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A Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

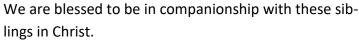
Connections With Our Global Companions

On May 4-5, voting members of congregations from all over southeast Minnesota met in Mankato at the Verizon Center for the annual Synod Assembly. This year's theme was "Celebrating our Global Congregation." We welcomed representatives from our companion ministries in the Central Diocese of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Tanzania (ELCT), the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Colombia (IELCO), and the Evangelical Lutheran Church of South Sudan. What a rich time it was! We learned what mighty work God is doing in difficult situations and in situations that are less challenging. Mount Olive was privileged to host both Bishop Alex and his wife, Wilhemina

(below), from ELCT, and Bishop Atahuelpa and his wife, Pastor Angelica (right), from IELCO, prior to the Assembly and hear directly from them how their work is going. We learned that in Tanzania, Lutherans are many and



growing in numbers, while in Colombia, Lutherans are few but strong and courageous. At the assembly we also learned that in South Sudan, the new Lutheran Center in Juba, the capitol, is a focal point of hope for a nation still struggling with tribal violence.



~Pastor Glenn



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Workshop/Ice Cream Social with Curtis and Katie Kline

Many at Mount Olive are acquainted with ELCA Missionaries Curtis and Katie Kline who have been serving in Bogota, Colombia since 2015. It is exciting that Mount Olive will be hosting a Colombia Workshop led by Curtis and Katie, on Wednesday, June 20, 6:30-8:00 pm in the Mount Olive Fellowship Hall. This intergenerational event will begin with a brief presentation of the Kline's ministry in Colombia, South America along with an explanation of the Colombian peace process which Curtis has been actively involved in. Following the presentation, there will be an activity, "Building Peace from the Ground Up." The evening will conclude with a treat of ice cream and a myriad of toppings. There will be a free will offering to help with the Kline's ministry. Members of Hosanna Lutheran in Rochester will also be joining us that evening. Please bring your entire family to this special event. No pre-registration required.



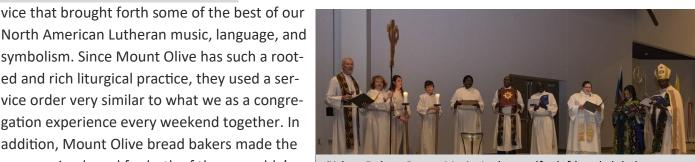
Sophia Natzke, Jake Johnson, Renee Schaefer, and Pastor Paul at the assembly.

vice that brought forth some of the best of our

symbolism. Since Mount Olive has such a rooted and rich liturgical practice, they used a service order very similar to what we as a congregation experience every weekend together. In addition, Mount Olive bread bakers made the

Synod Assembly Attendees

Attending this year's Synod Assembly, in addition to Pastor Glenn, Pastor Paul, and Deacon Travis Beck were voting delegates Jake Johnson, Sophia Natzke, and Renee Schaefer (pictured to the left) and Regina Seabrook, a member of the Synod Council. Travis and Pastor Paul worked with the Synod Assembly Worship Planning Team to write and assemble the liturgy for the Friday morning opening worship service. Together, they were tasked with planning a ser-



Bishop Delzer, Pastor Marie Anderson, (far left) and global partners preparing for the final worship service.

Holy Communion services! Read more about this year's assembly and see more photos here: http://semnsynod.org/archive/

communion bread for both of the assembly's

Facilities and Grounds Update:

On Saturday, May 19th, we had an outdoor work day. Many volunteers showed up to take on the long list of tasks. Thank you to all who helped out! What did they accomplish? Raking the yard, picking up sticks, trimming trees, pulling out old garden bed linings, weeding/pruning/mulching of gardens, filling-in woodpecker holes, cleaning debris from the roof and drains, and cleaning out the enclosure that houses the garbage. The weather was perfect and the helpers were cheerful - we couldn't have asked for a better day to help maintain the beauty of Mount Olive. Volunteers included: Richard Willis, Nancy and Warren Kemplin, Nancy Britson, Gene Ostrom, Gina Rislow, Pastor Glenn, Steve Determan, and Bill Hollander.

We have also had volunteers helping indoors. There is now an electronic door opener on the women's restroom, new LED light fixtures installed in the skylights near the coat rack, and the roll-up door in the kitchen was re-built. Thank you to Gene Ostrom, Warren Kemplin, Paul Schaefer and Richard Willis for all of their time and effort to make these projects possible. The Facilities and Grounds Team is truly grateful for all of the help.

