

# The Witness

Mount Olivet Baptist Church

### Special points of interest:

- The Ruth Evening Circle continues to collect items for the Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes. *Items collected for April include: shoes/socks/flip-flops.* They may be placed in the collection box in the hallway leading into the fellowship hall from the Vaughan Building and also in the room across from the Café Sunday School Class. See Janice Igou for details.

### • Dessert Auction Details

Soup & Sandwich Lunch  
Provided by WOM

Desserts are needed to  
auction for Annie Armstrong

**Palm Sunday, April 1**  
**Annie Armstrong Dessert Auction**  
**12:00 Noon**

**Good Friday Service, April 6**  
**“Service of Shadows”**  
**7:00 pm**

**Easter Services**

<b>Sunrise Service</b>	<b>6:45 am</b>
<b>Breakfast</b>	<b>7:30 am</b>
<b>Sunday School</b>	<b>8:30 am</b>
<b>Worship &amp; Cantata</b>	<b>9:45 am</b>

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## Thank You, Dover Baptists

Allow me to remind you of the decision that the church made at the last business meeting.

The church voted unanimously to proceed with updating the Vaughan Building to include a vestibule & welcome center.

This project arose from a challenge from Dover Baptist Association. Dover encouraged

each of her member churches to identify at least one way to connect with our community. Mt Olivet adopted 2 goals.

1. Start Body & Soul — Aerobics & Strength Training Classes — offered free to members of the church & community
2. Develop a Welcome Center

Dover Baptist Association presented the church with two grants — \$2,500 to subsidize the cost of Body & Soul and \$5,000 to subsidize the cost of the Welcome Center.

**Thank You, Dover!**

## Thank You to Our Deacons

## The Gift of Having a Voice

As many of you know, I have been struggling again with my voice since the first of February.

A person tends to take his voice for granted – always expecting to speak clearly with expressive tones – UNTIL that day when your voice leaves you with “cracking & croaking” sounds. It is hard for the speaker as well as for the listener when the speaker’s voice is “missing some key sounds.”

I am so thankful to serve as pastor of a church that offers so much support during trying times! Your prayers mean the world to me! Your words of encouragement & your helpful

deeds are so meaningful! Your willingness to relieve the stress on my vocal cords by engaging a guest preacher (Rev Dan Stevens) is such a gift. Thank you, Dan, for your awesome ministry among God’s people here at Mt Olivet.

And thanks to the deacons who led the worship services on March 18. Each deacon who spoke or led in prayer was Spirit-filled as he shared his testimony during the service. Very few of the 9 deacons who had a speaking part feel comfortable with public speaking! And yet, each one stretched himself to accomplish

the task, with the aid of the Holy Spirit! Not only were the speaking parts inspirational, but also the music. The Praise Team did a great job. Their music selections as well as their singing was God-filled. From the very beginning to the very end of the service, God was certainly present! May God hear our praises to Him for His work in and through our deacons & musicians!

I continue to go for speech therapy & physical therapy with the hope of healing! I pray for a clear speaking voice. Until then, we prayerfully wait!

Your Pastor, Dale

*Please notice the beautiful flower beds & shrubbery around the church!*

*The way we care for God’s house speaks volumes about our love for God!*

The church’s Bible teaching ministry (Sunday School) continues to grow! Our Sunday School Director (Robert Williams) reported to the Church Council last week that our average attendance is at least 10 people more than at this time last year! That upward growth is extremely encouraging!

Growth comes when Sunday School classes consistently reach inward to communicate

constantly with the members of their class (both the active & “not-so-active” class members.)

Growth also happens when new Sunday School classes are started. Mt Olivet is proving this principle by launching new classes – the Hope Class, the Café Class, and most recently, the Searcher’s Class.

**We need to launch another class as soon as possible.**

We have young adults who are

graduating from high school this spring and who are planning to stay in our community to continue their education. We need a class for them. We need a church member who feels God’s calling to facilitate this group.

Call or talk with Robert Williams (227-3604) when you believe that God may be calling you to this exciting ministry.

Yes, Mt Olivet, God is at work!



### An Update from the Stewardship Committee

- For 2012, Mt Olivet needs \$35,135 each month to meet its budget needs.
- We have contributed an average of \$34,427 in January & February. Bless you for your generosity! Let us continue to give as we have been giving!
- Programs & Ministries, Missions Gifts, Staff Support, & Building/Grounds Maintenance costs have averaged \$22,874 in January & February! However, major ministry & mission expenses will be incurred during the coming spring & summer months. It is important to continue to give to the church’s general budget
- We have gathered \$3,846.29 for World Hunger, with more hunger gifts to be counted.



