

Faith, Fellowship, & Caring Ministries

Adult Education, Community Ministry, and Intergenerational Learning

2015-2016



Opportunities

- Forums and Classes -
- Pub Theology -
- Offsite Gatherings and Sports -
- Caring Ministries & The Prayer Chain -
- Women of the ELCA -
- Book Groups -

Mount Olive Lutheran Church

2830 18th Ave NW Rochester, MN + 507.288.1580 + molive.org +  

Mount Olive Women's Retreat October 9-10

All women are invited!

Register at the Ministry Fair (September 12 and 13) or contact Sherry Will, Women of the ELCA president - sher05@charter.net.

The \$30 fee includes registration and meals.

Where: Mount Olive Lutheran Church

When: Friday, October 9, 6:30 pm - 8:30+ pm

Saturday, October 10, 9:00 am - 4:00 pm



*Do you ever wonder about the women of scripture? What thoughts they had of God?
What constraints their world set before them?*

Do you ever wonder how they claimed empowerment as beloved children of God?

As we come together on October 9-10th to explore

Empowered Women = Empowering Women

*we will see how the scriptural witness can continue to empower us as it has
Christian women of all ages, while being honest about the "rough edges" of both
our sacred book and our own lives.*

Let us gather under the blessing of Christian author and artist
Jan Richardson, who writes:

*"May you know the hidden stories
of your life, your lineage, your tradition.*

*May you look into the layers
with courage and imagination.*

*Amongst the gaps, the absences, the traces and fragments,
may you find stories to create anew."*



Retreat Speaker, Rev. Sarah Nietz,
is the lead pastor of Our Savior's
Lutheran in Faribault.

Adult Offerings

Pub Theology

See what's trending!

On Monday evenings at the Tap House in Downtown Rochester, our Pub Theology group, led by Pastor Paul Moody, continues to meet.

All are welcome! Come for food and catching up at 5:30. Discussion begins at 6:00.

Pastor Paul Moody leads conversation surrounding a weekly topic which is distributed by email and published online at Rochesterpublictheology.wordpress.com. If you would like to be included on the email distribution list, please email Pastor Paul at paul@molive.org. or call him at church, 288-1580.



Women of the ELCA

Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America is a vibrant group at Mount Olive! The focus is on fellowship, Bible study, and service in many ways at church, the community and around the world. (Look for service details in the Service and Social Outreach Ministry brochure). All women at Mount Olive are considered a part of this group and we encourage you to participate as you are able. This fall we are studying the book of Ruth and then will continue with: *Worship Matters*. This course focuses on the patterns of Lutheran worship, the why and the how, and looks into the foundational principles named in *The Use of the Means of Grace*.

There are six organized circles at Mount Olive that meet monthly during the program year for Bible study, discussion and spiritual care.

Anna Circle 3rd Wed., 6:30 pm, at church

Lydia Circle 2nd Mon., 6:30 pm, at church

Mary Circle 4th Fri., 9:30 am, in members' homes

Naomi Circle 4th Tue., 1:00 pm, at church

Rachel Circle 4th Thurs., 6:30 pm, at church

Ruth Circle 4th Tues., 9:00 am, at church

Contact: Sherry Will, Women of the ELCA president at sher05@charter.net

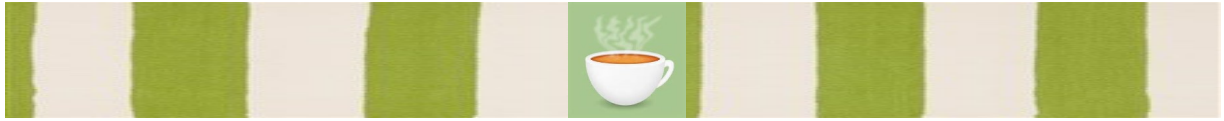
Lenten Bible Study

Each year, a Lenten study is held on Wednesday evenings and Sunday mornings between services. The study will begin on Sunday, February 14.

