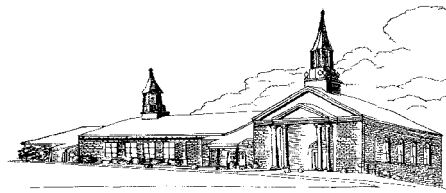


The Olivet Observer



"The little church with a big heart"

4TH
of JULY
2021

Olivet Presbyterian Church
1019 Richmond Avenue
Staunton, VA 24401

The 103rd Letter of Lee to the Olivet Church:

A beloved family member of ours, who passed away long ago, made a habit of clipping and saving newspaper articles that she found helpful and encouraging. She would either tape them to the inside of kitchen cabinet doors or stuff them into one of her Bibles. I may actually do that with part of this article because it's content is something I strongly believe God has laid on my heart.

Not long ago I read the beloved and famous prayer of St. Francis of Assisi in a sermon. He was born almost a thousand years ago and lived from 1181-1226. All those years ago-in a troubled world, he took a pen in his hand and from his heart poured the words in prayer, *"Lord make me an instrument of your peace. Where there is hatred, let me sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy. O Divine Master, grant that I may not seek so much to be consoled as to console, to be understood as to understand, to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive, it is in pardoning that we are pardoned, and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen."*

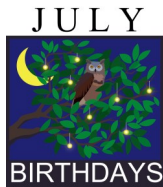
To be instruments of peace, would also make us instruments of grace. To be an instrument of grace is one of the greatest goals of the Christian life. Take a moment now and look back over your life and growth in the faith. Think for a moment about other Christians you have known, admired and loved. I would be willing to bet that those folks were instruments of God's grace when they didn't even know it. For those people it had become second nature to do as we are charged in Philippians 4-*"Rejoice in the Lord always, I will say it again, rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all."*

Dr. Donald Barnhouse, pastor of the Tenth Presbyterian Church in Philadelphia for 33 years, became a pretty famous preacher in his day. This is one of his most beloved and inspirational quotes:

"Love that goes upward is worship; love that goes outward is affection; love that stoops is grace."

By his grace may we all strive to be instruments of his peace and grace in a world that so desperately needs it.

Grace and Peace to you,



Leah Dickens	July 3
Jarrett Hatcher	July 4
Butch Smiley	July 4
Neal Coiner	July 9
Leslie Harris	July 9
Brittney Leach	July 9
Norah Byrd	July 10
Fran Mines	July 12
Carson Bonner	July 12
Richard Jones	July 12
Ruth Bailey	July 13
Rick Smith	July 13
Brodie Stuth	July 13
Ray Clifton	July 17
Carolyn Via	July 19
Karen Stevens	July 20
Scott Weller	July 20
Kasey Reid	July 22
Carter Smith	July 22
Mark Miller	July 25
Christel Nicklas	July 27
Aaron Argenbright	July 28
Sean Wells	July 31



Birgit and David Craig	July 4
Leah and T. J. Dickens	July 13
Kala and David Herman	July 13
Kasey and Mike Wood	July 30



Make the following change of address in your Church Directory:

**Dr. Treacy and Mary Jones
Richard, Savannah and Christopher
602 Lee Jackson Highway
Staunton, VA 24401**



The Session met on Sunday, June 27, 2021.

We will celebrate the Sacrament of Communion on Sunday, July 11, 2021. The following Elders are assigned to serve: Jason Harris, Langdon Reid, Charles Clemmer and Jean Ann Clemmer.



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.



Beginning Sunday, July 11, 2021 the outside service will have a new setup. The podium will be at the far end of the picnic shelter and if you prefer you may sit under the shelter on the picnic tables or on your own chairs set up in the middle or the surrounding area.

