

The BellRinger



October
2022

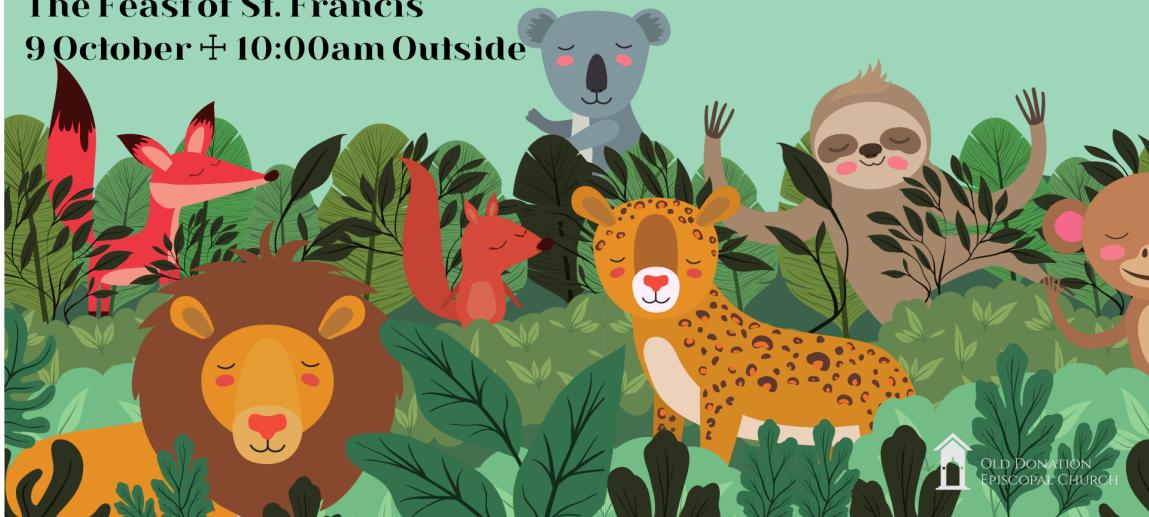
Old Donation Episcopal Church

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

Blessing of the Animals

The Feast of St. Francis

9 October ✨ 10:00am Outside



OLD DONATION
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

- 9 October: Feast of Saint Francis Blessing of the Animals
- 23 October: Stewardship Promo & Lunch
- 30 October: Pumpkin Palooza
- 6 November: All Saints' & Ingathering



Sunday, 30 October ◦ 3:30pm - 5:00pm

PUMPKIN PALOOZA

WE SUPPLY THE PUMPKINS - YOU CARVE!



From our Rector

I've been noticing more this month how the work we've done over the years has blossomed into "connected mission." Our people and assets are increasingly making differences in God's work. One reflection that is always popular in church assessments is, "If your church ended tomorrow, would it be missed? Would anyone other than your members care?" It is a sobering point to ponder. But without a doubt today, I would be able to answer that with a resounding "YES! We would be missed. We are making a difference."

It's not just the 90 children we have in the Day School. It's the over 20 outside community groups who meet here, most of them weekly. They include 12-Step groups, yoga, neighborhood civic associations, beading, knitting and sampler groups. We host NATO spouses who dance... a grief group learning to live again after significant losses... cub scouts, brownies, girl scouts and boy scouts! We provide space for two different Jewish congregations for their worship on high holy days.

This month people from three or four churches attended our excellent Wednesday night program by Dr. Finn from Christopher Newport University on the generational impact of redlining neighborhoods in Norfolk. Two other VB parishes are joining us to make youth pilgrimage a reality this year. Tonight at 6:30 we host Dos Santos Food ministry with a concert, and our team will make it a great evening. Last week we hosted over 100 members of the British community for a service of reflection on the life of Queen Elizabeth II with a reception following. Our members are working with the "Urban Renewal Council" for dance and art programs for underserved children at the Williams Farm Rec Center, and driving our bus to bring homeless folks to concerts in Norfolk in October. We are talking with Morning Star Baptist Church about how to be better friends and partners in ministry.

Would anyone miss us if we disappeared? We are connected to our community. The almost dizzying activity above provides the answer. And there is plenty for you to join!

Stewardship

October always features the beginning of our information and encouragement for making financial pledges at All Saints' Sunday for the upcoming year. THANKSGIVING for what God is doing is always the first reason to give generously. Look around. Read above. Give thanks. Do what you can to keep the ball rolling!

Oyster Roast - 87th Annual

From 1934 until 2019, Oyster Roast was always the Saturday before Thanksgiving Day. We've had a two year forced sabbatical, but this year we resume with the 87th

celebration and fund raiser. All the funds raised support our Outreach efforts, which is reason enough. BUT the best part of Oyster Roast is working alongside and getting to know other members of this great parish.

