Mount Olive Messenger

November 2015

Rev. Glenn Monson Called to Mount Olive

On Sunday, October 11, the call committee reported to the congregation their proposed candidate for Senior Pastor. A vote was held and Mount Olive has called Rev. Glenn Monson. Pastor Glenn has accepted the call and we are thrilled to be welcoming him. Pastor Glenn will preside at worship on November 15. On November 22, he will deliver his first sermon at Mount Olive and be installed as our Senior Pastor.

Thank you to the Call Committee for their diligence and many hours of effort required to arrive at this point. We thank Dick DeRemee, Mark Masbruch (chair), Jill Mickelson (secretary), Brad Natzke, Mike Olson, Barb Sorensen, Jim Berg (alternate), and Barb Seide (alternate).

So the journey together begins.

I wonder where God will lead us. It is an exciting time to be in ministry together in Rochester. The city is growing. There is every reason to believe that God has plans to use us in significant ways in the lives of the people who will call Rochester their home.

I have left behind a wonderful congregation in Austin to come to Mount Olive. I was called to Our Savior's as an Associate Pastor in 1996, and then as the Senior Pastor in 2004. In both of those posts I have been blessed and God has been at work through the congregation. My wife, Ruth, has also left a position at Our Savior's. She was the Worship Coordinator and one of the staff musicians at Our Savior's for most of our time there. She also moves into a



new call as the Director of Congregational Life at Zumbro Lutheran Church in Rochester. She will be at Mount Olive as much as possible so that you can get to know her, and she you, but she will be learning a new congregation as well.

God's call to us is often a mystery. Why do we end up in one place and not another? Why does the timing work out in this way and not in another? Why are certain people put into our lives and not others? It is a mystery. We don't know the answers to these questions. We do know, however, that God is good, and God is leading us, and God will give us what we need to make this journey well. May God bless us as we begin this adventure together. ~Pastor Glenn

MOUNT OLIVE LIFE

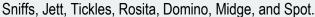




Blessing of the Animals

At the beginning of October, we gathered outside on the west lawn of the Church to acknowledge the relationships we share with animals, and bless them as a recognition of the goodness of all of God's creation.

We laid hands upon and blessed: Daisy, Hannah Jo, Laci, Lexi, Gabby Lou, Pippy, Annika, Meeka, Callie, Abby, Wendy, Brandi, Chief, Rosemary, Lucy, Sadie, Jolly, Lilly, Aggie, Princess, Echo, Iris, Bugsy,





Thank you to tall who took part in this rich celebration. Look for this gathering again in Fall 2016!

New Member Coffee November 1 at 9:15 am

Interested in membership at Mount Olive? There will be an informational coffee for interested visitors between worship services November 1 in the library. Please come to meet the staff, other new members, and learn about the ministries at Mount Olive. Childcare is available. New Members will be received into membership on November 15. For more information, please contact New Member Coordinator, Nancy Britson, nancy@molive.org.

This calls for a celebratory potluck!

November 22 at 11:30 am

We welcome Pastor Glenn and Ruth Monson with a potluck. Please bring a dish to share.

Here is the plan:

If your last name begins with:

A - H - bring a side-dish or salad

I - P - bring a main course

Q - Z - bring a dessert

Sign up in the gathering area to help.



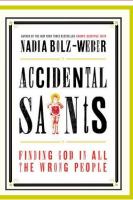




Pub Theology See what's trending.

Come to **Forager Brewery** (1005 6th Street NW) on Monday nights for food and catching up at 5:30. The discussion begins at 6:00.

This fall the conversation is inspired by Nadia Bolz-Weber's new book: *Accidental Saints*. Pastor Paul Moody distributes the discussion information by email and it 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.



Worship Volunteer Update

November Worship Volunteer Schedules were recently sent to all participants. The schedule is also available on the church website.

Here is a direct link to the schedule:

http://tinyurl.com/lmjbljr

All volunteers were also notified that they may sign up to help at worship services in December via the online sign up site: *Sign Up Genius*. If you did not receive the email invitation or "don't do computers" but would be willing to serve, please contact Nancy Britson, Volunteer Coordinator, and she will help you.

Volleyball Begins November 3

Please sign up in the gathering area to join the team. Games are played on Tuesday evenings and last 45 minutes. Gina Rislow is the team coordinator this year. If you have questions, please email her at rislow29@gmail.com.



