



THE WORD FROM OLIVET JUNE 2021



Dear Friends in Christ,

As I thought about this month's newsletter, this quote from Meister Eckhart came to mind,
"If the only prayer you said was thank you, that would be enough."

We at Olivet have written what we are grateful for on the ribbons that were woven together for our Communion table. While each individual ribbon is colorful, together they form a beautiful tapestry. People in this congregation wrote that they are grateful for:

their livelihood, the earth, the opportunity to travel, family, Olivet Church, friends, waking up in the morning, beautiful weather, health, that God is always by my side, the sun, moon, stars and a celebration of Earth Day, sharing and enjoying music, nature, hope, life and love, nature, grace, the COVID vaccine, sunshine and blue skies, forgiveness, God's unwavering love, love from my family, the amazing variety of seasons with "death" and rebirth in our world, daughters, healing of pain, life and strength.



By sharing our gratitude, we are reminded of other blessings. Perhaps we even have an "ah ha" moment, realizing that we are also grateful for something someone else has written. And again, we give thanks.

Looking ahead, we are grateful that some of our pandemic restrictions are easing. We will be using our hymnals during worship. On June 6th, our next Communion Sunday, we will use the prepackaged wafer and juice, but we will share this sacred food and drink during worship. On June 13th, we will enjoy each other's company at our outdoor picnic. Bring your favorite bag lunch and beverage. The Board will provide dessert. And on June 20th we will resume our summer tradition of worshipping in the church hall and also try some new things.

While it is wonderful to return to things we have missed during the pandemic, we did not stop being church. We worshipped together. Recently we looked at the "fruit" that we share as branches of the vine of Jesus, recalled the Spirit's inspiration at Pentecost, and are reflecting on the passion that She sparks in our lives. We served our neighbors by making hygiene kits, preparing to-go-meals for those who turn to Calvary St. George's for meals, and supporting the Bridgeport Rescue Mission and the United Church of Christ.

For all we have received and all we do in Christ, we pray, "Thank you, God!"

In Gratitude, Pastor Lisa

"Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you."
(1 Thessalonians 5:16-18)

PRAYERS AND CONCERNS



PLEASE CONTINUE TO HOLD IN PRAYER:

Our Church Family & Community including:

Those of our church family who could not be with us this month, especially:

George Beardsley, David & Marion Bromberg, Harriet Brooks, Harrison & Marcia Dodd, Michelle Gibson, Doris Hurd, Carmen & Marcy Porto and Hazel Wermuth.

The Churches & Groups who share our building:

First Haitian Church of God in Jesus Christ and Pastor Julius Laloi
Living the Life Christian Center led by Desirea Vereen
Family Matters Preschool Program and their Director Cynthia Cumiskey

Our Regional Minister, Rev. Mike Ciba

Covenant to Care for Children programs and staff, and the children we serve together.

The Southern New England Conference, UCC and Council of Churches of Greater Bridgeport (CCGB)

The coaches and players who utilize our gym space.

For the people who sit on our steps and wait for the bus outside our doors.

Our extended family of churches who serve at Calvary-St. George's and all the guests & volunteers, especially Guy Love.

"Merciful God, we pray that your comforting and healing presence be felt by all who are convalescing, awaiting diagnoses, living with cancer or suffering in any way. Bless their families, friends, and medical teams, and all caregivers with your spirit of wisdom and compassion."

Our community's leaders as they seek solutions to the problem of violence in our city.



The following prayers appeared in our April bulletins:

"Dear God, I am so grateful to be back in church this Sunday. Thanks be to God! Amen!"

"Thank you, God, for the blessing of being back together!"

"Dear Lord, thank you for all your blessings: for sending Rev. Lisa to help guide Olivet, for Kathey as she keeps this community informed & 'running', for the Executive Board who do so much to aid us here, locally & world-wide."

"Thank you, Lord, for bringing me to church today around my church family."

"Thank you. God, for the blessing that 'EVERY' morning is Easter morning from now on!!"

"Dear Lord, thank you for bringing us together to celebrate Easter!"

"Lord, thank you so much for waking me up this morning & healing me."

"God, please bless those who need healing in mind, body & spirit with your peace. Amen!"

"Lord, help me make the right decision about my life, and my illness that I'm going through. Amen."

"For 30 cats at the shutdown plant, cats in the market, on campus, on pedestrian streets, by the station, that they get food & water every day, are protected & get a home."

prayers continued...

"Dear Lord, help to heal the hearts of all who mourn."

"Thank you, God, for our blessings big & small!"