We will have oysters, BBQ, Brunswick Stew, "White Elephant" yard sale, bake sale, Santa pictures, kids games, a dining room and live music. It is a short but very busy day, and you will find there is some role for everyone. Late in October we will put out sign-up lists for where you want to help.

Worship needs YOU

With our return to two services at 10am, real bread in the Gathering, choir and Gathering band separated, we have opportunities for more of you to be involved in active roles. We need greeters/ushers, singers for both the choir and Gathering Band, chalice bearers, readers and acolytes. Every job you see can use more folks. Speak to one of the clergy and we can find a good spot for you.

One more pressing need is for "Stream Team" members. We need a few more who will be trained to do our sound board and camera recording so we can assure the very best quality for what we have live in worship as well as what goes out to the world on the internet. In November we will be running some classes. Let me or Lissie know if you are interested.

Youth and Pilgrimage

ODEC, Eastern Shore Chapel, and All Saints' are teaming up to make a High School youth pilgrimage for June 2023. We had an informational meeting with good turnout of parents and youth last weekend. It appears we will have a nice sized group for 10 days in Ireland, following the paths of saints, building a covenanted community, and experiencing God. Using various spiritual practices, learning sacred history, and regular reflection and discussion it always proves to be invaluable time. If you are in High School and missed the invitations, speak with me for information.

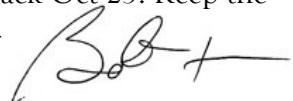
Blessing of the Animals – Feast of St. Francis

Hurricane Ian is headed our direction this weekend. Even if it was derailed or sped up, we will likely have soaked ground this weekend when we had planned the outdoor blessing service. So we moved that service to Oct 9. The actual saint's day is between the two Sundays.

There is no guarantee Oct 9 will be dry, but there seems less doubt that this one will be wet! Come this Sunday to regular worship with two inside services at 10:00. And pray for sunny skies on Oct 9 when we will have what is always one of the most fun services.

Vacation

Things really getting back to normal. So normal that Chris and I are heading to Ireland next week. We will miss you on Oct 9 and 16, but be back Oct 23. Keep the faith... but don't keep it to yourself.



From our Associate Rector

For me, the change of weather from summer to fall always brings a sense of comfort along with it. There's something about a cool morning that refreshes my soul. Perhaps it is a reminder that today is a new day. The unbroken heat of summer gives way to something new.

Our program year at church gives something of the same feeling. In the midst of the church's green season, Ordinary Time, which stretches from Pentecost to Advent, we have a switch as our school year starts and we dive into fall programming. We see people who have been on vacation. We return to familiar rhythms, spending more time together in fellowship, study, and prayer. It is a small breath of renewal when we have gotten used to the regular, and sometimes plodding, movement of Ordinary Time.

It also means that we need more people behind the scenes making sure everything runs smoothly. With more activities, there are more things for each of us to do. Our gospel passages from Luke have been leading us through proper use of our money recently, which is important as we turn our focus towards stewardship at the end of October, but another part of our stewardship is offering our time and talent for the building up of our church body.

There are many ways that we can make a difference in our church community. You can sign up to be an usher, a position we've been struggling to fill recently. Ushers not only hand out bulletins and greet people as they arrive, but they also ensure the service runs smoothly by presenting the congregations' gifts at the Offertory and directing traffic for communion. These are small, but necessary things that help us to worship.

We also run Children's Chapel weekly for our children preschool - Grade 5. They are split into older and younger classes, so if your children have not yet attended, we encourage them to give it a try. We have a wonderful curriculum team who prepares lessons and activities, and we need additional adult volunteers either to be the second person present assisting, or to take the prepared lessons and teach. Many of our parents are involved in this ministry, but it is good to have other adults involved as well. Our children need to see how adults put their faith into practice.

Neither of these take very much time, and the more people who volunteer to care for the congregation in this way, the less time it takes any one of us to serve. Besides ushering and Children's Chapel, you could sign up to be a reader, a Eucharistic minister who helps with commun-

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!

- BBQ
- Brunswick Stew
- Scouts - Kids Games
- Carolyn Gerace - White Elephant
- Shelby Wilber - Bake Room
- Lisa Teeling - Dining Room
- Charlie Swift - Pictures with Santa
- Bill Dawson - Kitchen Management
- Leslie Fenter - Oyster Shuckers
- Brennan Pope - Oyster Washers
- Mal Higgins - Parking
- Terri Piston - Cashiers
- Betts Werbiskis - Chair

Please contact Betts Werbiskis at 757-434-2557.

