

Olivet New Church

CHATTERBOX

Volume 85

April 2019

Number 4

Resurrection

Spring is the season of the resurrection—the season in which we rejoice in the Lord’s triumph over death. Easter is one of the church’s foremost two occasions for soaring hope and celebration (the other being New Church day). Yet the celebration of Easter sits back-to-back with the remembrance of some of the darkest moments in human spiritual history. Before the Lord rose from the tomb, He was killed, and the abject misery of the crucifixion story is what makes the sudden turn on Easter morning so startlingly and transcendently beautiful. No morning is better than the one that follows final, absolute night.

It’s a story of such extremes that it can be hard to appreciate. Total victory follows total defeat—but after hearing the story enough times, the surprise and the wonder of it can fail to reach us. What’s more, the Easter story is really the Christian story. The Easter message is the soul of the Christian message—just as Easter morning was the spark from which the Christian church was brought to life. The themes we’re called to remember and celebrate on Easter Sunday are all so very familiar—they’re hardly any different from what we learn in church all year. The Lord Jesus Christ is God, who cannot die. All life is eternal; heaven is stronger than hell. Sometimes, after enough retellings, this story seems to lose its salt, becoming merely another declaration that “good wins in the end.”

Like everything, this story has power with us when we understand its connection to the life we’re living. Not just its historical connection—yes, the present church and our present faith have been made possible by the historical fact that the Lord rose from His tomb many years ago. But the Easter story is far more immediately relevant—it has everything to do with everything we’ve been doing our whole life long. We’re all aware that our lives only last so long. We’re all, as it were, in the valley of the shadow of death—that shadow hangs over us all. But we’ve all heard that it’s possible that death is not the end. So, though most of us probably don’t think about it this way all too often, every one of us is either preparing to die or preparing to live.

And there’s a kind of death that’s even more completely a part of our reality than the death that waits at the end of our eighty-odd years on this earth: the kind of death that the Lord was talking about when He said, “whoever loses his life for My sake will save it” (Luke 9:24). In the New Church, we’re taught that love is a person’s life (DLW §1). So whenever we give up something we love, something within us registers a death. Something within us grieves. When two loves clash within us we tend to try to keep both of them alive as long as possible, but in the end, one has to fall before the other. When that happens—even if there’s a part of us that knows that the thing that’s dying is worldly and selfish, and has to go—there’s another part of us that grieves. And that grieving part of us draws us into the valley of the shadow of death. We feel sadness, weariness, hopelessness, and so on. And then, out of that shadow, the Lord raises up whatever good thing it was that we chose to lay down our lives for, and He makes it come alive. “Most assuredly, I say to you that you will weep and lament, but the world will rejoice; and you will be sorrowful, but your sorrow will be turned into joy” (John 16:20). Our lives are full of little deaths and little resurrections. Every struggle to lay down what we want for the sake of what’s right, every passage through grief into joy, is an echo of the Easter story.

The Lord said, “I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live. And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die. Do you believe this?” (John 11:25, 26). His

resurrection story—the Resurrection story—unifies every single story of death and hope and letting go and rising up ever told around the world, because in every one of those stories, He is the resurrection. It is His life that gives life to any triumph of faith or courage that any human being has ever known. The Easter story is the template for every story that really matters that's ever been told: something got broken; something was lost; the world became dark; God was not there. And then—inexplicably—where there was death, He made life. He says, "I am the resurrection and the life ... do you believe this?" To believe this is to believe that His triumph over death runs over and over in our lives, endlessly. Though we rarely think of it this way, over and over we're witnessing His victory—even in the tiniest little things. And hopefully, in the end, each of us will see His victory reflected again in what is, to Him, the greatest thing—ourselves, our spirits raised from death into life. The pattern repeats itself over and over, and the last iteration is the most perfect. "Therefore you now have sorrow; but I will see you again and your heart will rejoice, and your joy no one will take from you" (John 16:22).

