

# **MT OLIVET UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

410 W. South Range Rd.  
North Lima, Ohio 44452

Church Office: (330)549-2169  
[office@mtolivetucc.org](mailto:office@mtolivetucc.org)

Address service requested

Michael Smith, Pastor

Stacey Jarrett, Office Manager

Kay Williams, Music Director

Natalie Biller, Handbell Director

Spencer Reed, Organist

Vaughn Colkitt, Phill Dispenza & Sam Flak, Audio/ Visual Coordinators



**FEBRUARY 2022 ~ VOICE MAGNIFIED**

*Loving God, Servings Others, Welcoming All*



# WELCOME FEBRUARY!

Love is in the Air!

## **February Meetings**

- 3<sup>rd</sup> - Spiritual Council – 8pm
- 9<sup>th</sup> - Consistory – 7pm
- 19<sup>th</sup> - Grief Group – 9am in Chapel

## **Important Dates**

- ❖ 6<sup>th</sup> – Communion & Blanket Sunday
- ❖ 13<sup>th</sup> – Wear Red to Church!
- ❖ 13<sup>th</sup> – Voice Magnified News Due
- ❖ 14<sup>th</sup> – Happy Valentine’s Day

## **February Liturgists**

6<sup>th</sup> – Barb Feaster  
13<sup>th</sup> – Liz Moser  
20<sup>th</sup> – Shirley Jindra  
27<sup>th</sup> Jackie Hollister

See Kay Williams to signup for March dates

## **Alter Flowers**

If you would like to dedicate flowers for a Sunday Service, please contact the office.

## **Upper Room Devotionals**

The booklets are published bi-monthly and we offer them free of charge.  
They are located in the office and in the back of the Sanctuary, alongside the newsletters.

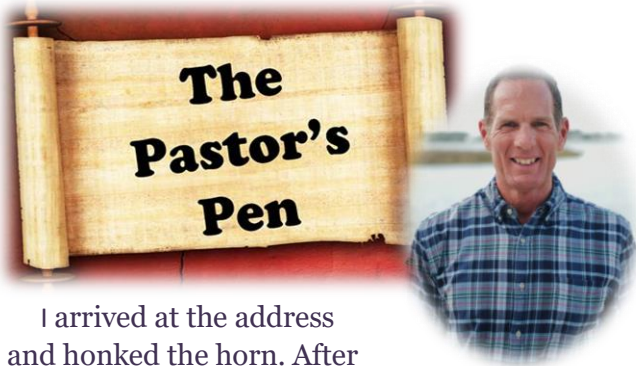
## **Change of Address**

If you have moved or changed your phone number or email address, please notify the office.

## **February Use-of-Church Requests**

16<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> – All Day Dispenza - Kitchen  
20<sup>th</sup> – 3pm-6:30pm Girl Scouts – New Fellowship Hall/Kitchen

**Office Hours:** Monday-Thursday 9am-2:30pm



I arrived at the address and honked the horn. After waiting a few minutes, I walked to the door and knocked..."Just a minute," answered a frail, elderly voice. I could hear something being dragged across the floor. After a long pause, the door opened. A small woman in her 90's stood before me. She was wearing a print dress and a pillbox hat with a veil pinned on it, like somebody out of a 1940's movie.

By her side was a small nylon suitcase. The apartment looked as if no one had lived in it for years. All the furniture was covered with sheets. There were no clocks on the walls, no knickknacks or utensils on the counters. In the corner was a cardboard box filled with photos and glassware.

'Would you carry my bag out to the car?' she said. I took the suitcase to the cab, then returned to assist the woman. She took my arm and we walked slowly toward the curb. She kept thanking me for my kindness. "It's nothing," I told her... "I just try to treat my passengers the way I would want my mother to be treated." "Oh, you're such a good boy," she said. When we got in the cab, she gave me an address and then asked, "Could you drive through downtown?"

"It's not the shortest way," I answered quickly. "Oh, I don't mind," she said. "I'm in no hurry. I'm on my way to a hospice." I looked in the rear-view mirror. Her eyes were glistening. "I don't have any family left," she continued in a soft voice. "The doctor says I don't have very long." I quietly reached over and shut off the meter. "What route would you like me to take?" I asked.

For the next two hours, we drove through the city. She showed me the building where she had once worked as an elevator operator. We drove through the neighborhood where she and her husband had lived when they were newlyweds, she had me pull up in front of a furniture warehouse

that had once been a ballroom where she had gone dancing as a girl.

Sometimes she'd ask me to slow in front of a particular building or corner and would sit staring into the darkness, saying nothing. As the first hint of sun was creasing the horizon, she suddenly said, "I'm tired. Let's go now." We drove in silence to the address she had given me. It was a low building, like a small convalescent home, with a driveway that passed under a portico.

Two orderlies came out to the cab as soon as we pulled up. They were solicitous and intent, watching her every move. They must have been expecting her. I opened the trunk and took the small suitcase to the door. The woman was already seated in a wheelchair. "How much do I owe you?" she asked, reaching into her purse. "Nothing," I said. "You have to make a living," she answered.