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 most gently used items, however, **NOT:** clothing, books, large pieces of furniture, electronics, and exercise equipment.

Drop off of items begins Monday, 24 October in the POD by Alfriend House

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

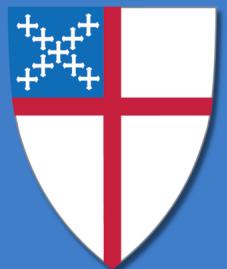
ion, a healing minister who prays for people, a Eucharistic visitor who takes communion to our homebound. There's no limit to ways you can get involved. Talk to me if you'd like to figure out where you'd fit the best. Our church thrives when many hands join the work, and there's so much to look forward to this fall!

Peace, ~Lissie+

Adult Formation

October & November:
Torah Studies

Great Hall † 11:15am - noon



Episcopal 102: What Anglicans Believe

Salisbury Room
11:15am - noon

The first five books of the Bible, Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy, form the Torah, or the law. These are the core of the OT, but also rather mystifying or flat out boring for the average reader. Join Lissie+ on Sunday mornings to cut through some of the mystique and gain appreciation for these pivotal texts.

Episcopal 102 continues in Salisbury Room with the Rev. Kipper DeGavre.

Our middle school youth meet in Coventry and our high school youth meet in Alfriend House for youth formation on Sundays at 11:15am. If you have not yet joined us, please come see what our youth programs are all about!

For the month of October, the children continue to learn about the Patriarchs whose stories are found in Genesis. They will focus on Joseph and how God stays with us even when we're having a hard time. All children preschool -grade 5 are welcome and encouraged to attend!

Youth Formation

Middle School

Coventry Room

High School

Alfriend House

11:15am
to
noon

Children's Chapel

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

Canterbury & Salisbury Rooms † 10:00am

Wednesday Night Program

26 October
6:00pm Supper
6:30pm Program
Great Hall

Wednesday, Oct 26, Lissie+ will kick off a series on our Eucharistic Liturgy, digging into the purpose and form of our liturgy and culminating in a group effort to prepare a unique Eucharistic liturgy for our Gathering Service during Advent. If you have always loved liturgy, or you just want to know more about it, join us!

Thursday Bible Study

Salisbury Room † 11:00am

We will dig deeper into the first five books of the bible at Thursday Bible Study, after Holy Eucharist.

Stewardship: More Than Enough



We remain in awe of what this parish has been able to accomplish this year, thanks to generous gifts of Time Talent and Treasure by our members. Your Stewardship commission has been developing a "Narrative Budget" in concert with Clergy, Staff, and Commissions that will more easily describe the impact that we have made in the last year, for each other and our larger community in God's name. It will arrive to you soon.

As always, October marks the beginning of our annual campaign. Our theme for this year is "More than Enough," using the imagery of fishes and loaves to remind us that, even coming off of some very challenging years, when we take a full spiritual inventory and our capacity to give, we realize that there is now, and always has been more than enough. To live up to that theme, we have planned an annual campaign kick-off event for October 23rd, that will include food and fellowship, following our Sunday service. Please save this date for now, with more details and registration to follow.

Finally, you will soon receive a mailing from Father Bob with a pledge card for the upcoming year. Since Old Donation budgets are based on the projections from pledges, we kindly request that you return your pledge cards by Ingathering Sunday, observed on November 6th. As always, we thank you for your continued support and generosity in carrying out God's work.

Generous People:

This year we have received unbelievable support from our congregation with gifts for mission, ministry, and to add to our Building our Future project. All these below are in addition to previously committed pledges for operations or for the building work.

- Outreach Food Ministry: \$5,000
- ERD for Ukraine and Kentucky: \$4,312
- Dos Santos Food Pantry: \$5,250 (to date)
- Absalom Jones: \$5,000
- Organ Replacement Fund: \$55,000
- Elementary School supplies: Amazon plus \$300
- Rachal Scholarship Fund: partnered with Norfolk State University: \$5,000
- Clergy Purse for Mother Ashley: \$5,950
- Narthex Art Project: \$15,000
- Building fund over pledged amount: \$38,000
- Building fund over pledged amount: \$3,500
- Courtyard Project: \$7,000

Q & A about Stewardship at ODEC

What is a pledge?

- A financial & spiritual commitment

Why should I make a pledge?

- Thanks to God for blessings and belief in ODEC's mission

Why is giving good for me?

- A spiritual practice. Giving helps us experience joy. Generous giving teaches us that God always provides enough. Connects as members: we know our gifts count & we belong.

Why is a pledge good for ODEC?

