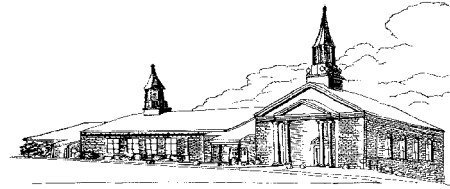


# The Olivet Observer



*"The little church with a big heart"*

OCTOBER

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

## The 142<sup>nd</sup> Letter of Lee to the Olivet Church

I was recently having a conversation about a remarkable woman who was a member of this church, until her death at age 100. Many of you remember Mary Gallegos. I thought of a story she told me about when she was in her last months of life in a nursing home. Her roommate was agitated and unable to sleep one night. It was getting late so Mary pulled out her Bible and started reading from the Psalms. When she began reading Psalm 127, as soon as she got to verse 2, the woman in the room beside her settled down, got very quiet, drifted off to sleep and didn't wake up until the next morning.

If you are familiar with Psalm 127:2 you know the words of it are, "He giveth His beloved sleep." We all know there is nothing quite like a peaceful deep night sleep. Sometimes in those peaceful nighttime sleeps we have remarkable vivid dreams. I had a recurring dream just last night. In that dream I was in different places with different people. In each place I was in and with every group, we were singing "What a Friend We Have in Jesus!" When I woke up this morning, the words were in my mind this morning, "All because we do not carry everything to God in prayer."

We always have so many things to pray about in life. Recent days it seems there have been many. A huge natural disaster has gone through part of the region. The long bitter conflict in the middle east is escalating quickly. There are other situations we could easily name concerning people close to us. It's good to have a song in your heart (and in your dreams). It's great to have a song like "What a Friend" going through your mind. It's important to remember the hope and promises we have and to take our burdens to the Lord in prayer. Let us continue on praying for one another and for the world. Thank God we have not been left, forgotten or forsaken by our redeemer even in the midst of chaos.

God Bless you now and always,