

Mount Olivet United Church of Christ



410 W. South Range Rd. North Lima, Ohio 44452 330-549-2169

Pastor Michael Smith ~ cell 330-446-8188 ~ pastormichael62@outlook.com

Stacey Jarrett, Office Manager ~ office@mtolivetucc.org

As I write this, we don't know if we will be having in-person worship services or going back to remote-online services in December. Either way, know that there is light at the end of the tunnel in getting through the coronavirus. Our hearts and prayers go out to those who have been affected by the virus, losing loved ones or being sick. Please, let me know if I can help you in anyway; like bringing groceries, in-person visits (if possible), or even an online visit.



There is hope. Highly effective vaccines (the first two that have been tested) should be distributed very soon. Those on the front line and the most vulnerable will be the first to receive the vaccinations. Again, as I write this, the vaccine(s) should be available for the general public by the second or third quarter of 2021.

In the meantime, like Santa above having a flat tire, the holidays will be different, specifically our Christmas Eve service (depending on if we are in-person and what kind of attendance restrictions are placed on church gatherings). We will figure out the safest way to share Christmas Eve with you whether in-person or online. We will continue to record our worship services, regardless.

Here's where our faith can be such a positive influence on our mental health. The virus cannot stop Christ coming (celebrating Christmas), Christ living, Christ dying and being resurrected, which means nothing can separate us from the love of God. The virus cannot topple God off God's throne. The virus is a serious, deadly matter, and we thank those who are on the frontlines every day, willingly putting themselves in harm's way to keep others safe (being Christ like). Lastly, the virus cannot steal our joy without our permission. We will get through this with the help of God and the faith to find our joy, even if we suffer a flat, remembering that God is greater than any virus.

*Blessings,
Pastor Michael*



December Assignments

Altar Flowers

December 6 – available

December 13 – available

December 20 – available

December 27 – available

Liturgists

December 6 – TBD

December 13 – TBD

December 20 – TBD

December 27 – TBD

Offering Counters

TBD

December building opening/closing: Michael Libb & TBD

Signup for Alter Flowers on the bulletin board in the hallway to celebrate a special occasion or make a dedication.

To schedule a Sunday in December to be Liturgist, contact Kay Williams or the office to signup.

If anyone is willing to help with Offering Counting, let Linda Eisenbraun or the office know.

At this time, because of precautions, we will not be scheduling: Greeters & Offering Lifters.

Thank you for your support of the church.

December Birthday

December 1: Werner Einsiedel

December 2: Michele Sawonik

December 3: Alice Snyder

December 7: Shirley Curry

December 9: Marge Campman

December 11: Carol Colkitt

Cliff Yambrovich

December 13: Gerda Einsiedel

Amy Centofanti

December 14: Alice Smith

December 15: Rev. Steve Geitgey

December 16: Linda Eisenbraun

Cole Lippert

December 18: Anna Turnbull

Ryan Turnbull

December 19: Kaye Gregory

Christina Cash

December 21: Arlene Crouse

Judy Gifford

December 22: Edith Kellner

December 23: Michelle Costello

December 24: Charlotte Allen

December 25: Ann Kafka

December 27: Michael Libb

Taylor Aquisto

December 30: Tom Eisenbraun

December 31: Rosemarie Baun

Marissa White



Consistory News

by Barb Feaster

Consistory met with Pastor Michael, Linda E., and nine members present.

Pastor Michael began by telling us that the visitation of people in hospitals and nursing homes, which had just begun to open up, is closed again, with few exceptions. For the remaining Sundays in November we will observe Thankoffering and the First Sunday of Advent. Decorating the Sanctuary for Christmas is scheduled for the Saturday morning following Thanksgiving. There is plenty to do and plenty of space to spread out, so please feel free to come and help. There was a lengthy discussion about how to safely hold a Christmas Eve service in these very uncertain times. Since there is no way to predict what will be happening then, several options were discussed. The consensus was that we would like to know who would plan on attending if things are not shut down. Most of our regular, in-person Sunday worship attendees indicated they would plan to be there. So, we will continue this discussion at December's meeting.

We also spent some time discussing our outside groups (scouts, AA & AlAnon) who would all like to come back due to being unable to meet outside with cooler weather. We have agreed to let that happen, implanting state guidelines, along with the group's safety guidelines, and those put in place by Mt. Olivet. Each group will be responsible for cleaning up their specific areas after each use. Of course, all of this hinges on the next response from the governor.

Our financial report was given by Linda. Giving is still down, and we are still waiting for the PPE loan to be forgiven so that she can move that money to the Current Expense account. Bills are paid and \$500 was sent to Christina House from Benevolence. Please remember the church during this difficult time. Tina T. is planning to start the Grief Group on Saturday Nov. 21 at 10 am. Again, this is following all the safety protocols that are in place at that time. This will be a great comfort to people during this difficult season. Thank you to Tina for recognizing the need and the courage to get it started.

