

The Olive Leaf

A Mt. Olivet Baptist Church Publication

The Second Coming of Eli

Friday night, August 20, 2010, the members of Mt. Olivet and the Rochester community were blessed by the vocals and teachings of Eli Wilson, Jr. Eli, as his family and friends know him, is the son of a Baptist preacher and pastor. Eli is an ordained church musician and the founder and CEO of Eli Wilson Ministries, Inc., a church music educational resource ministry. Eli's concert was held as part of our yearlong celebration leading up to Mt. Olivet's 100th year anniversary, which will conclude on October 24, 2010 at the church. The concert included Evangelist Gwendolyn Stewart of Buffalo, NY and the Immaculate Conception Liturgical Dancers of Rochester.

This was Eli's second concert at Mt. Olivet. His first was held in 2004 in conjunction with the capital fund campaign leading up to the 94th anniversary of the church. Based on the spiritual success of the first concert, members of Mt. Olivet had been asking when he would return.

As a composer and independent recording artist, Eli released his first solo recording in 1988 entitled "Introducing Eli Wilson, Jr. – God's Word Shall Stand Forevermore." From that recording, his composition "I Will Give Thanks" was re-recorded by the Zion Baptist Church Choir of Washington, DC. The title song, "God's Word Shall Stand Forevermore" has been recorded by Keith Pringle (Savoy Records) and Babbie Mason along with the Zion Choir of Rhode Island (Word Records).

His composition, "Acceptable to You" has been published in the United Church of Christ New Century Hymnal and the African American Heritage Hymnal. It has also been recorded by the Ben Hill



United Methodist Church and the Trinity United Church of Christ choirs. Eli has penned more than 200 compositions for the SATB choir, children's choirs, and male voices. *(cont'd on next page)*

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The Second Coming of Eli *(cont'd)*

Other solo albums released by Eli are entitled, "In My Quiet Time," "Pure and Simple," "For His Glory," and his latest release, "Conversations with God." Eli's wife, Brenda, stated that she likes this album because it is in tune with what is happening in the world today. During the recent Mt. Olivet concert, Eli performed songs from each of his albums. The benediction consisted of an old spiritual performed as a duet by Eli and our very own Pastor Rickey B. Harvey, Jr.

Currently, Eli is traveling the country sharing this fresh proclamation of prayer, praise, challenge, and assurance.

Eli is God-centered, God-inspired, and Holy Spirit led. His mission is to do the work of Jesus Christ as he assists the church and its musicians to strive toward their fullest potential.

Those who missed this concert truly missed a blessing; but don't worry, Eli will be coming back again.

– Larry Pough, Eli Wilson Concert Chairperson

Women's Day Celebration

Women's Day weekend was celebrated on Saturday, May 15 and Sunday, May 16, 2010. The continued theme was "Women: Destined for God's Purpose, "Serving God's People." The scripture references were Ephesians 2:10 and Philippians 2:13. We were honored to have as our guest speaker, Reverend Jackie Saxon, who returned home to celebrate Women's Day with us as Mt. Olivet celebrates 100 years. Reverend Saxon is the VP of Student Affairs and Vocation at Austin Theological Seminary in Austin, TX. She grew up in Mt. Olivet and participated in many of the youth programs.

We began our workshop on Saturday morning with a continental breakfast, followed by the program which consisted of praise time and a dynamic workshop presented by our speaker. Group discussions were led by Myrtle Branch, Tanya Davis, Luz Rhodes, and Tina DeCosta. Eighty-nine women came out to celebrate. Our First Lady, Yvonne Harvey and Ann McCorvey were co-chairs and did a great job!

Sunday morning's worship experience was enhanced with participation from our children, young women, and a cross-section of women who served in different ways. Our Women's Day musician was Mrs. Anne Barrentine who came all the way from Florida to direct our Women's Day Choir. Our choir did a marvelous job of inspiring and encouraging the congregation with a variety of songs.

Reverend Saxon's topic for her sermon was "An Appointment with Destiny." We are all very proud of the growth that she has made and know that Mt. Olivet played an important part in her Christian journey. We would like to thank all the women who served in any capacity to make Women's Day 2010 a success. A special thanks to Diane Mathias our 2010 chairperson.