Rev. Jared Buss

From the Pastor

Our evening Holy Supper at 7 pm on Good Friday is an especially moving time when we gather to remember the Lord's work in redeeming and saving us. Historically, Thursday is the night that the Lord instituted the Holy Supper and Friday is the day He was taken from the Cross and laid in the sepulcher. To prepare for the service, please consider the following teaching from the Word:

Anyone who turns to the Lord and repents is, by this most holy act, conjoined with the Lord and introduced into heaven. The bread and wine do not create the conjunction. There is no holiness in them. But material bread and heavenly bread correspond to each other, and so do material wine and heavenly wine. Heavenly bread is the holiness in love, and heavenly wine is the holiness in faith, both originating from the Lord, and both being the Lord. This occasions a conjunction of the Lord with a person and a person with the Lord a conjunction not with the bread and wine but with the love and faith of a person who has repented and conjunction with the Lord is also an introduction into heaven. (Apocalypse Revealed 224:13)

Calendar items: The Annual Meeting of the General Church in Canada (GCIC) will be held in Kitchener on Saturday April 6. (See the announcement elsewhere in this Issue.) Bishop Peter Buss Jr., as the president-elect of the GCIC, will attend this meeting to discuss the state of the church and future plans for the GCIC. The following day, April 7, he will visit Olivet and preach.

The Sons Ladies' Night is a springtime tradition going back many years. This year the Forward Sons invite everyone to this special evening on April 13.

Palm Sunday is April 14. The service will begin with a palm procession starting down in the hall. Those who wish to take part in the procession should gather there prior to the start of the service.

On Friday, April 19, we'll be celebrating the Holy Supper in a special evening service, starting at 7:00 pm. There will not be a children's talk or supervision for them at this service. You are invited to an **open house** at the manse immediately following the service.

Easter Sunday is April 21 and we'll have a festival service (one talk for adults and children) starting at 10:30 am. As usual, those who wish to make a gift of flowers should gather in the hall before the service, and we will start the processional during the first hymn.

I will travel to preach in Grande Prairie and Dawson Creek the weekend after Easter, April 26 to 29.

Finally, I'll note that the first weekend in May, Olivet will be hosting a teen weekend. See details in posters elsewhere.

Michael K. Cowley

From the Assistant to the Pastor

In the March edition of the *Chatterbox*, I shared some thoughts about the order of service in our Sunday worship. Michael and I are considering making some small changes to the order of service, and we're interested in your feedback. A few people have shared their thoughts with us, but I would love to hear from more of you. I won't restate everything I said in the previous *Chatterbox*, but here are the specific questions I said I was hoping to get responses to:

- Do you have strong opinions about the length of the office (the portion of the worship service that happens before the children's talk)? Is it too long? Too short? Just right?
- Do you miss singing the Sanctus and the Gloria? (the short songs that are sung after the congregation rises from saying the Lord's Prayer; Olivet discontinued singing them a few years ago)
- Do you sometimes wish that the opening portion of the service had a lighter or a more joyful tone?
- Some churches print their entire order of service (all of the statements and responses found in the office, etc.) in the worship handout. This gives the pastors the freedom to "rewrite" the offices—to shorten them, lengthen them, or change their tone—as needed. Does this seem like a good idea for Olivet?

Again, it would be great to hear from you on this subject. And to those of you who have already shared their opinions—thank you!

As I write I can hardly wait to move for real into springtime—it cannot come too soon. The world's awakening from winter feels like a miracle to me every time; it's a living representation of the quiet and persistent work of the Lord. May you feel the joy of it!

Jared

From the Principal

Olivet School frequently posts on Facebook and Instagram. For updates on happenings at the school, and inspirational messages such as the ones pictured here, follow us on these social media platforms! You owe it to yourself to know what Olivet School is up to on social media.

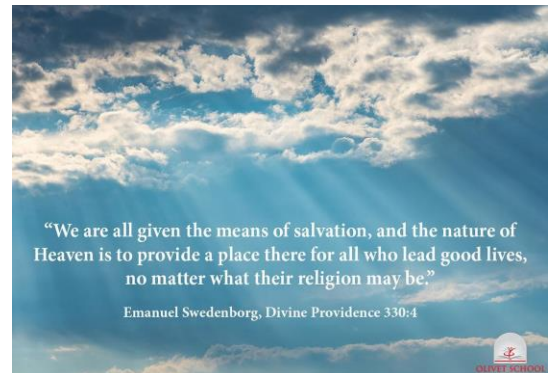


Musical events: I had the privilege of observing our music teacher, Rebecca Enkin, at work this week. She is having the students busily rehearsing for two upcoming events. Mark your calendars for Sunday April 14—Palm Sunday—when the kids will be singing at the

church service. This is always a special service, made even more special by the children's voices.

