



# The Olive Branch

## Back to School – A Fresh Start

It’s been years since I boarded a school bus or had to shop for school supplies. But this last month, I became a part of these end of summer rituals because my oldest daughter started kindergarten. She stepped onto the school bus and waved goodbye! Not just to me.. but also her pre-school years.

As she eagerly anticipated the first day of school, I remembered fondly the back-to-school excitement. Each school year began a clean, blank notebook, several shiny folders and sharpened pencils. It was as if my even my school supplies were alert and ready to get started. My mother took the annual “First Day of School Photo” and a new year began.

Walking through my neighborhood one evening before school was in session, I passed a group of kids sitting along the sidewalk, in the grass, with their skateboards, talking. Not intending to eavesdrop, I plainly heard one boy remark, “This year, I’m in a whole new school. All those rumors from last year? I can leave them behind.” Ah, yes. A new school year offers the hope of a fresh start socially, as well.

My less pleasant “back-to-school memories” are the ones matched with the “low feeling” that would set in by mid-fall. My school supplies were worn out or missing. The 3-ring binder no longer snapped shut perfectly. The coursework was actually *work*. By Thanksgiving, any fresh start I thought I had was certainly over.

In Paul’s letter to the Corinthians, he writes “If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!” This lovely line is usually found on inspirational posters and matched beautifully with a photo of a butterfly or a rainbow. As inspiring as that appears, the words are lifeless for anyone who is “in Christ” but feels discouraged with old, reoccurring struggles. If we don’t see the effects of the “new creation in Christ” does that

mean we are not fully in Christ? No. Paul says don’t regard each other (or situations) from a “worldly point of view”. The work of Christ in our lives is sometimes hidden, but it is always there.

In education, the best teachers are those who find the hidden potential of a student and call it forth. That is why teaching takes patience and fortitude. At the turn of twentieth century in Boston, there was a child named “Little Annie” whom doctors had determined was beyond hope. They placed her in an asylum where she became so violent that she was given solitary confinement.

One Christian teacher took notice of Little Annie and reached out. Each day, she would read to the child, talk to her, and offer her a cookie. The child never responded. The teacher didn’t give up hope and kept extending God’s grace to her. After two years, the girl was transformed! Little Annie was told she could leave the asylum. However, she chose to stay. Little Annie stayed and worked with patients who were suffering, believing in people when no one else cared. She extended the love as it had been extended to her.

Today, you know “Little Annie” better as Annie Sullivan who worked hard to teach (and reach) a deaf and blind girl named Helen Keller. As an adult, Helen Keller attributed her success in overcoming her handicap to the tenacious love of Annie Sullivan, a teacher who could see beyond outward appearances\*.

Outward appearances can be deceiving. As Christians, God loved us when we were far from perfect. We are to pass on that grace to others and look beyond appearances.

A fresh start can come at the beginning of a new year – it can come as the calendar rolls over a new page. But the real fresh start is what God gives us through Jesus - and we give each other in His name.

Thanks be to God!

*\*Story of Annie Sullivan taken from the book Victory Over the Darkness by Neil Anderson.*



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### September Birthdays:

September 5	Gail Dove
September 12	Carrie Pattison
September 12	Nicholas Leapley
September 14	Justin Tabor
September 15	Dianne Falter
September 17	James Foote, Jr.
September 17	Doug Hood
September 19	Meagan Jenkins
September 20	Gavin Sleeth
September 21	Doug Lewis
September 22	Kathy Heil
September 22	Heather Zampier
September 30	Jamie Dean

### World Communion Sunday



In the United Methodist Church, we have regular opportunities to share beyond our local church through church-wide Special Sunday Offerings. On October 3, we will make an offering to World Communion Sunday. Olivet's gift will help racial- and ethnic-minority students in the United States and internationally attend college for both church-related vocations and non-church related vocations..

