

THE *Messenger*

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

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Greetings Mount Olive Family,

The past four years have just flown by, and as I look back on all of our time together in worship, festival Sundays, special services, rehearsals and other church functions, I delight in all of the experiences and faith-filled moments that we've all shared together. Mount Olive has been richly blessed with deep and meaningful worship and I feel honored that I have had the chance to be a part of this experience.

In looking to the future I will be sharing my music ministry with the Bethel Lutheran Church family beginning on Monday, June 5. Furthering my chosen path as a church musician, I hope to continue providing ecumenical musical opportunities for the community through the Rochester Pops Orchestra and Chorale in addition to my new duties. I also plan to continue working on my doctorate so that I may be a fully licensed orchestrator and share my compositions and arrangements on a global level.

Mount Olive will always hold a special place in my heart. I have developed friendships to last a lifetime and been afforded many opportunities to bloom and grow through the kindness and hospitality that Mount Olive is known for. I am forever grateful for our time together, and will keep everyone in my prayers as you journey forward in search of a new Minister of Music.

In celebration of our time together, the Mount Olive brass ensemble will be joined by other church members and community musicians to form a big band in celebration of Pentecost. Please join us on Sunday, June 4 at either 8 or 9:30 am as we celebrate through word and song the descent of the Holy Spirit on the disciples of Christ.

In Christian Love,
Brock A. Besse





Welcome Kailea!

Kailea Mattheis officially began work as Mount Olive's Director of Children, Youth, and Family Ministry on May 23rd. We are grateful for her presence with us and thank everyone for their prayers throughout the hiring process.

There will be welcome receptions in her honor on Sunday June 18th. Please join us in the fellowship hall following both services for some breakfast treats and the chance to give Kailea a warm welcome to the Mount Olive family!

Staff News

Music Director Search Committee

Due to the departure of Brock Besse, our Director of Music and Worship, the Worship and Music Committee has appointed a Search Committee to begin the process of seeking out and selecting our next Music Director. We know that whoever follows Brock will have big shoes to fill, but we are confident that God will be leading us as we go through this search. Our hope is to have a new director in place by the beginning of the fall season. We will keep the congregation updated on our progress. We ask for your prayers.

Thank You Very Much!

During the Easter season we made a special appeal for the needs of those in South Sudan who are enduring an historic famine. As people of faith, and as members of a companion synod to South Sudanese Lutherans, we wanted to stand in solidarity with these sisters and brothers in need. The Executive Council offered to match all gifts up to \$3000 for this appeal. Due to your generosity we far exceeded that goal, collecting nearly \$5000 for this appeal. This means that we will send nearly \$8000 to the ELCA for South Sudan Disaster Relief. Thank you very much for your generous response!

Sherry Sanden Will accepts position of Director of Missions & Social Outreach



We are excited to announce that Sherry Sanden Will, a well-known member of Mount Olive, just finishing her term as the president of the Mount Olive Women of the ELCA (WELCA), has accepted the position of Director of Missions & Social Outreach. Sherry will oversee communication and coordination of all community outreach partners such as Family Promise, Channel One, Dorothy Day House, etc. She will also be the primary communicator and advocate for our overseas mission partners in Colombia and Tanzania. Please be sure to congratulate Sherry on her new position and pray for her as she begins this important work.

Inclusive Church Task Force

Summer Brunches

On the second Sunday of each month this summer following the second service, the Inclusive Church Task Force will host a brunch to continue discussions about what it means to be a welcoming church. The dates to keep in mind are June 11, July 9, and August 13. Following the 9:30 worship service we will gather in the Fellowship Hall for coffee, breakfast treats, and discussion. The topic for conversation each month will center around the questions posed in the interactive art display on the Fellowship Hall windows. All are welcome to join in the conversation and to participate in the ongoing interactive art display. By these means we hope to understand more fully who we are as a congregation and how we can become more inclusive going forward.

