

# Olivet Connections

A PUBLICATION OF OLIVET CHRISTIAN CHURCH

MAKING THE GRACE OF GOD REAL FOR ALL PEOPLE

## GRANNY'S HOUSE SCHOOL SUPPLIES – looking for answers???

Granny's House serves children and their families in the central Columbia public housing neighborhoods.

Our 150th Anniversary Team, our Children's Christian Ed Department, and our Outreach Team collaborated to make sure those children had school supplies this year. From July 13 thru August 18, we collected school supplies.

Our goal was to share at least 25 of every item on our School Supplies List, BUT...

***because of YOUR excitement, we shared far more... we shared school supplies and love.***

- 25 - bottles of hand sanitizer
- 25 - boxes of quart storage bags
- 25 - boxes of gallon storage bags
- 26 - boxes of 24 colored pencils
- 35 - earbuds
- 43 - backpacks
- 47 - pencil boxes or pouches
- 47 - boxes of facial tissues
- 48 - packages of colored markers
- 52 - packages of loose-leaf paper
- 54 - packages of pencils
- 58 - boxes of 12 colored pencils

- 68 - packages of 24 crayons
- 68 - plain pocket folders
- 76 - scissors
- 77 - spiral lined note books
- 106 - glue sticks



**Fae and Nora Crewell helped count and pack the supplies for delivery to Granny's House.**



### August Food Generosity Box

165# of non-perishable food to Destiny Worship Center Pantry

130 Fiesta Pie meals to diners at Loaves & Fishes



### IN THIS ISSUE:

CROP Walk	p2
Fall Opportunities	p2,4
150th News	p3
Sustainable Living	p4
July Board Mtg	p5
Calendar	p6
Scout Project	p7
And MORE good news!	

### Our Money Story: New Series this Fall

Whether we recognize it or not, we all have a money story. Our stories are, at various times, ones of abundance or scarcity, fear or joy, shame or hope. Money and possessions are two of the most common topics in scripture, and Jesus talked about money more than faith and prayer. Therefore, we know our money stories are also spiritual stories. So, this fall, we are going to tell our stories to one another—our own and the church's—and we are going to see where God might be speaking a new narrative of liberation and justice into existence.

We invite you to join us on Sunday, September 22nd as we begin this new stewardship series. Together we will remember, release, reimagine, and restore our money stories so that we can write the one God is begging us to live into.



### September Trivia Question:

**What two Olivet members are direct descendants of an Olivet minister?**

## BUILDING RESILIENT COMMUNITIES

### Columbia CROP Hunger Walk Sunday, September 15, 2024

Stephens Lake Park – Gordon Shelter –  
off E Broadway

**1:00 – Registration** opens. Bring dona-  
tions & high-protein canned food item.

**1:30 – Welcome Program** for Step-off  
begins ... meet our local partners.

**1:45 – 3:00 – Walk** the Lake Trail or Park  
Perimeter Trail. ‘Can-struction’ begins as  
we visit with our neighbors; snacks availa-  
ble, final tallies announced.

**3:00 – 3:45 – Closing** Musical Showcase

All day – Shakespeare’s Pizza 15% Fund-  
raiser at all 3 locations. (Good on all  
menu items, gift cards & apparel.)

Get required coupon at CROP WALK Ta-  
ble, in Weekly Updater or

[www.crophungerwalk.org/columbiamo](http://www.crophungerwalk.org/columbiamo)

Our WALK supports real people who face  
real challenges and are in need of real  
solutions ... in Columbia and around the  
world through Church World Service.

**Loaves & Fishes Soup Kitchen** has  
served an evening meal every night since  
1983. This spring we celebrated when “D”  
and “N” finally got their own apartment.

**Russell Chapel Community Pantry**  
changes lives. “B” & her daughter were  
sleeping in their car. “B” is now back on

her feet,  
finished  
college  
and ob-  
tained a  
teaching  
position.

**Destiny Worship Center Food Pantry**  
provides essentials with love. Laid off  
from her job, a single mom with 3 children  
was unsure how she would feed her fami-  
ly. Picking up her children at Destiny’s  
Learning Center, she received large gro-  
cery bags full of nutritious food from Des-  
tiny’s Pantry.

