



Neighborhood Gatherings AUGUST 2018

Newsletter of Mt. Olive and Relief United Methodist Churches



As many of you know, I just moved to Winchester. Even though as a Methodist pastor, I have committed myself to go wherever God calls me, moving is a job. It is not easy for my family to live with boxes. Trust me. I hate boxes. BUT, one good thing about moving is that it gives me a chance to throw away my old junk. Whenever I move, I feel amazed at how much junk and unnecessary stuff I was keeping. For example, I found 18-year-old receipts in my desk drawer. They came from a grocery store in CA. These receipts moved with me to many places in CA, many apartments in GA, and several parsonages in VA.

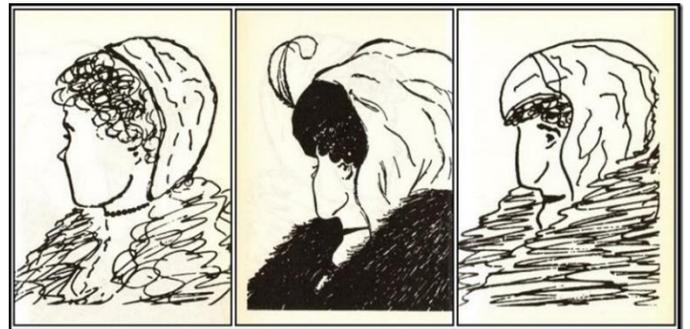
How about our soul? As you read this newsletter, could you take a quick break, sit down and close your eyes? It would be better if you can hear birds chirping and feel the breeze with a cup of cold lemonade. Then listen to what God asks us: How much emotional garbage or negative emotions have we held onto just as I was keeping these old receipts? Those negative feelings may follow

to enjoy moments of blessing that God has given us. It is like a chain. Because our hearts are so heavy and have no space, our spiritual eyes become blinded. We cannot see other blessings that we have received. Because we cannot feel the spirit of joy, our hearts collect emotional garbage more and more.

Are your heart and spirit heavy and have no room to see God's blessings? Can we at least make a space to listen to God's word?

"Be careful how you think; your life is shaped by your thought (Good News Bible, Prov. 4: 23)"

God's word reminds us that we have the ability to shape our thoughts in the Holy Spirit. This scripture reminds me of one illustration which came from the 7 Habits of Highly Effective People by Stephen Covey.



What do you see in the picture? You may see the young woman with the petite nose, wearing a necklace and looking away from you. Or you see the old lady with the large nose, sad smile, looking down.

Our life may be the same. Depending on how we keep our thoughts and minds, our lives can be seen as “beautiful and meaningful” or “ugly and meaningless.” God knows this and wants us to be careful how we think because our life is shaped by our thoughts.

My sisters and brothers, can we work together to bring a good spirit and perspective to our lives and our world together in Christ? Can we proclaim together, “negative thinking out and positive thinking in”? Casting out negative thinking and welcoming in positive thinking will be the way of experiencing Jesus’ death and resurrection.

Let’s pray to God to give us a strong power to keep our hearts and minds positive. Let’s say together, “Negative Thinking Out! Positive Thinking In!”

— Seung Hae



LECTIONARY FOR AUGUST

July 29 2 Samuel 11:1–15,
Ephesians 3:14–21, John 6:1–21

August 5 2 Samuel 11:26–12:13a, Psalm
51:1–12, Ephesians 4:1–16, John 6:24–35

August 12 2 Samuel 18:5–9, 31–33,
Psalm 130, Ephesians 4:25–5.2,
John 6:35, 41–51

August 19 1 Kings 2:10–12: 3:3–14,
Psalm 111, Ephesians 5:15–20,
John 6:51–58

August 26 1 Kings 8(1, 6, 10–11) 22–30,
41–43, Psalm 84, Ephesians 6:10–20,
John 6:56–69

September 2 Song of Solomon 2:8–13,
Psalm 45:1-2,6–9 or Psalm 72, James
1:17–27, Mark 7:1–8, 14–15, 21–23

