



Mt. Olive Presbyterian Church Monthly Newsletter from the Session

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A Message from the Session

Turning to God During the Unknown

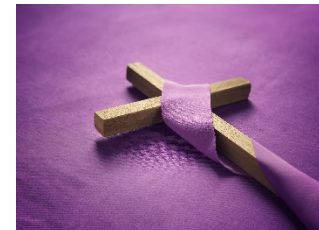
In the book of Hebrews, you will find encouragement for God's people to persevere and draw closer to Him. Most times when we face the unknown or difficulties, we tend to go through them in our own strength and wisdom, but those times never last for long. Instead, God wants us to turn to Him. As we continue to press our way through this "new normal" we encourage you, Mt. Olive family and friends to turn to God during these unknown times. It is much easier to complain, to have a pity-party, to become negative and to fear. Often times, these frustrating times can impact our ability to submit to God. Trusting our Heavenly Father requires humility for God knows all about what we are dealing with. Stay focus on Jesus Christ and you will be able to take comfort in knowing that God will lead us through those hard times. As we continue to walk with God, trust Him that no matter what it looks like or feels like that God will never leave you.

The Session and Rev. Dr. Willie J. Keaton, encourage you to stay strong in your faith and to love one another as Jesus so loves you. We love you, Mt. Olive family and friends.

Bless you all, Session

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Lent Season begins February 17-April 2

Who Are the Session and What Committee Do They Chair?

Moderator: Rev. Dr. Willie J. Keaton, Jr, Clerk: Andrea Graham Asst. Clerk: Robbie Garriett Christian Education: Andrea Graham
Congressional Care & Community Outreach: Brenda Witherspoon & Veronica Young Evangelism: Open Finance & Stewardship:
Renita Spears Personnel: Quinten Montgomery Property: Leonard J. Mauney & Marlon McCullough Worship & Music: Ellen
Young Mission & Planning: Wanda Belk, Jerry Grier & Robbie Garriett

Our Deacons: John Lathan, President, Ursula Barnett, Vice President, Myocia Montgomery, Secretary, Kenney Jackson, Ricky Morrison and Brenda Morrow

A MESSAGE TO ALL CONGREGATIONS IN THE

PRESBYTERY OF CHARLOTTE:

With the endorsement of Presbytery Council, we **strongly encourage** our congregations to continue gathering for **virtual worship only**, due to the rise in COVID-19 cases in our seven counties.

We concur with the Rev. Dr. J. Herbert Nelson, Stated Clerk of the Presbyterian Church USA, who wrote in December 2020, *"People are dying. We should choose life and life more abundantly as our Scripture requires. We recognize that church is not a building. We are able to worship remotely, and we've found opportunities to have worship through other venues that do not require us to leave our homes."*

God calls us to be faithful in these times and in all times, and we believe that it is most faithful to be safe and to protect the most vulnerable among us. If you need support in these days, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Rev. Dr. Jan Edmiston, General Presbyter
Rev. Dr. Alice Ridgill, Associate General Presbyter

MRC AMBASSADOR PARTNERSHIP DEADLINE

EXTENDED TO JANUARY 31st

The MRC Ambassador Partnership is a new ministry designed by The Ministry Resource Committee to foster opportunities for fellowship, relationships, and partnerships between the congregations of Charlotte Presbytery. MRC is grateful for those of you who have already submitted the names of your church's Ambassadors. If your church has not yet submitted names, please know that the deadline has been extended. Clerks of Session are kindly asked to submit the names, phone numbers, and e-mails of the two persons chosen by Session to serve as Ambassadors. Information should be sent: presbyteryofcharlottemrc@gmail.com. Session has selected Mr. John Lathan and Mrs. Myocia Montgomery. Thank you Deacons!

* Wednesday night prayer and bible study has started and we are having an amazing fellowship but we are missing something. That is YOU!!! We are studying from the book entitled, "What Jesus Demands from the World" by John Piper. If you are in need of this book please contact the church office at 704-394-8814. Books may also be purchased from Amazon for under \$20.

* Unfortunately, due to COVID-19 our givings have been down tremendously compared to previous year to date givings. We encourage you to do your best as we try to maintain our ministry's financial obligations and the needs of our members and community. You may mail or pay online any donations at any time. Thank you in advance church family.

* Your annual Per Capita for 2021 is NOW DUE. Please make your donation of \$35 and mark your givings accordingly.

* Have a prayer request? Please leave a message on the church's voicemail and the Pastor, a Deacon or Elder will reach out to you. You may also join us for prayer and bible study on Wednesday nights beginning at 6:15pm – 7:30pm. Please look out for the Zoom meeting invitation on our FB page.

* Do you have an announcement you wish to put in our Monthly Newsletter from the Session then please contact the clerk of Session. All announcements are due by the first of each month.

