

Mount Olivet United Methodist Church
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GOOD NEWS

from MOUNT OLIVET
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



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VOLUME XLIV

February 2017

NUMBER 7

FROM THE PASTOR



I have never been the most graceful athlete. In fact after making All-Conference & Honorable Mention All-State in my senior of high school, my coach took me with him as

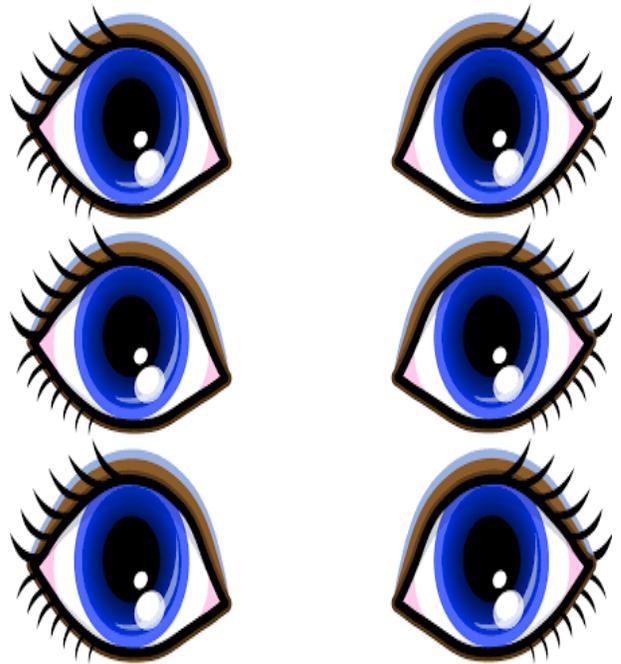
visited the elementary and middle schools recruiting for his summer basketball camp. Coach Brown began my introduction to the students the same way each time, "When I first met John as a freshman, he would trip over painted lines..." It always made me feel so self-conscious. He didn't mention that I had just had a growth spurt from 5'10"-6'4 1/2" that summer. He didn't mention that I was my normal slender, suave 132 lbs at 6'4 1/2" and it was dangerous for me outside on windy days. The worst part of that introduction was that it was true! I was having trouble with coordination in part because of how far this new body had stretched.

My Dad has always been one for great sayings and stories. I come by my small talent at telling stories honestly. One saying that has stuck with me from those "clumsy days" was, "Either watch where you are going or Go where you are watching." I believe that remains good advice... most of the time.

As Mt Olivet UMC approaches our 130th year of ministry on the corner of Ananias Dare and Essex, we need to develop three sets of eyes to keep Dad's saying alive in our lives. We need one set as we look back to see the many ways God has used us over these 130 years to reach a neighborhood for Jesus. Who would have thought that so many people would come to a neighborhood church? Who would have thought of resurrection and revival as a church created programs for our town? God has blessed us with a great cloud of witnesses who have prepared the way for us, making straight that road in the wilderness. So we celebrate looking back!

We need eyes # 2 so that we can see clearly who we are today. We need to see the strengths God has placed in our midst. We are a multiple mission oriented people. As God shows us needs and opportunities, local and beyond, we act as God has blessed us. Sometimes we send people, sometimes we send

cash, sometimes we send blankets, and sometimes we send prayers. We have so many groups within our community of faith reaching out to people in need, from birth to grave. We have groups that encourage people to grow in discipleship to Jesus. We need that second set of eyes to celebrate what God is doing through Mt Olivet right now!



We need a third set of eyes to cast an eye toward God's future. Nehemiah spoke of God's guidance as Israel was moving toward the Promised Land saying, "Because of (God's) great compassion you did not abandon them in the desert. By day the pillar of cloud did not cease to guide them on their path, nor the pillar of fire by night to shine on the way they were to take." - Nehemiah 9:19. With our 3rd set of eyes we watch the "pillar of cloud" and the "pillar of fire" that is leading us exactly where God wants us for the next 2, 5, 10, 20 years. The Good News is that we don't have to create a future hoping it is what God wants us to do. We just need to keep our eyes open to see where God is leading us, to be open to the Spirit to respond with a "Yes" as God shows us the people and opportunities to share the Good News of Jesus with others.