## WORSHIP SCHEDULE

### September 5, 2010 Labor Day Sunday

Scripture: Colossians 3: 1- 17

Sermon "Work: Drudgery or Delight?" by Rev. Lewis

Reader at 8:30 Teddy Foote

Usher at 8:30 Jimmy Foote

Communion Steward at 8:30 Mildred Ward

Reader at 11:00 Sarah Blair

Ushers at 11:00 Bob & Eva Watson

Communion Stewards at 11 Karen & Bob Bohn

### September 12, 2010 - OLIVET CHOIR at 11am

Scripture: Luke 15: 1-10

Sermon "Lost & Found" by Rev. Lewis

Music by Organist Richard Harris

Reader at 8:30 Joe Baki

Usher at 8:30 Jane Gribble

Reader at 11:00 Marge Zimmermann

Ushers at 11:00 Marva Burgess & Shirley Conway

### September 19, 2010 - STRUMMERS at 11am

Stewardship Focus

Scripture: Luke 16: 10-13

Sermon "Pick a Master" by Rev. Lewis

Reader at 8:30 Helen Moran

Usher at 8:30 Velda Johnson

Reader at 11:00 Annette Milling

Ushers at 11:00 Mary Shannon & Mary Cotton

### September 26, 2010 OLIVET CHOIR at 11am

Scripture: Luke 16: 19-31

Sermon "Who is at Your Door?" by Rev. Lewis

Reader at 8:30 Kathy Heil

Usher at 8:30 Joe Baki

Reader at 11:00 Joan Fratantuono

Ushers at 11:00 Earlene Blaylock & Joan Fratantuono

### October 3, 2010 - World Communion Sunday

Scripture: 2 Timothy 1:1-14

Sermon: "Guard the Good Treasure" by Rev. Lewis

Reader at 8:30 Tiffany Gaines

Usher at 8:30 Kathy Heil

Communion Steward at 8:30 Joe Baki

Reader at 11:00 Marva Burgess

Ushers at 11:00 Ken & Elnora Wease

Communion Stewards at 11 -Bob Evans & Sue Davis

### October 10, 2010 OLIVET CHOIR at 11am

Scripture: 2 Timothy 2:8-15

Sermon: "Remember and Remind" by Rev. Lewis

Reader at 8:30 Toni Lowman

Usher at 8:30 Jimmy Foote

Reader at 11:00 Ron Brown

Ushers at 11:00 Mike Crompton and Brian Davis

# Olivet Youth Ministry News

## Sunday Nights

Youth Group from 5pm – 7pm

September 12, 19 and 26

(note that there is no youth group on Labor Day Sunday)



## Sunday Mornings

**Sunday School** for middle school & high school students

9:30 AM Every Sunday Morning in the Youth Room.



## Hot Dog, Chips & Soda Fundraiser

At the Rummage Sale - - Saturday, September 25

From 8:30am - Noon

Youth group will raise money for 2011 ROCK event by selling hot dogs to the busy shoppers of the Olivet Rummage Sale. Be at the church at 8:30 am. (Yes, people do crave hot dogs at that time of the morning.)

Parent's assistance with food donations is needed and appreciated.

Sign up for what you will bring by email.

**ROCK 2011** is an exciting Christian weekend retreat in which youth in grades 6-12 will gather at the Ocean City Convention Center. - **JAN 21, 22, 23** The purpose of the retreat is to "ROCK" the lives of our youth and help them into a new or deeper faith in, and personal relationship with the ROCK of our Salvation, Jesus Christ. If you are interested in attending, please tell Pastor Faith.



## Pizza with the Pastor

Friday, September 14

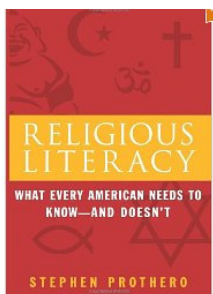
12:30 am- 2:30 pm

Come to Olivet for a Bible study and lunch.

There is no school this day, so why not make the most of it and dive into scripture and a pizza?