– Diane Mathias, Women's Day Chairperson

Bible Study

Mt. Olivet had a wonderful Bible Study program for September 2009-2010 with 190 participants enrolled. The Bible Study Celebration program held on June 17, 2010, had one member from each of the 13 classes give a short testimony to express what the class meant for him or her. Certificates were given to all participants and gifts were given to all facilitators.

The 13 classes for the fall of this year began the last week of September. Most classes will convene for 30-34 weeks with approximately 108 people already signed up. The following courses are being offered:

- Disciple Red Book: Becoming a Disciple Through Bible Study
- Disciple Green Book: Into the Word, Into the World
- Disciple Purple Book: Remember Who You Are
- Disciple Gold Book: Under the Tree of Life
- Disciple Book: Jesus in the Gospels
- Disciple Book: Mature Christian Believer
- Basic Bible Study
- Characters in the Bible
- Beginner's Bible Study: How to Study the Bible
- Men's Bible Study
- Youth Bible Study

– Irene Ingram, Bible Study Program Coordinator

**The deadline for submitting
material for the next Olive Leaf is
Friday, December 3, 2010.**



Summer Bash 2010

Mt. Olivet celebrated its annual Summer Bash outreach event on August 7, 2010. We were blessed with a beautiful day and neighbors to share with us.

The Usher Board helped prepare students for the 2010-2011 school year with Mt. Olivet logo book bags stuffed with school supplies. Additionally, the youngsters enjoyed entertainment that included games, horseback riding and prizes! Of course the food was enjoyed by all – red hots, Italian sausage, cotton candy, popcorn, and Pastor Harvey's favorite – watermelon!



Also in the spirit of outreach, community agencies were in attendance to share the services that they offer. Throughout the day, the air was filled with songs of praise as choirs, groups, and individuals sang making a joyful noise unto the Lord.

Event chair, Joel Cummings, wishes to express his thanks to all who volunteered their time and talents to make this a successful event.

– Joel Cummings, Summer Bash Chairperson

Food Pantry Ministry

The Food Pantry Ministry of Mt. Olivet is committed to “being a blessing” to our church family and to the community at large by giving away non-perishable food items. This ministry operates using the school calendar and is open every Monday from 10:00 a.m. to 12 noon beginning the second Monday in September through the last Monday in June. During the month of June, we were able to bless 74 families.

In an effort to be consistent in what we give to each family as well as keep the food pantry full, we are asking church members and friends *each week* to bring in at least *one item* from only those foods from the following list.

Oatmeal, crackers, small-size canned fruit, small-size peanut butter, small-size jelly/jam, powdered milk or canned milk, small-size tuna fish, small jar of mayo, canned soup, small-size canned vegetables, small-size bagged or boxed rice, small-size bagged or boxed spaghetti, canned spaghetti sauce, boxed macaroni & cheese, small-size canned pork & beans or baked beans. These food items are also listed on the church bulletin board.

Our pantry is still running at a deficit and we are extremely thankful for all the organizations and individuals that have brought in food during the summer shutdown; however, if you haven't had the opportunity to bring in your non-perishable food item(s), **NOW IS THE TIME!**

We are reminded in Proverbs 19:17, “Whoever is kind to the poor lends to the Lord, and will be repaid in full.” Your continuous and consistent giving is a blessing.

– Esther Cresswell, Food Pantry Ministry Coordinator

15th Annual Golf Tournament

On Saturday, July 24, 2010, Mt. Olivet had its 15th Annual Golf Tournament at Victor Hills Golf Club which was a success in a number of ways.

We increased the number of golfers and sponsors with the hard work of the committee and a new feature was added this year with a golf clinic at Brookwoods County Club.

Linda Opalisky, the PGA professional at Brookwoods, offered to do a one-hour clinic for our golfers. We had people who were regular golfers as well as people that were first-time golfers participate in the clinic. It was a great experience for everyone that attended. (*cont'd on next page*)



15th Annual Golf Tournament *(cont'd)*

There were a number of people that helped to make this tournament a success including the volunteers that helped on the day of the event.



I would like to give a special thanks to Marilyn and Queenie for their work on the flyer, registration form and hole signs. Joan Wiley Dyson and Ron Dyson, George Opira, Charles Boone, Alan Caine, Dennis Cox, Dover and Charlotte Downing, Emerson Fullwood, Robert Green, Joel Cummings, John Hill, Robert Brooks, Mike Ruffin, Allen McClendon, Ralph Richards and Frank Frazier were all helpful in the areas of registration, sponsors, prizes, trophies, and tournament operations.