FRIENDS, FAMILY AND FAITH MINISTRY

LEARNING, GROWTH AND FELLOWSHIP

Forum November 8 9:15-10:15 am



Advent Conspiracy invites individuals, families, groups, and entire communities to substitute compassion for consumerism by practicing four simple but powerful, countercultural concepts:

- Worship Fully because Christmas begins and ends with Jesus!
- **Spend Less** and free your resources for things that truly matter.
- **Give More** of your presence: your hands, your words, your time, your heart.
- Love All the poor, the forgotten, the marginalized, the sick, in ways that make a difference.

Let the Bible, instead of emotions, shape gift list!

Gather in the fellowship hall for conversation to direct our preparations for the Advent Season

THEN

Celebrate the First Sunday of Advent on November 29 at an Intergenerational Event from 9:15-10:15 am



November 1, 9:30 - 10:15 am

Parents of infants and toddlers not yet in Sunday School join together in conversation and fellowship. Meet monthly on the first Sunday in the newly renovated room #13.

High School & College Youth

November 15 2:00 pm, Location TBA Pizza Gathering

November 29 Time TBA Harry Potter Marathon while baking cookies for the Simple Giving Gift Day!

November 30 5:00 - 8:00 pm Salvation Army Bell Ringing Sign up in the Gathering Area!

ADVENTURE CLUB: Tuesday November 10, 7:00 pm **Ecumenical Prayer Service**

The Catholic Church of St. John the Evangelist is hosting an Ecumenical Prayer Service to celebrate the call to be faithful and good stewards of the order of Creation.

Bishop Steve Delzer, Bishop John Quinn and Pastor John Steer will reflect on the recent Encyclical Letter, *Laudato Si*, of Pope Francis.

Grades 6-8 Personal Health Care Kit Assembly November 8



There are a couple of items needed to complete the personal health care kits:

- light-weight bath size towels (between 20" x 40" and 27" x 52")
- soap, bath size bars (4 to 5 oz.)
- · sturdy combs

Please leave the items in the LWR box in the gathering area. Thank you for sharing God's grace and love by providing the items for the kit that will give simple comfort!



Grades 6-8 Good Earth Village Retreat November 13-14

Fall Youth Blast at Good Earth Village is a time of fun and energy-filled activities that encourage us to dig deeper into our faith. We will leave from Mount Olive at 6:30 pm Friday and return Saturday at 5:30 pm. If interested, contact Sara Hollander (sara@molive.org).

Metamorphosis Intergenerational Fall Wednesdays

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



5:30 Fellowship Hall: gathering meal

November 4 Tacos with fixings November 11 Chicken Alfredo November 18 Baked Potato bar

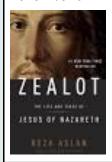
- 6:00 Table discussions begin
- 6:15 Sanctuary: welcome and singing
- 6:35 Fellowship Hall: small groups gather (get to know someone new!)
- 7:10 Sanctuary: re-gather for Singing, Prayer, Sending
- 7:25 Dismissal

ADULTS

LEARNING, GROWTH AND FELLOWSHIP

Faith Seeking Understanding (FSU)

November 3



Zealot: The Life and Times of Jesus of Nazareth by Reza Aslan

Zealot questions what we think we know 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.

December 1

Video Clip Discussion: The Science of Mindfulness

Faith Seeking Understanding reads and shares conversations about books on theology, religion, spirituality and Christianity and our changing church. All are welcome. If you have any guestions, please contact Jody Myers at jodyjpmyers@gmail.com.

Monday Book Group

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.

All are welcome. Meet in the Mount Olive library the second Monday at 6:30 pm. If you have any questions, please contact Jodi Schoer at mjschoer@charter.net or Darlene Vowels at vowelsjd@charter.net.

Mount Olive Quilters Each Thursday, 9 am

You are invited each week to enjoy quilting and fellowship.

Prayer Shawl Ministry Tuesday, November 9 9:00 am

All knitters and crocheters are invited. Yarn, treats, guidance, wisdom, support, and humor are shared! Gather in the front conference room.

Women ELCA



Comfort, Challenge, Mystery, Grace,

these were the focus words at the Mount Olive Women's Retreat held October 9-10.

What an amazing weekend it was. We met Friday evening and Saturday, 25 women in all, for fellowship and spiritual growth. Our guest speaker was Pr. Sarah Nietz from Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Faribault, MN. She was engaging and inspiring; all participants were moved by her joyful excitement.

This event fostered growth in relationships as well as moved us to ponder how we can make our whole church into a sanctuary. The retreat consisted of prayer, lecture, deep conversation, projects and stations that were both personal and reflective of making our church community stronger. Participants ranged in age from 20 something to 80 something.

