



THE OLIVET BRANCH

Olivet Presbyterian Church

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*"Called together by the Holy Spirit to follow Jesus
and express God's love to all."*



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FROM THE PASTOR

With my lips I profess, and with my mind I accept, that salvation is a gift from God; we are "saved by God's grace." I know that I did not do anything to bring about my first birth, and did not do anything to bring about my "new birth in Christ." My life, my new and eternal life, are gifts not contingent upon my planning, goodness, striving, or merit. Yet with my heart I discover that I fail to love in a manner that corresponds to the gracious gift I have been given. And I know I am not alone. If viewing ourselves as debtors who have been forgiven an unpayable debt was our default mode, we would not have the church pews to hold everybody.

A priest delivering a homily in the Cathedral of Notre Dame in Paris, France told the story of a group of university students walking along a country road in France and stopping to rest on the steps of a church. The students began discussing religion, agreeing that it was a hoax, a set of beliefs and practices for unenlightened people. One of the students turned to another and dared him to go into the church and tell the priest about their conversation. The young man agreed to do so. The priest listened patiently as he told what he and his friends thought of God, religion, and the church. As he turned to leave, the priest said, "My son, why have you told me this?" The boy admitted that he had been dared to do it. "Ah," said the priest, "then you would accept a dare from me as well?" "You were brave enough to take the challenge of your friends. I ask you walk down the aisle, go into the chancel and look at the cross and say, 'Jesus died for me and I don't give a damn!'" The young man

completed the challenge then turned and walked back to where the priest was standing. But the priest said, "Do it once more son. After all, it means nothing to you." And so a second time, the young man made his way to the front of the church, looked into the face of the crucified and again uttered the words, "Jesus died for me and I don't give a damn!" He turned and walked back to where the priest was waiting. "I am leaving now," said the young man. "Do it just once more," said the priest, "then you can leave." A third time the university student made his way to the front, looked into the face of the crucified, opened his mouth; and nothing came out. Head lowered, and turning, he walked back to where the priest was standing. He said, "Father, I am ready to make my confession!" After telling the story about the young students to a sophisticated congregation in Paris, the priest leaned across the pulpit and said, "This is a true story, my friends. You see, I was that young man."

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Adult Studies	3
Birthdays	10
Calendar	9
Children's Ministry	2
Communications	8
Fellowship	5
Missions	6
Music Ministry	2
Session	4
Worship	5
Youth Ministry	3

PRESCHOOL NEWS



To better meet the childcare needs of families in our church and surrounding community, the Olivet Preschool is expanding! Please contact Betsy Dishman at the church office: 295.1367, or e-mail: betsy@olivetpresbyterian.org. For more details, please visit www.olivetpreschool.org. Only three spots remain in the 4-year-old class for this fall!

KIDS OWN WORSHIP (KOW)

During June the children attending KOW have been exploring the “13 Most Important Bible Lessons for Kids about God.” So far we have learned that “God Is Three in One”; “God Is Good”; “God Is Holy”; and “God Is Everlasting.” In July we will be learning more about Jesus. If you are able to assist as a helper a Sunday or two this month, please contact Emily Rayle or Annie Lorenzoni.

VBS THANKS

VBS would not be possible without the wonderful youth and adult volunteers who gave so much to the 70 children who attended. A special thank you to Kelly Kaufman for serving as VBS Co-Director! Also thank you to Preschool Leaders: Stephanie Benzian, Ashley Buford, Betty Hopson, Susanne Derrico; Station Rotation Leaders: Linda Reaser, Michelle Karpovich, Doris Vander Meulen, Kyle Benson, Jessicah Collins, Marie Reed; Adult Guides: Cindy Cass, Dawn Cleveland, Shannon Smith; Youth: Allie Schleifer, Darius Bowles, Emma Benzian, Reagan Epperly, Lucy Eisenberg, Annie Grover, Elizabeth Fabiano, Charlotte Dagli, Juliana Scott, Brian Purdy, Ny-Jhee Jones, Lydia Eisenberg, Alexandra Dagli, Molly Servine, Cheney Knight, Saria Yusuf, Carrie Smith, Sarah Servine, Jane Servine, Lillian Watkins, William Dagli, Lucy Abell; Junior Helpers: Timothy Cleveland, Mary Govan, Lucca Rannigan, Ellen Bartholomew, Sammy Derrico; Musicians: Doris Vander Meulen, Jacob Dishman, Eleanor Fabiano; all the decorators and everyone for snack contributions!

