

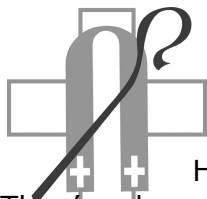


# Olive Leaves

October 2020



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## From Pastor Walt: Reformation Day

*Pastor Walter Harper*

[walt.harper@mtolivesc.org](mailto:walt.harper@mtolivesc.org)

Historians love to point to a specific date and say, "This is where it all began." They've done so with the Reformation, naming the date as October 31, 1517. That, of course, is the date that Martin Luther nailed the 95 Theses to the door of the church in Wittenberg, Germany.

Of course real life is a lot more complicated than that. There were many events that led up to Luther's action. And there have been 500 years of Church History since that time getting us to where we are now.

So how do you summarize all that in a church newsletter article? You can't. But let's point out a few things.

In Bible classes I always like to say that although there were plenty of abuses in the Church of the Late Middle Ages, we shouldn't think that they all come about suddenly, or at once. It was really a matter of one small bad practice sneaking in over here; then another tiny error creeping in over there. At any point along the way you'd hardly notice the problem. But 1500 years in, and the Church had gotten pretty far away from the Early Church.

The New Testament has two sacraments; the Church of the Late Middle Ages had seven. The Early Church saw pastors as shepherds and servants of the congregation; these eventually became un-elected lords of the Church, including offices such as Bishop, Archbishop, Cardinal, and Pope. The Early Church focused on the ministry of Word and Sacrament; the later Church deposed kings and installed rulers friendly to the Church. The Early Church lived on the generous, voluntary contributions of its members; the later Church amassed wealth through a variety of schemes and false teaching.

Into this world, Martin Luther was born. His parents were good Catholics, and raised Martin as such, naming him after St. Martin of Tours.

Although Martin initially went to law school he eventually decided to study for the priesthood in the Church. He was hard-working, disciplined, and serious-minded. He was smart, too; entering college at the age of 17, and earning his Master of Theology degree four

years later. He was ordained a priest, and also became a professor of Theology at the University of Wittenberg.

All that C.V. stuff, but we can't leave out: Luther was always troubled by his own sinfulness and his inability to stand before a holy God. The Church gave him acts of penance to do, and he immersed himself in them. He skipped meals, said prayers on his knees for hours, slept on the floor, beat his body. He went to daily confession, sometimes having nothing interesting to say (as his confessor put it). At the end of all that, he still felt that he was unacceptable to God.

As Luther was wrestling with this, the Pope was getting ready to construct the magnificent Saint Peter's Cathedral in Rome. An expensive project, the fund-raising idea of indulgences was hatched. That is, you could buy the forgiveness of sins, simply by purchasing an indulgence from the Church. But why stop with buying forgiveness for yourself only? Why not buy some extra indulgences for your departed loved ones, who are suffering in Purgatory? The worst of the indulgence merchants was Johann Tetzel.

Having watched all this, Martin Luther began to think critically about indulgences, and he concluded that they were not supported by Scripture. And thus the 95 Theses.

One important thing to know about them is that Luther wrote them in Latin. He intended to start a debate among theologians. He wrote them thinking of himself as a faithful son of the Church, wanting to point out the need for one specific correction. As a priest and a professor, he perceived it as his role to debate such things.

Let's be very clear: Luther meant this to be a debate among scholars, not among the common people. Of course that's not how it went. Someone took the 95 Theses down from the church door (we still don't know who), translated them into German, and, thanks to the invention of the printing press, began spreading them all across Europe.

Is that the beginning of the Reformation? It's certainly significant. But so is what followed.

The Church rejected the Theses, but initially did not place Luther under discipline. Instead a series of debates were hosted, in which various scholars tried to argue Luther out of his position.

Noticing that the Church would not reform itself on the topic of indulgences, Luther began to wonder: What else is going wrong in the Church?

In 1520 Luther wrote three documents that essentially made the break final. These documents were: "On the Freedom of the Christian Man," which said that salvation is by faith and not by obedience to the Church; "The Babylonian Captivity of the Church," which compared the rule of the Pope to the Old Testament oppression of Israel; and "An Appeal to the German Nobility," which said that if the Cardinals wouldn't reform the Church, then the princes should do it.

