



# Neighborhood Gatherings

## MAY 2018

Newsletter of Mt. Olive and Relief United Methodist Churches



*“It will not be so among you; but whoever wishes to be great among you must be your servant, and whoever wishes to be first among you must be your slave; just as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many.” – Matthew 20:26-28 (NIV)*

Dear Church Family:

It is my privilege and honor to introduce to you Rev. Dr. Seung Hae Yoo-Hess as your new Pastor and Spiritual leader beginning July 1<sup>st</sup>. She is currently serving Rockingham Court United Methodist Church in Roanoke, Virginia, where she has served since 2015. Before she served Providence/Trinity/LaCrosse/Sardis United Methodist churches in South Hill, Virginia.

She holds a master degree from Claremont School of Theology in California, and a doctoral degree from the “Great” Candler

School of Theology in Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia (my alma mater). Before she came to the United States in 2000, she finished her Master of Divinity from Chongshin Theological Seminary in South Korea.

She has a particular love working with children and youth. She also loves listening to people’s life stories and shares God’s love and care for them. She states that she is always ready to go to people in need wherever they are. Her ministry has focused on care for “people of all ages”, providing pastoral care and counseling for individuals and families, hospital chaplaincy for patients and their families, and community services.

Rev. Dr. Yoo-Hess brings her devoted husband, Jeff who served as the pastor of West End United Methodist Church in Roanoke, Virginia. They love walking, hiking, fishing and boating, and watching movies. They are partners in ministry as they love providing constructive criticism to each other regarding sermons and ministries.

She is a pastor that believes that God’s table of love should be extended to all people and all nations. She loves meeting new people and learning their culture and languages. She also loves to advocate for voices of the

marginalized and serves CEMCA (the Commission on Ethnic Minority Concerns and Advocacy) at the conference level, and she is a member of AAMA (Asian-American Ministers Association).

I am thrilled that Bishop Lewis has appointed Rev. Dr. Yoo-Hess to Mount Olive and Relief. I am confident that she will bring the ministries of both churches to the next level as you all embrace one another and continue to work for the kingdom of God. As soon as I met her, I felt her sincerity, her love to God and her passion to ministry. It is contagious! After talking to her, I walked away with a smile on my face.

Please join me in welcoming Rev. Dr. Yoo-Hess, and for the time remaining, please pray for her and for Jeff as they transition, find housing and get to know each one of you.

*Yours in Christ,  
Pastor Victor*



### LECTIONARY FOR MAY

**May 6** Acts 10:44-48, 1 John 5:1-6 and John 15:9-17

**May 13** Acts 1:1-11, Ephesians 1:15-26 and Luke 24:44-53

**May 20** Acts 2:1-21, Romans 8:22-27 and John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15

**May 27** Isaiah 6:1-8, Romans 8:12-17, John 3:1-17

**June 3** 1 Samuel 8:4-11, 16-20, 2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1 and Mark 3:20-35

## 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> |
|--------------|----------------|-----------------|
| 3/25         | 58             | \$ 771          |
| 4/01 (Joint) | 125            | \$ 1,721        |
| 4/08         | 51             | \$ 1,241        |
| 4/15         | <u>50</u>      | <u>\$ 865</u>   |
| Avg.         | 71             | \$ 1,149        |

### MAY

*Greeters*

Ana Mendoza



Bonnie Anderson



Angie Cuccio

**THOUGHT:** The hardest arithmetic to master is that which enables us to count our blessings.  
— Eric Hoffer



5/02 Janes Ramey  
 5/04 Terri Hudson  
 5/04 Yajaira Linares  
 5/05 Jerry Stickley  
 5/06 Georgia Saville  
 5/07 Karen Racey  
 5/17 Horlando Manuel Cruz  
 5/20 Nicole Davis  
 5/20 Desiree Davis  
 5/21 Cleo Manspile  
 5/24 Tina Evans  
 5/26 Patty Hoover  
 5/28 Steve Schmidt  
 5/29 John Evans  
 5/31 Travis Streit  
 6/01 Eric Hottle  
 6/01 Becky Saunders  
 6/03 Jen Morell