So maybe "Watch where you're going or Go where you're watching is still good advice." Dads can be good for those, can't they? Thanks Dad!

Dr John

Children's Ministry

It is hard to believe we are in the month of February. In the January newsletter, I highlighted the different programs that are available through our Children's Ministry. I am excited to see the positive impact these programs have on our children. This month I wanted to focus on our SURGE ministry.

Our theme is "Growing in Our Faith." Every Sunday night, the children quote the meaning of SURGE which is – Students, United, Reaching, Guiding, Each other in Christ. They have a Bible verse they memorize and they complete an activity or a project that encompasses a service for others. The children are becoming excited about Sunday nights and inviting their friends to attend.

On January 15, 2017 our SURGE children, with the help of several members of the Prayer Blanket Ministry, participated in making a blanket for someone that could use encouragement and prayer. A big thank you to Paula Oliver, Suzanne Godley, and Susan Tury; our children learned so much about the Prayer Blanket Ministry. It was wonderful having the ladies show them how they could help tie the ends of the blanket. Having the SURGE students pray for the one who would be receiving the blanket was touching to see. It was wonderful to experience how excited they were to help with this project.

On January 29, 2017 we will be visiting the residents at Colony Ridge Nursing Home. The Activities Director is excited for us to come and while we are there, the children will sing Hymns that Nathan has been working with the students to prepare. It was so much fun to watch our children as they practiced singing the Hymns; I have no doubt they will be a blessing to the residents at the Nursing Home. We are truly blessed to have Nathan as our Director of Music leading them in music on Sunday nights.

Please keep in mind; your help is needed in keeping your eyes and ears open for someone who can join the staff at Mount Olivet. Currently, we have a wonderful Nursery Attendant, Dana Thomason, who is looking to have an assistant to share in the responsibilities of the position and be available for the days and times she is unable to cover; with this in mind please help us in spreading the news that Mount Olivet UMC is seeking an hourly assistant nursery attendant. Responsibilities include caring for children ages Birth-5 years old on Sunday mornings and at other times when nursery is offered. Interested persons can apply in

Mark your calendars!

Vacation Bible School

July 10 - 14, 2017

9:00AM - Noon



the church office 252.473.2089 or by visiting the church website at mountolivetumc.org and submitting their completed applications to agoudy@mountolivetumc.org.

Lastly, I just want to thank all of you that are involved in our Children's Ministry. You are touching the lives of our children. As we are all aware, they are the future of Mount Olivet.

Let us continue to work with them, encourage them, and watch them grow. God has a purpose for each of His children. We are ever so blessed to have them as part our ministry. Keep them in your prayers.

Director of Children's Ministry,





February will be an especially busy month in the life of the Cove. Please read through our upcoming special events and time changes for more information about our schedule this month.

Thank you so much to all of you who supported our youth-led worship event in January: "Transformed". Our student ministry is so grateful for your prayers, financial support, and presence at our fundraisers and events. We appreciate each one of you, and are thankful for the way that you rally around our students.

Drew Peyton



2017 Winter-Spring Schedule

All events are open for students in the 6th-12th grade unless otherwise stated

Wednesday- High School Bible Study, 7:30-9:00 pm at Drew's House. This Bible study is open to all 9th-12th grade students. We will discuss topics that are of interest to our students, study the Scriptures and pray together.

Thursday morning youth breakfast, 7:00 -7:40 am each Thursday morning school is in session; come out for a great hot breakfast and a guest speaker each week. Transportation is provided to Manteo Middle School and Manteo High School after breakfast. This event meets in "Room B" inside the main church building.

