



The Witness

Volume 27, Issue 11

November 20, 2012

It's Christmas at Mt. Olivet!

Mount Olivet Baptist Church

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Special points of interest:

- * "Young At Heart" Senior Group will meet at Debbie's Kitchen on Monday, December 3 at 11:30 a.m. for their Christmas luncheon. See Velma Wingfield.
- * Poinsettia orders for the sanctuary will be taken through December 10. See your Sunday bulletin to sign up.

Gingerbread Family Night
Saturday, December 1 (free spaghetti meal at 5:30 p.m.)

Advent Season begins Sunday, December 2

Operation Christmas Child Trip to Charlotte
to Shoebox Warehouse— December 6-8



"Parents' Night Out"

sponsored by Children's Ministry—
Friday, December 14; 6:00 to 9:00 p.m.



Living Nativity—December 15 & 16; 6:00 & 7:00 p.m.

Cantata presented by Choir—

Sunday, December 16 at 11:00 a.m. Worship Service

Christmas Caroling; Wednesday, December 19
No Family Night Ministry



Christmas Eve Services—7:00 & 11:00 p.m.

Week of Prayer for International Missions December 2-9

Rick Jenkins, with the International Mission Board, is preaching in both services on Sunday, December 9 to celebrate the International Missions emphasis. Missionary Jenkins is serving as Stateside Strategy Liaisons for the American

Affinity.

Join us for a church-wide mission study for all ages on Wednesday, December 5 at 6:30 p.m. Dinner is available at 5:30 p.m.

Our Lottie Moon Goal this year is \$12,500.00. Your

gifts will be received through January 13, 2013. Through your gifts, you are His heart, His hands, His voice.

Much to be grateful for!

I am writing this article on the Monday before Thanksgiving, still in the afterglow of the thanksgiving celebration we shared on Sunday night, November 18.

I know that the 200 people in attendance at the **Thanksgiving service** will join me in expressing thanksgiving for every person who helped in planning the service and preparing the meal. Each one who had a part in the service did a splendid job. Wasn't the room beautifully decorated? Didn't you love the bell choir? Didn't you appreciate the readings that represen-

tatives of the youth group (Alaina Stickler, Matthew Boyd, and Cindy Weston) did last night? Weren't you inspired by hearing the Thanksgiving proclamation from Abraham Lincoln as presented by John Axselle? Wasn't it good to hear the Scriptures relating to having a thankful heart? Wasn't it insightful to count your blessings and to share them with your neighbors?

I am thankful for a loving, praying church whose members are engaged in ministry & missions.

I am thankful, beyond measure, for

the abundant prayer support from the church family for Judy & me during this past year. It has been a very challenging year as Judy was recovering from a stroke and I was suffering with voicelessness for the last 9 months. We are thankful to God for healing and to you for your prayers and loving encouragement.

I hope that as you are preparing to share Thanksgiving with family and friends, you will take some time to reflect on the many blessings that you have experienced during the past year.

How Many "Operation Christmas Child" Shoe Boxes Did We Give?

Weren't you amazed at seeing the many shoe boxes that were donated this year to the Samaritan's Purse "Operation Christmas Child" ?

The front of the fellowship hall was filled with shoeboxes!

And those shoeboxes will end up in the hand of just the right child somewhere in the world. For the past Sundays, we have heard testimonies

about the impact that this mission endeavor has on families throughout the world. Not only do these gifts bring joy to the hearts of the recipients, but they also bring the message of the Gospel to each recipient. It is amazing to hear about the numbers of people who have professed their faith in Jesus as a result of this ministry. Let us be thankful.

So, how many shoe boxes were donated through people related to Mt Olivet Baptist Church?

435

Now, that is something to celebrate! Thanks be to God for the generosity of His people (even in these hard economic times)! Praise the Lord!

Thank You!

I am so thankful for the generous Christmas gift from the church. I count it a privilege to have the opportunity to work with such a fine group of people like the community of faith at Mt. Olivet.

