



## November 2010

In October, the excitement of Halloween can bring great joy to kids and adults. Carving pumpkins, wearing a costume, trick-or-treating..what's not to love? The United Methodist Men of Olivet threw a wonderful party between the worship services on the last Sunday of the month. Thanks to Jane Gribble for decorating the hall, Kit Jones for leading the children's arts & crafts and Mary Novak who prepared delicious "eyeballs" (a pasta/meatball combinations) to eat at fellowship hour. Thanks also to Summer Webb and Colleen Blundell for leading the children's Sunday school in pumpkin carving. I think we all got a good laugh at the well-costumed Hood family – and watching the children try to eat powdered donuts that hung from the limbo stick! *See following page for pictures.*

You could say that my participation in Halloween is in line with the kind of innocent fun we had at Olivet. It could be rated "G" or "E" for everyone. Since my daughters still prefer the princess and fairy costumes over the witches and skeletons, I had forgotten that

## The Olive Branch

there is another side of Halloween. The dark side: with zombies and Dracula's. The side of Halloween that depicts death and the demonic.

Strangely, the dark side of Halloween came to my attention on a recent kindergarten field trip to a pumpkin patch. Along with learning about corn and harvesting, this farm included a hayride. This seemed harmless enough until the tractor rounded a corner and were in a wooded area with gory images of bodies hanging from trees suddenly met our eyes! One of the young girls in my group became so frightened she had to be held. Even in broad daylight, she was terrified by the people jumping out and the animated witches on brooms. Adults nearby comforted her, "It's make-believe, honey, it's make-believe." I told her, "Close your eyes, don't look at it." It occurred to me as I held her that what we saw was not just spooky, it was violent. Worse, it depicted violence that ends in death.

Later when the kids were talking about their sisters and brothers, this little one sadly said that she had a sister, but her sister had died.

That was when I realized that although it is true that violence we saw was make-believe – this girl knew that death is not. Death is not pretend, not for any of us. But death, for us who have faith, isn't scary. It is not spooky or something to be feared. Death is the beginning of a new life in God's glory.

Halloween was on a Sunday and it coincided this year with our celebration of All Saints/All Souls. The scripture reading was from Revelation 7, where John is able to take a peek into the realm of heaven. He sees those who have died together at the throne of God. He is not afraid, but amazed at this musical gathering of people and angels living and worshipping together. I don't know if John expected that heaven would be a time of eternal retirement, where we relax on a cloud while a cherub serenades us with a harp – but it certainly was not what he saw. The picture of heaven is active and busy. In our worship service for All Saints/All Souls, the gathered community lifted up the names of those who died in the last year. We were reminded of the words from Philippians, that our citizenship is beyond earth, it is in heaven.. and someday each of us will join the multitudes with eternal gratitude for what God has brought us through in life.

Olivet Church dedicated a new memorial plaque which will be located in the church sanctuary as a tangible place of honor for those we love. Each name was read and the church bell tolled in reverence.

May we rest in the truth of the promises of the Lord- that in death, He gives us life, in darkness, light and in sorrow, hope.

### NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- |                        |                         |
|------------------------|-------------------------|
| Nov. 3 Jimmy Foote III | Nov. 13 Annette Milling |
| Nov. 4 Sophia Lewis    | Nov. 20 Bill Conway     |
| Nov. 6 Toni DeMay      | Nov. 21 Mary Cotton     |
| Nov. 9 Lil Ernst       | Nov. 22 Gwen Northcutt  |
| Nov. 9 Edie Reed       | Nov. 26 Donna Edwards   |
| Nov. 10 Natalie Tabor  | Nov. 28 Lara Hood       |
| Nov. 11 Mary Doss      | Nov. 28 Angela Roland   |



### Inside this Issue

Cover Story	p.1
November Birthdays	p.1
Holy-Ween Pictures	p.2
Pastor's Report to Church	p.3
Membership Report	p.4
UMM & UMW	p.4
Stewardship Report	p.4
Safe Harbor Wish List	p.5
Worship Schedule	p.6
Policy & Procedure Manual	p.7-8
Calendar	p.9

