



CRADOCK BAPTIST CHURCH

96 Afton Parkway, Portsmouth, VA 23702

cradockbaptist.org 757-485-3500

Leading everyday people to know Christ, love others, and serve the world!

~ October 2025 Newsletter ~

A Note from Our Pastor...

Dear Cradock Family and Friends:

We sometimes feel that our Lord and Savior does not hear us when we pray, because we do not get any answer. Yes, prayers are answered, Yes, No, and Wait Awhile. The wait awhile is not what we want to deal with because we feel there is no answer. Matthew 6:33 says: "But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things will be provided for you."

It was about six months to a year that seeing the finances of the church steadily decreasing, I and one other church member, unknown to me at the time, started praying for the church. Believing that if we the church was doing the best to follow the Lord's directive to preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ and desiring only to serve Him, that He would provide the necessary resources for us, the church to keep ministering. If we put Him first He would simply provide the church its needs.

For those who question God's desire to meet our needs when we put Him first, you need to wait on Him and trust. Somewhere in the first couple of months after starting that prayer, we got an answer that a church member left their entire estate to the church. After all the legal procedures are finalized, the estate will sustain us for several years. But that does not take away for us to strive to find new members to help the church to grow. We still have needs in the interim as the estate will not be completely finalized for six months to a year. So all the help any of you can give us is most appreciated until we are solvent again. When we are faithful to strive to do God's work, He hears our prayers and meets our needs, thus I believe God wants the message of Jesus Christ and His Love and Salvation to continue in the Cradock area.

We are still trying to get a final cost of stage I in preparation of replacing the steeple as the original cost estimate has gone up and Brotherhood Mutual is still assessing the necessity of the cost increase. Also it looks like the steeple replacement, we as the church chose, is more expensive than to replace the steeple with one similar to the old one. Thus, we may need to scale back and choose a cheaper steeple that is more like our original or we will have to bear the cost difference. So be in prayer that we can get this project going as it will be three years our original steeple blew off the day before Christmas Eve.

In His Service:
Pastor Dave





*For where your treasure is,
there will your heart be also.*

- Matthew 6:21

Financial Information for January 1, 2025 - September 30, 2025:

Church Financials:

Income (tithes and offerings):	\$53,883.65
Expenses (utilities, salaries, et cetera):	\$75,673.76
Net Operating Total:	- \$21,790.11
Summary Income exceeded expenses by:	- \$21,790.11
Annual Expense Budget:	\$95,726.50
Year to Date Actual Expenses:	\$75,673.76

Church Banking Account Balances:

Checking Account:	\$28,358.49
Certificate of Deposit Value:	\$ 0.00
Capital Campaign Fund:	\$61,499.39

Endowment Fund Balance: (This was not available at time of printing, sorry)

(Restricted Funds per Cradock Baptist Church's By-laws and Constitution)

**U
CHURCH**
WE CAN'T DO CHURCH WITHOUT YOU

DEACONS

Leading through Serving.

A Note from Our Deacons:

Dear Friends,

As always, please let any of the Deacons know how we can assist you. All of our Deacons, consider each member of our Church, to be a part of our family! May God always bless each of us!

Wishing all of our members a wonderful October full of blessings from our Lord!

Sincerely,
Vernon Butler,
Chairperson



Our Deacons

Erin Bracy (2026)
113 Channing Avenue
Portsmouth, VA 23702
757-404-0695 / cradockgirl@cs.com

Warren Byrd, Jr. (2022)
405 Rock Drive
Chesapeake, VA 23323
757-487-1183 / HWByrdJr@yahoo.com

Michelle "Micky" Evans (2022)
23 Rex Avenue
Portsmouth, VA 23702
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Vernon Butler, Chairperson (2023)
1857 Greenway Road
Suffolk, VA 23438
757-338-7166 / VBRossB.54@gmail.com

Thelma Carr (2022)
8 Rodgers Place
Portsmouth, VA 23702
757-404-2593 / PickledPiggy@aol.com

Phyllis Kraatz (2022)
5871 Harbour View Boulevard, # 314
Suffolk, VA 23435
757-408-1480 / GwynnPK@gmail.com



Church Notes...



