

September 2022

Making the grace* of God real for people.

Olivet Connections

*"Give us grace when we hurt each other . . . To recognize and acknowledge our fault, and to seek each other's forgiveness and yours." (Jan Karon, *Come Rain or Come Shine*)

Fall Faith Formation Opportunities

At Olivet Christian Church, we believe Christian Education matters. We believe spiritual disciplines matter. We believe the community of faith matters. And we believe we have a responsibility to participate in faith formation. And so, you are invited to pay attention to the faith formation opportunities that are sprouting up during this season of our life together.

For Young Children—

♦ **Worship & Wonder:**

Worship & Wonder meets every Sunday at 9:30 -10:15 AM in Classroom 5. Each week we participate in the rituals of worship and wonder together about the stories of God and God's people.

For Youth (6-12th grade)—

♦ **Youth Group:**

Our youth meet each month for fun activities, Bible study, and fellowship. Here are our fall meeting dates:

- Sunday, November 18
CROP Walk together at Stephen's Lake Park
- Sunday, October 2 @ 5:00 PM
Pizza Night & Justice Discussion
- Saturday, November 12 @ 5:30 PM
Angel Tree Shopping
- Sunday, December 4 @ 3:00 PM
Christmas Program Practice

- ♦ Be on the lookout for information about an **"Our Faith Our Bodies" Retreat** later in the fall. We'll gather with other Disciples youth in the Columbia area to explore how God, our bodies and sexuality, and faith intersect.

For Adults—

♦ **Bible Study:**

Our Bible Study group meets each Monday at

noon on Zoom (<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/517178327>). We spend an hour explore the week's lectionary scriptures together. All are welcome—you need not be a biblical scholar! Join us every week or pop in as your schedule allows.

♦ **Book Studies:**

We are offering two different book studies this fall. Both involve weekly (short-ish) readings and group-led discussions. Books will be provided. Please pre-register for all book studies by September 4th here:

<https://forms.gle/2wMb84koFdaepYXg6>

- Telling God's Story by Peter Enns—This class is for parents/grandparents/guardians who have ever wondered how to communicate about their faith with their children in a way that is powerful and joyful. This 5-week class meets in Classroom 2 at 9:30 AM Sunday, September 11-October 9.
- Inspired: Slaying Giants, Walking on Water, and Loving the Bible Again by Rachel Held Evans—If the Bible isn't a science book or an instruction manual, then what is it? Rachel Held Evans helps us to wrestle through the process of doubting, imagining, and debating Scripture's mysteries. This 10-week class meets in Classroom 3 at 9:30 AM on Sunday, September 11-November 13.

For Everyone—

Prayer Room:

Our Prayer Room (located in Classroom 4) is available on weekdays and Sunday mornings. The room includes several stations that invite prayerful participation and reflection through a variety of spiritual practices.

**Pulled
Pork -
Who Do
We
Need?**



What: The Pulled Pork Fundraiser for the benefit of the Olivet general fund. This fundraising event primarily uses pre-orders of meals by the car sales dealerships in Columbia; it's not a "y'all come eat" public event.

Date: Saturday, October 15

Who: We need a new General Coordinator! Uless Reeder has coordinated this event through the entirety of its history, and he would like to mentor the "next generation" and retire.

Task coordinators, many of whom are continuing, organize the majority of the work and take care of cooking & pulling pork, making baked beans and coleslaw, getting brownie bakers, organizing the serving line, and recruiting delivery drivers. So... you see, the General Coordinator job is actually pretty easy.

Talk to Uless if you have questions. Talk to Vickie Spain (chair of the Program Council) if you are willing to step into a new and challenging position that supports our ministries. *P.S. Your chance to volunteer to become a new Task Coordinator will come in September.*

September Needs

The Food Pantries in Central Missouri and Boone County are always in need of assistance. The list below contains suggestions for donations. Items donated in the third quarter of 2022 will go to Destiny Worship Center. Place your items in the Food Pantry area of the Fellowship Hall.



- ☞ canned fruit – peaches, pears, fruit cocktail, applesauce, mandarin oranges, pie filling
- ☞ jam, jelly
- ☞ cereal – instant oatmeal, dry cereals
- ☞ cornbread mix, muffin mix, biscuit mix
- ☞ pancake mix and syrup
- ☞ granola bars

**Final
2022 BBQ
Report**



The numbers are in, and we are happy to announce that our Chicken BBQ grossed \$19,776. After expenses, our profit was \$11,853.66. This amount was divided in half, with \$5,926.83 going to Olivet's Ministry Fund, and \$5,926.83 split among Sharp End Entrepreneurial Development Fund, Moving Ahead, and Love Coffee. For comparison, our 2021 Outreach portion was \$4,711.39, so we increased that by over \$1,200! We served 1,102 customers, an increase of 24% over 2021, when we served 886. Thank you everyone for your hard work and dedication to our annual Olivet Chicken BBQ!

