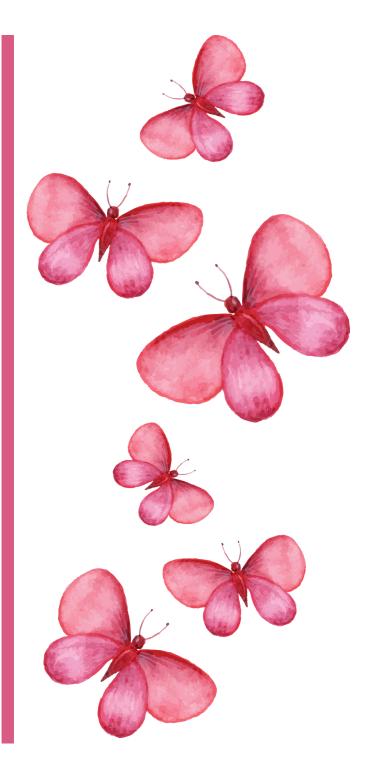
## THE OLIVE PRESS June 2025 EDITION 37



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## SUPERNATURAL SATURDAYS

An Extraordinary Summer Adventure for Kids!



10AM - 12PM

This summer, invite your kids into something beyond ordinary — a world where the supernatural becomes real, faith grows strong, and God's power shines bright!

In the Bible, the supernatural isn't about make-believe — it's about the **real power of God** breaking into everyday life! Think: miracles, angels, visions, and stories where God shows up in amazing ways. These aren't just old tales — they are **signs of God's love and power**, then *and* now.

At Supernatural Saturdays, kids will:

Hear Bible stories filled with God's wonders

Learn how to trust God's power in their lives

Explore creative crafts and activities that bring big truths to life

Take part in a meaningful service project — putting God's love into action!

Experience faith-filled fun that points to the God who still moves today

When kids begin to understand the supernatural side of God's story, they start to **recognize His active presence** in their own lives. They grow in hope, courage, and the faith that God can do more than they can imagine!

Join us for a summer of discovery, wonder, service, and spiritual growth. Come and see what happens when Heaven touches Earth.

To sign up call text or email Julie Kurtz 310-489-1969 / jckurtz@gmail.com

You can come to all three or just the ones that work in your schedule.

## **Excerpts from Relaxed**by Megan Fate Marshman

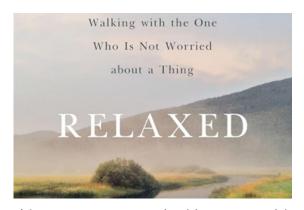
"Dallas Willard once had this great response when asked if he could describe Jesus in one word. He sat back, took a deep breath, and responded, "Relaxed."

As we know through scripture, for Jesus to come across as relaxed doesn't mean He didn't grieve or get angry or feel the weight of the world on His shoulder. But it is clear that He was never in a hurry to be anywhere other than where He was, fully present with whomever was right in front of Him, trusting and obeying His Father's way. Does the word *relaxed* describe you?

It can. And for those in Christ, it will!

But for many of us, it probably doesn't right now. Often the words we would choose to describe our lives would be something like distracted or hurried or anxious--any word *besides* relaxed. This is because we have been unconsciously trained to figure out and live the Christian life on our own, and the results are weariness, confusion, and burnout. Why do we succumb to the cultural norms of independence and anxiety instead of living into the relaxed life of Jesus? How will we ever walk with God when we are so preoccupied with figuring it all out, living better, sinning less, and living more, all while praying without easing? It seems impossible, and it is--on our own.

One of the greatest counterfeits to living like Jesus is living in Christian autonomytrying to be like Him without Him.



I'd sum up autonomy in this context with one word: self-reliant. The problem, of course, is that, from start to finish, the Bible defines the Christian life as one of dependence. When we fall into autonomy, into relying on ourselves, our lives become burdensome, worrisome, and anxious. We fall for distractions and our faith becomes pretense. We become experts at the routines, the lingo, and the habit of acting Christian while rarely engaging in a real, conversational relationship with God. The one we claim to be following is relaxed, but our lives aren't. We're burdened and bothered and ashamed and grieved and angry. We want to grow, but we fear it's just going to be more ineffective work--work we've put in before that felt like a burden. We perform prayer (*if* we pray) as we hustle to become better Christians, while experiencing no real power, bearing little to no eternal fruit, unintentionally playing a part in God's story we were never intended to play: the one in control. It's a problem.

## **Excerpts from Relaxed**by Megan Fate Marshman

Jesus said, "Apart from me you can do nothing" (John 15:5). It's a qualitative statement meaning you can do a lot of things, but they will amount to nothing. But man, we can spend a lot of time and energy worrying about a lot of things, can't we?