**Holy-ween Party on October 31, 2010**

*Sponsored by the United Methodist Men! Thanks to Jane Gribble for the decorations of the hall - and Kit Jones for leading the children's arts & crafts! Thanks to Mary who prepared "eyeballs" for everyone at fellowship hour! Thanks to Doug and Doug for holding the donut-limbo stick! Thanks also to Summer Webb and Colleen Blundell for leading the children's Sunday school in pumpkin carving*



## Pastors Report to the Church

In October, Olivet held the annual charge conference, a meeting where we elect new church leaders and review our ministry to the local church, [the larger United Methodist Church](#), and [the world](#). In my report to the church, I reflected on our vision “to invite people into Christian fellowship and develop committed disciples of Jesus Christ.” Our work as a church has been to connect people to the resources that will help them grow as His followers. In the last year, many were resourced and equipped through continuing educational opportunities, service projects, small groups and special events:

- 1 person (and the pastor) attended a course offered through Calvert Hospital called "Women at the Well"
- 1 person coordinated a community-wide presentation on The Five Wishes in cooperation with Calvert Hospital.
- 3 people participated in Praise & Worship Conference at Covenant Point UMC (June 2010)
- 1 youth served on a team to the Appalachian Service Project with Trinity UMC (July 2010)
- 2 youth attended BW Camping Ministry at West River and Manidokan
- 1 person was a Pilgrim on Men's Emmaus Walk (Spring 2010) 1 person was a team member on Women's Emmaus Walk (Spring 2010)
- Pastor provided the invocation at Calvert County Commissioners Meeting in November of 2009.
- The UM Men coordinated the arrival of Santa Claus to Lusby on a local Fire Truck before coming to the Olivet Christmas Bazaar
- Many participated as volunteers with the Safe Nights Homeless Ministry in cooperation with the Quaker Meeting house and Middleham Chapel.
- Co-Hosted a Concert to raise money for Calvert Hospice (Chesapeake Community Chorus) with Solomons UMC
- Hosted rehearsals for the Lusby interfaith group that put on the outdoor Passion Play for the community.
- Participated in Baby Bottle Blitz (June 2010) for Pregnancy Care-Net
- Hosted planning meetings of S.M Roundup, the A.A. coordinating group of upcoming Spring event in Solomons, MD.
- A new ministry of worship for older persons was begun by lay preacher and evangelist ministry coordinator, Teddy Foote. He holds worship services at Solomons Nursing Home and the Ripple Center, an adult day-care in St. Mary's County.
- A new contemporary worship service was started in Fall 2010 which blends musical genres from Gospel to Country to straight-up, contemporary praise songs. The use of multimedia brings another layer of visuals to the worship experience and engages people in worship in a new way.
- In 2010, the pastor began utilizing social media tools within our church such as Facebook and another tool called Constant Contact, which is a great email distribution and tracking tool.



The work of the church has also included the many hours of dedication on tasks of administration. The Finance Committee received a recommendation for a Policies and Procedures Manual which was accepted and adopted by the Church Council. The Trustees completed the parking lot paving and solved the problem of water beneath the church sanctuary with the assistance of a neighboring contractor. Our outdoor sign was installed and dedicated giving the Center a welcoming presence in the community.

Behind every ministry, there is much more work than can really be “tallied”. I am humbled always by the way that each of you give of your time, talents, gifts, service and witness! The church is a people in motion – sent by the Spirit and equipped for the work to be done! Let us give thanks!

