



Welcome to "The Occohannock Current"! Our digital publication is getting a face-lift and will be completed over the next several months. It's our hope that it will be more interesting to read and keep up with and something you'll find fun to get in your inbox. It's our vision with this, that it will move to a monthly publication by January 2027. Thanks for being a part of the "Camp Family".



Summer 2026 Recap

Summer 2026 was a remarkable time! Our team served 610 campers in between our Residential & Day Camp over 8 weeks. We watched campers learn more about Jesus through the many activities and plans. We had 24 summer staff, loads of volunteers and 4 leadership/year-round staff. It was an amazing summer. If you have a moment, check our social media for lots of pictures, videos and glimpses into the ministry that's making a huge impact into the lives of children, youth and families.



Middle School Youth Retreat

Join us September 25-27 for our Middle School Retreat. (Grades 6-8). Youth are encouraged to come with their youth group (and bring chaperones). If you don't have a youth group, sign up anyway, we'll connect you with some new friends.

We have a great weekend planned with guest speaker Oso (former OOTB camp counselor!)

Register TODAY!



Parenting on Purpose
listen better, connect deeper, guide wisely.

Struggling with conflict, communication and listening in your home?

join us for a 6 week interactive class to enhance your home and parent-child relationship!

Led by Rev. Joel Coleman, certified instructor for Parent Effectiveness Training (P.E.T.) was developed by Dr. Thomas Gordon and teaches essential interpersonal communication skills to resolve family conflict so nobody loses. You'll learn ways to help your kids solve problems and influence them without the use of punishment.

dates: wednesdays 6:30p.m. - 8p.m. (october 7 - november 11)
where: camp occohannock (9405 camp lone belle haven; va)
cost: \$200 per person (or \$325 per couple)
*includes book, workbook & supplies

Questions: Call 757-442-7836 or sign up at: bit.ly/parentingonpurpose26

Parenting on Purpose - Classes offered at Camp!

Join us for a 6 week class led by Rev. Joel Coleman (Certified P.E.T. instructor). Learn some great interpersonal communication skills that will help resolve family conflict in a way that nobody loses. You'll help your kids solve problems and influence them without punishment.

Wednesdays (10/7 - 11/11) 6:30-8p.m.

Cost is \$200/person or \$325/couple.

Please sign up early as class size is limited for success.

Register Here



FALL WORK DAY
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2026
8A.M. - 3P.M. (LUNCH PROVIDED) *Please RSVP so we can prepare adequately!

As our busy season winds down, help us with repairs, projects and quieting the camp for winter!

bit.ly/FallWorkDay26

Fall Work Day - We Need Your Help

Join us on Saturday, November 7 for our Fall Work Day! Join us as we do some projects around the camp to prepare for the winter season! We have a variety of tasks from light construction to cleaning spaces. We will serve a light lunch as well, so be sure you sign up and plan to join us:

Saturday, November 7 from 8a.m. - 3p.m.

Sign Up Here

Save The Dates:

September 25-27 - Middle School Youth Retreat (Grades 6-8)

October 7 - November 11 - Parenting On Purpose Classes

November 7 - Fall Work Day (8a.m. - 3p.m.)

January 16, 2027 - Polar Duck Dip Annual Fundraiser & Duck Dash 5K



CAMPFIRE STORIES Chats around the Campfire

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This month marks 5 years that Joel, myself and our boys made the trek from Eastern Nebraska to the Eastern Shore of Virginia. We prayerfully felt led to move back east. It was a leap of faith for both our family and the Board of Directors here at camp. We were just talking about how it doesn't feel like it's been 5 years - time has flown by so quickly!

I've been on a kick of remembering those first moments here. We had our family helping us drive here. After two long days, we made it safely to the camp! Since we hadn't seen the property before, it was such a wonderful surprise to see how cute this place really was! With our beds buried in that U-Haul truck, we had to utilize a cabin for our first night here! Cabin 7 (formerly Cabin 9) provided us a first camp memory we won't forget! My parents, siblings and

nephew came to help us and we had a fun time 'camping' out on night one! It made for a sweet and fun memory, one we talk about often!

The Eastern Shore has been a welcoming place. We have felt cared for and loved well! We've seen changes, and most importantly, we've watched God work through the lives of so many people! We are thankful God has placed all of us together for this time, for this impact, for the work of spreading His love far and wide. As we begin our 6th year, we continue to pray that our family, and this community, can continue to make an impact on all those who step foot at Camp Occohannock. We are grateful to serve with such faith-filled disciples and we know that God is working among those affiliated here with camp!

We know we all have some great stories of camp and I know I'm holding tight those first moments here. God has a great story for Camp Occohannock - He has since 1958 - excited to be a part of making an impact with each of you in the years ahead!

Thanks for letting me reminisce!

~Niki Coleman



BEHIND THE SCENES

Peek at life at Camp OOTB

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SYMBOL • STORY • SIGHT • KNOWLEDGE

Peek at our Summer Camp Kitchen....



The camp Kitchen was a hot spot for bustling activity during the Summer Camp Season. Paula and Aubrey worked hard to prepare meals all summer long! We were also blessed with many gracious volunteers (two are pictured: Rick & Katie Derr) who helped us in the kitchen! (I do apologize for not having pictures of everyone!) We had a fun summer season in the kitchen and were excited for our 'Donut Fridays' that wrapped up our weeks well!



THEN & NOW

Camp has changed since 1958!

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The 'Hot Tub' circa 2020/2021



The 'Hot Tub' 2026



FAITH ON THE WATER

Keeping us
Connected to God

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September always feels different at camp. It's still warm, can you believe the heat advisory this past week? But you can also feel the change too. The days are starting to get shorter, the sky and sunsets are different and soon we'll have leaves everywhere!!

Change is like that. It's also a part of God's plan for us. The change in seasons always brings to mind the passage from Ecclesiastes 3:1 "There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens:"

We live this one here well. We go through 10 weeks of summer with full days. The Dining Hall is loud, there is laughter at the waterslide, the jumping pillow knows no moment of rest, and our cabins are filled with sand and messes! All of that is our opportunity to see God at work first hand. When the last camper leaves and our staff finish cleaning up & depart, it's Fall! And Fall moves different here. We have had lots of groups and events here already and a line-up for a good part of fall! Fall brings it's own beauty. It may not be as loud here, but the work of God continues as lives are shaped by renewal time, quiet prayers, campfires and fellowship!

This is a reminder for each of us as well. We all have a favorite season, but we can't cling to that one favorite season just because it is so well loved. We can trust that God will continue to lead us into the next season to do the work He already has for us.

The God who was faithful during the summer is faithful with us in fall as well! So as the leaves start to change, I hope we all can remember that the seasons can change but our God doesn't. His goodness, His mercies, His promises all remain constant today and in each season!

"Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever." — Hebrews 13:8



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