



# MT. OLIVE BAPTIST CHURCH

## February 2022 Church

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## News

**February 2:** Family Night, Meal provided by youth

**February 4:** Brown Bag Lunch/Bible Study, 12:00

**February 12:** Associational Youth Event, 6:00

**February 19:** Ham and Egg supper, 6:30



Mt. Olive,

Every February men get ready to show their love for their wives, sisters, and daughters. But what is the real story behind all those candies, chocolates, and roses?

One source of Valentine's Day traces its origins to 270 A.D., during the reign of Roman Emperor Claudius II. The Emperor was having trouble recruiting men to fight in his army. Convinced this trouble was the result of engagement and marriage, Claudius outlawed both. A pastor in Rome, Valentine continued to perform marriage ceremonies despite the decree. When the Emperor discovered Valentine's deception, he ordered him arrested. As he awaited his execution, Valentine became friends with the jailer's daughter. Legend has it that on the day of his death he left a small handwritten note to her signed "From Your Valentine." On February 14, 270 A.D. Valentine was beheaded. This priest who never enjoy the beauty of romantic love himself, died so others might have it.

Today men and women around the world celebrate their love for one another by giving out "valentines." The legacy of this young priest lives on in the love expressed between family, friends, co-workers, and spouses. But don't think for a minute that the strange backstory of Valentine's Day gets you off the hook. I'm still buying roses, chocolates, or anything else my wife may enjoy and I suggest you do the same. If you are single, pray this Valentine's Day, trusting God to provide for you. If married appreciate the relationship you have. God bless and have a great Valentine's Day.

Dr. Josh Peeler



YouTube



You can now live stream our church services on the Mount Olive Facebook page as well as the Mount Olive YouTube page. You can also listen on 88.3 FM from your vehicle in church parking areas. You can even watch the service on your phone in the church parking lot using the church Wi-Fi!



The next Brown Bag Lunch and Bible Study will be Friday February 4 at 12:00 in the Fellowship Hall. Several accounts are given in the Bible of the windows heaven being opened and the throne of God is seen. Isaiah 6 is good, Ezekiel 1 is great, but Revelation 4 and 5 are "out of this world!" Read them and come share in our study together - weather permitting.



Mt. Olive,

As we approach the month of February everybody easily thinks of Valentine's Day, they think of love, chocolate, flowers, etc. But what I am usually most excited about is the Winter Olympics. It makes me think of one of my favorite movies, "Miracle" about the 1980 United States Hockey team, made up of nothing but college students and amateur players who would go on to beat the Soviet Union who had won 4 straight gold medals. A major part of the movie is Herb Brooks trying to get the players to see themselves as a team, as a family, rather than just playing as individuals. This draws me back to the idea of the Church as one body, as a family. Paul says in 1 Corinthians 12: 21-27 "The eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you," nor again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you." On the contrary, the parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, and on those parts of the body that we think less honorable we bestow the greater honor, and our unpresentable parts are treated with greater modesty, which our more presentable parts do not require. But God has so composed the body, giving greater honor to the part that lacked it, that there may be no division in the body, but that the members may have the same care for one another. If one member suffers, all suffer together; if one member is honored, all rejoice together. Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it."

One of the biggest blessings the Lord has given believers on this earth is the local church. The local church is made up of different believers with different skill sets, all set upon the same message, and mission. Paul talks about the eye, needing the hand, the head

needing the feet, as we the Church need one another. The Church is there to suffer with those who are suffering and to rejoice with those who are rejoicing. I am truly reminded each week of my need for the local church. I truly do love the local church and am daily reminded of my need for my team, for my family.

Wil Lowery



## February

### **BIRTHDAYS**

### **ANNIVERSARIES**

Peggy Curl	1	
Carole Pope	2	Layden & Toni Brazington
Craig Dixon	3	
Eddie Vaughn		
Joseph Thomas	4	
Abby Jones	6	
Linda Pickard	8	
	10	Ray & Jill Morris Bill & Brenda Zachary
Easton Evans	11	
HannahJoy Connor		
Diane Foushee	15	
LaVern Judd		
Carol Pickard	16	
Tom Judd	17	
Evan Moore	18	
Lisa White	19	
Andrea Cheek	23	
Amanda Aldridge	24	
Terry McPherson	26	
Caitlyn Aldridge	27	
Linda Braxton		
Rhonda Thomas	28	

## **Testimony-Who Am I?**

Everyone has a unique story about how they came to know Christ. The people who influence us vary from parents to pastors to teachers. In this month's newsletter, I want to introduce you to someone who has a unique story about how people influenced their walk with Christ and how their faith remains strong today. Next month, I will reveal who this person is. I hope you enjoy their testimony.

I was born at a very early age. When I was 9 years old, I was born again! I accepted Christ at the end of a revival in my home church. In a few days our pastor visited in my home. While Mom washed dishes in the kitchen, the pastor asked me lots of questions regarding my decision. After a long while he understood I knew why I needed to be saved, only Jesus could do it, and I knew the "how and why" of my personal decision. A week later I was baptized.

The pastor was a wonderful preacher. We all liked him. He always preached about Jesus. I knew all the stories about the Lord. Later, when I was a young adult, I moved to another city to start my career. I joined a large Baptist church. I was told there were a lot of college and career single young people there, many of which were very nice young ladies. They were right! I also found they had a preacher that talked more about the text of the Bible than just the wonderful stories. I realized there was much more to the Bible than wonderful stories. How was I "educated" and didn't really know the deep things of the Bible. I had not realized how the Bible fits like a designed book. It even had a "scarlet thread running through it." Amazing! I have not been able to put it down since.

The teacher for the Sunday School class I attended was Mr. Earl Koepf. He was an exceptional teacher. He was the city planner for a large community not far away. But his first love was Jesus Christ and the Bible. In addition, he took personal interest in teaching each of us about the Lord right out of the Bible. As a young professional I started digging more into the text of the Bible. After all, if Mr. Koepf had taught himself Greek all by himself (and he had), maybe I could dig deeper too. He was as much an influence on me in that little class as both very loved pastors I had known.

Not only did I meet and marry the girl God blessed me with in the class, but I expanded my education in Bible study and ultimately became bi-vocational in my career. That means I had two callings of the Lord, one in a secular field and the other in His church ministry.

And now, in these more recent years, the dear Lord has blessed me richly in the fellowship, friendships, pastorate, and ministry of Mount Olive Baptist Church.

So, who am I?

Sincerely,

Joe Godfrey