Birth Announcements:

Mason and Kimberly Parker welcomed birth to a handsome baby boy, Miles Jesse James Parker born 12/31/20

Daniele Rogers gave birth to a beautiful baby girl, Aaven Laurel Richardson on 2/6/21

Marriage Announcements:

Mason and Kimberly Parker – December 12, 2020

Death Announcements:

James "Perry" Grier – brother of Yolanda Young – 1/17/21

Jeric "Tony" Wallace – grandson of Pauline Davis – 1/21/21

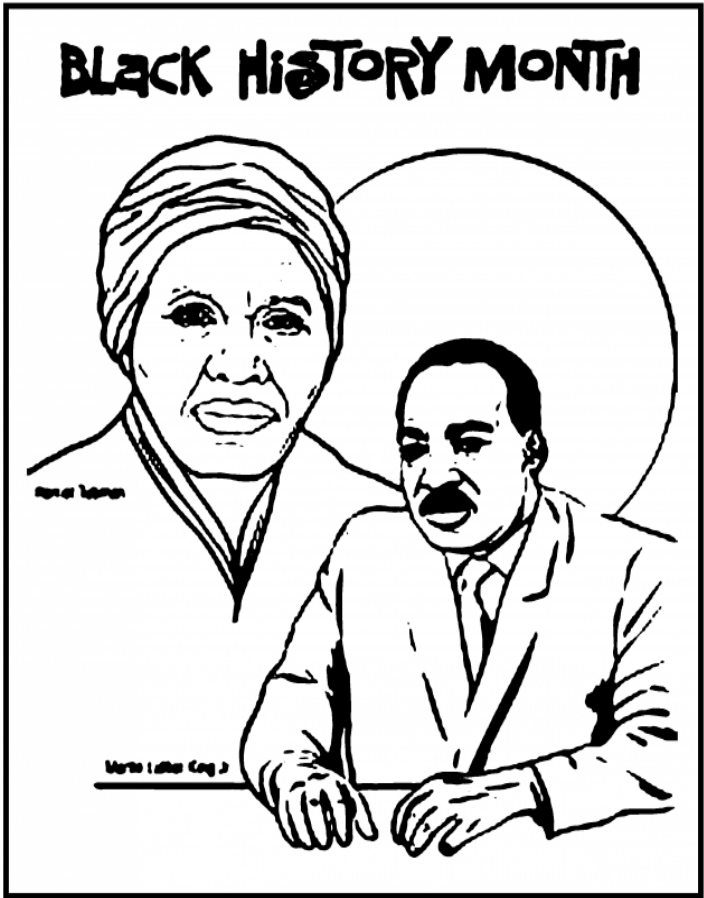
Cecilia Moore – aunt of Marlon McCullough – 1/22/21

Two aunts, an uncle and brother Jerry Osborne (2/11/21) -
Brendella and Karen Herron

Darryl Torrence, cousin of Sheryl Torrence – 2/14

**These announcements are based on information we had at the time of this newsletter therefore all may not be listed. Please let the clerk of Session know.*

BLACK HISTORY MONTH



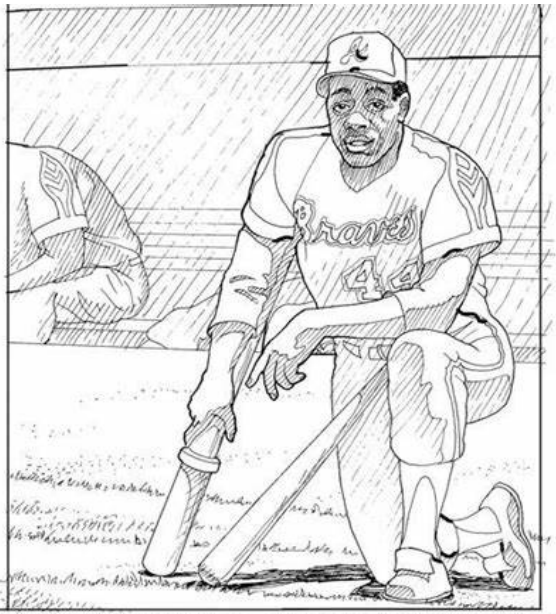
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Find More Coloring Sheets at: GinormaSource.com/kids

Name _____



Sarah Breedlove Walker, known as "Madame C. J. Walker," invented a hair softener and straightening comb. In doing so, Walker became the first African American woman to become a millionaire.



