

The Bell Ringer

July
2021



Celebrating Christmas on Sunday, 25 July!

Ready to sing carols and Christmas hymns? A Christmas tree in the Great Hall will invite you to bring in gifts in the Christmas spirit. We will collect school supplies for students at [Pembroke Meadows Elementary School](#) next door and Mission of the Holy Spirit. More info soon!

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

ODEC's Summer Worship Schedule

BEGINNING 4 JULY

- 8:00am HE Rite I - Church
- 9:30am HE Rite II - Eden Chapel
- 11:00am HE Rite II with congregation & streamed live - Church
- Sundays@5 Informal Holy Eucharist

ODEC YOUTH MIDDLE SCHOOL

EYC JULY OUTING JUNGLE GOLF

THURSDAY, JULY 15
11:00AM

\$5 EACH - BRING FRIENDS!
RSVP BY 13 JULY TO
brandall@olddonation.org



OLD DONATION
EPISCOPAL CHURCH



From Our Rector

WORSHIP: SUMMER worship schedules

We are making improvements to our schedule for JULY and AUGUST worship. Our goal is to provide a schedule that fits the needs and desires of as many of us as possible, while providing our best and satisfying worship of God. We will have full use of the Great Hall and Church as well as outdoors in the Eden Chapel. We will not resume simultaneous services this Summer, because vacation and travel schedules will limit us to one priest for half of the weeks.

- 8:00am: Worship will remain RITE I inside the Church. We have organ music but no choir and no singing.
- 9:30am (moving 30 minutes earlier for lower heat and humidity): Music from BOTH the St. Cecilia Choir and Gathering Band, and we will be outdoors in the EDEN Chapel unless 90° or higher, or rain is expected. On those Sundays we will move inside the Great Hall.
- 11:00am: Holy Eucharist RITE II with a congregation AND streamed LIVE. This will be a shorter (45 minutes max) worship service with traditional hymns and singing by the congregation. The officiants and readers will intentionally include the virtual congregation and the stream will continue to be moderated for engagement. Consecrated communion kits will be available for pickup in advance from the office.
- 5:00pm Sundays@5 Informal HE with Random Acts.

In August, expect a survey to help our discernment for the Fall '21 worship and formation schedule.

Christmas in July! Last year, COVID stole singing beautiful Christmas carols in Church from most of us. It was the peak of infection rates and singing inside was deemed risky activity. BUT, nothing can keep us down. July 25 is a SUNDAY this year and we will celebrate "Christmas in July!" We will sing carols and Christmas hymns for our worship. A Christmas tree in the Great Hall will be your invitation to bring in gifts in the Christmas spirit. We will be collecting school supplies for students at Pembroke Meadows Elementary School next door and the Mission of the Holy Spirit.

STEWARDSHIP and BUDGET

2021 Six-Month Report: In January, our world had so many questions about when and how fully we could recover from the pandemic. Even amid reasonable concerns, your vestry and staff courageously decided on a six-

month spending plan that would give us the ability to do as much as safely possible and as soon as we were permitted. Worship, Outreach, new Formation plans, restoring fellowship opportunities, and investments in new equipment to make it happen were included. We adopted a significant deficit budget for Jan-June and agreed we would reset in June for the July-Dec period. We could do that because over the last years we have accumulated surpluses and saved a large "rainy-day kitty." Everything would continue on schedule and plan for the new building work.

Thanks be to God who provides all we need when we venture out in faith. Results for June are not in, but through May, ODEC is running a surplus, not a deficit! THANKS be to God who has inspired in YOU the spiritual gifts of generosity and faithfulness. Your giving in the first five months is more than 15% higher than estimated. I continue to be overwhelmed by how God is working out God's mission and your responsiveness.

With such a positive status, in our June vestry meeting we funded even more ministry for the second half. We assumed that by September we would be able to do most of everything we wish. We anticipate making modifications to keep people safe from ongoing virus concerns and recognize there could be new outbreaks or developments. But we have all learned so much in this past year, and we have learned that with the Holy Spirit as our guide and strength, we can jump hurdles.