Of course none of those documents were accepted by Rome, and in June of 1520 Luther was warned that if he kept it up he'd be excommunicated. In December of 1520 he burned that papal document publicly, speaking sharply against the Pope. And in January of 1521 he was officially excommunicated from the Roman Catholic Church.

In April he was called to the Diet of Worms, where he was again called to retract his writings. This is where he gave his famous "Here I stand speech." His boldness caused a total uproar in the room, so much so that Luther walked away from the proceedings, even though the authorities wanted him to be arrested.

As Luther left Worms several allies and supporters staged a fake “kidnapping” of Luther. They hid him in the Wartburg Castle for months. Luther was now a criminal, and the Emperor ordered that anyone who came across him could kill him without prosecution.

And then Luther began writing more. And more. And more.

Fairly soon it was clear that this was not a case of the whole Church against one lone man. There were many in Northern Europe who agreed with Luther. Princedoms and provinces started describing themselves as regions of the Reformation, so much so that Luther was eventually able to move about safely.

In 1530 the Holy Roman Empire called a meeting at Augsburg to debate Theology once more. The Lutherans presented the Augsburg Confession, their statement of faith. (By the way, it’s much more read-able than you might guess; check it out.) It was, of course, rejected by the Catholic emperor. But once again so many princes and dukes supported the Lutheran position that there was no way to enforce any decrees against Lutheranism.

Luther translated the Bible into German, wrote the Small Catechism, and the Large Catechism. He wrote many hymns, some of which are still sung today, even by non-Lutherans. He wrote so many books that his collected works look like an encyclopedia set.

Oh, how much I’ve left out...

And then there’s the story of Lutheranism in America; the history of our own Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. Beyond that, there’s the story of Lutheranism across the world. For example, the largest single Lutheran church body is now the Lutheran Church in Ethiopia, with its 10 million members.

Of course there’s also the story of what God has done and continues to do through this one parish named Mt. Olive-Irmo.

When does the Reformation start? Oh, I guess that October 31, 1517 is one place to hang our hat. As long as we remember that God’s work in the world continues and will continue until the Second Coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. Until then, we pray that His Spirit would keep us faithful to His Word.



### **From our President**

*Jim Crosland, Congregational President*

I would like to start out by thanking all of Church Council for working together to draft the 2021 budget. Most of the chairs reported no change and some added a few things that are needed in the coming year. It was good to see everyone working together, especially during crunch time.

I am also grateful to see some cooler weather move in which means apple picking is around the corner. The crisp, cool mornings with their abundance of sunshine are so welcoming after the August heat. It is very nice to see some familiar faces returning to church. It helps the pattern of normalcy return to our church family. I am hoping that soon, more of us will be worshipping together. We will continue to pray that COVID will move out of our lives permanently.

Safety Tip: Auto break-ins are on the rise again, even in the church parking lot. Please make sure you lock your vehicles and take your personal items of value with you. Most of the reports taken are due to unlocked vehicles.

## Stephen Ministry

*Bill Boykin, Leader*

As the COVID-19 crisis continues to wear on, many people are experiencing *pandemic fatigue* – the mental and emotional exhaustion that comes with the stresses and challenges we are facing. More and more people are feeling worn down by this ongoing crisis and in need of care. People may not realize when they are experiencing *pandemic fatigue*, or they may not think of it as a situation where a Stephen Minister would provide care.

If you or someone you know is struggling with challenges like: isolation or loneliness; anxiety over health; grief due to many kinds of losses; tension from juggling work, childcare, and schooling; financial strain due to job loss; uncertainty about the future; other unexpected life challenges, consider Stephen Ministry.

You don't have to face these challenges alone. A Stephen Minister can make a difference by providing care, compassion, community, and a listening ear. Please contact Bill Boykin, Stephen Leader for more information.

Please continue to keep our Stephen Ministry team in your prayers.



