Hands raise and eyes close. Others fall to their knees before the padded alter. The chapel is large and ornate, with high ceilings containing structural features learned and forgotten in Intro to Fine Arts. Voices reverberate off of the organ and reflect back lightened to the congregational student body. Chaplain or University President approach a pulpit of what one assumes to be bullet proof glass.

The walls define only a portion of the spiritual life at Olivet Nazarene. Small groups are led in dilapidated Grand apartment buildings or ten foot by ten foot dorm rooms (if you’re lucky). Hands are regularly passed in prayer from friend to friend in the quad as Katie the hot dog vendor yells about ambiguous meat that’s bigger than the bun. Conversations travel inevitably to current spiritual conundrums like water to a gutter. Life is lived together in the Olivet community, unrestrained by physical boundaries, projecting the kingdom of God ever upwards.
Over 200 volunteers from Olivet donated their time to host a family carnival for employees of CLS Behring, raising over $5,000 to build a library in one of the poorest areas of the country, Pembroke, IL. (RH)
“What If?” These large, multicolored letters formed the backdrop of each chapel message during the fall semester. In response to the challenge, sophomore Katie Reed posted a Facebook status asking, “Olivet, WHAT IF we were good stewards of chapel? WHAT IF we loved with our actions? WHAT IF we had a tangible love for our neighbors in Pembroke?” Pembroke Township, about 20 miles southeast of ONU, is one of the poorest areas in the Midwest. Compassionate Ministries has “adopted” the community as a service and ministry project.

On September 13 and 14, two hundred volunteers stepped up just to see what would happen if they sacrificed time to serve. They caravanned just blocks away, to CSL Behring’s 60th anniversary celebration, where they became a sea of green-shirted volunteers to staff the festival-themed event under the direction of Incredible Events, an event planning organization based out of Roxana, IL. IE donated over $5,000 in return for the labor. “We are going to use the money to help complete the building of a library in Pembroke,” said senior Becca Reed, co-leader of Compassionate Ministries with her younger sister, Katie.

Recruiting volunteers to work on Saturday afternoon was particularly challenging due to the scheduling of Paint Wars at the same time. Some students did not follow through after they had signed up to volunteer and, desperate to meet the quota of workers, Katie Reed and volunteer Simon Pheasant returned to campus for help. Katie stood at the main desk in Ludwig pleading with passersby to step up. “Anyone and everyone! I know you don’t have the time for this and I don’t have time to explain, but please come with us right now!” What happened was shocking: students started taking off their Paint Wars shirts! Freshman Esther Paek was one of them. “I may have had lots of fun playing Paint Wars,” she said, “but there was a need and I was thankful for the opportunity to serve and love on other people.” The chance to help those in Pembroke was not thwarted.

Alex Kaiser of Incredible Events said that the ONU students who worked for him were the best volunteers he has come across in his 5 years of being with IE. “By this time in the day, I’m usually ready to get rid of the volunteers,” he said during tear-down after the event, “but you guys have been spectacular.” He thanked the Olivet students for making an impression on the guests with their positive attitudes; in addition, CSL Behring employees thanked the green shirts before they left the celebration.

The leaders of Compassionate Ministries know that their peers didn’t give up their weekend to receive a pat on the back. “Working this event wasn’t just something that people did to feel good...they did it because they could tell that this was going to make a big impact,” Becca said. “It was amazing to see Yahweh’s faithfulness in providing people to work, and it was an incredible opportunity to serve,” said senior Emily Arnold.

By Katharyn Schrader
The fall chapel services hinged on the question of “What if?” examining multiplicities of what could happen if Jesus took control of our lives. The second semester asked the question, “What is Kingdom living?”
Snow Couldn’t Stop Revival

Despite the freezing temperatures in Bourbonnais, Tenure Evangelist Norman More is not anxious to head back to southern California, the region of the United States he has called home since 1966, until he is “finished here.”

