



Neighborhood Gatherings FEBRUARY 2019

Newsletter of Mt. Olive and Relief United Methodist Churches



My sisters and brothers, one month of 2019 has passed. Some people may feel joy because they have already accomplished some of their New Year resolutions. Some people might feel discouraged because their strong willpower has already run out.

If we're in that second category, it is time for us to check where our focus is and where we are headed. Do our eyes look in the right direction, and do our spirit and soul move down the right path? If our spiritual eyes are looking at the right target, we'll naturally walk that direction. But, if our spiritual eyes are not looking at the right target, we will quickly find ourselves lost.

Looking at the right target is like riding a bicycle. When we ride a bicycle, there may be obstacles in the road. If we stare at an obstacle, we will run right into it. But if we look for the way around it, we can usually turn to avoid it. Where we are looking is the direction we are going.

My sisters and brothers, where are we looking at when we face obstacles in our lives? Do we fixate on the obstacles? If so, we

will crash into them. But, if we are looking at God who is the maker of heaven and earth, obstacles will not block our way, and we can continue to walk the journey of our lives with God's extra strength. So, we can confess our faith just as the author of Psalm 121 confessed.

"I lift up my eyes to the mountains, where does my help come from? My help comes from the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth. God will not let my foot slip – God who watches over me will not slumber."

I am asking again, what are we looking at? I would love us to apply this question to our Methodist Church General conference which will be held February 23rd – 26th, 2019.

As many people already know, our United Methodist Church will make important decisions for God's mission, including its stance on homosexuality. Our Council of Bishops proposed the "One Church Plan" to address this important issue.

The basic theological foundation of this proposal is that even though Christians can disagree about this issue and have different

practices, we can still work together for God's mission for the transformation of the world.

The Council of Bishops have proposed to give more options to pastors and local churches. A local church will have the space to express their beliefs. So, if a local church does not welcome the appointment of LGBTQ clergy and clergy supporting full inclusion of LGBTQ individuals, bishops will consider this preference in making appointments. A pastor will also be able to express their beliefs and their conscience regarding same sex marriage. If a pastor does not want to officiate the wedding of a LGBTQ couple, it is their choice. When a pastor and a local church disagree, the final decision will be made by the local church.

If you want to know more info, you can go to a link (https://unitingmethodists.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/comparisonchart_onechurchplan.pdf) and learn about One Church Plans with other traditional and progressive plans. I am also always open to anybody who wants to share their belief and opinions with me.

Now let's ask ourselves, Our Mt. Olive and Relief members, where are we looking at? Are we only looking at the issue of Homosexuality or are we looking at God who is in charge of everything? If we are looking at God and if we really welcome God's spirit, we will know that God can use our limitations and bad decisions for good in unexpected ways. If we are looking at God, we will know that God wants us to work together to accomplish God's mission for the transformation of the world, while respecting each other's differences.

I bet if we are looking at God, our general conference and the issue of homosexuality is

in God's hands. My sisters and brothers, let's lift up our eyes and look at the mountains.

Let's pray for our general conference and our church's future. Whatever decision will be made in the conference, let's focus on God, not an issue and think hard how our churches keep showing God's love to everybody. Mt. Olive and Relief church, are you ready to lift up our eyes to the heavenly mountain?

—Seung Hae

NOTE: See page 11 for Seung Hae's January 2019 Newsletter article.



LECTIONARY FOR FEBRUARY

Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany

February 3rd Jeremiah 1:4–10, Psalm 71:1–6, 1 Corinthians 13:1–13 and Luke 4:21–30.

Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany

February 10th Isaiah 6:1–8, (9-13), Psalm 138, 1 Corinthians 15:1–11 and Luke 5:1-11.

Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany

February 17th Jeremiah 17:5–10, Psalm 1, 1 Corinthians 15:12–20 and Luke 6:17–26.

Seventh Sunday after the Epiphany

February 24th Genesis 45:1–11, 15, Psalm 37:1–11, 39–40, 1 Corinthians 15:35–38, 42–50 and Luke 6:27–38.

