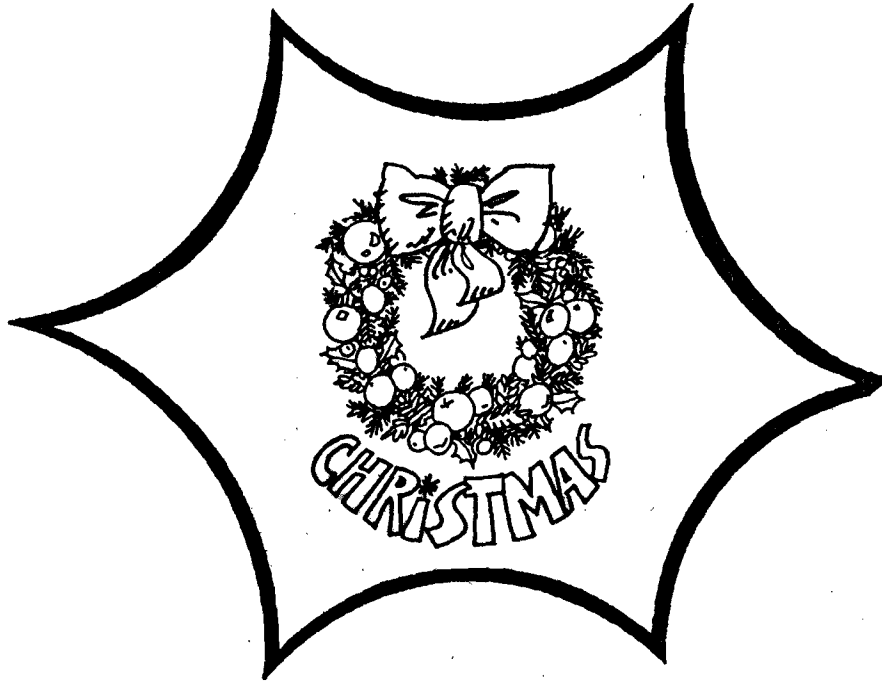


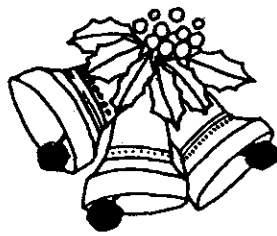
# OLIVET CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

NEWSLETTER  
2011



*Jack Brown*  
*Pastor*

*The Spirit calls us to covenant  
All work is ministry ~ All ministry is worship*



## **STEWARDSHIP** ... *"Give First to God"*

As we end one year and begin another, we start anew. Each and every dawn brings a chance to start anew.

Attempting to break a habit? Start anew each day.

Trying to develop a new habit? Start anew each day.

Difficulty in your personal life? Start anew each day.

Have a bad day at work? Start anew tomorrow.

Want to be more generous in your giving? Start anew, try again this week.

Each day with the dawn you have another chance to start anew and follow the star. Go where God is leading you. He never gives up – neither should you. He's ready to give you a new life. Forgive yourself as God forgives you and start anew.

The sun (Son) is our star. It's always there even when you can't see it for the clouds. The clouds in the sky obscure the sun. The clouds in your life may obscure the Son. Yet the Son is always there. As you wake each morning say a prayer for the Son to show you the way.

May God bless you and keep you throughout this holiday season.

*Marie Steele, Treasurer*

## FUNDRAISING NEWS

We need to continue to fund raise for general operating of our church finances and for the restoration work that is needed on our church roof and exterior stone work. If you have fundraising ideas please see Rich Mattea or contact the church office.

We had the opportunity to park cars for four Olivet College home football games. **THANK YOU TO BEN HART** for allowing us to use his property across from the football field for parking cars and to **Rich Mattea** for organizing the workers ~ A BIG THANK YOU to **"EVERYONE"** that helped with parking the cars.

**Profit from the 4 games = \$2,039**

**WOW!!! What a Blessing!!**



### **2012 CALENDARS.....CHRISTMAS CARD SETS...**

#### **NOTE PADS.....PUZZLES**

The church, as a fundraiser, has the above items for sale. They are available on Sundays or at the church office during the week. They are items of high quality... take a look. They make great Christmas gifts and we all need a new calendar for the coming year!

\$8 Calendar

\$6 Christmas Cards (12 cards per pack)

\$3 Note Pad (magnet on back)

\$10 Puzzle

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## MISSION BOARD NEWS....