Please keep the Roper family, particularly Peggy in prayer as the family mourns the passing of Richard S. Roper, a retired elder who had served at Solomons UMC (Washington East District) from 1970 to 1974, Mechanicsville: Mt Zion/Mt. Calvary charge from 1978 to 1981 and at Eastport UMC from 1983 until his retirement in 1988. Rev. Roper died on October 30, 2010 in New Hampshire, where he and his wife, Peggy, had retired. Arrangements will be private. Send condolences to Mrs. Roper at: Peggy Roper, 365 N. Main St. Apt 252, West Lebanon, NH 03784

# Membership Report for 2010 Conference Year

(November 7, 2009 - October 17, 2010)

Provided by Alma Rita Joy, membership secretary

Olivet UMC Current Membership Role to date is 129 members

## Baptized Persons

- |                   |                   |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| 1. George Freeman | February 14, 2010 |
| 2. Jamie Dean     | March 14, 2010    |

## Removed from Membership

- |              |                               |
|--------------|-------------------------------|
| George Ernst | (deceased September 21, 2010) |
| Wanda Foote  | (deceased April 21, 2010)     |
| Linwood Doss | (deceased December 19, 2009)  |
| Linda Evans  | (deceased December 9, 2009)   |

## **Olivet United Methodist Men:**

The Olivet UMM met on October 9<sup>th</sup>. The discussion included plans for Holy-Ween, the Christmas Bazaar, a Pancake Lunch on November 14<sup>th</sup>, the Renewal of the Vows on February 13<sup>th</sup> with a Spaghetti Lunch, and a Chili Cook-Off Lunch in January. The results of the annual election of officers are: President, Ron Brown; Treasurer, Bob Watson, and Secretary, Bob Evans. The next meeting will be held November 13<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 AM in the Good News Center. All Olivet men are invited to join the UMM. New ideas for the church are always welcome.

<b>October 2010 Stewardship Report</b>				
We will be loyal to the United Methodist Church and uphold it with:				
<u>Our Presence</u>			<u>Our Gifts</u>	
(129 Total Members)			(\$2,500 wkly need)	
	8:30	11:00	CDs	
<b>Oct. 3</b>	20	63	6	\$2,694.50
<b>2 Nurs. Ctrs</b>		16		
<b>Oct. 10</b>	18	56	6	\$1,782.00
<b>2 Nurs. Ctrs</b>		21		
<b>Oct. 17</b>	14	77	6	\$1,707.00
<b>Oct. 24</b>	14	41	6	\$1,377.00
<b>2 Nurs. Ctrs</b>		14		
<b>Oct. 31</b>	12	72	5	\$3,194.00
<b>2 Nurs. Ctrs</b>		n/a		
<b>Totals</b>	78+360+29=467			\$10,754.50

## **Olivet United Methodist Women:**

The Olivet UMW will meet on Tuesday, November 2 at 12 noon. Bring your lunch/snack and enjoy the provided dessert and social conversation before the meeting begins at 12:30. We urge all women to attend.

We will be giving out bags with a wish list on them. Please collect items during the month of November for the residents of Safe Harbor.

We need many hands to make the trimming decorations for the Hospice Tree. Trimming of the tree will take place on Friday morning following Thanksgiving Day! Festival of Trees is Saturday and Sunday, November 27 and 28.

We are scheduled for a Sing-A-Long at the Hermitage on Tuesday, November 9 at 1:30 PM.

## **Christmas Poinsettias:**

Poinsettias to decorate our Christmas Altar may be ordered until Monday, November 29. They will be available in Red, White and Jingle Bell. The cost is \$9.00 per plant. Please be sure we have your order and payment by the deadline. Order forms will be included in the Sunday bulletins each Sunday and also in the church office. Please fill out and place with your check in the offering plate or drop off at the church office.

# SAFE HARBOR HOLIDAY WISH LIST

## HOUSEHOLD NEEDS:

Detergent, Bleach, Dryer Sheets, Cleaning Supplies, Dish Detergent, Dishwasher Detergent, Floor Cleaner, All Purpose Cleaner, Large Trash Bags, Twin Zippered Plastic Mattress Covers, Quilted Mattress Covers (Twin and Crib Size), Hand Towels, Wash Cloths, Pots and Pans, Skillets, Toaster, Coffee Pot, Silverware, Pillows, Crib Sheets

