



The Olivetian

THE NEWSLETTER OF OLIVET CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH,
(UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST), ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA
March 2011, Vol.. 61, #3

Friday Morning Lenten Breakfasts

All ages are invited to join us for the Olivet tradition of early morning Lenten breakfasts. Beginning at 7:00 a.m. on Friday mornings March 11 through April 15, a hot breakfast will be served, followed by a brief spiritual message from our pastor, Rev. Michael Wasylik. We are finished by 7:45 a.m., when some head to school or work, and others stay to wash the dishes. Volunteers are needed to prepare and host each week. A free-will offering is taken to cover costs incurred. **Please RSVP by noon on Thursdays with the church office (651) 646-1478, if you plan to attend that week or if you are willing to host.**

March Sunday Worship Schedule

The heart of our life together

10:00 a.m.: We gather for worship in the Sanctuary
The Rev. Michael Wasylik preaching
Childcare provided for those ages 3 and under

March 6: Last Sunday after Epiphany/ Transfiguration Sunday. Lectionary texts include Exodus 24:12-18, 2 Peter 1:16-21, Psalm 99, and Matthew 17:1-9.

March 13: First Sunday in Lent. Readings include Genesis 2:15-17, 3:1-7, Romans 5:12-19, Psalm 32, and Matthew 4:1-11.

March 20: Second Sunday in Lent. Readings include Genesis 12:1-4a, Romans 4:1-5, 13-17, Psalm 121, and John 3:1-17.

March 27: Third Sunday in Lent. Readings include Exodus 17:1-7, Romans 5:1-11, Psalm 95, and John 4:5-42.

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The Olivetian is published monthly by Olivet Congregational Church (United Church of Christ), 1850 Iglehart Avenue, St. Paul, MN 55104. Contact the church at (651) 646-1478 or contact@olivetucc.net to comment, contribute, or note changes of address.

From the Pastor

The Rev. Michael Wasylik

Dear Friends,

Peter Mazar writes that Lent is not tidy. Days grow longer (the word "Lent" come from "lengthen"), the ground thaws, and the next thing we know everything is filthy. The earth itself needs a good bath: our cars need washing; our temples need cleansing. The English names of Lenten months come from ancient words that reflect the need to roll up our sleeves and get cleaning: February ("purification"), March ("the spirit of war"), and April ("opening"). These are good names. Winter doesn't leave without blustery battles that push things over and mess things up and even break things. And when the fury

(continued on page 2)

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subsides, we find that the ground is littered with bits and pieces of ourselves.

Because there is no way to go around Lent, we as Christians decide to go through Lent as one baptized people. Yet, we have no way to remember our baptisms except with the broken, withering remnants of winter. Therefore, think of Ash Wednesday like a baptism that has dried up and craves water. Winter is ending: the fireplace is filled with soot and the dusty landscape waits to receive the spring rain. And at the Passover meal we will finally receive water instead of ash, so that we may once again remember our baptisms and wash our filthy feet.

But coming back to our baptisms is hard work and we cannot do it alone. Therefore, I invite you to fully participate in life at Olivet during Lent: be it through the Lenten breakfasts, Wednesday night meals, adult education or the rich traditions found in worship. There are ways to support one another so that we can journey through the hard areas of our lives and onward to the promises of Easter. We are a filthy, broken pilgrim people in the company of same, yet we know how the story ends and we will get through this winter together. So have hope. The days are indeed growing longer.

Your brother in Christ,
Michael

**Reminder:
Daylight Savings Time
begins Sunday,
March 13!**

**Invitation to the Next
Bach Society of Minnesota Concert**

March 5, 8:00 p.m.

Sundin Hall

Hamline University, St. Paul

Dear Olivet Members

The Bach Society of Minnesota would like to thank you for allowing our board to have meetings at Olivet and for rehearsal space. Our upcoming concert, "Bach's Orchestra" promises to be amazing! We would like to offer members and friends of Olivet **two-for one tickets** to our March 5 concert.

The concert features some of the most popular orchestral music of Bach, including his *Orchestral Suite #2*, the *Brandenburg Concerto IV*, *Violin Concerto in a minor* and the *Violin Sonata in G major*. Baroque violinist Jin Kim and traverso (Baroque flute) player Immanuel Davis are our soloists.