Last Sunday after the Epiphany

March 3rd Exodus, 34:19–35, Psalm 99, 2 Corinthians 3:12–4:2 and Luke 9:28-36 (37–43).

MT. OLIVE UMC NEWS

*"Where We GOT FAITH!
And so can you!"*
327 Mount Olive Road
Winchester, VA 22602



SUNDAY SERVICES AT MT. OLIVE

Worship Service: 9:30 am
Sunday School: 10:45 am



	<u>Worship</u>	<u>Offering</u>
12/24	51	\$ 313
12/30	42	\$ 565
1/06	42	\$ 1,168
1/13	Snow	
1/20	43	\$ 698
1/27/19	<u>60</u>	<u>\$ 1,103</u>
Avg.	47	\$ 769

- 2/09 Connie Cummings
- 2/09 Brenda McDonald
- 2/15 Eric Heflin
- 2/15 Kevin Holliday
- 2/19 Stacey Roy
- 2/20 Morgan Wood
- 2/25 Tom Massie
- 2/26 Karl Williams
- 2/28 Emily Hoff
- 2/29 Hunter Kelly



- 2/11 Luc & Songcha Gosselin
- 2/25 Kevin & Angel Holliday
- 2/26 David & Stephanie Rowe

FEBRUARY



The Parable of the Talents

Bonnie Anderson



Joe Lizer & Oscar Mendoza



WELCOME!

Jane Ramey



**The Church is the soil and the
Children are the crop . . . Thanks for
helping them grow!**

OLIVE BRANCHES

As you know, the Olive Branches are always into something great! We are gearing up and heading into the New Year. Just want to thank you all for the love and support you show the youth in all we do. THANK YOU TO ALL!

Remember, all the youth events are open to everyone of ALL ages. Feel free to join us. That is what discipleship is about 😊

Our first youth gathering was January 9th, 2019 in which we set the dates on the calendar for the next six months. We have quite a bit of work scheduled ahead of us. We encourage and hope that anyone and everyone will join us. Our discussion also included Disciples on Deck and also our yearly mission trip which the dates are TBD. We will let you know once the dates are decided.

February 9 Annual Youth Gathering — Swimming from 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm at the War Memorial Bldg. in Jim Barnett Park

February 10 Collect “JUST ONE” food for lock-ins

February 13 Youth Group — 6:30 pm at Mt Olive UMC Shelter

March 10 – Collect “JUST ONE” food for Lock-ins

March 13 NO Youth Group

March 17 Set up Shelter and Make Sauce for Youth Spaghetti Dinner

March 18 Youth Spaghetti Dinner — 4:00 – 7:00 pm at Mt. Olive

April 10 Youth Group — 6:30 pm at Mt. Olive UMC Shelter — Discuss missions/fundraisers for rest of year

April 14 Collect “JUST ONE” food for lock-ins

May 1 Youth to host “Mother’s Day Tea” celebration — 6:30 pm at Mt. Olive UMC Shelter ALL ARE WELCOME!!

May 8 Youth Group — 6:00 pm at Mt. Olive UMC — Early Mulching Event

May 10th Collect “JUST ONE” food for lock-ins

June 9 Collect “JUST ONE” food for lock-ins

June 12 Youth Group — 6:30 pm at Mt. Olive Shelter

June 29 Youth Carwash — 1:00–3:00 pm at First Bank on Jubal Early Drive

We gathered after church services on January 27th to make the chili and set up the shelter. Neal Painter had already been busy the day before and prepared ALL of the vegetable soup so all we had to do was heat and serve it. He also donated all the ingredients and the cups for it to be served. What a fantastic way to show his loving and kind nature. He felt this was his calling — God is good!

Our Youth Chili/Vegetable Soup Dinner was held on January 28, 2019 from 4:00 – 7:00 pm. Everyone did a fantastic job and we are so thankful that Mother Nature was on our side. We will give you the total amount raised in next months’ newsletter. We would like to thank EVERYONE for all the support you give to our children, community and to God! Our fundraisers help pay for ALL the youth missions and activities. Everything we have accomplished has been paid for by their fundraising efforts and we have been very blessed to not have parents or the adults participating trying to come up with funds to participate. Each youth/adult is able to enjoy every activity at no stress of costs. Please help support the life of our churches and the wonderful youth that will keep the future continue moving forward. They are the next generation of the church! Please help spread the word to all your friends, family, neighbors and colleagues.

