

August 2022

Making the grace* of God real for people.

Olivet Connections

*"I do not understand the mystery of grace - only that it meets us where we are but does not leave us where it found us." (Anne Lamott)



Thanks from MY heart!

Well, you all certainly know how to make a pastor feel appreciated! The very informal, laid back fellowship time before worship was delightful, and gave me the opportunity to say my good-byes one on one. The Farewell Liturgy brought us to an official closure to our interim time and our journey as congregation and co-pastor/interim ministry consultant. The oh so creative talents of Rob Foss, Kim Amiot, and Adriene Floyd offered all of us an awesome chance to laugh, and breathe, and sigh one last time!! Not only did I NOT feel offended, but truly honored by this sign of what I leave behind as I go! AND then, at home, sitting at my table after a lovely brunch prepared and served by Maria, I read your cards, notes and letters! Wow! Thank you hardly covers the immense gratitude I have for letting me know how my ministry with you has touched your hearts and spirits. I am so honored to have been asked to share this challenging journey with you; grateful that we

made it in tact through these almost 2½ years; and leave with a joyful heart that Olivet's future is very bright!

I am deeply indebted to Hannah, Adriene, Becky, the Shepherds, Board members, and so many of you who have a passion for Olivet, and for the ministry of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. We have held each other with deep affection, support, and hope. As Pastor Natalie joins you in your new chapter as a congregation, I know that you will discern new ways to be light and salt in a world that needs hope, compassion and justice. I also know that you will continue to live into your mission of "making the grace of God real for people." You have made it so for me more times than I can count. As we move into a new stage of relationship, I am reminded of the simple, yet powerful words of former UN Secretary-General, Dag Hammarskjold, "for all that has been, thanks; for all that will be, YES".

With Deep Gratitude, Affection, and Peace, Coletta





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.*

August 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 first quarter of 2022 will go to Destiny Worship Center. Place your items in the Food Pantry area of the Fellowship Hall.



- canned vegetables – green beans, corn, spinach, peas, mixed vegetables, sweet potatoes
- boxed potatoes – dried potato mixes, mashed potatoes
- noodles, rice
- pickles, relish, mustard, ketchup, mayonnaise
- crackers
- instant pudding mix
- canned milk – regular or evaporated



On Sunday, August 21st during 10:30 worship, we will have a Blessing of the Backpacks. All children, youth, and adults who are embarking upon a new school year—students, teachers, administrators, and support staff alike—are invited to bring their school bags with them. We will offer a blessing over all of the bags and their people as they begin another year of learning and growing.

We're setting new records for meals at Loaves & Fishes!

143
148
152

More and more people are needing assistance to have a daily meal for themselves and their families. If you would like to help Olivet's efforts by donating time, food or funds, contact Linda Reed Brown. There are many ways to help!

27th Columbia CROP Hunger WALK

Sunday, September 18

Registration begins @ 1:00

Program for Step-off begins @ 1:30

Stephens Lake Park

At Gordon Shelter off of East Broadway



BE THE GOOD – WALK THE WALK

In 2021, the Columbia CROP Hunger WALK raised \$20,555.61, the largest amount in our history! And we were one of Church World Service's 'Cream of the CROP' walks, ranking #90 in the top 100 WALKS across the nation. CAN WE MOVE UP A STEP OR TWO THIS YEAR? HOW ABOUT TO #85?

Walk with the Olivet Team in-person or in-spirit. Help us 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 securely online. Go to www.crophungerwalk.org/columbiamo and look up the Olivet Team and make a donation. Create your own fundraising page, if desired, as part of 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.
- Donate by check – made out to CWS/CROP WALK – at the CROP WALK Table in Fellowship Hall in September. Or mail a check to our local CROP Walk Treasurer, Linda Reed Brown, 2000 Parkade Blvd, Columbia MO 65202. Questions? Email Linda at lreedbrown@hotmail.com or call Marilyn Bettenhausen at 442-4002.