Jin Kim plays with "Le Petite Band," one of the finest Baroque ensembles in the world. Immanuel Davis, a versatile performer, has played on Broadway as well as with the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra. Of course Paul Boehnke and Julie Elhard will be performing as well!

We hope you will take advantage of this! You may buy your tickets at the door (Sundin Hall on the Hamline University campus); just mention that you attend Olivet for your discount. Thank you all!!

Sincerely,
The Board of Directors,
Bach Society of Minnesota

Community Works

"Generous Spirit" Food Drive in March

Each year in March, all of Minnesota participates in Food Share month. Again this year in March, we will deliver Olivet's contributions to the food shelf at the Department of Indian Works (DIW), under the auspices of the Saint Paul Area Council of Churches. The need is great and growing for all categories of food items, and Olivet's members and friends faithfully respond in the spirit of Jesus.

We have an opportunity to make another difference, however, by the types of food gifts we bring. A staggering percentage of our Native American neighbors are faced with a diagnosis of diabetes in their lifetimes -- 50% and more in some communities. The DIW offers biweekly support meetings for people with diabetes. In this March drive, we can help by supplying sugar-free or low-sugar items when possible. Some examples are unflavored oatmeal and low-sugar cereals, canned fruits packed in juice rather than heavy syrup, and low-sugar jelly or jams. Some of us may even wish to purchase artificial sweeteners or specific sugar-free items labeled for diabetics. Other contributed foods are always welcomed, of course, and we'll provide a list of suggestions with your Sunday bulletins as reminders.

Traditionally we bring our contributions to the nearby Keystone Food Shelf year-around. The Keystone agency sponsors three sites in St. Paul: Midway, Rice Street, and a newly opened one in Roseville (formerly at Fairview Community Center). **You are invited to an Open House on Thursday, March 3, at the new, larger site.** Poverty is not limited to large cities: The Roseville site is already operating more client service hours than either of the other two, believe it or not! Everyone interested is encouraged to see it for yourself at 2833 North Hamline Avenue, about four blocks north of County Road C. The Open House will be held from 4:30 to 7:00 p.m. with a short program at 5:30. -- *Audrey Olson, for the Community Works Committee*

Youth/ Church Book Drive in March

The Community Works Committee has paired with the Christian Education Committee for a once-a-month Wednesday night service project that the children of Olivet and their parents can participate in.

During the month of March, both committees are asking all Olivetians to donate gently used or new children's books to culminate in a Wednesday night "book sort" on Wednesday, March 30.

Both committees will be taking suggestions on where to donate the books, as there are many organizations in our area that would love to receive them. Please bring your book donations to church and drop in the "book box" located in the corner of the Fellowship Hall, near where the grocery cart is usually parked. Suggestions on where to give the books should be placed in the Suggestion Box located on the bench outside the kitchen. Thank you.

"In Honor of:" A Devotion to Go Along With Our Sandwich Brigade

For the past eleven months Olivetians have made 100 sandwiches per month for the homeless at the Simpson Shelter. And we have heard that at the end of the month, neighborhood families come knocking on Simpson's door very hungry, and Simpson staff use their supply of sandwiches as a way to feed those who "stop in" as well as giving a sandwich to each shelter guest in the morning as they leave to face the day.

We are adding an element to our sandwich ministry which is to offer our volunteers the chance to honor a loved one, or to offer public thanks for something in one's life that is a blessing—either a job, a person, or a circumstance.

The Community Works Committee would like to kick off this idea by honoring all the volunteers in 2010 who made it possible for us to accomplish as much as we did. Thank you everyone who helped with the Habitat House, Project Home, Christmas Keystone baskets, Women's Advocates shopping, and those who are now knitting for Bundles of Love. Well, the list goes on and on, so thank you from our heart to yours! If you wish to make an "in honor of" blessing for our March sandwiches, please e-mail Kathy Oakley at contact@olivetucc.net, and it will be included in our Thursday e-mails and our Sunday bulletin. – *Caroline Stone*

Olivet Church Council Minutes

Olivet Council Meeting – February 8, 2011

Present: Jeff Benjamin, Rob Arnold, Nancy Berry, Christian Soltermann, Caroline Stone, Paul Clasen, Joel Peterson, Cris Lien, Sarah Senaratna, Barbara McClellan

Absent: Holly Stoerker, Barb Nilles

New members to the Council were welcomed as we got acquainted with them. We also shared our joys and concerns before beginning the meeting with prayers and the lighting of a candle. The Minutes of the January Council meeting were approved as presented and a motion was passed to accept the agenda for our meeting.

