demystify theological terms like Incarnation, Salvation, Sin, Redemption, Resurrection, Covenant, Community and Imago Dei. It may be Greek, but fortunately I have the translation. This course is for all who are interested in learning more about their faith and the teachings of the Episcopal Church. Led by the Rev. Kipper deGavre.



Episcopal 102: What Anglicans Believe

Salisbury Room
begins 18 Sept
11:15am - noon

This Fall we resume Wednesday nights on an “occasional” basis. The first Wednesday each month is always vestry commission meetings. Some weeks we will have a speaker or movie. Other will feature a teaching or discussion from clergy. Typically we don’t hold Wednesday programs in Advent. Supper at 6:00pm, programs run 6:30-7:30.

This month we will start with 21 Sept: Dr. Johnny Finn and “Social Murder and Geographical Injustice.” Dr. Finn, who teaches at Christopher Newport U has studied “redlining” in Hampton Roads and will demonstrate the practice and impact. NO program on 28 September because I want everyone to come Thursday night for a special concert and presentation about our Dos Santos ministry. In October we will have programs every week.

Wednesday Night Program

21 September
6:00pm Supper
6:30pm Program
Great Hall

Our Becoming Beloved Community Commission brings Dr. Johnny Finn, Professor of Geography, and Chair, Department of Sociology, Social Work & Anthropology, Christopher Newport University here to share his a presentation: “Social Murder & the Geography of Injustice”. Dr. Finn has spent decades studying the effects of Redlining in Hampton Roads, and will demonstrate how Redlining has negatively effected our area, and continues to cause great harm to the poorest among us. Redlining is a term that describes the refusal to grant loans and/or insurance to some because they are deemed to be a poor financial risk, and how that practice has resulted in forcing the poor and people of color into concentrated areas of poverty. His talk is focused on what has happened and is still happening today in our own back yard. All who seek racial justice will want to hear this “Truth Telling” presentation.

“When society deprives thousands of the necessities of life, places them under conditions in which they cannot live...knows that these thousands of victims must perish and yet permits these conditions to remain, its deed is murder just as surely as the deed of an individual ...”

“But murder it remains”. Fredrick Engels, “The Conditions of the Working-Class in England 1845”

Thursday Bible Study

11:00am Salisbury Room

Join us for Bible Study every
Thursday morning after our Holy
Eucharist with Healing prayers.
Everyone is welcome!

Outreach at ODEC

Music for GOOD

Thursday, 29 Sept at 6:00pm in our Great Hall, Ricky Orozco is in concert. A Grammy nominated singer-songwriter from San Antonio, Ricky is in the area to help promote Dos Santos, one of our very important food outreach efforts. We will have a free concert, testimony, and presentation about Dos Santos' work to feed hungry folks on the Eastern Shore. Donations will support this ministry where 17 of us worked last week and which feeds hundreds of families every month. Come, enjoy some good food and friends gathered for good music and fellowship.



Beach Bags!

We are teaming up again with Pembroke Elementary to help their Beach Bags program. If you're new to ODEC, the Beach Bags program prepares shelf-stable items to be given to children for their weekend meals. If we don't provide them then more than likely these children will have no food over the weekend. We prepare for several weeks deliveries at one time, thus not requiring much of your time. It generally takes us about an hour for prep.



Interested in helping? Join us Saturday, 17 Sept at 9:00am in the Canterbury Room. Thank you in advance for your help.

Blessings, [Maureen Jacques](#)

Questions? Call or text 757-802-1671 or email me at mjacques5@verizon.net

Outreach is alive and well at Old Donation, but more volunteers are always welcome! You are invited to attend our next Outreach Commission meeting on Wednesday, 7 September at 6pm. Old Donation is beyond blessed with the gifts of people and resources yearly to care for the hungry, homeless, marginalized and vulnerable. All that is needed is a willingness to help others.

You have likely heard of the outreach ministries we support mentioned church and in the weekly chimes. We have ministries for: feeding, housing, prison, clothing, and more. We support scout troops that use our facility for meetings and provide minor repairs to homes. ODEC Outreach provides meals to hungry or homeless in Norfolk/Va. Beach, with meals prepared and served, or with Food Lion gift cards. In the winter months, we provide blankets, coats, gloves, hats, scarves, and socks. Outreach normally feeds about 70 hungry or needy people twice monthly in downtown Norfolk. Ninety meals were prepared and served at JCOC three times this year, with another planned for November. Twice monthly, Outreach volunteers provide bags containing breakfast and weekend meal items for more than 40 students at our neighboring elementary school. We have sponsored school supply drives and feminine hygiene supply drives as part of some of our feeding ministries. Children from Belize to Ghana have benefitted from ODEC members traveling to these countries to provide medical care and reading camps. We will soon prepare for our popular Angel Tree ministry, providing toys and clothes to children at Christmas whose parent is incarcerated. This ministry encourages intergenerational and family participation to shop, purchase, wrap, and label gifts for children without parents in the home at Christmas.