We look forward to having an even better event next year.

– Robert Mitchell, 2010 Tournament Chairman

Memory Loss! Is it Always Alzheimer's?

Are you forgetting a person's name after being introduced to them? Or walking into a room and forgetting your reason for going into that room? That type of forgetfulness may not signal Alzheimer's, but rather "age-associated memory impairment." This is a normal part of aging as long as you can eventually come up with the correct answer.

Please note that there are many topics we cover in our Alzheimer's presentations that will help interested parties to contrast normal aging, dementia and Alzheimer's.

Legal and Financial Planning: How to Protect Your Assets will be the last topic for 2010 and will be presented at Mt. Olivet on Monday, December 6 @ 6:30pm-8:00pm.

Mollie and I are available to talk with you in private, if that is your desire. Those who wish to become MOBC/Alzheimer's volunteers, please contact us at (585) 385-6042.

Want to know more about the MOBC/Alzheimer's Memory Walk? Please contact us or Diane Mathias at (585) 334-7061.

May God bless you as you strive to learn more about memory impairment diseases.

– Ralph and Mollie Richards, Alzheimer's Ministry Coordinators

American Baptist Women's Ministries Year-End Luncheon

ABW's year-end luncheon was held on June 12, 2010 at Virtu Restaurant in downtown Rochester with 45 women in attendance. The program included an ice-breaker that allowed the women to fellowship with each other.

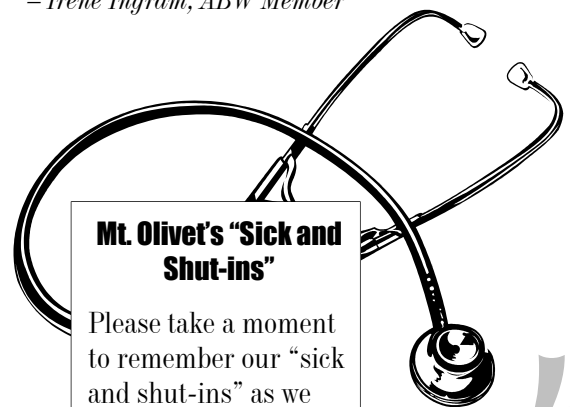
Barbara Roberts, President and Mary Ann Henry, Vice President installed new members and the following officers:

- Myrtle Branch, Personal Development Coordinator
- Lucille Brooks, White Cross Coordinator
- Mamie Burden, Love Gift Coordinator
- Sadie Hill, Mission and Service Co-coordinator
- Judy Hollingsworth, Church and Community Coordinator
- Ann McCorvey, AB Girls Coordinator

Special thanks to Valerie Medley for donating the prizes for our ice-breaker.

Everyone enjoyed the buffet so much that they want to return in June 2011.

– Irene Ingram, ABW Member



Mt. Olivet's "Sick and Shut-ins"

Please take a moment to remember our "sick and shut-ins" as we begin to approach the holiday season.

American Baptist Women's Conference

American Baptist Women from every region of the United States, Mexico, and Burma gathered with the AB Women of Ohio at the Ramada Plaza Hotel and Conference Center in Columbus, OH on July 10-15, 2010.

Our ABW/NYS President, Audrey Davidson, ABW MOBC President, Barbara Roberts, Vice President, Mary Ann Henry, Sadie Hill, Irene Ingram and Lucy Sprouts (one of our first-time attendees) were present at the national women's conference as well.

Sunday morning, song-leader Pam Noah led the women in several up-lifting songs which set the stage for Reverend Marilyn Turner who delivered a powerful message which should have been heard by all women, especially young adult women with low self-esteem.

Sunday evening, members from the Xtreme Team delivered powerful heart-wrenching testimonies of their experiences and missionary work in Egypt.

Every morning at 7:00 a.m., the early-risers participated in the Java and Jesus session (morning devotions followed by breakfast). It allowed most of us to begin our day in the right way from a spiritual standpoint.

We participated in daily Bible Study followed by conversation groups. Audrey was one of the Bible Study facilitators for the group discussions.

