

Education 2018-2019



Mount Olive Lutheran Church

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Weekends

Sunday Forum

- What?** An intergenerational forum focusing on social ministry partners and other faith based learning. Grab a cup of coffee and join the group!
- Who?** All are welcome, geared towards students aged 8th grade and up.
- When?** Sunday mornings, 9:15 a.m.
- Where?** Fellowship Hall (most days).

Forum Calendar

Date	Topic	Date	Topic
9/9	God's Work. Our Hands.- No Forum	1/20	Interfaith Dialogue
9/16	ELCA Youth Gathering Report	1/28	Congregational History of Mount Olive
9/23	Global Lutheranism	2/3	TBA
9/30	Lutheran Campus Ministries	2/10	Service Sunday
10/7	Stewardship Team Presentation	2/17	JRLC Forum
10/14	SSOM Forum and Service Sunday	2/24	Inclusive Church Task Force
10/21	Tanzania Team Report	3/3	Good Earth Village-Diana Parks, Exec. Director
10/28	Lutheran History	3/10	Lenten Bible Study
11/4	My Neighbor is Muslim #1	3/17	Lenten Bible Study
11/11	Service Sunday	3/24	Lenten Bible Study
11/18	Family Promise Training	3/31	Lenten Bible Study
11/25	Thanksgiving Day Weekend-No Forum	4/7	Lenten Bible Study
12/2	Hymnody Forum	4/14	Lenten Bible Study
12/9	My Neighbor is Muslim #2	4/21	Easter Sunday- No Forum
12/16	Children's Christmas Pageant	4/28	TBA
12/23	Christmas Week- No Forum	5/5	TBA
12/30	New Year's Week- No Forum	5/12	TBA
1/6	SEMN Synod Anti-Hate Initiative	5/19	Last Day of Sunday School- No Forum
1/13	Service Sunday		

Sunday School

What? Sunday School.

PK3 – Grade 5

The Elementary Sunday School classes will be using *Spark Lectionary* again this year. This allows children the chance to connect the Sunday School lesson with the Scripture readings they hear in worship. Using a four-part sequence with age appropriate materials, children are able to explore their Bible, participate in fun activities, and grow in faith.

The Preschool classes, along with the nursery will be using Spark's *frolic*. Using the *frolic* Bible's and poster sets, the *PK1* and *PK2* classes will explore common Bible stories. *PK1* will start with the Old Testament and *PK2* will start with the New Testament.

Grade 5 In addition to the Spark curriculum, experiential learning to deepen their understanding of worship will be supplemented throughout the year. Areas of worship that will be explored will include but are not limited to making communion bread, acolyte training, reading scripture, ushering, and singing.

In addition to class time, where children learn about God's word through the Bible, all Sunday School ages will participate in music each week.

Who? 3 year olds through Grade 5.

When? Sunday mornings, 9:15 - 10:15 a.m.

Where? Sunday School Wing



Sunday Metamorphosis

What? A learning forum!

Grades 6-7 will be using Sparkhouse's Colaborate. This will help youth expand what they are learning on Wednesday evening Metamorphosis. This curriculum resource uses a problem-based learning approach to help students think theologically and ask deep questions about the Bible, Lutheran History, and their lives as people of faith. There are four units the youth will engage in over two years covering topics dealing with the Old Testament (Hebrew Bible), Lutheran History and Catechism, the New Testament, and Lutheran Living.

Who? Students in 6th and 7th grade

When? Sunday mornings, 9:15 -10:15 a.m.

Where? Youth Room 7/8 and Youth Forum 13

Post Metamorphosis Youth

What? Bible Study and Youth Events

There will be Bible studies on topics of the youth's choice along with attending some of the Intergenerational Forums. They will also have a variety of group bonding activities on Sundays. Come join the fun in the Youth Room.

Who? Young Adults (Grades 8-12)

When? Sunday mornings, 9:15 -10:15 a.m.