Sunday night Youth Group 5:00 - 7:00 pm. This is a time for students to grow in their love for God and their love for one another as they fellowship through the sharing of food, playing games, and studying Scripture together.

Sunday school will continue to meet as previously scheduled. (9:30-10:30)

Upcoming Special Events

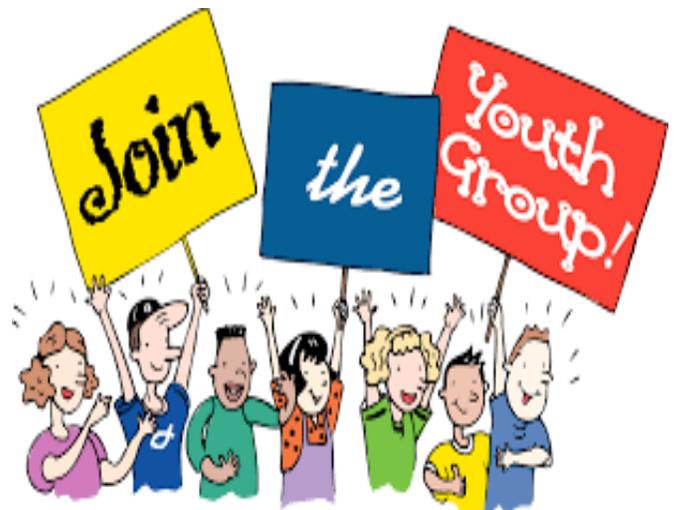
Sunday, February 5th- Youth Group will meet from 1:00-3:00 PM on this day.

Saturday, February 11th- Parents' Night Out- 6:00-9:00 PM. This event will be a fundraiser for our Mission Trip. Our students will be helping to run the event. See Drew for more information and to sign up to help.

Sunday, February 19th- Due to Room in the Inn, Youth Group will meet in the main church building. We will keep to our normal time of 5:00-7:00 PM.

Friday, February 24th- Sunday, February 26th- High School Spring Retreat. More information to follow. Youth group will meet at its normal time on the 26th.

Friday, March 3rd- Sunday, March 5th- Middle School Spring Retreat. More information to follow. Youth group will meet at its normal time on the 5th.



Music Ministry



Our chancel choir leads worship each Sunday morning for the 11:00 AM service. We would love to have you join us! If you are interested in singing with the choir, we meet on Thursday evenings in the choir room. We are starting rehearsals for our Easter cantata on February 2. We will be presenting A Living Hope on April 9. Contact me for more information or stop by a rehearsal to join.

In recent weeks we have been singing a song during the 8:00 contemporary service called United. This song was written by Dan Loewen, a worship leader in Canada. He wrote the song during a time when two churches in his city decided to merge together and become one new church. He said "It was an exciting time and certainly encouraging to see a church merger in a world that is often filled with church splits." I think that the lyrics can be applied to many circumstances that we are facing in this world today.

One God, One Lord
Jesus the savior
One hope for all humanity

One grace for all sins
We are forgiven
New life, for all eternity

One body, the church of Christ
One purpose unites our lives
To glorify, the one and only God

United we stand, many hearts as one
United we sing, let your kingdom come
Unite us to see, your will on earth be done

Unify our hearts and make us one.

Romans 12:4-6 says: "For as we have many members in one body, but all the members do not have the same function, so we, being many, are one body in Christ, and individually members of one another. Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, let us use them."

Nathn Schierer, Music Director



The Resounding Praise team leads worship for the 8:30 AM service each Sunday. If you are interested in joining, then stop in at a rehearsal on Thursday evenings at 6:00 PM or contact me for more information. We would love to see you there.