SUMMER SUNDAYS

The summer schedule continues with two worship services at 9:00 am in the Fellowship Hall and 11:00 am in the Sanctuary. There will be time for fellowship between the services. In lieu of Sunday School, children and youth are encouraged to attend worship with their families. Children in Pre-K through 5th grade may go out with adult leaders and youth helpers before the sermon for *Kids Own Worship (KOW)*. Summer is the perfect time to introduce your child to worship, prayer, confession, assurance of pardon, and hymns of the faith. Nursery will be available during both services for children 4 and younger.

DATES FOR FAMILIES

Sept 11 – Rally Day (Sunday School begins)
Sept 28 - Nov 16 – Fall Kids' Connection

♪♪♪ MUSIC MINISTRY NOTES ♪♪♪

SUMMER SPECIAL MUSIC

While the Chancel Choir takes a summer break, special music offerings will be selected to enhance the 11:00 am worship service. If you have gifts for music and would enjoy preparing a musical offering in August, please speak with Betsy Dishman.

DR. TONY CAMPOLO TO SPEAK AT MASSANETTA SPRINGS

BIBLE & CHURCH MUSIC CONFERENCE

This year's theme is “Celebrate! We are the Church!!” Come and stay for the week (July 24-29) to attend the Bible Conference or Church Music Conference. It's great for folks who enjoy choir singing; perfect for families with children and youth who enjoy camp activities! Come for an evening of worship any night at 7:00 pm in Hudson Auditorium. The guest preacher for Sunday night is Dr. Tony Campolo. For more information, please visit the website under “programs” at www.massanettasprings.org.



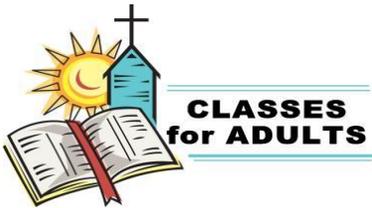
From the Youth Director

Currently, 34 youth and adults from Olivet, as well as 12 from Crozet United Methodist, are serving with PathLight International in Belize. The group is serving from June 26 – July 3. PathLight International serves at-risk children by providing educational opportunities that integrate faith and learning. By working with volunteers, local schools, children's homes, churches, government agencies, and non-profit groups, PathLight helps vulnerable children become the self-reliant leaders of tomorrow. The Mission Team from Olivet will be working in the village of Armenia, supporting projects within the schools, as well as leading a Reading Camp for the local school children. Please keep the group in prayer for a blessed and fruitful experience.

SETH LOVELL GRADUATES FROM SEMINARY



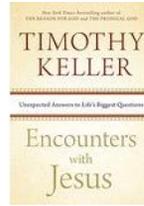
On Saturday, June 4, Seth Lovell officially completed his Masters of Divinity at Union Presbyterian Seminary. We celebrate with Seth and his family in the completion of this degree, and look forward to Seth's ordination and future service as an ordained minister in the Presbyterian Church.



ADULT SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL

The "Inquiring Believers" Sunday School Class is meeting through the summer in the church library, discussing a weekly e-mail regarding a current event and relevant scripture passages. All are welcome to join the discussion from 10:00 – 11:00 am.

WEEKLY BOOK GROUP



The Friday book group is discussing a book by renowned pastor and New York Times bestselling author Tim Keller entitled "Encounters with Jesus." Through explorations of biblical stories, Keller shows how people were changed when they met Jesus personally—and how we can be changed today through our own encounter with him. The group will not meet on July 1, but will meet on the other Fridays of July at 9:00 am in the church parlor.

LECTIONARY LUNCH

The Lectionary Lunch gathering will not meet for the first two Thursdays in July. This weekly discussion of the scripture passages to be shared in worship on Sunday will resume on Thursday, July 21.

