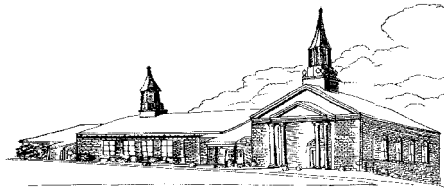


# The Olivet Observer



*"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 89<sup>th</sup> Letter of Lee to the Olivet Church:

We've officially entered May of 2020! I thought I'd announce that in case anyone needed a reminder of where we are with time now. Many have commented about how we are all losing track of time as life continues during this national shutdown. To be honest, I've sometimes found it hard to remember what day it is as life has changed so much recently. I remember a conversation I had not too long ago with some people about how time flies. In that conversation, we were talking about how twenty years goes by in such a hurry. It's hard to remember so much of what happens because as time travels on, so many things kind of become a blur. The last six weeks kind of feel like that. Many people feel like we've lived 20 years in these last six weeks, and it's hard to remember a lot of specifics. This unprecedented season in our lives has been met with various reactions. Some people are making the most of it-even finding the grace to view it a gift of sorts. Others are struggling with isolation and deeply longing to be reunited with friends and loved ones. Essential workers are challenged to work under new and sometimes frightening conditions. Many have had to fight this sickness or grieve the loss of someone they love.

This very morning, I was reminded of a quote from Corrie Ten Boom- *"I've experienced His presence in the deepest darkest hell that men can create. I have really tested the promises of the Bible and believe me, you can count on them."*

We are promised in the Bible that God has not left us. We are promised in the Bible that in God's time, heaven and earth will be made new. We are promised in the Bible that Jesus loves us and he will come again. Nothing in this earthly world lasts forever. Even this national quarantine won't go on for eternity.

Until we can come back together for worship, please continue to join us at 10:00 on Facebook. If you don't have a Facebook account, please let us know. We can email you a link to view the service right after it ends. Also, if you would like to make a financial offering to the church online, we are in the process of adding that feature to our website.

Please try to stay positive. Look for the presence of the Lord, and know that you can surely count on His promises. If you need me for anything at all, please let me know.

Grace and Peace,

**MAY**  
Birthdays

Kim Weller	May 2
Gary Monroe	May 2
Joe Nicklas	May 7
Caroline Reid	May 8
Joe Hemp	May 10
D. Reid	May 12
Karlie Stewart	May 12
Vickey Wood	May 13
Jane Robinson	May 14
Katie Lawhorn	May 16
Alex Weller	May 18
Austin Ware	May 18
Harlow Stuth	May 23
David MacMillan	May 25
Patrick Weller	May 27
Janna Milstead	May 31
Anna Harris	May 31



Congratulations to Martha Ann Wells on the birth of a son, Kamari Alaric Turay, on April 4, 2020. Kamari is the grandson of Mandie and Matt Crosby.



Your pledges and contributions may be mailed to the church at 1019 Richmond Avenue, Staunton VA 24401 or dropped off at the church

in a box inside the entrance at the downstairs middle door on Wednesday or Friday between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. If you are unable to mail your contributions or get out, please call the church and an Elder will pick up your donation at home.

**MAY**  
Anniversaries

Lynne and Butch Smiley	May 2
Mandie and Matt Crosby	May 16
Stephanie and Chris Armstrong	May 19
Kim and Scott Weller	May 20
Jennifer and Trey Lawhorn	May 21
Faye and Joe Hemp	May 22
Carolyn and Ronnie Via	May 23
Candi and John Smith	May 25
Jody and Steve Elmore	May 29
Beth and Keary Bonner	May 30



No circle meetings are scheduled until further notice.

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGES**

We would like to thank those giving a Children's Message for April:

Lee Thomas  
Laura Argenbright

**SACRA**

For SACRA during the month of May we will be collecting paper products such as toilet paper, paper towels, paper plates, napkins, tissues, etc. Items may be brought to the church on Wednesday and Friday mornings between 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. SACRA is closed at this time due to the concerns of COVID-19. We are still receiving donations which will be delivered when SACRA is allowed to reopen.

## A PRAYER FOR MEMORIAL DAY May 25, 2020

Remember, O Lord, all those people throughout the years who have made the supreme sacrifice for our country, for liberty, for us. Whenever we breathe the air of freedom or claim the right to justice or enjoy the privilege of worship, fill us with gratitude for those who selflessly gave the last full measure of devotion—their very lives for our benefit

May these brave men and women now know the joy of eternity and your presence. And may the families of the fallen receive comfort and peace amid their grief. Help us as we minister to their needs. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

HAPPY  
*Mother's*  
Day

May 10, 2020



IN MEMORIAM  
**HAROLD REID**

8/21/39—4/24/20