Feel free to contact me if you have questions on any upcoming activities.

B_NEWPHER21 @LIVE.COM

Have another blessed month!

—Brenda Newpher (Little Brenda)



STAGE LEFT BAND will lead our music for the Service on Sunday, February 17th. Also in March they will be with us on Sundays, March 17th and March 31st.



Our youth gathering was discussed at our last youth group meeting a few weeks ago and it was decided that instead of bowling this year, we would go swimming.

War Memorial Building
Saturday, February 9th, 2019
6:00 pm – 8:00 pm

We can get in @ 5:45 pm (NO SOONER) and MUST be OUT of the pool by 7:45 pm and be out by 8:00

There is NO cost to anyone as it is being paid for from our youth fund that everyone has worked so hard for!

We will NOT be providing a meal so you will have to plan ahead and either eat before or after. Do not forget to bring a towel and clothes to change into afterwards as it will probably be too cold to wear your swim attire home.

EVERYONE is welcome. I just ask you please let me know if you will be attending and how many. We are limited to 80 persons, but we should have extra spaces so they can bring a friend (1st come, 1st serve for a friend) but I need to keep track so that we do not go over. I don't mind if you drop your youth off and leave, just be sure to let me know (as they will need to check in/out with me) and nobody will get left behind and be on time to pick them up.

NO youth will be allowed to leave the pool area unless it is with their parent/guardian. If using the restroom, they have to let ME know, this way we aren't having to go from person to person to see if they know where such and such is . . . hopefully we will not have too!

Parents and Adults . . . Do not feel like you have to swim, please come and join the camaraderie and great discipleship ☺

Please contact me if you have any questions or concerns. Have a wonderful Friday and a blessed weekend!

*Brenda Newpher
Mt. Olive UMC
Youth Leader
540-931-1785*



Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner at Mt.Olive,

Tuesday, March 5th at 6:30 pm. More information is to follow soon.

Everyone is welcome to attend!!



Mark your calendar in September for our 150th Anniversary. The final date will be announced soon!

GOD LOVES US

We are all God's children
And He loves us, every one.

He freely and completely
Forgives all that we have done,
Asking only if we're ready
To follow where He leads,
Content that in His wisdom
He will answer all our needs.

*—Helen Steiner Rice
A Collection of Blessings*

RELIEF UMC NEWS

"In Sharing, We Know Christ."
 5275 Middle Road (Rt. 628)
 Six miles SW of Valley Avenue

Sunday Services at Relief:
Sunday School, 10:00 am
Worship, 11:00 am



	<u>S.S.</u>	<u>Worship</u>	<u>Offering</u>
12/23	11	51	\$ 1,651
12/30	9	42	\$ 1,525
1/06	17	50	\$ 1,799
1/13		SNOW	
1/20	<u>13</u>	<u>38</u>	\$ <u>1,571</u>
Avg.	12	45	\$ 1,636

Also received:

C-CAP	\$ 31
Church/Shelter Use	\$ 150
Human Relations	\$ 20
Memorials	\$ 2,660
Witness	\$ 460



SWEET SUNDAY

Coming Soon,
 Save the Date
 February 10th, 2019

Be prepared to have some fun!
 Bring a friend or two, a dish to share and a
 sweet for all to buy. For more information
 call me at 540-869-4005.

—Debbie Fauble



- 2/02 Michael Olechnicki
- 2/05 Jimmy Pence
- 2/08 Cameron Douglas Whitmoyer
- 2/16 Debbie Fauble
- 2/20 Steve Ginn
- 2/20 Mildred Omps
- 2/22 James B. Douglas
- 2/22 J. Rhodes Marston
- 2/24 Bobby Luttrell
- 2/25 Jennifer Goldsmith
- 2/27 Mary Richard
- 2/28 Brittany Huffman
- 3/04 Danielle Snapp



- 2/06 Scott and Sallie Wilfong
- 2/07 Bruce and Karen Luttrell
- 2/08 John and Phyllis Snapp
- 2/15 John and Mildred Omps
- 2/18 Stuart and Susan Chagrín
- 2/18 Doug and Karon Hughes
- 2/19 John and Jody Hawse



Kim McDonald



Scrapbooking has started. Do you have your pictures in order? Come February 15th from 6:00 to 11:00 pm and let's do it together. Dinner is served at 7:00 pm. For more information call me, 869-4005.