**Fifth Street Christian Church** serves a  
wholesome community meal monthly,  
provides an emergency food pantry and  
is a strong, visible presence in their  
Douglass Park neighborhood, where folks  
who regularly use the Park are now  
providing ‘security’ for church activities  
there – strengthening neighborhood trust  
and community support.

**See posters in Fellowship Hall to learn  
how Church World Service is actively  
serving Texas communities in the  
wake of Hurricane Beryl, Ukrainian  
children in neighboring Moldova, and  
families in Honduras, Paraguay & Tan-  
zania.**



### Fall Adult Class Study *Engaging Christian Nationalism*

Coming this Fall: "Engaging  
Christian Nationalism." This  
Adult Sunday School Class will  
be seeking to understand the  
development of Christian Na-  
tionalism in the USA and our  
role in addressing the threats of  
this ideology to church and soci-  
ety. We will meet each Sunday  
morning in Classroom 2, **9:00 to  
9:45, Sept. 8 through Nov. 3**  
(nine sessions).

We will be studying the  
book *Baptizing America: How  
Mainline Protestants Helped  
Build Christian Nationalism*, by  
Brian Kaylor and Beau Under-  
wood, Chalice Press 2024. (For  
those who want to order the  
book, a sign-up sheet is post-  
ed.)

A secondary text will be *The  
Flag and The Cross*, by Gorski  
and Perry, 2022; (not required  
reading). Larry Brown will be  
moderating the class.

#### OFFICE CLOSED

The church office will be closed on  
Monday, September 2, for Labor  
Day. We will reopen on Tuesday  
morning for regular business hours.

**Help us make a marathon effort against hunger as we walk toward  
a ‘Team-cumulative’ distance of 260 miles and an Olivet Team  
goal of \$4,500.**

**Walk with us at Stephens Lake Park and/or the week before.** Walk in your neigh-  
borhood or local park, at your gym, on your home treadmill – on your own schedule &  
report miles at the CROP WALK Table.

**Donate by cash or check, made out to CWS/CROP, at the CROP WALK Table in  
Fellowship Hall.** To donate by mail, contact Linda Reed Brown, CROP WALK treas-  
urer, at [lreedbrown@hotmail.com](mailto:lreedbrown@hotmail.com)

**Donate securely online.** Go to [www.crophungerwalk.org/columbiamo](http://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.

**To set up a FB fundraiser, go to** [Set up a Linked Facebook Fundraiser | CROP  
Hunger Walk Help Center](#)

**September 29 -  
Community Dance  
& Ice Cream  
Social!**

Participate in the 2nd CROSS MO CROP WALK Hike & Bike Event in late September or early October. Hikers and Cyclists  
can sign up for any portion of either trek and join Don Harter, trek organizer.

Information at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4BA5AB2CA5FEC52-50066014-cross#/>



## Beyond Our Walls – Reaching Out to the Community for 150 Years

Olivet has a rich history of being actively involved in the community. After all, the church started as a community church. Many events involved the local community such as Bible School, the Fish Fry (yes, that was an annual event), the annual Barbecue and most recently our 150th carnival celebration.

Olivet has also made faith-filled financial decisions in order to do more in the community. Did you know at one point in time, the Barbecue proceeds were all used for the General Ministry Fund to support our church? But in 1982 a decision was made by Olivet to look outside of ourselves and into the larger community and to turn half of the proceeds from the annual Barbecue into Outreach efforts in the local community. That tradition continues today.

**Denominational and Interdenominational Outreach** – Olivet has made other conscious decisions to reach out financially for Outreach efforts. In order to raise funds, many luncheons have been held such as the taco luncheon and chili and soup luncheon to name a few. Your generous gifts at these dinners help support the worldwide community through efforts like Week of Compassion, whose funds go to disaster relief, and Reconciliation Ministries, which helps diverse communities better understand each other, find compassion for others, and work together.

