



Neighborhood Gatherings

APRIL 2019

Newsletter of Mt. Olive and Relief United Methodist Churches



Christ died, Christ was risen, and Christ will come again! Yes, Easter is coming. Do you like Easter? I bet Easter brings many good memories to you. When you were little, you might have been excited about going to bed just like at Christmas, because on Easter morning you might have lots of goodies laid out all over the floor in the living room. You would get huge baskets stuffed with all kinds of things like candy, toys or books. You would eat a huge Easter meal which always included fried chicken or ham, mashed potatoes, and of course, sweet tea if you grew up in the south. After lunch, there would be the big Easter egg hunt all around Granny's house. Attending church at "Granny's church" would be a MUST, which meant getting dressed in your Easter finery. Easter celebration was an all-day affair with lots of eating, joking, laughing, and storytelling. At the end of the day, everybody was all tuckered out and stuffed.

Indeed, it is a beautiful memory. Personally, I love Lent more than Easter because without Jesus' death, Jesus' resurrection would not happen. I love the season of Lent because God is offering me powerful companionship in spite of

of my pain, sorrow, grief, spiritual death, and relational disconnection with God and others. It is like God is in the bucket with me when I feel like a crab in a bucket.

In the past, I felt like a crab because I had a deep fear about surviving in a foreign country due to my language and cultural barriers. Because of this fear, I had a re-occurring nightmare for a long time. In my dream, I was taking an exam. When I received the exam paper, I could not see any questions. It was just a blank white piece of paper. When I let my professor know that my exam paper had no questions, he responded to me "what are you talking about? I can see the exam questions very clearly." I did not know what to do and felt miserable. I discovered that this dream came from my anxiety and fear for survival. When I lifted my fear and anxiety up to God in prayer, God gave me confidence that even if I went back to Korea without earning my degree, I would not be a failure because I learned how to be a source of blessing to the people around me. Soon, my nightmares went away. This experience taught me that God was in a bucket with me, and through many good people God was saving me and all people.

Maybe, our crab mentality comes from a fear for survival in our daily lives. Yes, we need to survive our monthly bills, and our family members may need our intensive care. We may feel that our plates are too full all the time. We may feel exhausted. We may feel afraid that we may not accomplish our goal in life because we are not good enough or talented enough.

But, when we lift up our crab mentality, God's salvation can flow into our heart and spirit. Jesus lifted up his fear for survival in the desert and wilderness from starving to death, attacks from wild animals, and body aches from terrible weather. But Jesus did not keep crab mentality. Instead of bread, Jesus chose the word of God. Instead of fame, Jesus chose shame on the cross. Instead of dominating power, Jesus chose to be obedient to God the Father and the Holy Spirit. Yes, Jesus threw away crab mentality and choose to be the bread of life, our messiah, and our Lord. As the official saviour for us, Jesus delivered us from fear of death to life, from pain to healing, and from sorrow to joy. Alleluia!

My sisters and brothers, let's lift up our crab mentality and fear for our survival in the world just as Jesus did. Listen to God's good news!!

Then your light will break forth like the dawn, and your healing will quickly appear; then your righteousness will go before you, and the glory of the LORD will be your rear guard. (Isaiah 58:8, NIV)

The risen Christ did not bring a miracle suddenly. The risen Christ was willing to enter our pain and even our crab mentality. The risen Christ delivered us to the dawn. This is why we can feel OK even when we are in the darkness. This is why we can give up our crab mentality and commit ourselves to serving God and God's people as Easter people.

My sisters and brothers who are in the wilderness with Jesus, don't be afraid for your own survival. Lift up all your fear to God. Remember that God gave us God's image. In our DNA, we have a spirit of encouragement just like God has.

During this Lent, let's kick out our crab mentality. Instead, we can welcome a spirit of encouragement. During this lent season, encourage at least one person's spirit and life. **Share your heart with others.** You might use your lunch hour to hand out sandwiches and sports drinks to your friends and the homeless in your workplace or your community. You could also mow a neighbor's lawn, or shovel the snow from their driveway. Let them know you are Easter people. Then God's grace and the power through the risen Christ will flow to everybody. My sisters and brothers, **Christ was risen.**

Are you Easter people?

—*Seung Hae*



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

APRIL



Jeff Riggleman



Judy Brown and ??????



