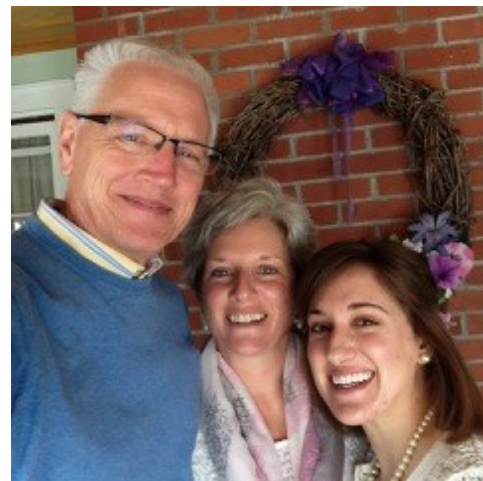


THE Messenger

MOUNT OLIVE LUTHERAN CHURCH • ROCHESTER, MINNESOTA • 507-288-1580 • MOLIVE.ORG

“Moses was a stutterer, David was a murderer...Timothy had stomach aches and Lazarus was dead.”

If you’ve heard Peter Eide’s song, “As Is,” before, then you know its entertaining descriptions of various Bible characters’ potential shortcomings in ministry. Comical though it may be, it’s safe to say that all of us have felt like inadequate proclaimers of the gospel at some point in our lives. As Lutherans, we talk about being the “priesthood of all believers,” where everyone is called to minister to one another regardless of whether or not they have a seminary degree. But actually living out this concept becomes much more difficult when we start to factor in the insecurities that surround our ministerial abilities: “Who am I, that I should be able to pray at the bedside of another as they struggle through illness?” we might ask ourselves. Or, “How on earth will I be a good Confirmation teacher when I hardly know any church doctrine myself?!”



As someone who is now only weeks away from starting her first year of seminary, questions such as these are what I have been wrestling with for the past five years. What makes a person a good candidate to share the Good News every day? It’s been said hundreds of times before but rings no less true: God does not call the qualified; God qualifies the called. And that applies to the people in the pews just as much as it applies to pastors and seminary students. Luckily for me, having grown up at Mount Olive means that I’ve had the blessing and the privilege of watching this ministering to others in action. You’ve taught me, walked with me, and gently (and sometimes not so gently) encouraged me to keep considering a vocation in the church. Knowing I had the prayers and support of so many of you as I left for college, went off to work at Bible camp, became a church intern in Washington State, and, most recently, spent a year with the Lutheran Volunteer Corps as a Coordinator for Spiritual Care for senior citizens has made all the difference in my openness and excitement in approaching these opportunities. It’s the ministering that I’ve watched you do for each other and the ministering that you have done for me that have kept me searching for new ways to be a part of that priesthood of all believers, until I found that I liked it so much, I wanted it to be my day job.

I am so grateful for your generosity and your willingness to partner with me as I head off to seminary in this next phase of living into this priesthood. Whether you’ve known me since my baptism, or have joined the church during these past five years that I have been off exploring the world, know that you have all played a part in the faith community that has continued to be my home. Thank you. Thank you for the many expressions of love and support that you, as a congregation, have shown me. I’m so excited to begin this new journey alongside you as we work together in Christ for the sake of the world, and I hope you are excited to journey along with me.

In God’s Peace,

Miriam Hanson

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Seminary Scholarship Fund

supports Miriam Hanson

When longtime pastor Keith Beaver and his wife Mary retired from Mount Olive in 1993, they left behind a wonderful legacy – a scholarship fund for seminary students who are Mount Olive members. This fund was used once before, for Pastor Marie Anderson, a daughter of the congregation. Now, this scholarship fund, under the watchful eye of the Endowment Team, will be put to work once again. Miriam Hanson, daughter of Keith and Cathy Hanson, will be attending Trinity Seminary in Columbus, Ohio starting this fall, and we want to support her financially so that she does not come out of seminary with burdensome debt. To that end, the Endowment Team has set a goal of raising \$5,000 each year from gifts by the congregation, and then using the Beaver scholarship to match those gifts, thereby ensuring that Miriam will receive a gift of \$10,000 each year of her three years at seminary. Along with the other scholarships Miriam has already been awarded, this should pay for most of Miriam's costs. **We are kicking off this fund this month as we send Miriam off with a card shower and our blessing at worship on August 12-13.** Be sure to attend worship that weekend and wish her well as she begins her seminary studies. Envelopes will be available to contribute to the account.