**Adopt a Family** – The annual Thanksgiving dinner proceeds help us adopt 4 or 5 families (averaging 20-25 children) at Christmas time through the Voluntary Action Center. Gift lists from the families often include basic essentials such as blankets, sheets, toilet tissue, toothpaste, laundry soap and other household goods in addition to the toys and clothing for the children. You have the fun of shopping for these families from our Angel Tree or giving a monetary contribution and let someone else do the shopping. Olivet's youth use funds from the Angel Tree dinner that they sponsor to raise money so they can shop for gifts for these adopted families.



**Heifer International** – Our young people are also actively involved in reaching out to the larger community through what we have called “Quarter Sunday”. When a 5th Sunday occurs in a month, YOU bring quarters, and the children collect them. Later, the children make a decision about what they will purchase through the Heifer Project. In the last two years, because of your generosity with quarters, they have been able to give a flock of chickens, a pig, a heifer, a water buffalo, an alpaca, honeybees and have sent two girls to school. Wow! It just shows that many small contributions can make a difference in the lives of people around the world. And those gifts just keep on giving. Our young people have also attended a “camp” that Heifer sponsors to actually physically learn how people in other countries live who don’t have all the things we have.

**Shawl Ministry** – Our Shawl Ministry was consecrated in a special service led by Rev. Dennis Sweargin on Sunday, September 14, 2008. Since that time, over thirty shawl makers have delivered almost 500 shawls and afghans, made in prayers

as a prayer for those in need of solace, hope and grace. In addition, countless pocket prayer squares have been shared. Key original members include LuAnna Shively, Margaret Klug, Betty Glenn, Jackie Glenn, Joy Morgan, Amy Crousore, Gracie Frost, and Linda Graue, Coordinator.



**Food Pantry Outreach** – You may have noticed the food pantry area in Fellowship Hall. Your contributions assist several local food banks in the area such as Russell Chapel Food Pantry, Destiny Worship Center Food Pantry, Demeret Neighborhood Food Pantry and Central Missouri Food Pantry. When you give generously on Souper Bowl Sunday, you are also contributing to the efforts of Olivet to feed our hungry neighbors.

**Loaves and Fishes**– Olivet has many “behind the scenes” workers for this once-a-month event. Those folks cook wonderful main courses and desserts to help feed our neighbors who are homeless or who have a home but don’t have the means to pay all the bills and provide nutritious meals for their families. (Cont'd on p7)

## Annie and Abel Van Meter State Park Fieldtrip

**Date: Saturday, October 5, 2024**

On Saturday, October 5, 2024, the Sustainable Living Team will host a fieldtrip to **Annie and Abel Van Meter State Park**. We will carpool from the church parking lot along scenic back roads to one of the state's smaller, but significant state parks. A tour of Missouri's **American Indian Cultural Center** at the park will provide background on the Missouria (now the Otoe-Missouria) people who had a thriving village near the park between about 1450 and the late 1700s. Warfare with the Sac and Fox and European diseases such as smallpox drove the Missouria out of Saline County. At its height, the village was home to about 5,000 people. By 1804, William Clark noted that less than 400 remained.

In 1932, Annie Vanmeter (original spelling) gave the state of Missouri 369 acres for a state park in memory of her husband, Abel. A local farmer, Jim Utz, discovered an engraved catlinite tablet in 1936 while plowing his field near the park. Archaeological excavations led by Robert Bray from the University of Missouri discovered the Missouria village and other features on what is now known as the

Utz Site (the archaeological site is now part of the state park). The university ran summer field schools to excavate the site from the late 1930s until the early 1960s.

