

Rev. 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

Summer Office Hours: Mon.-Thurs., 8:30 AM – 2:30 PM
Fri., 8 AM - 1 PM

419-882-2077 | www.olivetsylvania.org

OLIVE BRANCH

The twice-monthly newsletter of

Olivet Lutheran Church

5840 Monroe St.

Sylvania, Ohio 43560

June 21-28, 2026

SPIRITUAL FORMATION

Women's Bible Study

Meets monthly at 9:30 AM during summer:

July 20: Donna Mens' house
(4438 Vicksburg Dr. in Sylvania)

August 24

Tuesday Table Talks

July 14 | 6-8 PM | Harroun Community Park

Scripture & Salsa: Summer Spiritual Practice

Thursdays, June 25 & July 2

Olivet Garden of Peace/Weber Chapel

4 PM bible study | **4:45 PM** prayer practice

5:15-6:30 PM El Salto

HIGH SCHOOL FUN: MINI GOLF & ICE CREAM

Friday, June 26 | 6-8 PM

For students entering 8th grade – students finishing 12th. High schoolers and their friends are invited to enjoy an evening together at Quarry Ridge Golf Center and Mayberry Ice Cream! Meet Becky at Quarry Ridge (6081 Clark Rd, Ottawa Lake, MI 49267) to play a round, then travel to Mayberry Square for some sweet treats. Please RSVP to Becky (rcress@olivetsylvania.org).

OHIO SUMMER YOUTH RETREAT

June 28 - July 1 | Hopewood Pines

This retreat is for youth entering grades 6-12. The 2026 theme, "Choose Love," is based on 1 John 4:19: "We love because He first loved us." During our retreat we will learn what it means to love God, love ourselves, love each other, and love our world. The cost to attend is \$150. Becky plans to chaperone; contact her for more info and to sign up!

NURSERY WORKERS NEEDED

Do you love working with young children? Our church nursery is looking for a few more caring and reliable caregivers! Volunteers will serve on Sunday mornings during the 9 AM and 11 AM services, helping care for children ages 0–3. **Helpers (ages 12+)** & **Leaders (ages 16+)** must complete a Red Cross Babysitting Course or have CPR training. If interested contact Jill Hepner at membership@olivetsylvania.org.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL NEWS

Thank you to everyone who helped make VBS possible June 15-19! From our adult station leaders and helpers and our teen volunteers, to our decorations team, and to our setup & teardown teams and our amazing office staff: You were a faithful witness in the lives of our VBS kids. Thank you!!!

OLIVET MEN'S RETREAT

Join us for a one-day summer retreat for Olivet men and friends of Olivet.

When: Wednesday, June 24, 2026

Where: Linehan cottage, Pine Hill Lake, Horton, MI (~75 minutes from Olivet)

Theme: Passing It On – God's Work in Our Lives. Through conversation, we'll explore legacy, faithfulness, and the quiet ways God's work continues through us and beyond us.

Agenda:

Morning – Nine holes of golf at a nearby course (non-golfers join for lunch at club house)

Afternoon – Passing It On: God's Work in Our Lives discussion on the lake

Evening – Group cookout

Contact Mike Linehan at (614) 595-6666 or mline926@gmail.com.

HAVE YOU TAKEN OUR OLIVE BRANCH SURVEY YET?

Thank you to those who have completed our Olive Branch survey! This survey helps us ensure we are providing efficient, meaningful



communication to our congregation. To complete the survey online, visit www.olivetsylvania.org/survey or scan the QR code. Physical copies are available in the church office. Completed surveys may be turned into the church office or placed in the "Communications" mailbox outside the church office. The survey will close on June 29. Thank you for your input!

UNWANTED FIREARMS DISPOSAL EVENT EXCEEDS EXPECTATIONS

On Saturday, June 13, Monroe Street United Methodist Church hosted a community Firearm Disposal Event that far exceeded expectations. More than 50 volunteers—including 12 from Olivet—served alongside volunteers from eight other Toledo-area faith communities.

During the four-hour event, volunteers shepherded more than 60 vehicles through the drive-through disposal process. By the end of the day, 107 firearms had been safely removed from circulation—more than double the number we had projected.

Volunteers heard powerful stories from participants. Some shared that the firearms they were surrendering had been used by an adult child to die by suicide, and seeing the weapons destroyed brought a sense of closure. Others, including widows, turned in firearms they had inherited and discovered were still loaded.

Thank you to everyone who volunteered, donated, prayed, and helped spread the word. Together, we helped remove 107 firearms from circulation and offered hope, healing, and a tangible expression of God's vision for peace.

SIGN UP TO VOLUNTEER FOR THE RUMMAGE SALE!

Can you lend a hand at this year's rummage sale? Help is needed in a variety of positions before, during, and after the sale. Check out the sign-up board outside worship for a complete list of unfilled positions. **Save the dates!** On **Sunday, July 19**, Bob Mens is asking for volunteers to stay after the 10 AM service in the Christian Life Center to help clear out chairs and move instruments off the stage, then move tables, racks, and plastic bins into place to start receiving donations on July 23. Then, on **Saturday, August 1**, volunteers will be needed around noon to help reset the Christian Life Center for worship. For more details, please call or text Bob Mens at 419-410-0519.

Sale: 7/30 - 8/1 | **Donation Dates:** 7/23 - 7/26
www.olivetsylvania.org/rummage-sale

JUNE FOOD DISTRIBUTION DONATIONS

Each week, we're asking each family in the congregation to bring in a fresh food item to be given out at our Wednesday food distribution. Please deliver food to the church by 10 AM on Wednesdays. Thank you for your generosity!

Week of 6/24 eggs

Sunday	21	10 AM	Combined Worship CLC
Monday	22	12 PM	Food Pantry
Tuesday	23		
Wednesday	24		Men's Retreat Pine Hill Lake, Hort.
		12 PM	Food Pantry
		1 PM	Produce
		5 PM	Daily Bread
Thursday	25	12 PM	Food Pantry
		4 PM	Scripture & Salsa: Summer Spiritual Practice Chapel
Friday	26	6 PM	High School Mini Golf & Ice Cream Quarry Ridge Golf Co.
Saturday	27	8:30 AM	Interfaith Blood Drive Grace Lutheran Churc.
		9 AM	Olivet Weed It & Reap Team at Urban Wholistics Farms Tatum Park by SONIA.
Sunday	28		Ohio Summer Youth Retreat HopeWood Pines (Luth.
		10 AM	Combined Worship Sanc.
Monday	29	12 PM	Food Pantry
Tuesday	30		
Wednesday	1	12 PM	Food Pantry
		1 PM	Produce
		5 PM	Daily Bread
Thursday	2	12 PM	Food Pantry
		4 PM	Scripture & Salsa: Summer Spiritual Practice Chapel
Friday	3		Church office closed
Saturday	4		
Sunday	5	10 AM	Combined Worship Sanc.
Monday	6	12 PM	Food Pantry