5/07 Angus & Rebecca Saunders  
 5/16 Eric & Katie Hottle  
 5/17 Victor & Heather Gomez  
 5/17 John & Mary Merriner  
 5/17 Brad & Ashton Strosnider  
 5/24 Joe & Marie Lizer  
 5/26 Richard & Penny Angell  
 5/31 Karl & Paige Williams

#### **Verse to Remember**

*“Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you disquieted within me? Hope in God; for I shall again praise him, my help and my God.”*

—Psalm 43:5



#### **THE “OLIVE BRANCHES”**

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

What an absolute wonderful day Easter Sunday was! WOW . . . It started out at Relief UMC for Sunrise Service and a delicious breakfast. The service was amazing and the bag pipes brought tears to my eyes as soon as they started. What a wonderful feeling that was! I was surprised to see so many youth up that early with bright eyes (could have been the sun) there. The tables were packed for breakfast and they had such a great team working together preparing the food and serving all of those in line and WHAT A LINE! To follow was service at Mt. Olive UMC and it was amazing to see the church pews so full that we had to set up extra chairs wherever there was an empty space and still had people standing. GOD IS GOOD! The sermon was very captivating and so relatable to many. Even the youth were shaking heads in agreement and Victor had definitely grabbed their attention. The Easter Egg Hunt along with an egg roll concluded Easter service and I believe everyone had a great time and had good success in finding eggs.

The Olive Branches met again for our monthly meeting on April 11<sup>th</sup> and discussed our upcoming months of missions. There was attendance of youth and adults from both Mt. Olive and Relief. The meeting started off with group prayer, followed by fine dining of soup provided by Neil and delivered by Victor, Taquitos and pizza made by

Donna Sheets. We would like to extend a special Thank You to Donna for cooking and getting everything set up for our supper!

The following was discussed:

Youth Car Wash on Saturday, April 21<sup>st</sup> from 1:00–3:00 pm. PLEASE join us and help spread the word to everyone! As you know, ALL of our missions the youth participate in are funded by their fundraisers. These fundraisers allow for the youth to participate in all the activities at little to no cost to the parents or church. I feel that everyone should have the opportunity to participate in missions and not have to worry about money.

Annual Youth Mulching on Saturday, May 12<sup>th</sup> unfortunately CANCELLED. Due to issues with schedules, volunteers were very few. All those on the list for mulching will be done as one of the missions during Disciples on Deck in July. I am truly sorry but God has other plans for us at that time. If you have other plans, such as having it done before then, please let me know so that we can plan ahead.

Disciples on Deck, July 6<sup>th</sup>–7<sup>th</sup> will be including the churches who will be attending, take part in some of the planned activities (other than missions itself). Round Hill UMC will be taking on the “Opening” — “What is Mission?” beginning at 3:00 pm. Relief UMC will honor us in the task of a “Hands on Activity” later in the evening from 5:45–6:45 pm. Hopefully, we will have a few more churches represented and we can work them in to helping also. Please help spread the word as it is discipleship in the making.

Tangier Island July 23<sup>rd</sup>–27<sup>th</sup> — We went over the schedule and activities for our trip. Looking at what my projections are for those who will be attending, we will have about twenty-one attending so far. Our list is showing eleven adults and ten youth. If you know any youth that would like to participate,

please contact me for more information. We have about six more spaces for the “Youth”. We have decided this year, we will be doing a building activity, yard clean up and if time/people permit a bit of painting. This mission and all others are funded by the youth fundraisers so please let the thought of “Cost” deter your decision to participate.

Please keep your eyes and ears open in the future for announcements on upcoming events.

We have mission dates set up for all the youth. Please see me (Little Brenda) for information.

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 are the future of our church . . . without them there would be no future!

— Brenda Newpher



Wednesday, May 25<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm at the Mt. Olive shelter will be a Baby Shower for Cecilia Hernandez-Rojas. The shower will be sponsored by the Olive Branches (youth/children) and the by the Olive Oyls (women of the church). It will be a diaper shower, but all gifts will be appreciated.