“I came here for a purpose,” Moore said Tuesday afternoon, clad in a long pea coat and scarf, as he prepared to venture back out into the Midwest’s arctic weather.

As the evangelist speaker at College Church’s winter revival, Moore believes his purpose in speaking this week is not to present sermons, but to share testimonies.

“The core concept I’d like everyone to take away is the idea that we all should realize our maximum potential through the living of a surrendered, spirit-filled life,” Moore said as he smiled and adjusted his glasses. “We just really have to discover and accomplish God’s will for our lives. There should never be any alternative goal.”

Moore is no stranger to Olivet as this is his fourth time returning to campus since 1993.

“The buildings have changed a lot over the years,” Moore noted as he discussed his appreciation for Olivet and called it “an honor” to be invited back so frequently.

Moore elaborated on his love for Olivet calling the student body, faculty, and staff courteous, receptive, and polite.

“We had a capacity attendance both nights of revival so far. It really indicates there’s an appetite for spiritual growth,” he said has he bundled up preparing for the chill of the outdoors.

By Nicole LaFond
[Originally printed in the Jan. 30 Glimmerglass.]
//Spirit Filled Life

Once a week, Spiritual Life Council gathers to discuss how God is working through Olivet’s student led ministries. The Spiritual Life Council strives to reach out to as many students, faculty, and surrounding citizens as possible. Sophomore Alee Hatfield said that it is about “...touching people’s lives in different ways that can’t be planned. It’s about letting God take control.” However, their meetings are not completely filled with discussion. They also have council bonding activities such as launching pumpkins and apples.

By Kassandra Spinnie
In the Philippines, sophomore Michael Skinner was born to a missionary family. He grew up in Ukraine, where he was led into music ministry. As a sixth grader, Michael joined a worship team as a piano player, and found his calling to ministry. Today, he is a music ministry major co-leading Party with Jesus. The only thing Michael would choose to change about his position is the name of his ministry. Naming the Monday night service “Party with Jesus” does not give the ministry justice, he says. If it were up to him, it would be called “Timeout” because it is a chance for people to take a timeout from the stressful college life and focus on God. Other than sacrificing his weekly show The Voice, Michael is glad to be a leader for such an incredible ministry.

At the end of last year, sophomore Jordan Lingle applied for an R.A position because he felt that was where he was being called. When didn’t make the cut, Jordan didn’t know where God was leading him or where he was supposed to go next, but he decided to apply for participation in Party with Jesus. A few weeks later, Jordan was told that he was given the role of co-leader. He said, “I'm in the place I'm in because of God's grace, and his plan.” As Jordan speaks to his peers he is often seen without shoes, an attempt to destroy the barrier between him and his peers. Shoes are formal, but Party with Jesus is an event meant to bring peace and comfort.

I do not like them here or there, I do not like them anywhere. The word “new” is not always appealing. In fact, “new” is often frightening and unpredictable. Taking a step away from typical services, the Wednesday night Parlor team decided to expand their horizons and make some changes. Parlor began to blaze a fresh path with senior Alli Hill as the new worship leader and the College Church sanctuary as the new location for the service. Although the changes in Parlor open doors for an uncertain future, it also offers a chance for students to find renewal amidst their stressful weeks.
Alina Ellis and members of HeArt ministries helped buddies make Christmas cards for soldiers (1).

While visiting Olivet, the buddies hung out with students in Red Room (2).

The Best Buddies Christmas party of 2013 was a first for the organization. Usually the group hosts a Christmas Ball in the Warming House, but this year they attended the all-school Christmas party to mingle and communicate with a larger group of college students.

Many of the buddies enjoy making arts and crafts with students (3).

