



Neighborhood Gatherings SEPTEMBER 2019

Newsletter of Mt. Olive and Relief United Methodist Churches



My sisters and brothers, have you ever imagined what it would be like to be homeless a home? We may not want to imagine it because we know our life would be very miserable—no place to eat, rest and sleep, no place to take a shower. Oh yes, we would all be in trouble. We could get sick easily and be stinky. How about our spiritual home? All people need a place where our spirit can rest, relax, and get refreshed from the burdens in our lives. In this sense, our churches have been spiritual homes for people in our community. This is because our grandparents and great grandparents did a great job of building up God's house together with their spiritual gifts and talents.

I discovered this fact from a little history I read about our churches. Since we celebrate our churches' homecomings in September and October, I would love to look at the histories of Relief and Mt. Olive. I bet our church histories will convince you that although our churches are small, we have been spiritual homes and have enlarged God's comfort and love in our communities.

Did you know that Relief church started with Union Sunday School held in a barn in the

1880's? Soon a school house was erected near the site of the present church, and the Union Sunday School continued to meet in the school house. Then in 1890 at an evangelical meeting led by Rev. Frank Strother, George Thomas Massie became a convert to the Methodist church and donated the lot. Our present church building was built in 1891 and was named Relief MECS Church. **It was necessary to build our church because there was no church at "Lickspittle" on Middle Road. To show God's comfort to the area, Mr. Strother set out to raise money to build our church. He said the church would bring the people of Lickspittle relief so the new church was named "Relief." Our church became the center of God's comfort to the community and grew.**



How about Mt. Olive's history? In 1843, land was deeded to build a U.B. Church and school house. Then, in 1869 Mt. Olive church was built of wood-frame construction in Hayfield. Our church has served the Hayfield community for **over 150 years**. While we served the community, our faith also grew. **From our church lay people, four members of Mt. Olive became ministers. While focusing on the growth of our faith, the "Olive Oyls" and our youth have contributed in many ways to our community. We do many mission projects like going on mission trips, helping people clean houses and mulch their gardens, and having "Disciples on Deck." We buy hams on Christmas for the needy. We also sponsor the annual cookie exchange, which has been held since 1996.** The children also learn the importance of sharing, manifesting the love of God to others as they are met, including those of different nations of origin and cultures. We believe that Faith means **Find** others for Jesus Christ; **Answer** the call; **In** missions everywhere; **Teach** and practice discipleship; and **Honor** God in all you do!

With this amazing cooperation, our grandparents and parents built the foundation of our vision to bring God's comfort, love, and relief to people.

Our churches' histories remind me of two Hebrew words, *Sabar* and *Habas*. *Sabar* means "broken in pieces, crushed, smashed, or destroyed." Brokenhearted means our hearts have been shattered and torn to pieces. The verb, "*Habas*" means "wrapping around, covering, soothing, or releasing pain with olive oil." So "binding up the brokenhearted" means soothing a shattered heart with oil or ointment. The verb gives me the image of the Good Samaritan, who bandaged an injured person after pouring oil and

wine on their wounds. Just like a Good Samaritan, God has bound up people's wounded hearts and has restored our spirits through our churches because we are God's holy temple. God encourages us to be "comforters and counselors" to our community and the world.

Our churches are our spiritual home where God soothes our shattered and wounded hearts with God's comfort and love. In this place, our grandparents and parents laughed, while they enjoyed fellowship and ate delicious fried chicken and biscuits and gravy. Sometimes, they tearfully wrestled with God because their life burdens were so heavy. They became a testimony of God's comfort and love as God's temple. Continuously, we also have shared our laughter, prayers, and tears with each other with confidence in God's comfort. In these places, we have learned that God has reserved a room for all of us in heaven. We are privileged to belong to Jesus Christ and be a part of the body of Christ. As a part of Christ body, we have a responsibility to build up God's house with our spiritual gifts and talents. Since God provides us spiritual gifts to restore wounded hearts, it is our responsibility to use the spiritual gifts we've been given to make God's house strong and beautiful. You may be tempted to ask "Why me? Or "Why do I have to bring something?" This question may come from our low confidence about what God has given to us. I bet God responds to our question "Why me?" with another question "Why not you?" So, let's look around at what we have. Let's bring our God given gifts and abilities and continue to build up a beautiful and vital spiritual home just as our grandparents and parents did. Then you will be amazed how God makes our church our "sweet, sweet, spiritual home" and expand God's comfort in a big way. Can I get an "Amen"?