I also want to say thank you to Tammie Jones for being so motivated to keep Sunday School going for ALL ages now. Her driving force has been unwavering, and we are all benefitting from her dedication. Music has also been exceptionally welcome during this unsettling time. It has been great to hear the 'choir', as well as the new music from the Contemporary Team. It puts a touch of normal back into our uncertain lives.

And, last but not least, thanks to Pastor Michael for his teachings about the life of the Apostle Paul. God was there for Paul in all his difficult trials and God is there for us, too. Stay safe and stay healthy. If you are in need of anything, please let the office know. We are here for you. Blessings.



A Word From Our Treasurer...

by Linda Eisenbraun

Current Income and Expense

September - Ending Balance	\$4,708.38
October Income	\$9,300.00
October Expense	\$(12,304.46)
October - Ending Balance	\$1,703.92

Our fourth-quarter Special Offering is for the **Leonard Kirtz School | MCBDD**. We have several members that teach at and attend the school. They are working to raise funds for special projects to benefit the children.

Every year we order offering envelopes. We have had many members indicate that they do not use them. We also have hundreds of boxes that are never picked up, sitting in the office. This year we are not going to order envelopes. We will be making sure that there are envelopes in the pews for you to use.

Please make sure to write your name on the envelope, as we will not have your number to reference. If you know your previous number, you may continue to use that as well.

Thank you for all for your continued support of Mt. Olivet's mission to serve God, serve others. Stay safe and God bless!

Offerings can be submitted by mail, or can be dropped off to the church office, during office hours, Mon-Thur 9:00am-2:30pm.

Our mailing address is: **Mt. Olivet UCC - 410 W. South Range Rd.,
North Lima, OH 44452.**

You can also use your bank's Bill Pay feature to issue a check from your account.



**We need EMPTY, CLEAN clear or white colored plastic one-gallon jugs for the Christmas Eve luminaries. Please save as many as you can and bring them into the church. Jugs can be dropped off in the hallway.
Thank you!**



Mt. Olivet Women's Guild News

By Phyllis Manning & Millie Stratton

The Women's Guild wants to THANK YOU for your generous donations to our Harvest Home program. The generous members of Mt. Olivet donated food and monetary offerings for Protestant Family Service in Youngstown. We sent a check to the Youngstown Foundation group, which will add to our donated amount for distribution to PFS. The total amount sent was \$630. We are very proud to be able to do that!

As he does each year, Vaughn Colkitt came to the church and loaded the donated goods and delivered them to PFS. Thank you for your help, Vaughn!

Thank you, Mt. Olivet, so much for your support. Ladies, if you are interested in attending the Christmas Brunch, please RSVP soon so that we can plan. We know that things might change, and we may have to cancel the event. Till we get to that point, we want to try and move forward with our cherished annual event. We have many protocols in place to hold a safe event. If we have to, we can limit it to ten or less to follow guidelines.

The food will be prepared and packaged ahead of time for service. We are still planning out any entertainment, since our usual activity of a hands-on craft, may not be the best choice. Let's see how many women would like to come. Family groups will be sat together and distanced from others. If we do end up having to cancel the event, we will give you a head's up as soon as we know. The event is free, and you are welcome to bring a donation of a personal care item for Christina House, a domestic violence shelter.





Christmas Brunch Celebration

Presented by the Mt. Olivet Women's Guild

**LADIES, of all ages, begin the Christmas season of Advent with us!
Bring a friend and come enjoy the merriment!**

Saturday, December 5th

11:00 am – 1:00 pm

We will have pre-packaged food to keep things simple and safe.

Please RSVP at the bulletin board or call the office.

**Please give us the number of ladies arriving in your group,
because you will be seated together.**

We will follow all health guidelines in place in regard to public safety.

This is a FREE event! And we are still planning the entertainment portion of the brunch, so stayed tuned! We will be collecting donations to be given to Christina House, a women's shelter in Salem.



MOVERS & SEEKERS

Sunday Mornings at 9:15am
In the Chapel

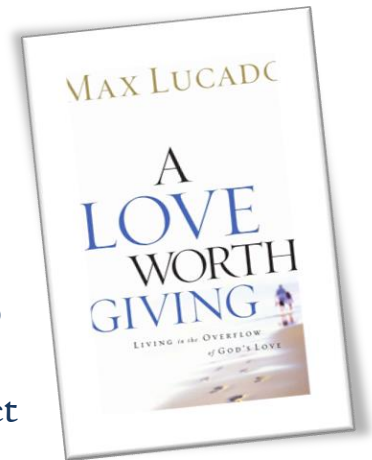
Feel free to join in with us at any time! We gather to reflect on scripture, spiritual books, inspirational films and more! Currently we are exploring the Max Lucado book, *'A Love Worth Giving'*.

You don't even have to buy the book to join in the conversation!