The Mt. Olive congregation and the Relief congregation are invited. This will be Cecilia's third child. Come and have a fun time celebrating with Cecilia, her family and all of us. And, the baby is a BOY!!

—Cleo Manspile



### Missions 2018:

1. We are supporting our Child of Compassion monthly.
2. We are supporting C-CAP quarterly.
3. We are suppling Bright Future with twenty Paw Packs monthly.
4. We have two food boxes available monthly for anyone who has a (friend, neighbor, etc.) who may need help
5. We have sent our yearly, monetary support to Mark Stransky. Mark Stransky is the missionary our church supports. His ministry is Project Cross Roads in Marion, VA.

### **THIS MONTH WE WILL BEGIN TO COLLECT FOOD FOR CONFERENCE.**

—Angie Cuccio



### STAGE LEFT BAND

#### MAY

Sunday, May 20<sup>th</sup>

Worship at Mt. Olive

Saturday, May 26<sup>th</sup>

Mt. View UMC — Chicken BBQ at Back Creek Ruritan Club

4:00–6:00 pm — 139 Richards Lane, Star Tannery, VA.

#### JUNE

Saturday, June 9<sup>th</sup>

Pastor Victor's Farewell Party at Lake Holiday Clubhouse

Sunday, June 10<sup>th</sup> — Worship at Mt. Olive or Relief UMC

Sunday, June 10<sup>th</sup> — Greenwood UMC (Unger, WV) Homecoming at 2:30 pm

Sunday, June 17<sup>th</sup> — Worship at Mt. Olive



#### MAY

Wednesday, May 9<sup>th</sup>

Youth Group 6:30 pm, Malt Shop, Discussion (MO)

#### JUNE

Saturday, June 9<sup>th</sup>

Celebration at Lake Holiday — Bring food!

Wednesday, June 13<sup>th</sup>

Youth Group at 6:30 pm (MO)

Saturday, June 23<sup>rd</sup>

Car Wash at First Bank on Valley Ave. 1:00–3:00 pm

TBD Isaiah 58 Project — Golf

Tournament (More info to follow)

#### JULY

Friday–Saturday, July 6<sup>th</sup>–7<sup>th</sup>

Disciples on Deck in lieu of VBS (2 days, one night)

Monday–Friday, July 23<sup>rd</sup>–27<sup>th</sup>

Tangier Island Trip

**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> |
|------|-------------|----------------|-----------------|
| 3/25 | 12          | 57             | \$ 2,500        |
| 4/01 | —           | —              | \$ 502          |
| 4/08 | 12          | 44             | \$ 1,877        |
| 4/15 | —           | <u>53</u>      | <u>\$ 2,133</u> |
| Avg. | 12          | 51             | \$ 1,753        |

Also received:

|                         |        |
|-------------------------|--------|
| C-CAP                   | \$ 30  |
| Easter Breakfast        | \$ 398 |
| Outreach                | \$ 420 |
| Shelter/Fellowship Hall | \$ 345 |



**Treasurer Report**

**TREASURER'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](mailto:elwand@verizon.net)



- 5/03 Kelly Boyd
- 5/03 Nicholas Eaton
- 5/03 Matthew Sipe
- 5/09 Becky Goldsmith
- 5/10 Gracie Boyd
- 5/15 Trudy Fletcher
- 5/15 Alexandra Snapp
- 5/15 John Snapp
- 5/15 Brittney Wisecarver
- 5/16 Jimmy Chumley
- 5/17 Scott Keeler
- 5/19 Dakota Luttrell
- 5/19 John Omps
- 5/19 Nat Painter
- 5/19 Mildred Simpson
- 5/20 Phillip Ginn
- 5/21 John Hawse



- 5/08 Rick & Lisa Turk
- 5/13 Clayton & Doris Hardy
- 5/17 Victor & Heather Gomez
- 5/18 Aaron & Linda Michael
- 5/20 Ernie & Sheryl Campbell, II
- 5/25 Sam & Debbie Fauble

**MAY LAYREADER**

James Douglas

LAYREADERS: We need Layreaders for June thru December. Please take the time to sign-up.