—Seung Hae



LECTIONARY FOR SEPTEMBER

12th Sunday after Pentecost — Sept. 1st

Jeremiah 2:4-13, Psalm 81:1, 10-16,
Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16 and Luke 14:1, 7-14

13th Sunday after Pentecost — Sept. 8th

Jeremiah 18: 1-11, Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18,
Philemon 1-21 and Luke 14:25-33

14th Sunday after Pentecost — Sept. 15th

Jeremiah 4:11-12, 22-28, Psalm 14, 1 Timothy
1:12-17 and Luke 15:1-10

15th Sunday after Pentecost — Sept. 22nd

Jeremiah 8:18-9:1, Psalm 79:1-9 or
Psalm 4, 1 Timothy 2:1-7 and Luke 16:1-13

16th Sunday after Pentecost — Sept. 29th

Jeremiah 32:1-3a, 6-15, Psalm 91:1-6, 14-16,
1 Timothy 6:6-19 and Luke 16:19-31

17th Sunday after Pentecost — Oct. 6th

Lamentations 1:1-6, Psalm 137,
2 Timothy 1:1-14 and Luke 17:5-10

Prayer: *Lord Jesus, help me to take what is before me and make it into something surprisingly peaceful. Help me to find my serenity and peace in you. Amen.*

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>
6/30	47	\$ 1,396
7/07	39	\$ 1,493
7/14	33	\$ 382
7/21	59	\$ 896
7/28	44	\$ 629
8/04	47	\$ 1,273
8/11	42	\$ 920
8/18	48	\$ 1,053
8/25	<u>57</u>	<u>\$ 1,306</u>
Avg.	46	\$ 1,039

Psalm of Praise

*Glory to you, O God,
because you give me
comfort in my trials,
Over all the years of my
life, you have always
been there for me.
Do again today as you
have in the past!*

SEPTEMBER



Angie Cuccio



Karen Jeter



Greeters — Charlotte & Jim Lewis



Stage Left Band will be doing our music worship services on September 15th. (150 Anniversary Worship), October 27th, November 17th, December 7th, Relief ABBA Fundraiser @ West Oaks Market and December 22nd Worship. Stage Left will not play for Christmas Eve service this year. Come join us!! You will be glad you did.

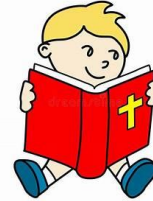


- 9/05 Hershell & Sharon Kelly*
- 9/08 Mike & Ginger Strosnider*
- 9/22 Gary & Terri Hudson*
- 10/06 Joe & Alexa Stanley*

OCTOBER



Charlotte Lewis



Scripture — Cleo Manspile



Marie & Angie Cuccio



- 9/01 Aleck Beeman*
- 9/06 Jacob Lewis*
- 9/07 Judy Brown*
- 9/08 Hershell Kelly*
- 9/09 Hannah Hudson*
- 9/12 Jim Lewis*
- 9/15 Ashton Strosnider*
- 9/17 Donna Sheets*
- 9/20 Brenda Newpher*
- 9/21 Brad Strosnider*
- 9/25 Joe Stanley*
- 9/26 Eric Schmidt*
- 9/27 Molly Saville*
- 10/06 Elsie Stickley*



Mt. Olive United Methodist Church's 150th Year Celebration!