Our WALK packs a global and local punch. Funds raised support the global work of CWS (75%) and fight hunger here at home through food and community meal programs (25%). Church World Service (CWS), a collaborative ministry of 30 faith organizations, works in the US and around the world to provide just and sustainable responses to hunger, poverty, displacement and disaster. Assisting Ukrainian refugees in neighboring Moldova and helping settle Afghan refugees in the US are both current priorities. With partners world-wide, CWS provides critical resources: emergency supplies, food, blankets, refugee assistance with a special emphasis on serving unaccompanied refugee children, plus seeds & gardening supplies, wells & water systems, literacy, technical, and community development training, micro-grants, loans & so much more – all designed to help people meet their own needs. Learn more at www.cwsglobal.org

Next month, learn more about the ministries of our local food agency partners:

- ♥ Loaves & Fishes Soup Kitchen
- ♥ Russell Chapel Community Food Pantry
- ♥ Destiny Worship Center Food Pantry
- ♥ Fifth Street Christian Church's *Feed the Community* program

BE THE GOOD ... WALK – GIVE – CHANGE THE WORLD

Missouri State Parks Series

Part 3: Hey Ranger, What's Your Favorite Park?

During my 34-year career with Missouri State Parks, I must have been asked that question hundreds of times. To be candid, I never had a "favorite" park or historic site. But the ones I liked best were the smaller, less visited parks. If you are looking for some interesting and out-of-the-way places to visit in Missouri, here are six parks and historic sites I recommend.

Big Oak Tree State Park:

[Big Oak Tree State Park | Missouri State Parks \(mostateparks.com\)](#)

Big Oak Tree State Park preserves the last remnant of native swamp forest in southeast Missouri. During the late 19th and early 20th centuries, timber companies harvested the trees, and the swamps were drained to create some of Missouri's richest farmland. Today, the park is an island of swamp forest in a sea of farm fields. The original "big oak" is now gone, but the park has several state champion trees. If you visit during the summer, be prepared for hot, humid conditions and lots of mosquitos.

Battle of Athens State Historic Site:

[Battle of Athens State Historic Site | Missouri State Parks \(mostateparks.com\)](#)

By 1861, Athens, Mo. was a bustling riverport on the Des Moines River. The town's population numbered around 500 people with a variety of businesses, churches, and a public school. At around 5:00 a.m. on August 5, 1861, pro-secessionist State Guard cannon crews opened fire on pro-Union Home Guard infantry. The State Guard artillerymen were so poorly trained that most of their cannon balls landed across the river in Iowa. Despite being outnumbered nearly 5 to 1, the Home Guard troops won the battle and secured northeast Missouri for the Union cause.

Taum Sauk Mountain State Park:

[Taum Sauk Mountain State Park | Missouri State Parks \(mostateparks.com\)](#)

Located in the lesser-known St. Francis Mountains



in south central Missouri, Taum Sauk Mountain is the highest point in the state. The park's campground has 12 walk-in campsites and allow tent camping only. Primitive camping, challenging hiking trails, and spectacular scenery make this park special.

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Thomas Hart Benton Home and Studio State Historic Site: [Thomas Hart Benton Home and Studio State Historic Site | Missouri State Parks \(mostateparks.com\)](#)

Located in a quiet, historic neighborhood in Kansas City, this site is unique for its time capsule quality. The home and studio are preserved as they were on June 19, 1975, the day of Benton's death. Tom's wife Rita's spaghetti recipe is still on the refrigerator door.

Deutschheim State Historic Site:

[Deutschheim State Historic Site | Missouri State Parks \(mostateparks.com\)](#)

During the 1840s, hundreds of German immigrants started new homes in central Missouri. Deutschheim State Historic Site in Hermann, Mo., preserves historic structures and gardens that showcase German culture in central Missouri.

Prairie State Park:

[Prairie State Park | Missouri State Parks \(mostateparks.com\)](#)

Prairie State Park preserves the largest remnant of native tall grass prairie in the state. The prairie landscape is majestic any time of year, but a visit in May or June is special. Spring wildflowers provide a splash of color and visitors have the added joy of seeing the bison herd's newborn pumpkin-colored calves. Stay overnight in the park's campground and enjoy a sky full of stars.