—Debbie Fauble

February 15
March 15
April 12

May 17
June 14



FEBRUARY 2019 SPOTLIGHT

The year 2018 was another banner year in the life of our Church in the ministry of Mission/Outreach with many hours spent on various projects and special donations. The full report is also in this newsletter. The Mission/Outreach, Witness and Nurture Committees worked together on many of these projects. These projects were only successful with the help of the members of our church. Thanks again for all your donations.

Our spotlight is on the Heart Haven Homes. In the Virginia Conference of the United Methodist Church, February is Heart Havens Month! Each year, a theme for Heart Havens Month is picked and the theme carries throughout the year. In 2019 the theme is "Making Space".

On September 24th, 1995 the Virginia Commission on Disabilities conducted twenty-one public hearings across the conference of Virginia to explore the residential needs and alternatives for persons with developmental disabilities. As a result of those hearings, Heart Havens was created at the Virginia Annual Conference in 1996.

Heart Havens was licensed in December 1998 and opened its first home in Virginia Beach on January 25th, 1999. Heart Havens is a ministry of the United Methodist Church that provides for the residential needs of persons with disabilities through the development and management of homes which exemplify the love of Christ. This ministry is accomplished by: Establishing and promoting a conference-wide effort to address the residential needs of persons with disabilities; Involving local churches in a significant conference ministry; Encouraging client involvement in the life of the community and it's church; Respecting the individual's uniqueness, dignity, and worth; Ministering to the physical, emotional, and spiritual needs of each resident; Understanding the concerns and needs of each resident's family; and, Affirming God's love and care for all of God's people.

Vision — Heart Havens was created as a not-for-profit agency, to provide residential alternatives for disabled persons of all faiths, backgrounds, and not just those of the United Methodist denomination. Parents need the assurance that their children will have a place to live after the parents are gone. They are searching for quality programs for their children and desire a spiritual based program and home for them. Heart Havens hopes to assist in reducing the long waiting lists for services and ease the anxiety of elderly parents caring for their developmentally challenged adult children.

There are presently seven homes, developed throughout the conference. They are located in Virginia Beach; Stuarts Draft; Richmond (2); Winchester; Lynchburg; and Ashland. These homes, could use your on-going and generous, financial; prayers and thoughtful support!

Our local Heart Havens home in Winchester, is located at 3050 Saratoga Drive, in the Kernstown area. It accommodates four men, who live here and have grown very close and look after each other. These men are very involved in their community. They go to work, kickboxing lessons, play hand bells for their church and have made many friends in their neighborhood. They love to have visitors come by to visit and tour their home! As with all God's work and creation; you will receive a much greater blessing from your supportive efforts than you will ever provide! Make their Day! Visit them and tour "their home"! You'll be forever, glad that you did! I would like to schedule an event with our local group, maybe our summer picnic, a game night, etc. Any suggestions would be appreciated. We have money budgeted to benefit this very special home.

We continue to provide crafts, puzzles, coloring sheets and support to the Our Family Peer Support Group. Our January visit, the group made a snowman out of powder puffs. They also made snowflake sun catchers, had New Year's search words, coloring sheets. Our next visit is scheduled for Wednesday, February 13th and of course, the theme will be Valentine's Day. This group will be in their new home when we go for the February visit, which will be in the Administration Office, 209 West Criser Rd. Front Royal, VA. (East Wing)

We will be preparing and serving the evening meal to the WATTS program on Monday, March 18th at Macedonia United Methodist Church. Seven people that I need to help with the meal have already graciously volunteered.

The card signing continues under the leadership of Debbie Fauble and Eunice Musser. Please make time to sign these cards. These cards mean so much to the recipients. Cards are available before Sunday School in the Fellowship Hall, and immediately after Worship in the Willing Workers Classroom.

