

# The Messenger

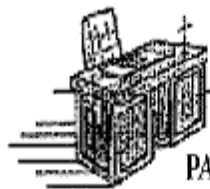
The Monthly Newsletter of Mount Olivet United Methodist Church  
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April 2011



FROM THE  
PASTOR'S DESK

## Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Does Easter  
have any

meaning in your life? In the present world situation, where wars and violence seem to be unsolvable, where the abuse of drugs and alcohol degrade the human person, and where the abuse of the innocent cries out to God for vengeance, one might be tempted to ask; "And what of Easter? What of the victory of the Cross? What of the new life we have in Jesus Christ? Does it make any difference?"

Jesus would answer, as He did to His disciples; "In the world you will have trouble but be brave; I have conquered the world." (John 16:33)

Only in Jesus Christ can we find the solutions to the problems of the world. Only if we *rise with him*, with hearts and minds renewed, can we be inspired to make a difference - to work for peace and harmony among peoples. On our own, it is not possible. As Jesus reminds us; "Cut off from me you can do nothing." (John 15:5)

Easter then is a time for all of us to assess our personal commitment to the Risen Lord.

It is a time for each one of us to make a difference in the world - *our world*. And we can do this if we remain one with Him.

Jesus has told us; "If you remain in me, and my words remain in you, you may ask what you will, and you shall get it" (John 15:7) Brothers and sisters, we have so much to ask of Him this Easter.

As we journey through the rest of Lent, and journey toward the empty tomb, let us seize the opportunity to live the *new life* in Jesus Christ. Let it be seen, by our words and actions, that we are indeed an Easter People.

And if we truly believe in Easter and the joy of the Risen Lord, and if we share it with everyone we meet, then we will make a difference. Share the joy and have a very blessed Easter.

Join us for our Holy Week and Easter services and invite your friends and families.

### Holy Week and Easter Schedule

- 4/17 Palm Sunday - Distribution of Palms at both the 8:30 A.M. and 11:00 A.M. services
- 4/21 Maundy Thursday Service - A celebration of the Lord's Last Supper in our sanctuary at 7:00 P.M.

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## **Easter Schedule**

Cont. from Pg. 1

- 4/22 Good Friday - A Powerpoint presentation of The Stations of the Cross in our sanctuary at 7:00 P.M.
- 4/24 Easter Sunday - Resurrection Day Services at 8:30 A.M. and 11:00 A.M. with Holy Communion at both services.

Easter Cantata - A Cantata will be performed by the Mount Olivet Choir at the 11:00 A.M. service on Easter.

Grace and Peace to all,  
Jim Sipes, Pastor

## **Easter Egg Hunt**

Mt. Olivet will host an Easter Egg Hunt during the Children at Worship time on Palm Sunday, April 17<sup>th</sup>. Please feel free to bring a friend! The nursery and pre-school age children at Sunday School will hunt their eggs at 10:30 A.M. that day.

## **Easter Cantata !**

Come hear the Mount Olivet Chancel Choir perform "We Remember Calvary" by Joel Raney on Easter Sunday, April 24<sup>th</sup> at the 11:00 service. This cantata goes through holy week and focuses on Christ's journey to the cross. We plan to have a full choir for this cantata and it will end with our traditional singing of the "Hallelujah Chorus" together with members of the congregation. We hope to see you there.!

## **UMW Agape Meal**

The United Methodist Women's annual Agape meal will be Wednesday, April 13<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 P.M. in Fellowship Hall. Please join us for this time of reflection prior to Holy Week. RSVP to Faith in the office by Monday, April 11<sup>th</sup>. Any questions should be directed to Suzanne Barnes, 629-9894 or Susan Human, 629-4191.

## **Trustee News**

At the end of March, we received a very generous gift from one of our church families of heating oil and a cash donation. We are hopeful that we may be able to get through the end of the heating season without buying more oil.

Have you noticed our church seems brighter recently? Al Hastings and his "helper" have replaced many of the spotlights and fluorescent bulbs around the church. I love the look of our beautiful stained glass windows when you drive by at night.

The wind damaged fascia around the church has been replaced by Ralph Cook. We have had much discussion as to how to proceed with the loose handrail by the front steps. John Eskridge who did the repair last year has been contacted for immediate inspection. Let's hope it has been corrected by the time you are reading this.

The City of Seaford has agreed to fill in the spot that continues to sink in the parking lot.

The parsonage fence around the back yard needs to be replaced. Most of the wooden sections are rotten; some sections are

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## Trustee News

Cont. From Pg. 2

missing. A decision was made for Keith Livingston to get a bid for commercial grade chain link fence and trustees will do the installation.

Mike Covey recently spent a weekend with our youth at Trap Pond. Being a trustee often requires multi-tasking! Thanks to ALL of our adults who helped make this weekend possible.

Happy Spring !!!  
Board of Trustees

## May Baskets

On Sunday, April 17<sup>th</sup> the **Stewardship Committee** will be hosting a fun event following the Youth Luncheon. We will be making May Baskets and flowers to be taken to our shut-in members. All the supplies to make the baskets and flowers will be provided and we need joyful hands to help assemble these items.

We look forward to a large turnout as we share our gifts of time, talent and service!

Hoping to see you there!  
Dan Henderson, Jeff James  
Linda Rose

## Preschool News

The preschool has experienced a busy and exciting March – New playground equipment was assembled and installed on March 12<sup>th</sup> and on March 31<sup>st</sup> we were visited by folks from Abbott's Mill who presented a program on Delaware's Native Animals.

The preschool yard sale is slated for Saturday, April 9<sup>th</sup> in Fellowship Hall. The preschool accepts clothing and will be collecting donations the week of April 4<sup>th</sup>.