Enjoy your adventures in some of my "favorite" parks and historic sites.

Olivet Church Board Meeting - June 20, 2022, 7:00 PM

Board President, Joe Reeder called the meeting to order at 7:01 PM.

Board Members Present:

Joe Reeder, Vickie Spain, Barbara Fitzgerald, Inge Decker, Tony Keel, Nany Foss, Kim Amiot, David Mast, Sarah Frost, Dennis Bettenhausen, Ginny Edgar, Larry Brown, Melissa Robinson

Staff Present:

Reverend Hannah Ryan

Also present:

Treasurer Diane Bartley, and Finance Chair Ken Bartley.

Reverend Hannah Ryan opened the meeting with a prayer.

Minutes:

Minutes for the May 2022 meeting were reviewed. Motion was made to approved minutes by David Mast. Vickie Spain seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Treasurer's Report:

Financial Statements for the month of May 2022 were presented by Treasurer Diane Bartley. Diane noted that we were still in the red for May and for the Year-To-Date figures. The monthly giving is not meeting expenses. The barbecue figures are not on the May statement. Dennis Bettenhausen made a motion to approve the May 2022 financial statements. Inge Decker seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Finance Report:

Ken Bartley, Finance Committee Chairman, noted that prepaid pledges at May 31,2022 are \$45,435.71. May was our best month in 2022 for identified giving. Ken also noted that our balance in brokerage account last month was \$51,542. One third of our current board members were serving when we brought money invested at the Board of Church Extensions back over to this brokerage account. There had been money held from 1983-

2020 for the purpose of opening new churches and other projects at the Church Board of Extensions. This kept our money tied up at times for as long as 18 months and we only averaged a 1% return. This money was beneficial for opening new churches and building projects, but in 2019 we were having a rough year. Ken recommended this be brought back and invested in S&P funds. The intention at the time was to invest all \$90,000. In March 2020 when we made the decision, the board decided to invest only part of it in the stock market, since the market seemed unstable. Ken, for demonstration purposes, noted that if we had all of this invested for the 40 years that it was held by Church Board of Extensions, we would have generated growth that would be worth \$3.6 million today, even with the recent downturns.

Larry Brown asked some questions about the type of companies in which our investments are made. His question as to whether there was thought put in about their companies' value system. Ken Bartley noted that Dean McCullar, our advisor at Central Bank was aware of Olivet's concerns and reputation and helped us choose the type of funds, called ESG which stands for Environmental, Sustainable, and Governance. (Ken said this but clarified that "S" is social. He will send board information on this). We have received some payments from the old church tenants and Ken updated us on their accounts receivable balance. Also, Ken noted to Hannah that there were funds available that can be drawn down for a replacement computer and new laptop computers needed. There were some memorial funds that might also be available.

Minister Reports:

Reverend Hannah Ryan reported that she had been working with Broadway Christian and Missouri United Methodist for the youth mission trip to be held at the end of July. The trip will focus on local racial justice issues. She and Coletta, and RuthAnn Reeder had adorned the sanctuary for Pentecost Sunday. She continues to lead Worship and

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Olivet Church Board Meeting continued

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Wonder. Staff is continuing to work on the library cataloging and putting together a new office for Natalie. Hannah attended the Dream Team meeting on property in June. Also, she has been working on recruiting for the Visioning Leadership Team. Hannah also attended a Regional Board Meeting. Hannah noted that she would be requesting 3 new computers: new ones for Natalie and Sanctuary A/V, and a replacement one for her. Hannah also noted appreciation for the Pastoral Care Team who had a particularly tough month. Hannah is excited about the time when Natalie will join them and begin working with them.

No report from Rev. Eichenberger.

Unfinished Businesses:

Per Reverend Hannah Ryan the Visioning Leadership Team will have their first meeting on July 11. Reverend Chad McMullin will be joining them. Reverend Natalie Dixon Crewell will attend online. The members of the leadership team recruited to make this commitment are: Rocky Alden, Jason Enright, Linda Graue, Kim Ryan, Joyce Mast, Chris Valleroy, Vickie Spain, and Joe Reeder.