In March we will have available Easter Baskets to be filled for the children who are enrolled in C-CAP. I now serve on the Board at C-CAP

and attend the bimonthly meetings. C-CAP served a total of 1,530 people during the month of December in clothing; 879 from the City of Winchester and 651 from Frederick. During November and December 7,644 were provided with food. They are looking for people or youth who would like to help sort clothes for about two to three hours, Monday thru Thursday 8:30 am – 2:30 pm and Fridays 8:30 am – 11:00 am. If youth groups would like to do this, a special time can be arranged on a Saturday. Contact me and I can give you information.

There is also a program housed in the C-CAP building — Red Wagon Ministry — this is for newborns to five years old. They need people on Thursday and Friday, but there is a training involved. During 2018 they served 741 children, had 2,182 visits and distributed 83,000 diapers. Diapers are always needed. Any donations for this program can also be left in the C-CAP box in the vestibule.

Thanks for all your support in 2018 and I hope we can count on your support in 2019.

*Elwanda Luttrell,
Outreach/Mission Chair*

In the back of the church on the table are the November and December Treasurer's report. The income summary is correct, but the timing is off, because of the board reporting times/special meetings. We paid all our apportionments 100%. When you look at the Mission yearly report (in this newsletter) you will find that we went above and beyond the second-mile giving for 2018. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

*Elwanda Luttrell,
Treasurer*

*So I tell you
don't worry about everyday life—
whether you have enough
food, drink, and clothes.
Doesn't life consist more
than food and clothing?*

Matthew 6:25 NLT

Donations/2018	Value/Spent	Donations/2018	Value/Spent
Easter Baskets – C-CAP	720.00	ITEMS FROM YARD SALE: Value Unknown	
Conference:		C-CAP	
Schools Kits	264.00	Bowman Library – books, DVD, CD's	
Health Kits	612.00	Blue Ridge Hospice Thrift Shop	
Canned Food	16.00	Good Will Industries	
Toothpaste – Health Kits	51.00	Heavenly Paws – Plastic Bags Recycled Bags	
Kits – Shipping	126.00	Peace w/Justice	5.00
Conference Offering	150.00	Student Day	5.00
Conference Food Bags	19.00	UMCOR	10.00
Shoebboxes	360.00	World Wide Communion	10.00
Shoebox – Postage	162.00		
Food Soup to C-CAP		OTHER OUTREACH/WITNESS/NURTURE	
C-CAP – Communion Rail	479.25	VBS – Mama Backpacks	173.00
VBS	2,484.08	Good Friday Children's Activities	500.00
Senior Luncheon	200.00	Women's Retreat	804.74
Thanksgiving Church Luncheon	33.19	Medical Compassionate Fund	2,904.84
Church Picnic	119.25	Pastor's Discretionary Fund	377.71
FROM MISSION/OUTREACH BUDGET		Gideon International	105.00
Red Bird Mission	200.00	Youth Mission Trip	1,853.52
Blanket Drive	708.00	Thinking of You Bags	84.00
Our Family Crafts – Avg.		TOTAL	\$ 18,230.54
18 per craft x12 months	300.00		
Heart Haven	100.00		
United Methodist Family Services	200.00		
Society of St. Andrew	223.41		
Our Family — Outreach Budget	300.00		
Stephens City Fire & Rescue	400.00		
Middletown Elem. Mama Backpack	300.00		
WVRA – Christian Radio	100.00		
Weekday Religious Education	100.00		
OTHER PROJECTS: MISSION/OUTREACH			
Veterans Days Bags – VA OP Ctr.	200.00		
Our Family Easter Baskets	60.00		
Our Family Meal – June 13, 2018	50.00		
Snacks for Orchard View Elm. School	150.00		
Our Family Christmas Gifts/Candy	68.00		
Candy, blankets, etc., Laurel Center	50.00		
Thanksgiving Day Dinner Bags	1,000.00		
Sunshine Cards	250.00		
Orchard View School Lunch	250.00		
Lion's Club Eyeglasses/Hearing Aid	?		
WATTS – Dinner	50.00		
Upper Room Devotionals	82.80		
Orchard View Bags	216.00		
Carols & Cheers Deposit for 2019	243.75		

