



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!

~ July 2026 Newsletter ~

A Note from Our Pastor...

Dear Cradock Family:

This month, the month of July, we celebrate the 250th Birthday of our country! 250 years ago, thirteen states bound together to create what we know as the United States. Many Freedoms were guaranteed in the Declaration of Independence and the Bill of Rights, which we have held dear for 250 years. Those Freedoms have not come with a cost and many Americans have given their life to ensure those Freedoms. I found a Christian Flag online that said, "One Nation Under God," with the US Flag in the background, with two hands tearing open the Flag to expose a picture of a hill with Three Crosses. At the bottom and to the right, the flag says, "250 Years of Blessings!" This is so true, even though the US is not perfect; it has a lot of redeeming qualities as well as Freedoms.

Johnny Dean has an illustration that I believe is perfect to what we celebrate this 4th of July. If there's one thing we Americans value above everything else, it is **freedom**. We cherish, guard and exercise our **freedom** and woe be unto those who threaten it in any way. We're even willing to go to war to defend **freedom**, whether it's ours or someone else's. We are the world's self-appointed watchdogs of **freedom**.

But Jesus says there's a higher value than **freedom**. The first words the writer of the Gospel of Matthew has Jesus speak are not about **freedom**, but about obedience to the will of God. That's what righteousness is all about, according to the gospel writer. Matthew uses the word, "righteousness," seven times in his story of the life of Jesus, always connecting righteousness with being obedient to the will of God.

When Jesus comes to John the Baptist to be baptized in the Jordan River, John protests. "It really should be the other way around here. You should be baptizing me. Why are you doing this?" And Jesus replies, "Just do it, John; for in this way it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness."

We will never be righteous without Jesus' death on the Cross, because He was perfect and our perfect sacrifice so we could be made acceptable unto Almighty God. Because Jesus died in our place, we are free from the curse of our sin that leads to death, but physical death and spiritual death. As we celebrate this 4th of July, remember our Freedoms you enjoy in our country, but if it was not for Jesus we would never be Free from the effects of SIN! God Bless our imperfect Country, but God Bless our Savior and Lord for dying in our place that we could be Truly Free from SIN.

In His Service: Pastor Dave





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

~ Matthew 6:21

Financial Information for January 1, 2026 ~ June 30, 2026:

Church Financials:

Income (tithes and offerings):	\$ 38,228.36
Expenses (utilities, salaries, et cetera):	\$ 50,481.67
Net Operating Total:	- \$ 12,253.31
Summary Income exceeded expenses by:	- \$ 12,253.31
Annual Expense Budget:	\$ 97,828.55
Year to Date Actual Expenses:	\$ 50,639.88

Church Banking Account Balances:

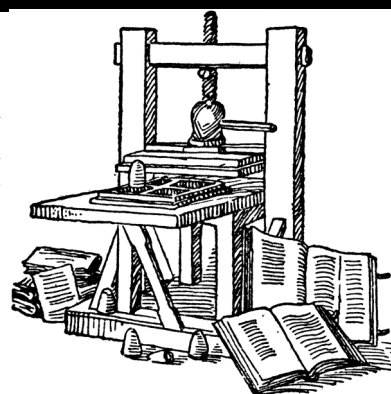
Checking Account:	\$ 8,639.88
Certificate of Deposit Value:	\$ 0.00
Capital Campaign Fund:	\$ 71,525.93

Endowment Fund Balance: \$139,833.05

CBC's Newsletter News...

If you would like to receive our monthly newsletter via email instead of snail mail, please let our office know. Or if you rather no longer wish to receive our periodical; please let us know, so we can respect your wishes. We can be reached at cradockbaptist@gmail.com or 757-485-3500.

Thank you in advance!



Church Notes...



MOMCO

MomCo Ministry Meeting...

Join us on July 21 and August 18, 2026 at 7:00 p. m. for our *MomCo* meeting. We will meet in the downstairs social hall. This is for all moms - young, older, stepmoms, grandmothers, aunts and those who want to be a mom! Childcare will be provided.

Weekly Family Bible Study with Dinner...

All are welcome to our weekly *Family Bible Study with Dinner* on Thursday evenings at 6:30 p.m. Please bring your family and/or friends with you, as this event is open to all ages! Dinner will be provided. Bring your Bible! We will meet on July 16, 23 & 30!



Vacation Bible School (VBS) News...

VBS will be held at Cradock Baptist Church from 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. on July 28, 29 & 30, 2026. This year's theme is, *Galaxy: Launching Kids on a Mission of God's Love*. If you would like to volunteer to help, please contact Erin Bracy at 757-404-0695.

Join Us for Family Fun Night...