## BABY NEEDS:

Baby Wipes, Diapers (size 3-5), Pull-ups (large), Baby Wash, Shampoo

## GENERIC:

Journals, Umbrellas, Socks, Scarves, Wallets, Clock/Radio, Lotions, Slippers, Pajamas, Sweat Clothes, Underwear (women and children), Blow Dryers, Curling Irons, Cameras, Body Wash, Deodorant, Feminine Products, Toothbrushes

## CHRISTMAS WRAP AND BAGS, NAME TAGS

**NON-PERISHABLE FOOD ITEMS** – MAYONNAISE, KETCHUP, **SUGAR, FRUIT JUICE**, COFFEE, TEA, SPAGHETTI SAUCE, SPAGHETTI-O'S, COOKING OIL, **COLD CEREAL**, PASTA, RANCH SALAD DRESSING, HAMBURGER HELPER, POP TARTS, SYRUP, JELLY

## Upcoming Worship Schedule - including the list of worship leaders and musicians

### November 7, 2010

Scripture: 2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17  
Sermon "Wait on the Lord" by Rev. Lewis  
Organ: Toni DeMay  
Hymns: Blessed Assurance #369  
How Great thou Art # 77  
To God Be the Glory #98  
O How I love Jesus # 170  
Reader at 8:30 am Doug Bivens  
Usher at 8:30 am Jane Gribble  
Communion Server at 8:30 am J. Gribble/J. Baki  
Reader at 11:00 Sarah Blair  
Ushers at 11:00 Grant & Alex Baylor  
Communion Server at 11:00 Alex & Amanda  
Baylor

### November 14, 2010

Scripture: Luke 21: 5-19  
Sermon "End Times Endurance" by Rev. Lewis  
Special Music: CHOIR  
Introit I Will Enter His Gates #2270  
Hymns A Mighty Fortress #110  
Morning Has Broken #145  
Standing in the Need of Prayer #352  
Open My Eyes, that I May See #454  
Anthem God Will Make A Way  
Reader at 8:30 am Kathy Heil  
Usher at 8:30 am Velda Johnson  
Reader at 11:00 Colleen Blundell  
Ushers at 11:00 Janet & Chris Blundell

### November 21, 2010 Christ the King Sunday

Scripture: Luke 23: 33-43  
Sermon "He Rules" by Rev. Lewis  
Special Music STRUMMERS at 11AM  
Hymns:  
Turn Your Eyes #349  
Lord I Lift Your Name on High #2088  
King of Kings #2075  
You Are My All in All  
Reader at 8:30 am Joe Baki  
Usher at 8:30 am Doug Bivens  
Reader at 11:00 Ron Brown  
Ushers at 11:00 Bobby Barrett & Nancy Lorraine

### November 28, 2010 First Sunday of Advent

Scripture: Romans 13:11-14  
Sermon "Hope.. next year things will be different"  
by Rev. Lewis  
Special Music Olivet Choir  
Introit Emmanuel #204  
Hymns: There's a Spirit in the Air #192  
Jesus is all the world to me #469  
Blessed be the tie that binds #557  
Anthem Come Lord Jesus  
Reader at 8:30 am Tiffany Gaines  
Usher at 8:30 am Eric Gaines  
Reader at 11:00 Bob Evans  
Ushers at 11:00 Vicky Bivens & Lil Ernst



## SMILE Thanksgiving Service

Come celebrate with all the bounty the Lord has given you at Solomons United Methodist Church at 7:00 pm. Please bring your offering and non-perishable food items for the SMILE food pantry.



## Festival of Trees

Huntington High School **November 25-26, 2010**

### General Admission Times

Saturday: 9:00 am – 8:00 pm

Sunday: 10:00 am – 5:00 pm

The Festival features more than 70 beautifully decorated Christmas trees and the Festival Shoppes with over 70 East Coast vendors offering merchandise, art, and unique crafts.

### Festival of Trees Gift Shop

The Hospice Gift Shop sells a variety of items including hand-made crafts. All proceeds from the Gift Shop benefit the Burnett-Calvert Hospice House.