## **MAY SPOTLIGHT**

Last month, during the visit with Our Family, the group colored Easter Baskets and filled them to take home. Also, they were treated to Easter Brownies, as well as spring coloring sheets and word searches. For May, they will be making trays for Mother's Day. Plans are under way for a craft in June with a Father's Day theme, and possibly providing lunch for the group.

The Outreach emphasis for May is Conference Kits. This year the need is for Health Kits. These kits are distributed by UMCOR wherever they are needed around the world. Relief Supply Kits help provide care for the most vulnerable people during times of crisis. UMCOR collects six types of kits for global distribution and cleaning buckets for US distribution after storms.

Kits help sustain everyday life for people who lack ready access to essential supplies. They provide vital support for UMCOR's global development work and make a tangible difference in people's lives. With all the disasters in the world, health kits are the major need. These kits help those who have suffered loss due to wars, tornadoes, floods, earthquakes, and fires.

We will be collecting items or kits thru June 3<sup>rd</sup>. All items need to be put on the front pew of the Sanctuary. If you don't want to purchase items for a kit, you can donate the money for items and the Outreach Committee will purchase them. If you want to give by check, make it payable to Relief UMC.

Each health kit has a value of \$12, plus \$1 for shipping for each kit and \$1 for the purchase of toothpaste (since toothpaste has an expiration date, this is purchased when needed). If you have questions, please contact me.

Hygiene Kit Value: \$12.00 per kit Hygiene Kit Materials

- 1 Hand towel  
15 x25 inches to 17 x 27 inches, no Kitchen, cleaning, and microfiber towels not acceptable
- 1 Washcloth
- 1 Toothbrush--Adult size only—Do not remove from original packaging
- 6 Adhesive bandages—¾ to 1 inch size--Common household Band-Aids
- 1 Bath size soap—3 oz. and larger sizes only—No Ivory or Jergens soap due to moisture content  
Do not remove from original packaging
- 1 Comb — Comb needs to be sturdy and longer than 6 inches long—No pocket combs or picks please  
Rattail combs and combs without handle are acceptable with a minimum of 6 inches of teeth
- 1 Metal nail file or nail clippers—No emery boards, please
- 1 plastic bag One gallon size sealable bag only
- \$1.00 to purchase toothpaste

### Assembly Directions

Set the \$1.00 for toothpaste aside to be included in a separate envelope. Lay out the hand towel flat on a table. Lay the washcloth flat in the center of the hand towel. Place all remaining items on top of the washcloth. Fold over the sides of the hand towel to cover all of the items. Fold over one end of the hand towel so that it covers all of the items. Grasp the bundle of items tightly roll over the remainder of the hand towel tightly. Place the tightly rolled bundle in the plastic bag. Remove as much air as possible and seal the bag.

### Important Notice

- All items must be new.
- Do not wash any of the items as they will be considered used.
- Please remove all packaging, unless otherwise specified above.
- All emergency kits are carefully planned to make them usable in the greatest number of situations. Due to the fact that strict rules often govern product entry into international countries, it is important that kits contain only the requested items.

### NOTHING MORE.

- DO NOT include any personal notes, money, or additional material in the kits. These things must be painstakingly removed and will delay the shipment.
- UMCOR is now purchasing toothpaste in bulk to be added to health kits before shipping to ensure that the product does not expire before they are sent.

Do not put single dollar bills in each kit. Collect all monies for toothpaste and shipping place it in a separate envelope and send along with the kit donations.

After the June 3<sup>rd</sup> deadline, any items needed to complete the kits will be purchased. The kits will be assembled, and boxed, and ready to send with our Pastor or Natalie McGeachy, our Charge Delegate to Conference. A check for the toothpaste and shipping will be sent to the Conference treasurer. Thank you for your continued support of this project.

We are still collecting eyeglasses and hearing aids. There is a box in the office at the back of the Sanctuary for Lion's Club eye glasses and hearing aids. Also items for C-CAP can be put in the box in the back of the Sanctuary.