It was delightful to see Rebecca and Fran Raymond, who has kindly volunteered to help out with the May Musical this year, work as a team! It was like watching two seasoned professionals put the kids through their paces! Also mark your calendars for Wednesday May 22, 6:15 pm—that is our annual May Music Night! It promises to be good!

Gabriele Pulpan



A Message from the Olivet Parent Council Representative

Dear society members: We are announcing the debut of QSP's "Cool Cards That Care". From April 1 to April 12, our school will be promoting QSP's brand new all-occasion greeting cards. **All 35 eye-catching cards are individually wrapped, accompanied by coordinating envelopes, and enclosed in a reusable keepsake box for only \$40 (tax included).**

Whether the exclusive box set is for your own use or a gift for someone who will appreciate giving out these exquisitely designed and well-crafted cards, it is perfect to have on hand year round for all occasions. Mother's Day is coming up!

We will have a sample of the cards and keepsake box on display in the lobby by April 1. Please come by and check out the uniquely designed cards and pick up an order form.

To those who may be interested in renewing magazine subscriptions, the launch of the new QSP Cool Cards *will coincide with the regular QSP magazine subscription campaign.* Order new subscriptions or renew a magazine you are already enjoying. Order forms will be available.

Return orders on or before: Friday, April 12

Enclose CASH or cheques payable to Olivet School

Or, EVEN EASIER, order at www.QSP.ca using our online ID: 3735156

The cheery enthusiasm and unwavering support from society members for our school's fundraising events is an inestimable contribution, bolstering our students' school spirit and supporting fun activities such as the ever-popular Pancake Breakfast Day, the purchase of new tricycles, or last year's painting of new games on the asphalt! **The students at Olivet heartily and warmly thank you from the bottom of their hearts!**

Attention all ladies and men!

You are all invited to our annual gala evening, Sons Ladies' Night. It will be a fun evening together in spring weather, with a full dinner, presentations, and original entertainment. It will be held on Saturday, April 13. Mingling and corsages are at 6:30 pm, with dinner at 7:00 pm, at the Olivet Church. Cost is \$30 per couple or single man; ladies are free. Please RSVP by email to Jay Brown at jay.brown@rogers.com, or call me (Patrick) at 905-873-0873 if you don't have email. Let's have a fun evening together!

Patrick Horigan, Sons President

7th Annual Living Waters Family Camp

Thursday, July 11 – Sunday, July 14, 2019

This Year's Theme: "War and Peace"

Now is a great time to start a family tradition in which grandparents, parents, and children can all go to a summer camp and worship, learn, pray, and play together.

When you read through the Word you can't help but be struck by the fact that it is just one battle after another with periods of peace in between. Why is this so? The sheer volume the Heavenly Doctrines for the New Church have to say about war and peace is absolutely amazing, and as we delve into the subject, I think you will find that the teachings are also quite profound and reassuring.

The camp is located near Paisley, Ontario, on the Saugeen River and is called Hidden Valley Christian Camp. You can explore it on the web at hvccamp.ca.

The GCIC has been wonderfully supportive of this venture and there are scholarships available to ensure that the camp is affordable enough for most everyone to attend! For more information, or if you would like to attend, please email Brad Heinrichs at pastor@carmelnewchurch.org or call 519-748-5802.



General Church Corporation – Annual Meeting

May 18, 2019, 3:00 pm at Benade Hall Auditorium, 2815 Benade Circle, Bryn Athyn, PA 19009

Members of the General Church Corporation are invited to participate in the election of General Church Board members at this meeting. Look for the report of the General Church Nominating Committee at the end of February, containing the report from the Nominating Committee, information on nominees, and minutes from 2018. Call-in information will be also included.

If you have recently changed your mail or email address, or if you are unsure of your membership in the General Church and/or General Church Corporation*, please contact Susan Wright at 267-502-4990 or susan.wright@anc-gc.org, or Kelly Treacy 267-502-4901 or kelly.treacy@newchurch.org.

*General Church members are eligible to become corporation members after three years of church membership.

From the Treasurers' Office

Over the past year, there have been many comments made to the treasurers about Olivet's finances. At the Board meeting in March, some misunderstandings came to light. The Treasurers' Office would like to address some of these questions at this time.

Don't we have to run a school in order to maintain our "charitable status"?

The short answer is no. Olivet is a federally incorporated not-for-profit registered charity. As such, we must support our stated charitable uses. One of our stated uses is education. This education use could be met in a variety of ways and does not necessarily have to be the operation of a school.