Watch for more information in early 2016.

Sunday Morning Forum

The Sunday Forum takes place from 9:15-10:15, usually in the Fellowship Hall. Everyone is welcome to grab a cup of coffee and join the group.



September 13	Rally Day and Ministry Fair
September 20	Holistic Stewardship
September 27	Hard Questions
October 4	Stewardship Breakfast
October 11	Praying Over Scripture
October 18	Spirituality, Scripture, and Mission
October 25	Reformation Day
November 1	<i>Painting the Stars</i> with Pastor Paul
November 8	Advent Conspiracy: Rethinking Christmas
November 15	Gift of Life Transplant House
November 22	Ronald McDonald House
November 29	Intergenerational Event
December 6	Simplifying Gift Giving
December 13	St. Lucia Celebration-No Forum
December 20	Children's Christmas Program-No Forum
December 27	No Forum
January 3	Science and Religion Dialogue
January 10	Science and Religion Dialogue
January 17	<i>Painting the Stars</i> with Pastor Paul
January 24	<i>Painting the Stars</i> with Pastor Paul
January 31	Annual Meeting
February 7	Introduction to Lenten Practices
February 14	Lenten Study
February 21	Lenten Study
February 28	Lenten Study
March 6	Lenten Study
March 13	Lenten Study
March 20	Palm Sunday Processional, No Forum
March 27	Easter, No Forum
April 3	Intergenerational Event
April 10	To be announced in 2016
April 17	To be announced in 2016
April 24	To be announced in 2016
May 1	To be announced in 2016
May 8	To be announced in 2016
May 15	To be announced in 2016

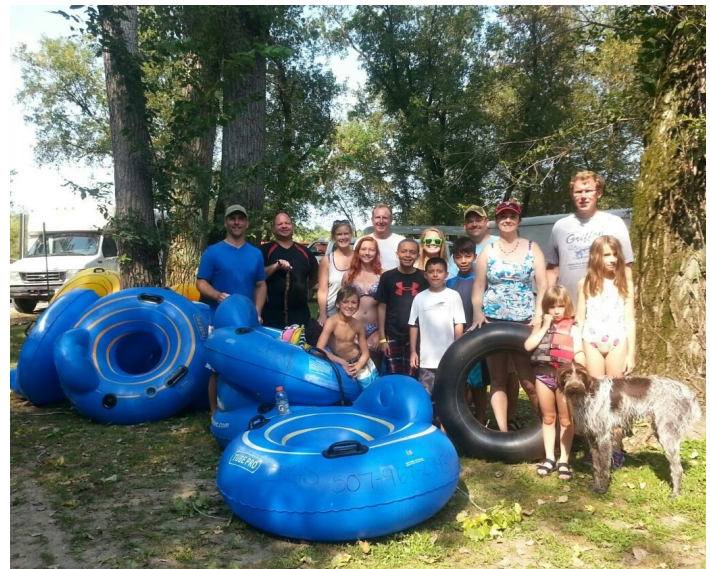
Intergenerational Offerings

Adventure Club

On the second Thursday of each month, the Adventure Club gathers at a location in or around Rochester. The group is intergenerational, made up of people drawn together by the opportunity to share an adventure.



The dynamic and diverse Adventure Club crew explores a wide array of activities, everything from hiking, birding, biking, canoeing, skiing, baseball, trolley rides, and skating, to drama, music and painting. The best way to discover the wide range of outings is to participate in an adventure that appeals to you. This group also hosts High Adventures throughout the year.



Contact Sara Hollander sara@molive.org if you would like your name added to the monthly email notification list.

Mount Olive offers Wednesday evening classes, activities, and a meal for all ages in three sessions outlined below. Nursery care is offered from 6:30-7:30. Families are encouraged to eat and attend opening worship together.