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

Give
THANKS
to the Lord

	<u>Worship</u>	<u>Offering</u>
7/01	56	\$ 1101
7/08	60	\$ 1000
7/15	49	\$ 878
7/22	<u>50</u>	<u>\$ 1,419</u>
Avg.	53	\$ 1,099

AUGUST



Carol Place

Greeters

Mary and Girls



Ashton Strosnider



8/01 Logan Holliday
 8/05 Jessica Richard
 8/07 Emily Gonzalez
 8/12 Stephanie Streit
 8/16 Josh Heflin
 8/17 Ann Pugh
 8/19 Crystal Castro
 8/20 Tabitha Davis
 8/21 Bill Walther
 8/23 Colin Rowe
 8/24 Wade Dusing
 8/27 Matthew Artrup
 8/29 Danny Lingo
 9/01 Aleck Beeman



8/11 Mike & Georgia Saville
 8/14 Marty & Karen Racey
 8/19 Aleck & Debbie Beeman
 8/27 Kenny & Linda Ganoe
 8/30 Chris & Jennifer Newlin

Give ear, O LORD, to my prayer; listen to my cry of supplication. In the day of my trouble I call on you, for you will answer me. —Psalm 86:6–7



THE “OLIVE BRANCHES”

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

Summer vacations are here; but we are still going strong!

The Olive Branches have been VERY busy this summer with many wonderful events we were blessed to participate in. Quite a few of them got to participate in Missions not only in our area right here in Winchester, but also in Tangier, VA. Each and every one of us had a wonderful experience and have grown spiritually. It is always a great pleasure to see our children jump in to help others and also learn along the way. They experienced God’s miracles in so many ways this summer! Bless our children and continue to help guide them on their wonderful journey.

On July 6–7, our youth offered Disciples on Deck which was a two–day mission experience right here in Winchester. We had about thirty-one youth/adults (Three Churches were represented) which participated in the missions along with all the volunteers who helped out with the food, coordinating the activities, crafts, providing music, taking pictures, setting up/cooking/serving meals and all of the other things in the back ground that needed to be done to make sure this went smoothly. The first day

we went to the retirement community on Lutheran Blvd. It was absolutely wonderful to see the youth and the seniors come together as a whole. It really melted our hearts to see all those who were there smiling, tapping their feet and singing along with us. Afterwards they treated us to refreshments and time to mingle with the residents. It was such a great time, they invited us back! We returned to have pizza for supper, an enjoyable craft which the youth worked together to build a table centerpiece which was led by Molly Thorne from Relief Church, followed by church services with Mary Howard and afterwards a swimming, campfire, foosball, ping pong along with lots of laughter and many great memories that will last a lifetime. We would like to thank Joe and Marie Lizer for opening their lake house home to us . . . beautiful and awesome! The second day there was a wonderful breakfast prepared and then off to our mission sites. There were nine mission sites that the groups were able to tend too along with two extra we were able to take care of also. I received great feedback from all residents at the mission sites. They were so appreciative to all for the hard work they did and also for the great discipleship they were able to spread throughout the community. The residents really enjoyed the company and absolutely loved talking with all that were there. If you happen to be at Mt. Olive Church, please take a look at the newly painted handicap ramp, the front doors to the church and also the back door to the shelter. Many thanks to everyone who participated and helped to make it a success!

The youth then packed up Monday, July 23rd and left for a week long mission trip to Tangier Island. We had fifteen youth and ten adults who represented not only our church and the Winchester area but God extremely well. We had a few homes listed which

needed tending too with paint and yard work and also built a 42' walkway. What an awesome experience and a great honor to able to help others. A special thank you to all of you who helped to make this possible! For those of you who have not heard . . . We have a SPECIAL group of youth. Again this year, our youth performed the whole Wednesday night services while we were there. Jenna Morell graced us with her sermon and did an outstanding job. It was really great to see our youth in action supporting each other during this. We all know how getting up in front of not just people, but strangers on top of that, can be frightening. Each youth member put forth their best effort during services and WOW, I only wish you could have heard them sing. It was very touching to everyone there and I know they left their mark in each and every one of those who attended. The youth really did an amazing job! We returned on Friday, July 27 reflecting on the friends made and memories we made. These are the times we spend together that will last a lifetime in our hearts and will reflect upon as we go forward in our lives.