Don't we *need* to have the school in order to meet our disbursement quota?

The disbursement quota is what charities are required to spend in order to maintain their charitable status. Each year, we are legally obligated to spend 3.5% of our assets that are *not* used directly to support those uses. The church and manse buildings are being directly used to support those uses but our endowment is not. Therefore, we must spend in the neighbourhood of \$350,000 per year from our endowment. With the school, we spend over one million dollars, which is more than we earn with our investments and donations. Even without the school, our pastors' office and the cost of running the building cover this requirement.

What else would we do if we don't run a school?

In order to fulfill our education mandate, we can choose to support any number of educational uses including but not exclusively: worship, the theological school, and educational classes for all ages, such as Wednesday classes, *Arcana* classes, youth weekends, Journey programs, Sunday School, middle and high school classes, Olivet School, and young adult groups.

We have other mandated uses, including the operation of a church. There has been money in the budget each year since 2005 for church uses. Recently, Olivet 2.0 has rolled out with our live broadcasting of services. What started as a fledgling attempt to provide services to members who are not able to attend has opened up many other possibilities. There will be many other opportunities that will come to mind when members take the time to dream.

What other questions could we be asking?

- 1- What can we do to support our members so well that more may be willing to join the Board? Vibrancy in the membership equals continued vibrancy at the Board level. Without a Board, we cannot continue as a charity and will cease to exist. If we cease to exist, we can't support **any** of the uses we currently perform.
- 2- Are we wisely using the resources that God gave us?
- 3- Does it make sense to eat into our investments in the way that we have been?
- 4- Could we run a more cost-effective school?
- 5- Can we broaden our education mandate in a way that touches more people, in a broader age range, at a significantly lower cost per capita?

Your Treasurers' Office,
Gerard Jutras, Amy Jutras, and Norma Fisher

Welcome to Olivet 2.0

Olivet 2.0 is the Olivet New Church presence on social media. We have added two more platforms, Twitter and Instagram, to this presence. Listed below are the URLs of what encompasses Olivet 2.0.

Check out a new Sons talk video from the March meeting on YouTube and Facebook. Rev. James Cooper talked on “Punishment: Why Jehovah sometimes appears angry in the stories of the Old Testament.”

Instagram https://www.instagram.com/olivet_new_church/

Twitter <https://twitter.com/NewOlivet>

YouTube <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC671dEQFjyTkM5-fhILIEYA>

Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/olivet.newchurch>

Webpage <http://olivetnewchurch.org/>

Audio (mp3) <https://newchurcaudio.org/>

Olivet Sneakernet – A service to get video files (mp4) on flash drives and delivered via the postal service to those with poor or expensive internet connections.

Olivet Sneakernet Service

Have a poor or expensive internet connection? Still would like to watch Olivet Church videos as well as other videos from around the church? The solution goes back an old idea, Sneakernet. We have a library of videos (mp4 files) that we could send you via a flash drive and the post office (snail mail), no internet required. If you are interested, please contact Jerry Jutras at gerard.jutras@sympatico.ca

(**Sneakernet** is an old term for the method of transmitting electronic information by personally carrying it from one place to another on a floppy disk or other removable medium. The idea is that someone is using their shoes (possibly sneakers) to move data around rather than using the telecommunications network.)

Annual GCIC Meeting

The Annual Meeting of the Corporation of the General Church of the New Jerusalem in Canada will be held at 7:30 pm EDT on Saturday, April 6, 2019 at the Carmel New Church, at 40 Chapel Hill Road, Kitchener, Ontario. A dinner will be served for those attending, beginning at 6:30 pm. R.S.V.P. for the dinner to the Olivet or Carmel office.

Maple Reunion Celebrating 50 Years!

This year, after the regularly scheduled camp (advertised on the next page), from Wednesday July 3 in the late afternoon to the morning of Saturday July 3, there will be a reunion for **anyone who has ever been a camper or staff member at Maple**. It will share the theme of “renewal” with the teen camp, and we expect it to be both a nostalgic and rejuvenating experience for all!

Registration forms are now available! The cost is set at a mere \$200. Email Chief Leaf Steph Kuhl at stephkuhl@live.ca or longstanding camp staff member and *Chatterbox* editor Claire Hurd at wordsmithclaire@gmail.com to get forms or to have any questions answered.

