

THE OLIVE BRANCH

LATE SEPTEMBER 2026

The twice-monthly newsletter of
Olivet Lutheran Church
Faith in Action, Love in Motion



5840 Monroe Street, Sylvania, OH 43560

419-882-2077 | www.olivetsylvania.org

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Rev. Melissa Micham Lead Pastor

Rev. Bill Pavuk Associate Pastor

Rebecca Cress Director of Children, Youth & Family Ministries

Steve Hodge Olivet Choir Director

Carol Miller Handbell Choir Director

Sarah Lewis Accompanist/Organist

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Today is Homecoming Sunday! Join us between services outside in the bell courtyard for donuts, cider, games, & live music by Bill Genson & *Hymns of Dixieland*.

What Does Scripture Say About Immigration?

October Bible Study

Thursdays, October 8, 15, 22 and 29 | Teen Room

A four-week Bible study on passages in the Old and New Testaments on the topic of immigration. This Bible study is open to everyone and free to attend. No RSVP required.

Thursday Table Talks

This fall, **Table Talks** begin a new rhythm. We'll gather the first Thursday of every month, from 6 to 8 PM in the Teen Room for evenings of Scripture, conversation, and a warm meal. Whether you've attended Table Talks for years or have never joined us before, this is a great time to jump in.

October 1: Living on the Sermon on the Mount. *Discovering what it means to put Jesus' most challenging teachings into practice in our everyday lives.*

November 5: The Bible's Most Misunderstood Stories. *Uncovering surprising insights and new meaning in some of Scripture's most familiar passages.*

YOUTH & FAMILIES

2027 ELCA Youth & Young Adult Gatherings Prep Sessions

Sundays, September 20, October 25, & November 15 | 6:30-8 PM | Teen Room

All youth (grades 8-12) and young adults (ages 18-25) are invited to participate in **Getting Ready Sessions**. These sessions are intended to include ALL of our high school youth and young adults, both those preparing to attend the 2027 Gatherings AND those who choose other activities next summer. We will play games, build community, dig into God's Word, and pray together.

BY THE NUMBERS

FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT as of 9/11

January- August Giving: \$458,253
(Budget \$512,694)

September Giving Goal: \$61,425

September Giving Month-to-Date: \$9,097

ATTENDANCE

August 30:

151
10 AM

September 6:

127
10 AM

CALENDAR | LATE SEPTEMBER 2026

Worship Services Schedule

9 AM (traditional) sanctuary & **11 AM** (contemporary) Christian Life Center

UPCOMING EVENTS

MON, SEP 14	Women's Bible Study Teen Room 9:30-11 AM <i>Cathy & Steve Sanderson will share about their trip to Mexico. All Olivet members are invited to attend.</i>
SUN, SEP 20	Children's Sunday School begins Spark Room & Clubhouse 10:10 AM Body Shop Teen Room 12-2 PM
MON, SEP 21	Women's Bible Study Teen Room 9:30-11 AM <i>Becky Seibert will present latest news from our companion church in Tanzania. All Olivet members are invited to attend.</i>
SUN, SEP 27	Breakfast Church Salem Lutheran 9 AM <i>Contact Amy Dixon for more info amydixon436@gmail.com</i> Body Shop Teen Room 12-2 PM
THU, OCT 1	Thursday Table Talks Teen Room 6-8 PM <i>Register at www.olivetsylvania.org/ttt or call 419-882-2077</i>
SAT, OCT 3	Fall Outdoor Cleanup Meet outside church office doors 9-11 AM
SUN, OCT 4	Quilts Blessing – Quilting Ministry both worship services Blessing of the Animals Olivet front lawn 4-4:30 PM Confirmation Prep Teen Room 6:30-8 PM

For full details and RSVP info, see this Friday's Weekly Word email or www.olivetsylvania.org/calendar



Stay in the loop with Olivet's **Weekly Word email!**

Sign up to receive devotional + announcement emails right to your inbox each week. Scan the QR code or call the church office to get started!

OLIVET LUTHERAN CHURCH OFFICE STAFF

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WE REMEMBER IN PRAYER | LATE SEPTEMBER 2026

Those hospitalized or anticipating tests/procedures: Chuck Cook

Those grieving: Sue Meyer, Megan Foos, Lesley Snyder & family at the death of Terry Meyer on Sept. 10. Max & Linda Hoetzel, Bill & Nancy Hamilton and Larry Sass at the death of their sister, Jan Sass, on Aug. 22.

Members who have requested prayers because of illness or recovery from injury or surgery: Heidi Lohrmann, Linda Lewin, Sue Hamen, Mike Vince, Donna Reynolds, Doug Lyon, JoAnn Bell, Jim Rentner, Joyce Barger, Wesley Frazier, Bob & Pat Sheets, Martha Kupsky, Kelly Cipiti, Steve Hodge, Mary Glover, Brian Hart, Eric Adams, Pastor Nate Tuff & Kim Nielsen.

Those in assisted living, extended care, or rehabilitation: Bob & Pat Sheets and Naomi Loose at Otterbein Sunset Village; Doris Fry and Arlene Holtfreter at Oakleaf Village; Fred Heintz at The Waterford at Levis Commons; Billie Iles at Mill Manor, Vermillion, OH; Mae Kyser at Genacross, Wolf Creek Campus; Marjorie Lay at The Lakes of Sylvania; Matthew Wesley at Northwest Ohio Developmental Center.

Members at home in our care: Bonnie Ahrendt, Mary Carl, Hilda Hawk, Betty Moore, Marcia Morrison, Larry Sass, Marv Stephenson, Marge Warnock.

Family & friends for whom prayers have been requested: Angie O'Brien, Walter Lewin, Beccy Lamley, Anna Dykstra-Smith, Claude Cecire, Brian Hyland, Susan Mann, Judi Brooker, Mark Glodowski, Bob Damman, Marie Hoetzel, Craig Timm, Maureen Venus, James LaPlant, Tom Evans, Barb & Bob W., Sara & Chris, Jan Kistner, Ukrainian people & leaders, the family of Rita Kerstiens, Scott Reynolds, Heather Taberner, Garrett.

Those in the military: Christopher Adams, Kurt Budde, Tanner Eggers, Jarrod Konz, Jeremy Reynolds, Sarah Reynolds, Michaela Reynolds, and Alana Tumbush.

Our bishops: Northwestern Ohio Synod Bishop Daniel Beaudoin and ELCA Bishop Yehiel Curry.

Olivet's local mission partners and international missionaries: Salem Lutheran Church; Redeemer Lutheran Church; Rev. Dr. David (and Alicia) Brondos of Augsburg Theological Seminary in Mexico City.

Olivet's companion churches: Dodoma Diocese of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Tanzania & our companion congregation, Lwihomelo; Slovak Evangelical Church of the Augsburg Confession in Vojvodina, Serbia; Iglesia Luterana Mexicana (Mexican Lutheran Church).