I have been an autonomous Christian who doesn't know how to slow fown and just be with Jesus, and I have tested the slow, powerful, relaxed life with God that I see in so many of the people whose faith I admire. I've had good conversations with Him and felt at ease even as the chaos around me remained the same, but then I've simply forgotten to prioritize time with Him the very next day. If you're discouraged by this onagain off-again life with Jesus, don't worry. Remember, the goal is not striving. Striving for something is what got us into this mess in the first place. The goal is proximity, nearness (and awareness of our nearness) to Jesus.

It's all going to be okay.
Really.
It is.
I wish I could look you in the eyes and tell you this.
Stop for a moment. Take a breath.
Slow down.
It's going to be okay.

God has already grown you to where you are today. He already knows where you'll be in five years. He's moving in your life right now. This is good news: you, the one who doesn't have to be in charge, can relax. You don't have to figure it all out right now if you're in a relationship with the Sovereign One. God's Sovereignty means He's in control of everything. Even as we make choices, He masterfully weaves them all together to fulfill His purposes. He knows where you've been. He knows where He wants to take you. He knows how He will get you there. He wants to walk with you, so you can relax."

Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding. In all your ways submit to him and he will make your paths straight.

Proverbs 3:5

If you resonated with this excerpt and the central verse (Proverbs 3:5) from the book *Relaxed*, by Megan Fae Marshman, I highly encourage you to join us for our **Women's Fellowship Group starting**Thursday, June 5<sup>th</sup>, at 2:00PM in the Blue Room. We will be reading this book in bits and using it as a tool to get to know each other better while building our faith in Jesus. We will have coffee, snacks, and a good time!

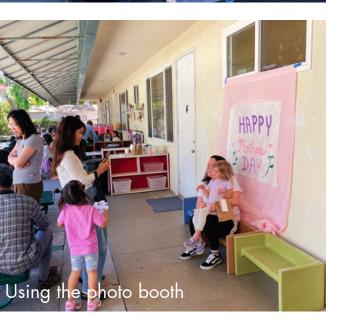


# PRESCHOOL ACTIVITIES

Muffins with Moms event for Mother's Day

## PRESCHOOL NEWSLETTER









April showers brought an abundance of May flowers because our preschool continues to grow, and our staff is magnificent. We now have Mount Olive tshirts and sweatshirts on sale for both children and adults. We celebrated a "Muffins with Mom" event, and most of our wonderful families were able to attend. Our fabulous families showered us with magnificent gifts during Teacher Appreciation Week, including cash, gift cards, lunches, and treats!

Mark your calendars for our **Preschool Graduation** ceremony on Friday, June 5th, at 10 a.m.

Finally, our **Preschool Summer Program** starts Monday, June 9th, filled with exciting curriculum themes including dinosaurs, space, the ocean, and much more.

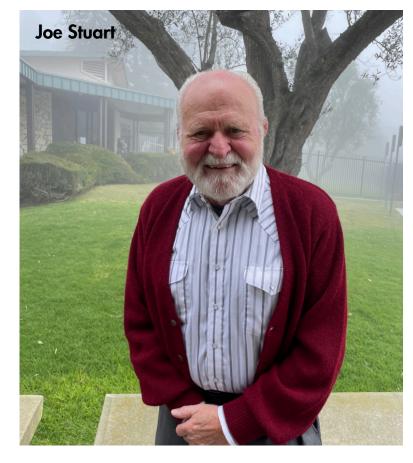
Our monthly Christian curriculum consists of the stories *Timothy*, *Jesus Knows My Name*, and *Jesus Promises to be with Me*. Our Discovery Point says it is written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing, you may have life in His name.

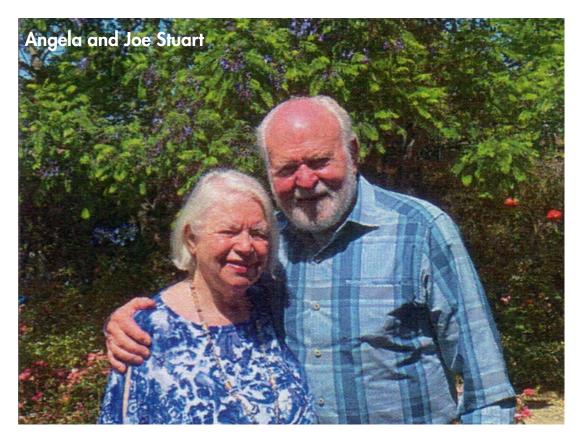
## written by Preschool Director David Welch