## The Board of Public Relations: Sharing God's Love

*Sue Strouse, Chairperson*

***"God is not unjust; He will not forget your work and the love you have shown Him as you have helped His people and continue to help them." Hebrew 6:10***



October is the beginning of the holiday season and with that comes the time for us to help those that are struggling. Many people have lost their jobs or been furloughed because of the pandemic and are in need of assistance to take care of their families. As Thanksgiving and Christmas draw near, some people will not be excited to celebrate together because of lack of food. Sharing God's Love can help people in need with food donations. Sharing God's Love needs soups, crackers, peanut butter, and jelly, but any food donations would be great.

Our church has been very generous throughout the year donating food and clothing to Sharing God's Love. I would like to share my pottery with our church families that donate items in November. Bring your donation on the date that is to be determined and it will allow you to select a piece of pottery that will be on display.

I will select a date and time during the first two weeks of November, depending on the scheduled activities.

Keep praying and sharing food for all of God's people!

## 2020-2021 Church Officers & Board Members

Below is a list of our church leadership as of September 1st. There are still a few vacancies, so please pray about filling one of them. We need everyone's help to manage God's House!

Mt. Olive Boards and their Members Beginning in September 2020			
<b>President</b>	Jim Crosland	<b>Council Secretary</b>	Barbara Chesley
<b>Vice President</b>	Jason Dennis	<b>Financial Secretary</b>	Paula Helming
<b>Church Treasurer</b>	Dana Magic, temp.		
<b>Elders</b>	<b>Christian Education</b>	<b>Preschool</b>	<b>Worship</b>
Kim BouFawaz	Kathie Bost	Phyllis Griesch	Gloria Meetze
Dennis Dixon*	Rebecca Curry*	Jan McCarthy	Joy Fletcher
Christopher Bauer	Jessica Dennis	Myran Trask*	Sue O'Dell
David Buck	Pat LaGrange	Mike Knowles*	Sherry Ervin
Chris Gepfert	Eric Patterson	Peggy Weed	
Matt Williams		Linda Schmidt	<b>Public Relations</b>
Daniel Zahn	<b>Evangelism</b>	Page Fletcher	Aresa Boykin
<i>vacancy</i>	Chris Slaughter*		Natalie Smith
<i>vacancy</i>	Tina Dixon*	<b>Social Ministry</b>	Linda Gifford*
	Lori Flenner	Norma Hessary	Mitch Greer
<b>Fellowship</b>	Cindy Soto	Suzi Slaughter	Sandy Osborne
Marlene Nes'bit		Katie Greer	Sue Strouse
Kathie Voyles	<b>Trustees</b>	Sue Knowles	
Jill Brabham	Charlie Stuck	Shirlean Sons	<b>Stewardship</b>
Judy Jones	Kevin Kibler		Naven Olson
Debbie Meetze	Mike Prater		<i>vacancy</i>
	Charlie Sandt	* New to Board	<i>vacancy</i>



### Board of Evangelism: What's a Christian to do with Halloween?

These days, children associate Halloween with trick-or-treating and candy. But centuries ago, Christians named the night before All Hallows Day (All Saints Day) Hallows Eve. As the faithful prepared to remember people who were entrusted to resurrection life, they adopted various traditions to poke fun at death.



Around the world, Christians observe Halloween differently: In Poland, kids pray aloud while walking through forests to comfort souls of the dead. In Spain, tolling church bells remind people to remember the saints. In Finland, so many people light candles in cemeteries that the observance is called *seas of light*. Although some Christians steer clear of Halloween, others use it as an evangelism opportunity and provide entertainment alternatives such as harvest parties.

No matter your views, you can remind children that though it is fun to pretend, we can always be ourselves with God. Whatever our features and flaws, we need not and cannot hide from God behind masks. God made us in His holy image and loves us as His holy *hallowed* children.

From *The NESLETTER* Newsletter October 2014



## **Board of Stewardship: Reformation Day**

*Naven Olson, Chairperson*

**"So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the Word of Christ."**

**Romans 10:17 ESV**

The last day of this month is Reformation Day, which commemorates October 31, 1517 when a rediscovery, or maybe I should say a republishing, of foundational Biblical truths began to burst forth. Faith alone, grace alone, Scripture alone and Christ alone received much more emphasis. Bibles in the languages of the common people became much more common.