Tammie Jones leads the class each week.

She is able to send you an informational outline, along with a Zoom link (for those that can't make it in person) to your email before class.

Contact the office or Tammie to register your email. Contact Tammie if you have any questions on the class.



Youth Sunday School

For toddlers through middle school,
right after *Kid's Time* during Sunday Worship!

Mt. Olivet UCC 2021 Pledge Card

Please return your pledge card no later than **Sunday, December 13th, 2020.**

Return to the office or to the Treasurer's mailbox

For the Church's Records

Envelope # _____ (for office use)

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

I plan to give beginning _____ each ☐ week ☐ month
(date and year)

For our congregation's ministries \$ _____ Annual Total \$ _____

For our congregation's wider mission \$ _____ Annual Total \$ _____

I understand that this commitment can be changed at any time by giving notice to appropriate church officer.

☐ I would like to talk with someone about including the church or church-related institution in my will.

Signed: _____

Date: _____

For Your Records

DATE: _____

With others in my congregation, I commit myself to give in proportion to what I have for the ministries of the church and the proclamation of the good news of Jesus Christ.

I plan to give beginning _____
(date and year)

Each ☐ week ☐ month

For our congregation's ministries

\$ _____ Annual Total \$ _____

For our congregation's wider mission

\$ _____ Annual Total \$ _____

Change of Address

Please inform the office when you move, change your phone number or email address. We appreciate you helping us keep up-to-date. You can call 330-549-2169 or email changes to office@mtolivetucc.org.



Spiritual Council meeting: Thursday, December 3rd @7pm
Consistory meeting: Wednesday, December 9th @7pm



News and other items for the [JANUARY VOICE MAGNIFIED](#) is due NO LATER than **Sunday, December 13th**! Items submitted after this date will not be included. Thank you for your cooperation!



"No one ever told me that grief felt so like fear." C.S Lewis

Mt. Olivet is moving forward to assemble a Grief Support Group for our members and even others in the community if they wish to join. Together, with Pastor Michael's help, we will work to gain strength and wisdom to move forward through our losses and challenges.

Our first meeting will be held on: Saturday, November 21 at 10am in the Chapel.

If you feel that you would get benefit and comfort from being in the group, please contact the church office by phone or email (office@mtolivetucc.org), or call/text Tina Turnbull at 330-506-0109, to register.



December 2020 CALENDAR

TUESDAY DECEMBER 1
WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 2
THURSDAY DECEMBER 3
FRIDAY DECEMBER 4
SATURDAY DECEMBER 5
SUNDAY DECEMBER 6

7PM

11AM-1PM
9:15AM
10:30AM

SPIRITUAL COUNCIL MEETING

WOMEN'S CHRISTMAS BRUNCH
ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL
WORSHIP — COMM & 2ND ADVENT
STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY
YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL



MONDAY DECEMBER 7
TUESDAY DECEMBER 8
WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 9
THURSDAY DECEMBER 10
FRIDAY DECEMBER 11
SATURDAY DECEMBER 12
SUNDAY DECEMBER 13

7PM

7PM

EVENING
DAY
9:15AM
10:30AM

CONSISTORY MEETING

BARINGER/SOKOLOW REHEARSAL
BARINGER/SOKOLOW WEDDING
ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL
WORSHIP — 3RD ADVENT
YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL
VOICE MAGNIFIED NEWS DUE

MONDAY DECEMBER 14
TUESDAY DECEMBER 15
WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 16
THURSDAY DECEMBER 17
FRIDAY DECEMBER 18
SATURDAY DECEMBER 19
SUNDAY DECEMBER 20

9:15AM
10:30AM

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL
WORSHIP — 4TH ADVENT
YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL

MONDAY DECEMBER 21
TUESDAY DECEMBER 22
WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 23
THURSDAY DECEMBER 24

ALL-DAY
TBD

FRIDAY DECEMBER 25
SATURDAY DECEMBER 26
SUNDAY DECEMBER 27

ALL-DAY

9:15AM
10:30AM

CHRISTMAS EVE - OFFICES CLOSED
CANDLELIGHT SERVICES
CHRISTMAS DAY

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL
WORSHIP —
YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL



MONDAY DECEMBER 28
TUESDAY DECEMBER 29
WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 30
THURSDAY DECEMBER 31

ALL-DAY

NEW YEAR'S EVE - OFFICES CLOSED

Mt Olivet United Church of Christ

410 W. South Range Rd.
North Lima, Ohio 44452

Address service requested

Michael Smith, Pastor

Stacey Jarrett, Office Manager

Kay Williams, Music Director

Natalie Biller, Handbell Director

Spencer Reed, Organist

Vaughn Colkitt & Ryan Turnbull, Audio/ Visual Coordinators



December 2020 ~ Voice Magnified

**No matter who you are
or where you go on life's journey...
YOU are WELCOME here.**