Debbie and Alex Beeman



Olive Oyl Hostess's for April

Judy, Ann, Tina, Carol, Jane and Dolly



	<u>Worship</u>	<u>Offering</u>
2/24	50	\$ 996
3/03	40	\$ 912
3/10	38	\$ 1,020
3/17	63	\$ 1,404
3/24	<u>38</u>	<u>\$ 859</u>
Avg.	45	\$ 1,038



- 4/02 Charlie Anderson
- 4/04 Steve Cuccio
- 4/05 Lillian (Lily) Strosnider
- 4/06 Scott Lewis
- 4/08 Chris Newlin
- 4/14 Michael Strosnider
- 4/19 David Hernandez
- 4/20 Cecilia Hernandez
- 4/24 Sharon Kelly
- 4/25 Aimee Hoffman
- 4/25 Jennifer Newlin
- 5/02 Jane Ramey
- 5/04 Terri Hudson
- 5/04 Yajaira Linares
- 5/05 Jerry Stickley
- 5/06 George Saville



4/03 Steve & Angie Cuccio

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

The annual youth spaghetti dinner was another success thanks to all! We started out Sunday morning after services gathering in the shelter. Our master decorators did a wonderful job getting the dining area ready which is always a time consuming job and takes a great eye to make it look and feel inviting to the patrons. Sometimes we overlook things like this so please except a HUGE thank you for that! The rest of us were busy in the kitchen preparing the sauce and taking on the clean-up task and taking inventory on any needed supplies. Many, Many Thanks and Blessings to the hands that worked together to do all of these tasks. With the help of everyone, we were able to do all of this by 11:30 am and spend the rest of the day with our families! If your feet were sore and your backs tired that is because we served a whopping crowd of 181 people! Our dinner started at 4:00 pm and we had people sitting at the tables eating right off the bat. Our children (and adults) did a fantastic job keeping up with demand. I heard many great compliments on how our children are such hard workers, have great manners and people were very pleased at seeing so many of them. They loved to see the involvement of the children, the smiles they had on their faces and the way they worked together. The children are the future of our church and I believe the church family continues on for many more generations to come! Thank you all for setting a good example and being good leaders in our community. We also were complimented on our prices and how it was really great that bigger families could actually afford to be able to attend, which is something they would normally not go too because they just cannot afford it AMEN! Our total raised that evening plus proceeds from selling the leftover sauce was about \$1621 . . . **WE ARE TRULY BLESSED!!!!** We would also like to thank KOHL's for joining us again. Their help is always appreciated and the

ladies they send are always a pleasure to work with. They will also be granting us a donation of \$500.00 — what a great bunch and a wonderful business to join us. If you happen to go to Kohl's please say Thank You and let them know what a great job and service they provide to us. Donalyn, who heads their volunteer group will be retiring in the next few months BUT she has reassured me that she will definitely be back to see us. Good luck to her on her retirement ☺ We would like to thank **EVERYONE** for your support.

It takes teamwork from every end of the spectrum whether you made a donation, hung flyers, told friends/family, decorated, had spaghetti or even said a prayer for us . . . You made this possible! We are truly blessed to have our church families and members in the community!

The Olive Branches and some of the adults met on March 30th, for a Potato Drop Mission. We went to Loudoun Valley High School and helped to bag about 40,000 pounds of potatoes. What a great time of discipleship not only within our group but also with the others that were there. We made many new friends and represented BOTH churches (Relief and Mt. Olive) well. Thank you to all those that attended!

We have quite a few things coming up in the next few months and would love to have everyone join us! These times between the older and newer generations are so important to the future of our churches and the community.

On Wednesday, May 1st, the youth will be hosting "Afternoon Tea" for the ladies (and gents if you like to come) to celebrate Mother's Day. All we ask is that you bring your own cup and saucer. If you don't have one . . . no worries, indicate it on the sign-up sheet and one will be there waiting for you ☺ If you have children, are a mother to pet(s), a mother to a neighbor or friend, a mother figure (even if you are a father and share both roles) to anyone . . . We want you to come as we are celebrating YOU!!

Please remember the "JUST ONE" mission. If you have any leftover food from a meal you prepared, we are asking that you freeze a one-portion size (enough for one, you can do more if

you like) and then bring them to church on the 2nd Sunday of each month, April 14th and May 12th, and we will collect them. The meals are then delivered to Patti Williams at the Frederick County Sheriff's office. She delivers them to some of the Lock-ins (people who are unable to get out of their homes due to illness, surgery or impairment) in the community. These are typically some of the elderly who have no family or none close enough to be able to help on a daily basis until they can get back on their feet.

