

**Melissa Micham**, Lead Pastor

**Becky Cress**, Director of Children, Youth and  
Family Ministries

**Amie McGee**, 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

419-882-2077 | [www.olivetsylvania.org](http://www.olivetsylvania.org)

# OLIVE BRANCH

*The twice-monthly newsletter of*

**Olivet Lutheran Church**

5840 Monroe St.

Sylvania, Ohio 43560

## January 18-25, 2026

### SPIRITUAL FORMATION

#### Sunday School Classes

*No Sunday School January 25*

**Adults.** 10:10 AM | Teen Room

**Children.** 10:10 AM | Spark Room/Clubhouse

#### Women's Bible Study

Mondays at 9:30 AM | Teen Room

#### Guys 'n Gospel

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

#### Tuesday Table Talks

February 10 | 6-8 PM | Teen room

Light meal served and childcare available.

Register at [olivetsylvania.org/ttt](http://olivetsylvania.org/ttt)

#### Holy Pepperoni

No gathering 1/21.

#### Body Shop

Classes: February 1 & 22, 12-2 PM - Teen Rm

Body Shop Parents' Group: Feb 1, 12:30-2 PM  
(location TBD)

Winter Retreat: February 6-8 (Friday-Sunday) at  
YMCA Storer Camps (Jackson, MI)

### MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY LOCK-IN Sunday, January 18

Body Shop and high school students are invited to attend the MLK Event at Glenwood Lutheran Church this Sunday, January 18 at 3 PM. Attend as a family or drop your child off for a ride at Olivet at 2:30pm. Please RSVP to Becky ASAP (419-464-2964). Come and worship, hear beautiful gospel music and enjoy some soul food as we commemorate Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s life and work.

Directly following the MLK Event, there will be a lock-in at Olivet for kids in grades 8-12. Youth will play games, watch a movie, and enjoy the company of their peers. Friends are welcome! Pickup is ~ 2 PM on Monday. Please RSVP to Becky (and let her know if friends are coming).

### OLIVET UPDATE: CALL PROCESS & VISION FORWARD INFORMATION SESSION

#### **Sun, Jan 18 after 9 AM service | sanctuary**

As outlined in the letter that was sent out in December, Olivet is moving forward with the new leadership model which includes calling a second full-time pastor. The Associate Pastor position is posted, and interviews will begin once candidates are identified.

At the same time, we continue to face significant financial pressures as we work toward this goal, making this a pivotal moment in our life together.

We believe God is calling Olivet to deepen our outward focus and grow ministries that take root in the neighborhood and serve the next generation. To learn more, please join the remaining information session on Sunday, January 18 after the 9 AM service in the sanctuary.

### WORSHIP & ANNUAL MEETING

**On Sunday, January 25** we will hold our 112<sup>th</sup> annual congregational meeting at 10 AM in the Christian Life Center. The meeting will be conducted during a worship service of Word and Holy Communion. The business of the congregation includes:

- Financial review and act
- Discuss and act on 2026 annual operating budget
- Elect members of the council and trustees to the Garden of Peace
- Vote on updated revisions to the Constitution

The entire service and meeting should last approximately 90 minutes. Childcare will be available in the nursery and our "kids of the kingdom" may gather in the atrium for a movie. Coffee/refreshments will be available beginning at 9:30. After the annual meeting, stick around for ice cream sundaes and a chili cookoff!

**CHILI'N ON A SUNDAE AFTERNOON  
MEET & GREET:  
AN INTERGENERATIONAL EVENT  
Sunday, January 25, 2026**

Following worship and the annual meeting, stick around for ice cream sundaes and a chili cook-off! Plain spaghetti will be available for youth. Free will offering to benefit the Family Ministries Support Team.

**YOUNG ADULTS CONNECT**

Young Adults Connect is a new monthly gathering for young adults (18-35) at Sylvania Diner after the Vine service. We will meet on the first Sunday of the month (except Easter) from 12:30 to 2 PM for fellowship and conversation. Please note that attendees will purchase their own meals for this event. **Dates: 2/1, 3/1, 4/12, and 5/3.** RSVP to Sasha Franklin at 419-279-5451.