We discussed the Annual Meeting and how the Council felt it went. Our comments were favorable and Michael felt it went very smoothly. Barb Nilles will confirm that the numbers presented in the Annual Report are correct.

Some mention had been made at the Annual Meeting about the pay range for our staff employees and how it compared to other churches. The Human Resources Committee had made such a study a number of years ago, and had presented their findings to the Council. The HR Committee will be asked to make a current survey comparing Olivet's pay range locally, regionally and nationally with other churches of our size. Michael told us that Olivet has higher quality and more diverse programming than most churches our size.

Michael mentioned that there is an area close to Olivet – just north of Highway 94 – of neighborhoods that are middle to lower income families. He said that there were no churches in that area and that this could be an opportunity for Olivet to expand our outreach to this area.

We also discussed getting our vegetable garden started in the area behind the church and maybe also on the boulevard areas on both the Iglehart and Dewey sides, where our produce could be available for friends and neighbors to share.

Jeff would like us to plan a winter retreat for the Council to discuss many things, including taking another look at our current mission statement and also our

stewardship campaign approach to the congregation. A tentative date has been set for the retreat for April 2, from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the church.

Worship and Christian Education: These committees will continue to discuss the question of open Communion at Olivet, with a focus on serving Communion to children before they are confirmed. This will be an ongoing discussion over many weeks, with Olivet members and friends invited to bring their concerns and opinions to these talks. It is hoped that these discussions will focus on the process that will be studied over time, rather than just the outcome of these meetings. The next step will be to make educational resources available about the topic for parents and others, to facilitate talking about things within our families. It is our hope that we can discuss ideas on this and other theologically diverse topics with respect and care for each other.

Building and Grounds: Christian mentioned that the Bit by Bit gatherings could always use more help each first Saturday of the month. Feel free to turn up to help. The committee continues to study our Building Use policy and will bring their suggestions to the Council for discussion at an upcoming meeting. There are also three areas around the church that the committee is looking at for possible renovation or upgrading. They are: the library; an area in the north transept of the sanctuary for use as a small chapel at various times; and conversion of a room near the office to a small reception area for visitors.

Membership: The Progressive Dinner was successful and great fun, with seventy-five members and friends attending.

Stewardship: Joel Peterson, the new chairman of the Committee, has talked to the committee's current members and will be starting discussions of how to approach next year's stewardship campaign. Questions will include talks about whether to continue using the Faith Promise model or change to another way or look at things from a completely different point of view.

Community Works: Caroline Stone talked about the many ways that Olivet reaches out to the community. She hopes that more people will sign up to help make sandwiches once a month, to aid homeless men in our area. This is one way that our members can see where

our efforts are expended to those in need.

The next meeting will be March 8, at 7:00 p.m. Cris Lien closed the meeting with a prayer.

Youth: Cris Lien is the new chair of this committee and is beginning to get acquainted with the young people in the group. The Youth Group will be planning, making and serving the Sweetheart Dinner on February 26 at church, followed by a movie for everyone. The group is also getting close to choosing the site for this summer's Mission Trip.

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara McClellan,
Olivet Church Clerk

Buffy Larson, as Director of the **Bell Choir**, came to the meeting to make some requests. She would like to have a permanent space for the Bell Choir, for use for both practice and performance. She asked the Council to consider using the north transept area for this space, and to provide new tables that are both attractive and easy to set up and take down. A motion was passed to give the Bell Choir \$1,500 from the Children's Music Revolving fund to make this possible. Buffy also asked the Council to consider adding a line item to next year's budget to purchase music for the Children's Choirs.