Come and join us in celebrating the 150th year of Mt. Olive! Everyone is welcome and urged to attend. This Homecoming Celebration is on Sunday, September 15th starting at 10:00 am.

You will be urged to fill out a name tag when you first get there. Then you need to sign the guest book. That **guest book** was used in the **125th year Homecoming Celebration!!!**

On the wall of the sanctuary will be a running slide show of pictures from older times on up to the current year.

To your left when you come into the sanctuary there will be a banner commemorating our day of celebration and on the right will be a display of old bibles, books, etc. and of course, lots of pictures. Feel free to browse before the worship service begins.

The Stage Left Band will provide the music for the service. They are great as you all know.

We have invited former pastors to be our guests.

The guest speaker Rev. Dr. Victor Gomez, our previous pastor and now District Superintendent for the Harrisonburg District.

Aleck Beeman will present a slide show and speak on the history of our church.

The scripture will be read by one our newest members, Jason Patterson.

One of our youth, Maria Cuccio, will read a poem entitled "The Dearest Place".

The youth group will perform a very special song with Maria Cuccio, Jonathan Ramey, Tessa Morell and Yahaira Linares each having a verse to sing and the entire youth group (Olive Branches) will be singing the chorus. They will be backed up by The Stage Left Band.

After the service, there will be a luncheon at the shelter.

Please come and have a great day with us. You will make our day!

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



The Olive Branches did not meet for our monthly youth group meeting on August 14, 2019. With school starting for some and last-minute vacations our attendance would have been nonexistent. Good luck & prayers to the youth and teachers on a wonderful and safe school year!

With our youth getting older and becoming young adults, we are going to try something a bit out of the box for EVERYONE. Our youth group meets the 2nd Wednesday of every month @ 6:30. Beginning September 11, one of our youth will be giving a sermon @ 6:30 pm at Mt. Olive Church. For the next few months during youth group one of them will be sharing a sermon with us. Each year we have had so many youth ask when it is their turn to share The vision came and the reality is here! Join us the 2nd Wednesday not only to support our youth but to also hear their voices and share the word of God with you. Our youth are important and so are their thoughts and voices. There is a lot to learn from our youth! If anyone knows a youth that would like to speak, please contact Little Brenda.

Our youth are interested in taking a bus trip at Christmas time to Pennsylvania. We are looking into chartering a bus & hope to have more information to you soon. This will be our first attempt at this so if anyone can be of any assistance in this, please contact Brenda.

On August 24th, the Olive Branches sponsored two teams for the Trap Shooting

which is absolutely awesome! It is wonderful to see everyone get together and have a great time. Our teams consisted of: Sean McKinnley, Charlie Anderson, Mike Strosnider, James Anderson, Kevin Holliday, Randy Kelly, Hunter Parker, Eric Payne, Travis Streit and Brenda Streit. Also, Wyatt Parker took 2nd place in the youth division and I placed 3rd in women's. We all had a wonderful time of fun and great discipleship. Congrats to the Boyce Fire Department who placed 1st in the Hometown Heroes Division and to the Frederick County Sheriff's Office who placed 3rd this year. We would like to thank all of our Hometown Heroes for everything they do on a daily basis to keep us and shower them with prayers each day. Thank you all for the great discipleship, laughs and memories.

As summer comes to a close and everyone is back and we are looking forward to seeing our normal Sunday school classes. If anyone is interested in helping out with classes, please let Little Brenda (Brenda Streit) know. Due to the increasing count of youth, we would be extremely grateful to have the help. You don't need to know the bible word for word and if you are like me, you will learn quite a lot along with the kids while teaching. We provide all the materials.

Please keep your eyes and ears open in the future for announcements on upcoming events as we will be announcing them soon.

As ALWAYS . . . A Special THANK YOU to all the parents, grandparents and church family who volunteer and work together to help build and mold our youth! It takes a lot of hard work and dedication not only our children but to the church to make these things happen. The youth is the future of our church . . . without them there would be no future!