Pastor Victor and each person attending Annual Conference is asked to bring "4 cans for Conference". In the past 10,000 pounds of food has been collected for the area food bank. If you would like to donate any canned food please leave them on the front pew of the Sanctuary as well. Items requested are: cans of fruit, vegetables, meat, fish, soup, stew, at least one pop-top can. Also dry or staple goods, such as peanut butter, jelly, cereal, and rice or juice boxes will be accepted. No home-canned items, no expired dated food, or glass jars can be accepted. Also, if you have any re-useable tote bags, these will be appreciated also.

A special thanks for all the Outreach support.

*Elwanda Luttrell*  
Chair Mission/Outreach  
(540) 869-7198  
[elwand@verizon.net](mailto:elwand@verizon.net)

***THOUGHT:*** *There is nothing in a caterpillar that tells you it's going to be a butterfly.*

*—Richard B. Fuller*

## UPCOMING EVENT RELIEF UNITED METHODIST CHURCH — YARD SALE

The annual Relief Yard Sale will be held on Friday and Saturday, June 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup>, 2018. The event will be held, rain or shine, from 8:00 am to 3:00 pm each day. Breakfast and lunch will be served.

The Yard Sale will be held at:  
Relief United Methodist Church  
5275 Middle Road  
Winchester, VA 22602

Proceeds from the Yard Sale will be used to support the Maintenance Fund of Relief UMC

**\*\*\*PLEASE SAVE YOUR YARD SALE  
ITEMS FOR THE YARD SALE\*\*\***

Yard sale items may be delivered to the basement, Relief UMC beginning Sunday, May 27<sup>th</sup>, 2017. The donation of used groceries bags/boxes would also be beneficial.

—Submitted by Events Committee  
Relief UMC

### And Grandma's too...

While we honor all our mothers  
with words of love and praise.

While we tell about their  
goodness  
and their kind and loving ways.

We should also think  
of Grandma,  
she's a mother too, you see....

For she mothered my  
dear mother  
as my mother mothers me.

—Author Unknown



### Don't forget Scrapbooking!!

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

May 11  
September 21  
October 12

No scrapbooking in June, July or August.  
The time is 6:00 pm to 11:00 pm.  
Dinner is at 7:00 pm.  
Hope to see you there!



We thank you and everyone for the most appreciated cards. This is a reminder there are still some wonderful people in this world which do care. It has always been a great pleasure to us receiving the Sunshine Cards. Thanks very much.

—Irmgard and James Dick

## **Mothers Prayer**

~Anon

I said a Mother's Day prayer for you  
To thank The Lord above  
For blessing me with a lifetime  
Of your tenderhearted love.

I thanked God for the caring  
You've shown me through the years,  
For the closeness we've enjoyed  
In time of laughter and of tears.

And so I thank you from the heart  
For all you've done for me  
And I bless The Lord for giving me  
The best mother there could be!

**THOUGHT:** *No matter how old a mother is, she watches her middle-aged children for signs of improvement.*

—Florida Scott-Maxwell



The deadline for our June 2018 Neighborhood Gathering Newsletter is Friday, May 25<sup>th</sup>. The June Newsletter will be available Sunday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>.

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](mailto: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](http://www.mtoliveumc.org)  
Facebook: Mount Olive UMC  
Email: [VictorGomez@vaumc.org](mailto:VictorGomez@vaumc.org)

**Rev. Dr. Victor Gómez**

**Cell Phone:** 1-202-285-5767

### **Relief Mailing address:**

5275 Middle Road  
Winchester, VA 22602-2788  
Relief UMC: (540) 869-5775  
Website: [Reliefumc.com](http://Reliefumc.com)  
Email: [VictorGomez@vaumc.org](mailto:VictorGomez@vaumc.org)

**Rev. Dr. Victor Gómez**

**Cell Phone:** 1-202-285-5767



If you have new information on your current address, phone, email, children in college, etc., please let me know.

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](mailto:amitch@shentel.net). Thank you for helping to keep our data current!