Relief United Methodist Church, is sponsoring a "Time Out for Grown Ups" on Valentine's Day, February 14th, from 4:00–9:00 pm. This event is FREE. Relief Church will gladly watch your child/children ages 3-15 while you go out to run errands or celebrate Valentine's Day with a loved one. The event staff will help children do their homework, provide a nice dinner (mac & cheese, chicken nuggets, green beans, and dessert). Also, featured will be crafts, games, a movie and a Bible lesson. Please pick up your child/children promptly on or before 9:00 pm. CALL or e-mail the number of children to attend to: rumckidz@gmail.com or call 540-667-8772 and leave a message which will be returned.

THE LEGEND OF THE VALENTINE

*The story of Saint Valentine
Is a legend, it is true,
But legends are delightful
And very lovely, too.*

*And the legend of Saint Valentine
Imprisoned in a cell
Thinking of his little flock
He had always loved so well
And, wanting to assure them
Of his friendship and his love,
He picked a bunch of violets
And sent them by a dove.*

*And on the violets' leaves
He pierced these lines divine
That simply said "I love you"
And "I'm your Valentine."
So through the years that followed
From that day unto this
Folks still send messages of love
And seal them with a kiss.*

*Because a Saint in prison
Reached outside his bars one day
And picked a bunch of violets
And sent them out to say
That faith and love can triumph,
No matter where you are,
For faith and lover are greater
Thank the strongest prison bar.*

I remember the story of the five loaves and two fishes. Love is like that. Love multiplies when given away. Jesus teach me to love.

—Helen Steiner Rice
Reflections



These are responses for cards that were sent from our congregation at Christmas. They appreciate them so much!

—Debbie

Thank you ladies so much for your cards and prayers. I will be strong again. It has been a long journey.

P.S. I still miss Ruth so much. She was a great lady.

Thanks again.

Betty Heishman

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year
Thank you for sending Mom your cards with kindness and love. I read all your names, messages, and she gets a lot of joy hearing from you. You are all angels of God spreading goodness.

Wishing you a season filled with warmth and laughter. May God Bless You!

Love,

Madge & Robert Strosnider

A wish that God's peace and the joy of Christmas will fall gently over you and those you love this holiday season.

Thanks for all the love and prayers.

Shirley Kenny

Merry Christmas
...and best wishes

For a wonderful New Year!

Our wishes on to all there and appreciate all card's and hello to all.

Ingrid and James Dick

NOTE: This is Seung Hae's January 2019 article. I apologize for the error of a section of the article being missed.

—Brenda

Good bye 2018! Welcome 2019! Some people might say their life in 2018 was good, and it went just fine as they planned. Other people might say that their life definitely did not go the way they expected. But since we don't know how God will work in our life, we can be still hopeful. There is a Chinese folk tale that can serve as an example. An old Chinese man had one of the best horses in his village. But, one day, his favorite horse ran away. His neighbors came and tried to comfort him saying, "So sorry for your loss." Suddenly the old man said, "Who knows today's loss can be tomorrow's gain?" A few months later, his favorite horse came back with another healthy and beautiful horse. His neighbor came to him for a celebration. But without any feeling of joy, he said, "Who knows today's gain can be tomorrow's loss?" Soon, when his son rode the horse, he fell down and broke his legs. His neighbors came to offer their condolences. Again, he did not look sad at all and said, "Who knows? Today's loss can be a blessing in disguise?" After one year later, his village was attacked by Mongolians and many young men had to go to war and were injured or killed. But, because his son was lame, he could not go to war. His son stayed alive. Like this, in our lives, many blessings come to us in disguise.

With this faith and hope that God can turn around bad to good, I set up a New Year's resolution plan for my body. I plan to do exercises at least three days a week because the doctor diagnosed me with pre-diabetes.

Since I have planned my new resolution for my body, I began to ask myself if I have any new resolution for my soul and spirit in 2019. What is your resolution for your soul? Many of us may forget about the importance of our spiritual gifts. Many of us do not even recognize what kinds of spiritual gifts we have from God.