Where? The Youth Room—Room 13



Middle School and High School Youth Boards

What? Mount Olive is reinstating the youth boards to plan fellowship activities for their respective peers and themselves. They will be planning activities such as lock-ins, Sunday morning fellowship, fellowship activities outside of church, as well as summer trips.

Who? 6-12th graders

When? Meetings yet to be determined

Where? Mount Olive Conference Room

Saturday Men's Discipleship Group

What? A Bible study seeking to develop meaningful relationships and a better understanding of what it means to be disciples of Christ. This gathering focuses on scripture or a book that helps us to walk closer to the Lord and to our families, and encourages us in being disciples of Jesus. Come as your schedule allows. If you have questions, you can talk with Mark Masbruch, Paul Johnsen or Mark Schoer.

Who? Men of all ages. Contact Mark Masbruch for more information: mmasbruch@hotmail.com.

When? Saturday mornings, 8:30 a.m. beginning September 22nd.

Where? Mount Olive Conference Room (by the offices/front door)

Weekdays

Pub Theology

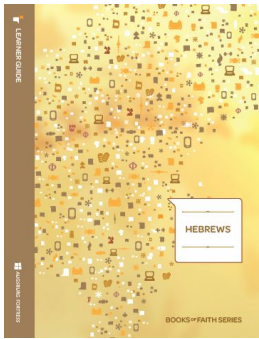
What? Forum with Deacon Travis Beck. Conversation focuses on topics that connect faith, spirituality, and our world. Each week's discussion is posted ahead of time at rochesterpublictheology.wordpress.com and via email. If you would like to be included on the email distribution list, please email Deacon Travis Beck at travis@molive.org.

Who? All are welcome.

When? Monday evenings, 5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. at a local brewery or pub.



Pastor Glenn's Bible Studies



What? Pastor Glenn is hosting a variety of Bible Studies throughout the upcoming program year. The first Bible study is Baptized We Live: Lutheranism As A Way of Life by Daniel Erlander. This study will run from August 29th through September 26th. The second study will be on the book of Hebrews from the Books of Faith Series and will run from October 17th through November 28th. The study book costs \$9.00. The third study will cover the book of Acts, another Books of Faith study, and runs from January 8th through February 24. The sign-up sheet and study book order for Acts will be available in December. Watch the bulletins and Messenger for more details on the Bible Studies.

Who? All are welcome.

When? Wednesday evenings at 6:30 p.m. in the Library.

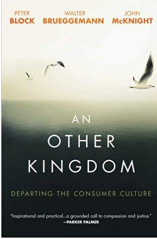
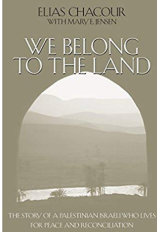
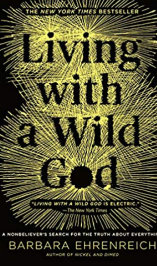
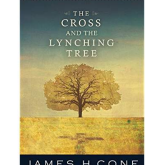
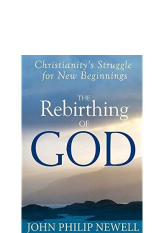
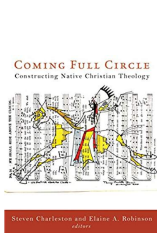
Faith Seeking Understanding (FSU) Book Group

What? Faith Seeking Understanding is a welcoming and inclusive book group that reads and shares conversations about a variety of books on theology, religion, spirituality, Christianity, and our changing world and Church. Two months will feature various video discussions. The video discussion requires no preparation, come and view with the group and share in the conversation. All are welcome. If you have any questions, please contact Kailea Mattheis by phone (507-288-1580 ext. 207) or email (kailea@molive.org) (See table on next page for schedule of books.)

Who? All are welcome.

When? The first Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m.

