

Melissa Micham, Lead Pastor

Becky Cress, Director of Children, Youth and
Family Ministries

Shannon Walker, Director of Operations

Jill Hepner, Membership + Ministry Coordinator

Sara Martin, Communications Specialist

Office Hours: Mon.-Thurs., 8 AM – 4:30 PM
Fri., 8 AM - 1 PM

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OLIVE BRANCH

The twice-monthly newsletter of

Olivet Lutheran Church

5840 Monroe St.

Sylvania, Ohio 43560

December 7-14, 2025

SPIRITUAL FORMATION

Sunday School Classes

Adults. 10:10 AM | Teen Room

Children. 10:10 AM | Spark Room/Clubhouse

No children's Sunday School on 12/28

Teens. (1st & 3rd Sundays) 10:10 AM | Adult Ed Rm

Women's Bible Study

Mondays at 9:30 AM | Teen Room

The Women's Bible Study just completed their exploration of Galatians and will now take a look at some of the major themes of Advent. You are invited to join us on December 8, and 15. We will resume again on January 5.

Guys 'n Gospel

Tuesdays, 7-8 AM | Panera on Central Ave.

Tuesday Table Talks

January 13 | 6-8 PM | Christian Life Center

Light meal served and childcare available.

Register at olivetsylvania.org/ttt

Holy Pepperoni

Wednesdays, 5:30-7 PM

Jo-Jo's Pizza (5614 Mayberry Square)

A Bible study for working adults; first pitcher and pizza provided.

Note: no gathering December 24 or 31

Body Shop

12-2 PM | Teen Room | December 7

YOUTH & YOUNG ADULTS

CHRISTMAS PARTY

Friday, December 19 | 6-9 PM

Deck the...Teen Room?? High schoolers in grades 8-12 and young adults are cordially invited to a Christmas Party on Friday, December 19 from 6-8pm. There will be food! Fun! Festivities! Bring an item (up to \$15) to participate in a white elephant gift exchange. RSVP to Becky to be included in dinner. 'Tis the season to be jolly!

OLIVET'S NEXT DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS HIRED!

Olivet's HR Team is excited to announce that Amie McGee has been hired as Olivet's next Director of Operations! With more than 20 years of operations experience, Amie has spent her career improving systems, supporting teams, and helping keep behind-the-scenes operations running smoothly. Amie began training with Shannon Walker on December 1 and will assume the role after Shannon's last day on January 15. Welcome to Olivet, Amie!

LAST DAY FOR GIVING TREES IS SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7

Be sure to check out the paper ornaments on Olivet's 3 "Giving Trees" in each lobby after worship on December 7. Each ornament lists an item on someone's wish list that we are sponsoring through Sylvania Area Family Services and Redeemer Lutheran Church. Take one (or a few) ornaments, purchase the requested items, then *return them wrapped with ornament attached (gift cards do not need to be wrapped)* to the church office **by December 14**. Thank you for helping to brighten Christmas for local families this holiday season!

ACCESSIBILITY TEAM MEETING

December 8 at 7 PM | Teen Room

Join us as we plan for the coming year!

YOUTH & FAMILY SUPPORT MINISTRY

Want to be part of planning for Olivet's children and family ministries? The Youth & Family Support Ministry will hold its next meeting on **Wed, Dec 10 at 6 PM**. Please join us!

OLIVET ADVENT MUSICAL PERFORMANCES *Christmas Handbell Concert*

Sunday, December 14 | 7 PM | sanctuary

Choir Christmas Cantata

Sunday, December 21 | 10 AM in the sanctuary
(kids 3 years - 5th grade are invited downstairs for some holiday fun following Kids of the Kingdom while grown-ups enjoy the cantata!)

ANNUAL REPORT ARTICLES DUE DEC. 19

As the end of the year approaches, it's time to start compiling the 2025 Annual Report. The deadline for ministry leaders to submit their articles for the report is **Friday, December 19**. Please email articles to Sara Martin at communications@olivetsylvania.org.

PASTOR LEE ANN POMRENKE'S 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF ORDINATION

Sun, Dec 21 after 10 AM service | atrium

Please join us after the 10 AM Christmas cantata for a celebration of Pastor Lee Ann's service in rostered ministry!