The Mission Board would like to extend a huge THANK YOU to our church family. Your generosity continues to be demonstrated by the financial gifts we receive in our special offerings.

**\$410.00---October offering for Lansing Rescue Mission**

**Upcoming special offerings:**

**November/Dec.-----Collecting food items for Olivet Good Neighbor Christmas boxes**

**(Christmas Eve Service)**

**December 24-----NACCC assistance for Retired Ministers and for Ministerial Enrichment**

This fund helps in times of financial crisis, continuing education opportunities, assists churches in the minister search process, and gives support in times of personal crisis.

**Soup Luncheons:** Plan to have lunch on the **last Sunday of each month** after the worship service. The Friendship Committee will host the luncheon and appreciates those that help with providing soups.



Donations may be given for the luncheon, but not required!!  
Proceeds will be used for various mission work.

**RETURNABLE BOTTLES & CANS....**

We continue to collect bottles & cans in the box in the downstairs dining room. Proceeds will go to the Restoration Fund (repair of the church exterior and roof).

**Bring your clean, empty bottles & cans to the church**

**\$251.20 (money earned on bottle/can returns)**





**We Care...** Prayer is needed!

Pray for health, healing and peace.

Now that we are only printing a newsletter approximately four times a year it is difficult to list all of the prayer concerns during that time period.

**Please know that prayer & visits are continued on a daily basis!**

If you have a prayer concern for yourself or someone you know please contact Pastor Jack, Greg Morrison (deacon chair - phone #517-213-3799) or the church office. Also, please let us know of any illness, anyone in the hospital or anyone needing a home visit.

**It is through all of you that we can continue to meet the needs of our church family.**

**THANK YOU....**

*to my church family for your cards, calls and visits while I was receiving rehabilitation care at the Healing and Recovery Center in Charlotte. I am now home continuing to work on my recovery following surgery for my broken leg. Your concern means a great deal to me.*

*Blessings, Elaine Bruce*

**BAPTISM....**

On Sunday, November 6<sup>th</sup> the sacrament of baptism was administrated to:

**Sophia Rivera**



Parents: Magan Rivera and Juan Rivera

Grandparents: Greg and Kathy Carpenter



## A Special Thanks to:

### **TURKEY SUPPER UPDATE.....**

The Turkey Supper held on November 3<sup>rd</sup> was again a success due to the dedication of "MANY" people in the church and community. THANK YOU to "everyone" that helped at the dinner, provided dessert and helped with so many other jobs that are required to make this a continued success.

SPECIAL THANKS to our main "chef" KATHY JUDD and to BECKY BRITTON for all their countless hours spent food shopping, organizing, preparing, etc.

**PROFIT FROM THE SUPPER = \$1,536.37**

This money is used to maintain the expense of our kitchen including our annual license fee, inspections, new equipment for the kitchen when needed and also to purchase coffee hour supplies (coffee, lemonade, paper products, etc.)

**THANKS TO EVERYONE!**

### **WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP RAFFLE:**

The Women's Fellowship held their annual raffle during the Turkey Supper. Thank you to Sharon Powell for the two crocheted afghans.

Afghan winners were: Debbie Griffin and Margaret Winchell

Profit from the raffle = \$136

Knife Sales = \$87.50



**THANK YOU** to everyone that generously gives to our special mission and community needs. You make a difference!

**OLIVET GOOD NEIGHBOR CHRISTMAS BOXES:**

We are planning on providing approximately 80 boxes to families in our school district. Each family will receive non-perishable foods and personal care products. Various community churches, Olivet schools, businesses and individuals provide the items and/or money needed to complete each box.

**At this time our church is collecting** (for the boxes):

- **Peanut Butter**
- **Jelly**
- **Hot chocolate (boxed instant packets)**
- **Micro-wave popcorn**

Donations need to be at the church by next Sunday, Dec. 11<sup>th</sup>.  
You may put them on the table at the back of the sanctuary or bring them to the church office.

Packing and distribution of the Christmas boxes will be done in the dining room of the Olivet Congregational Church.

**Dec. 13----Packing from 1:00 - ???**

**Dec. 15----Distribution 10am – 4pm**

If you would like to help during any of these times please contact Sharon in the church office.