July 2010 Stewardship Report				
We will be loyal to the United Methodist Church and uphold it with:				
Our Presence			Our Gifts	
(134 Total Members)			(\$2,500 wkly need)	
	8:30	11:00	CDs	
July 4	n/a	52	6	\$2,076
July 11 Nurs. Ctr	18	48	5	\$1,292
July 18 Riddle Ctr	27	52	5	\$2,260
July 25	22	63	5	\$2,265
Totals	67	243	21	\$7,893
(67+243+21 =331)				

August 2010 Stewardship Report				
We will be loyal to the United Methodist Church and uphold it with:				
Our Presence			Our Gifts	
(134 Total Members)			(\$2,500 wkly need)	
	8:30	11:00	CDs	
Aug. 1 Riddle Ctr	12	58	5	\$1,103
Aug. 8 Nurs. Ctr	22	50	6	\$2,707
Aug. 15 Riddle Ctr	18	49	0	\$1,352
Aug. 22	7	39	0	\$1,112
Aug. 29 Nurs. Ctr	18	64	0	\$1,840
Totals	77	352		\$8,114.00
(77+352+11 =440)				



### Olivet Book Club:

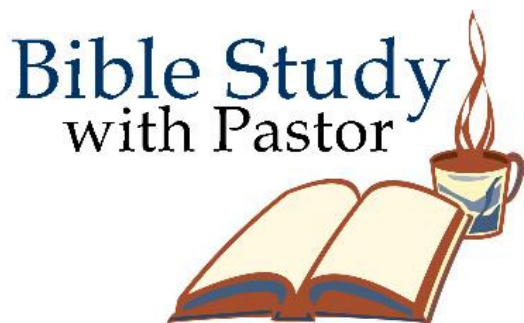
We meet every Wednesday at 10:00 AM in the conference room at Olivet. All are invited to join us. Our current book is

Religious Literacy: What Every American Needs to Know--And Doesn't by Stephen Prothero.

### Let us pray for all who mourn..

*Family and friends of Audrey A. Hood,*  
August 3, 1929 - August 13, 2010

*Family and friends of Jeannette Barrack*  
August 16, 1970 - August 21, 2010



### Old Testament Bible Study on Tuesday Mornings

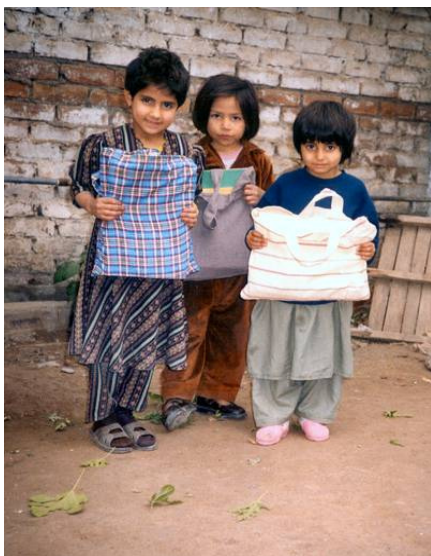
Anyone who is interested can join Pastor Faith from 11:00 AM – 12:30 PM in the church conference room as we study a portion of scripture each week from the Old Testament. You may come prepared by reading assigned lessons each day – or just show up and join in the study. Homework is optional!) We meet each Tuesday except for the first Tuesday of the month. See you there!

### Notes from the United Methodist Men:

The Olivet United Methodist Men did not hold a meeting in August. The next meeting is scheduled for September 11 at 9:00 AM. Discussion will include work projects and other plans for the Fall and Winter. All men of Olivet are invited to attend from ages sixth grade and up! New ideas are always welcome to help advance the UMM's work in the church, our community, and in the world.

### Notes from the UM Women:

The UM Women will resume their monthly meetings on Tuesday, September 7 at noon. This is their Annual World Thank Offering program and all women are urged to attend. Bring your lunch/snack and enjoy the provided dessert and fellowship before the business meeting program. All those participating in the reading program are asked to bring their book lists with them.



A young Armenian girl proudly holds up the school kit she received from UMCOR.

### HELPING KIDS HERE & AROUND THE WORLD

You made it possible! This year, we assembled 54 school kits for children in need around the world. Like the kids pictured above who attend the Nazoo Anna Education Center for Afghan Refugee Children in Peshawar, Pakistan, our kits provide basic supplies, such as pencils and notebooks.

Olivet Church also contributed additional school supplies to children in Calvert County.

During the summer months we have provided two sing-a-long visits to the folks at the Hermitage and the Nursing Center, and recently sponsored the “Back-to-School” bags for UMCOR. Fifty-four school kits (like the ones pictured above and at left) were carted into the sanctuary blessed by the “laying on of hands” by the children. We thank the many folks who made the generous donations to this mission project.