Today, Annie and Abel Van Meter State Park features a campground, picnic area, trails, fishing, and Missouri's American Indian Cultural Center. For more information on the park, visit their website at [Annie and Abel Van Meter State Park | Missouri State Parks \(mostateparks.com\)](https://www.mostateparks.com/annie-and-abel-van-meter-state-park)

A **sign up sheet** will be posted on the bulletin board in Fellowship Hall from **September 1, until September 29**. If you have questions, please contact John Cuning via email at [cunningjd@hotmail.com](mailto:cunningjd@hotmail.com)

### Itinerary:

- 8:30 a.m.: Depart Olivet Christian Church parking lot, carpool to Annie and Abel Van Meter State Park (if you would like to camp at the park and meet the group there, camping reservations are strongly encouraged)
- 10:30 a.m.: Tour Missouri's American Indian Cultural Center
- 11:30 a.m.: Picnic lunch in the park picnic area
- 12:30 – 2:30 p.m.: Driving tour of the park with stops to see selected sites
- 2:30 p.m.: Depart the park and return to Olivet

## Faith Formation Opportunities at Olivet

No matter your age or where you are in your faith journey, there are opportunities for you to grow and learn in your relationship with God.

### Children & Youth

**Worship & Wonder**—This class is for children in Pre-K through early elementary. We model our time together after “big” worship—telling God’s story, responding to the Word, praying together, and blessing our time together. We wonder together about what God is telling us in scripture, providing lots of space for curiosity, listening, and play. This class meets from 9:30-10:15 AM on Sundays.

**Junior Youth Fellowship (JYF)**—This class is for those in upper elementary. We follow the lectionary and explore in greater depth the scriptures shared in worship each Sunday. We do this through reading, acting, playing games, and crafts. This class meets from 9:30-10:15 AM on Sundays.

### Adults

**Bible Study**—Our Bible Study group meets every Monday at 12 PM on Zoom. We read four scriptures from assigned lectionary readings for the upcoming Sunday and spend time discussing each text. Some of us bring our lunches; some of us bring ourselves. Some of us prepare; some of us do not. Some of us have brief relationships with scripture; some of us have long and enduring relationships with scripture. All are welcome!

**Sunday School**—We periodically offer short-term and topical Sunday School classes for adults on Sunday mornings at 9 AM. These classes range from book studies to self-facilitated discussions to thoughtful lectures. If you have an idea for a class you would like to lead, let us know!

### Libraries

In our Children's Library, located across from the Music Room, you can find books and DVDs to check out and take home, or you can pull up a comfy chair and start reading! This library also has a great selection of resources for parents.

Our main library, located at the end of the office wing, offers many thoughtful aids if you want to move from reading to studying the Bible. Check the shelves for recognized authors' work, Bible dictionaries, commentaries, and socially-conscious resources.



VISIT US ONLINE **OlivetChristian.org**

# OLIVET CHRISTIAN CHURCH BOARD MEETING

## JULY 15, 2024 @ 7:00PM

Present: Karen Broz, Sarah Frost, David Mast, John Cuning, Jim Spain, Carolyn Henry, Rita Reeder, Gabby Comstock, Nancy Foss

Staff members present: Reverend Hannah Ryan, Reverend Natalie Dixon Crewell

Treasurer Diane Bartley, and Ken Bartley were present.

The July 15, 2024, Olivet Church Board Meeting was called to order by President Karen Broz at 7:02 pm. Reverend Natalie opened the meeting with a prayer.

The minutes for June 2024 were reviewed and approved.

### Financial Reports

The Financial Reports for June 2024 were presented by Diane Bartley. The Balance Sheet, Cash on Hand Reports, and the Budget vs Actual for June were reviewed. Rita made a motion to approve the financial report. David seconded the motion and it passed.

Finance Chairperson, Kenneth Bartley reported the 2024 year compared to 2023 year shows income up 11% and ministry fund gifts up 8%, and expenses are up 8%. The 2024 actual income and expenses plus the projected for the rest of the year shows we may be in the red. Hopefully this will not be the case and we will be in the black.

Finance Committee is making the following recommendations for the money link account:

\$50,000 to J.P. Morgan Liquid Assets Money Fund (PJLXX) 5.06% for 6 months or longer (Note: There is no early withdrawal penalty).

\$50,000 Certificate of Deposit with a Major Center Bank, 5.10% for 3 months (i.e., Goldman Sachs and is FDIC Insured).

\$50,000 in Treasury Bill 5.50% for 2 months (Backed by the U.S. Department of the Treasury)

The board voted and approved for the above investments to start immediately.