The annual Bike Rodeo will be on Wednesday, April 13<sup>th</sup> so the parking lot will be really active. Tuesday, May 17<sup>th</sup> is the last day of school for our children with our Spring Program that evening at 6:30 P.M. in the sanctuary.

We continue to register children for Fall classes. Please share that information!!!

Happy Spring!!!

## Playground Equipment For Sale

The preschool is selling a three-sided structure with a slide. Interested persons are invited to place a sealed bid in the Preschool Mailbox located in the church office. Please include name, phone contact and your bid. The bid deadline is Thursday, April 7, 2011.

## Spring Attic Sale

Mt. Olivet's United Methodist Women will hold their Spring Attic Sale fundraiser on Saturday, April 2, 2011. We need household items, books, purses, belts, etc. No clothing, please. You can bring your "goodies" and place them in Fellowship Hall beginning on March 27<sup>th</sup>. We welcome volunteers for pricing the goods on Friday before the sale. Questions??? Call Suzanne Barnes at 629-9894 or Judy Watson at 628-2510.

## **Mt. Olivet Scholarships**

Mt. Olivet is pleased to be able to offer three scholarship opportunities to assist in their future plans. These awards have been established at Mt. Olivet to recognize our outstanding high school senior members for excellence in Christian service, academics, athletics and community service.

The K. Richard Varell Memorial Award was established in 1991 in memory of the Rev. Dick Varell who was Mt. Olivet's Pastor when he died. This award is to recognize the senior at Mt. Olivet who best exemplifies a Christian life of discipleship, witness and service.

The George & Marjorie Ann Lake Scholarship was established in 1994 by their daughters. The Lake Scholarship is to recognize the Mt. Olivet senior excelling in academics and athletics.

The Elizabeth Phillips Draper Award was established in 1995. It was created by Mrs. Draper and her children to recognize the Mt. Olivet senior who has distinguished him/herself in Christian service, academics and community service.

**We need your help!** The funds for these awards need to be replenished so we are asking for donations, either in the special offering plates or with "SCHOLARSHIP" noted on your check. We will be collecting donations the last week of March and the first three weeks of April.

## **Our Web Site Update**

Dave Libby, Ray Lanier and myself, Jim McClure, are now working on the Mt. Olivet Church web site to update it and we

need your input. We need current information from each of the church ministries, groups, classes and projects. We plan to have pages for the Sunday School, Preschool, Prayer Garden, etc. I would like the lead person from each of the groups in our church community to supply me with a written description of the group and its goals. Information can include artwork, photos and the like. For projects like Vacation Bible School or Prayer Garden, we can also include a link to a pdf file for applications, etc., if you supply the copy.

We also would like a list of your long term or annual events. Also, please keep us informed about your upcoming events so that they may be displayed on the web site. We plan two separate listings here ... short term and long term.

We prefer to have pages displayed correctly so we would like to have the information as a Microsoft Word doc file. We can convert preprinted items to Adobe pdf files, but the presentation may not be as nice looking.

All items can be e-mailed to me, Jim McClure, at [jim.ruth.mcclure@verizon.net](mailto:jim.ruth.mcclure@verizon.net) or given to me directly or left in the office marked for my attention.

Jim McClure

## **Altar Guild for April**

Linda Vincent and Kathy Whitaker

## **Greeters for April**

April 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Jim Lamberton
April 10 <sup>th</sup>	Betty Bevans and Bev Vollmer
April 17 <sup>th</sup>	Bill Todd
April 24 <sup>th</sup>	Ken and Connie Covey

## Coming Soon ... VBS!!!!

Mark your calendars now for the 2011 Mt. Olivet Vacation Bible School which will be on June 20 - 24, from 5:30 - 8:00 P.M. The closing program will be on Sunday, June 26<sup>th</sup> at the 11:00 A.M. service. This is a little earlier than we normally have our VBS, but conflicts in July made it necessary to move to June. All children 3 years old through those entering the 7<sup>th</sup> grade in Fall, 2011 are welcome to attend and bring a friend!

## April Acolyte and Crucifers

	<u>Acolytes</u>	<u>Crucifers</u>
April 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Hannah Doyle	Mark Saathoff
April 10 <sup>th</sup>	Matt Dykstra	Nathan Bradley
April 17 <sup>th</sup>	Bridgette Johnson	Jordyn Gum
April 24 <sup>th</sup>	Brad Morgan	Brittany Deats

## April Birthdays and Anniversaries

Please forgive us if your birthday or anniversary is not listed. When that happens it means our records are incomplete. Please call the church office, 629-4458 with the month and day of your birth and/or anniversary. Thank you!

### Happy Anniversary to:

April 8	Rich and Lisa Doyle
April 12	Steve and Susan Gum
April 15	Ken and Connie Covey Richard and Carolyn Taylor

### Happy Birthday to:

1	Hannah Doyle Garrett Thawley
7	Mike Rose
9	Amanda Griffin
10	Linda Vincent
11	Bill Slack Regina Figgs
12	Bertha Cantwell
13	Ryan Gillespie Megan Ricks
14	Michale Lankford Brooke Dickerson
15	Mike Covey
18	Connie Covey Katie Hickey
19	Jim McClure Bev Roupp
20	Julie Kennedy
22	Judy Watson
23	Ted Hickey
24	Brent Shockley
25	Charlotte Wilson Steve Bradley
27	Alyssa Thawley
28	Jean Longstreet
29	Hannah Covey
30	Matt MacCoy Daniel Sellers

## Newsletter Deadline

The next issue of The Messenger will be the May edition. The deadline will be noon on Monday, April 18<sup>th</sup>. Articles may be emailed to the church office at [faith-mtolivet@verizon.net](mailto:faith-mtolivet@verizon.net), dropped in the church office or placed in the drop box next to the side entrance.