You are already seeing some of the fruit. "Lemonade on the Lawn" (Summer coffee hour) is now offered weekly. In July we restart nursery coverage for Sunday services! Youth and family ministry are working this Summer to get the ball moving. Outreach is funding more of our core ministries. Plans are being made for Fall programming for education and formation. We will be seeking a part-time youth minister for the Fall and Winter. Our investment in personnel included adding Matt Impronta as our full-time "Facilities Manager" in support of our expanded buildings and systems. We expect blessings upon blessings to continue!

Environmental Stewardship: *Clean the Bay Day*

As part of our commitment to maintaining God's gift of this wonderful, but, sometimes, fragile earth, 24 of us participated in the Chesapeake Bay Foundation annual clean-up event. Our assignment was the boat launch and park trails at Lake Smith. When our group left, I can personally attest to not being able to find any remaining trash! Great work, Old Donation!

PARISH LIFE

Graduates in 2021 deserve extra applause. They have persevered through virtual, in-person, “hybrid” and weekly flip-flops. I am thankful for all of them and pray that their next steps are blessed in every way!

OUTREACH

Feeding My Sheep: One of our parish priorities continues to be fighting food insecurity. “Feed My Sheep” continues its monthly third Sunday feeding in downtown Norfolk. This past month we added a second week of providing food for this ministry! Thanks to our wonderful team, especially our leaders: Bill and Melissa Waide.

More FOOD: We’ve also managed two of our four JCOC feedings so far this year and finished up our monthly “Beach Bag” lunch ministry for children at our neighbor Pembroke Meadows Elementary School. This program supplies weekend food bags for children on the paid lunch program and is a God-send for many.

GHANA Mission: Zach Neumann is leaving again for Ghana on mission on August 5. Supported by your outreach funds, he is part of a smaller team this year with Ghanaian Mother’s Hope. They will be piloting a teacher training program Zach wrote, and running reading camp again. We have been part of this ministry for many years. Please keep him in your prayers this next few weeks as he prepares and in early August while he is there. Plus, keep Janet and Sophia in your prayers too while he is away.

Youth – GETTING BUSY!

Middle School: JUNGLE GOLF Thursday, July 15 at 11:00! Middle School Youth... YOU are invited to join us at Jungle Golf (302 23rd Street at Pacific Ave) at the Oceanfront. Leaving the Church parking lot at 10:15 in our Church bus and other cars as needed. We will play mini-golf and head for some ice cream. Bring \$5 to defray the ice cream cost. Reservation required, click [HERE](#).

High School: FUN and Service Project

Christmas, Ghana, and FUN! High School Youth... Saturday night, July 24 at 6:00pm, we will gather in the Great Hall to decorate the “Christmas in July” tree, stuff pouches for Zach Neumann’s Ghana mission trip, play some games and watch some movie clips. If you need service hours you can earn some for the Ghana work. If you simply want some fun, food, and fellowship, this is the place to be! Bring friends! Reservation required [HERE](#).

High School overnight retreat...

We are planning a retreat for High School youth (rising 9th grade through 12th) for early August. Please [let us know](#) if you are interested in participation.

From Our Associate Rector

Confession: I have become, gradually over time, Fitbit obsessed.

Well, I should clarify: step count obsessed. I now dance around in the kitchen while I’m cooking or doing dishes, do tiny-step jogging when traveling from room to room, and Leia is convinced that my favorite thing to do is push her on the swing because that’s the play I always angle for—I can jog in place while I do it!

So, when my sister asked me the other night if I wanted to go for a walk after the kids were in bed, I jumped at the chance for a more normal way to hit my step goal. We walked to the church so I could show her the new construction, crossed the street at the hospital parking lot, wandered down the beautiful cement path, and stopped at the end of it where we could get a good look at the whole campus. And when we stopped there, with no other people around and the place unusually quiet, I realized that this was perhaps the first time I had really just stopped and *looked* at our new campus. Maybe it was the time of day, the place I was standing, or the emptiness of the oft-bustling grounds, but I saw—even *felt*—it all differently.