Brenda Newpher

and the Olive Branches

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>
6/30	8	61	\$ 1,849
7/07	6	34	\$ 1,403
7/14	8	52	\$ 1,866
7/21	Picnic	26	\$ 877
7/28	5	35	\$ 1,403
8/04	9	39	\$ 1,921
8/11	8	32	\$ 1,086
8/18	<u>5</u>	<u>37</u>	<u>\$ 1,946</u>
Avg.	5	35	\$ 1,544

Also received:

C-CAP	\$ 84
Church/Shelter Use	\$ 350
Witness	\$ 720

We need Readers and Leaders for several months to the end of the year. Please check the list in the vestibule. All are welcome to sign up.



Relief's Ice Cream and Dessert Social is Sunday, September 15th at 4:00 pm. Bring Ice Cream or Desserts. Mt Olive is invited as well.

—Joanna Smith



- 9/02 Brittany Huffman
- 9/03 Mark Snider
- 9/04 Andrew Eaton
- 9/06 Karen Musser
- 9/07 Kevin Messick
- 9/07 Donald Snapp
- 9/12 Ashley Moffett
- 9/12 Brenda Moffett
- 9/14 Teresa Boyd
- 9/14 Lauren Sipe
- 9/14 Logan Sipe
- 9/15 Joe Alger
- 8/16 Misty Omps
- 9/20 Joanie Anderson
- 9/20 Jeremy Boyd
- 9/21 Jimmy Boyd
- 9/21 Stephen Lobell
- 9/23 Dalton Boyd
- 9/23 Dana Russell
- 9/26 Lauira Gentry
- 9/26 Sallie Wilfong
- 9/28 Jody Hawse
- 10/02 Sharon Boyd
- 10/02 Matthew Gentry
- 10/02 Brittany Ginn
- 10/02 Jennifer Roy
- 10/06 Robert E. Snapp



- 9/10 Sammy and Kimmy Orndorff
- 9/10 Donald and Sheila Snapp
- 9/17 Ivan and Danielle Snapp
- 9/24 Scott and Kelly Boyd
- 9/27 James and Adele McGeachy



SEPTEMBER — Elwanda 9/1 & 9/8
Kim 9/15, 9/22, 9/29

OCTOBER —



SEPTEMBER — Kim McDonald
OCTOBER —



Trustees,

The Relief UMC Trustees meeting will be September 9th at 7:00 pm at Relief.

For this meeting and in addition to our asset management discussions, we need to select a Chairperson and Secretary for the next calendar year. I will step down as Chairperson effective December 31st, but believe I am on the committee through the end of 2020. I will be glad to support, encourage, and educate the new Chairperson for many of the behind the scenes duties, responsibilities, etc.

On a much more urgent note, I heard last week that the air conditioner unit (not sure if

AC or Heat Pump) that services a portion of the basement is not working and beyond repair. Can someone take the lead on getting this unit replaced? It is much more efficient that one person manages a situation like this similar as to how Earl effectively managed the "water" issue at the church. I would appreciate anyone that can take on this responsibility, but please do coordinate with Donald and/or John Snapp. I would handle it, but much of my available time is tied up with the parsonage sale. Note: I do know the repair person spoke with Lynn Painter last week and she may be able to provide additional insight.

Thank you everyone!

—John Sweet



SEPTEMBER 2019

The Outreach committee members, Robin Sweet, Eunice Musser, Debbie Fauble and Elwanda Luttrell provide the monthly craft with the Our Family Peer Support Group in Front Royal. Thanks to Robin, in August they made edible aquariums. Some of the members had them eaten as soon as they made them. It was a great hit. Thanks, Robin. For the September visit, Debbie Fauble is planning to show the group how to make a drink cover. In October, Eunice Musser is going to show them how to make a pumpkin. Also, in October the group will be decorating small bags for goodies for the VA Outpatient Center in Kernstown to be distributed the week of Veterans Day. Each month, the members look forward to coloring sheets and

word searches that are related to the time of the year.