You can also express your interest on the “Facebook event” for the reunion, found on the Maple Facebook page here: <https://www.facebook.com/MapleLeafAcademy/> You can also post pictures of your years at camp if you have them. Please share news of this event with friends near and far! We look forward to seeing familiar faces and making new friends who have also had the transformative experience of attending Maple!



A New Church Camp for Teens

Please join us **Thursday, June 27 – Wednesday, July 3, 2019**

Held at the Ecology Retreat Centre in Mono, Ontario.

(For teens who will have just completed at least grade 8 or any year of high school)

This year's theme is: *Renewal*

He leads me beside the still waters; He restores my soul ~ Psalm 23:2-3 ~

Registration form now available – email stephkuhl@live.ca, or find it on the Maple Leaf Academy

Facebook page or at maplecamp.com

Have questions/need more information? Please contact Stephanie Kuhl, Camp Director

Email: stephkuhl@live.ca or call 519-895-1891

**MAPLE LEAF ACADEMY — SERVING THE YOUTH OF THE GENERAL CHURCH SINCE 1969, SPONSORED BY
THE GENERAL CHURCH IN CANADA
STAFFED BY EXPERIENCED VOLUNTEERS**

CAMP FEES

Full cost of camp	\$650
GCIC Grant	<u>-\$350</u>
Regular camper fee	\$300
Early bird*	\$265
Junior staff**	\$200

Full payment is requested by June 10.

A deposit of at least \$50 is required with registration. (\$5.00 non-refundable)

***Early bird** fee is available to those who register and send in full payment by May 1, 2019.

****Junior Staff** must have completed grade 12 and attended Maple at least once before. Junior staff campers are expected to hold a leadership role and participate in specific camp activities

Financial assistance is available. Please apply early as funds are limited. Direct your requests to the Camp Director (Steph Kuhl).

Kathleen McClure Fountain Memorial Award

Nominations are open for the Kathleen McClure Fountain Memorial Award! This monetary award is designed to remember Kathleen McClure Fountain's love of children, respect for education, and sense of service freely given, and to inspire the best in every student.

Do you know someone in grade 5, 8, or 12 who demonstrates a strong standing in academics, committed involvement in extra-curricular activities, as well as enthusiastic participation in events at Olivet Church and/or School? A personal reference from a principal (or similar authority) is also required. (Note: Nominees do not have to be currently/previously enrolled in Olivet School.)

Please email kmf.nominations@olivetnewchurch.org before **May 17, 2019**, to nominate a student or to ask any questions.

Contact Information Update

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Crayola ColorCycle: Join Olivet School in this fun initiative!

Crayola and schools across North America are banding together to help kids understand the importance of their role in protecting the environment. That's why they launched Crayola ColorCycle. Through this initiative, students in K-12 schools across the continental United States and parts of Canada can collect and repurpose used Crayola markers. Participating in ColorCycle with Olivet School is as easy as 1-2-3!



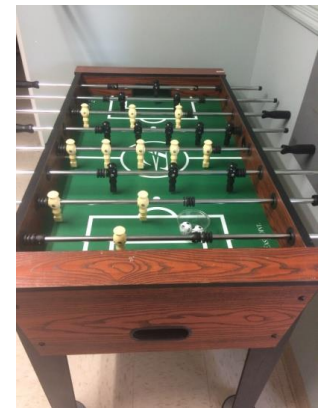
Collect & Count

A collection station will be set up, in the library, for used markers (they can be any brand/type). Drop all used up markers into the box! Olivet students will count the markers and prepare them for shipping.

FedEx Ground will pick up the markers—Crayola pays all shipping charges! Finally, smile—you just helped save the planet! For more info, check out: <https://www.crayola.com/colorcycle.aspx>

Thank You for the Foosball Table!

If you have gone downstairs to socialize after church within the past few weeks, you will have noticed something new in the basement that is getting a lot of use lately. This item is a new foosball table that was generously given by an anonymous church member. Having never played foosball in my life, I soon came to see how much the children and young adults were loving this new gift to the church. As soon as it arrived, the children knew what to do with it and were having fun playing with it together. This competitive “soccer” game can have up to eight players and lots of onlookers. So far, it is being used to give the children something fun to do after church and during the afterschool program. In May, Olivet will host the multi-



congregational youth weekend, during which about 40 teens will be at Olivet for the weekend, and it, as well as the recently donated outdoor volleyball and badminton sets, will be a huge help during this time. As I drove one young lady back home after she attended the party for the Heinrichs family, at which she and the others had lots of fun playing foosball, she commented that this had been the “best time she ever had at church!”