Reverend Natalie Dixon Crewell is doing well. She will start in July part-time. She will join us in Worship using technology in July and August. She will work her way up to more hours, based on what her doctors permit. The Personnel Committee will be meeting this week to iron out details on Natalie's part-time schedule and temporary part-time contract. Also, there are some details to work out the overlap for Coletta as she winds down. After they meet, we will have an opportunity to discuss a time to honor Coletta and say goodbye.

Joe Reeder noted that the Hybrid Meeting issue may resolve itself as we work on the technology issues for the Dream Team for building use. So, we have no update now.

Dream Team

Kim Amiot from the Dream Team for building use, presented findings by the Dream Team. She included a two-page report for the board to review. Kim Amiot reported that the team had met with Ron Gaus who talked about the way he helped a few St. Louis churches to utilize their building and generate some income. The Dream Team not only want to generate rental income. They feel this could be a way to be good stewards of our facility and draw more people to Olivet who might consider membership.

For general reference, Kim will call the new building the multi-purpose building, Event planners they spoke with thought the Multipurpose Room would be ideal space for bridal showers, business meetings, and classroom space. No improvements would be needed for this space. The sanctuary, gazebo and outdoor space, and a Sunday School room for changing space, would be good space for wedding venues. There would be some suggested improvements such as painting, and some window treatment changes. We also would need to address our rental policies regarding alcohol use.

Boondocking for RV's is also a possible source of income. We would not provide anything except outside water. Fees for this could be a nominal fee or a suggested donation. No dumping or electric service would be offered. This might be a desirable location during football weekends. We are located close to I-70 and have a nice setting.

There is also the possibility of rental space of 4 classrooms for office space in the multipurpose building. The suggested space would be upstairs rooms. There may be some needs in relation to internet and Wi-Fi to rent out office space.

Expenditures Phase I:

Insurance - In talking with our insurance provider, the team had a statement that indicated we would require renter or event company to carry their own

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Olivet Church Board Meeting continued

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liability insurance and name Olivet as additionally insured. This would cost the renters about \$250.00. This statement is noted on the provided handout.

Personnel - A goal of the team was not to add additional pressure to or work for current staff and member volunteers. The Dream Team is exploring two options: One: hiring our own person at minimum wage and then pay them commission for events booked. They would oversee keeping the calendar and making sure paperwork was in place for each event. Two: partnering with Andrea Lynn Events and allowing them to provide this service for us.

There is also an opportunity to purchase white wedding chairs at \$12 a piece rather than at the new cost at \$28-40 each. Jeff Bradley is going out of business and will sell these at this price to Olivet. Kim noted that they talked to three event coordinators. Andrea Lynn is very interested in being our point person and wants to book a mock event July 7 in the venue to be able to promote the venue on a website. We have no contract with her, and Kim Amiot is feeling out that relationship.

All the event planners felt that they had to have the "no alcohol" clause in our policy repealed. They felt that they had to be able to serve alcohol at the events to sell a venue. The committee is recommending that we change the facilities use policy to remove the no alcohol policy.

Income rentals were estimated at \$2000-3000 per wedding venue, and \$200-\$500 for the multi-purpose space. There was also a suggestion by the insurance carrier that we consider whether there are groups or individuals that we would not allow to rent our building space. If so, this should also be specified in your event rental contract but may cause difficulties.

On the tax concerns for unrelated income for a nonprofit, Chester was suggesting that we use Phil

Hanson, CPA to track tax obligations and keep the records as a separate profit center. Chester was going to check with planning and zoning with the county to see if there would be any changes required.

A lengthy discussion followed with questions about methods to protect the church regarding property damage, liability, additional work for church members and volunteers. Discussion regarding hiring someone for administering this and accounting for the for-profit issues in relation to the IRS rules for a nonprofit on unrelated income.

The board also had many questions in relation to changing the alcohol policy and the wording.

The Dream Team did not want to move forward without dealing with the alcohol policy. Some board members did not want to move forward without some answers to questions for the event coordinators.