A foosball competition broke out during the Best Buddies Christmas event (4).
Best Buddies is an organization that matches college students with adults who have intellectual and developmental disabilities. The organization exists in a variety of chapters in many high schools and universities all over the world. Olivia Zimmer (right), a student organizer of Best Buddies, highlights the student/buddy relationship by saying that the purpose of the organization is to “create strong and meaningful friendships between the two.” The buddies need relationships and want to be friends with willing college students. This relationship is beneficial to both sides and has the potential to teach lifelong lessons to those open to learn. Students will find that the organization teaches patience and respect, which are essential to the college experience as a whole. Although the organization is focused on the happiness of the buddies, students will walk away with lasting relationships and a better understanding of themselves.

By Drew Leavitt
Mission Possible is an outreach ministry that serves in Jerome Combs Detention Center, the Kankakee County jail. Five times a week different groups visit the jail and have fellowship with the inmates there.

“When Mission Possible members head into jail, they bring light into an extremely dark community. Ministry members share the gospel with inmates who have never before heard it and guide back individuals to Christ who have gone astray,” said Lindsey Tobias, one of the leaders of Mission Possible. “Society often forgets that criminals are real people; they have families they love, they have desires and goals, and they have everyday needs. I got involved in Mission Possible to bring a voice back to the voiceless.”

Just like the inmates, the ones who minister also receive a piece of insight. “I’ve watched ministry members’ faith grow exponentially as they have trusted in God and as God has challenged them in amazing ways,” said Lindsey.

These life-changing moments have caused word to spread and allowed the ministry to continue growing, with 100 new members signing up in the fall semester. “We have a great leadership team and a great group of members who are passionate about Mission Possible and its growth and continuation,” Tobias said.

By Doni York

Chrissy Michaels recruits interested students to visit the local jail with Mission Possible. (rw)
Liza Dollenbacher, a sophomore, is one of the co-leaders of Life Support which raises money for a local pregnancy center. Liza talks about the center’s mission and the events that the group puts on.

Q: What does Life Support do?
A: We help out at the Living Alternatives Pregnancy Center in Kankakee because where it’s not government funded, they rely heavily on donations and volunteers. Right now they only have two nurses working there, which can be hectic.

Q: Do you have events to get the word out?
A: We mostly do fundraising where all the proceeds go toward the center. In fall we have an event called “Rock for Life” where people will be in rocking chairs asking for donations for however many hours they’re rocking—that’s to remember all of the babies who were never rocked. In April we have “Walk for Life” where we do the same thing: ask for donations, and we walk for three miles around Perry Farm. Other than that we have Sanctity of Life week where we sell t-shirts and put ribbons around the trees to remember those who were aborted. We’ll also sell wrist ribbons so when people look down at their hands they remember to pray for the center. This year we ended up raising $600 and all of it goes straight to the center. We show movies too. This year we showed “Blood Money,” and about 30 people came to that.

Q: What does the center do?
A: They help girls who are pregnant or think they might be pregnant. They can go in and test for pregnancy and get check-ups. People can also donate clothes and diapers so new mothers can buy a shirt for their child for only 25 cents. They also have post-abortive counseling. They’re really just there to help. It’s important for the students here to be aware of that and make them aware of pregnancy options if someone falls into that situation because local residents can also adopt from there.
Today, Tomorrow, Together” marked this year’s theme of the annual event when walkers and motorized vehicles line the walls of Chalfant: Primetime Day. Senior Megan Schneider walked with her grandparents as they discussed the unity that Olivet provides each year to build a deeper level of community within families and students on campus. “Being able to spend time with my granddaughter and grandson is something that I hold dear to my heart. It was nice to be a part of their college experience,” said Megan and Andrew’s grandma. The experiences that Olivet offers in establishing the feel of togetherness and allowing families to partake in special moments in their grandchildren’s lives makes Megan’s grandma proud. “I am thankful that they have been given the chance to go to a place like Olivet,” she said.