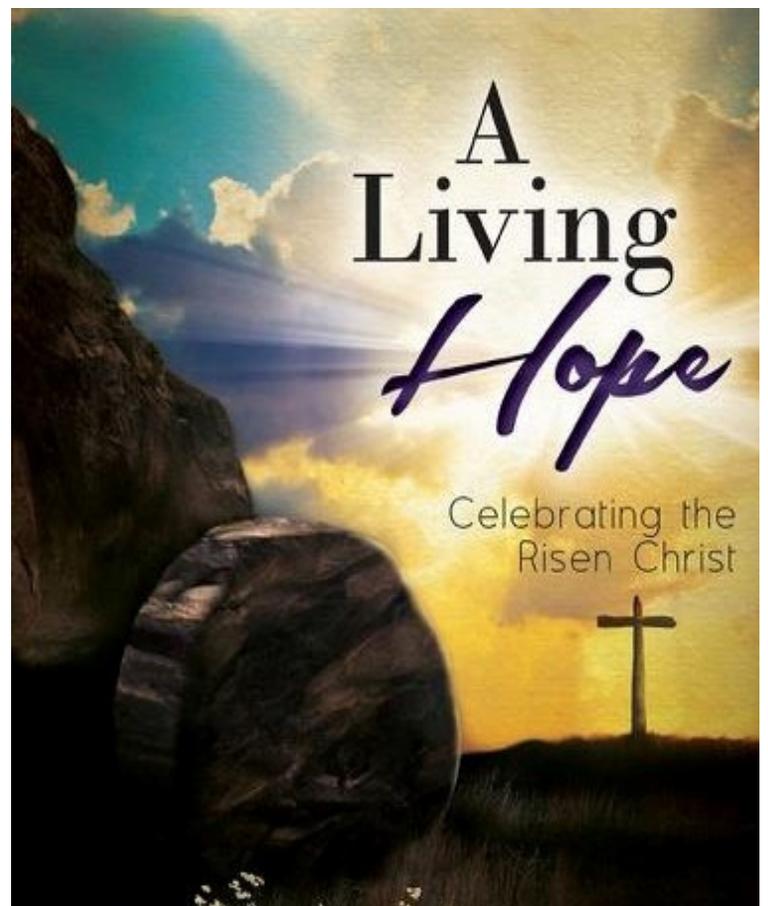


If you are in 6 – 12th grade and are looking for a great time

to worship with your peers and prepare to lead, then come

and join us. Youth Praise meets on Sunday evenings at 7:00 PM.

We will be leading worship this month on Sunday, February 19.



Missions



Roanoke Island Food Pantry

Our Pantry is overflowing. We have had a year of record amounts of food received from food drives organized by our many community partners. The Reverse Advent Calendar, that so many of you participated in, was a crowning touch to a record year. We received well over 1000 pounds of food and some of the red bags are still coming in. Not only did we get a lot of food but it was obvious you looked at and responded to the list. The food that came in was what we needed most. We are also thankful for the donations that came to the Pantry through all the beautiful poinsettias that adorned the Church. We thank God for such a giving congregation.

2 Corinthians 9:10-15(NIV) Now he who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will also supply and increase your store of seed and will enlarge the harvest of your righteousness. You will be made rich in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God. This service that you perform is not only supplying the needs of God's people but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God. Because of the service by which you have proved yourselves, men will praise God for the obedience that accompanies your confession of the gospel of Christ, and for your generosity in sharing with them and with everyone else. And in their prayers for you their hearts will go out to you, because of the surpassing grace God has given you. Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!

Your support of the Pantry and concern for and love of your neighbors in need is heartwarming, encouraging and greatly appreciated by all of us that volunteer at the pantry. You will probably not hear or see the expressions of thanks to God from our neighbors that receive food during a tough time in their lives, but our volunteers do. Ask them about it. We know that some of the stories the volunteers have shared with us and the expressions of thanks we have witnessed ourselves from our pantry guests, warm our hearts and make us give thanks to God for His bountiful provision for the Pantry, and the generosity of His sons and daughters.