It was like looking back in time, while still planted firmly in the present.

Never before has the Historic Church looked more historic. One of the concerns when we began this building project was that the Historic Church would lose its primacy, would no longer be the focal point of the parish. It seems to me the opposite has happened. The new building curves around the church in a way that draws the eyes to our historic centerpiece, and because the new bricks and windows are of the same design as the old ones, you can more deeply appreciate the age of the historic church. Even without being completely finalized, the result of this project is stunning.

SO! If you, too, are addicted to counting steps, or simply want to get in an evening stroll, come by the church when there’s not many people around, walk the campus, and take in the gift we’ve been given—past, present, and future.



Paws, Prayers & Praise | Sundays@5

Eucharist is July 11th at 5pm in the church. This is a great opportunity to bring a guest, furry or otherwise, to Sunday service! Beach attire & flip flops welcome!

Pain and Prayer

As Christians, when we experience pain one of the first things we do is pray. But what does that prayer do? Does it really help? If so, how?

A recent article in the Episcopal News Service highlighted the first project of the Pain and Prayer Collaborative, a joint effort of the Episcopal Church in Delaware and Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston, MA. The investigation measures how active prayer (ex: asking God to help *you* get through your pain) versus passive prayers (ex: asking God to take away your pain) affect chronic pain.

This study focuses on personal prayer rather than intercessory prayers, and the data will come from the results of an online questionnaire of participants' prayer practices and pain. From the results, the study investigators will design a prayer tool, written as a brochure outlining the types of prayers most likely to help people cope with chronic pain and feel better. The brochure will be available to patients, hospital chaplains, clergy and others.

Consider participating in this important study to help the use of prayer in treating pain be better understood and utilized. Want more info? Click [HERE](#). If you would like to participate, click [HERE](#).

~ Melissa Waide MSN, CPNP, ODEC Health & Wellness Commission

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).

Visitation Ministries

Our Congregational Care volunteers follow all safety precautions, are fully vaccinated, and can resume Hospital Visitation Ministry (HVM) and Eucharistic Visitation (EV).

HVM: Confinements in the hospital can be lonely, and we provide some prayer and comfort. Let our team spend some time with you or your loved one, to help ease the burden.

EV: Eucharist is a vital part of Christian life, and does not need to be confined to church. Our trained volunteers visit with those who are unable to make it to services but wanted to remain connected and receive communion, sharing in prayer as well as bread and wine.

Please contact Father Bob, Mother Ashley, or the church office if you are in need. Do not remain without support - we are here for you!

History Lovers are invited to a Young Historians event, Sunday, 18 July after 9:30am church. Two speakers will share styles, organic clothing, and strange customs. What style caused flies to be drawn to men's heads? What had to "stay" when women wore stays? Susan Flye is a Thoroughgood House docent, and member of Eastern Shore Chapel. Charlie Swift has been a Viking reenactor and a historic house docent. He will share about men's styles, from woodsmen to gentry. More details in the Chimes soon. RSVP to [Jackie Murray](#) 757-377-2299.

Men's Breakfast on Wednesday Mornings!

As COVID restrictions lifted, our ODEC Men's Breakfast Fellowship has begun to meet "live" again in the large room in the new Rear Wing at 8:00am. We meet weekly, and all men are welcome to join us. Enter through the back kitchen door (hidden by the wooden fence where the garbage cans are!). Bring your biscuit from Hardee's or McDonalds and grab an ODEC cup of coffee and be ready for conversation. No home cooked breakfasts yet! We are so glad to be back together and are working on reestablishing weekly programs by our members.

Join the Altar Guild! Ready to give your time and talent? Consisting of a small group of dedicated people whose duty is to assist the clergy, we prepare for all services, including setting the Lord's Table, the Altar. Someone once described us as "God's housekeepers!" We welcome all! Men, women, families, teenagers and no experience is necessary; we will train you. Schedules are flexible and arranged to fit your availability. Interested? Come by the Sacristy any Sunday before or after the outdoor service to see what we do. Questions? Call Janet Forbes, 757-671-1677, or Vicki Dorsett, 757-499-8661.

