

The Witness

February Highlights

World Hunger Bowls to be collected:

Sunday, February 7

Please bring your filled bowls to help feed the hungry of the world!

Please Note

Deadline to submit articles for the March newsletter:
Monday, February 15

Quarterly Church Business Meeting

Sunday, February 21

No 8:30 Worship

9:30 Children's Choir Rehearsal

9:45 Sunday School

11:00 Worship Service

12:00 Lunch provided for folks staying for the business meeting

Business Meeting begins at the conclusion of lunch

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God's Beauty is all Around Us!

We appreciate the many ways that you have expressed your love to us during the Christmas season. The monetary gift from the church (along with such nice words from the chairman of the Administrative Committee) were so gracious. Judy and I feel very blessed to share with you in the ministry that God has given us at Mt Olivet Baptist Church. Bless you!

Dale & Judy Ashley

Thanks to all who have helped others

Many opportunities for ministry and thanksgiving have surfaced during this week of snow.

I know, for instance, how thankful I am for all of those people who are first responders – helping others who are

“caught between a rock and a hard place.”

I am thankful for all who have worked so diligently to restore power, remove snow, and keep so many people as comfortable as possible.

I appreciate our deacons' ser-

vice – helping those who found themselves stuck in difficult places.

I appreciate all who have shown a measure of God's kindness as you have looked after one another.

In all things, give thanks!



Sunday School Teacher Focus

Megan and Jimmy Van Riper are young adults who care deeply for today's youth. Having graduated only a few short years ago from high school, Megan and Jimmy can bring a unique understanding of today's teen issues to the high school youth classroom.

This is their second year teaching the high school youth in Sunday School. Understanding the current culture is key to their success in the classroom because they can relate to what our high school youth are experi-

encing and then bring solid biblical advice in walking with Christ through those challenging high school years.

Megan and Jimmy's faith in Christ is always evident as they teach the lesson each week. Megan leads the class and teaches from Lifeway's "Known" curriculum series for teens. This series of lessons helps teens know God, own their faith, and then learn to make Christ "known" to others.

Megan and Jimmy are excellent role models for our

youth! Thank you Megan and Jimmy Van Riper for your leadership and mentoring of our youth!



The Young Adult Sunday School Class led by Megan and Jimmy will now meet on the second and fourth Sundays of the month! Contact Megan, Jimmy or Cindy Weston for information.

*"If serving is below you,
leadership is beyond you!"*

Jeffersonsantos.com

What If Each Person at Mt Olivet Would ...

At the start of the new year, I've extended a challenge to our church family – for each one of us to prayerfully introduce someone to Jesus sometime this year.

Imagine what would happen!

Can you imagine the stories that you would hear from those who have just accepted Christ as their Savior? Can you *imagine* the relief that so many would experience as the weight of their sins and the

burdens of their past were completely released?

Can you *imagine* the radical behavioral change that would occur because of new believers' acceptance of God's Holy Spirit?

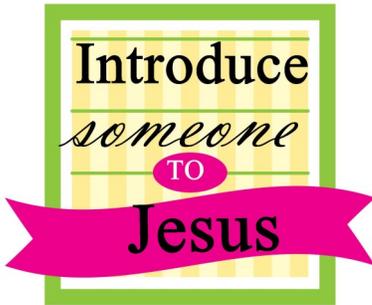
Can you *imagine* the testimonies of Christians who were "blown away" at how God had used their own testimony to lead someone else to Christ?

Can you *imagine* not needing a "preacher" to lead a worship

service. The service would be filled with people begging to tell their story of how God had worked! An hour's time for worship would not be enough!

Can you *imagine* doubling the size of our congregation in one year?

Can you *imagine* the impact that new believers would have on their own peers' who would soon hear about Jesus?



Scriptures to Give Away to Others

Romans 3:23

All are sinners

Romans 5:8

God shows us His love

Romans 12:1-2

Follow Christ's example as you live your life.

Romans 6:23

Consequence of sin is eternal death

Romans 10:9-10

How to receive God's love

These few Bible verses proclaim God's heart and plan of salvation.

John 3:16

God's perfect love

Romans 10:13

Ask God for His help

Who does God want you to introduce to Jesus?

Pray, then share!