Also, on August 25th, we will again be sending a group of trap shooters (we need five) to attend the Hunter Crane Foundation's Annual Trap Shoot. The entrance fee will be paid for by the Olive Branches youth group. If anyone is interested, please contact Little Brenda at Mt. Olive UMC. Even if you aren't a shooter, some and support our team. We had a great time last year! We got to watch the local first responders ALL compete for a trophy to proudly display and brag about at their agency. I believe the Frederick County Sheriff's Department brought home the honors last year!

Our youth will be discussing their Annual Malt Shop and another Spaghetti Dinner during our next youth group meeting (both have been quite a popular). It always amazes me to see the effort the children put into everything they do. . . They love to please the "Church". Please keep tuned in for the date in the next few weeks. We cannot thank everyone enough for all your help and continued support!

Our youth always put forth their best and work extremely hard. I am VERY proud of ALL of them! Our youth are growing so fast and it is an absolute pleasure to work with such great children who are willing to put their minds to the test.

It takes all and I believe our youth are great disciples! 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



We are collecting school supplies for the upcoming year. Paper, pencils, pens, erasers, composition books, book bags, folders, highlighters, crayons and tissues are all needed. We'll be collecting the supplies for several weeks. Please help us if you can.



Please join us for our Summer Prayer Group at Mt. Olive in the Shelter. It will be at 11:00 am on the listed dates. Everyone is welcome to come and participate.

Wednesday, August 1
Wednesday, August 22



STAGE LEFT BAND

- Sunday, August 12th — Mt. Olive UMC
Worship — 9:30 am
- Sat., September 8th — Reynolds Store Fire
Hall Yard Party — 2:00 pm (??)
- Sunday, September 9th — Wesley Chapel
Praise and Hymn Sing — 6:00 pm
- Saturday, October 13th — Roanoke Valley
Presbyterian Church, Blacksburg, VA,
Concert
- Sunday, October 14th — Roanoke Valley
Presbyterian, Blacksburg, VA.,
Worship at 11:00 am

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>
6/24	12	31	\$ 1,418
7/01	11	52	\$ 2,553
7/08	9	48	\$ 1,887
7/15	—	32	\$ 1,071
7/22	<u>12</u>	<u>48</u>	<u>\$ 1,756</u>
Avg.	11	42	\$ 1,737

Also received:

C-CAP	\$ 30
MAMA	\$ 173
Shelter/Fellowship Hall	\$ 425
Witness	\$ 630

TREASUER'S REPORTS are available on the table in the back of the Sanctuary after each Administrative Board Meeting. Please feel free to pick up one. If there are none when you go to get one, please let me know.

—Elwanda Luttrell,
 Treasurer, (540) 869-7198, elwand@verizon.net



- 8/07 Brooke Wilfong Smith
- 8/13 Robin Snapp Cibroski
- 8/16 Stacy Sipe
- 8/19 Luke Gentry
- 8/19 Sheila Snapp
- 8/22 Jimmy Huffman
- 8/24 Samuel Beringer
- 8/25 Judy Boyd
- 8/26 Susanna Lockley
- 8/26 Cassi Unger
- 8/30 James McGeachy
- 9/02 Brittany Huffman
- 9/03 Mark Snider



- 8/21 Bobby and Denise Luttrell
- 8/23 Joe and Uta Alger
- 8/23 Carroll and Charlotte Messick
- 8/25 Neal and Jeanie Painter

AUGUST LAYREADER

"Elwanda Luttrell"

LAYREADERS are needed still needed!
 Please sign up in the Narthex.