Today in our society and in some sections of the church, the fruits of The Reformation, which began with Luther posting his 95 Theses, are being negated. Only 18% of millennials attend church regularly per Answers in Genesis. And in some quarters of the professing church, Biblical standards of sexual morality are considered irrelevant; Biblical teaching is subordinated to the findings of "scholarship" or "science" or to the whims of the culture; or it is even taught that faith in Christ is not necessary for salvation. And then there are churches that elevate church tradition or the decrees of the church hierarchy to an almost Scriptural level or have adopted extra-Biblical "sacred texts" many of which were written in America. What shall we, as members of a Bible-believing church do?

First, to paraphrase something Pastor Walt said, let us not fantasize about "fixing the big picture," but instead concentrate on reaching out to family, friends, neighbors, and coworkers – those who are around us.

Second, avoid what Martin Luther called "collier's faith". Luther told the story of a collier (coal miner) who was asked by a theology professor at the University of Prague, "What do you believe?" He replied, "I believe what the church believes." When asked what the church believed, the collier replied, "The church believes what I believe." And at the hour of his death when asked what he believed the professor replied, "I believe what the collier believes." Luther added that the collier and the professor had both believed themselves into the pit of hell and added, "God save us from such faith."

So I would urge you to attend church every week to hear the Word read and preached and to receive the Lord's Supper, to attend the weekly Bible studies when possible, and to read the Bible on a daily basis. And don't forget to contribute your money, time, and abilities to make the outreach of our church possible.



## **Board of Christian Education**

*Kathie Bost*

The Education Board met on Thursday September 3rd. Pastor Harper blessed us with a word of prayer.

Discussion centered on how and when to safely restart our children's Sunday School. Our tentative thoughts are for the children to return on October 4th with an outside class on the church playground. There is a plan to bring the classes inside if it is cold or rainy.

Three young men were confirmed on September 6th in the 10:30 service: Christian B., Samuel F., and Wynn M. We also discussed the board's budget for 2021.

Continue to pray for our Sunday School children and teachers during these challenging times.

## Children's Sunday School

*Jessica Dennis, Sunday School*



How has it been 6 months since we held Children's Sunday School? If you'd asked me in March when we cancelled classes, I would have told you, "Surely, we will be back in a month or two!"

Now, we are ready to reconnect with Mt. Olive's little ones! What better time than "Easter in October" (Sunday October 4th)! Weather permitting, we would like to have a socially distanced Easter story and lesson at the playground, followed by an Easter Egg Hunt. Children will sit in designated areas and stay spread out for the lesson. Parents are welcome to stay and watch behind the gate. Easter "baskets" with goodies will be passed out and we are hoping for a fun morning and reunion!

Sunday School plans beyond October 4th are being discussed and we will relay that information as soon as possible!

Confirmation classes are also resuming October 4th. Youth classes will remain on hold until further plans for all Sunday School classes are solidified.

We look forward to seeing all of our Sunday School friends for "Easter in October" on October 4th, at 9:15 AM, on the church playground! Blessings to all!



### Preschool News

*Anna Brent, Preschool Director*

*803-781-7180 - [preschool@mtolivesc.org](mailto:preschool@mtolivesc.org)*

*Web: [mtolivesc.org/preschool](http://mtolivesc.org/preschool) - [Facebook.com/mountolivepreschool](https://www.facebook.com/mountolivepreschool)*



Apart from a different beginning of the school year, the preschool is now full of the sounds of precious children with the hopes of returning to full-time, in-person learning the week of October 13! This ministry is growing and touching the lives of so many families in our community. We currently have 29 students who are settling in well and enjoying school.

While only students and teachers are allowed in the preschool area during the school day, we would love for you to take a look at the bulletin board for the Preschool located in the hallway between the Fellowship Hall and Bill's office. It has the precious faces of the children whom the Lord has placed in our care this year. It will be updated monthly and will have information for you to get a glimpse of our school days. Also, please feel free to follow us on Facebook and Instagram (@mtolivepreschool).

We have 1 1/2 scholarships that are being used to help 5 families. If you are interested in sponsoring one of these children or a future student, please contact me. Some choose to give support monthly or others help with a one-time gift.

Thank you, as usual, for your strong support and prayers! Also, a very big thank you goes to Dianne BouFawaz for serving on the preschool board for the past 3 years. We are so thankful for all that she has done to faithfully serve this ministry.

