



OLIVET
neighborhood mission

Newsletter

Fall 2019

A NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR



***"Don't just count your blessings,
Be the blessing other people count on."- Unknown***

I was doing some random shopping the other day, looking for something for my youngest son for this upcoming school year, when I saw the above quote on a wooden plaque. It stopped me which is hard to do when I am on a mission to get something accomplished. But it made me pause because it turned the whole idea of counting your blessing totally on its head. If you read it again, you will begin to see that.

To count your blessings is an expression in the English language, essentially **encouraging an individual to focus on the positive aspects of life** rather than the negative. And for many of us that is hard to do in the current, difficult state of the world. But this quote challenges us even further, to instead be the **blessing other people count on**. Now that is weighty stuff. This asks us to take action, Real Action. This means choosing of your own freewill to act, to bless another person.

After some reflection, I have come to realize, that this is the essence of the mission of Olivet Neighborhood Mission. **Taking action to bless other people**. It is also what we have asked of our donors. So, with that, I leave you with my heartfelt thank you for your continual blessings and support. I count my own blessings too, thankful for being a part of something that blesses our community.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO BRIGHTEN THIS HOLIDAY SEASON FOR FAMILIES IN NEED?

2019 ADOPT-A-FAMILY PROGRAMS

Olivet Neighborhood Mission's Annual Holiday Adoption Programs are a way for families that are struggling with difficult financial situations to receive help with meals and gifts. Each year we have over 1,000 requests from families hoping to be sponsored and with your help, we aim to not turn anyone away.

THANKSGIVING

As a sponsor, you purchase the food needed to cook a Thanksgiving meal with traditional food items for the family (they then cook the meal themselves). You may choose the family size to sponsor and either deliver the basket directly to the family or drop it off at Olivet Mission.

Sign-up to sponsor a Thanksgiving Family preferably by November 1 so we have time to match you with a family.

CHRISTMAS

As a sponsor you purchase at least one Christmas gift for each child, 15 and under, in the family. You choose the family size you would like to purchase gifts for, and you choose your delivery preference to the family or Olivet Mission.

Sign-up to Sponsor a Christmas Family by December 1 so we have time to match you with a family.

To Become a Sponsor, Fill Out the Attached Form and mail to:

**Olivet Mission
230 10th Street NW
Cedar Rapids IA, 52405**

**or quickly fill out the form online at
www.olivetmission.org**



Like us on  and see what we are up to next!

Donate Today at:
www.olivetmission.org
click on the  link





Julie Palmer - Director
julie@olivetmission.org

Address

230 10th Street NW
Cedar Rapids, IA 52405
319-364-7946
www.olivetmission.org
www.facebook.com/olivetmission

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PROGRAM HIGHLIGHT - BOYS & GIRLS CLUB

Shannon Johnson was born and raised in Marion, Iowa. Upon graduation from high school, he joined the United States Marine Corps, where he would spend the next 30 years. While serving in the Marine Corps he held various occupational specialties, to include instructor billets as a Drill Instructor, NROTC Instructor, as well as several leadership billets. During his time in the military, Shannon also earned a bachelor's degree in Human Resource Management. Shannon retired as a Sergeant Major in the Marine Corps in 2010. Upon retirement, he moved to Minneapolis, MN and became a Licensed General Contractor specializing in home remodeling. In January of this year, he moved to Cedar Rapids. In August of this year, Shannon was offered and accepted the position as the Unit Director for the Boys and Girls Clubs of Cedar Rapids, at Olivet.



Our Mission

Olivet Neighborhood Mission is built on a foundation of service and dignity restoring hope to families and individuals in need by providing basic needs such as food, clothing, and household items. The Mission also provides youth programs that encourage self-esteem, independence, and community service. We aim to foster self-sufficiency and achieve long term success through respect, compassion, and community support.

FOOD PANTRY SPONSOR-A-WEEK UPDATE

As of the end of August, our Annual Food Pantry Sponsor-A-Week, there are 34 out of 52 weeks adopted, with a total of \$19,550 raised! There are 17 weeks left in the 2019 year, that we would like yet to sponsor! If you would like to sponsor a full week of groceries for the Food Pantry, for on average 300 households, a donation of \$575.00 is needed. However, there is a new option to sponsor **One Day** during this remaining time, for a donation of **\$115.00**.

Please send your check or money order in to secure your spot today! Or go on-line to, www.olivetmission.org, touch the Blue Box on the front page that says, **Food Pantry** which leads to a form where you can enter the amount to give and be sent then to Olivet's PayPal account.