Participant responses include:

- This retreat was life changing for me.
- I will carry what I learned at this retreat with me for the rest of my life.
- . Thank you for planning this. It was a great experience.
- Thanks for bringing us together.
- My favorite part was the conversation of the women
- My overall favorite part of the retreat was to be present with loving, passionate, caring women and having engaging conversation.
- Thought provoking.
- I enjoyed all the content. I look forward to pondering the questions that I wrote on my note cards. I will watch for the mystery of each day.

A big thank you to Sara Hollander and Katie Moody for working with me to organize this special event, and to all the volunteers who made the retreat run so smoothly.

What a blessing you are. Sherry Sanden Will



Fire Station Tour and Lunch

Friday, Nov.13 at 9:30 am

Ripe Olives will tour the newly opened fire station at 2185 Wheelock Dr. NE (near Century High School) on Friday, November 13 at 10:00 am. Meet at the Mount Olive parking lot at 9:30 am to car pool. Please sign up in the gathering area. Lunch follows at HyVee North.

Sunday Forum - at 9:15 am

November 1

Painting the Stars



November 8

Advent Conspiracy: **Rethinking Christmas**

November 15

Gift of Life Transplant House

November 22

Ronald McDonald House

November 29

Intergenerational Event

SERVICE AND SOCIAL OUTREACH MINISTRY (SSOM)

"Gift Giving" Sunday December 6

When you think about the special people in your life and the best gifts you have given or received, it is not the gift itself but the meaning behind the gift that makes it significant. It is time to RE-THINK the tradition of "Gift Giving" and get to the heart of why people give.

"We love because GOD first loved us" (1 John 4:19)

The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America is a church that is freed in Christ to serve and love our neighbor. With our hands, we do God's work of restoring and reconciling communities in Jesus Christ's name throughout the world. ELCA Good Gifts go beyond your regular congregational offering to support the ministries of the ELCA that mean the most to you and your loved ones. Together, we do more than we could ever do alone: grow the church, fight hunger and transform lives.

Sunday December 6 is a celebration of giving. You will have the opportunity to browse and select from a variety of unique, meaningful giving options that change lives locally and around the world in honor of their friends and loved ones.

Mount Olive youth have been given piggy banks in preparation of this day. They are to bring their filled piggy banks back to make a purchase.

Below is a list of available options; be sure to get your commemorative ornament:

Cow \$500 Chicks \$10 Batting \$15 Sheep \$125 Stock A Backpack \$10 Socks \$10 Honey Bees \$20 Goat \$50 Prayer Shawl \$15

Pig \$30 Thread \$5

Here are needed items to consider donating:

- Yarn: Lion Brand Homespun yarn. Three skeins (185 yards ea.) with matching color and lot number (it's important to check the labels and verify they are the same)
- Batting: size 72" by 90", polyester, cost about \$15
- Thread: 500 yds. All purpose thread, can be cotton or polyester, any color
- Socks: Any size (for the "Sock Drive" at Charlies Place (DC), Detroit, and Rochester Shelter)

See you December 6 - Fellowship Hall!



Blankets, Quilts, and Wool Socks

The Mount Olive Women of the ELCA have an annual Tree of Giving to collect practical items to support people living on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation. The items are sent to and distributed by the Pine Ridge Retreat Center, a joint ELCA and Presbyterian mission.

Items requested this year are **blankets**, **quilts**, **and wool socks**. Place items on or under the Christmas tree just outside the Sanctuary main doors. **The Tree of Giving will be up for the month of November**.

Thank you to Lori Kuhlman-Leibfried for facilitating this ministry.



Habitat for Humanity Gift Wrapping Fundraiser December 19

Please join the Service and Social Outreach Ministry team and Habitat for Humanity for a day of gift

wrapping at Apache Mall. Sign up in the gathering area. If you have any questions, please contact Erin Sinnwell at 507-990-6079 or email her at etracy515@hotmail.com.



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Training and Lunch:

Sunday, November 8, 11:45 am at Mount Olive. Sign up in the gathering area.

Choir Concert:

Friday, November 20, 7:30 pm at Bethel Lutheran.

Mount Olive Hosting Week:

Sunday, November 22-29

Live Christmas Tree Needed

Do you have a spruce or other evergreen tree that could be cut down and used at Mount Olive? Please contact Gene Ostrom at 261-7817.

Thanks!!!



THE SALWATION SALWATION

Salvation Army Bell Ringing December 5

You are invited to sign up in the gathering area for half-hour bell ringing shifts at HyVee North on December 5 from 3 - 6 pm.

Other dates and times are available.