Judy & I pray that this Christmas season will be filled with joy and happiness as we celebrate the gift of God's Son — Jesus!

— Dale

Have You Noticed?

The Welcome Center construction is almost complete. And what a change the addition and renovations have made!!

We are glad to be able to use the front entrance of the Vaughan Building again. There are still some things to finish — like furnishings, auxiliary heat/ac, etc.! But, for now, please enjoy the warm welcome that the space presents!



Prayer Concerns

Jessica Bayne
Edward Bowles
Bob Campbell
Brandon Germon
Lisa McCrea
Beverly Parrish
Mike Parrish
Meagan Pillow
Debbie Rhyne
Dottie Sharpe
Neesie Stearns

Ruby Stilwell
Susan Turner
Eric, Sondra & Luke Williams
Gayle Wingfield

Assisted Living/Convalescent/ Homebound

Helen Brown
Barbara Cosby
Betty Dye
Audrey Germon
Ilene Henderson

Richey & Lillian Jewell
Martha Loving

In the Military

Michael Thurston

Sympathy is extended to...

...Wayne Draper & family in the loss of his aunt, Aileen Clemants.

...Bill Hockaday in the loss of his aunt, Lena Gentry.

Notes of Appreciation

Dear Mount Olivet Members,

Thank you all so much for the gift of the Memorial Book with the pictures of so many people I knew, and including Hudson.

It was a very thoughtful gift, and I will treasure it.

Love, Virginia Lee Hall

Thank you so much for your Christmas gift from the church. It is deeply appreciated. It is my privilege and honor to work with you at Mt. Olivet. May each of you have a wonderful Christmas and a very happy year in 2013.

Love, Shirley

Congratulations...



...to Scott Brigham on being voted

- All District Volleyball Player of the Year

and

- Central Regional Volleyball Co-player of the Year!

Mission Opportunities

If you are wondering what you can do with the extra emergency supplies that you purchased for the non-disaster, "Sandy", here is a suggestion. Our needy neighbors that are served by WHEAT can utilize the one-dish meals, bottled water, batteries and flashlights that you don't need or want. They can be donated to WHEAT's Open Food Pantry. Our neighbors in need don't always have a clean water source,

food to eat or have the money to purchase flashlights and batteries. WHEAT will gladly accept these items to pass on to others in need. Please accept a heart-felt thanks for what you will give. You may leave these items and all other donations in Mt. Olivet's back hallway or see your WHEAT representatives.

Community Mission Work

The Deacon Community Mission Team will be winterizing homes in the Beaverdam area on December 1. They will meet at the church at 8:30 a.m. Please bring tools such as hammers, ladders, utility knives, etc. Contact Joel Stanley at 683-0173 to volunteer or for details.

**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



Continue saving money for
World Hunger...bowls re-
turned February 10, 2013.

**Church Workday:
December 8**

Non Profit Org.
Postage Paid
Permit No. 6
Beaverdam, VA. 23015

The staff wishes you a joyous Christ-
mas and a happy, healthy year in 2013!



Dale, Claudia, Cindy &
Shirley

What's Happening With The Youth?

Tee Shirt Sales

The youth continue to sell tee shirts on Wednesday evenings and Sunday mornings. If you would like to purchase one, they come in all sizes, small through 2XL. The cost is \$15.00 for one shirt or two shirts for \$25.00.

Fundraiser Dinner

Wednesday, December 12 the youth are having a fundraiser dinner at 5:30 p.m. It is a "Hot Dog Bar"...not just any old hot dogs but the "real deal". Mark your calendar to attend and support the youth!

All proceeds from fund raisers will go toward the goal of going on a mission trip to Standing Rock Indian Reservation in North Dakota in the summer of 2014.

**Camp Bethel
& "Mission of Mercy"**

July 18-21, 2013 the youth are planning a trip to Camp Bethel to help with set-up and clean-up for a medical clinic and provide some entertainment for children waiting for their parents to have treatments done.

Contact Cindy for details on the above mentioned fund raisers and events.



Merry Christmas
from the youth!