An Update from your seminarian:

As of May 11^{th,} I have completed my first year of seminary! I continue to be grateful for all the support, prayers, and kind words that I have received over the course of this year from all of you at Mount Olive. Some of you have asked when I will be back in town, and I certainly hope to make the trip back to Rochester in August. For the summer I will be staying in Ohio, interning as a chaplain at The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center. Other adventures for the summer include moving to a new apartment, and hopefully finding some time to relax! May God's blessings abound for you this summer, no matter where your adventures take you.

In thanksgiving, Miriam Hanson



If you'd like to drop me a note, my new address is: Miriam Hanson 2199 East Main Street Box 47 Columbus, Ohio 43209

High School Graduate Recognition

Mount Olive's graduating high school seniors will be recognized in worship on June 3rd at the 9:30 am service. A reception in their honor will follow the service. We would like to extend our congratulations to the following Mount Olive youth graduating from high school this year: Matthew Heldt, Rachel Kuehl, Mitchell Olson, Matthew Pasch,



Mickaela Pasch, Ryan Smith, Jacob Stensland, Andrew Swenson, Tatum Whalen, and Jordan Wright. Rochester Public School graduation ceremonies are June 9, 2018 at the Mayo Civic Center.

Outdoor Worship Services June 23 and 24

Do you love worship? Do you love the great outdoors? If you said yes to both of those questions, the last weekend in June is for you. We will be worshipping outside once again this year. As weather permits, we will worship on the east patio on Saturday at 5:00 pm, and on the west lawn on Sunday at 8:00 and 9:30 am. Dress in comfortable clothes, bring a lawn chair or blanket if you prefer, and enjoy God's wonderful creation while we lift our voices in praise. As part of the weekend, we will be dedicating many quilts to be sent all over the world for missions, welcoming new members, and sending our youth off with a blessing for the ELCA National Youth Gathering. Ruth Circle will provide us with a yummy reception after each service. We hope to see you there!

Pentecost Celebration!

On May 20th, we celebrated the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost with procession, special music, readings, and a joyful worship celebration. This was the culmination of the season for the choir, brass, and bell groups as well. Thank you to all of the musicians, worship leaders, and volunteers who helped to make this service special.



Worship Volunteer Update

During the busy summer months, many volunteers are still needed for all of our worship services and fellowship time. Please sign up to serve via the Sign Up Genius website. The links are available via invitation and are also accessible from the Mount Olive website, molive.org on the Service tab. You may also contact Nancy Britson, Director of Congregational Life, with your availability. Consider yourself invited!!

Neighborhood School Partnership

One of the challenges put forth at the Mount Olive annual meeting in 2018 included: To be a resource to the city as we tackle various city-wide issues. Elton Hills Elementary School recently offered Mount Olive volunteers an opportunity to participate in their summer school program to enrich the lives of the students and offer them experiences that they may not have in their own lives or cultures. Volunteers are invited to teach a "mini class" and share their skills. Examples might include a cooking class, a knitting/crochet class, chess, card playing (cribbage), gardening, music, dance, theater, or any skill you would be willing to share.

The mini-classes would meet for 1 hour, 10:30-11:30 am, for one week (or all three weeks if volunteers are willing and able). The number of volunteers and classes offered will determine the number of kids in each mini-class. Mini-classes meet for 4-day weeks July 10-13, July 16-20, and July 23-27. There is no limit to the number of volunteers and no age restriction for helping. They love to have high schoolers. They are great role models! The students in the mini-classes will be 1st -5th graders (6-11 years old). The instructors/volunteers do need to fill out the background check information: Go to this website and fill in the form: https://apps.raptortech.com/Apply/NTA10mVuLVVT The deadline to sign up is June 20th. Direct any questions to Ann Willis (507-993-1094) or Pam Hansen (507-289-2738).



Mark your calendar for **September 9, 2018** - "God's work. Our hands." Sunday. Please contact Sherry Will at sherry@molive.org or 507-288-1580, ext. 210 if you have a project idea or would like to lead or co-lead a service project that Sunday.

Habitat for Humanity

Sign up in the Gathering Area to help with work on a Habitat reconstruction home. The date is Saturday, June 9, 9:00 am - 4:00 pm, with lunch provided. Mount Olive helps on the 2nd Saturday of each month.