--Inclusive Church Task Force--

As always, if you have any questions, please contact the pastors or a member of the Inclusive Church Taskforce:

- Elmer Odland
- Jake Johnson
- Becky Lashinski
- David Johnston
- Mickaela Pasch
- Tom Rigby
- Randi Beyerl
- Paula Freitag

For more information, visit the ELCA Reconciling Works website: <http://www.reconcilingworks.org>



Gardening Help Needed

Volunteers are needed to “adopt” some of the planting areas on the Mount Olive grounds. Gardeners take care of weeding trimming, dead-heading flowers, etc. throughout the growing season. Various plot sizes are available. Choose a time that works best for your schedule. Contact Gene Ostrom to let him know your availability. 507-288-2297

Congregational Life and Hospitality Team Formed

Is there anything more important to a newcomer to a church, a neighborhood, or a community than feeling welcomed? Probably not. That is why we are forming a new team at Mount Olive to look intentionally at how we welcome and connect newcomers to our congregation. We know that it is easy for us to assume that we are a *welcoming* church, when little things that we do, which we are not even aware of, are actually *unwelcoming*. This team will attempt to identify and correct any bad habits we have, as well as be alert to the wonderful ways we and other congregations do welcome and make connections with new people. By this strategy we hope to enlarge our circle and welcome more people into the Mount Olive community. If you would like to join in this work, please see Nancy Britson, Director of Congregational Life.

Synod Assembly News

This year’s Southeastern Minnesota Synod Assembly was held on May 6-7, 2017. Visit the Synod website link below to see videos of keynote speakers, photos featuring Mount Olive members who participated, and many links to other resources including the resolutions passed this year.

<http://semnsynod.org/assembly2017/>

F.I.S.H.-Fun in Serving Him

We had a great spring session. The kids packed backpacks for John Adams and helped to plant plots in the Mount Olive Victory Garden. The produce will benefit Community Food Response, Family Promise and Channel One. They also collected food for Channel One from our Mount Olive neighbors. Thank you kids! You have done a great job this year.



Planting the Mount Olive garden.



Collecting food donations from neighbors.

Mount Olive Quilters

Thursdays at 9:00 am

You are invited each week to enjoy quilting and fellowship. Quilters continue to meet throughout the summer. No quilting experience needed! Quilts will be blessed in worship at the outdoor services on June 24 and 25. The quilts made at Mount Olive in the past year have been given to Colombia, the Women's Shelter, Crisis Nursery, Lutheran World Relief and more!

Mount Olive Victory Garden

The 2017 growing season is here! Mount Olive Victory Gardeners have planted crops and they are already sprouting in the 5 beds and the raised trough. The produce we raise is donated to Family Promise, Community Food Response, Channel One, and Mount Olive.

Help is needed throughout the summer to water, weed, and harvest the produce.

I encourage you and your family to come, get your hands dirty and deepen your faith in the goodness of the earth as we provide food to our community partners! Please see information about the gardens and the sign-up to help at the sign-up table in the gathering area. You are welcome to check out the garden in the East side yard at any time. Contact Lori Kuhlmann-Leibfried with questions- LoriKL@hotmail.com

Project Comfort Coffee June 24/25 to benefit LWR Quilt and Shipping Fund

The Project Comfort Coffee is hosted each year by Ruth Circle to benefit Lutheran World Relief's Quilt and Kit Shipping Fund; this fund is used to help defray the cost of shipping the quilts and kits to people in need all around the world. Members will serve homemade cookies and coffee after each worship service the weekend of June 24th and 25th and accept a freewill offering for the shipping fund. All offerings collected will go directly to LWR Quilt and Shipping Fund. In 2016, Mount Olive sent 75 quilts at shipping cost of \$2.25 per quilt, 81 baby care kits at a shipping cost of \$1.30 per kit and 90 personal care kits at a shipping cost of \$2.65 per kit. Checks can be made out to WELCA with "Project Comfort" on the memo line and given at the day of the coffee or put in the offering basket during worship at any time. Your support is greatly appreciated.



No Place Like Home Gala

Family Promise will have it's 2nd Annual Gala on Thursday, June 15 from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. at the Rochester International Event Center.

Funds raised will be used to help stabilize homeless families in our community. Tickets are \$100 per person and include live music, dancing lessons, appetizer buffet, and dessert. Please come join us for an amazing evening! Tickets may be purchased online by clicking on the red button at familypromiserochester.org, or by calling the Family Promise Rochester office at (507) 281-3122.