**Card Shower and Blessing for
Miriam Hanson On August 12-13**

Mayo Clinic Hospice Grief Support Groups

If you are grieving the loss of a significant person in your life through death, please consider attending one of the upcoming grief groups, hosted by Mayo Clinic Hospice. Eight consecutive Monday meetings will be held, September 11-October 30, 2017. An afternoon session will be held, 1:00-2:30 pm, for those grieving the death of a spouse or significant other, and an evening session will be held, 6:30-8:00 pm, for those grieving a child, grandchild, parent, grandparent, spouse or significant other. The location for these meetings vary according to needs of members. Please call 284-4002 to register.

Tanzania Connection Revived!

For many years Mount Olive has had a strong relationship with Lutheran Christians in Tanzania, even prior to the Southeast Minnesota Synod of the ELCA designating the Central Diocese of the Lutheran Church of Tanzania as one of our Companion Synods. We have provided ongoing support for our sister congregation in Kijota, the Hull Kijota Secondary School in Singida, and the Lutheran Theological College in Kiomboi. In 1999, 2007, and 2011 trips to Tanzania by Mount Olive members resulted in our gifting these institutions with 20 laptop computers that are still in use today. Just recently, we learned through conversation with synod Director for Global Missions/ Companion Synods, Kathy Chatelaine, that these schools were struggling with very unreliable and incomplete internet connections and they had no money to make the needed updates. After discussing the situation, our Tanzania Team at Mount Olive recommended to the Church Council that \$2,375 be sent to the synod office to be disbursed to these Tanzanian institutions in order to make these updates. The Church Council approved this on July 11 and the funds were sent.

We hope to make a trip to Kijota, Singida, and Kiomboi in the fall of 2018 to strengthen our relationship with our sisters and brothers there. If you are interested in being part of such a trip, please contact Pastor Glenn or Mark Masbruch.

Director of Music, Worship and Arts Voted On

On Sunday, July 30 at 9:00 am, the Mount Olive congregation will hold a Special Meeting to vote on calling our new Director of Music, Worship, and Arts. A congregational vote is needed because the recommended candidate is a rostered deacon in the ELCA. As a deacon, this candidate has received not only musical training, but also theological and pastoral training, and will be able to teach and preach occasionally, in addition to leading the music and worship ministry. Upon a successful vote of the congregation, our candidate will establish a time table for moving to Rochester and beginning work with us. Please continue to pray for this process as it goes forward.

Ugandan Kid's Choir Performs

On July 19, a group of 10 children from Uganda performed a concert at Mount Olive. They are a part of Childcare Worldwide, a Christian organization that sponsors disadvantaged children from around the world. The children and their chaperones were hosted by Mount Olive families. They had their evening meal at Mount Olive before their performance and did their school work at the church during the day. They will travel the U.S. for 11 months before returning to Uganda.

To watch the video of their lively and joy-filled performance, visit the [Facebook page](#) or Mount Olive [YouTube Channel](#)

For more information or to sponsor a child, visit www.childcareworldwide.org/ugandan-kids-choir



Volunteer Update

Schedules for August Worship Volunteers and Sunday coffee and cookie fellowship have been distributed to all volunteers. The current schedule is updated regularly and posted on the Mount Olive website, www.molive.org, under the "Service" tab. Volunteers select their service opportunities via the Sign Up Genius website. More volunteers are always needed; if you would like to receive an invitation to Sign Up Genius or have any questions about volunteering at Mount Olive, please contact Nancy Britson, Director of Congregational Life.

