

The Olivet Observer



"The little church with a big heart"

The 167th Letter of Lee to the Olivet Church

While cleaning out my desk at home recently, I came across a piece of paper that said, "Ever since I lost my dictionary, I don't seem to have as much meaning in my life." You might guess that little piece of paper was part of a collection of "dad jokes" that I had kept handy. I tossed most of the pile recently, but that one stuck with me.

All jokes aside, we almost can't help ourselves when associating November with gratitude because of the beloved national holiday we are about to celebrate. I am thankful for so many gifts and blessings in my own life, and once again I find myself so deeply thankful for all of you. I was humbled by your kind words, the cards, your encouragement, the reception after church and everything that you all did for me during pastor's appreciation month.

In case you don't know or can't tell, I love being your pastor, and I am continually amazed that God has allowed me to serve in this role. I don't have a copy of a dictionary near me at this moment, but I certainly know what words like appreciative, grateful, and thankful mean on a very personal level as I remember all that you have done to show your support for my family and me.

So please know that this pastor appreciates you. The apostle Paul wrote about gratitude and thanksgiving as he acknowledged how much the people of the ancient Roman, Corinthian, Ephesian, Colossian, and Thessalonian churches meant to him and he said the same about his friend Philemon. He also acknowledged that he prayed for them often. I understand where he was coming from with all of that, because I do thank God for all of you, and I do remember you in my prayers, even when all is going well in your lives.

As always, we all have so many things to be thankful for. I hope to see you at church as we continue to serve, worship and honor our Lord together.

Grace and peace,