You may register at https://www.registertoring.com

Thanksgiving Eve Worship and Pie Fellowship November 25 at 7 pm

Mount Olive gathers to celebrate all we have to be thankful for during this busy season. You are invited for this shortened worship service of music and praise in gratitude to God for our many blessings.

Please bring a bag of groceries for the Channel One Regional Food Bank.



And of course, worship will conclude with a variety of pies to share!

Sign up in the gathering area to bring pie and/ or help serve.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 All Saints Day 8:00a Worship & Coffee Fellowship 9:15a Education Hour Forum: Painting the Stars 9:15a New Member Coffee 9:30a Little Leapers 10:30a Worship & Coffee Fellowship 1:00p Mayo Chamber Orchestra	2 8:00a JM/JA Leadership Event 5:30p No Pub Theology	3 9:15a Staff Meeting 6:30p Service and Social Outreach Ministry Team 6:30p Faith Seeking Understanding Book Group 7:30p Glory Bells	5:30p Gather Meal 6:00p Metamorphosis 6:30p Fun In Serving Him 7:30p Adult Choir Rehearsal 8:45p Adult Brass Rehearsal	5 9:00a Mount Olive Quilters 7:00p 'In the Process' Al- Anon	6 6:00p Serve at Dorothy Day House 6:00p Piano Duet Recital	7 8:30a Men's Discipleship 9:00a Altar Guild Setup 5:00p Worship
8 8:00a Worship & Coffee Fellowship 9:15a Education Hour Forum - Advent Conspiracy 10:30a Worship & Coffee Fellowship 11:45a Women of the ELCA Board 12:00p IHN Training and Lunch 3:00p Rochester Pops Orchestra Rehearsal	9 5:30p Pub Theology 6:00p Widowed Persons 6:30p Monday Book Group 6:30p Lydia Circle	9:00a Prayer Shawl Ministry 9:15a Staff Meeting 6:30p Executive Council Meeting 7:00p Adventure Club, Prayer Service 7:30p Glory Bells	5:30p Gather Meal 6:00p Metamorphosis 6:30p Fun In Serving Him 7:30p Adult Choir Rehearsal 8:45p Adult Brass Rehearsal	9:00a Mount Olive Quilters 9:00a Rochester Keyboard Club 5:30p Facility & Grounds Ministry Team 7:00p 'In the Process' Al- Anon	9:30a Ripe Olives Fire Station Tour and Lunch	8:30a Men's Discipleship 9:00a Altar Guild Setup 9:00a Habitat for Humanity Work Day 10:00a French Creek Homeowners Assoc. Annual Meeting 5:00p Worship
8:00a Worship & Coffee Fellowship 9:15a Education Hour Forum - Gift of Life Transplant House 10:30a Worship New Member Reception 2:00p HS/College Youth Movie & Pizza 3:00p Rochester Pops Orchestra Rehearsal	16 5:30p Pub Theology	9:15a Staff Meeting 6:00p Children, Youth and Family Ministry Team 6:30p WomenHeart of SE MN Support Group 7:30p Glory Bells	18 5:30p Gather Meal 6:00p Metamorphosis 6:30p Fun In Serving Him 6:30p Anna Circle 7:30p Adult Choir Rehearsal 8:45p Adult Brass Rehearsal	9:00a Mount Olive Quilters 7:00p Rachel Circle 7:00p 'In the Process' Al- Anon	9:30a Mary Circle 7:30p IHN Choir Concert Fundraiser at Bethel Lutheran Church	21 8:30a Men's Discipleship 8:30a Scout Yard Raking 9:00a Altar Guild Setup 5:00p Worship
22 Installation of Pastor Glenn Monson 8:00a Worship & Coffee Fellowship 9:15a Education Hour Forum - Ronald McDonald House 10:30a Worship 11:30a Celebratory Potluck 2:00p Rochester Pops Orchestra Rehearsal	23 5:30p Pub Theology	9:00a Ruth Circle 1:00p Naomi Circle 7:30p Glory Bells	9:15a Staff Meeting 6:00p Adult Choir Rehearsal 7:00p Thanksgiving Eve Service 8:00p Pie Fellowship	26 Thanksgiving Day 7:00p 'In the Process' Al- Anon	27	28 8:30a Men's Discipleship 9:00a Altar Guild Setup 5:00p Worship
	n t e r f a i	th Hosp	itality	N e t w o r k	H o s t	W e e k

30 First Sunday in Advent
8:00a Worship & Coffee Fellowship
9:15a Intergenerational Event
10:30a Worship & Coffee Fellowship
12:00p HS/College Youth Cookie Baking & Movie
3:00p Rochester Pops Orchestra Rehearsal

November 2015