By Erin Taylor
Never Too Old to Make a Difference

Tears roll down Miss Polly’s face as she sings songs to the Lord. She tells the members of Evangels the secret of life: Jesus. At 111 years old, she shares her devotions and life story with the students. She is a living miracle that demonstrates the plans that God has in store for each individual on this planet. Miss Polly enjoys various activities such as watching reality TV and consuming chips and Pepsi.

Francis is the face of selflessness. Balls of yarn can be seen on the floor of her room as she spends countless hours crocheting blankets for children who have cancer. Her delicate fingers grip the crochet needles as she explains her dedication to helping those in need to anyone who asks. Photo albums fill an entire drawer of all of the different designs and blankets that she has made since she had taken a place of residence at the nursing home.

The ministry of Evangels is much more than just bridging the gap between the youth and the elderly, it is about the relationships and memories that are made in every visit to the nursing home. Members leave the nursing home after each visit feeling renewed. The residents are more than just elderly people who live in a nursing home; they are the friends and substitute grandparents for the members of Evangels.
FCA provides a platform for Christians to connect through a common interest in athletics. The organization holds a special place within Kenneth DeCook’s heart (pictured left with Alex Atkisson). “It is a great platform to share the love of Christ with people,” he said. “I was saved at an FCA summer camp seven years ago, so I may be somewhat biased. Still, it’s one of the best ministries on campus!”

The scent of coffee wafts through Benner first floor while Simon Pheasant sits comfortably in front of Jazzman’s and smiles as he thinks about his time being a part of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes. He first became a member of the group during the spring 2013 semester and has become one of the few who organize and set up meetings for the fellowship.

“My best memory would definitely be the Fields of Faith.” Simon said. “It was a really good chance to connect with the community.”

Fields of Faith took place earlier in the fall semester, pulling a massive group of students from the various school districts and churches around the Chicagoland area. The outside students attending ended up ranging from 5th to 12th grade – giving the event a unique bonding experience.

“There was this 12-year-old girl—she sang like an angel—who led some of the worship. We all gathered on Ward Field and created a massive prayer circle, then split into smaller circles. It was a wonderful experience,” he said.

By Doni York
The Village of Hope is a ministry designed to reach out to communities and people in need. Through much volunteer work and support, they provide clean water, build homes, and raise awareness to HIV and disease in underprivileged communities. Their mission is to aid people and provide hope for a better tomorrow.

In the summer of 2013, seven football players and four coaches took a mission trip to Guatemala through the Village of Hope, a foundation that helps spread HIV awareness and builds homes.

“The best part was seeing the little kids so happy. You realize that true happiness can’t be bought,” said senior Ken Moore. “It was a true opportunity to help someone.”

While there, the team helped build houses for the orphans and bond with the small community. “We got to play tag and soccer with the kids which was a lot of fun. They just played with no care in the world.”

For Ken, this was his first mission trip and something that he never saw himself doing, but he’s thankful for the time he was able to spend in Guatemala. He said that given the chance, he would like to return someday. “You get a better understanding of what it means to help someone. This experience made me want to give back to my own community.”

By Doni York
Inspiring congregations and Olivet’s own campus, Lifesong uses music to spread the good news about Christ. Three different bands respond to calls from pastors and church coordinators when they are seeking new ways to motivate their congregations. Each band becomes a close knit family as they learn about each other as they move from church to church. The spirit of worship is a powerful tool in the kingdom of God and should never be underestimated.
Q: What is the most exciting moment for you when you are on stage?

A: The most exciting moment for me when I’m on stage is when you can feel the congregation (or even just one person) praise God. The room feels warmer. You can see them communicating with God in their own way, and in that moment you are rejoicing with them. You’re in pain with them wherever they are with God, and at that moment you are walking with them. You may not know what’s going on in their life but you know that God is using you in the intimate relationship between that person and God. There’s nothing like it; it is truly a beautiful experience.

Q: What is it like to work with your band and the other members of Life Song?