## Policy & Procedure Manual

*a working document for the administration of Olivet Church*

### FINANCE

#### **Checks Received Mid-Week**

Checks and money received in the middle of the week are deposited with the weekly offering. They are secured in the locked file cabinet in Pastor's office. Pastor will give these to the Head Teller on Sunday Morning or The Head Teller has access to the file cabinet beforehand.

Tithes received outside a Sunday morning will be attributed to the next upcoming Sunday offering.

All checks and cash are coded as to which area/fund they should be attributed. For example, checks may go toward memorial fund, Cemetery, books for a class, youth donations, etc.

#### **Sunday Morning Counter**

The offering for the 8:30am and 11:00 service is picked up by the Head Teller (Alma Rita Joy). There will be two tellers, not from the same family, to count the offering. They will count money in the Good News Center in a locked room. The tellers fill out a Cash Receipts Voucher, make a photocopy for the book and treasurer. The Tellers takes it to the deposit box that afternoon.

All money is deposited into the general checking account. The cash Receipts Voucher will detail which account money will need to be moved into.

#### **Cash Receipts Voucher**

A book of all Cash Receipts

#### **Payroll**

Valley Processing handles the payroll for Olivet Church. Salary is semi-weekly and persons are paid by direct deposit every other Friday.

#### **Audit**

An internal audit is completed annually in accordance with the Baltimore-Washington Conference. The 2009 audit will be completed by Steve Tabor.

#### **Communion Rail Offering**

Monies collected at the communion rail are split 50/50 between SMILE ecumenical ministries in Lusby and the Pastor's Discretionary Fund.

#### **Missionary Offering**

Support of overseas missionary, Suzanne Porter. This is taken up on the fourth Sunday of the month.

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### **Special Offerings**

In the event of a special offering, such as providing relief in response to a disaster, the first preference of support will be to send it through UMCOR. If there is no UMCOR presence, then the Finance Committee will vote to determine which agency or persons should receive the money. For instance, if a family in the county loses their home due to fire, the church may desire to take up an offering. The Finance Committee will determine how to provide assistance.

### **Cemetery Fund**

A separate fund for the care and upkeep of the Olivet Cemetery. See Section: Olivet Cemetery for more information.

### **Improvement Fund or Trustees Fund**

Monies in this fund are used for deferred maintenance or improvements to the church buildings or grounds.

### **Memorial Fund**

Persons may honor the life of a loved one by giving to the Olivet Church Memorial Fund. Gifts made in honor are recognized by adding their name to a permanent memorial and then recognized on the following All Saints Day in the worship service. Benevolences above the cost of installment are gifted back to the ministries of Olivet. (policy approved in October 2009)

Flowers for the funeral or memorial service of a member of Olivet are also paid for by this fund.

**Food Lion / Giant Cards** – Monies for this are to be collected by Edie Reed and given to counters on Sunday morning to be added to the weekly deposit. The counters are not to include this as part of the offering, but will note on the Cash Receipts Voucher.

### **Pastor's Discretionary Fund – (to be voted for approval in May/June 2010)**

The pastor's discretionary fund is intended to give the pastor complete discretion and authority to provide confidential financial support to persons in need. The money used for this comes from 50% of the altar rail offering on Communion Sundays.

How it works:

The pastor requests the funds from the church treasurer using the written request voucher form as an internal control mechanism over access to the fund. The voucher is kept on record in the locked file cabinet as to ensure confidentiality of specific beneficiaries; reimbursements be made from the fund for out-of-pocket expenditures shall be made by the Pastor within 60 days after the expenditure is made.

Parameters: The fund shall be used only for providing assistance to the needy and never be used for the pastor's personal use or for the pastor's family. The pastor will document and record distributions from the fund showing the types of assistance provided e.g., \$100 was used to purchase groceries for a needy family. It is recommended that, if possible, the pastor use the funds for goods and services rather than cash assistance, e.g., for taxi fare, bus ticket, a bag of groceries.

# Christmas Bazaar

Saturday, November 20  
10 to 2



Kids & Family Photos  
with Santa 10-2  
Snacks & Bake Sale  
Christmas Items/Crafts  
Kids Room for Family  
Gifts  
Music & Caroling 10-2  
Hot Dogs, Chips, Soda &  
Popcorn (Sold by the Youth)



Volunteers are needed for many departments.  
Please see or call Bob Evans at 410-326-6228.