"Dear Lord of All, please keep Mrs. Judy in your special care as her health is waning & her husband is in & out of the hospital. Give the family hope & comfort."

"Creator God, forgive us yet again for still not learning to love one another. We seem to insist on killing our sisters & brothers. Your patience is endless. (maybe)."

"Dear God, please lift up the spirits of those who are down. Help them restore positivity and faith. Amen."

"Dear Lord, keep us filled with your spirit each & every day! Amen!"



WORSHIP AT OLIVET CHURCH

We are back in our Sanctuary for worship! We will continue to ZOOM our services for those who prefer to remain at home for a while longer. (Zoom instructions can found below). We want to assure you that when we are in the church building, we will continue to practice social distancing. Every other pew will be blocked off in the sanctuary, masks are mandatory & we will have hand sanitizer available when entering the building.

To continue with our safety, pledges can be left in the plate as you enter the sanctuary.

Our main priority is to keep everyone safe & healthy!

ZOOM INSTRUCTIONS: To join by computer, use the link below:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88397990846?pwd=bXhOaXE3MmRHV1dtUINkUWpGUHFLUT09>

To join by phone:

1. Dial 1-646-876-9923
2. Enter 88397990846# (meeting id)
3. Enter # to skip participant id
4. Enter 499400# (passcode)



Celebrating June Birthdays:

June 2nd - Jessica Rossi
June 7th - Carmen Porto, Jr.
June 8th - Michael Gemignani
June 15th - Jonathan Wargo
June 25th - Harriet Brooks
June 29th - Marcy Porto



Happy Anniversary to:

June 9th - Isabelle & Bob Gemignani
June 21st - Rich & Deidra Kopec



The next **E-Board** Meeting will be held on Sunday, June 27th.



ST. GEORGE'S COMMUNITY SUPPER

Next time we serve is on Monday, June 28th. Please speak with Deidra if you would like to help.



Thank you to all who donated supplies and made monetary donations for the **CWS Hygiene Kits**. We assembled 30 kits in total & they are ready to be shipped!



Please join us for our **Annual Olivet Church Picnic on Sunday, June 13th after worship**. We missed out last year because of COVID, so let's gather together safely, outdoors at Olivet! Our Picnic will be "BYOBL", as in, 'bring your own bagged lunch' and drink!' Dessert will be provided by the Executive Board. We'll set up chairs & the canopy if weather is an issue. We look forward to seeing everyone!



SCHOOL NEWS!

Ryan Paul Rodko, son of Sharon & Ed Rodko, graduated from UCONN with a Bachelors in Psychology with a minor in Sociology. Ryan will be attending Fairfield University, pursuing a Masters in Marriage & Family Therapy. Congratulations Ryan!



YOU'VE GOT MAIL!

Dear Members & Friends of Olivet Congregational Church,

As many of you know, I am retiring from my position of Financial Secretary here at Olivet Church. At the end of June, my husband & I are moving out of CT, to begin a new chapter in our lives. I have loved my time here, learned many new skills and cherish the friendships that I have made over the years. Many thanks to all of you, especially the Executive Board, Pastors Lisa, Carolyn & Cindy for the wonderful opportunity here working in the church office.

With warmest regards,
Kathey DeMarco

JUNE 2021

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
		1	2	3	4	5
<p>6</p> <p>Communion Sunday Worship 10:00am in our Sanctuary & via Zoom! Pastor Lisa Eleck</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>9</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Psalm Series 6pm via Zoom</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12</p>
<p>13</p> <p>Worship 10:00am in our Sanctuary & via Zoom! Pastor Lisa Eleck</p> <p>CHURCH PICNIC! All are welcome!</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15</p>	<p>16</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Psalm Series 6pm via Zoom</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Pastor Lisa is on vacation thru June 27th!</p>
<p>20</p> <p>Worship 10:00am in our Sanctuary & via ZOOM! Guest Minister, Rev. Jim Jenkins</p> <p>Happy Father's Day!</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p> <p style="text-align: center;">64th Anniversary of the United Church of Christ</p>	<p>26</p>
<p>27</p> <p>Worship 10:00am in our Sanctuary & via ZOOM! Guest Minister, Rev. Carolyn Young</p> <p>E-Board Meeting</p>	<p>28</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Serving Calvary St. Georges.</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Psalm Series 6pm via Zoom</p>			

Olivet Congregational Church
2102 Main Street
Bridgeport, CT 06606-5312

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED



Communion Sunday - June 6th
Church Picnic - June 13th
Father's Day - June 20th
E-Board Meeting - June 27th
Serving Calvary St. George's - June 28th



Olivet Congregational Church, UCC

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