Lori and Chris



The date for the 2023 Annual Chicken BBQ has been set for **Saturday, June 10.** Mark your calendars now & begin considering how you can volunteer to help. **Many hands make light work!**

27th Columbia CROP Hunger WALK

Sunday, September 18

Registration begins @ 1:00 PM

Program for Step-off begins @ 1:30 PM

Stephens Lake Park

At Gordon Shelter off of East Broadway



With your help our Olivet Team can make a 'Marathon Effort against Hunger' as we walk toward a "Team-cumulative" distance of 26.2 miles and a Team goal of \$3,000.

- ★ Donate at the CROP WALK Table in Fellowship Hall in September or securely online at www.crophungerwalk.org/columbiamo Scroll down to find the Olivet Team!
 - ★ Set up a Facebook fundraiser at www.facebook.com/churchworldservice. Click "create fundraiser" on the lower left column. Your personal Facebook account will carry notifications to your contacts.
 - ★ Walk together: for example, 10 Olivet walkers can each walk 1/2 mile a day, for 4 days prior to the WALK, for a Team 'head-start' of 20 miles. ON WALK DAY, 5 of us walk the Lake Loop (6/10 mile) adding 3 miles, & 5 of us walk the Park Loop (1.7 miles), adding 8.5 miles. Together we'll be over the top at 31.5 miles! Report your mileage, or steps, to Marilyn Bettenhausen who will report our total on WALK Day. Or walk with us in spirit. PARTICIPATION, rather than mileage, is truly the KEY! Our WALK-wide goal for all Teams is 300 miles and topping last year's funds raised of \$20,555.61!
 - ★ Enjoy Shakespeare's Pizza on WALK Day. Required coupon donates 15% of your order to our WALK. Coupon at CROP WALK Table, in Weekly Updater, & also at www.crophungerwalk.org/columbiamo
- Together we create stories of change, hope and resilience globally & here at home!



LOAVES & FISHES SOUP KITCHEN is serving 125+ meals nightly (compared to 85 in 2021). Some meal guests are home insecure, but many do have homes and jobs. With rising costs, income doesn't cover all needed expenses. Recently a guest shared that when dinner is provided, she is able to put gas in her car to get to work the next day.



RUSSELL CHAPEL COMMUNITY FOOD PANTRY provides food, sanitizing & hygiene supplies via a 'drive-thru' operation two Saturdays a month. Even with a fulltime job, one husband & father reported that he still struggles to make ends meet. Food obtained from the Pantry allows him to purchase much needed medicine for his family – it's a God-send!



DESTINY WORSHIP CENTER FOOD PANTRY is open one Saturday per month and "24/7" as needed for families in crisis. Recently, they helped a young woman from Ghana, living in her car, with food, a motel room for several nights, and assistance in finding both a job and an apartment.



FIFTH STREET CHRISTIAN CHURCH continues to prepare and offer a free meal on the 2nd Saturday of the month focusing on transient and homeless families with children. They also provide emergency food and supplies and referrals to other agencies for additional services.

Thanks from *Room At the Inn*



Dear Olivet Christian Church Members, thank you so very much for your generous donation during the 2021-2022 season. Your kindness helped us to house and feed 261 different individuals in our community who were unsheltered and in need of food. Sincerely, Laura Bolerjack

The Wardrobe is a part of AmazonSmile - read on....



For those of you who shop online with Amazon, you may know that at no extra cost to you, you can select a charity and Amazon will donate 5% of your purchase to this charity. To do this, you need to sign in to Amazon by entering the URL – [amazonsmile.com](https://www.amazon.com/amazonsmile). When asked what charity you would like to support, enter The Wardrobe.

Hunger in the Heartland 2021: A Food Bank report...

New research from the University of Missouri’s Interdisciplinary Center for Food Security shines a light on the economic challenges faced by thousands of Missourians. The report, titled “Food Assistance & Hunger in the Heartland 2021” is a result of a partnership of all six Missouri food banks.



2019 data estimated there are 108,300 food-insecure people in our Central & Northeast Missouri Food Bank service of region that includes 32 counties and that 55% of those persons got at least half of the food they consumed in a typical month from a food pantry. Other key findings provide insight into the circumstances of households who use food pantries: more than 33% included a member over age 65; more than 33% had a child under age 18; about 50% included at least one working adult; and nearly 1 in 5 households included a veteran.

