

THE OLIVE BRANCH

EARLY OCTOBER 2026

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



5840 Monroe Street, Sylvania, OH 43560
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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 (10/4): Blessing of the Animals! Join us out on the front lawn at 4 PM with your furry family members secured with a leash or crate.

Sylvania Connections.

Fall Festival Parade | Sunday, October 18 | 1 PM at Pacesetter Park



Olivet is participating in Sylvania's annual Fall Festival parade again this year! The parade will kick off at 1 PM at Pacesetter Park. Participants should meet at Pacesetter at 11:30. Those interested in walking with us can sign up by scanning the QR code or calling the church office. Wearing Olivet apparel is encouraged!

Halloween Hike | Saturday, October 24 | 5-7 PM at Olander Park

Olivet's Youth & Family Support Team is sponsoring a station again at Olander's Halloween Hike! Get involved by helping pass out candy or bringing your little ones to enjoy the fun. Contact Pastor Bill or Jill Hepner to volunteer. Candy donation bins will be available outside both worship spaces. Register to attend at [outdoorsylvania.com](https://www.outdoorsylvania.com).

Urban Wholistics Farms Golden Hour Gala.

Saturday, October 17 | 6-9:30 PM | Christian Life Center

Olivet is thrilled to partner with Urban Wholistics Farms and host their primary fundraiser, the Golden Hour Gala, once again. Help support the gala by assisting with setup the morning of, supervising kitchen operations during the event, or attending the gala. Tickets are available to purchase at [urbanwholistics.org](https://www.urbanwholistics.org). To volunteer, contact Mike Linehan at 614-595-6666.

YOUTH & FAMILIES: Confirmation Prep.

Meeting dates: Sun, October 4, 11, & 18 | 6:30-8 PM | Teen & Adult Ed Rooms

Please hold these young people in prayer as they prepare to affirm their baptisms: Brady Blakeman, Josie Billau, Lily Hammerling, Emily Hepner, Hayes Moran, Hudson Moran, Graeme Whitacre, and Miles Witzke. RSVP to Becky Cress (rcress@olivetsylvania.org).

BY THE NUMBERS

FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT as of 9/30

January- September Giving: \$506,304
(budget \$574,119; deficit -\$67,815)
September Giving Goal: \$61,425
September Giving Total: \$48,336

ATTENDANCE

September 20:	September 27:
9 AM - 102	9 AM - 115
11 AM - 47	11 AM - 59

CALENDAR | EARLY OCTOBER 2026

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.)

THURSDAYS in October (starting 10/8): **What Does Scripture Say About Immigration?** 6-8:30 PM. Teen Room. Four-week Bible study led by Marcus & Heidi Lohrmann.

UPCOMING EVENTS

MON, OCT 5 **Equity Team Meeting** Adult Ed Room | 5-6:30 PM
Accessibility Team Meeting Teen Room | 7-8 PM

THU, OCT 8 **Euchre** Christian Life Center | 7-9 PM

SUN, OCT 11 **Body Shop** Teen Room | 12-2 PM

MON, OCT 12 **Prayer Shawl Ministry** Atrium | 1-2:30 PM

SAT, OCT 17 **Golden Hour Gala** Christian Life Center | 6-9:30 PM

SUN, OCT 18 **Sylvania Fall Festival Parade** Pacesetter Park | meet at 11:30

SAT, OCT 24 **Halloween Hike** Olander Park | 5-7 PM

SUN, OCT 25 **Confirmation** sanctuary | 9 AM | *reception to follow in the atrium*

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 OCTOBER 2026

Those hospitalized or anticipating tests/procedures: Kari Wilson

Those grieving: Sue Meyer, Megan Foos, Lesley Snyder & family at the death of Terry Meyer on Sep. 10. Family and friends of Joyce Barger who passed away on Sep. 21. Ray & Amber Espinosa at the death of her uncle, Tom LaPlant. Jennifer Quackenbush, Roy Glodowski & family at the passing of his brother, Mark, on Sep. 27.

Members who have requested prayers because of illness or recovery from injury or surgery: Kari Wilson, Jennifer Quackenbush, Chuck Cook, Linda Lewin, Sue Hamen, Mike Vince, Donna Reynolds, JoAnn Bell, Jim Rentner, 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@Historic Lewes, Lewes, DE.

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

Family & friends for whom prayers have been requested: Olivet's food ministry guests, Linda Afdahl, Jim Cress, Mark Chesney, Angie O'brien, Walter Lewin, Beccy Lamley, Anna Dykstra-Smith, Claude Cecire, Susan Mann, Judi Brooker, Mark Bob Damman, Marie Hoetzel, Craig Timm, Tom Evans, 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: 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).