Treasurer's Report

(as of January 31, 2011)

	Year End Budget	YTD 2011	YTD 2010
INCOME			
Pledges	209,500	57,625	51,310
Endowment Draw	37,500	0	0
Other	64,122	585	3,062
TOTAL	311,122	58,210	54,372
EXPENSES			
Pastoral & Staff	213,439	18,818	17,608
Program & Benevolence	36,505	607	615
Building & Office	50,197	9,562	7,753
TOTAL	300,141	28,987	25,976
Net income over expenses	10,981	29,223	28,396

Stock Gifts

When giving stock as a gift to the church, please contact the church office and let us know the following information:

1. **What** stock is being transferred, **when** it is being transferred, from **whom**, and **the number of shares**.
When we receive stock at the brokerage firm it doesn't always say who it's from. Unless the office has been informed, we don't know whom to credit.
2. Call the church office for a letter template to transfer stock to Morgan Stanley Smith Barney.

- Barbara Nilles, Treasurer



MARCH 2011

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
		1 <i>Bach Society, Sanctuary, 9:00 a.m.-12 noon</i> Pastoral Relations Committee, 7:00 p.m., Parlor
6 Sunday Schedule* Communion Sunday Open Basketball, 6:30 p.m. Fellowship Hall <i>Brass Quintet rehearsal, Sanctuary, 7:00 p.m.</i>	7 <i>Yoga, Fellowship Hall 7:00 p.m.</i>	8 Church Council Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Parlor
13 DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS Sunday Schedule* Open Basketball, Fellowship Hall 6:30 p.m. <i>Brass Quintet rehearsal, Sanctuary, 7:00 p.m.</i>	14 <i>Yoga, Fellowship Hall, 7:00 p.m.</i>	15
20 Sunday Schedule* <i>Twin Cities Recorder Guild, 2:00-5:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall</i> Open Basketball, Fellowship Hall 6:30 p.m. <i>Brass Quintet rehearsal, Sanctuary, 7:00 p.m.</i>	21 Bundles of Love Project, 7:00 p.m., Parlor <i>Yoga, Fellowship Hall, 7:00 p.m.</i>	22 Deacons Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Parlor
27 Christian Ed meeting, Library, 8:30 a.m. Sunday Schedule* Open Basketball, Fellowship Hall 6:30 p.m. <i>Brass Quintet rehearsal, Sanctuary, 7:00 p.m.</i>	28 <i>Yoga, Fellowship Hall, 7:00 p.m.</i>	

WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p style="text-align: right;">2</p> <p><i>Bach Society, Sanctuary, 9:00 a.m.-12 noon</i> Wednesday Night at Olivet 5:15 p.m. Adult Bell Choir 5:50 p.m. Fellowship Dinner 6:15 p.m. Children's Bell Choir 6:30 p.m. Christian Education 7:35 p.m. Adult Choir</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">3</p> <p><i>Bach Society, Sanctuary, 9:00 a.m.-12 noon</i> Olivet Men's Group Dinner, Parlor, 6:30 p.m. Worship Committee, Parlor, 7:00 p.m. Yoga, 7:00 p.m.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">4</p> <p><i>Bach Society, Sanctuary, 9:00 a.m.-12 noon</i></p>	<p style="text-align: right;">5</p> <p>Building & Grounds, Parlor, 8:00 a.m., Bit x Bit, 9:00 a.m. <i>AA Open Meeting, 9:30 a.m., Library</i> <i>Minnesota Country Dance Ball and Soup Supper, Fellowship Hall, 5:15 p.m.</i></p>
<p style="text-align: right;">9</p> <p>ASH WEDNESDAY Wednesday Night at Olivet 5:15 p.m. Adult Bell Choir 5:50 p.m. Fellowship Dinner 6:15 p.m. Children's Bell Choir 6:30 p.m. Christian Education and Ash Wednesday Liturgy 7:35 p.m. Adult Choir</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">10</p> <p><i>Yoga, Fellowship Hall, 7:00 p.m.</i></p>	<p style="text-align: right;">11</p> <p>Lenten Breakfast, Fellowship Hall, 7:00 a.m. Second Friday Movie, Parlor, 6:30 p.m. Olivet Women's Retreat begins, Dunrovin</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">12</p> <p><i>AA Open Meeting, 9:30 a.m., Library</i> Olivet Women's Retreat continues, Dunrovin <i>The WolfGang Spring Concert, Sanctuary, 7:30 p.m.</i></p>
<p style="text-align: right;">16</p> <p>Wednesday Night at Olivet 5:15 p.m. Adult Bell Choir 5:50 p.m. Fellowship Dinner 6:15 p.m. Children's Bell Choir 6:30 p.m. Christian Education 7:35 p.m. Adult Choir</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">17</p> <p><i>Yoga, Fellowship Hall 7:00 p.m.</i></p>	<p style="text-align: right;">18</p> <p>Lenten Breakfast, Fellowship Hall, 7:00 a.m.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">19</p> <p><i>AA Open Meeting, 9:30 a.m., Library</i> Women's Fellowship Minneapolis Institute of Arts Tour, 10:30 a.m.</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">23</p> <p>Wednesday Night at Olivet 5:15 p.m. Adult Bell Choir 5:50 p.m. Fellowship Dinner 6:15 p.m. Children's Bell Choir 6:30 p.m. Christian Education 7:35 p.m. Adult Choir</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">24</p> <p><i>Yoga, 7:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall</i></p>	<p style="text-align: right;">25</p> <p>Lenten Breakfast, Fellowship Hall, 7:00 a.m.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">26</p> <p><i>AA Open Meeting, 9:30 a.m., Library</i></p>
		<p>*Regular Sunday Schedule 8:30 a.m. Lectionary Bible Study 10:00 a.m. Worship 10:15 a.m. Sunday School Classes 9:45-11:30 a.m. Nursery available Worship is always followed by a Fellowship Coffee Hour.</p>	