We also support other charities or organizations financially. Please consider the lives positively influenced by the love of Christ through the Outreach Commission at ODEC. If these activities interest you, join us in this amazing ministry, spreading God's message into our community and outside our campus. Contact [Bill or Melissa Waide](#), [Lisa Teeling](#) or [Lissie+](#) for more information. We can provide you with contact info for the resource person for any of our various ministries and if preferred, no meeting attendance is even required.

Becoming Beloved Community Tours Princess Anne County Training Center Museum

Twelve members of Old Donation's Becoming Beloved Community Commission joined parishioner Ralph "Chip" Saunders to tour the Princess Anne County Training Center Museum in August, where he was a 1964 graduate of the high school. The school was the first high school in the county for black students, built in 1938 with funds raised by black parents. This was a result of the Jim Crow segregation of Princess Anne County's leadership which refused to educate black children past 8th grade.

Chip shared insights about the school, its students, and its dedicated faculty who provided a quality academic education, sports teams, a marching band, and student social events. In 1961 the school expanded and was renamed Union Kempsville H. S. It remained segregated until 1969 when federal authorities ordered Virginia to desegregate public school systems, long after the Brown v. Board of Education Supreme Court decision (1954) ruled "separate but equal" was unconstitutional. Click [HERE](#) for a video to learn more about the museum.



Faith Works Coalition will travel to New Bern North Carolina 17-21 October (Monday to Friday) with a Mission Team to provide hurricane Florence relief. Volunteers may work all or part of the week. Volunteers will carpool to New Bern and stay at the Baptists on Mission - New Bern Rebuild Center. Faith Works will provide major tools. Volunteers are encouraged to bring their personal hand tools. Anyone can be of help; no construction experience is necessary; willing hands and a willing heart to serve the Lord are all that is needed. Interested? Contact Dan Ries dries@cox.net or 757-277-1907



Joining Hands to Help Our Community



Looking for a life changing experience? There is still time to sign up for Sacred Ground!

Sacred Ground Circles will begin again in-person at Old Donation on Monday evenings 6:00pm- 8:00pm, starting 19 September; and Wednesday mornings 9:30am- 11:30am, starting 21 September, for sharing, storytelling and discussion. Each circle will meet every two weeks with breaks for Thanksgiving and Christmas. Interested? [Dan Ries](#) 757-277-1907. For more information on Sacred Ground click [HERE](#).

A Note from our Treasurer, Ned Kuhns:

For those who generously support Old Donation Episcopal Church with monetary contributions, the 3rd Quarter 2022 statements for the General and Building Funds will be mailed after 1 October 2022. If you have questions about your gifts, please contact [Jo-Ann Bach](#) (Pledge Recorder), or [Terri Piston](#) at 757-497-0563.

Old Donation Episcopal Day School



We have space in
2's & Kindergarten
for 2022-2023!

Call 499-2283 to arrange a visit, or to
register the child in your life!

The Ministry of Healing

“Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and healing every disease and sickness among the people.” Matthew 4:23-24

“Jesus called his twelve disciples to him and gave them authority to drive out impure spirits and to heal every disease and sickness.”

Matthew 10:1

After a two year hiatus, the ministry of healing has returned to ODEC. Healing is an ancient practice, going back to the time of Jesus' ministry and is described in Holy Scriptures. Jesus also commissioned his disciples to heal the sick which became a powerful witness to the message of the coming of the kingdom of God (Matthew 10:1). The church has offered this sacrament from its inception and we continue this practice today.

At Old Donation, the ministry of healing, that is the laying on of hands, saying prayers and anointing with holy oil, takes place Sunday and Thursday. On Sundays, healing prayers are offered during the administration of Holy Eucharist. A healing minister is located near the side or back of the worship space. Look for the Healing Minister name tag. The minister will ask for whom you would like to have prayers. It could be for yourself, or for someone else who is ill or troubled. Names are confidential and never be revealed to others. On Thursdays, the ministry of healing is offered at the altar rail during the service.

We hope if you are in need of healing, you will come and let us pray with you.

Your 2022 Vestry

Holly Waide, Senior Warden

David Beach, Buildings & Grounds/Planning

Sonni Matthews, Becoming Beloved Community

Will Walker, Finance

Jonathan Halvorson, Formation

Arun Iyer, Stewardship & People's Warden

Marti Jones, Evangelism

Lisa Teeling, Outreach

Patricia Cheshire, Congregational Care

Jane Kiefer, Day School

Charlie Swift, Historic Traditions

Megan Wilson, Parish Life

Zach Galvez, Youth Representative



Men's Breakfast Fellowship: Faith & Contemporary Topics

Who is invited? All men of the parish. What is it? A weekly gathering at 8:00am each Wednesday in the Canterbury Room in the new Cathedral Wing. What do we do? We drink coffee (some men even “Bring Your Own Breakfast” biscuits) and typically we have a program. Past programs have included Paul’s Letter to the Romans; the economy and villages of the Galilee of Jesus time; parishioners of Lynnhaven Parish who wrote Virginia’s first Constitution; the national legislative movement to offer optional medical aid in dying for end of life self-decision; and Afghanistan one year after U.S. withdrawal. Join us. Just show up!