Worship

Pentecost Sunday is June 4th



We will celebrate with a *Big Band Extravaganza*. This is also the final Sunday for Brock Besse, our out-going Director of Worship and Music. Plan now to be in worship that day. You may contribute to a card shower in Brock's honor. A basket will be available on the Welcome Desk.

Outdoor Services June 24 and 25

Join us on the church lawn for worship on the last weekend in June. As the weather permits, all services will be outdoors that weekend. Dress in comfortable clothing, bring a blanket to spread out for the kids, and enjoy some great music in God's creation. Following the service, stay for the Project Comfort reception with coffee, lemonade and home baked goodies.

Summer Worship Schedule
Services at 5:00 pm Saturday and
8:00 and 9:30 Sundays.

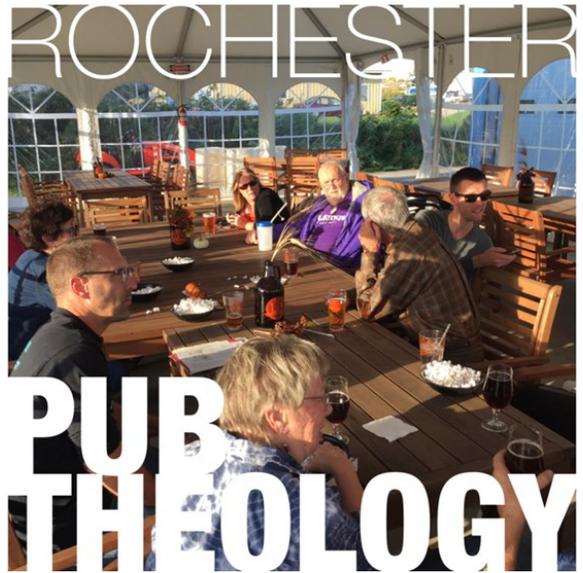
Ugandan Kid's Choir

A choir comprised of children from the poorest parts of Uganda will be sharing their talents at a concert on July 19th at 7:00 pm. A congregational ice cream social will follow. Host families are needed for the children and their chaperones for Tuesday and Wednesday evening that week. Hosts will provide a pot-luck meal for the choir at church. If you are willing to host some members of the choir or help plan the pot-luck, please contact Mark Schoer mjschoer@charter.net or Barb Seide barbara.seide@gmail.com. For more information or to see a video clip of the choir visit www.ChildcareWorldwide.org/Choir.

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 nights 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.

No Reservations Required come and join as you're able. See you at the pub!



Sunday School News

The last day of Sunday School was May 21st. Classes shared what they had learned during the last year with songs, pictures, and recitations. Their teachers received a thank-you gift from the congregation. Thank you to everyone who contributed during this year of staff transition!



Students and teachers sharing what they'd learned.

May Service Sunday

For the last Service Sunday of the year, students made bandages for Global Health Ministries. Donated white sheets were torn into strips and rolled using special machines created by Warren Kemplin. Two large baskets were filled and sent off to help with wound care in underserved areas around the world.



Two baskets were filled with the rolled bandages!

High School Graduate Recognition

Mount Olive's graduating high school seniors will be recognized in worship on June 4th at the 9:30 am service. A reception in their honor will follow the service. Please come to share in their accomplishments. Rochester Public School graduation is June 10, 2017.

Like us on Facebook to see pictures of recent events, links to sermons on YouTube, news from the ELCA, and more!



Rochester Muslim Community Circle

The third Saturday of each month, the Rochester Muslim Community Circle invites everyone to come to their site at 315 Elton Hills Drive NW, Suite 300 from 10:00am to 11:30 am, to dialogue with our Muslim sisters and brothers. This is a great chance to ask questions and share common concerns. Light refreshments are served, and the gathering is informal. This month the open dialogue is June 17. For more information, email Ahmed Ragab at akragab16@gmail.com

Metamorphosis Pictures-

This spring, Metamorphosis focused on what it means to live as Christ's Beloved Community. We used the fourfold pattern of worship to help us think about this: God gathering us, meeting us in the Word (and the Gospel), around the Table, and Sending us to be part of relationships beyond the walls of the building. Through it all, we realized that we are loved so that we can love, and that God shows up among us as we work that out in our lives.



Connecting as they gather for Metamorphosis.



Pastor Paul leading the group as they learn about Sending.