We are gearing up for our busy time of the year. During the next couple of months, we will be collecting filled Samaritan Purse Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes, a complete meal for a family of four, for Thanksgiving to be distributed in several schools, and bed blankets and other blankets to be distributed to various agencies in the area.

For September: We will distribute shoeboxes to be filled for the Samaritan Purse Operation Christmas Child Program. Shoeboxes will be available on the table in the back of the Sanctuary. Now is the time to start collecting items for these boxes, as back to school supplies are still on sale in many places.

These boxes are due back by October. With each box, please fill out a label (which is in each box) with the age and gender of what is in the box. Also, please don't forget that when we send each box, a shipping and handling charge of \$9 must also be included. These boxes go all around the world. Included with the \$9 donation—this provides for training, and to equip local churches to use Ministry Partner Guides. This resource shows churches how to share the Good News of the Lord in a child-friendly way. Also, this donation provides The Greatest Gift Gospel Booklets, which is written in the children's language and distributed with each shoebox gift. Boxes can be put on the front pew in the Sanctuary or in the Willing Workers Classroom on or before the due time of October 6th.

For October and November: We will again be collecting Thanksgiving Bags. You can buy an item each week, and then put together a Thanksgiving Bag to be distributed to area schools on Monday, November 25th. Bags MUST be at the church on or before November 24th. Grocery bags are available in the back of the Sanctuary. Once a bag has been completed, they can be brought and put either on the front pew of the Sanctuary or in the Willing Workers Classroom on or any time before the due date of November 24th.

Here are the items needed for each bag: 1 large can of green beans or two smaller cans, 1 box turkey stuffing mix, 1 can of cranberry sauce, 1 packet of Idaho mashed potatoes (only those that need only water), 1 box of pie crust mix (9 oz.), 1 small can (5 oz.) evaporated milk, 1 can turkey gravy, 1 \$15 gift card (to buy turkey & ½ doz. eggs). This bag will total approximately \$25. Due on or before November 24th.

September, October, & November: During these three months, we will also collect blankets. All New blankets are accepted, pillows, or sleeping bags. Particularly needed are all sizes of bed blankets. These can be brought anytime, and also, others items, please leave on the front pew of the Sanctuary or in the Willing Workers Classroom.

Thanks for your support of the mission and outreach in our community and around the world with these projects. This lets folks know that there are others who care.

If any questions, contact Elwanda Luttrell.

—*Elwanda Luttrell,*
Outreach Chair

Book Sale **October 8th – 12th**

Donna Sheets from Mt. Olive will collect any books you have to donate to the **Bowman Library's book sale**. Call her and leave a message and she will come and get the books. Her phone number is (540) 877-2120. All donations are greatly appreciated!





The deadline for our October 2019 Neighborhood Gathering Newsletter is Friday, September 27th. The October Newsletter will be available Sunday, October 6th.

Please make an effort to put your church information in the newsletter. Particularly, our dates and articles for events in November and December so people can get them on their calendars. 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