Thank you so much to the generous donors for these gifts and a special thank you for our new foosball table! Check out the children learning how to play this game for the first time!

Written with gratitude by ***Personal Information removed from online version***

April Anniversaries

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“[T]he house within was divided into two and yet was one. It was divided into two by a translucent partition; and it appeared as one by reason of its translucency which was as of the purest crystal. I asked why it was so. [The angel] said, “I am not alone. My wife is with me; and we are two and yet not two but one flesh.” CL 56

~ Olivet New Church and Olivet School ~
~ April 2019 ~

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 6:30p Beaver Scouts 7p Scout Leaders Meeting	2 10a SWOT Session w/S. Werner in lobby 4p SWOT Session w/S. Werner in lobby 7p Clsd AA Mtg 7p SWOT Session w/S. Werner in classroom(TBD)	3 3p Broader Horizons (Mar 20-Apr 17) 7p Society Meeting SWOT summary by S. Werner	4 10a Arcana Class 12:30p Drop In On The Pastor 3p Mediated Sessions w/ S.Werner at Montgomery's Inn 7:30p Open AA Mtg	5 6:30p Hunger for Healing Bus. Mtg 7:30p Hunger for Healing NA	6 3:30p GCIC Board Meeting in Kitchener 6:30p GCIC Social Supper in Kitchener 7:30p GCIC Annual Meeting in Kitchener
7 10:30a Worship (PMBjr)	8 6:30p Beaver Scouts 7p Pastor's Council	9 7p Closed AA Mtg	10 3p Broader Horizons (Mar 20-Apr 17)	11 12:30p Drop In On The Pastor 7:30p Open AA Mtg	12 5p-8p Olivet Open House & French Play 7:30p Hunger for Healing NA	13 6:30p Sons' Ladies' Night
14 Palm Sunday 10:30a Children's Choir Performance 10:30a Palm Sunday Worship Service (JJB)	15 6:30p Beaver Scouts 7p Olivet Board Meeting	16 7p Closed AA Mtg	17 3p Broader Horizons (Mar 20-Apr 17) 6:30p Wednesday Supper 7:30p Doctrinal Class (MKC)	18 Olivet School Earth Day Clean-Up 10a Arcana Class 12:30p Drop In On The Pastor 7:30p Open AA Mtg	19 Good Friday Chatterbox Deadline Good Friday Holiday 7p Holy Supper and Open House 7:30p no Hunger for Healing NA	20
21 Easter 10:30a Easter Worship Service (MKC)	22 Earth Day Easter Monday Holiday	23 7p Closed AA Mtg	24	25 9:15a Field Trip (K-5) 12:30p Drop In On The Pastor 7:30p Open AA Mtg	26 4p Investment Committee Meeting 7:30p Hunger for Healing NA	27 9a Church Clean-Up Day
28 10:30a Worship (JJB) 12p High School & Middle School Class	29 6:30p Beaver Scouts	30 7p Closed AA Mtg	Notes:			

Sunday Volunteer Schedule

Date	Usher	Chancel	Organist	Sunday School 1 (PK-1)	Sunday School 2 (Gr2-4)	JOY (Gr5-8)	Greeters	Refresh-ments	Flowers
Apr 7	***Personal Information removed from online version***								
Apr 14 Palm Sunday Children's Choir									
April 19 Good Friday Vespers Holy Supper									
Apr 21 Easter									
Apr 28									
May 5									

Every individual possesses potential qualities that they are privileged to share with their neighbours. To be human, understood spiritually, means to perform uses (*Divine Love and Wisdom*). If you would like to get involved, you can find the contact list of committee volunteer heads on the second page of the society phone list.

Meal Volunteer Schedule

Date	Cooks	Dishwashers
April 3 SWOT Summary	***Personal Information removed from online version***	
April 7 Wednesday Supper		

Olivet Church, 279 Burnhamthorpe Rd, Toronto, ON, M9B 1Z6416-239-3054
 Olivet Church email address: contact@olivetnewchurch.orgFAX 416-239-4935
 Pastor, Michael Cowley.....647-883-3754
 Assistant to the Pastor, Jared Buss.....647-677-2600
 Chatterbox Editor, Claire Hurd.....647-203-5875
 Rides to church, Karen Cooper.....416-236-0841
 Visiting Committee, ***Personal Information removed from online version***416-622-5424