MASSANETTA SPRINGS BIBLE AND CHURCH MUSIC CONFERENCE



The theme of this year's Massanetta Springs Bible and Church Music Conference is "Celebrate! We are the Church!!" Come and stay for the week (July 24th-29th), or come for an evening of worship any night at 7:00pm in Hudson Auditorium. The guest preacher for Sunday night is Dr. Tony Campolo. For more info, visit www.massanettasprings.org.

OFFICER NOMINATING COMMITTEE

At the Sunday, June 19 Congregational Meeting, Kyle Bollmeier, Blair Engle, and Elna Yongue were elected to serve on the Church Officer Nominating Committee. They will serve along with Session members Cindy Cass and Gary Hatter. The Committee will work over the summer to prepare nominations to the congregation of people to serve as deacons and elders beginning in January. Deacons are primarily involved in a ministry of care giving to those experiencing need. Elders are primarily involved in church governance. If there is someone you think would make a good church officer (elder or deacon), please pass their name along to any member of the Church Officer Nominating Committee.

SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

The Olivet Session met for its monthly stated meeting on Tuesday, June 21, beginning the meeting with the sharing of a meal, joys and concerns, and prayer.

Gary Hatter shared an opening devotional based on a presentation at the recent Presbytery meeting by seminary professor of evangelism, John Vest. Gary and Albert then shared highlights of the June meeting of Presbytery.

During the Clerk's report, communications were shared; May 17th Session minutes and June 19th Congregational meeting minutes were approved; Frank Levers' membership was transferred to the Williamson Presbyterian Church in Danville, VA; and the action of a quorum of session members meeting on May 22nd to receive the following graduating seniors into membership was entered into the minutes: Ny-Jhee Jones by profession of faith and baptism, Ashley Taylor by transfer of membership from First Presbyterian Church, Charlottesville, and Darius Bowles and Mark Ferguson by confirmation of faith.

Session reviewed, discussed, and accepted committee minutes and financial reports, and approved the following recommendations:

- Position descriptions for half-time Administrative Assistant and Director of Communications
- Acceptance of 2014 Financial Review
- Authorization of Hal Warner and Paul Pearce to conduct 2015 financial review and inspect church bank accounts as part of review process

During Old Business, Session discussed steps being taken to replace older office computers and the ongoing work of the Long-Range Planning Task Force. Session approved development of a worship survey by the Task Force in conjunction with the Worship Committee.

During New Business, Session elected Cindy Cass and Gary Hatter to serve on the Church Officer Nominating Committee with Gary Hatter moderating. Session discussed several questions about the congregation that will assist our new Communications Director, Tracey Daniels, in developing a church logo.

The meeting was closed with a round of prayer and the Lord's Prayer.

CONGREGATION EXTENDS CALL TO SETH



At the Sunday, June 19 meeting, the Olivet congregation unanimously approved the recommendation of the Associate Pastor Nominating Committee that Seth Lovell be called as Associate Pastor for Youth and Family Ministry. The proposed terms of call were approved and the committee – consisting of Warren Buford, Amy Effland, Audrey Lorenzoni, and Juan Wade – was dismissed with gratitude. This meeting concluded a year-long process as Seth completed seminary and his ordination requirements, and Olivet established an Associate Pastor position, elected the Pastor Nominating Committee, and conducted a prayerful, thorough, and open search. Presbytery will conduct a final examination of Seth at a called meeting in August, and, given Presbytery approval, he will be ordained and installed September 18 at 4:00 pm.

OLIVET OFFICE STAFF UPDATE



Last month, Tracey Daniels began working with us as half-time Director of Communications. We had interviewed and extended a job offer to another candidate who was to have begun serving as half-time Administrative Assistant. At the last minute, some other opportunities developed for this person, and they chose not to begin working with us.

Sean Roberts, who is home from college, has stepped in to serve as interim half-time Administrative Assistant. Personnel Committee is beginning a new search for a permanent half-time Administrative Assistant to begin work in mid-August when Sean returns to school. If you know of someone who might be interested in being considered for this position, please contact John Spilman.

