

December 2022

Making the grace of God real for people.

Olivet Connections

* "Grace means that all of your mistakes now serve a purpose instead of serving shame." (Brene Brown)

Advent & Christmas at Olivet

Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation.

—Luke 1:48b-50



This Advent season we will again be partnering with A Sanctified Art to offer a series entitled "From Generation to Generation...". We'll explore together how God's good news transcends time and space and is meant to be passed on from generation to generation.

We'll look together at the characters in our scriptures and wonder: What did each character pass on or contribute? How did they participate in God's liberation and love? Who tried to thwart God's justice and what can we learn from them? What is our role now? What will we carry forth, and what should we leave behind?

Join us as we tell again a story of love that came here and walked among us, that was born in a humble manger to uncertain parents with shepherds nearby, that we pass from generation to generation because, without fail, it continues to change us and shape the way we live.

Hanging of the Greens

Saturday, November 26, 10:00 AM

Help us adorn the sanctuary and building for the Advent season. All are welcome.

Advent Craft Night

Tuesday, December 6, 6:00-7:30 PM

Spend an evening creating advent crafts with us! This is an intergenerational event with projects for everyone. Help us to know how many supplies to gather by RSVPing here: <https://forms.gle/h77DTckkqnkv4nVL9>

Christmas Cantata

Sunday, December 11, 10:30 AM

Our choir will be leading our worship this day with a beautiful cantata arrangement.

Blue Christmas Service

Wednesday, December 14, 6:00 PM

Not everyone feels joyful around the holidays. The Blue Christmas Service is a safe and sacred space to share prayers and laments, to mourn the losses and griefs of our lives, to let the tears flow, to pray for justice and restoration, and to hope against hope that "God will set things right over all the earth." All are welcome to participate in this special service in person. It will also be posted online the following day. We extend a special invitation to all who are carrying grief, anxiety, and fears during this season.

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Children's Christmas Program & Party

Sunday, December 18, 10:30 AM

Our kids and youth will share the story of God's good news with us during worship this day. A small Christmas party will immediately follow the service.

Caroling

Sunday, December 18, 2:00 PM

Help us spread some Christmas cheer! We'll gather at the church before heading out into the community for caroling.

Christmas Eve Services

Saturday, December 24, 5:00 PM & 8:00 PM

We're offering two candlelight Christmas Eve services at 5:00 and 8:00 PM. Join us as we tell the story again of God-with-us.

Christmas Day Worship

Sunday, December 25, 10:30 AM

Christmas Day is on a Sunday this year, so we're inviting you to bring your family Christmas to church for worship. Bring your favorite Christmas breakfast item to share and wear your jammies, and together we'll share the stories of Jesus and sing our favorite Christmas carols.

NOTE: There will be no Worship & Wonder on December 25th or January 1st.

December Food Bank 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 fourth quarter of 2022 will go to Central Missouri Food Pantry. 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 ♦ pancake mix and syrup ♦ granola bars
- ♦ cereal – instant oatmeal, dry cereals
- ♦ cornbread mix, muffin mix, biscuit mix

Coffee Fellowship



Please join us for Coffee and Fellowship on Sundays at 9:30 AM. We will have coffee, kids drinks, and refreshments and of course great conversations! Hope to see you there!! If you would like assist with coffee fellowship, serving and/or baking please contact Rockie Alden at mjralden@yahoo.com or 573-999-9239.



If you would like to be removed from our newsletter mailing list, please let us know. If you would like to change the way you receive the newsletter via email or being notified via email when we upload to our website, please let us know. Contact Becky if you would like to make any of these changes at olivetcc.office@gmail.com or 573-442-0336.

Wednesday, December 16th

Newsletter Deadline



Olivet Church Board Meeting - September 19, 2022, 7:00 PM

Members Present:

Joe Reeder, Vickie Spain, Barbara Fitzgerald, Inge Decker, Ginny Edgar, Sarah Frost, Tony Keel, David Mast, Julia Jackson, Nancy Foss, Dennis Bettenhausen.

Also present:

Treasurer, Diane Bartley and Finance Chairman, Ken Bartley.

Staff Present:

Reverend Hannah Ryan

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 PM by President, Joe Reeder. Reverend Hannah Ryan opened the meeting with a prayer.

Minutes were reviewed by the board. Inge Decker made a motion to approve the minutes. Vickie Spain seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Financial statements:

Presented by Diane Bartley. Inge made a motion that the Financial Statements for September 2022 be accepted. Vickie Spain seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Financial Chairman, Ken Bartley noted that September was not our best month. September was our 4th worst month for identified giving. We were short by \$8871.31. Ken provided a third quarter comparison over last year. The identified giving was up by 10 per cent. Total income was up by 7 per cent and total expenses were up by 10 per cent over 2021. Prepaid pledges were up by 87 per cent over last year at the end of the third quarter. The fourth quarter needs to be strong to break even. Ken noted that Fourth quarter used to

be our best quarter, but in recent years that has not been the case.