Cradock Baptist Church will offer *Family Fun Nights* on July 24 and August 14 at 6:30 p.m. Bring a friend!



CHURCH
WE CAN'T DO CHURCH WITHOUT YOU

Church Notes...



New Power Poles Installed at CBC...

Over the course of about three or four days, new power poles were installed along Afton Parkway and Harris Road, providing Cradock Baptist Church (and the neighborhood) with safe electric lines. The work was completed by crews from the MasTec Infrastructure Construction Company at no charge to the Church. The company is also replacing power poles throughout the Cradock neighborhood, so that our family and friends will have safe electricity.





JULY

3 Mike Bracy
 9 Leroy Hartung, Jr.
 11 David Ward
 16 Justice King
 19 Noah Anderson
 30 Kenzie Sprayberry
 31 Bryant Bracy
 31 Tori Spivey

AUGUST

6 Erin Bracy
 8 Richard Hartung
 10 Arline Roark
 18 Bailey Sprayberry
 25 Aline Hartsell
 25 Theodore Hartung
 27 Arianna Tonkin
 29 Teena Coronado
 31 Jackie Phillips

May God bestow special birthday blessings to those celebrating!



JULY

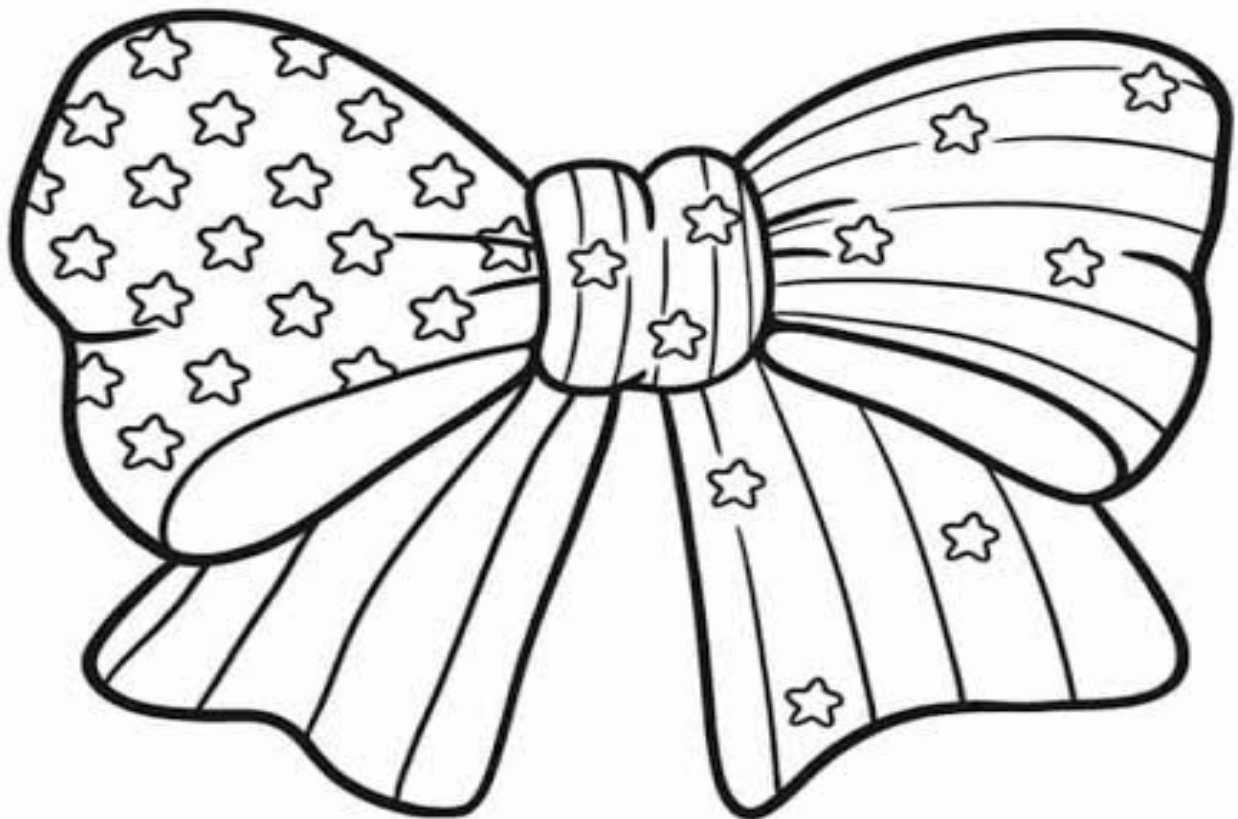
20 Dan & Teena Coronado

AUGUST

8 Chris & Carrie Allsbrook

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

*Kid's Coloring
Fun Page...*





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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