Next Chapter Ministries

Annual BBQ and Pie Social

On **Saturday, August 19**, the campus of Next Chapter Ministries at 720 3rd Ave. SE will be filled with BBQ stands, all competing for your votes as best BBQ of the weekend. For a modest fee, which will go to support Next Chapter, you can enjoy as many different BBQ recipes as you can handle. Also, not to be missed, is the Homemade Pie Competition. Again, you can buy tickets and have as many pie samples as you can hold, and then cast your vote for the best pie of the event. All of this wonderful food and fun, while you support Next Chapter Ministries as they continue to minister to those impacted by crime in our community. All are welcome!



God's work.
Our hands.

T-Shirts Available

Everyone is encouraged to wear their gold God's Work. Our Hands. t-shirts to worship and work on September 10. If you didn't get one last year, order now from the table in the front entry. **The deadline to order is August 6.**

The shirts are sized from child's small – adult XL (\$7.25), Adult 2XL (\$9.25), Adult 3XL (\$10.25). Payment is required at time of order. Contact Pam Berg with any questions at pamelakberg@msn.com.



In Kind Collection

In preparation for God's Work. Our Hands. , a number of items are needed for projects to benefit those who are homeless or in need in Rochester. Watch for the table in the front entry where you can pick up a list of needed items. Return items to the marked bins in the front entry. **Deadline for bringing items is August 27.**

Plans are well underway for Mount Olive's 2nd annual God's Work. Our Hands. Sunday, Sept. 10. Once again, there will be a variety of projects to participate in at church and in the community. This year's projects include:

• Knitting hats for children at Elton Hills and ALC	• Quilting for NAMI SE MN
• Sandwich making for Love One Another	• Harvesting the Mount Olive garden for CFR
• First Responder thank you cards	• Men's and Women's Care Kits
• Visits to Fire Stations and Gold Cross	• Clean up at Family Promise Day Center
• Bandage Rolling for Global Health Ministries	• Singing at The Homestead
• Construction at Next Chapter Ministries	• Fleece blankets
• Care bags for local homeless (Salvation Army)	• Clean Up at the Family Promise Day Center

There is something for every age group, and our hope is that everyone at Mount Olive will participate on September 10. Contact Sherry Will at sherry@molive.org with questions or if you would like to lead one of these projects.

Family Promise

Mount Olive will host homeless families participating in Family Promise **August 20-27**. Many volunteers are needed for meals, evening hosts, overnight stays, and driving the van. To volunteer, please see the Mount Olive website for signing up online or by paper after church services throughout August.



Building community, strengthening lives.

Habitat for Humanity

We're looking for adult volunteers to help with construction tasks at the new Habitat work site in Rochester. The next Mount Olive work day is Saturday, August 12, 9 am-4 pm, at the construction site. Lunch will be provided. Please sign up ahead of time in the gathering area, or contact Jim Berg at berg.james2@mayo.edu.

Dorothy Day Hospitality House

Mount Olive volunteers provide and serve the evening meal on the 1st Friday of each month for guests staying at the Dorothy Day House. Please sign up today to participate in this worthwhile service opportunity. We have openings for September 1. Please sign up in the gathering area where more information is available in the sign up folder. For more information, contact Anna Strand at annabstrand@gmail.com

Community Food Response (CFR)

is a volunteer-led nonprofit that provides free meals to hungry people to take home or eat elsewhere. The food distributed is donated by restaurants, cafeterias, businesses and grocery stores. In addition to helping people in need, CFR helps reduce the amount of food waste generated by area businesses. CFR is excited to announce the opening of their second location in northwest Rochester located at The Exchange - 3945 10th Avenue NW, just west of Gage East Apartments. Mount Olive will be partnering with this important ministry on the third Monday of each month beginning August 21. We will be helping to collect and distribute the food to those in need. Please look for a signup sheet in the Gathering Area or contact Carrie Fletcher if you have any questions at cxnfletcher@gmail.com. Clients can visit CFR North on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, from 5 to 6:00pm.



F.I.S.H. (Fun in Serving Him)

Adult volunteers are needed to plan and run this youth program for children grades 1-5. One co-teacher has come forward, but at least one more adult leader is needed. **F.I.S.H.** runs on the same schedule as Metamorphosis, meeting Wednesday evenings at 6:30. Please consider leading this program for school age children filled with fun and service. Contact Sherry Will at sherry@molive.org.