Wednesday Nights

Fall Session	Six Sessions between October 7 and November 18 (No Wednesday Night Class October 14)
Winter Session	Five Sessions between January 6 and February 3
Spring Session	Six sessions between April 13 and May 18

Metamorphosis

Intergenerational Fall Wednesdays beginning October 7th

Come on Wednesday evenings and be renewed by exploring God's Story and Our Story. Through worship and discussion, experience God's saving, redeeming, and liberating acts throughout Scripture. Materials will be provided. Take part and engage in this creative space.

5:30 Gathering Meal in the Fellowship Hall (suggested donation \$3.00 per person)

6:00 Table discussions begin at each table

6:15 Welcome and Singing in the Sanctuary with Pastor Paul

6:35 Small Groups gather back in the Fellowship Hall (get to know someone new).
Children in grades 1 - 5 meet for F.I.S.H. in Rooms 3 and 4

7:10 Re-gather in the sanctuary: Singing, Prayer, and Sending

7:25 Dismissal

Nursery is available for children (age 0-Kindergarten) with Sara Swartwood

Winter and Spring session plans will be announced in the months ahead.

Caring Ministries

Mount Olive has a number of caring ministries:

The Prayer Chain The purpose of the prayer chain is to intercede on behalf of others in the event of illness, accident, surgery, difficult decisions or other personal or family crises. It is also for rejoicing and thanking God for answered prayers. Are you in need of prayers for yourself, a friend or loved one? All prayer requests are confidential. Other than members' names, we do not include specific names for whom prayers are being offered. The Mount Olive community has many faithful members praying for your needs. If you would like to join the group of members praying, contact Kim Ignatius Ignatius.kimberlie@charter.net. If you have a prayer request and would like the prayer chain to be in prayer for you or someone you love, please contact

- Pastor Paul: paul@molive.org
- Kim Ignatius: ignatius.kimberlie@charter.net or 507-271-6087
- Church office: 507-288-1580

Prayer Shawls For more than 10 years, Mount Olive members have been meeting to pray and knit or crotchet prayer shawls. Many knit throughout the year to create these beautiful shawls that give comfort to those who have been ill, grieving, or experiencing a difficult time of life. The shawls are not just for Mount Olive members, but are available to anyone who has a need for comfort and prayer. The group meets at church on the second Tuesday of the month at 9:00 am and many continue to work on the shawls at home on their own time. To join the group or to request a shawl, contact Peg Whitley pmwhitley@charter.net or call the church office at 288-1580.

Spiritual Companions Spiritual Companions are members of Mount Olive who intentionally bring God's care to others in times of transition. After an initial orientation session, the Spiritual Companions meet on a bi-monthly basis to check in with each other and learn more about caring for others. Spiritual Companions connect with members of the congregation at times of transition such as loss of a loved one, illness, birth of a baby, etc. as arranged by one of the Pastors. An orientation session will be offered as the need arises. If you feel called to offer support to others on an intentional basis, please contact Pastor Paul at 288-1580.

Meals Mount Olive has recently starting using an online service called *Meal Train* to organize meals for Mount Olive members in need. Volunteers simply sign on the service and choose a date to provide a meal using an individualized link for each recipient. Dietary requirements, maps, email reminders, and special instructions can be viewed. If you are willing to help provide meals, please email Nancy Britson at nancy@molive.org, and she can send the Meal Train links to you. *An ongoing coordinator is needed for this ministry*; please contact Nancy or one of the pastors if you would be willing to help coordinate this ministry to our members.



Faith Seeking Understanding Book Group

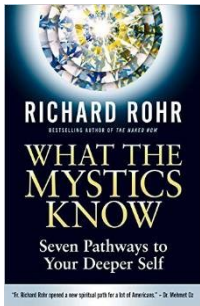
This group reads and shares conversations about a variety of books on theology, religion, spirituality, and Christianity and our changing church. The video discussion requires no preparation, come and view with the group and share in the discussions. FSU meets the first Tuesday of every month at 6:30pm in the library.