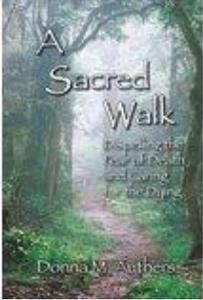
Tracey will be in the office on Monday, Tuesday morning, and Thursday, and can be reached at tracey@olivetpresbyterian.org. Sean will be in the office on Tuesday afternoon, Wednesday, and Friday, and can be reached at sean@olivetpresbyterian.org.



GOOD GRIEF

A PRESENTATION AT OUR COMMUNITY GATHERING

Sunday, July 31, 10:15am



On Sunday, July 31, Donna Authers will speak at our Community Gathering hour about the grieving process and the many forms it may take. Donna is the author of the popular book **A Sacred Walk: Dispelling the Fear of Death and Caring for the**

Dying, and its companion discussion guide. Both are available in our church library.

Many of us have lost loved ones in recent years and are grieving or living with someone who is grieving, or have a friend who has experienced a profound loss. Further, we may grieve other losses in addition to death, as the loss of a job or a friendship or a purpose or making a move. Donna will offer important dos and don'ts of living through loss and helping others. She will speak about her approach to dealing with the issues surrounding loss and will invite our questions and conversation.

Donna gives presentations to congregations and groups throughout the country and is highly acclaimed as an inspirational speaker. She is known as an engaging, insightful, sensitive, and theologically grounded speaker with a gift for facilitating meaningful discussion. She lives in Charlottesville and serves as the Faith Community Liaison for Hospice of the Piedmont.

The Congregational Care Committee is sponsoring this event. For more information please contact John Effland or Dale Dealtrey at ddealtrey@yahoo.com or at the church office. Please feel free to bring a friend, and anyone who might benefit from hearing Donna's presentation.

NEW COFFEE FELLOWSHIP TIME



Each Sunday during the summer, we will hold our Fellowship Time at 10:00 am, between the two services. Join your church family to get to know someone new, or strengthen old friendships.

As always, we need refreshment providers for this ministry. You only have to provide three plates of **nut-free** snacks, and bring them to the kitchen by 9:30 am. Members of the Fellowship Committee serve as hosts for the Fellowship Time. There is a sign-up sheet posted on the wall in the Fellowship Hall by the window into the kitchen.



WORSHIP IN JULY

SCRIPTURE AND SERMON TITLES

July 3

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper
2 Kings 5:1-14, Psalm 30,
Galatians 6:7-16, Luke 10:1-11, 16-20
Sermon: "The Sacrament of Failure"
Dale Dealtrey preaching

July 10

Scripture: Amos 7:7-17; Col. 1:1-14;
Luke 10:25-37
Sermon: "Inheriting Eternal Life"

July 17

Scripture: Amos 8:1-12; Col. 1:15-28;
Luke 10:38-42
Sermon: "The Consequence of Injustice"

July 24

Scripture: Hosea 1:2-10; Col. 2:6-15;
Luke 11:1-13
Sermon: "Continue to Live your Lives in Him"

July 31

5-Cents-a-Meal Hunger Offering
Scripture: Hosea 11:1-11; Col. 3:1-11;
Luke 12: 13-21
Sermon: "Being Rich Toward God"

SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

We will continue to hold two worship services on Sunday mornings through Labor Day weekend: a contemporary service at 9:00 am in the Fellowship Hall, and a traditional service at 11:00am in the Sanctuary. Families are encouraged to worship together until children through 5th grade are invited to leave for Kids Own Worship (KOW).

WEEKLY HYMN SING

This summer, worshipers at the 11:00 am service are invited to come a little early to prepare for worship, and gather as a community of faith with the singing of favorite hymns requested by those present.

EARLY SERVICE WORSHIP MODIFICATIONS

In early May, a gathering of early service worship leaders and attendees was held to discuss ways to enhance the flow and transitions of the 8:30 am service and a few ideas that Albert brought back from his time worshipping with the Iona community in Scotland. Following sharing and discussion, the group agreed to implement several minor changes, including incorporation of a song into the offering dedication time, receiving the offering later in the service, including a healing liturgy, and incorporating more variation in the prayers of petition and intercession. These changes were introduced as we began our summer worship schedule on the first Sunday of June.



GREETING CARDS

You will find assorted cards in the baskets outside the office and in the Fellowship Hall for \$2.00 per card. The proceeds of every card purchased support the training of church leaders in Olivet's partner Synod in Ethiopia.