God clearly says to us: "you do not lack any spiritual gift as you eagerly wait for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed. (1 Corinthians 1: 8)

I would like to invite you to set up a New Year's spiritual resolution. Since I came to our churches,

I have clearly witnessed our churches' spiritual gifts. Gracefully, Mt. Olive and Relief churches have special gifts from God. Mt. Olive has been open to many different ethnic groups so three different ethnic groups have met together for vital worship services with Stage Left. With these assets, our council leaders met together and discussed our New Year's resolution. It is to fill the church with young adult believers. In order to do that, we may need a plan to support young adult's parenting. We also need a plan to embrace those from different cultures like providing an English class for Hispanic members and a Spanish Class for people who want to learn another language.

For Relief, the church has people who love God and the church, the body of Christ. So, we began to discuss how we can apply God's words in our lives. We began to see the assets that God has given to us like our church parking lot and areas of mission we can approach. So, our council plans to set up to reach our community to fill our church with God's disciples. To do this, we plan to make our parking lot a "Pit Stop" so many people can feel welcomed to our church. We also plan to have a community meal and support young students at Shenandoah University.

Yes, God gives us passion for our spiritual and missional growth this coming year. We all know that our New Year's resolution requires our patience. Being patient puts rings around our hearts. It is like a tree enduring wind and storms gets a ring in the wood. While we overcome many challenges and continue to accomplish our New Year's resolution with God, we will get the rings around our heart as a sign of God's presence and a sign of our inner strength.

Mt. Olive and Relief churches, you did a good job of getting rings around your hearts. With our belief that God can turn around bad to good, let's start our spiritual and missional resolution in God. We will feel proud of getting more spiritual rings around our hearts. Amen.

—Seung Hae

Mt. Olive Mailing address:

327 Mt. Olive Road
 Winchester, VA 22602-1685
 Mt. Olive Church: (540) 877-3424
 Website: www.mtoliveumc.org
 Facebook: Mount Olive UMC

Email: (pastorseunghae@gmail.com)

Rev. Dr. Seung Hae Yoo-Hess

Cell Phone: Pastor Cell: 404-993-5919

Relief Mailing address:

5275 Middle Road
 Winchester, VA 22602-2788
 Relief UMC: (540) 869-5775
 Website: Reliefumc.com

Email: (pastorseunghae@gmail.com)

Rev. Dr. Seung Hae Yoo-Hess

Cell Phone: Pastor Cell: 404-993-5919



The deadline for our March 2019 Neighborhood Gathering Newsletter is Friday, February 22nd. The March Newsletter will be available Sunday, March 3rd.

Please make an effort to put your church information in the newsletter. The newsletter will be on both churches Websites. **If you have any suggestions, etc., please feel free to let me know.**

Call the Relief Office at 869-5775, home phone (540) 465-4515 or email me at home: amitch@shentel.net —Brenda



For 2019, the Bible Challenge will be a blended style of reading; a mixture of Old Testament readings and New Testament each day. In this New Year, challenge yourself to study the Bible and strengthen your faith in the process. Each month's readings will also be printed in each *Advocate* issue.

Tips on reading the Bible daily:

- Start reading the Bible today.
- Set aside a specific time and place each day. Set your schedule and then stick to it. Mornings are great; but feel free to use any time that works consistently with your schedule.
- Get a good study Bible to help to illuminate the meaning of the original Hebrew, Aramaic and Greek text.
- Choose a translation to use during your reading.
- Say a short prayer to God before you begin, asking the Holy Spirit to give you wisdom and understanding.
- Dive in and enjoy the richness of God's Word! Apply God's Word to your life. Bible study should be practical and applicable. I assure you that these seven steps will help you begin a journey in becoming a "lifelong learner" of God's Word.