HANK (Henry) AARON (1934–) was born in Mobile, Alabama. He grew up playing baseball in sandlots, using a stuffed sock as a ball. After playing for the Negro National League, he was signed by the Milwaukee (now Atlanta) Braves. Within four years he led the League in home runs and helped the Braves beat the Yankees for the world championship in 1957. His home-run count rose steadily until, in Cincinnati in 1974, he tied Babe Ruth's record of 714 home runs and, four days later, passed it. By the time he finished his career, Hank Aaron's home-run total was 755, making him the greatest home-run hitter in baseball and securing his place in the Baseball Hall of Fame.

Sarah Breedlove Walker

MEMBERSHIP ROLL

The first of the year we make many resolutions. Did you know you our annual membership roll should be updated annually per the Book of Order G-3.024a?

There shall be rolls of baptized, active, and affiliate members in accordance with G-1.0401, G-1.0402 and G-1.0403. The session shall delete names from the roll of the congregation upon the member's death, admission to membership in another congregation or presbytery, or renunciation of jurisdiction. The session may delete names from the roll of the congregation when a member so requests, or has moved or otherwise ceased to participate actively in the work and worship of the congregation for a period of two years. The Session shall seek to restore members to active participation and shall provide written notice before deleting names due to member inactivity.

MOUNT OLIVE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP CRITERIA (APPROVED 6/17)

- 1) Regularly attend worship service.
- 2) Participation in spiritual development and committee membership opportunities within the church such as; Sunday Worship Service, Bible Study, Vacation Bible School, Sunday School. Committee/organizations such as: Christian Education, Congregational Care and Outreach, Evangelism, Finance and Stewardship, Mission and Planning, Personnel, Property or Worship and Music
- 3) Financial contribution to the operational expenses of the church. Including but not limited to annually Per Capita of \$35, anniversary and homecoming assessments of \$150 each and monthly building fund contribution of \$35.

If you know of someone that has a desire to join or reinstate their membership please contact a member of the Session.

From the Clerk of Session,
Andrea Graham



Tips and Tricks for Video Conferencing

1. **Mute and Unmute Your Mic Quickly** When there are too many participants in a meeting, it's hard to hear everyone because of cross-talk and background noise. But you can reverse this behavior by a simple hack. For example, if you are in a web conference and not speaking then keep your mic on mute. And when you want to talk briefly, simply hold the space bar to enable the mic and speak. Once you release the space bar key, you'll be muted again. This way, the meeting will be super-smooth, Zoom will eat less bandwidth, and everyone will be able to hear others clearly. So to use this feature, open Settings -> Audio -> Enable "Mute my microphone when joining a meeting" to permanently change the behavior. Now, whenever you are in a meeting, press and hold the space bar to temporarily unmute yourself and speak thereafter.
2. **Enable Gallery View** Among Active Speaker, Gallery, and Mini layouts, You will see everyone is on the same page and you can easily monitor all the participants at once. That said, it's advised to use this feature when you have a small group otherwise Active Speaker is quite good. So to enable it, click on "Gallery View" in the top-right corner of your Zoom window and you are done.



Mt. Olive's support of the Ten Cents-A-Meal Program has been tremendous over the years. With our contribution along with members of the Presbytery and other churches the program has brought these offerings to address the needs of others and response to our Lord's directive, "Feed My Sheep."

Your Ten Cents-a-Meal in Action!

A food support ministry from the churches of the Presbytery of Charlotte



FAMILIES FIRST—4261, 985 Central Drive NW, Concord, NC
"Our mission: to nurture children, empower parents, and strengthen families. Among many ministries, we operate 3 language immersion pre-schools where in the last 4 years with your support 132 at-risk children have graduated"

SAMARITAN HOUSE—611 Fortune Street, Charlotte, NC
"Our current facility allows us to take care of 12 homeless guests who need a place to recover from a hospital stay. Your gifts helped each of these people return to health. Last year our Levine Cancer Center patient remission rates increased from 50 to 88%."



STANLY COMMUNITY CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES
—506 S 1st Street, Albemarle, NC
SCCM provides meals, clothing, shoes, household goods, food, heat, medicine, and other financial assistance to those in need. "One in 6 children isn't sure where their next meal will come from. Kids who don't get enough to eat begin life at a serious disadvantage. Your gift helps insure these hungry children are fed."

2019 program requests have been validated for potential awards of up to \$207,600 to 46 agencies located in Cabarrus, Mecklenburg, Montgomery, Richmond, Stanly, Anson and Union Counties, and 2 in SC

Presbytery of Charlotte Ten Cents-a-Meal 2831 N Sharon Amity Rd Suite A Charlotte, NC 28205
tamara.williams@presbyofcharlotte.org Telephone: 980 207-5212



It is time to update our church membership roll information.
Please complete information by going to

<http://postable.com/mtolivepresbyterianchurch> or send
email to the church secretary at mtolivepres@bellsouth.net
or clerk of Session, Andrea Graham at
agraham708@gmail.com.