Hurricane Clean-up Opportunity

Lutheran Disaster Response together with Lutheran Social Services, (LSS) is preparing for volunteers to come and help with hurricane clean-up in the **Virgin Islands**. They intend to have volunteer housing and equipment in place this month. LSS is seeking volunteers to come and help with this relief effort. Mount Olive hopes to form a group of people who would like to participate in this effort. No dates have been set, but an August time-frame is being considered. Volunteers would provide their own airfare. If you are interested in being part of this adventure, please contact Bill Hollander, Church Administrator, at bill@molive.org.



Mount Olive Quilters

You are invited each week to enjoy quilting and fellowship with the Mount Olive Quilters. Come Thursday mornings at 9:00 in the Fellowship Hall to tie quilts, cut squares, sew bindings, and prepare batting. Quilts are then sent to many locations. No quilting experience is required! If you have any questions contact Elaine Monson, 507-272-6404.

Project Comfort Coffees

Following our outdoor services on the weekend of June 23/24, enjoy receptions served by Ruth Circle. Delicious homemade treats, coffee, and lemonade will be served. A free-will offering will support the Quilt and Kit Shipping Fund for Lutheran World Relief. See more info. on page 5.

Mount Olive Victory Garden

The gardens on the east side of the church have been planted! Thanks to the Fletcher crew, Bob Liedtke, and Lori Kuhlmann-Liebfried, there was a variety of produce planted. There will be a detailed article about the gardens in the July Messenger, so stay tuned.



If you are interested in becoming involved with the gardens, please contact Lori Kuhlmann-Liebfried-LoriKL@hotmail.com.

Sunday School Offerings

Over this past program year, Sunday School offerings were collected to help benefit educational programs with our ministry partners in Colombia. Students brought a total of \$218. Thank you for helping support the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Colombia.



Dorothy Day Volunteers Needed

Volunteers are needed to make the evening meal for residents of the

Dorothy Day Hospitality House on July 6. Mount Olive serves the evening meal on the first Friday of every month. If you are available, please sign up in the Gathering Area, where you will find a folder with more information or contact Anna Strand at annabstrand@gmail.com.



June Service Highlight - Project Comfort

This is the 20th year that Mount Olive has supported Project Comfort, otherwise known as the Lutheran World Relief (LWR) Quilt and Kit Shipping Fund. This fund pays for quilts and kits to be sent all over the world. In 1998 it all started with Sue Overland, who had read an article in the Lutheran Women Today magazine about the need for money to cover shipping costs for our quilts and kits. Previously, the government had paid for these costs. At that time, Sue suggested to her Ruth Circle to host a summer coffee and ask for donations for Project Comfort. Sue is home with her Creator now, but wouldn't she be surprised that Mount Olive has given over \$11,000 in the past 20 years to this project. One person can make a difference! Thank you to Ruth Circle, especially chairwoman, Peg Whitley, who has coordinated the cookie and coffee Sunday for years. This year the receptions will follow all services on June 23/24.

Mount Olive has had a brick for many years in the Good Samaritan Quilt Plaza at the Lutheran World Relief Headquarters in Baltimore, Maryland signifying that our church is a donor to the shipping funds.

The shipping costs are as follows: 1 quilt, \$ 2.25, 1 baby care kit, \$1.30, 1 personal care kit, \$2.65, and 1 school kit, \$1.40. These costs are significant when many quilts and kits are given each year from our church. In the past couple of years our quilts and kits have gone to LWR partner agencies in Angola, Burkina Faso, Guatemala, Mauritania and Ukraine to be distributed where there is need.

A special thank you for all the support Mount Olive members have given this project. We can all make a difference in the lives that are touched both locally and internationally by the guilts, baby care kits and other kits. Donations may be made at the June receptions or by using the "Donate Now" button on the church website and indicating "Project Comfort" in the comment area.

ELCA Youth Gathering Update

The time has come for eight of Mount Olive's Youth and three adults to attend the ELCA Youth Gathering in Houston, Texas. On Monday, June 25, they will begin their weeklong adventure, exploring how faith intersects with and impacts their life. Thank you for all of your financial support that has made this trip possible for our

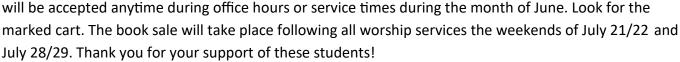


youth. The recent garage sale alone helped to raise over \$1000! Your support means so much, therefore please keep these youth and adults in your prayers while they are on their journey and come to send them off with a blessing at worship on June 24.

