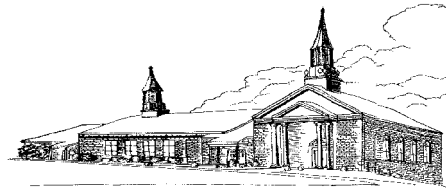


# The Olivet Observer



*"The little church with a big heart"*

**Olivet Presbyterian Church**  
1019 Richmond Avenue, Staunton, VA 24401  
The Rev. Lee Thomas, Pastor

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## The 85<sup>th</sup> Letter of Lee to the Olivet Church:

Every January it seems like the news is filled with statistics and reports of people making and keeping New Years Resolutions. I read one man's post on Twitter recently who made me laugh—"New Year's Day is the great revival. A day when millions of Americans return to the gym, for a few weeks. And re-engage in other neglected activities such as diet and flossing."

No matter what day it is, any day is a good day, to re-commit to daily scripture reading and prayer. If like so many other people say that they have, you have fallen behind in the discipline of daily devotions and prayer now is the perfect time to re-start.

I have long enjoyed reading "Our Daily Bread." They will send you a copy of their devotion in the mail, or you can download the app to your smart phone and use it regularly. They'll even send you the daily devotion in your e-mail. If you don't already read "The Upper Room" you might enjoy joining a number of our people here at Olivet who read that one each month.

There is no doubt we all live such busy lives. However, with the technology available to us today none of us really has any excuse not to read a word from THE WORD, every day. It really does make a difference.

Just this morning I was reading from Mark chapter 4 where Jesus taught the parable about the farmer and the seeds. If you remember that parable, you recall the lesson that some of the seeds fell among thorns, other seeds fell among rocky soil, but some of the seeds were sown on good soil. Jesus said that we are like those seeds. Some people will be so fortunate as to "hear the word, accept it, and produce a crop—some thirty, some sixty, some a hundred times what was sown."

Returning to God's word morning after morning, will do the work of making our hearts and lives like that good fertile soil, for His kingdom.

I hope you are enjoying the start of 2020. May you experience great joy and blessings as you walk with God this year and always.

*Grace and Peace,*

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lee".