THE OLIVE BRANCH

EARLY NOVEMBER 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

Follow **@olivetsylvania** online!

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

Reminder: Quilt Raffle. Tickets are available today & next Sunday, November 8, to support the Olivet Quilters and Lutheran World Relief.

Community Outreach Endowment Funding Success

Congratulations!! Friends and members of Olivet Lutheran Church, we **surpassed** our goal to fund Olivet's Outreach Ministry Endowment. A $20,000 matching grant was announced this spring. Over the following months, **44 households** contributed an additional **$36,935**, increasing the total value of the endowment—managed by Greater Toledo Community Foundation—to **over $120,000**. Well done, good and faithful servants!

With the principal of the endowment fund over $100,000, we may now use the fund's income to support our Global and Community Mission Emphasis Team projects—indefinitely!! Ongoing gifts to the endowment are welcome to increase the value of the fund and therefore the projects we can support.

Thank you for participating in the vision to further enable both our community and global outreach ministries!

YOUTH & FAMILIES

Bible Workshop: Monday, November 9 | 6:30-8 PM | clubhouse & atrium

All children in grades 3-5 are invited! The workshop changes every year, so students who have attended before are encouraged to join us again.

Parents are welcome to stay during the workshop for conversation with Becky Cress (Director of Children, Youth & Family Ministries) about how to incorporate the Bible into family life at home. Both kids and parents should bring their Bibles!

Please RSVP to Becky at rcress@olivetsylvania.org or 419-882-2077.

Sunday, November 15 | 6:30-8 PM | Teen Room

All high school students are invited to gather to strengthen community, grow in faith, and have fun together! While those who are contemplating attending the 2027 ELCA Youth Gathering in Minneapolis are *strongly encouraged* to attend this event, ALL high school students and eighth graders are welcome and will benefit from this time.

BY THE NUMBERS

FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT as of 10/30

January- September Giving: $507,994
(budget $574,119; deficit -$66,125)

October Giving Goal: $71,253

October MTD: $59,375

ATTENDANCE

October 18:	**October 25:**
9 AM - 130	**9 AM** - 192
11 AM - 40	**11 AM** - 44

CALENDAR | EARLY NOVEMBER 2026

WORSHIP

Sunday, November 29: First Sunday of Advent.
One worship service at 10 AM (sanctuary). Advent Festival for ALL to follow.

Thursday, December 3: Advent by Candlelight
7 PM (sanctuary) | ladies' tea to follow (Christian Life Center)

FAITH FORMATION

SUNDAY: **Children's Sunday School** - 10:10 AM. Spark Room & Clubhouse.
Adult Sunday School - 10:10 AM. Teen Room.

MONDAY: **Women's Bible Study** - 9:30-11 AM. Teen Room.

TUESDAY: **Guys 'n' Gospel** - 7-8 AM. Panera Bread (7115 Central Ave.)

UPCOMING EVENTS

MON, NOV 2	**Accessibility Team Meeting** Teen Room | 7-8 PM
THU, NOV 5	**Thursday Table Talks** Teen Room | 6-8 PM | *Theme: The Bible's Most Misunderstood Stories* | *register at www.olivetsylvania.org/ttt*
SUN, NOV 8	**Body Shop** Teen Room | 12-2 PM
MON, NOV 9	**Prayer Shawl Ministry** atrium | 1-2:30 PM **Bible Workshop** clubhouse & atrium | 6:30-8 PM
TUE, NOV 10	**Bookworms** Teen Room | 2-3:30 PM
THU, NOV 12	**Euchre** Teen Room | 7-9 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

Amie McGee Director of Operations | *operations@olivetsylvania.org*
Jill Hepner Membership + Ministry Coordinator | *membership@olivetsylvania.org*
Sara Martin Communications Specialist | *communications@olivetsylvania.org*

WE REMEMBER IN PRAYER | EARLY NOVEMBER 2026

Those rejoicing: Michael & Lenna Schuster at the birth of their son, Miles, on Oct. 27. Mike Linehan & Amy Dixon whose commitment ceremony was celebrated on Oct. 10.

Those grieving: Rich & Andrea Laws at the passing of his mother, Barbara Gail Laws. Aaron & Steff Banister and family at the passing of her mom, Marge Warnock, on Oct. 15.

Members who have requested prayers because of illness or recovery from injury or surgery: Marilyn Machosky, Nan Plenzler, Jim Rentner, Brad & Kari Wilson, JoAnne Johnson, Jennifer Quackenbush, Chuck Cook, Linda Lewin, Sue Hamen, Mike Vince, JoAnn Bell, Wesley Frazier, 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 Warrensville Developmental Center; Marcia Morrison at The Lodge at Historic Lewes, Lewes, DE.

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

Family & friends for whom prayers have been requested: Olivet's food ministry guests, Margaret Schneider, Brian Schick, Diane Sonnenberg, Doug, Helen Soucek, Francis Nieman, Ryan Holz, Ben Stough, Rudy Helle, Linda Afdahl, Jim Cress, Mark Chesney, Beccy Lamley, Anna Dykstra-Smith, Claude Cecire, Susan Mann, Judi Brooker, Mark Bob Damman, Marie Hoetzl, Craig Timm, Tom Evans, Barb & Bob W., Sara & Chris, Jan Kistner, Ukrainian people & leaders, Scott Reynolds, Heather Taberner.

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

Our bishops: NWOS 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).