### **ELDER JOE STUART**

Born in 1937, I'd grown up in the Protestant region of Central Germany, which, after WW 2 ended, was under American occupation. Alas sadly, for only a few months! It was nevertheless then, that I'd made it my intent to eventually emigrate to the US! Regretfully, that sector was then assigned to the Russians, where in 1951 the communist. regime discouraged any religious services! Still, I'd managed to get confirmed just before & started my apprenticeship in optical components manufacturing at the Carl Zeiss Jena factory! However, immediately after graduation, & having also just attained 'of age' status, I made my escape to West Germany in 1955 & settled in Stuttgart!

It was there, where Angela and I initially met at a fellowship of mutual friends, & we were married two years later! Our daughter Judith was also born there as well! I emigrated alone to Montreal, Canada in 1958 and Angela with our daughter followed about 6 months later! There we both worked at various jobs! After obtaining the necessary permits by the US consulate, we emigrated to the United States in 1960 and settled in Hacienda Heights where our second child, Susan, was born. Angela persuaded me to attend Services there, where I found Christ again. After the mandatory 5 years, we applied for and were indeed granted US citizenship!





If memory serves, we transferred our membership to Mt Olive in 1967 after moving to Palos Verdes! Many years later we joined the local Christ Lutheran Church, but returned to our Mt Olive home some years ago! For about seven years, I continued my education by attending evening classes at UCLB! My neglected wife was forced to attend Services often without me, as I was soaring in sail planes over many weekends for long distances! Usually starting in the Antelope Valley on Saturday's, sleeping over at distant airports. & return-soared to my home base airport on the following Sunday evenings. Now, however, I've ended those endeavors and returned to attend Services and Fellowship with Angela regularly!

We both offer our profound thanks to our Lord not only for Jesus's sacrifice, but also for allowing my childhood dream to become a reality and for giving us a wonderful family as well as so many great friends!

With my best wishes and our Lord's Blessings to you all.

Joe Stuart

## Women of Mount Olive or Womo for short...

### Are you interested in joining a Women's Fellowship Group?

Our Women of Mount Olive Fellowship Group will meet on Thursdays at 2:00PM. Our first meeting will be held in the Blue Room of the church office on Thursday, June 5<sup>th</sup>, at 2:00PM.

My desire is to get to know each other better through a shared reading, discussions, and activities.

If this sounds like something you might be interested, please reach out to office@mtoliverpv.com so we can plan to see you! Feel free to bring friends!







Imma Carter

### **CALENDAR**



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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
9am Confirmation 9am Bible Class	2	3	4	5 2pm WOMO Fellowship	6	7
10am Worship	9:30am ESL Class			9:30am Preschool Chapel		
9am Confirmation 9am Bible Class 10am Worship	9:30am ESL Class	10	11 2pm Book Meeting	9:30am Preschool Chapel 10am Preschool Board 2pm WOMO Fellowship		Flag Day 14  7 pm Youth Group
Father's Day 15 9am Confirmation 9am Bible Class 10am Worship		17	18	Juneteenth 19 9:30am Preschool Chapel 2pm WOMO Fellowship 7pm Elders Meeting	20 9:15am Parents Chapel	21 10am Supernatural Saturday
9am Confirmation 9am Bible Class 10am Worship	9:30am ESL Class	24	25	9:30am Preschool Chapel 2pm WOMO Fellowship 7pm Council	27	28 7 pm Youth Group
29 9am Confirmation 9am Bible Class 10am Worship	9:30am ESL Class	1	2	9:30am Preschool Chapel 2pm WOMO Fellowship	4 Independence Day	5 Homemade

Holidays and Observances: 14: Flag Day, 15: Father's Day, 19: Juneteenth

<sup>\*</sup>For further calendar updates, please visit www.mtoliverpv.com

### **MOLC WEBSITE**



#### **COUNCIL CONTACTS**

President: Ulrike Ziegner uziegner@rivieraallergy.com

Vice President: Andrew Sherwin contact@sherwinandrew.com

Chief Elder: Bill Dahlgren apache 1223@aol.com Treasurer: Julie Reynolds moejmr@gmail.com

Preschool: Audrey Dahlgren drdalhg@aol.com

Trustee: Richard Xie rchdx@hotmail.com

Recording Secretary: James Kringel james@crcdata.net

Administrative Business Manager: Emma Carter office@mtoliverpv.com

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MT. OLIVE PRESCHOOL INSTAGRAM: @mtolivepreschoolrpv