A: Lifesong is so chill, I love it. The people that I was in a band with last year, as well as the people this year, are my family. The band I was in last year still gets together and has a band hot tub time. This year our band has a different dynamic. We haven’t been together as long, so we don’t have our niches yet, but we still are a family. Lifesong pretty much got me through last year. It has been and is still so amazing to be in contact with such amazing, godly influences.
A Lifestyle of Missions

“It’s a lifestyle,” said Maria Isabelli, “when it is something that you are so passionate about, it is always with you. It’s never left at the office; it’s in your heart.” After two years of paperwork and applications, Olivet has finally been accredited into the Standards of Excellence in Short-Term Mission. “The SOE has told us that we went above and beyond expectations” Maria said. “Olivet can be used as a model for all other universities in missions.” Maria glowed with excitement as she talked about Olivet’s love for students and mission trips. This year, 14 trips were planned, including trips to countries that Olivet has never gone to before in order to create all new experiences for the students. “It has been a crazy and busy year,” Maria said, “but we are ready.”

By Erin Taylor

As Paige Maldonado stepped onto the plane as it was boarding to Thailand, she was uncertain of what to expect upon arrival. Young women walking the streets and standing on corners is an everyday occurrence in Bangkok, Thailand. They need the money and will do just about anything to get it. Parents sell their children for money, without hesitation, as a way to survive in today’s world. Helping with two ministries, Paige worked with women who were enslaved to prostitution through an organization called Night Light, as well as Remember Num which was centered on working with children of low income families. “It opened my eyes,” said Paige. “You always hear things about trips and the experiences that come with it but you don’t realize or take it to heart until you are there helping those people.” As the children ran to Paige and her team, the radiating love for the people that carried the word of God was evident in their faces. “They have beautiful attitudes for the situations that they are in,” Paige said, beaming, “it was something that I hadn’t expected.”

Playing a hand clapping game, Andrea Richardson connects with a little girl from Swaziland. (S)
Many chances at understanding foreign cultures come in the form of students from different cultures who attend Olivet.

The goal of Mu Kappa is to give these international students a society where they can form relationships without any amount of cultural anxiety. Mu Kappa is organized into a council and a larger group composed of all of the members. The goal is to plan an event at least once a month so that international students can meet others who share cultural similarities and learn from their differences.

Among events aimed at socialization, Mu Kappa also strives to create a community of socially conscious students. In partnering with Exodus World Service, Mu Kappa plans to prepare what they call a “Welcome to America Pack” to help a refugee family get on their feet in America. This project not only includes the gift, but also involves meeting the family and helping them move into their apartment. Meeting a refugee family and providing assistance and fellowship for them is one step towards the culturally conscious community that Mu Kappa hopes to inspire.

By Drew Leavitt
Shadows danced across dimly lit faces in the basement of Chalfant. Students gathered at 11 p.m. for a secret church service called The Underground, to experience what it’s like to live in a country where worshipping God is forbidden or discouraged.

The event was organized by the group’s fall leaders, Garren Moore and Rachel Devine. In the spring, Ashley Schmitt and Ryan Lutz took over.

“The best thing about Heart for Missions is that it is filled with people who want the world to know Jesus,” Schmitt said. “We encourage our brothers and sisters who are already serving on the mission field to remind them that people care and support them. The group’s passion is world missions and our vision is to start preparing now to be missionaries and servants for the Lord.”
24 Hour Prayer is hosted by Prayer Warriors, one of the prayer clubs on campus. From seven in the morning until seven the next morning students come to Kelly Prayer Chapel and spend quiet time of reflection. Jeremiah 29:12-13 was the theme verse for this fall event: “Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart.”

A self-serve form of Communion was also available for attendees located at the front of the chapel. In between the bread and wine (or probably grape juice in this case) a sign read 1 Corinthians 10:23-26: “I have the right to do anything,’ you say—but not everything is beneficial. ‘I have the right to do anything’—but not everything is constructive. No one should seek their own good, but the good of others. Eat anything sold in the meat market without raising questions of conscience, for, ‘The earth is the Lord’s, and everything in it.’” The verse reminded students that the event—and prayer in general—is for the betterment of the community.