Finance Committee is also recommending at a future date (approx. 10% market pullback) that

OCC Money Link funds be added to the current LPL Brokerage account investments:

\$15,000 in iShares Core S&P U.S. Growth ETF (IUSG) for mid-long-term investment.

\$15,000 in iShares Core S&P U.S. Value ETF (IUSV) for mid-long-term investment.

The Trustee Report was sent by email. Karen summarized the report; The trustees have permanent funds that we cannot withdraw money from, but we do receive the interests that it earns. The balances were reviewed, some funds were transferred to accounts that would have higher yields. The distributions will go into the general

fund. The Mary Cervinka's Memorial Funds were put into a permanent fund with the funds going to outreach.

### Minister Reports

Reverend Natalie Dixon Crewell reported a busy month with traveling and ministry. Grief group continues and is a rewarding ministry. The Regional Assembly is in St. Joe, Natalie will be doing some story telling. Dream Team has been meeting and met with Andrea Lynn Events. They want to hold a wholeness summit at Olivet and rent the entire space in the spring of 2025. There is another group that is also interested in potential monthly events.

Reverend Hannah reported VBS was great and appreciated all the help. Blessing of the backpack is in August. September kicks off Sunday school programs for adults. Christian Nationalism class by Larry Brown, Natalie teaching a new to Olivet class for others to learn about the 'Olivet Way.' The new office administrator is Adriene Floyd. The church office hours were adjusted and will be closed on Fridays. Becky will help with the transition and then her last day is July 31st. Hannah is on the regional board and has been planning the regional assembly. Attended a conversation about best practices related to worship, accessibility, and disability. These line up with our vision. More conversations are to come and how we can incorporate those ideas in our practices.

### Unfinished Business

The Old Church Team - updated by David. Carpet was installed in the sanctuary. There was no excess water after the last rain.

Finance Team - will meet in July. The members are Linda Reed Brown, Rob Foss, Mike Alden, Ken and Diane Bartley, Jere Gilles, Sarah Kingsbury, Richard Edgar (to attend first meeting).

Policy/Procedure Manual Update Team- will start in the fall. Team members are John Cuning, Sarah Frost. More members are needed if anyone is interested. Rob Foss has already updated a lot with the personnel part of the manual. Hannah will start updating the haven and kids' safety part of the manual.

150 Year Celebration Team - 150th team is going well, VBS went well. School supply drive has started, and the float trip is coming up. The backpack blessing is in August. In September we will have ice cream and a community dance.

### New Business - none

The board meeting adjourned at 8:08 pm.

Submitted by Sarah Frost





# SEPTEMBER

## Activities & Events

**Sunday, September 1****15<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

9:30AM JYF Sunday School / Worship & Wonder  
 9:30AM Fellowship Time  
 10:30AM Worship

**Monday, September 2****Labor Day - Office CLOSED**

No Bible study or staff meeting  
 4:00PM Loaves & Fishes (Ashley Street Center)

**Sunday, September 8****16<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

9:00AM Adult Class: Engaging Christian Nationalism  
 9:30AM JYF Sunday School / Worship & Wonder  
 9:30AM Fellowship Time  
 10:30AM Worship

**Monday, September 9**

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

**Tuesday, September 10**

10:00AM Grief Support Group

**Sunday, September 15****17<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

9:00AM Adult Class  
 9:30AM JYF Sunday School / Worship & Wonder  
 9:30AM Fellowship Time  
 10:30AM Worship  
 1:00PM CROP Walk

**Monday, September 16**

12:00PM Bible Study (Zoom)  
 1:30PM Staff Meeting (Zoom)  
 5:30PM Program Council  
 7:00PM Board Meeting (Zoom)

**Wednesday, September 18****Newsletter Articles Due****Sunday, September 22****18<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

9:00AM Adult Class  
 9:30AM JYF Sunday School / Worship & Wonder  
 9:30AM Fellowship Time  
 9:30AM Worship & Wonder  
 10:30AM Worship

**Monday, September 23**

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

**Tuesday, September 24**

10:00AM Grief Support Group

**Wednesday, September 25****Newsletters Mailed****Saturday, September 28**

9:00am - Missouri UMC - sponsored by Race Onward:  
 Communities of Faith consider Christian Nationalism