Mount Olive Quilters Update

At the outdoor service in June, 67 large quilts and 40 baby quilts were blessed. The large quilts were delivered to the Lutheran World Relief warehouse in St. Paul. Families First, formerly known as the Rochester Crisis Nursery, received the baby quilts. We celebrated five members' birthdays when we met this past month.

The Mount Olive quilting group meets each Thursday morning at 9:00 am in the Fellowship Hall to work to compile the quilt layers, tie them, pin the bindings, and sew around the outside. Other volunteers are needed to sew the quilt tops, provide cotton fabric for the quilts, and cut the fabric into squares. You may pick up quilt tops to be sewn from the cupboards under the sign up table in the Gathering Area. The quilters were happy to have a new member in July and would welcome anyone who can tie a knot to join them on Thursday mornings.

Pub Theology

Do you enjoy thinking about faith, life, and what it means to be a follower of Jesus in our world today? Do you enjoy beer or craft sodas? Do you like to gather with others for stimulating conversation and being opened to new ideas? If any of these sound like you, come join us Monday evenings at 5:30 pm at Life's Too Short Brewing Co. for Pub Theology, led by Pastor Paul. Topics are always sent out a day ahead of time and can be found at rochesterpublictheology.wordpress.com. Come and join as you're able. **Note that the group will not meet the first Monday in August.** See you there!



Faith Seeking Understanding (FSU) 2017-2018 Schedule

Faith Seeking Understanding reads and shares conversations about a variety of books and videos on theology, spirituality, social justice, and Christianity and our changing church. FSU meets on the first Tuesday of the month beginning in September at 6:30 pm. September and March feature video programs, which require no preparation, come and view with the group and share in the conversation. All are welcome. Stop by the table in the entry at church on August 5/6 and 12/13 for the opportunity to order this year's books. If you have any questions, please contact Kailea Mattheis at kailea@molive.org or 507-288-1580 ext. 207. The selections for the upcoming year are:

September 5: Documentary video- <i>Bonhoeffer</i>	October 3: <i>Freedom of A Christian</i> -Martin Luther, <i>Discipleship</i> -Dietrich Bonhoeffer (excerpt) and <i>Radical Lutherans/Lutheran Radicals</i> -Jason A. Man (excerpt)
November 7: <i>Green Card Youth Voices: Immigration Stories from a Minneapolis High School</i>	February 6: <i>The Fourth Gospel: Tales of a Jewish Mystic</i> -John Shelby Spong
March 6: Video-To be announced	April 3: <i>Rising Strong</i> -Brene Brown

Inclusive Church Taskforce Update

Please join us for the August Inclusive Church brunch on Sunday, August 13 after the 9:30 am service. We'll be gathering in the Fellowship Hall for conversation and food. At the August brunch conversation we'll address two questions: *If we achieve the welcoming community we desire, what would it look like?* *If we do not achieve the welcoming community we desire, what would it look like?*

These questions are part of the community thought windows currently posted in the entry hallway and Fellowship Hall windows. Posting your response via sticky note will add richness to the conversation in August! At the end of the August brunch next steps for this fall will be discussed. All are welcome, and we're excited to continue in this discussion together.

Conversations in June and July helped us first think about our own stories of welcome and exclusion (June) and then we talked about the things Mount Olive does well as a welcoming church and worked on suggestions for doing even better (July).

The following are links to some additional resources that were offered at the July brunch in case you didn't receive a copy and are interested:



"5 Tips for Being an Ally"
(Youtube Video):

goo.gl/FJXP3a



"Love Opens the Door: A Plea to American Churches Regarding Gay Scouts"

(Article) from Rachel Held Evans
goo.gl/E5ABCS

2018 ELCA National Youth Gathering The ELCA National Youth Gathering is June 27, 2018 through July 1, 2018 in Houston Texas. This is a time for 8-12th graders to explore and grow in their faith through worship, service, and fellowship! I invite all the 8-12 graders and their families to consider this formative experience. To learn more about this event, please come on August 2, 2017 at 6 p.m. for more details. If you are interested in the gathering but not able to make the meeting, please contact Kailea Mattheis, Director of Children, Youth, and Family by phone (507-288-1530 ext. 207) or by e-mail (kailea@molive.org).