Christian Education

Supporting Faith Formation for All Ages

Grace Notes

Grace Anderson, Director of Christian Education

In the 1930s Dorothy Day wrote, "There is a call to us, a call of service – that we join with others to try to make things better in this world." She wrote as our country was slowly climbing out of a deep depression. The call to service is still heard here in our country and around the world. We hear the call here at Olivet regardless of age.

During the Olivet Annual Meeting on Sunday, January 30, the children of Olivet met as a group to decide how their accumulated Sunday School offering of \$110 would be divided and donated to the Heifer International program. They were given the task of deciding what types of animals would be the most beneficial for families in need. Then they decided how many shares of a particular animal they would purchase (for example, a flock of chicks or a share of a heifer). These animals will assist the poor to be fed properly and help the families earn a living to pay for decent housing or a chance to attend school.

In their process of decision making, the children learned some group decision making, math, geography, and types and uses of different domestic animals. Most of all, they learned of the immense need of people in our world. In the words of Dorothy Day, they answered the call to service.

May all be blessed – the givers and the receivers, for we are all God's children.

Grace

March Sunday School Teachers

March 6, 13, 20 and 27

Godly Play Storyteller – Trina Gustafson

Godly Play Door Person – Sarah Rynkiewich

Kindergarten - Jayne Soltermann

Grades 1 & 2 – Sarah Hamilton/Sarah Rynkiewich

Grades 3 & 4 – Gabriela Testa

Grades 5 & 6 – Gabriela Testa

Youth grades 7-12 are invited to stay in worship. If you're in 7th grade or older and have received babysitter training, you can volunteer in the church nursery. Please contact Grace Anderson for more information or if you would like to volunteer. You must sign up in advance to volunteer.

Sunday Adult Christian Education

Tim Polk leads a Bible Study on the lectionary texts each Sunday morning from 8:30 – 9:30 a.m. in the Parlor. Childcare is available.

Nursery Care

Nursery care is available each Sunday morning from 8:30 until 11:30 a.m. for children birth through 3 years of age. On Wednesdays from 6:30 – 7:45 p.m. childcare is provided for ages birth to 3 years old. Gwen Lilly is our lead childcare provider and is assisted by babysitter-trained youth volunteers

Wednesday Nights at Olivet

- All Church Dinner: 5:50 p.m., Fellowship Hall
- Programs for Adults, Children and Youth: 6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
- Confirmation Class: 6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Youth Group

Heidi Hall, our Youth Director, leads our Youth Group on Wednesday nights at 6:30 p.m. in the Youth Room with the help of Olivet volunteers. All youth grades 7-12 are welcome!