The group does not meet in January. All are Welcome! Contact **Jody Myers** at jodyjpmyers@gmail.com with questions.

October 6

What the Mystics know: Seven Pathways to your Deeper Self

By Richard Rohr

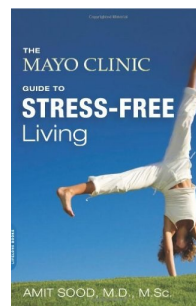


Drawing from the best and most poetic of Richard Rohr's essays from nearly a quarter of a century, each chapter in this new collection examines one of the seven core mystical truths. Organized according to the mystical paths that every worshiper must follow, Rohr identifies the despair of everyday life, promotes opportunities for change even in the face of pain, thereby transforming one's deeper self into a beacon of light that aids in the perpetual metamorphosis of others.

February 2

The Mayo Clinic Guide to Stress Free Living

By Amit Sood M.D., M. Sc.

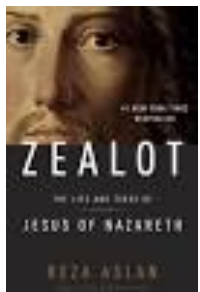


Have you ever driven several miles without noticing anything on the road, or read a page in a book without registering any of it? Do the day's worries and disappointments crowd your mind as you're trying to fall asleep at night? Do you feel stressed much of the time and aren't sure how to find peace? In this book, Amit Sood, M.D., M.Sc., a Mayo Clinic specialist in stress and resiliency, reveals how the mind's instinctive restlessness and shortsightedness generate stress and anxiety and presents strategies for living a more peaceful life.

November 3

Zealot: The Life and Times of Jesus of Nazareth

By Reza Aslan



Zealot questions what we thought we knew about Jesus of Nazareth—even as it affirms the radical and transformative nature of his life and mission. The result is a thought-provoking, elegantly written biography with the pulse of a fast-paced novel: a singularly brilliant portrait of a man, a time, and the birth of a religion.

March 1

Video Clip Discussion:

How Jesus Became God: Origin of the Trinity

December 1

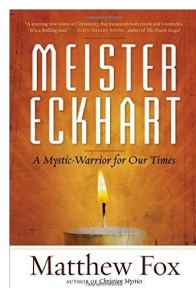
Video Clip Discussion: ***The Science of Mindfulness***

The group does not meet in January.

April 5

Meister Eckhart: A Mystic Warrior for our Time

By Matthew Fox



Though he lived in the thirteenth century, Meister Eckhart's deeply ecumenical teachings were in many ways modern. He taught about what we call ecology, championed artistic creativity, and advocated for social, economic, and gender justice. All these elements have inspired spiritual maverick Matthew Fox and influenced his Creation Spirituality.

Monday Book Group

This group meets the second Monday of the month at 6:30pm in the library.

All are welcome!

Contact Darlene Vowels at vowelsjd@charter.net or Jodi Schoer at mjschoer@charter.net

January 11 **The All-Girl Filling Station's Last Reunion**

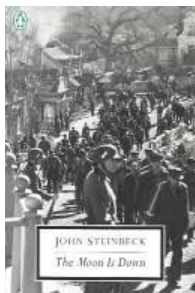
By Fannie Flagg



The one and only Fannie Flagg, beloved author of *Fried Green Tomatoes at the Whistle Stop Cafe*, *Can't Wait to Get to Heaven*, and *I Still Dream About You*, is at her hilarious and superb best in this new comic mystery novel about two women who are forced to reimagine who they are.

September 14 **The Moon is Down**

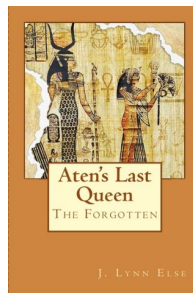
By John Steinbeck



In this masterful tale set in Norway during World War II, Steinbeck explores the effects of invasion on both the conquered and the conquerors.