NO SMOKING CAMPUS

Your vestry, following the strong recommendation from the parish Heath & Wellness Commission, voted unanimously to make ODEC a campus free of tobacco usage effective with the end of our construction phase. This will be communicated to our community groups and 12-step partners. Several leaders from our 12-step groups agreed it was the right thing to do and said most areas that host groups have done the same. With our brand new spaces and the health of our families and Day School students as a priority, it will be our new norm. This ban includes vaping as well as smoking and all other forms of tobacco usage.

NOT MERELY SURVIVING: One of my favorite songs at Sundays@5 goes "It's time for us to more than just survive. We were made to thrive." And "THRIVE" is what we see happening at ODEC.

Since we restarted in-person worship in March, God has responded to our faithful efforts with God's own faithful blessings. Outside has consistently been 140-160 most Sundays in the past couple months, and with 8:00 and 5:00 the past month, we are gradually returning into the range of where we were pre-pandemic. The spirit is lively, welcoming, and full of joy - especially reported to me by new guests and members. Good news!

This month, even though it is Summer, we are adding to the service schedule so you have more opportunities to join us in-person while we continue to stream to our world-wide congregation. But the best part of our 'thriving' is to see spiritual growth, spiritual maturity taking root which is becoming new shoots of life and mission. The celebration of our Sacred Ground studies with Juneteenth on June 20 was one of those markers. It was an amazing day, including our new partners from Norfolk State University. The week prior we were treated to one of the most amazing youth sermons in my memory when Ginny Burt preached with maturity and vulnerability that displayed a heart being shaped by God and by this congregation. The week after Sacred Ground, we recognized three more graduates of EfM (Education for Ministry). These three completed four years of intense study as preparation for lay ministry. We began our ministry with our neighbor school, Pembroke Meadows Elementary doing vital work in our home-turf.

We announced the new Repairing the Breach "Rachal" Scholarship Fund with NSU. This will fund a \$5,000/year scholarship for a 3rd or 4th year student at Norfolk State. We aspire to grow the fund with more donations to expand the work of healing the wounds of the world and building a "Beloved Community." It is our responsibility as God's people to see where we can make a difference, and this particular ministry makes perfect sense given our historic complicity in the sin of slavery, and its aftermath of racism, that continues to haunt our contemporary society. If you wonder how to make a difference, this fund is a great way to start.

We are thriving. This Summer we are working on what happens next for worship, formation, and mission, especially as we move into our new spaces. Look for some surveys to help us discern what you want most! And join us on this journey of faith and ministry!



Valuing our Blessings

Total Pledge and Plate Received	\$277,216
Total Pledge and Plate Budget (Year to date)	230,750
Budget / Received Difference	46,466
Number of Pledging Units To General Fund	172
Building Fund	\$138,381
Clergy Discretionary Fund	28,019
Worship	2,376
Outreach	6,862
Julia Tucker Scholarship Fund	0



Becoming Beloved Community: Sacred Ground, one facet of The Episcopal Church's Becoming Beloved Community Initiative, prepares a foundation that strengthens a congregation's capacity to ask: "What is the history of race in this place?" and to name present-day experiences around race and racial injustice. New Circles will form in September. If you are interested in participating and/or have questions about the program, please speak with any of the participants, or contact a program facilitator: Dan Ries (dries@cox.net), Jane Kiefer (jbzkiefer@gmail.com), Bonnie Kiermaier (bonnie6616@gmail.com) or Genevieve Nelson (gnelson@olddonation.org).



In lieu of our traditional VBS, this year we will offer monthly family events throughout the summer, with teaching, activities, and fun!

Our June event, though on a rainy day, was a huge success with 20 kids (from 10 families). We met at Lafayette Park outside the Virginia Zoo and read "Noah's Wife: The Story of Naamah" by Sandy Eisenberg Sasso.