UMW looks forward to volunteering for the upcoming Fall Rummage/Bake Sale on Saturday, September 25. Join us as we offer our support to this fundraiser for our Olivet Church.

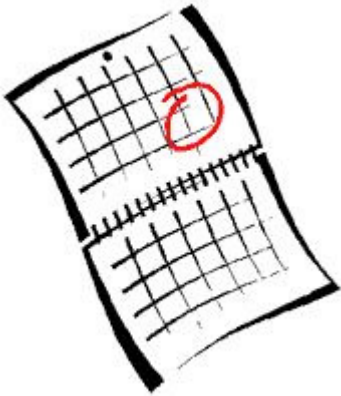
## Outdoor Sign for THE GOOD NEWS CENTER is Complete



The installation of our outdoor sign for The Good News Center is officially complete.

Over the last months, you have seen the marquis that often features a clever greeting to passer-bys. This attractive sign now includes a plaque that tells the story of how The Good News Center was named. Join us after worship on Sunday, September 5<sup>th</sup> for a dedication of the sign and a time for honoring Linwood & Mary Doss in their contribution toward naming the center. Thanks Brian Davis and Bob Watson for installing the durable outdoor plaque!

## LOOKING AHEAD TO FUTURE EVENTS



**Church Council Meeting** – will be held **Tuesday, September 14 at 6:30 PM**

**Finance Meeting** – will be held **Tuesday, September 14 at 5:30 PM**

**Fall Rummage Sale** will be held **Saturday, September 25** – proceeds from this sale go toward meeting the needs of our local congregation.

**Olivet Charge Conference** – Sunday, October 17 at 1pm at our church.

**Christmas Bazaar** will be held **Saturday, November 20** – you may sign up to rent a space for selling your arts and crafts or other items.

**Festival of Trees** will be held **November 26 – 28** at Huntington High School. This event to benefit Hospice House features more than 70 beautifully decorated Christmas Trees including one designed and decorated by our own church members. If you have ideas for the tree and would like to get involved, contact Marge Browning or Pastor Faith.





## Contemporary Worship Service –8:30 AM

After months of prayerful planning and inquiry, Pastor Faith will offer a new style of worship at 8:30 AM each Sunday morning. Beginning on September 12<sup>th</sup>, Olivet will lift it's voice with a new song! Interested musicians, singers and dancers are invited to bring their offering of praise, too. Contact Pastor Faith to become a part of the 8:30 Worship planning team.

The 11 AM worship will continue with it's regular format with special music by the Olivet Choir, The Strummers, organists and pianists. It is a blessing that we have so many talented people with so many ways to praise the One who created and redeems us.

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### Fall Day Away

“Songs of Faith” at the West River Center –

Especially for Seniors/Retirees - **Tuesday, September 21, 2010** from 9:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. The schedule for the day includes, Bible Study, Keynote Address by Carolyn Gillette-Hymnist, Author and Speaker, Lunch, Special Interest Sessions devoted to Hymns, Finances, Missions, Deepening your Devotional Life, and Chesapeake Bay Foundation. If interested pick up a copy of the brochure/registration form from the table in the Commons.

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## INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEACE CELEBRATION & DISCUSSION

**Tuesday, September 21, 2010**

7:00 p.m. at the Calvert Library Prince Frederick

“Peace Begins in Calvert County”

“Peace makers in a divided community”

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## Community Health Fair




### Community Health Fair:

On Saturday, September 11 from 9 AM to 1 PM Middleham and St. Peter's Parish is hosting a Community Health Fair at the parish hall on Truman Road in Lusby – across the parking lot from SMILE.

Several community organizations including Calvert Memorial Hospital, Calvert Healthcare Solutions, and the Lion's Club will be offering: health risk assessments; dermo scan for skin cancer; bone density testing; vascular screening; pulmonary function testing; eye and hearing exams; plus information on many health topics and help with accessing county health organizations. Plan to attend and tell family, friends and neighbors.