Please pray for the Phillips' Family ...

Gazelle "Zelle" Moore Phillips

January 10, 1929 - September 19, 2025

96 years loved

On Friday, September 19, 2025, Gazelle "Zelle" (Moore) Phillips — beloved wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother and servant of Christ— entered into the presence of her Savior at the age of 96 while surrounded by the love of her family. Born on January 10, 1929, Zelle was a gifted musician from an early age. She earned her degree in music from Meredith College, majoring in Organ with a minor in Voice. Her passion for music became a lifelong ministry. The first time her future husband, Eslie Rolland Phillips Jr., saw her, she was directing a church choir with one hand while playing the organ with the other — he fell in love at first sight. Together, Zelle and Eslie shared 67 years of devoted marriage and ministry, serving side-by-side in churches and communities with grace, joy, and unwavering faith. At ages 57 and 60, they embarked on a bold new chapter as missionaries to Bogotá, Colombia, where they served at The Baptist Chapel. Zelle learned to speak and write Spanish in her late fifties, embracing the calling with the same courage and commitment that defined her life. Zelle was a prayer warrior, a wise counselor, a Bible teacher, and a walking encyclopedia of family history and practical wisdom. Her deep love for Jesus permeated everything she did, and her influence touched generations. She will be remembered for her strong faith, her musical gifts, her tender heart, her fierce love for her family and community, and for spreading her contagious joy and positivity wherever she found herself. She was preceded in death by her husband, Eslie Rolland Phillips Jr. (April 6, 2019); her mother, Gazelle Hudgins Moore; her father, Garland Thomas Moore (who passed when she was just 16), her brother-in-law, Newton Phillips and his wife, Robin, and her niece-in-law, Julie Phillips. She is survived by her three children: Eslie (Teresa) Rolland Phillips III, Kristin Joy Phillips, Nathan (Jane) Jeter Phillips. She is also survived by her grandchildren: Isaac (Bethany) Phillips, and their children Kinley, Fallon, Declan and Ryland; Andy (Sarah) Phillips, and their son, Gideon. Also surviving her are her nephew, Bill Phillips and his son, Will. Her legacy of faith, service, music, and unconditional love lives on in all who knew her. "Well done, thou good and faithful servant...enter thou into the joy of thy Lord." Tonight, Zelle is likely playing the organ once more — this time in heaven, pain-free, full of joy, and worshipping the Savior she adored. We imagine her dancing with Jesus and embracing loved ones who have gone before. You will be deeply missed, Mom. Thank you for loving us so well. A memorial service will be held at 2:00 pm on Saturday, October 18, 2025 at Harbor's Edge, One Colley Avenue, Norfolk, VA 23510.

Church Notes...



Please pray for the Snell Family ...

Ellis Edison "Bill" Snell, Junior

July 21, 1935 - September 29, 2025

90 years loved

Ellis Edison "Bill" Snell, Jr., 90, of Deep Creek passed away on September 29, 2025. Born in Roper, NC, he was the son of Ellis Edison "Red" Snell, Sr. and Eula Lee Ambrose Spruill who predeceased him, as did his stepmother, Elizabeth Snell. Bill was the widower of his beloved wife of 58 years, Patricia Woodard Snell. He is survived by his loving family: his three children, Kevin (Dara) Snell, Cheryl (Dr. Michael) Lepore, and Timothy (Amanda) Snell; his five grandchildren, Joshua (Caitlin) Snell, Kristen (Phil) Horst, Michael Tyler (Michelle) Lepore, Samuel Snell, and Leah Snell; and his three great-granddaughters, Riley Snell, Harper Horst, and Madelyn Horst. He is also survived by his three half-siblings, Kenneth (Laura) Snell, Theresa (Donald) Basnight, Michael Snell and their families; and a special nephew, Jason Woodard. Bill served in the Army and retired as a department head from NAVSEA in 1990. He was a faithful member of both Brent-Lox and Cradock Baptist Churches. Bill was a lifetime member of the Lake Drummond Masonic Lodge. He enjoyed hunting and was an avid fisherman. He caught many fish in the surf and the sound while spending wonderful days with his family at his home in Rodanthe, NC. HE was a devoted family man and a friend to all. The family wishes to extend their heartfelt gratitude to his caregivers, Kim, Nancy, Malissa and most recently Ronda and Patricia, who cared for Dad like family. A memorial service will be held on Monday, October 13th at 2 PM at Sturtevant Funeral Home, Portsmouth Blvd. Chapel. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Bill's memory to Cradock Baptist Church.