"There are other passengers," I responded. Almost without thinking, I bent and gave her a hug. She held onto me tightly. "You gave an old woman a little moment of joy," she said. "Thank you." I didn't pick up any more passengers that shift. I drove aimlessly lost in thought. For the rest of that day, I could hardly talk. What if that woman had gotten an angry driver, or one who was impatient to end his shift? What if I had refused to take the run, or had honked once, then driven away?

On a quick review, I don't think that I have done anything more important in my life. We're conditioned to think that our lives revolve around great moments. But great moments often catch us unaware--beautifully wrapped in what others may consider a small one.

Here's to making small moments great ones!

**Do you need to reach out to the Pastor?**  
He can be contacted on his cell phone at  
**330-446-8188** or by email at  
**[pastormichael62@outlook.com](mailto:pastormichael62@outlook.com)**



## **Consistory News**

by Tammie Jones

As the New Year begins, we look forward to another year of “Loving God, Welcoming All and Serving Others” here at Mt. Olivet!

While we continue to wait on the delivery of the new phone system, the portable phones are in place and working in the interim. Thank you to those that made that work.

The Budget Committee has worked diligently in December on a budget. It's never fun to discuss money, but that Committee deserves a huge thank you for crunching the numbers. Consistory has approved submitting the Committee's proposed budget to the congregation for approval at the Annual Meeting. The good news is that Mt. Olivet finished the year in good shape financially. Thank you to our Financial Secretary and Treasurer for being such good stewards of the finances. And thank you to all who continue to financially support Mt. Olivet.

Consistory has been discussing ways to expand opportunities for giving by allowing offerings to be made on-line. The hope is that it will be more convenient for some who may do most of their banking on-line and for those who are attending worship remotely.

The Children's Sunday School donations of book-bags filled with various goodies; some smaller gift bags of personal toiletries and a monetary gift from the pumpkin roll proceeds was delivered to the Rescue Mission shortly before Christmas. A tour of the facility is planned for Sunday, January 23 immediately after church and we will have lunch after the tour. That will be the January Youth program, but all are invited to attend. I believe the Adult Sunday School Class will be joining the kids. I'm so excited for everyone to see the new Mission facility- it looks amazing. Seeing how their small gifts made a difference, I'm certain that the kids will be encouraged to continue to serve others and spread God's love.

Also, the ornaments and homemade Christmas cards were presented during Christmas caroling. They brought smiles to those receiving them as well as the kids who gave them.

As we prepare for the Annual Meeting and the changes to the Consistory membership, I'd like to acknowledge and thank those who have concluded their terms. Tami Tomich and Corrine Price have served faithfully and contributed greatly to the leadership of Mt. Olivet. A special thanks to Corrine for her years of exemplary service as Secretary. She was a huge help to me personally with her gentle guidance and direction. I know both Tami and Corrine will continue to serve Mt. Olivet in other ways, but they will be missed on Consistory!

So, Happy New Year everyone! Let's approach this year with hearts and minds open to the opportunities our loving God presents to welcome all and serve others.

**Visit our website!**

**<https://www.mtolivetucc.org>**

**Join us on Facebook @  
Mt. Olivet United Church of Christ!**

### **GROUPS THAT MEET AT MT. OLIVET**

**Al-anon** – Mondays at 10am in the Chapel

**AA** – Saturdays at 7pm in NFH

**Boy Scouts** – Tuesdays at 6:30pm in NFH  
Leader meeting 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday at 7pm in Chapel

**Girl Scouts** – Mondays at 5:45pm



# Treasurer's Report

by Linda Eisenbraun

## December

Beginning Balance	\$ 21,809.73
Income	\$ 52,415
Expense	\$(24,662.98)
Ending Balance	\$ 49,561.75

We have received notification that our second PPP loan has been forgiven and the money has transferred from loan payable to income.

Thank you to all for your continued support of Mt. Olivet's mission to serve God, serve others.



## Women's Guild

### News

by Phyllis Manning & Millie Stratton

Women's Guild will be holding our annual **Blanket Sunday** mission program on **Sunday, February 6<sup>th</sup>**. We collect monetary donations which we send to Church World Service. For a \$10 donation they will provide a blanket to someone that has experienced a

tragedy that has disrupted their lives. These blankets provide warmth, as well as encouragement to someone who needs it most. [Make checks payable to: Mt. Olivet Women's Guild.](#)



### Practice Times: THURSDAYS

Handbells at 5:45pm

Choir at 7pm

Handbells will perform during worship on Sunday February 27<sup>th</sup>



Sunday Worship services are still streamed live each **Sunday at 10:30am** on Facebook.



We do not publish member's birthdays in the online version of the newsletter.

See someone missing?  
Email the office @ [office@mtolivetucc.org](mailto:office@mtolivetucc.org)



## MOVERS & SEEKERS

Sundays at 9am  
Meet in the Chapel

Zoom links for the class are sent by email for those that cannot attend.  
Contact Tammie Jones to get put on the list!

Feel free to join in with us at any time! We gather to reflect on scripture, spiritual books, inspirational films and more!



## YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL

Children in grades Pre-K through high school will go to class after the

*Kid's Time* message presented during the Sunday Worship service.

**ANNUAL MEEETING FOR 3Cs** will be at **8pm** at the Old School Marketplace on **Tuesday, February 1<sup>st</sup>**! Come out if you would like to learn more or volunteer to help with food distribution.