FSU Book List 2018-2019

<p>September 5</p>		<p><i>An Other Kingdom</i> by Peter Block, Walter Brueggemann, John McKnight The consumer culture holds the belief that no amount is enough. The free market ideology produces economic crises, violence, and an exhausted planet. <i>An Other Kingdom</i> provides a narrative, a shift in our thinking and speaking, to take us out of a culture of addictive consumption into a place where contract is replaced by covenant, combustion is replaced by neighborliness, and time is reclaimed as our own. This is a modern exodus towards a connected community, built on an alternative set of beliefs, liturgy, and disciplines. The shift has begun and out of it we find a better way to raise our children, be healthy, be safe, and be kinder to the earth.</p>
<p>October 4</p>		<p><i>We Belong to the Land</i> by Elias Chacour with Mary E. Jensen Nominated several times for the Noble Peace Prize, world-renowned Palestinian priest, Elias Chacour, narrates the gripping story of his life spent working to achieve peace and reconciliation among Israeli Jews, Christians, and Muslims. From the destruction of his boyhood village and his work as a priest in Galilee to his efforts to build school, libraries, and summer camps for children of all religions, this peacemaker's moving story brings hope to one of the most complex struggles of our time.</p>
<p>November 1</p>		<p><i>Living with a Wild God</i> by Barbara Ehrenreich In LIVING WITH A WILD GOD, Ehrenreich reconstructs her childhood mission, bringing an older woman's wry and erudite perspective to a young girl's impassioned obsession with the questions that, at one point or another, torment us all. The result is both deeply personal and cosmically sweeping—a searing memoir and a profound reflection on science, religion, and the human condition. With her signature combination of intellectual rigor and uninhibited imagination, Ehrenreich offers a true literary achievement—a work that has the power not only to entertain but amaze.</p>
<p>January 8</p>		<p><i>Video Discussion: Without Buddha I Couldn't be a Christian</i> by Paul Knitter</p>
<p>February 7</p>		<p><i>The Cross and the Lynching Tree</i> by James H. Cone The cross and the lynching tree are the two most emotionally charged symbols in the history of the African American community. In this powerful new work, theologian James H. Cone explores these symbols and their interconnection in the history and souls of black folk</p>
<p>March 7</p>		<p><i>The Rebirthing of God: Christianity's Struggle for New Beginnings</i> by John Phillip Newell The walls of Western Christianity are collapsing. In many parts of the West that collapse can only be described as seismic.... There are three main responses or reactions to this collapse. The first is to deny that it is happening. The second is to frantically try to shore up the foundations of the old thing. The third, which I invite us into, is to ask what is trying to be born that requires a radical reorientation of our vision. What is the new thing that is trying to emerge from deep within us and from deep within the collective soul of Christianity?</p>
<p>April 4</p>		<p><i>Coming Full Circle: Constructing Native Christian Theology</i> by Stephen Charleston and Elaine A. Robinson Drawing together leading scholars in the field, along with elders and practitioners, this volume of <i>Coming Full Circle</i> seeks to fill a significant lacuna in the area and to encourage young Native American scholars and non-Native theologians to reconsider the rich possibilities present in the intersection between Native theory and practice and Christian theology and practice. This innovative work begins with a Native American theory for doing constructive Christian theology and then illustrates the possibilities with chapters on specific Christian doctrines.</p>

Wednesday Metamorphosis

What? Metamorphosis is an intergenerational learning forum designed to help us more deeply understand our faith together through shared experiences as we move towards Affirmation of Baptism (Confirmation). The program is best experienced as a two year movement. Although it is targeted specifically for students in Middle School to provide meaningful development in preparation for Confirmation, it also provides opportunities for people of all ages to learn, explore, and develop. The tick-tock, Sunday-Wednesday movement allows for diverse voices to be shared and heard while also providing space for Confirmands to grow as a class. Together we will learn what it means to be the people of God in our context, responding to God's Good News for humanity and all creation, following a threefold pattern through Fall, Winter, and Spring: **Proclaim Story, Proclaim Justice,** and **Proclaim Community.** Wednesday gatherings are intergenerational, and are open to all in the congregation to participate as ability allows. Sunday sessions compliment Wednesday sessions but are limited to students in Middle School for peer-focused catechesis.