2018 U.P. Adventure Trip! In addition to the youth gathering, I have also planned an adventure trip for all 6-12th graders. We will be exploring one of my favorite places, the Upper Peninsula of Michigan, by camping, hiking, kayaking, biking, and swimming. I was born and spent much of my childhood in the U.P. and I'd love to be able to show off its natural beauty. This adventure trip will be August 6-13, 2018! We will begin by staying in my birth town, Marquette, Michigan; while we are there we will hike to the top of Sugarloaf Mountain, kayak Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore, and explore the natural beauty of the Marquette area. We will also spend time in Tahquamenon Falls State Park, near Mackinaw City, and many more places! Please join Pastor Paul and myself on August 2, 2017 at 6:30-6:45 for more information about the Adventure Trip! If you are interested but unable to attend the meeting, please contact Kailea by phone (507-288-1530 ext. 207) or by e-mail (kailea@molive.org).

Metamorphosis on Social Media:



Please give Mount Olive Metamorphosis a like or follow on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter to get updates about the program! Find us by searching "mometamorphosis" (on Facebook and Instagram) and "MO Metamorphosis" (on Twitter) or by these links: Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/mometamorphosis/>; Twitter: https://twitter.com/meta_molive/followers; and Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/mometamorphosis/>.

Sunday School Registration

Please return your Sunday School Registration forms as soon as possible to the basket in the entry. The forms are pre-filled, all that is needed is that you check the information and update the form if incorrect. If you did not receive a form, please take a blank form and fill it out. If you have any questions, please contact Kailea Mattheis by phone: (507)288-1580 ext. 207 or by email: kailea@molive.org.

Rally Sunday - September 17- 9:15 am

Rally Sunday, the kick-off for the Sunday School year, is September 17, 2017. We will have games, inflatables, a silent auction, and much more. This day is for the Sunday School students, teachers, and parents to get to know each other and spend some time together before the first lesson class of Sunday School. We're looking forward to seeing you there!

Youth Silent Auction

A Silent Auction to raise funds for 2018 Youth Trips will begin on Rally Sunday, Sept. 17th, and continue through the Ministry fair, on Sept. 24th. **Everyone is invited to donate an item to be auctioned.** In addition to the donated goods, all youth, who will be participating in one of the trips, will be donating a service item to the auction. Please contact Kailea Mattheis for details.

Fair Trade Coffee

Stop by the **Fair Trade Coffee** display in the Gathering Area to check out the varieties of ground and whole bean coffee and tea available for purchase. You can also sign up to sponsor the coffee on an upcoming Sunday. For \$15 you can help offset the cost of the coffee served during fellowship time and celebrate an occasion such as a birthday, anniversary, or the memory of a loved one.



Altar Flowers

You may sign up to provide the flowers that brighten the sanctuary each week. Place orders for birthdays, anniversaries, baptismal birthdays, births, or in memory of loved ones. Sign up in the Gathering Area, fill out an envelope and include payment. Place orders at least one week in advance. Bouquets are \$30 and bud vases range from \$7.50-\$13.50.



Monday Book Group - 2017-2018 Book List and Schedule

The Monday Book Group gathers monthly beginning in September to discuss a wide variety of literature including classics, fiction, poetry, humor, memoirs, history, mystery, Minnesota authors, and youth inspired works. See the list of this year's selections below. Individuals are welcome to discuss one book or attend every month to discuss them all! We have leaders volunteer each month to lead the discussion. The group meets in the Mount Olive library the second Monday of the month beginning in September at 6:30 pm. Please join us for some wonderful discussion and fun! Stop by the table in the entry at church on August 5/6 and 12/13 for the opportunity to order this year's books. If you have any questions, please contact Jodi Schoer at mjschoer@charter.net.