David Mast made a motion to reword the alcohol policy (line 8 of the facilities policy) with: Option 2 on handout which stated: "Consider amending the wording to something like: In the event alcohol is to be served, the renter will provide proof of liability insurance for an event with alcohol being served, with Olivet Church listed as an additional insured."

However, the exact wording was not determined at this board meeting. So, it was agreed that line 8 would be removed and replaced with similar wording to proposed Option 2 wording, but some additional details would be discussed before finalized.

Motion was seconded by Vickie Spain.

The motion passed. One member, Barbara Fitzgerald, voted against the motion.

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This vote was taken with the expectation that Kim Amiot or members of the Dream Team would seek additional information to answer board members' questions from the event coordinators with which they are speaking.

There was further discussion about the purchase of 100 white chairs. After discussion, there was a motion to purchase chairs at \$12 each for a total of \$1200.00. These chairs currently sell for about \$28 to \$30 a piece. Inge Decker made a motion that we purchase chairs for \$1200.00. The motion was seconded by David Mast. The motion passed.

Technology Issues:

The Board discussed options for improving the church's internet speed and access. Satellite might be an option. Some board members discussed the unreliability of satellite. David Mast mentioned that he had researched hot spots and suggested buying three cell phones with unlimited data and using their hot spots as the most inexpensive way to

make things work. Tony Keel offered some information as well on this topic.

Office space rental had not yet been the focus of Dream Team as this technology issue needed answered. Hybrid meeting also needs to be pursued but none of these can be resolved at this meeting.

Ken Bartley came back online to note that Olivet's investment advisor at Central Bank of Boone County is Dean McCullar.

Ken also asked what funds the Dream Team proposes using for startup expenses. David Mast suggested borrowing from the Vemer Fund and then reimbursing that money as income comes in.

Nancy Foss made a motion to adjourn. Vickie Spain seconded the motion. Motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 8:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Fitzgerald, Board Secretary

What is this life if, full of care,
We have no time to stand and stare.
No time to stand beneath the boughs
And stare as long as sheep or cows.
No time to see, when woods we pass,

Where squirrels hide their nuts in grass.
No time to see, in broad daylight.
Streams full of stars, like skies at night.
No time to turn at Beauty's glance.
And watch her feet, how they can dance.
No time to wait till her mouth can
Enrich that smile her eyes began.
A poor life this if full of care,
We have no time to stand and stare.

-"Leisure," W.H. Davies

August Olivet Activities & Events

Monday, August 1

12:00 PM Bible Study
1:30 PM Staff Meeting (Zoom)
4:30 PM Loaves & Fishes

Sunday, August 7

9th Sunday after Pentecost
9:30 AM Worship & Wonder
10:30 AM In-person & Drive-in Worship
3:00 PM Worship posted to YouTube

Monday, August 8

12:00 PM Bible Study (Zoom)
1:30 PM Staff Meeting (Zoom)

Tuesday, August 9

6:30 PM Vision Team Mtg.

Sunday, August 14

10th Sunday after Pentecost
9:30 AM Worship & Wonder
10:30 AM In-person & Drive-in Worship
11:30 AM Sustainable Living Team Mtg.
3:00 PM Worship posted to YouTube

Monday, August 15

12:00 PM Bible Study (Zoom)
1:30 PM Staff Meeting (Zoom)
7:00 PM Board Meeting (Zoom)

Wednesday, August 17

Newsletter Articles Due

Sunday, August 21

11th Sunday after Pentecost
9:30 AM Worship & Wonder
10:30 AM In-person & Drive-in Worship
3:00 PM Worship posted to YouTube

Monday, August 22

12:00 PM Bible Study (Zoom)
1:30 PM Staff Meeting (Zoom)

Wednesday, August 24

Newsletters Mailed
7:00 PM Choir Resumes

Sunday, August 28

12th Sunday after Pentecost
9:30 AM Worship & Wonder
10:30 AM In-person & Drive-in Worship
3:00 PM Worship posted to YouTube

Monday, August 29

12:00 PM Bible Study (Zoom)
1:30 PM Staff Meeting (Zoom)

Wednesday, August 31

7:00 PM Choir



Olivet Christian Church
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