**Sunday, September 29****19<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

9:00AM Adult Class  
 9:30AM JYF Sunday School / Worship & Wonder  
 9:30AM Fellowship Time  
 10:30AM Worship

**QUARTER SUNDAY / 5TH SUNDAY HYMN SING****150TH CELEBRATION****COMMUNITY DANCE & ICE CREAM SOCIAL****Monday, September 30**

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



Want to stay up-to-date  
 on activities and events  
 at Olivet? Check the  
 calendar on our website  
 (updated daily):

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

Submit your  
 favorite  
 recipe to the  
 church office  
 for sharing in  
 the monthly  
 Olivet  
 Connections



(cont'd from pg. 3) Along with those who are cooking delicious food we have a faithful crew who does the prep, serving and cleanup. Those cooks and servers have prepared and served over 19,430 meals since our first meal on November 5, 2007. We get many appreciative comments from our meal guests who are grateful for a warm nutritious meal and we are fortunate to be able to provide the meals and the fellowship with them. As you can see, out of our abundance many are blessed. 2 Corinthians 9:8 reminds us that "... God is able to give you more than you need, so that you will always have all you need for yourselves and more than enough for every good cause." May Olivet continue to share abundantly ... making the grace of God real for all people.



Uless & Garner  
man the dish-  
washing station

The Olivet crew  
preparing to  
serve a delici-  
ous meal



## Scouts build a/c shelter for Olivet



Earlier this summer, a group of Scouts from Troop 4 including our own Shawn Keel constructed an attractive lattice-work fence for the purpose of sheltering Olivet's air conditioners from the elements. In addition to shielding the units from the weather, the fence adds an attractive feature to the southeast corner of the building.

The fence project was completed as Shawn's Eagle Scout project, and was done at the suggestion of folks from the property committee. Both Shawn and Bob Broz worked together to establish a plan for the project, and the young men worked through rain in the morning and blistering heat in the afternoon to complete the project.

We are grateful to Shawn and the other Scouts pictured for their leadership and dedication to Scouting.

Pictured, L-R: Jacob, Tyler, Aaron and Shawn.

## 2024 BBQ Grant Recipients

Every year the Outreach Committee is able to grant half of the proceeds of the BBQ to local service organizations, enabling us to extend God's grace, and enabling them to extend their mission. This year, Olivet will be able to grant to our two recipients \$2,159.39 each, thanks to your generosity with time, talent and willingness to cook and serve chicken and all the sides. THANK YOU, OLIVET!



OUR BBQ grant to First Chance for Children supports the purchase of diapers for infants and toddlers and feminine products for their moms.

Our BBQ grant to Aging Best (Central Missouri Area Agency on Aging) will help expand services for elders and their caregivers in the outlying counties to the south and east of Boone, Callaway and Cole.



## Olivet Christian Church

1991 S Olivet Rd  
Columbia, MO 65201

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LIVESTREAM

[www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com)

### Church Office Hours

The Church Office is open  
8:30AM - 4:30PM  
Monday through Thursday.

SCAN HERE



ONLINE  
GIVING

[www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com)

#### ADDRESS:

1991 S OLIVET RD  
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#### OFFICE HOURS:

8:30AM to 4:30PM M-TH

#### WEB:

[www.olivetchristian.org](http://www.olivetchristian.org)

#### FACEBOOK:

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OlivetChristianChurch](http://www.Facebook.com/OlivetChristianChurch)  
[www.Facebook.com/  
olivetchristianevents](http://www.Facebook.com/olivetchristianevents)

#### CALENDAR:

[https://www.olivetchristian.org/  
calendar](https://www.olivetchristian.org/calendar)

#### INSTAGRAM:

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@olivetevents

#### STAFF:

Rev. Hannah Ryan  
*Co-Minister*

Rev. Natalie Dixon Crewell  
*Co-Minister*

Adriene Floyd  
*Administrative Office Coordinator  
Worship Arts Supervisor*

Angie Carlson  
*Pianist*