We have also been blessed this year with pantry volunteers. Going into 2017 we have met our goal of having 4 volunteers for each day of the week that the

Pantry is open (M-F). That means each volunteer serves about one day each month from 9 am to 12 noon. We presently have 4 volunteers for Fresh Market pickups. Every Tuesday and Thursday we pick up donations at the Fresh Market in Nags Head. (Pickup is at 11 am and typically items are hauled to the Pantry, organized and stored by 1 to 1:30 pm). So with 4 volunteers, that means about 2 pickups per month per volunteer. Many hands make light work.

HOWEVER, our turnover of volunteers, due to moves, health and other life circumstances can be substantial and always seems to come in bursts. So if you feel lead by the Spirit to help out either as a volunteer at the Pantry, for a day each month or as a donation pickup person for the Fresh Market, please contact Bob or Angela 473-3814, we will get you trained and have you work a few days with one of our experienced volunteers, then when a volunteer has to step down we can quickly fill the holes in the work schedule.

May God bless each of you and our Pantry volunteers as the Roanoke Island Food Pantry begins our 39th year of serving our Lord and Savior and all those who come to the Pantry in need of help.

*Bob and Angela Noffsinger,
Food Pantry Coordinators*

NANNIE MIDGETT CIRCLE

Our first meeting of the new year will be take place on February 20th at 10:00 a.m. at Mount Olivet in Room C (next to the Kitchen). Bring a salad or a finger food to share.

We will have a short business meeting: (1) to discuss filling a few jobs, (2) how often we will meet – monthly or bi-monthly, (3) day-time or night-time, (4) location of meetings, (5) and programs.

We support local missions and various groups and individuals whenever we can.

We would like to invite anyone who is interested to come and be a part of Nannie Midgett Circle.

We have been known to pile in one of the Church Vans and take a little R & R trip now and then.

Please come and join us for some wonderful fellowship and friendships.

One of our members, Joyce Ethridge, has just returned home from surgery, please continue to pray for her recovery.

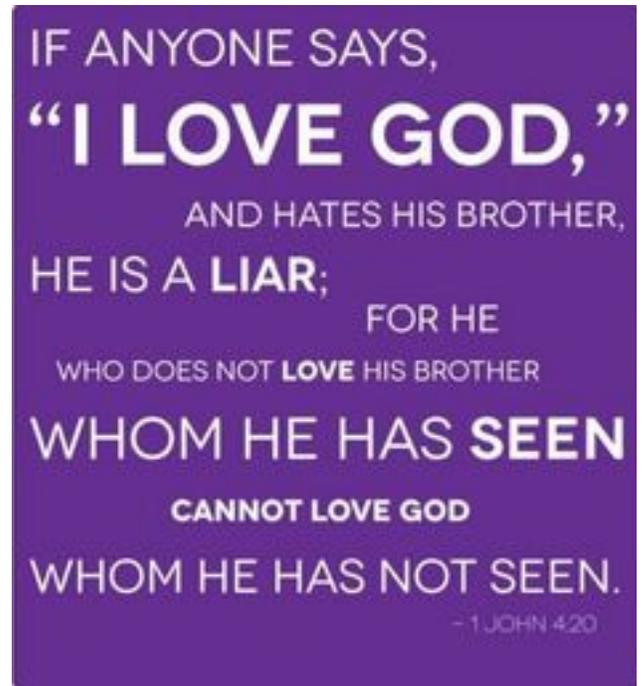
The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning ; great is your faithfulness. (Lamentations 3:22-23)