—Taken from the VAUMC Website

FEBRUARY 2019

February 1 Isaiah 28-29; Mark 7:1-13 Read Now
 February 2 Isaiah 30-31; Mark 7:14-37 Read Now
 February 3 Isaiah 32-33; Mark 8 Read Now
 February 4 Isaiah 34-36; Mark 9:1-29 Read Now
 February 5 Isaiah 37-38; Mark 9:30-50 Read Now
 February 6 Isaiah 39-40; Mark 10:1-31 Read Now
 February 7 Isaiah 41-42; Mark 10:32-52 Read Now
 February 8 Isaiah 43-44; Mark 11:1-18 Read Now
 February 9 Isaiah 45-46; Mark 11:19-33 Read Now
 February 10 Isaiah 47-49; Mark 12:1-27 Read Now
 February 11 Isaiah 50-52; Mark 12:28-44 Read Now
 February 12 Isaiah 53-55; Mark 13:1-20 Read Now
 February 13 Isaiah 56-58; Mark 13:21-37 Read Now
 February 14 Isaiah 59-61; Mark 14:1-26 Read Now
 February 15 Isaiah 62-64; Mark 14:27-53 Read Now
 February 16 Isaiah 65-66; Mark 14:54-72 Read Now
 February 17 Exodus 1-3; Mark 15:1-25 Read Now
 February 18 Exodus 4-6; Mark 15:26-47 Read Now
 February 19 Exodus 7-8; Mark 16 Read Now
 February 20 Exodus 9-11; 1 Thessalonians 1 Read Now
 February 21 Exodus 12-13; 1 Thessalonians 2 Read Now
 February 22 Exodus 14-15; 1 Thessalonians 3 Read Now
 February 23 Exodus 16-18; 1 Thessalonians 4 Read Now
 February 24 Exodus 19-20; 1 Thessalonians 5 Read Now
 February 25 Exodus 21-22; 2 Thessalonians 1 Read Now
 February 26 Exodus 23-24; 2 Thessalonians 2 Read Now
 February 27 Exodus 25-26; 2 Thessalonians 3 Read Now
 February 28 Exodus 27-28; Philemon Read Now

MARCH 2019

March 1 Exodus 29-30; James 1 Read Now
 March 2 Exodus 31-33; James 2 Read Now
 March 3 Exodus 34-35; James 3 Read Now
 March 4 Exodus 36-38; James 4 Read Now
 March 5 Exodus 39-40; James 5 Read Now
 March 6 Job 1-2; 1 Corinthians 1 Read Now
 March 7 Job 3-4; 1 Corinthians 2 Read Now
 March 8 Job 5-7; 1 Corinthians 3 Read Now
 March 9 Job 8-10; 1 Corinthians 4 Read Now
 March 10 Job 11-13; 1 Corinthians 5 Read Now
 March 11 Job 14-16; 1 Corinthians 6 Read Now
 March 12 Job 17-19; 1 Corinthians 7:1-19 Read Now
 March 13 Job 20-21; 1 Corinthians 7:20-40 Read Now
 March 14 Job 22-24; 1 Corinthians 8 Read Now
 March 15 Job 25-27; 1 Corinthians 9 Read Now
 March 16 Job 28-29; 1 Corinthians 10:1-18 Read Now
 March 17 Job 30-31; 1 Corinthians 10:19-33 Read Now
 March 18 Job 32-33; 1 Corinthians 11:1-16 Read Now
 March 19 Job 34-35; 1 Corinthians 11:17-34 Read Now
 March 20 Job 36-37; 1 Corinthians 12 Read Now
 March 21 Job 38-40; 1 Corinthians 13 Read Now
 March 22 Job 41-42; 1 Corinthians 14:1-20 Read Now
 March 23 Proverbs 1-2; 1 Corinthians 14:21-40 Read Now
 March 24 Proverbs 3-5; 1 Corinthians 15:1-28 Read Now
 March 25 Proverbs 6-7; 1 Corinthians 15:29-58 Read Now
 March 26 Proverbs 8-9; 1 Corinthians 16 Read Now
 March 27 Proverbs 10-12; Titus 1 Read Now
 March 28 Proverbs 13-15; Titus 2 Read Now
 March 29 Proverbs 16-18; Titus 3 Read Now
 March 30 Proverbs 19-21; Hebrews 1 Read Now
 March 31 Proverbs 22-24; Hebrews 2 Read Now