Junior Choir and Cherub Choirs

Buffy Larson leads our Junior Choir (grades 3 and up) on Sunday mornings starting at 11:30 after the service. The Cherub Choir will not resume until a few weeks before Easter.

Contact information

Director of Christian Education: Grace Anderson (grace.anderson@comcast.net)
Youth Group Director: Heidi Hall (heidi-hall@bethel.edu)

March Adult Christian Education

Before telling his followers a story, Jesus was known to have said, "Let those who have ears hear." (Matthew 11:15). Olivet's second semester series, "**Listening Between the Lines: Parables, Meditation and Art,**" will focus on finding God by being careful to listen using a variety of tools. The Gospel of Luke, various meditative practices and several experiences with artwork provide us practice.

March 2: Ritual and the Transcendent

How important is ritual in our spiritual life? What role does ritual play in religious experience? We will start with a brief description of A.N. Whitehead's view that ritual, emotion, belief and rationality are four developmental elements of religion. We will reflect on personal experiences with rituals that have become essential to our spiritual lives as well as rituals which fail to speak to us and seem empty. Finally we consider connections between ritual and art and the power they have to make us feel we are listening in the presence of the Holy.

March 9: Ash Wednesday

We begin the reflective season of Lent with a solemn evening service, following the regular Wednesday night meal together. Readings, song and prayer call us to confession, repentance and forgiveness, as we receive ashes on our foreheads in acknowledgement of our mortality. Childcare will be provided.

March 16: *Lectio Divina* I

The outcome of *Lectio Divina* is that Bible reading becomes a communion with God and one another. *Lectio Divina* encourages us to love the scripture, read it over and over, and let it remain with us. We do not strive for mastery over the text, nor do we look for its mastery over us. Instead, we approach one another as friends. Gradually, we recognize that scripture exists in relationship with another sacred text: *our own lives*. In this class we will learn how to approach God through scripture and listen for God in our lives. *Lectio Divina* can be used as an individual spiritual discipline or to discern God's movement within a group.

March 23: *Lectio Divina* II

Part 2 of the session on the Christian meditative tradition of *Lectio Divina*.

March 30: Centering Prayer

Announcements

WORSHIP

Upcoming Altar Guild, Deacon, and Coffee Hour

Coordinating Hosts. March Altar Guild: Adam Rynkiewicz. March Deacon: Kathy Lamp. March Coffee Hour Coordinating Hosts: Margaret Tabar and Karen Inman. See page 8 for Sunday School teachers.

Pastor's Schedule

The Rev. Michael Wasylik's usual office hours are Tuesday through Friday, 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. or by appointment. You may contact him at the church at (651) 646-1478 or Michael.Wasylik@comcast.net. In the event of a pastoral emergency, you may reach him by cell phone: (708) 752-3034.

The Time for One Great Hour of Sharing Is Near

Darfur, Egypt, Gaza, Haiti, Venezuela, Sierra Leone, Namibia, North Korea, Inner Mongolia – these are all places where your generous giving to One Great Hour of Sharing has been making a difference this year.

We Olivetians may be little more than 90 families strong, but between your outpouring of donations for Haiti and our annual Lenten OGHS offering, we contributed nearly \$2,700 to OGHS last year.

Together with 6,000 other UCC churches and with congregations from eight other denominations, we raised three million dollars in 2010 to support worldwide programs for disaster relief, for refugees, and for building sustainable communities.

Expect to hear more about the difference your giving makes as we approach our annual One Great Hour of Sharing offering in early April. — *Joel Peterson, Stewardship*

Next Olivet Men's Group Dinner Is March 3

The next meeting of the Olivet Men's Group will be hosted by Steve Nelson on Thursday, March 3, at his home, 1544 Fairmont. Our format is to gather at 6:30 p.m. to share a meal and then discuss a topic of interest to the group. New participants are always welcome! For more information, contact Steve at nelson-steve50@gmail.com, or 651-690-1699.

Bit x Bit on March 5

Bring your willing spirit for monthly repairs and

maintenance of our beloved building. 9:00 a.m. start with coffee and treats; done by noon at the latest!