February 8 **The Forgotten: Aten's Last Queen**

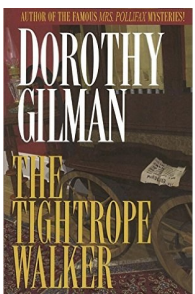
By J. Lynn Else



(Mount Olive member Jessi Hafeman)
In a time where there was more change and unrest than any other period in Egyptian history, one girl became a queen at age 12 over the most powerful nation of the ancient world. With a twist of biblical history, Queen Ankhesenamun, the sole wife of King Tut, finds herself longing for true love and the ability to worship a God now banned from her country.

October 12 **The Tightrope Walker**

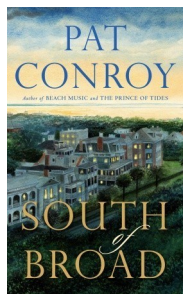
By Dorothy Gilman



When Amelia Jones reads a message that has fallen out of a barrel organ in her antique shop, she can't forget the words, "They're going to kill me soon..." Amelia begins a journey that takes her to a precarious world where nothing is the way it seems, and dark secrets just might uncover murder--her own....

March 14 **South of Broad**

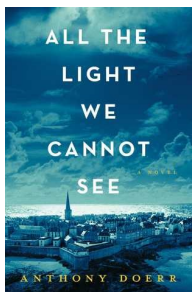
By Pat Conroy



Set in Charleston, *South of Broad* gathers a unique cast of sinners and saints. Leopold, our narrator, teaches science at the local high school. His mother is the high school principal. After Leo's older brother commits suicide, the family struggles with the shattering effects of his death, and Leo, lonely and isolated, searches for something to sustain him.

November 9 **All the Light We Cannot See**

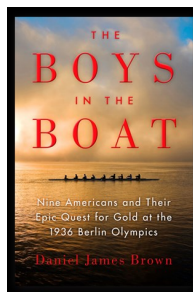
By Anthony Doerr



When she is six, Marie-Laure goes blind and her father builds a perfect miniature of their Paris neighborhood so she can memorize it by touch and navigate her way home. When the Nazis occupy Paris, father and daughter flee to the citadel of Saint-Malo. With them they carry the museum's most valuable and dangerous jewel.

April 11 **The Boys in the Boat**

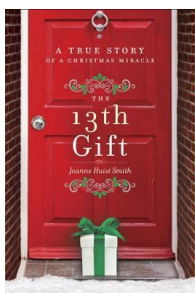
By Daniel James Brown



The Boys in the Boat celebrates the 1936 U.S. men's Olympic eight-oar rowing team—nine working class boys who stormed the rowing world, transformed the sport, and galvanized the attention of millions of Americans.

December 14 **The 13th Gift**

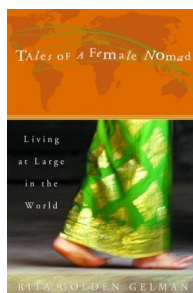
By Joanne Huist Smith



After the unexpected death of her husband, Joanne Huist Smith had no idea how she would keep herself together and be strong for her three children. But 12 days before Christmas, presents begin appearing on her doorstep with notes from their "True Friends." This true story about the power of random acts of kindness will warm the heart.

May 9 **Tales of a Female Nomad**

By Rita Golden Gelman



This is the story of Rita Golden Gelman, an ordinary woman who is living an extraordinary existence. At the age of forty-eight, on the verge of a divorce, Rita left an elegant life in L.A. to follow her dream of connecting with people in cultures all over the world. In 1986 she sold her possessions and became a nomad, living in a village in Mexico, sleeping on the Galapagos Islands, and residing everywhere from thatched huts to regal palaces.

Small Groups

Ripe Olives

Ripe Olives is a group of Mount Olive's more "experienced" adults that meets during the program year for education and fellowship opportunities. Past offerings have included travelogues, trips, fellowship breakfasts, and informational presentations. While anyone is welcome, most attendees are retired folks.