Mount Olive Softball

The Rochester church softball league has begun. Co-ed games are played on Tuesday evenings at McQuillan Fields and last one hour with lots of friendly competition.

Players ages high school through adult are welcome to join the fun. **More players**

are needed to fill out the roster this year. Come join the fun! Spectators are always welcome! Sign up in the gathering area. There is a participant fee of \$25 to help defray the cost of team registration. Jason Sinnwell (sinnweja@gmail.com) and Ryan Buus (rjbuus@gmail.com) are the co-managers this year.



Ripe Olives

The Ripe Olives met in May for a program by Pastor Glenn about his years as a professional musician. 43 people were in attendance. This group for seniors will resume meeting on the second Friday of each month in September. If you have ideas for future programs, please send them to Nancy Britson in the church office.



Pastor Glenn playing "Danny Boy", one of his favorite tunes.

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.

Volunteer Update

Schedules for June 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. For any questions about volunteering at Mount Olive, please contact Nancy Britson, Director of Congregational Life.

Coffee Fellowship Volunteers Needed: Following Sunday services at Mount Olive, coffee and cookies are served in the fellowship hall. This is a great time to catch up with friends over a cup of coffee, for kids to pick a favorite cookie, and to connect with a visitor or new member. To continue this great tradition, more serving volunteers are needed, particularly during the summer. If you are willing to spend a few minutes serving coffee, cookies, and lemonade it would be greatly appreciated. Please contact Nancy Britson if you are available to help and she will add you to the Sign Up Genius group.

June Adventure Club Outings

Golf at Willow Creek

Join the Adventure Club on Sunday, June 4th at 2pm at Willow Creek Golf Course's "Little Willow" at 1700 48th Street SW for a fun golf outing. Little Willow is a par 3 course. All skill levels are welcome. The cost is \$7 a person and there are clubs available to rent, if needed. Sign up in the Gathering Area.

Contact Rachel Carlson with any questions at 612-816-1215.



Berne Pizza Outing

Please join us at Berne Wood-Fired Pizza on Wednesday evening, June 21st anytime between 5 and 8 pm. Bring cash for pizza and bring your own blankets, lawn chairs, beverages, snacks, plates and napkins. It is located at 23148 County Hwy 24, West Concord MN 55985

Two great bands are on the schedule to play that evening; *Cabin Fever* at 5:15pm and *Smash and Grab* at 6:30pm. The wait for pizza is usually 45 minutes. Erin Sinnwell will be there around 5pm to get a spot for Mount Olive people. Feel free to call or text Erin with questions: 507-990-6079.

Sign up in gathering area so we know who to look for!

For more information, check out their website:

<https://sites.google.com/site/bernewoodfiredpizza/home/entertainment>



Triennial Gathering in Minneapolis

The national gathering of the Women of the ELCA takes place July 13-16 in Minneapolis. This is a great opportunity for women to experience outstanding speakers, dynamic worship, and to meet women from all over the country.

Mount Olive already has 12 women planning to attend and there is still time to register for one day or the whole event. Registration materials are available in the gathering area or online.

For more information and online registration, visit welcatg.org or contact Ruth Monson (507-319-0578 or ruth.a.monson@gmail.com)



Women of the ELCA Thankoffering

On May 13 and 14 we gathered Thankofferings support the life-changing ministries of Women of the ELCA. \$780 was collected. Thank you for your support of the Women of the ELCA, together, we do more than we could ever do apart!



Mount Olive Lutheran Church
 2830 18th Avenue NW
 Rochester, MN 55901

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Mount Olive Lutheran Church

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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

The Rev. Dr. Glenn Monson—Senior Pastor glenn@molive.org Ext. 206	Rev. Paul Moody—Associate Pastor paul@molive.org Ext. 205	Brock Besse—Music Director bbesse@charter.net Ext. 203
Kailea Mattheis—Director of Children, Youth, and Family kailea@molive.org Ext.207	Bill Hollander—Congregational Administrator bill@molive.org Ext. 204	Nancy Britson—Director of Congregational Life nancy@molive.org Ext. 202
Sherry Sanden Will—Director of Missions and Social Outreach sherry@molive.org Ext. 210	Carrie Fletcher—Administrative Assistant and Nursery Coordinator carrie@molive.org Ext. 209	Tina Coil—Nursery Assistant