Please continue to pray for our staff, students and families as the school year continues. Pray that the Lord protects us and keeps us healthy and equips us for His service each day.

## Adult Bible Studies

Sandy finished the Bible study on The Book of Psalms at the end of September. It was a great study of beautiful Hebrew poems and congregational prayers. They proclaim Jesus Christ - His mission and passion, His Resurrection and return.

On October 4th, and again on November 15th, The Board of Stewardship has invited Thrivent representative Alan Hyatt to speak. His October topic will be "Economics in 2020."

Barry Bost will be our teacher beginning October 11th, focusing on the books of Philippians and I Thessalonians. These are the epistle readings for the weeks he is teaching. You can find them in the 3-year Lectionary Year A, found in the Lutheran Service Book, pages xlv-xv.

Pastor is continuing his Midweek Study at 1:30 pm and 7pm, teaching us the history of how the Bible came to be in the form as we know it today.



### October 2020 Anniversaries

10/6	Larry & Louise Weed	10/15	Matthew & Emily Kearse
10/6	Hank & Jenn Weed	10/26	Emily & Joshua Ranta
10/7	Jim & Natalie Crosland	10/26	Bill & Shirley Vogel
10/9	Gary & Debbie Meetze	10/29	Michael & Susan Strouse
10/13	Berney & Kathy Eargle	10/30	Odell & Pam Stuck

### October 2020 Birthdays

10/3	Phillippe Folks	10/10	Pete Witt	10/21	Isabella Patterson
10/3	Bonnie Jones	10/11	Megan Smith	10/24	Dieter Steinborn
10/3	Polly Roland	10/12	Eric Weed	10/25	LaVelle Walker
10/5	Billie Whitaker	10/12	Barbara West	10/26	Linda Gifford
10/6	Larry Meetze	10/13	Peggy Osborne	10/26	Jack Robinson
10/7	Gene Schmitzer	10/13	Chayden Weed	10/27	Eli Duncan
10/8	Wynn Meetze	10/14	Jason Brabham	10/27	Debbie Meetze
10/9	Bruce Greer	10/14	Tina Dixon	10/27	Jaime Stuck
10/9	Matthew Kearse	10/14	Murray Meetze	10/27	Randy Voyles
10/9	Chris Slaughter	10/17	Eva Mae Monts	10/29	Rita Witt
10/9	Carmen Witt	10/18	Declan Selke	10/31	Wes Hammond
10/10	Denise McKinney	10/20	Jens Rosinski	10/31	Mazie Selke
		10/21	Cleta Dunaway		







### The October Lectionary, Year A

<b>Oct. 4 Celebrating Easter Day</b>	The Resurrection of Our Lord	Acts 10:34-43	No Psalm	Colossians 3:1-4	Matthew 28:1-10
<b>Oct. 11 (Proper 23)</b>	Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost	Isaiah 25:6-9	Psalm 23	Philippians 4:4-13	Matthew 22:1-14
<b>Oct. 18 (Proper 24)</b>	Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost	Isaiah 45:1-7	Psalm 96:1-9	1Thessalonians 1:1-10	Matthew 22:15-22
<b>Oct. 25 (observed)</b>	Reformation Day (Oct. 31)	Revelation 14:6-7	Psalm 46	Romans 3:19-28	John 8:31-36



## September Pastoral Acts

	<p><b>Funeral Service</b></p> <p>Betty L. Barrett</p> <p>July 9, 1944 - September 7, 2020</p> <p>September 10, 2020</p>	<p><b>The Rite of Confirmation</b></p> <p>Christian Capistrano B.</p> <p>Samuel Nathan F.</p> <p>Wynn Josey M.</p> <p>September 6, 2020</p>	
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	<p><b>Holy Baptism</b></p> <p>Rosemary Brinson S.</p> <p>September 19, 2020</p>	
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### Read the Bible in 3 Years October 2020

***"So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God."***  
**Romans 10:17 (NKJV)**

As October begins, we continue our focus on the Old Testament Book of Numbers, the Israelites wandering in the desert, and their learning to obey God. In the middle of the month, we will have a quick journey into the New Testament book of Philippians before moving back to the Old Testament for Judges.