The focus of the Bible studies were:

- Live for a Purpose: Jesus models through scripture for our purpose
- Live as Christ Did: Love Christ and one another; take care of the poor
- We are the Light of the World: God calls us to be His hands and feet

The selection of workshops gave us an opportunity to choose topics and enhance our Christian walk as well as gain insight into the problems other churches are facing. It also allowed us to strengthen our own gifts and talents, gain ideas to improve our ministries and find resources to help support our AB Girls.

In addition to our busy learning schedule, we had some leisure time to visit the Longaberger Factory (basket making), the Anthony Thomas Candy Factory with a little shopping at the Easton Town Center along with a tour of downtown Worthington.

The socials which included a wine/cheese party, pool party/ice cream social, chit chat chocolate event, AB Girls Auction, banquet and luncheons for Love Gift and White Cross were outstanding!

The highlight of the conference was the worship service sponsored by the AB Girls. We were all impressed with the performance of the young people and pray that in the future some of our girls will have the opportunity to witness such an experience.

– Audrey Davidson, ABW/NYS President and
Barbara Roberts, ABW MOBC President

Words From Your Diaconate Ministry

John 21:15-17, ¹⁵ So when they had eaten breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon, *son* of Jonah, do you love Me more than these?" He said to Him, "Yes, Lord; You know that I love You." He said to him, "Feed My lambs." ¹⁶ He said to him again a second time, "Simon, *son* of Jonah, do you love Me?" He said to Him, "Yes, Lord; You know that I love You." He said to him, "Tend My sheep." ¹⁷ He said to him the third time, "Simon, *son* of Jonah, do you love Me?" Peter was grieved because He said to him the third time, "Do you love Me?" And he said to Him, "Lord, You know all things; You know that I love You." Jesus said to him, "Feed My sheep.

Jesus has charged the Diaconate Ministry to care for His people. As imperfect as we are, we are striving to be obedient. The Family Care Ministry is maturing. In order for us to attend to the flock, we must be assured as to where to find the flock. The following is a list of needs that would help us to realize that goal. Won't you help us please by reporting any and all updates to Veronica and your Family Care Team Leaders:

- Make sure your personal contact information is current. If you have acquired a new phone number, moved, or converted to a cell phone as your main number, please update the change to the appropriate persons. Don't assume that we get this information from your written checks that you place in the collection plate.
- If you have moved, you may be in a new Family Care Team. Please notify appropriate persons of your move. (*cont'd on next page*)

Words from your Diaconate Ministry *(cont'd)*

- If there is sickness, death, depression, grief, sadness, etc., please contact your FCT leader so we might lift up your request in prayer.
- Please do not ask to be a member of a FCT that is outside of your zip code.
- Please attend our FCT meeting when called. Like church business meetings, your attendance allows you to be informed and offer suggestions to the group of the ministry. And, by the way, both meetings are important to members.
- Pray for the leaders of the church that we may honor the commitment Jesus has given us. We are to serve and not to be served.

The following are the Family Care Team (FCT) Leaders. Please refer to the church bulletin to associate appropriate zip codes to your FCT.

Deacons	Deaconesses
Gregory Blue	Marva Boone
Charles Boone	Myrtice Clanton
Ben Bruce	Esther Cresswell
Sidney Bryant	Dorothy Davis
Charles Carter	Audrey Davidson
Larry Cresswell	Shirley Gooden
Embola Ekiller	Mary Ann Henry
Allen McClendon	Irene Ingram
Robert Mitchell	Ophelia King
Ralph Richards	Paula Lewis
Michael Ruffin	Odessa Lybrand
Devonshire Stith	Mollie Richards
Robert Terrell	Ruby Richardson
	Barbara Roberts
	Lucy Sprouts

Thank you and may God not only bless you, but your family also now and yet to come.

– Deacon Ralph H. Richards, Chairman of the Diaconate Ministry

Christian “Food for Thought”

Anyway – from Mother Teresa

(Mother Teresa hung a copy of this poem on a wall of the orphanage she founded in Calcutta. Its source is unknown).

People are often unreasonable, illogical and self-centered; Forgive them anyway.

If you are kind, people may accuse you of selfish, ulterior motives; Be kind anyway.

If you are successful, you will win some false friends and some true enemies; Succeed anyway.

If you are honest and frank, people may cheat you; Be honest and frank anyway.

What you spend years building, someone could destroy overnight; Build anyway.

If you find serenity and happiness, they may be jealous; Be happy anyway.