Janice O'Neal, Chairperson

February Birthdays

- 1 Lee Ann Finicum
- 2 Davis Austin, Denise Pearce, Rufus Pritchard,
Rita Shaffer, Maxine Thomasson
- 4 Robin Gallop, Laken Gray, Claudia Harrington,
Robert Midgett
- 5 Tommy Gomez, Karen Hewett
- 7 Bernard Austin, Josiah Creef, Sydney Putnam
- 8 Monika Berry
- 9 Samuel Davis, Paul Lester, Sarah Peyton, Kylie
Simmons
- 10 Meredith Booth, Millicent Duprey, Holton
LaPenne Guenveur, Colby Moore
- 12 Cheryl Byrum, Darren Evans, Ashtyn Wescott,
- 13 Polly Balance, Dan Bottjen, Hallie Rose,
Reganne Trevino
- 14 Ashley Basnight, Megan Gray
- 15 Anna Peyton Gainey, Linda Kraus
- 16 Donna Steiner
- 17 Ina Ernst, Miguel Gomez, Paula Oliver, Rob
Petty, Wyatt Tillett
- 18 G. G. Bonner, Hank Griffin, Jamie Reibel,
Hughes Tillett, Mike Trevino
- 19 Brandon Butler, Brandi Morris
- 20 Laura Daniels, Bert Snyder, Devin Tillett
- 21 Sophia Beatty, Malcolm Fearing, Tim Morgan,
Dorie Smith, Barbara Wright
- 22 Kilby Davis, Walter Holton, Brian White
- 23 Bart Garrison, Michael Gregory, Jon Presgrave,
Kirby Sadler
- 24 Clare Brent, Marcia Bryant
- 25 Peryn Fauth, Michelle Petty
- 26 Amy Gross, Dick Parker, Bob Spake
- 27 William Brown, Peggy Cox, Heather Danatzko,
Staton Martin, Bruce Matthews, Dee Wheeler
- 28 Bill Wheeler

GOD IS LOVE!



February Volunteers

Date	8:30 Service	Sunday School	11:00 Service
February 5	Paula Oliver 473-2944 Pam Harrison 473-1414	Elizabeth Gallop 423-0484	Melva Garrison 473-3399 Tiffany Martin 423-2323
February 12	Lee Swain Petty 216-6310		Lisa Fry 475-1717
February 19	Becky Austin 473-5694		Brenda Davis 305-8393
February 26	Rita Shaffer 473-6630		Jennifer Phillips 473-5269

Thank you all for your dedication and service in the nursery this year. This is such an important ministry to our young families.

You may have seen in the bulletin that Mount Olivet is looking for an assistant Nursery Attendant. This is a paid, hourly position for the services when Dana is not available. If you know someone who may be interested, please encourage them to contact the church office for more information.

Elizabeth

EVANGELISM

The Evangelism Committee is thrilled to serve you and the community in 2017. We have some exciting venues planned for this year of growth and transformation at Mount Olivet UMC.

On Saturday March 25th, we will open the church to you and the community for a Singspiration. This event will bring you many local singing groups with interaction from the audience. The event will be from 4:00 - 8:00pm serving hot dogs, chips, and water during the evening. This will be an evening of fellowship and fun, so tell your friends and family and come out for an exciting evening of song.

The Annual Church Family Picnic is scheduled for Sunday, September 24th from noon to 3:00pm at the Old Swimming Hole. This is a time for fellowship with your church family members and to enjoy good food. Come out to soak up the sun, play games, and of course, EAT.

Our Fall Revival will begin on Sunday, October 22nd with a potluck dinner followed by the service. We will have, each night, a local minister bringing the word of God to you and our community. Each church represented will bring their own singing groups to perform during the services. We pray you will tell your family and friends, and will attend each night through October 25th, to hear what God has to say to you.

On Marathon Sunday, November 12th we will be holding our regular services at 8:30 and 11:00 am, with Sunday School at 9:45am.

This brings us to the Christmas Season. We will be serving Brunswick Stew to all peoples attending the Christmas Tree Lighting downtown on 1st Friday. The date is December 1st beginning at 6:00pm. This is always a fruitful time to show all those serving and recipients of the stew, that JESUS is the REASON for the Season..

On December 17th beginning at 6:00pm we will be going out into the community singing and celebrating the birth of our Savior and Lord, Jesus the Christ. This has been and will continue to be an outpouring of our love for Jesus that is displayed by lifting our voices to the wondrous birth of Jesus. Please make plans to come out with your families to share the fun and fellowship of caroling to those in need of encouragement and love.