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## SEPTEMBER 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>29</b> Worship at 8:30 & 11am 9:30 AM Big Dummies Sunday School 2:00 PM Nursing Center Worship Service 5:00 PM Youth Group 5:00 PM Youth Group	<b>30</b> 10:00 AM Prayer Group - Knoll 12:00 PM Ripple Ctr.	<b>31</b> 11:00 AM Bible Study with Pastor	<b>1</b> 10:00 AM Book Club 11:00 AM 8:30 Worship Team 12:00 PM Ripple Ctr. 1:00 PM 11am Worship Team	<b>2</b> 8:30 AM Weight Watchers	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>5</b> Worship at 8:30 & 11am	<b>6</b> Labor Day 10:00 AM Prayer Group - Knoll	<b>7</b> 12:00 AM U.M.W.	<b>8</b> 9:30 AM Clergy Meeting 10:00 AM Book Club 12:00 PM Ripple Ctr. 6:30 PM Lift Group 6:30 PM Strummers Rehearsal 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	<b>9</b> 8:30 AM Weight Watchers	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> Patriot Day 9:00 AM Men Meeting  9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Community Health Fair @ Middleham & St. Peter's Parish
<b>12</b> Worship at 8:30 & 11am 2:00 PM Nursing Center Worship Service 5:00 PM Youth Group	<b>13</b> 10:00 AM Prayer Group - Knoll 5:30 PM Finance	<b>14</b> 11:00 AM Bible Study with Pastor 12:30 PM Pizza With Pastor 5:30 PM Finance 6:00 PM Church Council	<b>15</b> 10:00 AM Book Club 12:00 PM Ripple Ctr. 6:30 PM Lift Group 6:30 PM Strummers Rehearsal 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	<b>16</b> 8:30 AM Weight Watchers	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>19</b> Worship at 8:30 & 11am 5:00 PM Youth Group	<b>20</b> 10:00 AM Prayer Group - Knoll	<b>21</b> 11:00 AM Bible Study with Pastor	<b>22</b> 10:00 AM Book Club 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	<b>23</b> First Day of Autumn 8:30 AM Weight Watchers	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>  8:00 AM Rummage Sale
<b>26</b> Worship at 8:30 & 11am 5:00 PM Youth Group	<b>27</b> 10:00 AM Prayer Group - Knoll	<b>28</b> 11:00 AM Bible Study with Pastor	<b>29</b> 10:00 AM Book Club 12:00 PM Ripple Ctr. 6:30 PM Lift Group 6:30 PM Strummers Rehearsal 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	<b>30</b> 8:30 AM Weight Watchers	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>

September is Cluster One.

### Calendar Highlights:

#### What is Ripple Center?

A new ministry of Olivet Church!

Under the direction of Teddy Foote, Olivet extends God's love and grace to the adults of the Ripple Center in St. Mary's County. Teddy leads a Wednesday Worship Service for the adults who attend their daycare program.

#### Be LIFTED up! Join the L.I.F.T. group on Wednesday Nights!

Ever feel like your walk with Jesus has become a slow crawl? Or you simply aren't growing in your faith? One way to deepen our spiritual life is by Living In Faith Together.

Join a LIFT group and meet with other companions in Christ! Everyone is welcome to join in this weekly gathering. The group explores creative forms of prayer through art, scrap booking, journaling and all different expressions of prayer. There is no homework; just bring a bible, an open spirit and willingness to be "lifted" in your walk - - and to "lift others in theirs

#### Olivet Musicians and Musical Groups:

Rehearsals resume on Wednesday, September 8 at 6:30 p.m. (Strummers) and 7:30 p.m. (Choir). The Olivet Choir will return to the 11AM. worship on September 12th and 26th . The Strummers will lead us in song on Sunday, September 19th at the 11am worship service.



## 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**

**13575 Olivet Rd**

**Lusby, MD 20657**

**410-326-8400**

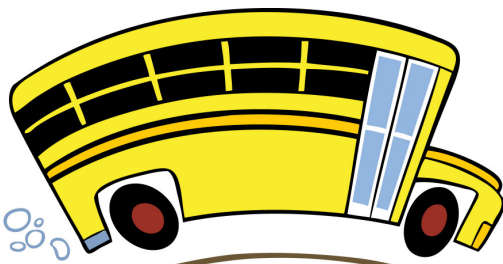
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# **SEPTEMBER**