Then we had a "Noah Table" with animal crafts, and a "Naamah Table" where we made seed bombs to help grow God's Garden, just as Naamah did. We even got to experience a mini flood! Even though we were mostly rained out of the zoo trip, we still had a great time together.

For our next event, mark your calendars for July 17, details TBA. Good time guaranteed!

Celebrate Jim Bulleit's new CD, *Catastrophe and Hope*, on Saturday, 31 July 5pm-7pm in the Great Hall. Enjoy a live performance of the music by Jim and his band, and copies of his CD will be available for purchase. Tickets include food, non-alcoholic beverages, and a free download of the CD. Proceeds will be donated to Seton House Youth Shelters for construction of their new campus. Please save the date and come celebrate!

Eagle Scout Project! My name is Jacob Brittain, and I want to help Old Donation with outdoor worship, fellowship, and celebrations. I seek donations for my Eagle Scout project to build outdoor benches and tables. To purchase the needed supplies, I need to raise \$2,500. We hope to enjoy these together in the early fall. If you would like to donate, please contact my parents ([Samantha/Larry Brittain](#)) at 757-471-2122. Thank you!

Daughters of the King: an International Order for women and girls in communion with the Anglican, Episcopal, Lutheran (ELCA) and Roman Catholic churches who desire a closer walk with the Lord. Both lay and ordained, we are strengthened through the discipline of a Rule of Life incorporating a Rule of Prayer and a Rule of Service, and supported through the companionship of our sisters. We are all at different stages of our Christian journey, but our goal is the same – to know Jesus Christ and to make Him known to others.

Want to know more? Contact one of ODEC's 17 daughters, or visit the [website](#).

Stewardship

Summertime often has so many of us emerging from our homes to enjoy the outdoors and the blessings that come from living so near to the beach and the ocean. This year it seems even more special after so much of the last year spent indoors or separated from others.

As we all look for and find ways to spend our time during this summer, it's also a great time to think of how you can give some of that time (and energy) to help others while playing your part in God's plan. Giving often results in receiving more gifts back and I thought I'd share a small but recent example.

Gretchen has been looking to strengthen the bench for Old Donation's Streaming Team as we continue to maintain noonday prayers and Sunday streaming as persistent online offerings. I had some free time, so I asked (then bugged) her to learn how it works (it's actually a really cool and sophisticated setup), got a very patient training session from Bob+, and took off the training wheels the very next day. So by spending just several minutes of my time, I picked up a brand new skill and experience (a new talent)...while enjoying the gratification of helping our Church family worship during the week; something I have taken advantage of pretty consistently. I definitely feel like I got the better end of the deal; when you give, that's usually the case. No matter how small, find novel ways to give of yourself where and when you can.

As we are one month closer to our Fall campaign, I want to thank the members who have agreed to work on our stewardship community of interest as we gain some steam for this year. But we can always use more faithful and creative thinkers to broaden our perspectives and increase our energy. Please let me know if you want to hear more.

We continue to be grateful for your gifts of Time, Talent and Treasure.

~ Arun Iyer, Vestry Liaison

July Celebrations

July Birthdays

2	Bill Varmecky	Sid Kilgore
	Mason Dudley	Katharine McLellan
3	Jim Bulleit	Dean Nordhues
	Kim Conklin	Lisa Duff
	Karen Londeree	Tracy Jackson
	Sydney Dudley	Pam Painter
4	Michael Good	Rusty Williams
	Lauren Bennett	Julius Ventura
5	Joe Jacobs	Maureen Anderson
	Cindy Paré	Danielle Davenport
	John Wills	Eliza Aydar
	Allison Walpert	Pam Tucker
	Claire Venture	Carol Jarvis
	Daisy Roberts	Bob Alpigini
9	Christian Brown	Priscilla Wheaton
10	Evie Miani	Scotty Carter
	Bennett Wubker	Dave Carter
	Brodie Casey	Alex Bradley
11	Dick Lee	David Bowles
	Catherine Rubel	Ed Hanawalt
12	George Chandler	Jacqueline Moore
13	Bella Galvez	Scott Crumley
	Robette McLellan	The Rev. Roy Hoffman
14	George Rhudy	Truman Baxter, Jr.
	Jacob Brittain	Mike Lindsey
	George Pinckney	Shelby Longmire
15	Judy Gregg	Anne Hagan
16	Audra Hearrell	Janette Crumley
	Emily Rich	Ian Gordon
17	Ann Butler	Grace DeGrave
18	Ryan Piston	Maria Swift
	Sam Ghormley	Julia Philput
		Donna Richardson
		Reina Carey