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

4 PM Family Service – Christian Life Center
Perfect for children and those young at heart!
Participate in an interactive, kid-friendly worship service as we celebrate Christ coming near.

7 PM – sanctuary |

9 PM – sanctuary (live-streamed)

ANNUAL MEETING & WORSHIP

SAVE-THE-DATE: Sunday, January 25

Members will be voting on a revised church constitution. Hard copies will be available in the main office.

400 MEALS SERVED DURING DAILY BREAD'S THANKSGIVING FEAST

On Wednesday, November 19, 400 Thanksgiving feasts were served to those in our community. A HUGE thank you to everyone who donated food and who volunteered their time to help during the meal!!

HOPE FOR THE HOLIDAYS CARDS COLLECTED

Women at Olivet participated in a project called Hope for the Holidays. Global Refuge invited congregations to write Christmas cards to immigrants and refugees who are in need of hope and encouragement. 350 cards were sent to Global Refuge to be distributed to those seeking safety in the US. Thanks to all who participated!

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD UPDATE

Thank you to those who packed and donated shoe boxes for Operation Christmas Child! This year, we collected 46 boxes. - *Deb Shock*

HYGIENE KITS FOR SALEM LUTHERAN

Many hands make light work! (Or so the saying goes.) A big thank-you goes out to the ladies of the Monday Women's Bible study for assembling 296 hygiene kits for Salem Lutheran Church. The kits were funded by two Thrivent grants.

Sunday	7	9:00 AM	Traditional Worship-Sanctuary
		10:10 AM	Spark/Club345
		10:10 AM	Adult Bible Study-TR
		10:10 AM	HS Sunday School-AE
		11:00 AM	Vine Contemp. Worship-CLC
Monday	8	12:00 PM	Body Shop-TR
		9-2:00 PM	Food Pantry
		9:30 AM	Ladies Bible Study-TR
		11:00 AM	Chair Yoga
		1:00 PM	Prayer Shawl-Atrium
Tuesday	9	7:00 AM	Men's Bible Study-Panera
		9:30 AM	Quilting-CLC
		11:30-3:00	Office Closed
		12:00 PM	Finance Team-Library
		5:30-9:00	Rejoice/Jubilee Bells-Sanc.
Wednesday	10	9-2:00	Food Pantry
		9:30 AM	Memorial Team-AE
		9:30 AM	Welcome Team-Atrium
		1-2:30 PM	Food Distribution-Drive Thru
		5:00 PM	Daily Bread-Drive Thru
Thursday	11	5:30 PM	Holy Pepperoni-JoJo's Pizza
		7:00 PM	Choir Rehearsal
		7:00 PM	Euchre-TR
		Friday 12	10:00 AM
		Sunday 14	9:00 AM
Friday	14	Giving Tree	Traditional Worship-Sanctuary
		10:10 AM	Adult Bible Study-TR
		Gifts Due	10:10 AM
			Spark/Club345
		11:00 AM	Vine Contemp. Worship-CLC
Monday	15	7:00 PM	Handbell Concert-Sanctuary
		9-2:00 PM	Food Pantry
		9:30 AM	Ladies Bible Study-TR
		11:00 AM	Chair Yoga
		7:00 AM	Men's Bible Study-Panera
Tuesday	16	9:30 AM	Quilting-CLC
			No Rejoice/Jubilee Bells-Sanc.
		6:30 PM	Holey Knitters-TR
		7:00 PM	Bookworms-Janet's house
		9-2:00 PM	Food Pantry
Wednesday	17	11:00 AM	OCNS Christmas Prog-Sanc.
		1-2:30 PM	Food Distribution-Drive Thru
		5:00 PM	Daily Bread-Drive Thru
		5:30 PM	Holy Pepperoni-JoJo's Pizza
		7:00 PM	Choir Rehearsal
Thursday	18	11:00 AM	OCNS Christmas Prog-Sanc.
		7:00 PM	Council-AE
		Friday 19	6:00 PM
		Saturday 20	10:00 AM
			Cantata Practice-Sanc.

Offerings needed in December to attain our goal:
\$135,000