NOVEMBER 2010						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31 8:30 AM Praise & Worship 11:00 AM Traditional Worship 2:00 PM Nursing Center Worship Service 5:00 PM Youth Group	1 All Saints Day 10:00 AM Prayer Group - Knoll	2 12:00 AM U.M.W.	3 9:30 AM Clergy Meeting 6:30 PM Lift Group 6:30 PM Strummers Rehearsal 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	4 8:30 AM Weight Watchers	5	6
7 Daylight-Saving Time Ends 8:30 AM Praise & Worship 11:00 AM Traditional Worship 5:00 PM Youth Group	8 10:00 AM Prayer Group - Knoll	9 11:00 AM Bible Study with Pastor 1:30 PM Sing-a-long	10 11:00 AM 8:30 Worship Team 1:00 PM 11am Worship Team 6:30 PM Lift Group 6:30 PM Strummers Rehearsal 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	11 Veterans Day 8:30 AM Weight Watchers	12	13 9:00 AM Men Meeting
14 8:30 AM Praise & Worship 11:00 AM Traditional Worship 12:00 PM Staff Parish Relations Committee 2:00 PM Nursing Center Worship Service 5:00 PM Youth Group	15 10:00 AM Prayer Group - Knoll	16 11:00 AM Bible Study with Pastor 5:30 PM Finance	17 11:00 AM 8:30 Worship Team 1:00 PM 11am Worship Team 6:30 PM Lift Group 6:30 PM Strummers Rehearsal 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	18 8:30 AM Weight Watchers	19	20 10:00 AM Christmas Bazaar
21 8:30 AM Praise & Worship 11:00 AM Traditional Worship 12:00 PM Staff Parish Relations Committee 5:00 PM Youth Group	22 10:00 AM Prayer Group - Knoll	23 11:00 AM Bible Study with Pastor	24 7:00 PM Ecumenical Worship at Solomons	25 Thanksgiving Day	26	27 9:00 AM Festival of Trees at Huntingtown High
28 Advent 8:30 AM Praise & Worship 10:00 AM Festival of Trees at Huntingtown High 11:00 AM Traditional Worship	29 10:00 AM Prayer Group - Knoll	30	1 9:30 AM Clergy Meeting 6:30 PM Lift Group 6:30 PM Strummers Rehearsal 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	2 8:30 AM Weight Watchers	3	4

## Our History

The Olivet United Methodist Church dates from 1884. In that year, a chapel was built to accommodate the growing community located between St. John's and Mill Creeks. Prior to its construction, the Methodists in Olivet worshiped at Old St. John's Church, on Soller's Wharf Road, or at Solomons Methodist Church.

Built on the lawn across from the present Church, and dedicated free of debt in May 1885, the church soon became too small for the increase in membership which resulted from the growing community. Fund raising began in 1905 and on October 13, 1912, the present church was dedicated.

In 1913, a thunderstorm so severely damaged the old church that it was torn down. Its timbers were used to construct a church hall. In 1945, that building was replaced by the present hall.

In 1999 Annual Conference Session a full time minister was appointed to serve at Olivet.

For over 100 years there has been a Methodist church in Olivet extending a welcome to all to be a part of its fellowship. We invite you to be an active and vital part of that heritage — a heritage that continues as we embark upon a program of growth and expansion that will carry us well into our second 100 years.



## **Our Mission Statement**

Our purpose is to proclaim the Gospel in word and deed, to lead new persons to Christ, to respond to the physical need of the community here and everywhere, and to help our members grow in the grace and knowledge of Christ.

## **Our Vision**

To faithfully invite people in to fellowship with God and develop fully functioning Christian disciples from within our own congregation and surrounding community – being in service as directed by Christ.

Olivet UMC On-line Calendar for Church Events is [www.olivet-umc.com](http://www.olivet-umc.com).

### **Olivet United Methodist Church**

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