July Anniversaries

1	J. D. & Bonney Ball
2	Steve & Leah Moore
7	Beth Jones & Eric Anderson
6	Janet & Stu Forbes
8	Jeff & Gretchen Hood
11	Trey & Karen Dudley
	Janette & Scott Crumley
14	Susan & Tom DeMayo
16	Marisa & Bill Walpert
20	Larry & Michelle White
21	Brennon & Courtney Pope
22	Dan Hartwell & Jane Wales
24	John & Leslie Fenter
26	Trent & Sally Dudley
27	Lisa & Aaron Teeling
29	Katie & Bob Alpigini

Graduates!

Masters Graduates:

Zach Neumann ODU

College Graduates:

Brooke Wilkinson: Christopher Newport University and will attend George Washington University in the fall to earn a master's degree in Clinical Mental Health Counseling.

Cameron Brunick: Merchant Marine Academy and will commission into the US Navy as a Surface Warfare Officer, stationed in Norfolk on the USS Stout.

Molly Sayles: VTech engineering.

Shannon Somers: George Mason University with a BS in Criminology.

Sam Ghormley: Florida Institute of Technology, BS Homeland Security - Criminal Justice

High School Graduates:

Mason Dudley: Cape Henry to College of Charleston

Riley Jackson: Cox to VTech

Ginny Burt: First Colonial Legal Studies, going to Univ of South Carolina.

Kate Weintraub: Princess Anne and will attend VT and will study National Security and Foreign Affairs and minor in Spanish.

The Little Free Library and the Little Free Food Pantry

are open! Fiction, nonfiction, and children's books are just waiting for you! Take one and donate one! The Free Food Pantry is also open - feel free to help yourself!



Rise in Glory

Kathryn Robbins
Dottie Tripician
Nita Watterson

2021 Vestry

Paige Martin, Senior Warden
Chaille Lindo, Parish Life
Tony Putzig, Historic Traditions & People's Warden
Joe Tucker, Day School
David Beach, Building Planning
Sonni Matthews, Good News
Holly Waide, Outreach
Will Walker, Finance
Jonathan Halvorson, Children/Family Formation
Arun Iyer, Stewardship
Marti Jones, Congregational Care
Lisa Teeling, Buildings & Grounds
Brenna Pope, Youth Representative



Welcome!

Our new members!

Rose Piluden

Sharon Weeks

Claire Ventura

Judy Gregg

Our Newly Married!

Brittany Bailey & Tonya Koenig

Weekly Worship Schedule

Sunday

- | | |
|---------|---------------------------------------|
| 8:00am | Holy Eucharist, Rite I |
| 9:30am | Holy Eucharist, Rite II - Eden Chapel |
| 11:00am | Live Stream & In-Person HE Rite II |
| 5:00pm | Sundays@5 Informal HE |
- 2nd Sunday of the Month**
5:00 p.m. Paws, Prayers & Praise
Holy Eucharist



Old Donation Episcopal Church

Jesus Christ, Head of the Church
The Rt. Rev. Susan B. Haynes, *Bishop*
The Rev. Robert J. Randall, Jr., *Rector*
The Rev. Ashley Urquidi, *Associate Rector*
The Rev. Fred Poteet, *Priest Associate*
The Rev. Genevieve Nelson, *Deacon*
4449 N. Witchduck Road, Virginia Beach, 23455
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odec@olddonation.org | www.olddonation.org

Old Donation Episcopal Day School

757-499-2283 | odeds@olddonation.org
Ages 2, 3, 4 and Kindergarten

ELECTRONIC SERVICE REQUESTED

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