

The Olivet Observer



2021



"The little church with a big heart"

Olivet Presbyterian Church
1019 Richmond Avenue
Staunton, VA 24401

The 101st Letter of Lee to the Olivet Church:

I know that last month I wrote about the excitement of Spring. I'm still thinking about that as we move closer to summer. Right now as I write this note it's on my mind how much many of us are enjoying the green grass and the happiness that the warmer seasons bring. Being outside more is good for the soul. (By the way we are planning to have church outside as often as weather permits this summer.) It's amazing how being out on a warm day makes me feel closer to the Lord.

Do you remember as a child looking up at the clouds and seeing the silhouettes of people like Abraham Lincoln? Or better yet standing outside in the warm sunshine and seeing a cross or a dove? It's easier to experience the beauty and impact of Psalm 23 when we are outdoors on a warm day. When King David wrote the beloved 23rd Psalm he wasn't writing for a funeral. He was writing about peace that comes from knowing the Lord enables us to confidently lie down in green pastures. The blessed assurance that he will lead us beside still waters for refreshment of our souls. He will provide what we need in every situation of life and even death.

The Good Shepherd our Lord Jesus Christ who laid down his life for our souls knows us by name. He is the gateway home. He is also leading us on the journey there. Although we are able to be outside, we continue to live in a time when anxiety levels and frustrations are high. Maybe you have felt some of that lately. I think most of us have. Our Lord has given us the gift of warmer weather and brighter days. In moments of doubt or fear or whatever troubling emotions we may be experiencing, I think it helps if you can go outside and pray. But of course if you can't go outside you can pray wherever you are. Whether we are outside or inside, the Good Shepherd is with us. God Bless you with a warm, calm, and joyful month this May.

Grace and Peace,



MAY Birthdays

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



MAY Anniversaries

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



The Session met on Sunday, April 18, 2021.

It was decided to open the nursery on Sunday mornings during the service for families who have small children. Parents will be responsible for disinfecting the toys, books and surfaces.

Weather permitting outdoor services will begin on Sunday, May 30, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. A goal has been set to resume Children's Messages at that time. Volunteers are needed. Please see Julie Reid if you would like to give a 5-minutes children's message.

To make tax deductible donations to church funds other than the general offering, please make checks payable to *Olivet Presbyterian Church* and earmark the check as to which fund it is intended.

It was reported new carpet has been installed in the Pastor's study.

The next scheduled meeting is Sunday, May 16, 2021 at 11:00 a.m.





Volunteers are needed to provide live flowers for the sanctuary on Sunday mornings and to help keep them fresh. If they are cared for, we should be able to get three weeks use from an arrangement. You may sign up on the flower sheet in the vestibule.



The CIC is sponsoring a Diaper Ministry to supply 50-60 diapers and packages of wipes to those families in need in our community. The families who receive the diapers will be identified by DSS, physicians, and elementary school nurses/guidance counselors. A written request will be made at which time the approved family will be paired with church volunteers.



The ministry has been launched successfully. They have 8 volunteers and are serving 8 families with one more being added in May. However, the committee funds have been used and now they are in dire need of financial contributions to continue this ministry. The cost of the diapers is \$250 per month. If you would like to donate, please make checks payable to *Olivet Presbyterian Church* and earmark them for the *Diaper Ministry Fund*. All donations will be appreciated.

For more information and to sign up to volunteer, please contact Sherry Herr, Janna Milstead or Christel Nicklas.



Celebrating Our Graduates

There will be an informal reception with bottled drinks and cupcakes to honor our 2021 graduates on Sunday, May 16, 2021. Our graduates this year are Elijah Harris, Clay Bartley and Richard Jones.

SACRA

For SACRA during the month of May we will be collecting paper products such as toilet paper, paper towels, tissues, paper plates and cups, napkins, etc. Donations may be brought to the church on Sunday mornings or left at the church on Wednesday and Friday mornings between 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. SACRA is open on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 9:00 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. so we are again making deliveries that are very much appreciated.