To access the complete report, visit sharefoodbringhope.org/hunger-in-the-heartland

FYI: in 2021, the Food Bank of Central and Northeast Missouri distributed 23,797,597 pounds of food worth more than \$53 million...Boone County received 5,286,862 pounds...approximately 500 pounds of the food in Boone County was donated by Olivet CC.

It only takes a spark.

Love is the spark that kindles the fire of compassion. Compassion is the fire that flames the candle of service. Service is the candle that ignites the torch of hope. Hope is the torch that lights the beacon of faith. Faith is the beacon that reflects the power of God. God is the power that creates the miracle of love.

—William Arthur Ward



Olivet Church Board Meeting - July 18, 2022, 7:00 PM

Board President, Joe Reeder called the meeting to order at 7:15 PM. Prior to the call to order, the attending board members introduced themselves to Reverend Natalie Dixon Crewell, who was attending her first board meeting at Olivet Christian Church.

Reverend Hannah Ryan opened the meeting with a prayer.

Board Members Present:

Joe Reeder, Vickie Spain, Barbara Fitzgerald, Inge Decker, Kim Amiot, Ginny Edgar, Dennis Bettenhausen, Julia Jackson, David Mast

Staff Present:

Reverend Hannah Ryan & Reverend Natalie Dixon Crewell

Also present:

Treasurer Diane Bartley, and Finance Chair Ken Bartley.

A quorum of 10 members was not present at the meeting.

Minutes:

Minutes for June 2022 meeting were reviewed. Lacking a quorum present, they were not approved.

Treasurer's Report:

Financial Statements for June 2022 were presented by Diane Bartley. With a quorum not present, they were not approved.

Finance Report:

Ken Bartley, noted that Identified giving is up 12% over 2021. Total income is up 8%. Rent on the old church is still going toward the past due accounts receivable balance. Ken explained how the Prepaid ministry pledges are handled. Prepaid ministry pledges were up 76%. Ken noted that June had been a tough month for the brokerage account.

Minister Reports:

Reverend Hannah Ryan noted that it had been an exciting month with welcoming Natalie as her co-minister and transitioning Coletta out of the interim minister position. Hannah has been helping the high school mission trip. Those attending will be commissioned at this Sunday's Worship Service. Melissa Jackson will also be receiving a blessing for her trip to study abroad. Hannah facilitated the graveside service for Steve Lind. There have also been many hospital visits this past month. The Vision Team began on July 11. Their first assignment is writing an assessment about the vitality of Olivet. The team will meet again on August 9. Hannah will be in Indianapolis August 11-13, attending a retreat as part of the Excellence in Ministry grant in which she has participated.

Reverend Natalie Dixon Crewell noted that she had arrived on July 5 and has been working part-time. Right now, she is limited by doctors to a meeting of no more than 3 or 4 people. She has been working on recording parts for worship. This Sunday she will preach online. Natalie expressed appreciation for Hannah's flexibility and going with the flow. She is hoping by September to be full time depending on what her doctors allow. She has been making some phone calls and her cell area is 620. Having a laptop and a couch for her office have helped her get up to speed. Natalie noted that she is excited about all the things happening and that it is a great time to be at Olivet!

Visioning Team:

Joe Reeder provided an update on the Visioning process. Joe stated they are in the assessment phase right now and are assigned to write a report on their view about the vitality of Olivet Christian Church. Joe said Reverend Chad McMullin was amazing. He suggested that the team be commissioned during a church service soon. All goals derived from the Vision Team will end up on a one-page document and be achievable in 3 years. After that you start over with new goals.

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Olivet Church Board Meeting continued

(Continued from page 5)

Dream Team

Kim Amiot said the Dream Team had met twice since the last board meeting and via Zoom with Ron Gaus.

Hannah Ryan wanted to remind the board that this is a work in progress. There are stages to the process. Hannah asked that we remember to trust that process and trust that the group of people are smart and dedicated to the effort. The items reported to the board are just the tip of the iceberg of their discussions and discovery process. Hannah asks that the board is mindful of that. She also wanted to take a moment to thank them for their work. Hannah noted the first four items under New Business would be discussed tonight. She asked that we hold to these items and if there are other items that fall outside these areas, to jot down and send questions to members of the team.