- So ODEC can make a budget for ministries & personnel. ODEC never approves a budget without pledges to support it.

How much should I pledge?

- This is personal. The biblical model is proportional giving. The standard is 10% of gross. Pray, listen to God, and step forward.

How much do others pledge?

- Everyone gives based on what they can. Some give \$1.00/wk, others \$25,000+/year.
- Our average pledge last year was \$3,100/yr. Fr. Bob's pledge was over \$10,000 (1/10th of his income) and same for the capital gift.

What if I can't give anything? What if I can only give a little?

- Every gift is worthy. \$1/month is faithful if that's what you can do. We hope everyone will enter a faithful pledge.

How do I pay my pledge?

- Any way you like!

Heads-up! Pledge Cards are coming!

Around the middle of the month, you will receive a red or blue envelope in the mail. The envelope contains information on this year's Stewardship Campaign of "More than Enough" and your annual pledge card.

Prayerfully consider what portion of Christ's gift you will pledge for his work here at Old Donation for 2023. If you consistently make a pledge, thank you. If you have not done so in the past, please make a 2023 commitment. Your pledge, regardless of amount, is an important part of our mission plans for next year. Making a pledge really matters.

Sunday, 6 November is All Saints' Sunday, and our designated "Ingathering" Sunday for everyone to return their pledge cards. However, your pledge is welcome and appreciated at any time.

Sunday, 30 October • 3:30pm - 5:00pm

PUMPKIN PALOOZA

WE SUPPLY THE PUMPKINS - YOU CARVE!



Pumpkin Palooza! Join us Sunday, October 30th from 3:30pm-5:00pm for pumpkin painting and carving. Bring your own special chili for a chili potluck. Enjoy s'mores, hot apple cider, and fun autumn times. All ages are welcome, volunteers needed. Contact [Megan Wilson](#) 858-362-7723 for more information.



Thank you ODEC! Pembroke Meadows Elementary School staff and leadership are extremely grateful to our congregants for the Christmas in July school supplies donations!

Our parishioners provided such a bounty that PMES couldn't fit it in the school's supply room! It had to be stored in the school office until the students arrived the first week of school!

Again, thank you for supporting this important ministry!

Gently Used!

Cleaning out closets for fall? Finding items you can't wear or don't want? Please consider donating



your gently used clothing and shoes to **ODEC Outreach**. They can be dropped off at the church in the narthex outside the Great Hall in a box marked clothing donation. We will deliver the clothing/shoes to downtown Norfolk every 3rd Sunday with the meal for Feed My Sheep. Thanks for your generosity.

Get Ready for Angel Tree!

ODEC outreach supports Angel Tree prison ministry every year for children whose parent/caregiver is incarcerated. Our participation ensures a clothing gift and toy gift for each child that we sponsor. Many volunteers are needed for the multiple parts to make this happen for each child. Please see the list below and contact us to help with this important ministry.

1. Phone call volunteers to contact families to confirm names of children, gift preferences, sizes and schedule gift delivery
2. Management of virtual tree
3. Shoppers to purchase gifts in person or online
4. Gift wrappers
5. Label makers for gifts
6. Gift organizers prior to delivery
7. Delivery drivers to take gifts to homes

Please contact [Holly Payne](#) 757-362-6109 or [Melissa Waide](#) 757-718-8599 for info or to volunteer. Thanks so much and Merry Christmas!!

News from the Day School...we are so excited to be back at school and see the smiling faces of these sweet children! We are happy to say that we have 91 children enrolled with 19 staff members. There are still some openings in our 2s and Kindergarten, [email us](#) at for more information!

Fall is here! The day school will host a Trunk or Treat on Friday, October 21st from 5:30-6:30.

Amy Borden & Jody Baker, Co-Directors

Beach Bags!

Please come help us Saturday, 15 October as we prepare our Beach Bags weekend food supplies for our neighborhood school, Pembroke Meadows Elementary. We'll meet in the Canterbury Room at 9:00am. Questions? Please contact [Maureen Jacques](#) at 757-802-1671.