Danyne Harris, like many students, seized the opportunity during revival to reconnect with God (1). (AH) Students in prayer warriors connected intimately in prayer for campus and the world (2). (RH)
Soldier

Christina Di Monte, the leader of Prayer Warriors, was described by Michael Poff, the vice president of spiritual life, as “really kind. She has a sweet spirit.” Christina created a new event, 15 hour prayer. As Poff explained, “They opened it in the morning and left the door open in Kelly Prayer Chapel because it was a sunny day. It was more inviting because the doors were open.” This new event, a somewhat smaller version of 24 hour prayer, offered students a chance to join the prayer warriors in fighting the spiritual battles that are affecting students on campus.

Members joined in a circle at the altar in Kelly Prayer Chapel to petition God and pray for a variety of requests (3). (RH) Students gathered at the altar in chapel to pray (4). (AH)

**Olivet Nazarene @OlivetnazareneU**

24-Hour Prayer, 7am this Fri 11/1 - 7am Sat 11/2. Please join us in prayer at Kelley Prayer Chapel or from where you are. #lifeatolivet

**Emily Swartzwelder @hurrianeemilee**

“Frolicking with Jesus. You know, tralala.” #onuchapel

**Aaron Hemgesberg @Humanberg**

“Take me deeper than my feet could ever wander...” Big prayer. #onuchapel

#onuchapel
Q and A with Stacy Knoderer

1. What was new about the Urban Children’s Ministry this year?

This year has been full of blessings! We gained five new kids who now come regularly to the ministry. Also, Monika Alfke stepped up at the beginning of the fall semester to co-lead. This year we created applications to apply to the ministry, because we have had so many people interested and not enough kids. While it has been hard to turn people away, it has been so great to see the college students buddy up with the children on a deeper level.

2. How have you been seeing God move within the ministry?

God has been moving in so many aspects of this ministry. He has provided us with more children, as well as blessed us with wonderful volunteers who are willing to share the gospel with their buddies. Some of the children have never before heard the gospel; it has been amazing to see their growth and transformation as they are learning more about it.
The kids are great, what they do is great... they’re just really, really great.” Pastor Ed of the Gift of God Street Church in Kankakee struggled to find words worthy to describe what the S.O.S. ministry does for his organization, but his warm smile adequately expressed his gratitude. S.O.S., or Save Our Streets, is a volunteer organization that serves the homeless; their mission statement is “To be the hands and feet of Christ to the community.” One of the ways in which they fulfill this mission is by going to the Gift of God Street Church on Thursday nights to serve dinner and talk to the men who stay there. Levi Himes, co-leader of S.O.S., explained what he thinks is the best thing about working with the men: “We feed them and give them a place to stay, but the best part about this place is that it’s ministry above all else. It’s really focused on bringing them to Christ, and the guys are thankful.”
During Homeless Week, S.O.S. members lived like those they serve. They stayed outside all week to better understand the lives of the homeless and to raise money to buy food for the shelter. Each night they also held devotions around a campfire, coming together to reflect on the experience and express their faith.

Compassionate Ministries

Compassionate Ministries was formed to help students and the community come together to love Jesus. Believing that it was important to foster a sense of community on campus first, Compassionate Ministries started a Bible study group two years ago. They meet every Wednesday night to discuss issues of faith, share their requests and praises, and pray for and with each other. Off campus, Compassionate Ministries volunteers work on service projects to truly live out their mission of loving like Jesus. From hands-on projects like splitting wood and cleaning houses to food drives and fundraising for community organizations, Compassionate Ministries works to bring about tangible, lasting change. Co-leader Katie Reed explains that the group’s emphasis is on “sustainable development,” or projects that will be able to continue growing and benefiting the communities.

By Alex VanDehey