Kim Amiot continued with her report and presented the new alcohol policy for the church policy manual and policy for the rental agreement. They looked at the policy from a number of churches and especially relied heavily on the Calvary Episcopal policy. Overall, the board thought the updated policies addressed concerns expressed at last board meeting. Two items were suggested regarding requiring people to stay in the designated areas of the church they are renting and not allowing guests to be able to bring their own alcohol. Kim Amiot also stated that they are working on a Wedding Book that addresses specifics about permissions and responsibilities. It is in draft form. The designated person will monitor these things during the event. There were a few questions clarifying the process and what church members would be required to do per rental space for events. Kim also provided additional information with samples scenarios and examples regarding the cost of becoming an event space. In addition, Kim Amiot discussed how Andrea Lynn Events (ALE) will work and represent Olivet's interest for a \$500 kickstart fee and the cost per hour for certain duties. The

Dream Team wanted to request a loan from the Vemer Fund for \$5,000.00 and to be paid back from proceeds from events. Kim also discussed for multipurpose room the desire that some groups would have standing dates for meetings. For office space, Chester has determined that we would need a zoning change, so this would require additional time for application and hearings \$750 to \$1500 cost for rezoning for office space. If this is approved, the plan would be to have a one-year lease, but with the option for either party to cancel with 30 days' notice. More discussion followed about internet needs and possible updates. There was also discussion about the growth of Columbia eastward toward church. Kim also noted the estimates for an outside painter were included in the cost projections.

David Mast wanted to correct some information mentioned in memo sent out by Dennis Bettenhausen and Bob Broz about the lagoon. David stated that we no longer share a lagoon with the Morrisons. That issue was eliminated at the time the new addition was built. The church actually paid for a new lagoon for the Morrisons and purchased the land from the Morrisons.

Ken Bartley said Vemer Fund is for non-budgetary items. Since this would be a loan from Vemer Fund, it is acceptable to lend the funds for this special project that is non-budgetary.

There was discussion about urgency or what items needed to be included in the motion. Dennis Bettenhausen asked additional questions about who represented Olivet and who was assigned to deal with issues that arise after events, the contact at the church.

David Mast noted that we were not tied to working with Andrea Lynn. It was an open agreement and if a better process was found, then it could be adjusted.

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Olivet Church Board Meeting continued

(Continued from page 6)

Since we do not have a quorum, it was decided that email vote would be taken and that we would craft the motion to be considered at this meeting

Natalie noted that the Dream Team did seem to have the intent to take the burden off the property committee. She noted that the Union Avenue Church where she had her apartment in St Louis had survived by opening up to the idea of bringing others into their building. They had a theater group and people from the artis community, as well as others. She commended this brave and courageous move stating that when you open yourself up, exciting things can happen!

David Mast made a motion to move forward with proposals for the building event use via the Vemer Fund and with startup funds not to exceed \$5,000.00.

Vickie Spain seconded the motion. This motion will be emailed out to board and a vote requested on this motion.

In addition, the video of the board meeting link can be sent with this email so they can review the discussion.

The final agenda item is that Larry Brown had resigned from the board. Joe said if you have any questions regarding his reasons, it could be shared and to contact him.

The meeting adjourned because President Joe Reeder hung up his "gone fishing" sign. He left at 8:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Fitzgerald
Board Secretary

Note for August Meeting:

Minutes and Financial Statements for June 2022 will need to be approved at August 2022 board meeting.

Email vote will be documented in August Meeting Minutes.

Also, with the resignation of board member, quorum can be refigured based on 62% of total board. members, which would lower the quorum number required.

Labor Day Laughs

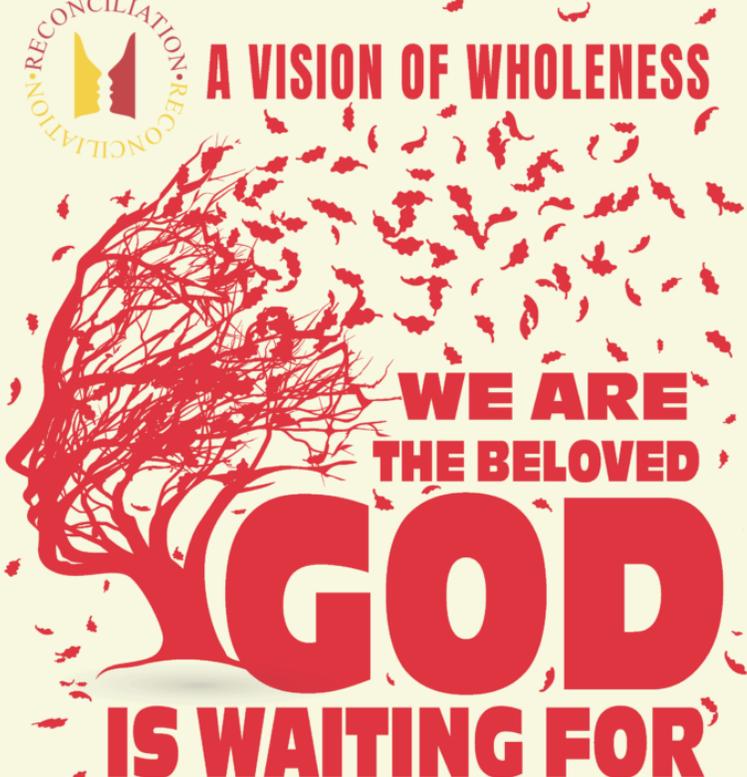
Take a break and enjoy this work-related humor!