AUGUST SPOTLIGHT

It seems that school just let out for the summer and now it is time to think about back to school. The emphasis this month is on the MAMA (Middletown Area Mission Action) Backpack Ministry. This is a ministry effort of seven churches in the Middletown area, which provide food for families with children in the Middletown Elementary School. A backpack is filled with food and given to children identified by the school as not having food to eat when school is not in session. Each Friday a backpack is filled with food and sent home with the children—a backpack is used, so not to single out these children. Also, when school is on break i.e., Thanksgiving, Christmas, etc., boxes of food are prepared and sent home. Also, other items that might be needed by these children, are met by this group also, such as school supplies, warm clothes, etc. Relief partners with Hites Chapel Church who is a member of the MAMA group. During the closing program of this year's Vacation Bible School, an offering was received and will be sent to this project. The collected amount was \$173 and from the Mission budget \$300 was sent, totaling \$473.

Keep in Mind: There is a box in the vestibule for items for CCAP. Each month, any offering that is left on the altar during communion is sent to CCAP. Also, there is a box

in the back office for used eyeglasses and hearing aids.

If you have plastic grocery bags and don't know what to do with them, bring them to me, and I will take them to a local animal daycare/boarding center. They loved getting all the bags from the Yard Sale.

Also, on the table in the back of the Sanctuary, there are little boxes for you to put change in for the Society of St. Andrew. This is the organization that sponsors gleaning throughout the country to help provide food to food banks and food pantries across the county.

NOW IS THE TIME TO START THINKING ABOUT UPCOMING MISSION PROJECTS

Start thinking about Christmas Cards for the Troops, blankets, and Operation Christmas Child (Samaritan's Purse). Now is the time to get school items for the shoeboxes. The Our Family project for the month of July was to make luminaries — with a red, white, and blue theme, as well as a card with flowers or fireworks featuring thumbprints. The next visit is scheduled for Wednesday, August 25th. We will be coloring wooden items. Anyone wishing to help with these projects is more than welcome, just contact me to let me know you want to attend.

Elwanda Luttrell
 Chair Mission/Outreach
 (540) 869-7198
elwand@verizon.net

One of the most enjoyable features of a summer vacation is the thrill of getting back home after it is over.

When the church takes a vacation, the devil may safely take his.

—Paul E. Holdcraft
 Quick Quotes for Church



Thumbs to the Left

(A Saturday Women's Retreat)

You are cordially invited to join us for this **free** fellowship event.

Focus: *Whose Voice is it Anyway?*

When: Saturday, August 11th, 2018

Where: Relief United Methodist Church,
5275 Middle Rd, Winchester, VA. 22602

Time: 9:30 am – 3:00 pm

Event Details: Worship, Community Service projects supporting CCAP, small group breakout sessions, light breakfast, full lunch and free childcare.

Bring: An open heart and a friend

Dress: Casual. Nothing stuffy about this.

Register: (so that we can plan appropriately) at witnessrumc@gmail.com.

Please include: Names and number of participating adults and children, any food allergies, and any questions you have.

SCRAPBOOKING

No scrapbooking in August, but we start back in Friday, September 21st!! In October we meet on the 12th. The time is 6:00 pm to 11:00 pm with dinner at 7:00 pm. Mark your calendars.....

Hope to see you there!

Contact me, Debbie Fauble,
at 869-4005 for information.

Don't forget Homecoming is Sunday, August 26th at Relief United Methodist Church with Worship at 11:00 am and a covered dish meal after worship. Please get the word out to others!!



A bad neighbor is a misfortune, as much as a good one is a great blessing.

—Hesiod

You can give without loving, but you cannot love without giving.

—Amy Wilson—Carmiachael

Words which do not give the light of Christ, increase the darkness.

—Anon



The deadline for our September/October 2018 Neighborhood Gathering Newsletter is Friday, August 24th. The September/October Newsletter will be available Sunday, September 2nd.

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

B 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

If you have new information on your current address, phone, email, cell phone numbers, children in college, etc., please let us know. Please help us keep our information up to date!!

You may call the Relief office at 869-5775, leave a note on the desk in the office or email me at amitch@shentel.net

Thank you!

—Brenda