Robin Class News...

Two students from our Robin Class, along with two chaperones, will be attending the retreat at *Eagle Eyre Conference Center* in Lynchburg, October 17-29, 2025. The total cost of the retreat is \$1,232.00. We have received many donations thus far, but we are still in need of \$727.00 of additional funding please. Thank you for your prayerful consideration in contributing to this endeavor, which means so much our campers and chaperones. May the Lord always bless you!



Church Notes...



Weekly Family Bible Study with Dinner...



All are welcome to our weekly *Family Bible Study with Dinner* on Thursday evenings at 6:30pm. Please bring your family and/or friends with you, as this event is open to all ages! Dinner will be provided. Don't forget your Bible!

Coming Soon to Cradock Baptist Church...

Coming soon to Cradock Baptist Church! We will be chartering a Cub Scout troop! If you would like to volunteer and/or have family that would like to participate, please contact Erin Bracy at 757-404-0695.



Our Annual Truck or Treat Halloween Celebration...

Halloween will be here before we know it and we need your help to make this year a safe and joyous celebration for our children!

Ways to help:

- * Donate a bag or two of individually wrapped candy
- * Make a monetary donation
- * Volunteer
- * Decorate your vehicle for the children to visit on Halloween night



Donations can be given to Erin Bracy or dropped by the office by October 28, 2025 please. For any questions and/or to volunteer, please contact Erin Bracy at 757-404-0695.

Be sure to come out for the fun on October 31st from 6:00pm - 8:00pm





FREE



FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT

Cradock Baptist Church
96 Afton Parkway
Portsmouth, VA 23702

Friday, October 17, 2025 ~ 6:30pm

Join us for our feature presentation of
The Live Action Version of How to Train Your Dragon

Free Popcorn & Juice

Join us for FUN & FELLOWSHIP!

Bring a FRIEND!





OCTOBER

2 Autumn Redd
5 Micky Evans
15 Vernon Butler
29 Jennie Evans
31 Ruby Smith

NOVEMBER

10 Linda Mathews
10 Marcia Kittrell
11 Dawn Sprayberry
12 Jenny Allsbrook
15 David Faulkner
18 Chris Allsbrook
18 Ken Matthews
19 Jay Jay Hoffler
22 James Bailey
24 Ester Ward-Cassell

May God bestow special birthday blessings to those celebrating!