September 11, 2017	The Accidental Wife	By CJ (Carol) Fosdick
October 9, 2017	Hillbilly Elegy: A Memoir of a Family and Culture in Crisis	By J.D. Vance
November 13, 2017	Galileo's Daughter	By Dava Sobel
December 11, 2017	On Strike for Christmas	By Sheila Roberts
January 8, 2018	Hidden Figures	By Margot Lee Shetterly
February 12, 2018	Poetry of Robert Frost	By Robert Frost and Edward Connery Lathern
March 12, 2018	Norwegian by Night	By Derek B. Miller
April 9, 2018	Prayers for Sale	By Sandra Dallas
May 14, 2018	Conquering the Odds: The Journey of a Shepherd Girl	By Habibo Haji and Joseph Culhane

Adventure Club Outing-Join in the Fun!!

3rd Annual Old Barn Resort Camping Trip: On **August 11-13**, your family is invited to camp with the Adventure Club at the Old Barn Resort in Lanesboro, MN. A limited number of campsites may be available, check for reservations at barnresort.com. Those who would like to join the group, but not camp are welcome. There is a \$4 fee for the visitors to use the pool. On Friday evening-Sunday morning we will cook food over the fire, bike into Lanesboro, go tubing or canoeing, play in the resort park, get ice cream downtown, and have lots of time for fellowship and singing around the campfire. We hope you can join us! Sign up in the gathering area. Contact Erin Sinnwell with questions-507-990-6079.



Ripe Olives

Ripe Olives is a group for Mount Olive's most experienced members, mostly retired folks. They meet the first Friday of the month at 9:30 am from September through May for fun and fellowship! The schedule for fall is below. At each meeting, a continental breakfast is provided with a freewill donation. Everyone is welcome to attend, sign up at the Gathering Area table. Contact Nancy Britson, Director of Congregational Life, with questions 288-1580 ext. 202 or nancy@molive.org.

September 8	Social Gathering in the Fellowship Hall
October 13	Rick Steves Travel Video – Luther and the Reformation
November 10	Darrel Hildebrant-Rochester Police Dept. - Senior Frauds and Scams
December 8	Craft and Hobby Show with a Special Musical Guest



Triennial Gathering in Minneapolis

Fourteen women from Mount Olive attended the Triennial Gathering in Minneapolis in July. They came away energized and were motivated to think about how they lead their daily lives and how they can influence what goes on in the world. Each day began with a morning prayer service, followed by motivating speakers, workshops and interactive experiences where they stepped into the lives of marginalized people from the US and around the world. Several of the women participated in a 5K Run, Walk, and Roll for the Women of the ELCA's health initiative "Raising Up Healthy Women and Girls" that raised over \$19,000. Erin Sinnwell was the winner of the 5K and Kathleen Haase took 2nd place. The women took \$425 as an offering on behalf of the Mount Olive Women of the ELCA and were thankful for the many in-kind items and gift cards that were contributed.





Mount Olive Lutheran Church

2830 18th Ave. NW

Rochester, MN 55901

Office Hours: 9:00AM-4:00PM Mon.-Thurs. & 9:00AM-noon Fri.

507-288-1580

molive.org

Summer Worship Schedule:

Saturday 5:00 pm

Sunday 8:00 am and 9:30 am

Mount Olive Staff

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Senior Pastor

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The Rev. Paul Moody

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Ext. 210

Carrie Fletcher—Administrative Assistant
and Nursery Coordinator

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Ext. 209

Tina Coil—Nursery Assistant

Save the Dates!

God's work. Our Hands. - September 10

Rally Sunday - September 17

Ministry Fair - September 24

Spiritual Care

Mount Olive has a Prayer Chain, coordinated by Kim Ignatius.

If you have a prayer request and would like the prayer chain to be in prayer for you or someone you love, please contact Kim at: 507-271-6087 or ignatius.kimberlie@charter.net.

Please contact the church staff if you have any prayer concerns:

- Pastor Glenn: glenn@molive.org
- Pastor Paul: paul@molive.org
- Church office: 507-288-1580