PDA RESPONSE TO WVA FLOODING

Our hearts, prayers, and thoughts go out to the people of West Virginia in the wake of catastrophic flooding. Presbyterian Disaster Assistance has deployed the National Response Team to support the Presbytery of West Virginia and Synod of the Trinity as they begin outreach to those affected.

Anyone interested in making a contribution to support this work, or learning more about PDA's response, should visit their website: pda.pcusa.org. You may also call them Monday through Friday, 8:00 am to 6:00 pm, at 1.800.872.3283 and donate by phone. If you prefer to mail a check, you may send it to:

Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.); PO Box 643700
Pittsburgh, PA, 15264-3700



JULY HABITAT WORKDAY

Olivet is joining with other area Presbyterian churches each second Saturday of the month in our 20th year of house sponsorship through the local chapter of Habitat for Humanity. July's workday will be Saturday, July 9. The workday starts at 7:45 am, ends at 2:30 pm, and includes a break for lunch. Habitat crew leaders give direction and support for all work projects, so that volunteers of any skill level and experience are welcome. Tom Thompson is Olivet's Habitat coordinator, and will be communicating with those who have indicated an interest in supporting this ministry. Contact Tom at tom@cville.net, or the church office, 295.1367, if you would like to be notified regarding upcoming workdays and opportunities to participate in this service ministry.

RECYCLE METAL FOR LOVE INC



The Olivet Mission Committee has set up a collection box in the church kitchen, where you can leave recyclable metals for Bill Roberts to carry over the mountain each Sunday to support the ministry of Love INC, of Augusta County. For more information about the ministry of Love INC, talk to Bill.

UPDATE FROM LILY BAKER

Hi friends!

Earlier, this month I had the opportunity to participate in a rescue operation. IJM and the local law enforcement worked diligently to rescue three girls (ages 8, 5, and 3) who were victims of OSEC (Online Sexual Exploitation of Children). As our office transitions from sex trafficking cases to OSEC cases, the survivors are getting increasingly younger. This can be tough to handle since they are so little and a lot of people often ask how we maintain hope in these situations. One of the things that I realized during this rescue was that kids really just want to be kids. Yes, they have traumatic pasts and a long road of recovery ahead of them but if you pull out a jump rope or a coloring book, you can see them at least temporarily forget everything that has happened to them and they play like children should – carefree and creatively. They are so resilient and certainly illustrate God’s transforming work here in the Philippines.



Last week, IJM signed Memorandums of Agreement with two organizations – First Love International and Wipe Every Tear – local shelters that we have informally partnered with over the past year or two. As we formalized our partnership with them, I was reminded of how incredibly humbled I am to be working with IJM. The founders of these two organizations were ecstatic about the ability to become official partners with IJM. It meant so much to their organizations, and both of them had a profound sense of awe and respect for IJM staff and their work. It means so much to me that I am able to participate in God’s work as He restores communities.

Sometimes I just stand back and look at the towering building all around me and I have continuous new realizations that I’m in the Philippines, living in the city known for the worst traffic in the world and I am absolutely loving it. I find myself frequently in awe of how God can

transform my heart and how He continues to do so by expanding it for the people, culture and His creation here. It’s amazing and thrilling to be part of His work.

Finally, I am eager to share with you the official results of the prevalence study that IJM conducted earlier this year. The study looked at the impact of a targeted law enforcement response on the commercial sexual exploitation of children. In 2006, 1 out of every 12 sex workers was under age 18 in our region. Now, 1 out of every 51 sex workers is a minor – this illustrated a 75.4% reduction – more than anyone thought possible!

Thanks again to so many of you for making my work here possible!

Best,
Lily Baker

DEACONS ON-CALL IN JULY

Marv Reese and Hilda Walker will be on call for the month of July to respond to needs as they arise.

COMMUNICATIONS

KC Kids at Olivet,
Through you, God has shown his goodness.
You're a Blessing.

Sorry it has taken so long to thank you for the basket you made for me at Easter. I enjoyed all the candy you had in it as well.

Thanks again!
In Christian Love,
Eloise Allison

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The thoughtful things you do reveal a heart that's caring and kind, a heart that reflects the beauty of God's love.