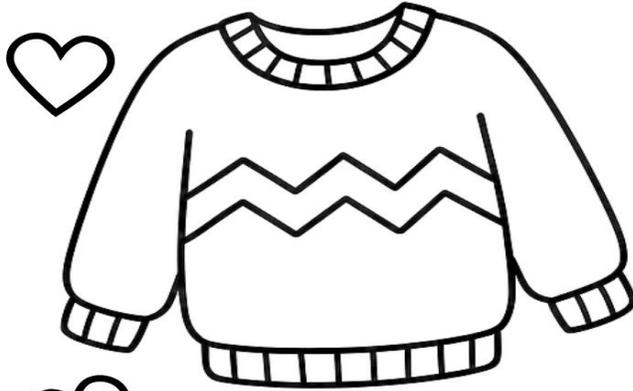


OCTOBER

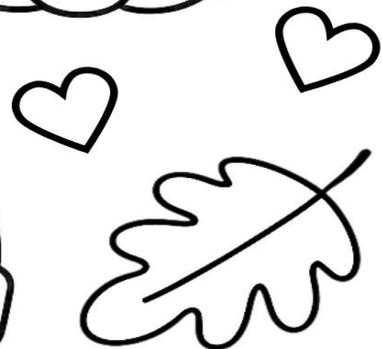
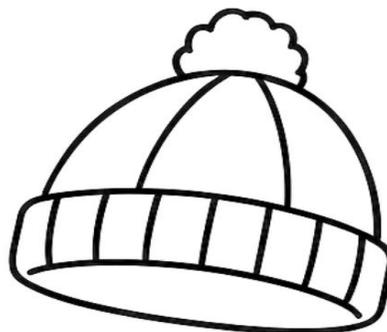
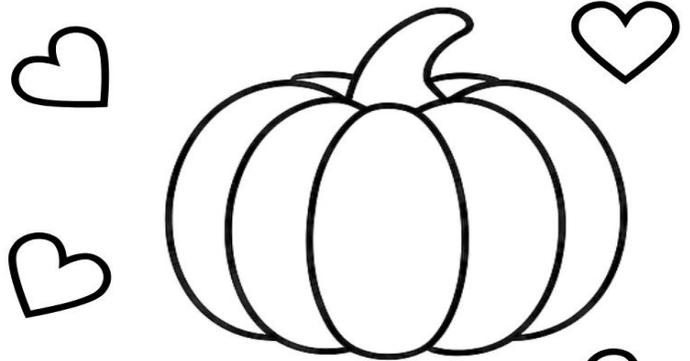
1 Ernest & Esther Ward-Cassell
15 Dave & Jackie Phillips

*May God bestow special wedding anniversary blessings
upon the couples celebrating!*

*Kid's Coloring
Fun Page...*



OCTOBER



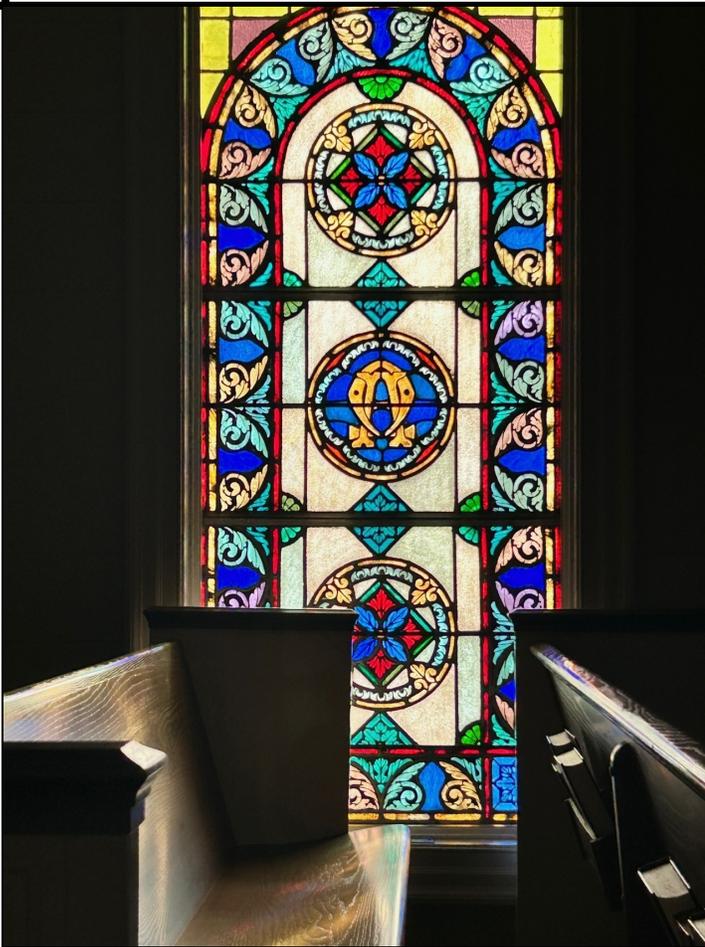


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96 AFTON PARKWAY
PORTSMOUTH, VA 23702-2836

2 STAMPS

Leading everyday people to know Christ, love others, and serve the world!

MAILING LABEL



This is the day the Lord has made!
~ Psalm 118:24