Prayer Concerns

Jessie Bayne
 Don Beazley
 June Beazley
 Brandon Germon
 Daniel Gibson
 Gloria Hare
 JoAnn Hockman
 Susan Holley
 Johnny Jones
 Luke Morrison
 Tom Morrison
 Rachel Mothena
 Heather Shelton
 Kenneth Taylor
 Wayne Watson family

Assisted Living/ Convalescent/Homebound

Dean Carter
 Barbara Cosby
 Peggy Gravely
 Margaret Gray
 Richey Jewell
 Martha Loving
 Anne Puryear
 Tom & Evelyn Seay
 Neesie Stearns
 Betty Wallace

In the Military

Michael Thurston

Sympathy is extended to...

...Dottie Sharpe in the loss of her niece, Caroline Eastvold.

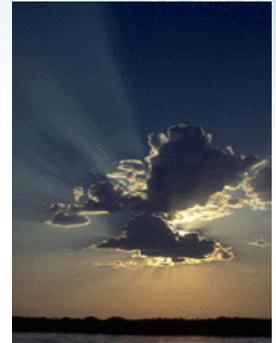
...Jim Sams in the loss of his brother, Tommy.

Dean Carter & family in the loss of Lin.

...Damon Igou in the loss of his grandmother, Nettie Tomlinson.

...Robert Williams in the loss of his sister, Laura Kilian.

Congratulations to Garnett & Debbie Smith on the birth of their grand-daughter, Byrdie Lane Hearn. Matt & Emion are the parents.



Praying for our church family...

To My Church Family,
 Thank you so much for my generous Christmas gift. It will be put to good use. I enjoy using what God has given to me to help others. May we continue to work together so that Jesus' message of love and peace will be spread to everyone we meet. May 2016 bring blessings and happiness to all of you.

In Christ's Love,
 Nannie Mothena

Notes of Appreciation

Dear Church Family,
 Thank you for the Christmas gift. I am grateful for your generosity and kindness. The plan is to buy some new music. It is my pleasure to serve in music.
 Thank you, Becky Campbell

Dear Church Family,
 Thank you very much for the gift of money I received at Christmas. I appreciate so much your thoughtfulness. God bless each of you throughout the new year.
 With love, Anne Williamson

Dear Mt. Olivet Friends,
 I deeply appreciate your gift and thoughtfulness during the Christmas season. It is truly a blessing for me to work with you and be a part of your loving fellowship.
 Blessings for a wonderful 2016. Shirley

Come to Sunday School Because...

Sunday School teaches the Bible, the message of God Almighty.

Sunday School prepares one better to face the problems of life.

Sunday School teaches obedience and respect for parents and those in authority.

Sunday School will give the student the opportunity to

develop a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

Sunday School helps build strong character.

Sunday School presents opportunities to share Christian experiences.

Sunday School shows the student how he can be of service in this sinful world.

Sunday School brings together those with whom you can form true friendships.

Sunday School gives the opportunity to bring others under the message of the Gospel.

Sunday School teaches songs of real beauty, comfort, and praise.

Sunday School gives the

opportunity to discuss spiritual problems in small groups with those of the same age.




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Minister**

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**MT. OLIVET BAPTIST
CHURCH**

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Church Staff

Dale F. Ashley, Pastor
Felicia G. Taylor, Children's Minister
Claudia M. Phillips, Music Minister
Cindy C. Weston, Youth Minister
Shirley S. Mills, Secretary



Lottie Moon Christmas Offering

Goal: \$12,850.00

Amount Collected: \$12,498.00

Thank you for your support!

S.O.S. Youth News!

"Create For Christ" Contest

Entrust Financial Credit Union is sponsoring a contest that will result in six area youth groups winning a \$2,000 grant each to be used in mission trips of their choice. Mt. Olivet youth are entering this contest! We must submit a 90 second video that best communicates "why missions matter". After we enter the contest, I will let you know how you can help us in our chances of winning!

Shoe Collection for our Summer R.A.M. Mission Trip

Please consider donating a

new pair of shoes for those who are in desperate need of a quality pair of shoes. We will be taking as many new pairs of shoes as we can to the RAM (Remote Area Medical) Clinic this coming July. Both men and women's shoes along with shoes for children and teens are needed. Good walking or athletic shoes are in great demand. If you have gently used shoes, we welcome those donations as well. Please place shoes next to the youth ATTIC room located upstairs in the Vaughan Building. Thank you for your donations!

Could Your Teen Be Interested in a Summer 2017 International Mission Trip?

The Youth Committee, along with the Mission's Development Committee, are exploring the idea of a youth/adult international mission trip for summer 2017. Youth who are currently in grades 7-10 are eligible to go. I encourage parents to discuss now with their teen their level of interest in such a trip. More details will be provided soon. See Cindy Weston for more information.



A Winter Wonderland