Thanks so much!
I miss all of you and love you.
Deanna Hammond

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Dear Olivet Members and Friends,
Words cannot express the feelings I have for all of my Olivet friends who prayed for me, sent me cards, and visited me after my accident.

I am living proof that God does work miracles! God has given me a second chance at life! I just pray and hope that I can be a better steward of all the blessings he has bestowed upon me.

I can't believe it has been four months since my accident. The only things that bother me are my left leg and upper back. I just need to be patient and know that God will get me through these trying times.

Thank you all for your continued prayers!
Love,
Deanna Hammond

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To Albert and All My Family at Olivet,
Thanks for all the prayers and cards that helped me to get through the last few months.

For Albert, bringing me a new prayer shawl. All the girls liked all the colors in it.

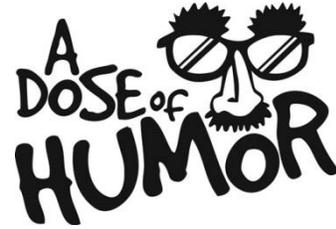
Thanks again for all the Christian love you sent my way.

With grateful heart I'm thanking Him – He's shown Himself through *you*.

Let your light shine.

That they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven. Matthew 5:16

In Christian Love,
Eloise Allison



Six-year old Angie and her four-year-old brother, Joel, were sitting together in church. Joel giggled, sang, and talked out loud.

Finally, his big sister had had enough.

"You're not supposed to talk out loud in church."

"Why? Who's going to stop me?" Joel asked. Angie pointed to the back of the church and said, "See those two men standing by the door? They're hushers."

A little boy opened the big and old family Bible with fascination, looking at the old pages as he turned them.

Then something fell out of the Bible.

He picked it up and looked at it closely.

It was an old leaf from a tree that has been pressed in between the pages.

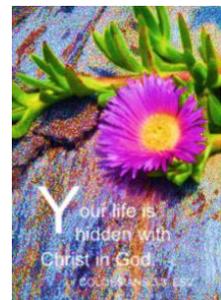
"Mama, look what I found," the boy called out. "What have you got there, dear?" his mother asked.

With astonishment, he answered, "It's Adam's suit."

One particular four-year old prayed, "And forgive us our trash baskets as we forgive those who put trash in our baskets."

A little boy was overheard praying:

"Lord, if you can't make me a better boy, don't worry about it. I'm having a real good time like I am."



July 2016 Olivet

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					01	02 1:00pm» Memorial Service - Jacqueline Fiske
03 Lord's Supper at all services 9:00am» Worship Service 10:00am» Community Gathering 11:00am» Worship Service	04 Office Closed for Independence Day	05 9:30am» Property Committee Workday 12:00pm» Staff Meeting 5:00pm» Property Committee Meeting 6:00pm» Christian Ed. Committee	06	07 10:30am» Staff Prayers 10:30am» Women's Bible Study 4:00pm» Deacons' Meeting	08 9:00am» Book Study	09 Habitat Work Day
10 9:00am» Worship Service 10:00am» Community Gathering 11:00am» Worship Service	11	12 12:00pm» Staff Meeting 5:30pm» Fellowship Committee 7:00pm» Church Support Committee	13	14 10:30am» Staff Prayers 10:30am» Women's Bible Study	15 9:00am» Book Study	16
17 9:00am» Worship Service 10:00am» Community Gathering - Belize Presentation 11:00am» Worship Service 12:15pm» Congregational Care Committee Meeting	18	19 12:00pm» Staff Meeting 6:00pm» Session Meeting	20	21 10:00am» Prayer Shawl Ministry 10:30am» Staff Prayers 10:30am» Women's Bible Study	22 9:00am» Book Study	23
24 9:00am» Worship Service 10:00am» Community Gathering 11:00am» Worship Service Montreat	25 Montreat	26 12:00pm» Staff Meeting Montreat	27 Montreat	28 10:30am» Staff Prayers 10:30am» Women's Bible Study Montreat	29 9:00am» Book Study Montreat	30 Montreat
31 9:00am» Worship Service 10:00am» Community Gathering - Donna Authors 11:00am» Worship Service						