Education for Ministry (EfM)

Find answers about your faith through EfM, developed by the School of Theology at The University of the South. The four-year course connects faith to daily lives through reading and discussion. Encounter the breadth and depth of the Christian tradition and bring it into conversation with your experiences of the world as you study, worship, and engage in theological reflection together. Weekly meetings are led by trained mentors. Think theologically, reflect faithfully, shape your faith into action, and speak civilly when confronted by opposite beliefs. Join us! Contact Ann Butler (757-618-5755) or Sue Stephenson (757-402-0823).



Have you moved?

Please notify the [Parish Office](#) of your new mailing address!

ODEC Bowling League

ODEC Holy Rollers, it's time to go bowling! We want to hear your interest in restarting up our ODEC bowling league. We have secured Mondays at 6:30pm at the AMF lanes on Little Creek Road. We need to hear from you if you are interested. Cost is \$15.00 per person, per week and we aim to start on Monday, 19 September. More details to follow, but if interested please email [Bill Waide](#) and let us know you will join us. This will be a 12-week season ending at the beginning of December.

September Celebrations

Birthdays

1 Claudia Rawlings
 2 Vaughn Wilson
 Nancy Koch
 Olivia Keller
 Val Byrnside-Casey
 3 Tom Cantrell
 Monika Jara-Lopez
 4 Jo Lupton
 Jennifer Wheaton
 5 Ed Butts
 Joe Campbell
 Maryann Miller
 6 Dillon Browning
 Cameron Brunick
 Meg Warneke
 7 Audrey Brown
 Ben Garrett
 Patsy Harris
 Stephanie Rich
 8 Christina Caro
 9 Ann Hanes
 Ellie Kreassig
 Ginny Sinclair
 Stacey Howeth
 10 Sally Dudley
 Issy Brown
 11 Patrick Swanson

12 Sally Gordon
 Rick Vinson
 Lisa Teeling
 Brendan O'Donoghue
 Ginny Burt
 Liam Malcom
 13 Mal Higgins
 14 Courtney Pope
 Abigail Myers
 Alyssa Smith
 Cara Hall
 15 Gretchen Hood
 Jan Donovan
 Winn Tolerton
 Sophia Wubker
 16 Dick Hanna
 Yvette Ghormley
 Drew Pope
 Megan Wilson
 Blyth Young
 17 Marguerite Duncan
 Rachel McHugh
 Tanzie Moore
 Erol Aydar
 Peggy O'Neill
 Ryleigh Wheaton
 18 Joe Tucker
 Becky Suchy

19 Lee Ann Kwiatkowski
 Ann Vyce
 20 Cole Aydar
 21 Betts Werbiskis
 Beth Jones
 Jim Battersby
 22 Bill Thompson
 Philip Purrington
 Rowan McCarty
 Mary McLellan
 23 Dick Kreassig
 24 Christopher Miller
 Mark Strickland
 Doug Piston
 Brett Dudley
 25 Pamela Bowles
 Rachel Higgins
 Ruby Hoffman
 27 Leslie Fenter
 Caroline Ross
 Emmaline Genova
 Connor Shih
 Charlie Randall
 28 Melissa Waide
 29 Meredith Guzman
 Brooke Wilkinson
 Connor Grow
 30 Dave Foley
 Cassidy Nordhues

Anniversaries

6 Mairin & Patrick Genova
 Marcia & Al Torres
 7 Jennifer & Ricki Schmidt
 8 Barbara & Frank Schweiger
 15 Megan & Robert Johnson
 16 Stephanie & Matt Rich
 17 Becky & Tony Suchy
 18 Carolyn & Billy Weems
 20 Carl & Julie Sterzing
 Kathryn & Nick Ferrandino
 21 Marti & Mike Jones
 Donna & Tony Richardson
 23 Laura & Michael Hicks
 27 Elizabeth & Jesse Malcom

Our newly baptized!
 Mallory Kathleen Boehm



Rise in Glory
 John Harris
 Cary Cross

Save the Date! Saturday, 19 November OYSTER ROAST RETURNS!

One of ODEC's favorite events returns after a two-year COVID imposed hiatus. Oyster Roast is our large Fall Festival, always held (since 1934) on the Saturday before Thanksgiving Day. November 19 we will be shucking, grilling, stewing oysters; selling fabulous Brunswick Stew and BBQ; White Elephant sale; Bake sale, kids' games, and lots more. We are recruiting leaders right now and in October you will see more about how to get involved. It's one of our most fun days and every dollar raised is spent on Outreach to our many ministries. We're BACK!

White Elephant Sale

It's almost time for that fall cleaning, and we need your treasures! Please keep The White Elephant room in mind while going through your closets, cabinets, and attics. After all, "one man's trash is another man's treasure."

We will gladly accept all gently used items with the exception of clothing, large pieces of furniture, electronics, and exercise equipment.

Drop off of items should begin in November. As time nears, more details will be available.

Questions? Contact [Carolyn Gerace](#) 757-818-5509!

Be a Youth Acolyte!

Needed for both the Church and The Gathering.

Contact [Megan Wilson](#) to join this ministry!