If you are looking for a good resource to help you focus, especially during the Old Testament books, check out **Through the Word**. This resource has a 5-9 minute audio for every chapter of the Bible. You can access this plan on the YouVersion Bible app or at [throughtheword.org](http://throughtheword.org). The commentary provides historical insight to what is happening and may explain an original Greek or Hebrew word and how it was used. After you listen, the app will also read the chapter to you, if you like. Hope you will give this a try.

### October 2020

Oct 1	Numbers 24
Oct 2	Numbers 25
Oct 3	Numbers 26
Oct 4	Numbers 27
Oct 5	Numbers 28
Oct 6	Numbers 29
Oct 7	Numbers 30

Oct 8	Numbers 31
Oct 9	Numbers 32
Oct 10	Numbers 33
Oct 11	Numbers 34
Oct 12	Numbers 35
Oct 13	Numbers 36
Oct 14	Philippians 1
Oct 15	Philippians 2

Oct 16	Philippians 3
Oct 17	Philippians 4
Oct 18	Judges 1
Oct 19	Judges 2
Oct 20	Judges 3
Oct 21	Judges 4
Oct 22	Judges 5
Oct 23	Judges 6

Oct 24	Judges 7
Oct 25	Judges 8
Oct 26	Judges 9
Oct 27	Judges 10
Oct 28	Judges 11
Oct 29	Judges 12
Oct 30	Judges 13
Oct 31	Judges 14



## Thoughts, Prayers, Calls, & Cards

God of compassion and grace,  
 we pray for all those who  
 find themselves imprisoned  
 by chronic illness  
 within the loneliness of home,  
 watching a world outside  
 that once had their  
 full involvement  
 increasingly pass them by.

Be with and bless them, Lord,  
 along with family and care givers  
 calling through the week to help.  
 May they know that they are loved,  
 still precious in your sight,  
 and feel your arms support them  
 in the day and through the night.

*From faithandworship.com*

Please continue to remember our homebound as the season moves from summer to autumn, especially as they continue to be isolated. You may send cards, make phone calls, and include them in your prayers. Contact information is in the church directory.

Marge Carter	Phil Carter	Cleta Dunaway	Virginia Gable	Bill Hoefler	Betty Hunter
Bonnie Jones	Ron LaGrange	Mary Lawhorne	Margaret Ludwig	C.R. Miller	Mike McGriff
Carolyn McCartha	Anita Meetze	Laura Meetze	Carole Myers	Ed Nelson	Dorothy Prater
Eddie Roland	Polly Roland	Myrna Rush	Henry Schmidt	Linda Schmidt	Mary Schott
Molly Kate Shealy	Shirlean Sons	Dan Stocker	Henry Weed	Louise Weed	



## Announcements & Opportunities

### **Thrivent Seminars**

The Stewardship Board has scheduled presentations from Thrivent representative, Alan Hyatt on Oct. 4th and Nov. 15th during the 9:15 AM Sunday School hour:

#### **October 4th:** Economic Update

In this election year are you concerned about market fluctuations, low interest rates and economic uncertainty? Don't miss this opportunity to learn and ask your questions.

#### **November 22nd:** Your Legacy: Family, Church and Charity

Are there people and/or organizations you care about and want to help financially, but you are also concerned about your financial future? Come learn how anyone can develop a retirement strategy that includes helping the people and causes they care about.

### **WORKDAY – Sat. 10/10/2020**

Board of Trustees is asking for your help. Below is a list of tasks to be completed. Sign up for one you can help with and when the task is complete you are done for the day. Hopefully we can get started around 8:00 AM and be done by 11:00 AM. We will supply required hardware. Bring your tools.

Repair chairs in fellowship hall (backs require new screws)

Prune trees near back of cemetery

Repair toilets in Wagner House and church (2 toilets need new fill valves)

## **November Newsletter Deadline – October 20th**

Your next deadline for submitting articles for the November 2020 issue of the Olive Leaves is **Tuesday, October 20th**. Remember to send them to Sue Strouse whose contact information is in the directory.



## **Portals of Prayer for October – December are available.**

If you are unable to attend church and would like a copy mailed to you, please notify Mary at the church office.