- ♦ My first job was in an orange juice factory. I got canned because I couldn't concentrate.
- ♦ When I couldn't hack it as a lumberjack, I got the ax.
- ♦ I wasn't suited to being a tailor.
- ♦ Working in the muffler factory was too exhausting.
- ♦ I was a banker ... until I lost interest.
- ♦ I realized there was no future in being a historian.
- ♦ Any way I sliced it, I couldn't cut the mustard at the deli.
- ♦ I studied to become a doctor but had no patients.
- ♦ My job at the coffee shop was always the same old grind.
- ♦ When I worked as a plumber, the tasks were too draining.
- ♦ I was hired at a gym but wasn't fit for the job.
- ♦ Finally, I got a job at a bakery; I kneaded dough!





A VISION OF WHOLENESS



WE ARE THE BELOVED

GOD IS WAITING FOR

ROMANS 8:18-23

RECONCILIATION MINISTRY

SPECIAL OFFERING

SEPTEMBER 25th - OCTOBER 2nd

www.reconciliationministry.org



We hope you will be able to join us for this great occasion! We are excited that Rev. Teresa Hord-Owens, our denomination's General Minister and President, will be join us in worship and will speak at the afternoon ceremony.

We hope you will join us for lunch. Please see the invitation to respond with the number attending.

If you can't join in person, please keep our congregation in prayer as we celebrate this important milestone.

**Red Top Christian Church
200th Anniversary Celebration**

Sunday, Oct. 2, 2022
10:30 Worship Service
12:00 Dinner
1:30 Ceremony



Come join us for this

Please RSVP for the dinner by

- scanning the QR code
- emailing redtopchurch@gmail.com,
- visiting our Facebook Page ([redtopcc](https://www.facebook.com/redtopcc))
- calling 573 696-3214 and leaving a message.



Wednesday, September 21st

**Newsletter
Deadline**



Please join us for our 200th Birthday Celebration on October 2, 2022

Worship Service 10:30 a.m.
Recognition of former pastors
Communion served by Rev. Terri Hord Owens-General Minister and President, Disciples of Christ-North America

Dinner-12:00-Be our Guest
Please RSVP

Anniversary Ceremony-1:30 p.m.
Recognitions and Proclamations
Address-Rev. Terri Hord Owens
Founders Stone Dedication
Birthday Cake



Olivet September Activities & Event

Sunday, September 4

13th Sunday after Pentecost

9:30 AM Worship & Wonder

10:30 AM In-person & Drive-in Worship

3:00 PM Worship posted to YouTube

Monday, September 5

Labor Day

Church Offices Closed

4:30 PM Loaves & Fishes

Tuesday, September 6

6:30 PM Vision Team Mtg.

Wednesday, September 7

7:00 PM Choir

Sunday, September 11

14th Sunday after Pentecost

9:30 AM Worship & Wonder

10:30 AM In-person & Drive-in Worship

3:00 PM Worship posted to YouTube

5:00 PM **Fall Kickoff Ice Cream Social & Kickball Game**

Monday, September 12

12:00 PM Bible Study (Zoom)

1:30 PM Staff Meeting (Zoom)

Wednesday, September 14

7:00 PM Choir

Sunday, September 18

15th Sunday after Pentecost

CROP Walk

9:30 AM Worship & Wonder

10:30 AM In-person & Drive-in Worship

3:00 PM Worship posted to YouTube

Monday, September 19

12:00 PM Bible Study (Zoom)

1:30 PM Staff Meeting (Zoom)

5:30 PM Program Council

7:00 PM Board Meeting (Zoom)

Wednesday, September 21

Newsletter Articles Due

7:00 PM Choir Resumes

Wednesday, September 22

1st Day of Autumn

Sunday, September 25

16th Sunday after Pentecost

Reconciliation Offering

9:30 AM Worship & Wonder

10:30 AM In-person & Drive-in Worship

3:00 PM Worship posted to YouTube

Monday, September 26

12:00 PM Bible Study (Zoom)

1:30 PM Staff Meeting (Zoom)

Wednesday, September 28

Newsletters Mailed

7:00 PM Choir



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