Outreach in Action



ANGEL TREE
A Program of Prison Fellowship

October Celebrations

Birthdays

1 Ken Kiefer	13 Anne Lewis
Karen MacDonald	Donald Conklin
2 Corrine Floyd	Drew White
4 Margareta MacGregor	14 Paul Miani
6 Alex Stephenson	15 Kevin Rubel
8 Christine Metz	16 Jim Crouch
9 Jane Lane	Carol Ormond
Keren Pernini	17 Camron White
Frank Schweiger	Piper White
John Malone	18 Tom Weeks
Eugene Snowden	Matt Rich
Heather Lustig Beale	19 Lee Johnson
10 Terry Ritter	Nancy Harris
Eleanor Richards	20 Kevin Anderson
Alice Lausten	22 Nancy Cherry
11 Fuzzy Eldred	Timothy Wheaton
Julie Sterzing	23 Landen Gurioli
Sharon Oswald	24 Mike Reynolds
Ashlee MacDonald	Julianna DeDominick
12 Nordie Crews	25 Mary Peters
Katherine Kline	Daniel Heck
Sharon Butts	Cole Myers
Chester Long	26 Nancylew O'Donoghue
Kevin Long	Nicholas Jara-Lopez



Enclosed is a small token in recognition of our 50th year as members of Old Donation. We moved here from Ohio late summer 1972, and quickly found our home at ODEC. It's been a fulfilling, happy journey with lots of support when we needed it with Kimmy. It's not as convenient to get to services now we've moved to Harbor's Edge - but enjoy our wonderful historic church (especially as pandemic restrictions are lifted) and the option of Eden Chapel when weather permits. ~Linda and Terry Ritter

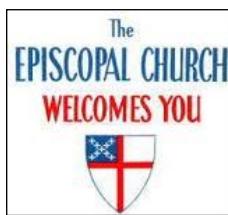
Men's Breakfast Fellowship: Weekly Respite

The Men's Breakfast Fellowship meets Wednesday from 8:00 - 9:00am in the Canterbury Room. Vaughn Wilson's 93rd birthday became the occasion for his daughter, Martha, to cook a huge breakfast for all of us. We are coffee only (Bring Your Own Biscuit), but the conversations have included a thoughtful book review by Joe Tucker of "The Righteous Mind"; a video, "The Trail of Souls", about the Diocese of Maryland's racial reckoning; a survey by Bob Perrine of Climate Change Solutions (fusion energy, flower turbines, waste to energy recycling, etc.), and a video on the Holy Land in the time of Jesus. Join us; no need to dress up!

Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God. ~Hebrews 13:16

Anniversaries

2 Mary Anne & Mark Strickland
5 Dean & Laura Buckius
7 Susan & Bryan Pinckney
Jenn & Christopher Hefty-Bennett
8 Andrew & Rebecca Hailey
9 Angela & Michael Lindsey
12 Joan & Bill Miller
Lynn & Grant Coull
15 Doris & Jim Crouch
Michelle & Bill Dawson
Audra & Rob Hearrell
17 Amber & Nick Rudnik
19 Renee & Jon Johnson
20 Sonni & Jimmy Matthews
21 Kevin & Lori Keller
24 Kelli & Mark Hoover
26 Heather & Chie Shih
29 Diane & Randy Bolin



Rise in Glory:



Layton House

Our New Members

Connie Purrington
Elizabeth Purrington Swafford
Charlotte, Isaac & Louisa Zito

Our Newly Baptized

Georgia Swisher

Our Newly Married

Elizabeth & Alex Swafford



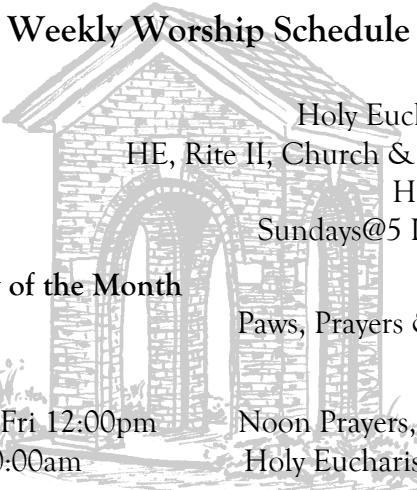
Your 2022 Vestry

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

Weekly Worship Schedule

Sunday

8:00am	Holy Eucharist, Rite I
10:00am	HE, Rite II, Church & Live Stream
	HE Gathering
5:00pm	Sundays@5 Informal HE
2nd Sunday of the Month	
5:00pm	Paws, Prayers & Praise HE
Weekdays	
Mon Wed Fri 12:00pm	Noon Prayers, Live-Stream
Thursday 10:00am	Holy Eucharist in Church



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. Lissie Rhoton, *Associate Rector*

The Rev. Fred Poteet, *Priest Associate*

Mailing Address:

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Old Donation Episcopal Day School

Amy Borden & Jody Baker, *Day School Directors*
757-499-2283 | odeds@olddonation.org
Ages 2, 3, 4 and Kindergarten
Monday - Friday 9:00 am - 12:20 pm

Virginia Beach VA 23455

4449 N. Witchduck Road

Old Donation Episcopal Church