## **Sharing God's Love**

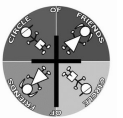
Sharing God's Love is accepting donations of non-perishable food items and personal care products. The needs are: peanut butter & jelly, canned or dried fruit, spaghetti sauce, soup, crackers, dried beans, canned carrots, peas or mixed veggies.

## **Secure E Giving Reminder**

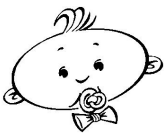
E giving contributions are on the rise. Have you thought about giving this a try? The link to set up your account is on the home page of our church website, mtolivesc.org. You may give through your checking account or credit card. Our e giving is powered by VANCO, a secure company that follows strict and safe policies. Even though the e giving page looks like our website, Mt. Olive will have no record of your account, your card number, or your personal information. If you give by card, you can opt to pay the small fee the church is charged for this service. If you need help setting up your account, contact Aresa Boykin.

## **Circle of Friends**

When Sunday School resumes, Katie Tyczynski, a certified special education teacher, is leading our Circle of Friends class. Our faithful volunteers continue to assist. If you know of families who have special needs children, please invite them to Mt. Olive. Once we return to meeting together, The Circle of Friends meets during Sunday School and the 10:30 AM worship service.



## **Nursery "Cry Room" Reminder**

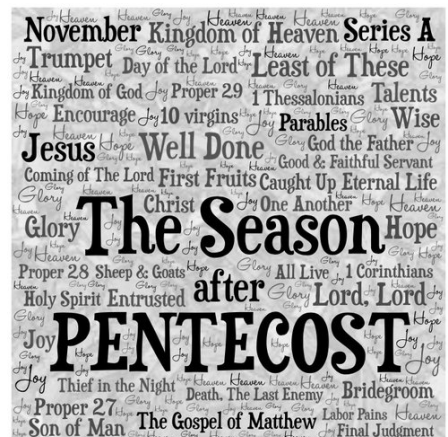


Mt. Olive has a nursery that is located downstairs, just behind the sanctuary. Parents are welcome to stay with their children during any worship service. There is a speaker so you will be able to hear the worship service. Parents, as you are leaving, please sanitize the toys of which your child has played. Thank you.

## **The L-o-n-g Season after Pentecost**

Remember to check out the sign at the entrance to the church to see if you can spot the key words from the current week's Gospel lesson. Because the Season after Pentecost is so long, the signs will change monthly.

We are beginning and ending the month of October with two festival days, which means there will be multiple signs! On the 4th, look for the Easter sign. Then the October sign will be displayed until Reformation Day, which has its own sign.




**Worship Overflow Area in Fellowship Hall**

Have you thought about attending worship services but would prefer a setting with less people? Why not come to Mt. Olive’s fellowship hall and watch one of our three entire services that are projected there? Through September, the most that have taken advantage of this setting is 3 people. Tables are socially distanced over 6 feet. If you would like to receive communion, you can either come to the sanctuary or have an elder bring communion to you in the fellowship hall. (Please notify an elder when you arrive if you would like this option.)

**Kid’s Korner**

# BLESSING BAGS




Make these practical gifts to share blessings with homeless people and others in need.

**What you need:**

- Gallon-size zippered baggies
- Clothing (socks, mittens, scarves, rain ponchos)
- Travel-size toiletries (toothpaste, toothbrush, deodorant, sunscreen, lip balm, lotion, tissues, bandages)
- Snacks
- Water bottles
- Paper
- Pencil

**What you do:**


1. Pack baggies with supplies listed above (and more, if desired).
2. Write encouraging notes (including Bible verses), and add them to the baggies.
3. Keep the gifts in your car, and give them to people who are homeless or asking for help.



# meeting needs

The Bible emphasizes the importance of giving to people in need. In Matthew 6:1-4, Jesus describes the proper attitude for giving.

*Directions: Starting at the \*B and going counterclockwise, write every other letter on the lines below. Continue until you've completed Matthew 6:3, NIV.*



**Give to the Needy**

“B \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_,  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ g.”

MATTHEW 6:3, NIV

Answer: “But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing.” Matthew 6:3, NIV