Who? All are welcome, especially students in Middle School with their families.

When? Wednesdays. Mealtime begins at 5:30 p.m., programming runs from 6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Confirmation Camp for Metamorphosis Students

What? Metamorphosis student's will spend a week at Good Earth Village. Good Earth Village advertises, "Its a program that brings Confirmation class into a solid community of everyday life and outdoor adventure. Learn about and experience God's grace in a safe new environment. With your friends and classmates, you'll do awesome team-building games, active morning devotions, nature exploration, evening worship around the campfire, and large group games."

Who? Metamorphosis students (finishing 6th-7th grades)

When? Summer of 2019 (Watch The Messenger for the specific dates)



Special Events

Lenten Bible Study

What? We will be studying the book of 1 Corinthians this year during Lent. Participants in this **4-session Bible study** will look at selected Lectionary texts from 1 Corinthians and explore what it means for the church to live as Christ's body in the world. Through reading Scripture, informed conversation and activities designed to engage many types of adult learners, participants will deepen their engagement with and understanding of Scripture.

Who? All are welcome.

When? Sundays at 9:15 a.m. (in place of the forum) and Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m. during the season of Lent (begins Sunday, March 10th, and ends Sunday, April 14th).



Intergenerational Trip to Holden Village



What? An adventure trip to Holden Village in the Cascade Mountains of Washington state. There will be time to hike, engage in various classes in theology and philosophy, environmental and social sciences, social justice issues, and the arts, spend time doing different crafts including: weaving, pottery, and other arts and crafts, and participate in bible studies and worship throughout the day.

Who? All are welcome! Any age (any youth would need to be accompanied by a parent).

When? Summer of 2019 (Watch the Messenger for more details)

High School Service Trip

What? A Youth Works service trip to one of their large urban, small urban, small town, or American Indian locations. The high school youth will have the option of choosing which location they would prefer. Youth Works states, "All of our work points back to our single purpose of creating Christ-centered mission trip experiences. This purpose has led us to create a model of respectful service for our community partners while also inviting students into meaningful mission trip experiences that become a part of their individual faith formation."

Who? High School Students (finishing 8th grade through finishing senior year)

When? Summer of 2019 (Specific Dates yet to be determined-Watch the Messenger for more details)





Women's Circles

What? All Mount Olive women are invited to consider joining a small group (known as "Circles") for Bible study, prayer, and fellowship. These circles are organized by Mount Olive's Women for the ELCA group. There are six different groups that meet at different times here at Mount Olive (see the chart below for the times). Each group is named for a woman in the Bible: one is sure to be the right fit for you!

The women's small group studies for 2018/2019 will be from Gather Magazine. A subscription to the magazine, which includes a variety of resources and articles for Christian women in addition to the study, is suggested. Go to the Gather Magazine website, gathermagazine.com or call (844)409-0576 to start your subscription. Two copies will be available in the church office.

Besides the small group meetings, the Mount Olive Women of the ELCA group supports multiple service and fellowship opportunities for the entire congregation. See dates and details on the opposite page as well as in the Service and Fellowship brochures. Everyone is welcome to participate whether they are a member of a circle or not.

For more information about Women of the ELCA, contact Renee Schaefer, Mount Olive Women of the ELCA president-vettelady54601@yahoo.com or (507) 398-3723.

Who? Women of all ages.

When? See tables, below.