**HATS, MITTENS & SCARVES**

will also be distributed with the Christmas boxes. They may be placed on the tree at the back of the sanctuary.





## CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM... SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18<sup>TH</sup>

We have started our practices for the children's Christmas program but children are still invited to join us. We are practicing on Sunday's following the morning worship service until 1:30.

The Christmas program will be held on  
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18<sup>TH</sup> at 10:30 a.m.

## CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

December 24<sup>th</sup>  
7:00 p.m.



~Refreshments will be served following the service~

## CHRISTMAS EVE FELLOWSHIP TIME



There will be a time for fellowship  
following the 7 p.m. Christmas Eve Service.

Your help is needed to furnish refreshments.  
The Friendship Committee will provide beverages.

Bring your favorite Christmas treat to share!

---Cookies---Candies---Appetizer---etc.---



# BIRTHS... **CONGRATULATIONS!**

*to Christie and Brad Buchholz on the birth of their daughter, **CLAIRE ALISON** born on July 22nd... 8lb 7.8oz*

*Grandparents are Diane Carleton and Ken Carleton  
Great-Grandparents are Dan and Bonnie Judd*



*to Karine and Brandon Walters on the birth of their daughter, **MADELYN LISE** born on November 3rd... 6lb 6oz*

*Grandparents are Lee and Tamyra Walters*

## FINANCIAL NEWS from our treasurer.....

### Finances thru October 2011:

**Income = \$98,950**

**Expenses = \$93,257**

Financial information will be available at the Congregational Meeting on December 11<sup>th</sup>. We are continuing to work on the budget for next year as a few pledge envelopes have not yet been returned. If you have not made a pledge for 2012 and would like to, please contact Sharon in the church office as soon as possible so that we can finalize information for the upcoming meeting.



## NOTICE OF CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

December 11, 2011 following the worship service

Purpose of the meeting:

1. Vote on proposed 2012 budget

All members and friends welcome to attend.

Church membership required to vote.





# **CHRISTIAN NURTURE**

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES for ALL AGES!

## **ADULT CLASSES: 9:30 a.m. SUNDAY MORNINGS**

~Two adult classes (one in the pastor's office and one in the conference room off the downstairs dining room) **Join us!**

**The nursery is open at 9:30 a.m.  
for the "little" ones while parents are in adult classes.**

## **YOUTH CLASSES: 9:30 a.m. SUNDAY MORNINGS**

**All ages welcome!**

## **CHILDREN'S CHURCH (during the 10:30 worship service)**

Children are in church until after the children's sermon time.  
At approximately 10:45 youth may join Alaina Beam and Judith Tellez-Gonzalez for children's church in the upstairs Sunday school room. Older youth meet with Debbie Griffin.

## **YOUTH GROUP...6<sup>TH</sup> - 12<sup>TH</sup> GRADE**

**6:00 SUNDAY EVENINGS**

**Invite a friend(s)...everyone is welcome!  
WE HAVE FUN, FOOD (pizza) & FELLOWSHIP**

Leaders are:

Alaina Beam, Judith Gonzalez, Magan Rivera & Jean Paul Cortes

Assisted by:

Pastor Jack

**JOIN US**

## **BIBLE STUDY: Thursday evenings 6:30 – 8:00**

(at the home of Jack & Pamela Brown) 119 E. Green St.  
Everyone welcome!

OLIVET CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH  
NACCC/UCC  
125 College Street  
P.O. Box 368  
Olivet, MI 49076  
Office Phone (269)749-2631  
Fax: (269)749-9028  
email: [olivetcongregational@olivetcollege.edu](mailto:olivetcongregational@olivetcollege.edu)

**SUNDAY SCHEDULE:**

9:30 a.m. Sunday School for youth & adults  
10:30 a.m. Worship Service & Children's Church  
Fellowship/Refreshments (after worship)  
6:00 p.m. Youth Group (6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade)

Church Office Hours: 9 am - 2 pm Tue-Fri

**PASTOR:**

Rev. Jack Brown

**CHURCH STAFF:**

Minister of Music	Maria Beam
C.N. Director	Maria Beam
Nursery	Magan Rivera
Nursery	Molly Kleinfeld
Secretary	Sharon Palacio
Treasurer	Marie Steele

**OFFICERS:**

Moderator	Greg Morrison
Vice-Moderator	Troy Gardner
Clerk	Cathy Clauncherty