Give the world the best you have, and it may never be enough; Give the world the best you’ve got anyway.

You see, in the final analysis, it is between you and God; It is never between you and them anyway.

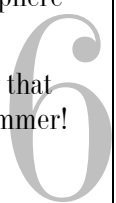
Praise Party

August 2-6, 2010, from 5:30pm-8:30pm, Mt. Olivet held a **“Praise Party: Worshipping God with Head, Heart, Hands, Feet, and Soul.”** Before activities started there was a light supper with a small window to fellowship. Over 160 children, adults, and volunteers took part in the second year of evening Vacation Bible School. The areas that we focused on were Bible Study, adult and children, arts and crafts, music, movement, drama, and heritage.

The concept of evening Vacation Bible School was not received well at the onset of the first year but it surprised everyone and turned out to be a truly enlightening and enjoyable experience. This year’s adult Bible Study was **“Praise is What We Do! Worshipping God from Head to Feet.”** Both the children’s component and the adult component gave families the much-needed time together to unite as a family and worship in a totally different atmosphere other than Sunday morning service.

As it turned out, children and adults alike saw that praising the Lord can be fun. See you next summer!

– Beverly Burrell-Moore, Director



An Evening with Reverend Jeremiah Wright

As we continued the celebration of our 100-year anniversary, we were honored to share an evening with Reverend Jeremiah Wright on Friday, September 10, 2010 at Mt. Olivet.

Reverend Wright is a very controversial man and because of this and the sound-bites generated during President Obama's campaign, some people chose not to attend. However, those of us that did attend found a very engaging, scholarly and insightful man of God speaking to us.

He talked about us as a people both spiritually and in general. He gave us something to think about when he talked about things that are taking place today. For instance, the music our children listen to, the language and disrespect used these young artists, education and the lack thereof made available for our children, the lack of pride we have for our rich African American culture as well as the lack of knowledge our children have about their heritage. Although the topics were very serious, Reverend Wright took the edge off the evening and made it delightful when he injected humor and laughter in facts that were sometimes difficult to hear.

If you missed the opportunity to hear Reverend Wright, DVDs can be purchased for \$10 by calling the church office at (585) 232-6742. All proceeds will benefit Mt. Olivet's 2010 fundraising campaign.

– Wendy B. Rose

Help Wanted!

Computer Lab

Volunteers are needed for the computer lab. Please contact Christine Jackson at 235-6766 if you can teach, create websites, etc.

Sunday School Christmas Play

The Sunday School Christmas program will be held on Sunday, December 19 at 5:00pm. We need adults, youth, and children to participate in the Christmas musical, "We Want Jesus/Jesus is the Reason." Please contact Mr. Johnson at 235-0293 for questions.

Youth Ushers

The youth ushers are looking for new members between the ages of 11-18 years old. They usher on the fourth Sunday of each month and meet on the Thursday before the fourth Sunday for a brief practice/meeting. Please contact Ivena Grantham at 247-2242 or Venessa Mitchell at 426-9968 for questions.



Mt. Olivet Baptist Church

Reverend Rickey Bernard Harvey, Senior Pastor
Rev. Dr. Leardrew L. Johnson, Pastor Emeritus

141 Adams Street, Rochester, NY 14608
(585) 232-6742

Email: mobc@frontiernet.net

Website: www.mt-olivetbaptistchurch.org

Vision

Mt. Olivet's vision is to be well-founded in God's word, leading a diverse representation of people who are God-centered, Bible-based, Spirit-led, and Mission-bound.

Mission

Mt. Olivet's mission is to encourage people to be a member of a covenant community, which nurtures spiritual growth through fellowship. The church will nurture the gifts and talents of each individual – teaching, motivating and inspiring each to reach their potential in Christ. The covenant community strives to build the whole community in order to serve the world in which we exist.

Mt. Olivet is a member of the American Baptist Churches of Rochester Genesee Region, the Greater Rochester Community of Churches, the United Church Ministries, the National Baptist Convention, Inc. and the American Baptist Churches of the USA.

Schedule of Services

Sunday	Sunday School	9:30am
	Praise Service	10:45am
	Worship Service	11:00am
	Communion, 1 st Sunday of each month	
Tuesday	Intercessory Prayer	5:00pm
Wednesday	Prayer Meeting	6:00pm