Our next mission fundraiser will be a Carwash on June 29th, from 1:00 –3:00 pm at the First Bank located on 1835 Valley Ave. Cost: \$ Donation. If anyone is interested in helping out, please contact Brenda Newpher, Youth Group Leader at Mt. Olive. This is a great time of fellowship and just a fun time for everyone! As you know, these events take quite a bit of hands to make them successful so please come out and lend a hand even if it's for 30 minutes. Please help spread the word as the fundraisers help pay for the upcoming youth missions so there is no cost to the families! If you would like to make a monetary donation, it would greatly be appreciated. Please contact Brenda Newpher, Mt. Olive Youth Group Leader.

Our next Youth Group meeting will be April 10th at 6:30 pm in the shelter. We will be planning our "Afternoon Tea" and our "Mulching Mission" on May 8th. Also, we will be discussing our mission trip. If you are planning or thinking about going or your child/children, PLEASE attend this informational meeting.

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! Spread the word to all your friends, family, neighbors and colleagues. Contact with questions: Brenda Newpher @540-931-1785 or b_newpher21@live.com

*Brenda Newpher
and the Olive Branches*



- April 10th — Youth Group @ 6:30 - Mt. Olive UMC Shelter
- April 14th — Collect "JUST ONE" Mission Food
- April 21st — Easter Egg Hunt — After Sunrise Service/Breakfast
- May 1st — "Afternoon Tea" at 6:30 pm Mt. Olive Shelter



It's coming! Make plans now to be there! It's a happening event you won't want to miss!

What is it, you ask? Something that hasn't happened for a very long time.

Our **150th Homecoming** will be held on Sunday September 15th beginning at 10:00 am, so mark your calendars. There will be more information to follow in a future newsletter.

—Cleo Manspile



STAGE LEFT BAND will lead our music for the Services on Sunday, March 31st and April 21st. Please come join us!!

AN EASTER PROMISE

*If we but had the eyes to see
 God's face in every cloud,
 If we but had the ears to hear
 His voice above the crowd
 If we could feel His gentle touch
 In every springtime breeze
 And find a haven in His arms
 'Neath shelter, leafy trees—
 If we could just lift up our hearts
 Like flowers to the sun
 And trust His **Easter Promise**
 And pray, "**Thy will be done,**"
 We'd find the peace we're seeking,
 The kind no man can give,
 The peace that comes from knowing
He died so we might live!
 —Helen Steiner Rice
 Showers of Blessings*

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

John 3:16

Jesus Christ hath abolished death, and hath brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.

2 Timothy 1:10



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>
2/24	9	40	\$ 1,707
3/03	8	31	\$ 1,310
3/10	8	44	\$ 2,236
3/17	<u>8</u>	<u>48</u>	<u>\$ 1,362</u>
Avg.	8	41	\$ 1,653

Also received:

C-CAP	\$ 56
Church/Shelter Use	\$ 200
Memorials	\$ 375
Witness	\$ 480



On Sunday, April 7, 2019, immediately following worship, please join us for an Easter Egg stuffing party in the Fellowship Hall. Lunch will be provided. The eggs are for our Easter Activities on Good Friday.

—Molly Thorne



4/02 Elwanda Luttrell
 4/03 Hannah Milhon
 4/06 Uta Alger
 4/07 Phyllis Snider
 4/09 Nancy Pence
 4/11 Ruth Snapp
 4/14 Earl Luttrell
 4/16 Charles Boyd
 4/19 Carroll Messick
 4/22 Lynn Painter
 4/22 Joanna Smith
 4/22 Emily Swing
 4/24 Nick Campbell
 4/26 Lisa Milhon
 5/03 Kelly Boyd
 5/03 Nicholas Eaton
 5/03 Matthew Sipe



4/11 Adrian & Joan Anderson
 4/20 Jim & Kim Huffman
 4/20 John & Robin Sweet
 4/20 Barnaby & Dale Watten
 4/24 Dave & Kathy Holliday

SCRIPTURE READER

"Blessed is he



who reads aloud

**...and blessed are
 those who hear..."**

- REV. 1:3

Linda Michael



APRIL 2019 SPOTLIGHT

This month's spotlight is featuring the WATTS program. WATTS stands for Winchester Area Temporary Thermal Shelter. This is a program serving the City of Winchester and the surrounding area in Frederick County. This year celebrates their 10th anniversary.

This program is a totally non-profit organization that receives no funds from the local municipalities except for a small grant from the local United Way. WATTS' budget is 100% provided by donations. Their annual budget is \$135,000. The program is sustained by the efforts of twenty organizations, including churches, synagogues, fire halls and local service organizations. Seven locations are within the city limits. Thirteen are located outside the surrounding Winchester area.

Shelters are open twenty weeks from November to March. Each host provides a cot, a dinner, breakfast and a packed lunch each day that they are hosting. Shelters outside the city limits have guests bused to them.

