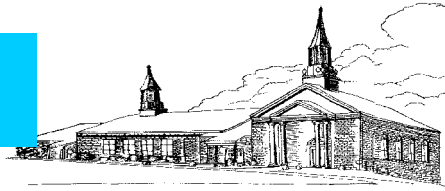


# The Olivet Observer



2023  
**AUGUST**

*"The little church with a big heart"*

Olivet Presbyterian Church  
1019 Richmond Avenue  
Staunton, VA 24401

## The 128<sup>th</sup> Letter of Lee to the Olivet Church:

As we have turned the calendar to August, there's one thing that often comes to mind. Summer vacation is over for our school people (even though summer goes on as a season until September 23<sup>rd</sup> of this year). Everyone seems a little affected by the starting of school, even if you don't have children or grandchildren going back to class. And even if you are not a teacher or an employee of the schools you probably still notice when it's back to school time.

Do you remember your first day of school? I sure do—all the way back to August of 1978. I suppose one reason I remember so well is because I was so excited to get to go to school like my brother and our older friends instead of going to the babysitter's house. It may be that I also remember it because I was promptly sent to time out for running in the classroom early that first morning.

One of the things that we learn as we grow through all the years of life is that we were created to be lifelong learners. As we keep living, we keep learning. We may or may no longer be students of math and languages, but we should always recognize ourselves to be students of the Bible. As our young people, their teachers and all school employees return for another school year, it is a great time for all of us to rededicate ourselves to the study of God's Word.

A beloved passage from the 25<sup>th</sup> Psalm says, "*Show me Your ways, O Lord; teach me your paths. Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation.*"

I encourage all of us to keep our Bibles open and to read and reread Scripture. The benefits and blessings of drawing nearer to our Lord through the gift of His written word are immense.

May God fill you with peace, renewed encouragement and understanding as you seek to learn His ways now and always.

*Grace and Peace,*