Calendar: Circle Meeting Times and Locations

Circle	Meeting Time	Location
Miriam Circle	Second Tuesday of each month at 6:30 pm	Mount Olive
Lydia Circle	Second Monday of each month at 6:30 pm	Mount Olive
Mary Circle	Fourth Friday of each month at 9:30 am	Mount Olive
Naomi Circle	Fourth Tuesday of each month at 1:00 pm	Mount Olive
Rachel Circle	Fourth Thursday of each month at 6:30 pm	Mount Olive
Ruth Circle	Fourth Tuesday of each month at 9:00 am	Mount Olive

Calendar: Women of the ELCA

Date	Event & Details
November 11	Board Meeting
December 3	Women of the ELCA Christmas Party
December 9	St. Lucia Sunday
January 13	Board Meeting
January 27	Hosting Meal for the Annual Congregational Meeting
March 1	World Day of Prayer
March 31	Board Meeting
March 6	Ash Wednesday Soup Supper
April 6	Women's Day of Service from 8:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
May 12	Thankoffering, Quilts, and Prayer Shawl Blessing (Mother's Day)
June	Project Comfort Coffee to support the Quilt and Care Kit Shipping Fund

Sacramental Mystagogy

*The best way to learn about the Sacraments is to participate in them. We call this **mystagogy**: teaching through participation in the mystery of God's presence in, with, and under the Word, the Water, the Bread and the Wine. We have ongoing opportunities for you to learn about what it means to be invited into Baptism and Communion.*

Baptism

Preparation for baptism begins with a conversation with a pastor. Please contact the Church Office at 507.288.1580 to schedule a thirty minute meeting with a pastor to learn, share, and prepare for this important congregational event.

Communion

People of all ages (yes, even small children!) are welcome to join the whole church at the Communion table. An intergenerational session called *Welcome to Communion: An Introduction to the Sacrament* is available twice a year for those who want to learn more about the sacrament. Both young and old are welcome. Watch the bulletins and Messenger for details on when a Communion Class will be held.



Education Ministry Teams

Children, Youth, and Family Team

- What?** Mission Statement: We, the CYF Ministry Team, are advocates and bridge builders in the areas of Worship, Service, Education, and Fellowship. Together, we seek to nurture all God's children in order that they build trust in God and develop meaningful relationships with the people of God's family.
- Who?** Chair: Renee Kuehl, Staff Liaison: Kailea Mattheis, Team Members: Sara Swartwood, Serena Oudekirk, Carrie Fletcher, Linda Schueler

Adult Faith Ministry Team

- What?** Vision Statement: The members and friends of Mount Olive are growing spiritually and theologically within their Lutheran context, knowledgeable of community resources, aware of ministry partners and opportunities, and enriched in their life and service together as people of God.
- Mission Statement: We will provide the community of Mount Olive with the resources they need to learn and grow as people of faith, called to proclaim God's Good News through lives of service.
- Who?** Chair: Kris Liedtke, Staff Liaison: Pastor Glenn Monson, Team Members: John Eppley, Sarah Swartwood, Regina Seabrook, Collette Bickel, Matthew Olson

Inclusive Church Task Force

- What?** Since the winter of 2016, the Inclusive Church Taskforce has been organizing Mount Olive's efforts to become a Reconciling in Christ (RIC) congregation.. The taskforce hosted a series of brunches in the summer of 2017 to focus our community around what it means to be intentionally welcoming of people of diverse sexual orientations and gender identities. Throughout the 2017-2018 program year, the taskforce hosted a showing of the documentary "For the Bible Tells me So," a "Gender and Sexual Diversity 101" workshop led by Vangie Castro from the Rochester Diversity Council, and "Sexuality and Scripture" adult forum led by Pastor Paul Moody and Mickaela Pasch. In the spring of 2018, the taskforce released a draft of Mount Olive's RIC Welcome Statement and received 95% favorable responses.
- In October of 2018, the congregation will vote to become a Reconciling in Christ congregation! As we look into the future, Mount Olive will continue to explore new ways to expand our generous hospitality. Some examples may include incorporating gender inclusive language in our services and materials, continuing to learn about gender and sexual diversity, and celebrating local Pride events. If you are interested in playing a supporting role in nurturing our possible RIC designation, please contact Pastor Glenn or any of the members of the Inclusive Church Taskforce.
- Who?** Randi Beyerl, Becky Lashinski, Jake Johnson, Mickaela Pasch, David Johnston, Elmer Odland, Paula Frietag, and Ann Willis