Minister Report:

Reverend Hannah Ryan reported that it has been a busy month. She had worked with committee heads and staff to put together a narrative budget for the annual meeting. Natalie had planned the Blessing of the Animals and they blessed 13 dogs. Hannah had worked with Rob Foss to perform personnel reviews, except for Natalie. The Worship Committee is working to reinstate volunteers for Deacons and other worship volunteers. November 20 will be a Covid Craft Fair to introduce crafts developed during the pandemic. Worship is making plans for Advent/Christmas. The Dream Team has an open house this next Sunday for congregation members. The Vision Team is gathering Denomination Identity information, demographics, and reviewing congregational surveys. Hannah had also helped with Vesper services at Westbury for Sally Robinson while she was on sabbatical. Natalie and Hannah attended a Regional Assembly educational session on Congregational Flourishing. It was interesting to learn that other congregations are experiencing similar issues and impacts from the pandemic. This next Sunday will be Natalie's installation. Co-Regional Minister, Reverend Ron Routledge, will be present along with a guest speaker who has been instrumental to Natalie's ministry.

Joe reviewed the Annual Meeting, noting that we passed the amendment to lower the number of board members required to 12. The new slate of

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Olivet Church Board Meeting - September 19, 2022, 7:00 pm

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officers and the 2023 Budget were approved. Now, we need to consider board leadership for next year and will elect officers in December. If you have an interest in an officer position, please let us know. Incoming board members will be invited to the November and December meetings.

With no further business, Inge Decker made a motion to adjourn the meeting. David Mast seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Fitzgerald, Board Secretary

Beloved Church, words can not fully express the love and gratitude I wish I could convey to each of you. From day one you have loved on me fully, and it is so appreciated. Your generous gift and recognition for Pastor Appreciation Sunday was amazing and very much valued. You all are a treasured gift to me and I am honored to serve as one of your pastors! I pray for many more days of shared ministry.

- Natalie



Olivet Beloveds,

This pastor feels deeply appreciated! Thank you, thank you, thank you for the flowers, notes, gifts, and thoughtful words you shared with us for Pastor Appreciation Month. I am endlessly grateful that God has called us to do this work together and that we get to serve alongside one another with such joy. Blessings be upon you as we enter this next season of life together.

- Rev. Hannah

Honoring Our Elders

The Olivet Constitution makes provision for the designation of Honorary Deacon or Honorary Elder for those persons who have served the church with distinction but are now retired from active responsibility. This year Luke Youngman and Fred Martz, two long time Olivet members, were affirmed as Honorary Elders at Olivet's Annual Meeting on October 16th.

With family members at his side, Luke was presented with an honorary citation following the Annual Meeting. We look forward to doing the same for Fred on Sunday, December 18th during worship.

CROP Walk News Update

The Columbia CROP Hunger Walk Coordinating Committee extends heart-felt thanks to all who participated in the 2022 Walk and contributed toward surpassing our goal of \$21,000. **TOGETHER WE RAISED \$21,944.41.**



Together we indeed are **BEING THE GOOD** by re-imagining a world built upon shared humanity and radical generosity. Thank you!

Olivet December Activities & Event

Sunday, December 4

2nd Sunday of Advent

- 9:30 AM Fellowship Time
- 9:30 AM Sunday School
- 9:30 AM Worship & Wonder
- 10:30 AM In-person & Drive-in Worship
- 3:00 PM Worship posted to YouTube

Monday, December 5

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

Tuesday, December 6

- 6:00 PM Advent Craft Night

Wednesday, December 7

- 6:00 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal
- 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, December 8

- 6:00 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal
- 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal

Saturday, December 10

- 8:15 PM Andrea Lyn Event

Sunday, December 11

3rd Sunday of Advent

Poinsettia Sunday

- 9:30 AM Fellowship Time
- 9:30 AM Sunday School
- 9:30 AM Worship & Wonder
- 10:30 AM Worship - *Cantata*
- 3:00 PM Worship posted to YouTube
- 5:00 PM Choir Christmas Party - Broz Home

Monday, December 12

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

Wednesday, December 14

- No Bell Choir Rehearsal or Choir Rehearsal
- 6:00 PM Blue Christmas Service

Sunday, December 18

4th Sunday of Advent

Christmas Special Offering

- 9:30 AM Fellowship Time
- 9:30 AM Sunday School
- 9:30 AM Worship & Wonder
- 10:30 AM Worship - *Christmas Program*
- 11:30 AM *Christmas Party w/ Santa*
- 2:00 PM Christmas Caroling
- 3:00 PM Worship posted to YouTube

Monday, December 19

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

Wednesday, December 23

1st Day of Winter

Newsletters Articles Due

- 6:00 PM Bell Choir Rehearsal
- 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal

Saturday, December 24

Christmas Eve

- 5:00 PM Christmas Eve Worship
- 8:00 PM Christmas Eve Worship

Sunday, December 25

Christmas Special Offering

Christmas Day

- 10:30 AM Christmas Brunch

Monday, December 26 - Friday, December 30

- Church Office Closed
- No Bible Study or Staff Mtg.

Wednesday, December 28

- No Choir Rehearsal or Bell Choir
- 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal

Saturday, December 31

Happy New Year!



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OFFICE HOURS:

8:30 AM to 4:30 PM
Monday - Friday

OFFICE PHONE:

573.442.0336

EMAIL:

olivetchc.office@gmail.com

WEB:

www.olivetchristian.org

FACEBOOK:

www.Facebook.com/OlivetChristianChurch

CALENDAR:

<https://www.olivetchristian.org/calendar>

STAFF:

Rev. Hannah Ryan
Co-Minister

Rev. Natalie Dixon Crewell
Co-Minister

Adriene Floyd
Worship Arts Supervisor

Becky Teacutter
Administrative Office Coordinator