New in the Olivet Library

Penned by one of the world's leading Bible scholars, N.T. Wright, *Surprised By Hope* was recently added to the church library shelves. Between the pages, Wright poses questions such as what happens when we die and how should we think about heaven, hell, purgatory and eternal life. Wright discusses the strong views of heaven held by Western culture, especially the assumption of the continuance of the soul after death in a sort of blissful non-bodily existence. Reading Wright's ideas about the resurrection would be thoughtful time spent in preparation for the Easter season. Look for this book on display, or on the shelf at 236.3 Wri. — *Marghe Tabar*

Open Basketball Has Moved to Sunday Night

Open basketball has moved to Sunday night at 6:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall during the month of February. Adult and youth junior high age and above are welcome to play. Contact Ben Awes with questions: benawes@visi.com.

March Music at Olivet

The WolfGang Offers Its Spring Concert March 12: "La Primavera"

The WolfGang celebrates the arrival of spring a little early, with their March program. A duo, trios and quintet from London and the Continent will have you dreaming of spring, and set your feet a-dancing. Join us for "La Primavera!"

Saturday, March 12, 2011 – 7:30 p.m.

Olivet Congregational Church
Free Will Contribution at the Door

March Celebrations

ANNIVERSARIES

John and Anna Maria Gaylord 3/26

BIRTHDAYS

Thomas Evans	3/1	Ben Awes	3/16
Jeff Benjamin	3/5	Pat Koopmans	3/21
Steve Church	3/5	Martha Morgan	3/24
Anna Rynkiewich	3/6	Paul Street	3/26
Madelyn Thompson	3/7	Jereb Cheatham	3/27
Ellie Berg	3/9	Earl Eldridge	3/27
Bruce Berry	3/10	Augie Nelson	3/27
Matthew Sweeney	3/11	Bonnie Eldridge	3/28
Daniel Schultz	3/13	Dawn Singleton	3/28
Terry Nelson	3/16		

The Prayer List

Please keep the following Olivet members and friends in your prayers this month.

The family of Floyd "Baldy" NELSON, father of Steve Nelson, father-in-law of Kathy Lamp, and grandfather of Robb and Mickey Nelson. Mr. Nelson died February 7.

Virginia DURAND, at home.

Joyce GUSTAFSON, at Lyngblomsten Care Center.

Pat KOOPMANS, in Arizona to be with her mother, Mary Koopmans, who suffered a serious stroke.

Anne SIMPSON, recovering from hip replacement surgery on February 21.

The family of Barbara STANSBURY, mother of Wendy Stansbury-O'Donnell, who died February 6 at the age of 82. A memorial service will be held in the spring at First Congregational Church in Millbury, Massachusetts.

The family of Katherine VIRGIN, a former member of Olivet, who died January 24 in Houston, Texas.

Jacob WETTERLING, and all missing children.

Mary WILSON, sister of Junie De Coster and Edward Stringer, who died February 14.

Remember, you can read the Olivetian online, see pictures in full color, and send the link to a friend. Visit www.olivetucc.net and click "Olivetian Online" to see the current and past issues. Click "Programs and Events" for a current calendar of church activities.

Olivet Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
1850 Iglehart Avenue
St. Paul, MN 55104-3524

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TIME-SENSITIVE MATERIAL

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Olivet Church Staff and Officers

The Rev. Michael Wasyluk	<i>Pastor</i>	Jeff Benjamin	<i>Moderator</i>
Paul Boehnke	<i>Organist/Choirmaster</i>	Barbara Nilles	<i>Treasurer</i>
Grace Anderson	<i>Director of Christian Education</i>	Barbara McClellan	<i>Clerk</i>
Kathryn Oakley	<i>Office Manager</i>	Holly Stoerker	<i>Senior Deacon</i>
Leonard "Butch" Schultz	<i>Facilities</i>	Gwen Lilly	<i>Lead Childcare Provider</i>
Heidi Hall	<i>Youth Director</i>	Adam Rynkiewich	<i>Altar Guild</i>
Buffy Larson	<i>Bell Choir Director</i>	Paul Clasen	<i>Head Usher</i>
Gabriella Testa	<i>Sunday School Teacher</i>		

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