WATTS is considered a "low barrier" shelter that does not require an ID nor sobriety. It is the only such shelter between Northern Virginia and Harrisonburg.

WATTS helps a maximum of thirty-five individuals. Thirty percent are women. Guests must be 18 years or older. Eighty percent are local and have lived in area codes 22601, 22602 or 22603. They are our neighbors.

WATTS hopes to locate to a large building for rent making a permanent place for its home. Relief Mission Team hosted dinner for the WATTS program on Monday, March 18th at Macedonia UMC. A special thanks for the help of the following folks: Sheila Snapp, Eunice Musser,

Robin and Ken Cibroski, Courtney Bragg, Debbie Fauble and Elwanda Luttrell. It is always a pleasure to be able to serve this program. This was our fifth time of serving the WATTS program.

There are still a few Easter Baskets available to be filled for C-CAP. They **HAVE to be back** at the Church on or before Sunday, April 7th.

Don't forget we are still accepting used eyeglasses and hearing aids for the local Lions Clubs.

—Elwanda Luttrell,
Outreach Chair



Celebrate Easter at Relief United Methodist Church, 5275 Middle Road, Winchester with the following events:

Good Friday, April 19th

Egg Extravaganza — 1:00–3:00 pm

This is FREE community event and will feature crafts, decorating cupcakes, the Easter Story, snacks and drinks, face painting, egg hunt by age groups, stuffed animals for everyone and balloons. All children ages 3 plus are invited.

Good Friday—Service of Tenebrae—April 19th
@ 7:30 pm

Easter Sunrise Service—Sunday, April 21st
at Church Shelter 6:30 am, followed
by a fantastic breakfast

Sunday School at 10:00 am
Classes for all ages

Traditional Worship Service at 11:00 am
with Children's Church.

Please come join us!



Scrapbooking is going strong. Do you have your pictures in order? Come March 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

April 12, May 17, June 14



The deadline for our May 2019 Neighborhood Gathering Newsletter is Friday, April 26th. The May Newsletter will be available Sunday, May 5th.

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

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



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.

—Taken from the VAUMC Website

APRIL SCRIPTURE READINGS

April 1 Proverbs 25-26; Hebrews 3 Read Now
 April 2 Proverbs 27-29; Hebrews 4 Read Now
 April 3 Proverbs 30-31; Hebrews 5 Read Now
 April 4 Leviticus 1-3; Hebrews 6 Read Now
 April 5 Leviticus 4-5; Hebrews 7 Read Now
 April 6 Leviticus 6-7; Hebrews 8 Read Now
 April 7 Leviticus 8-10; Hebrews 9 Read Now
 April 8 Leviticus 11-12; Hebrews 10:1-18
 Read Now
 April 9 Leviticus 13; Hebrews 10:19-39 Read Now
 April 10 Leviticus 14; Hebrews 11:1-19 Read Now
 April 11 Leviticus 15-16; Hebrews 11:20-40
 Read Now
 April 12 Leviticus 17-18; Hebrews 12 Read Now
 April 13 Leviticus 19-20; Hebrews 13 Read Now
 April 14 Leviticus 21-22; Revelation 1 Read Now
 April 15 Leviticus 23-24; Revelation 2 Read Now
 April 16 Leviticus 25; Revelation 3 Read Now
 April 17 Leviticus 26-27; Revelation 4 Read Now
 April 18 Daniel 1-2; Revelation 5 Read Now
 April 19 Daniel 3-4; Revelation 6 Read Now
 April 20 Daniel 5-7; Revelation 7 Read Now
 April 21 Daniel 8-10; Revelation 8 Read Now
 April 22 Daniel 11-12; Revelation 9 Read Now
 April 23 Ecclesiastes 1-3; Revelation 10
 Read Now
 April 24 Ecclesiastes 4-6; Revelation 11
 Read Now
 April 25 Ecclesiastes 7-9; Revelation 12
 Read Now
 April 26 Ecclesiastes 10-12; Revelation 13
 Read Now
 April 27 Numbers 1-2; Revelation 14 Read Now
 April 28 Numbers 3-4; Revelation 15 Read Now
 April 29 Numbers 5-6; Revelation 16 Read Now
 April 30 Numbers 7-8; Revelation 17 Read Now

May 1 Numbers 9 -11; Revelation 18 Read Now
 May 2 Numbers 12 -14; Revelation 19 Read Now
 May 3 Numbers 15 -16; Revelation 20 Read Now
 May 4 Numbers 17 -19; Revelation 21 Read Now
 May 5 Numbers 20 -22; Revelation 22 Read Now
 May 6 Numbers 23 -25; Matthew 1 Read Now