We hope to be adding another exciting venue during the Easter season. Stay tuned in to all our communication arenas for information as plans are made and solidified.

We as a committee, sincerely hope, that as we work in the background, are able to bring the unity, fellowship, discipleship, and love through the Holy Spirit, to our church and community of Manteo and the Outer Banks.

May God Bless each of you during this new year.

*Reha Otte,
Evangelism Chairman*



- 1 Rac & Jeanie Midgett, 36 yrs.
- 2 Bruce & Mary Jo Matthews, 43 yrs.
- 11 Larry & Maxine Thomasson, 61 yrs.
- 12 John & Sherry Wescott, 33 yrs.
- 17 James & Peggy Cox, 33 yrs.
- 18 Christopher & Kimberly Moore, 11 yrs.
- 23 Chris & Suzie Tedrick, 9 yrs.
- 23 Saint & Bea Basnight, 37 yrs.
- 24 Elmer & Gail Midgett, 49 yrs.
- 26 David & Betsy Via, 47 yrs.
- 28 Tim & Patti Morgan, 35 yrs

Worship



Altar Guild and Ushers will be announced in Bulletin. We need volunteers to usher at both services! Please see the sign-up sheet in the education building for details.

Thanks to everyone who helps with Worship Committee activities.

Sarah Wise, Worship

Trustees Year-End Report 2016 Thanks

2016 accomplishments:

Cove: Repaired roof, repaired appliances, repaired heating system.

Parsonage: Repaired plumbing; painted several rooms; removed deck and trees and leveled soil; replaced detached garage and electrical lines; repaired roof and siding that had rotted.

Church: Repaired heating and cooling; replaced alarm system and two computers due to Dominion Power cable failure; replaced a section of Creef fence due to fire; painted ceiling in preschool due to air handler leak.

2017 Plans

Cove: Continue upkeep at the Cove.

Parsonage: Replace roof and siding on garage; monitor the bath tub in master bath for possible replacement..

Church: File claim with Dominion Power due to power line failure; replace church phone system; repair/ replace kitchen dishwasher; continue to monitor heating upstairs; possibly replace old system in Sunday school rooms; evaluate need for carpet in downstairs' educational area.

Forward In Faith 2016

Interior: Painted sanctuary interior and carpeted; replaced sound board; removed and repaired switch and receptacles in sanctuary; ordered seat cushion; painted and carpeted sacristy; painted the Narthex. Repaired floor and wall rot in sanctuary.

Exterior: Creef side of church repaired with Boral siding and repaired wood rot; Replaced doors on power and airhandler outside doors . Work progressing on steeple .Structure of steeple inspected and appears to be sound.

Send through 2016...Interior and Exterior spend is currently within budget for work done .

Forward In Faith 2017

Interior: Replace pew cushions; re-evaluate budget and replace Bibles and/or hymnals; do not over spend budget.

Exterior: Continue to repair steeple; start repairing church front next to parking lot; replace three-year-old siding not holding paint; all sanctuary will be Boral.

After siding, etc. is completed, work on outside handrails, lights and planter repairs; new sign.

Other projects to prioritize and start: ceiling upstairs, carpeting, electrical, etc.

The Trustees



To my Mount Olivet Church Family and the Prayer Blanket Ministry,

I was deeply touched and felt your prayers and love helped me during these last few weeks.

Thank you for the beautiful blanket, food, cards, calls and love I received during my recent recovery.

Estelle Midgett & Family



To: Mount Olivet United Methodist Church,

Creswell United Methodist Church thanks you for all your support in 2016. We are very appreciative for all your generous donations and most of all for your sharing Lee Wise with us.

He is really a blessing sent from above to us.

Keep Creswell United Methodist Church in your prayer.

Thank you! God Bless Mount Olivet

Margie Davenport