**SAVE THE DATE: WOMEN'S RETREAT**

**March 7-8 | Country Inn & Suites, Findlay OH**

Women of all ages are invited to Olivet's annual women's retreat! This year, our six-session Bible study is "Listen, Love, Repeat" by Karen Ehman. In this DVD study, we will rediscover the JOY that comes from putting others first. We will learn practical, creative ways to scatter kindness to family and friends and our community.

The cost is \$125 per person which includes an overnight stay at the Country Inn and Suites of Findlay, Ohio, lunch Saturday afternoon, meeting room, and materials. If you are sharing a room, the cost is \$62.50.

Plan on attending this little getaway as we study God's word about loving one another and learn to navigate a self-centered world. Invite a family member, a friend, or a co-worker to this fun-filled weekend. A sign-up sheet is available in the church office or contact Jan Kirk to RSVP (419-367-4754).

**SHANNON WALKER RETIRES**

After 23 years of faithful service, we celebrate the retirement of our beloved Director of Operations, Shannon Walker. Through steady leadership, dedication, and countless behind-the-scenes contributions, her work has helped strengthen the daily ministry and mission of our church. We are deeply grateful for the many ways she has serviced our congregation and community, and we wish her a well-earned retirement filled with joy, peace, and God's blessings.

**Food Distribution**

Please drop off donations by 10am Wednesday Week of 1/18 – **Cheese** | Week of 1/25 – **Butter**

**JANUARY - FEBRUARY**

Sunday	18	<b>9:00 AM</b>	<b>Traditional Worship   Sanc</b>
		10:15 AM	Adult Bible Study   TR
		10:15 AM	Spark   Club 345
		10:15 AM	Budget Info Session-Sanc
		<b>11:00 AM</b>	<b>Vine Worship   CLC</b>
Monday	19	3:00 PM	MLK Service at Glenwood   MLK
			Day HS Lock-in at Olivet
		9:30 AM	Women's Bible Study   TR
		11:00 AM	Chair Yoga   CLC
		12-2 PM	Food Pantry
Tuesday	20	7-8 am	Guys' n Gospel   Panera
		9:30-11 am	Quilters
		11:00 AM	Equity Art Team   AE
		5:30-9 PM	Handbells   Sanc.
		6:30 PM	Holy Knitters   AE
Wed	21	7:00 PM	Vine Band   CLC
		12-2 PM	Food Pantry
		1-2:30	Produce
		5-5:45	Daily Bread
		7:00 PM	Choir
Thursday	22		
Friday	23	10:00 AM	Global Ministry   TR
		12:00- 6 PM	Blood Drive   CLC
Saturday	24		
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>10:00 AM</b>	<b>Worship, Annual Meeting   CLC</b>
		11:30 PM	Chill'n on Sundae Afternoon
Monday	26	9:30 AM	Women's Bible Study   TR
		11:00 AM	Chair Yoga   CLC
		12-2 PM	Food Pantry
Tuesday	27	7-8 am	Guys' n Gospel   Panera
		9:30-11 AM	Quilters
		5:30-9 PM	Handbells
		7:00 PM	Vine Band   CLC
Wed	28	9-12:00	Food Pantry
		1-2:30 PM	Produce
		5-5:45 PM	Daily Bread
		6-7:00 PM	Bible Study   Weber Chapel
		7:00 PM	Choir

**HELP KEEP OUR CONGREGATION HEALTHY**

If you're feeling sick or were recently exposed to illness, we kindly ask that you stay home or mask until you're well. Simple steps like washing hands often, covering coughs and sneezes, and giving others a bit of space help keep our congregation healthy.

**BLOOD DRIVE**

**Friday, January 23 | 12-6 PM  
Christian Life Center**

To register call 1-800-RED-CROSS or visit  
redcrossblood.org and use keyword OLIVETLUTH.