Thank you,
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

SEPTEMBER SCRIPTURE

September 1 Psalms 135-136; 2 Corinthians 11:1-15
Read Now

September 2 Psalms 137-139; 2 Corinthians 11:16-33
Read Now

September 3 Psalms 140-142; 2 Corinthians 12
Read Now

September 4 Psalms 143-145; 2 Corinthians 13
Read Now

September 5 Psalms 146-147; John 1:1-28
Read Now

September 6 Psalms 148-150; John 1:29-51
Read Now

September 7 Judges 1-3; John 2
Read Now

September 8 Judges 4-6; John 3:1-18
Read Now

September 9 Judges 7-8; John 3:19-36
Read Now

September 10 Judges 9-10; John 4:1-30
Read Now

September 11 Judges 11-12; John 4:31-54
Read Now

September 12 Judges 13-15; John 5:1-24
Read Now

September 13 Judges 16-18; John 5:25-47
Read Now

September 14 Judges 19-21; John 6:1-21
Read Now

September 15 Lamentations 1-2; John 6:22-44
Read Now

September 16 Lamentations 3-5; John 6:45-71
Read Now

September 17 Amos 1-3; John 7:1-27
Read Now

September 18 Amos 4-6; John 7:28-53
Read Now

September 19 Amos 7-9; John 8:1-27
Read Now

September 20 Ezekiel 1-2; John 8:28-59
Read Now

September 21 Ezekiel 3-4; John 9:1-23
Read Now

September 22 Ezekiel 5-7; John 9:24-41
Read Now

September 23 Ezekiel 8-10; John 10:1-23
Read Now

September 24 Ezekiel 11-13; John 10:24-42
Read Now

September 25 Ezekiel 14-15; John 11:1-29
Read Now

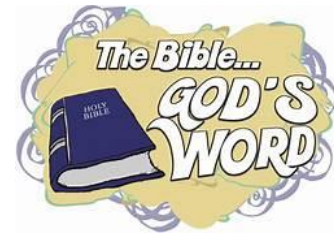
September 26 Ezekiel 16-17; John 11:30-57
Read Now

September 27 Ezekiel 18-19; John 12:1-26
Read Now

September 28 Ezekiel 20-21; John 12:27-50
Read Now

September 29 Ezekiel 22-23; John 13:1-20
Read Now

September 30 Ezekiel 24-26; John 13:21-38
Read Now



OCTOBER SCRIPTURE

October 1 Ezekiel 27-29; John 14
Read Now

October 2 Ezekiel 30-32; John 15
Read Now

October 3 Ezekiel 33-34; John 16
Read Now

October 4 Ezekiel 35-36; John 17
Read Now

October 5 Ezekiel 37-39; John 18:1-18
Read Now

October 6 Ezekiel 40-41; John 18:19-40
Read Now

October 7 Ezekiel 42-44; John 19:1-22
Read Now

October 8 Ezekiel 45-46; John 19:23-42
Read Now

October 9 Ezekiel 47-48; John 20
Read Now

October 10 Song of Solomon 1-3; John 21
Read Now

October 11 Song of Solomon 4-5; Ephesians 1
Read Now

October 12 Song of Solomon 6-8; Ephesians 2
Read Now

October 13 1 Samuel 1-3; Ephesians 3
Read Now

October 14 1 Samuel 4-6; Ephesians 4
Read Now

October 15 1 Samuel 7-9; Ephesians 5:1-16
Read Now

October 16 1 Samuel 10-12; Ephesians 5:17-33
Read Now

October 17 1 Samuel 13-14; Ephesians 6
Read Now

October 18 1 Samuel 15-16; 2 Peter 1
Read Now

October 19 1 Samuel 17-18; 2 Peter 2
Read Now

October 20 1 Samuel 19-21; 2 Peter 3
Read Now

October 21 1 Samuel 22-24; 1 Timothy 1
Read Now

October 22 1 Samuel 25-26; 1 Timothy 2
Read Now

October 23 1 Samuel 27-29; 1 Timothy 3
Read Now

October 24 1 Samuel 30-31; 1 Timothy 4
Read Now

October 25 2 Samuel 1-2; 1 Timothy 5
Read Now

October 26 2 Samuel 3-5; 1 Timothy 6
Read Now

October 27 2 Samuel 6-8; 1 John 1
Read Now

October 28 2 Samuel 9-11; 1 John 2
Read Now

October 29 2 Samuel 12-13; 1 John 3
Read Now

October 30 2 Samuel 14-15; 1 John 4
Read Now

October 31 2 Samuel 16-18; 1 John 5
Read Now