Watch molive.org, the bulletin, the gathering area sign up table, and the Messenger newsletter for further information. **Contact: Nancy Britson** (nancy@molive.org) or **LouAnn Wiebke** (louannmw38@gmail.com) or 282-0355

Men's Discipleship Group

This multigenerational group focuses on studying scripture or a book to help men walk closer to the Lord and their families, and to encourage them in being disciples of Jesus. This unique group is open to members and non-members, men of all faith backgrounds, and seeks to provide an emotionally supportive environment for all participants. Social events are periodically planned throughout the year. Mark Masbruch leads this group every Saturday morning at Mount Olive from 8:30-9:30am during the program year .

Contact: Mark Masbruch (mmasbruch@hotmail.com) or 282-0996

Walk or Run for God... and Yourself!

Have you wanted to increase your walking or running?

Are you in a rut? Are you scared to start?



Does God care if you run a 6 minute or walk a 20 minute mile...NO! God wants you to take care of that AWESOME BODY that was given to you. Participants will meet on Sundays, usually at noon. Bring water and we will discuss snacks at the first meeting. Come as often as you can!

The group will meet for one hour with the following timeline: start with a 10 minute devotion, run or walk for 30 minutes, conclude with conversation and water/snacks/fun for the last 20 minutes. Meeting places will vary. We will try some new areas, and when the Minnesota weather turns on us we will use the RCTC indoor track when it is available. We will continue throughout the year. There will be running/walking plans available and goals of some 5k races throughout the year.

Meets Sundays at Noon

If you have any questions, please contact Sara Hollander (sara@molive.org) or Shannon Heldt (grombuddy@yahoo.com).



Softball Team

The church softball league gets underway in early May and continues into the summer. Co-ed games are played at McQuillan Field and last one hour with lots of friendly competition. Players ages high school through adult are welcome to join the fun. Spectators are always welcome! Watch for sign up details in the spring. There is a participant fee of \$20 to help defray the cost of team registration. For more information, contact Coach Jason Coil (jcoil@live.com) or Nancy Britson.

Volleyball Team

The church volleyball league starts in November and continues through March. Please sign up in the gathering area to join the team; members will be contacted once the schedule is set. Games are played on Tuesday evenings at Zumbro Lutheran Church and last 45 minutes. There is a participant fee of \$20 to help defray the cost of team registration. For more information, contact team captain, Gina Rislow at (rislow29@gmail.com) or Nancy Britson.



Fellowship Tables

**Share 3 Meals Together
November 14, January 16, and March 12**

Mount Olive invites you to sign up to be part of a fellowship table. Groups of seven to nine adults meet three times during the program year to share a meal. The suggested dates for this year's gatherings are Saturdays, November 14, January 16, and March 12. Groups generally meet from 6-8 pm but your group can adjust your times and dates as necessary. Everyone in the group works together to decide who will host the gathering, who brings what for the menu, etc. Some groups have even decided to eat at other venues; it's up to you!

Groups are formed for one program year and are open to couples or singles. It's a great way to branch out, meet new people, or bond with long-time friends without a huge time commitment. And, there will be food!

Groups will be notified in October so they have time to self-organize before the first meeting in November.

Direct any questions to: Nancy Britson, nancy@molive.org or 288-1580 ext. 210

Team Verse

I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with the power through his Spirit, and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and rounded in love.
Ephesians 3:16

Mission Statement

To provide input, review and make recommendations regarding Adult Forum and all Adult Faith ministries. This team will seek congregational input, help to plan offerings for the program year, and assist in advertising our programs to the congregation. The team will help to recruit speakers and determine teachers for special programming.

Your Adult Faith Ministry Team

Chair: Open

Council Representative: Dave Mickelson

Staff Representative: Pastor Paul Moody

Members: SueAnn Collinge, John Eppley, Lorna Podvin, and Sherry Will