## Prayer Concerns

Jessica Bayne

Steve Bland

Bob Campbell

Wayne Draper

Brandon Germon

Pam Hockman

Casey Laing

Martha Loving

Brenda McAllister

Katie McCrea

Nannie Mothena

Kenny Newcomb

Beverly Parrish

Jake Parrish

Mike Parrish

Todd Parrish family

Meagan Pillow

Michael Pillow

Becky Sewell

Dottie Sharpe

Ruby Stilwell

Kenneth Taylor

Susan Turner

Phyllis Vaughan

Wayne Watson

Lillian Watts

Eric Williams & family

### Assisted Living/ Convalescent/ Homebound

Helen Brown

Barbara Cosby

Betty Dye

Ilene Henderson

Daisy Houston

Richey & Lillian Jewell

## In the Military

Michael Thurston

**Sympathy** is extended to...

...Jim Barnard in the loss of his brother, Bruce.

...Barbara Bayne in the loss of her grandfather, Douglas Pickenpaugh.

...Carol Beazley in the loss of her aunt.

**Congratulations** to Linda Olson on the birth of her grandson, Miles Dean Dihn Olson born March 19! Kyle and Joi are the parents.

## Notes of Appreciation

To All Of Our Mt. Olivet Friends:

Thank you so much for your thoughtfulness during Jake's illness. Your prayers have meant so much to us. We also appreciate all the wonderful food that was brought to us while all of our energy and time was taken up with Jake. It was very helpful. You have been a blessing to us. Thank you.

The Parrish Family

Rick, Kelly, Lauren & Jake

Dear Church Members,

Thank you for your kind words to me in the loss of my first cousin, Tom Givens. He and I had been best friends all of our lives, and your thoughts and prayers were a comfort to me.

Martha James

Thank you to whoever provided the flowers for the worship service in honor of my 80th birthday. Ruby Bumpass

Dear Church Family,

Thank you for the cards, prayers and prayer sheet from the church. I am recovering from my fall. I will have hip replacement surgery in the next couple of months. Kenneth Taylor

I would like to thank Steve and Pat Bland for planning and preparing the food for Mrs. Daisy Houston's 95th birthday party. I would also like to thank Gayle

Wingfield for assisting. I would like to thank all those that contributed in any way and for those that attended. You can be assured that you made this a very memorable occasion for her and her family.

Russell, Ruby & Diane Bumpass & Elizabeth Cannon



## Welcome New Members!!!

We are so pleased to welcome the following new members!

...Jason Melton came forward on March 18 to make his profession of faith and will be baptized at the river.

...Wayne Nuckols came forward on March 18 to trans-

fer his membership to Mt. Olivet.

...Madisyn Smith also came forward on March 18 to make her profession of faith and will be baptized at the river on July 22, 2012.

We praise God for these commitments to our Lord

and Savior.

We are also excited to welcome the following Sunday School members:

Mason Pillow—Preschool 1

Cate Jones—Preschool 4

Andrea Dill—Youth (Grade 8)



## Mount Olivet Baptist Church



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### **Church Staff**

Dale F. Ashley, Pastor  
Claudia M. Phillips, Music Minister  
Cindy C. Weston, Youth Minister  
Shirley S. Mills, Secretary

**Annie Armstrong Easter  
Offering Goal: \$5,000.00  
Received to date: \$1,097.00**

## Youth News!

The youth have been very busy! On March 14th we taught the RA and GA classes through a puppet show and crafts. Wednesday, March 21st we were out doing our annual "road clean-up" and spent the hour cleaning up the trash along Coatesville Road. On March 30th we went to the home of the Dill family for dinner and fellowship.

Our Sunday and Wednesday studies have been going very well with attendance being very high! I am thankful for all the blessings the Lord has bestowed upon our ministry!

### **Spring Mission Project**

After prayerful consideration, the youth have decided to provide needed items to the Children's Hospital on Brook Road in Richmond as our spring mission project. We will be collecting various items which are described as items that are "in high demand" by the hospital staff and provide comfort and joy to the children. The youth will be collecting items through May 20th. We have asked the RA and GA children to join us in this mission project. Then, we will personally deliver the items

to the hospital and visit with the children.

### **Westmoreland State Park Fellowship!**

We are planning a "day at the park" Saturday, June 2nd. We will be hiking, swimming, fishing, using the paddle boats, and cooking out! I will have more details soon. Youth and youth parents, please mark your calendar and plan on attending! The 5th grade children

(those moving up to middle school and our youth group next year) are also invited to attend.

See Cindy Weston, Youth Minister, for details on any of these events or missions.