You can stay up to date with their adventure as they blog throughout the week. You can find the blog entries on the homepage of the Mount Olive Website under News and Events or bookmark this link: http://molive.org/index.php/2018-elca-youth-gathering-blog. Please follow along as the kids will be making daily entries, and adding photos while they are there.

Michigan Trip Update

There will be a book sale during the month of July to help cover the remaining costs of the trip for the students going to the Upper Peninsula. Book donations





Women's Summer Bible Study on Prayer

For the months of June, July, and August, a women's Bible study will be offered on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 1:00 pm. All women,

regardless of their membership in a circle, are welcome to attend. The study, entitled simply "Prayer", is available for free from the Gather Magazine website. Copies of all three studies will also be available at church. Look for the table in the entry or ask in the church office. The study may also be downloaded to your tablet from this link: https://www.gathermagazine.org/summer-2018-prayer/ We hope to see you for the first study on Tuesday, June 19!

Women's Survey

Watch your email for a survey for all women of the congregation. We'd like your input for election of Women of the ELCA officers, choosing a Bible study, and learning more about what events interest you.

ELCA Social Statement on Women and Justice:

We will be gathering on June 13 at 6:00 pm to discuss the proposed ELCA social statement and begin a response to this document. Anyone is welcome to join this discussion as we explore how faith, sexism, and justice connect to each other. The complete draft of the statement is available at www.elca.org. Contact Kailea Mattheis to add your name to the list-Kailea@molive.org or call 288-1580 ext. 207.



Pub Theology - Back to the Brewery!

Pub Theology, led by Pastor Paul, is back at LTS Brewing Co. on Monday evenings. 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 to think about faith, life, and what it means to be a follower of Jesus in our world today. Come to socialize or order a beer at 5:30 pm, discussion begins at 6:00 pm. See you at the pub!

End Of Education Program Year

Sunday School and Metamorphosis has come to a close and it was a great year! In Sunday School, the students explored the stories we heard during worship and did activities to help learn these stories better. On May 20, we closed the year with the children singing songs that







Sunday School teachers received

a thank you gift of a picture and cards made by their students on Appreciation Sunday, May 6.

The Metamorphosis students spent the year learning how to proclaim their faith confidently through learning Bible stories, standing up for justice, and engaging in community. On Sunday mornings, these students explored more Bible stories, Lutheran history, and the Small Catechism.

Thank you to all of the leaders who helped nurture the Mount Olive youth in their faith!

Inclusive Church Taskforce Update

In May, the Inclusive Church Taskforce presented a draft of their welcome statement and received over 150 replies to their survey.



Their next steps are to reflect on the survey feedback, revise the welcome statement as necessary, and work with the church council to determine a timeline, strategy, and goals for our congregation going forward toward becoming a Reconciling In Christ (RIC) congregation. RIC is a designation for Lutheran communities that publicly welcome lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people. If you'd like a recap on what has been covered, or more resources to dig deeper on your own, please contact Pastor Paul (paul@molive.org). (Read more about RIC here: reconcilingworks.org). If this Taskforce or mission is something you feel called to participate in, please consider this an invitation to join the team in any capacity. The Inclusive Church Taskforce Team: Randi Beyerl, Becky Lashinski, Jake Johnson, Mickaela Pasch, David Johnston, Elmer Odland, Paula Freitag, Jan Wiersma, Ann Willis, and Pastor Paul Moody.



Summer Camp Scholarships Available

Camp is a place filled with unconditional love, overflowing joy, and where a Christ-centered community is felt at its core. The Endowment Committee has announced the formation of a scholarship fund for campers attending camp at Good Earth

Village, our ELCA Bible camp in Spring Valley, MN. If you are interested in contributing to the scholarship fund, you may give via check (memo: camp scholarships) or on the church web site, by clicking on the "Donate Now" button. If you are a student going to camp this summer and would like to apply for a scholarship, see Pastor Glenn. Brochures for summer 2018 programs are available in the Gathering Area! For more information, please visit goodearthvillage.org or call 507-346-2494 with any questions.



Ripe Olives

Ripe Olives, the group of Mount Olive's seniors, wrapped up their season with a program by local travel coordinator John Grabko about big band leader Glenn Miller. They will resume

meeting on September 14. Contact Nancy Britson, Director of Congregational Life, with ideas for future programs- 288-1580 ext. 202 or nancy@molive.org.



Adventure Club News

The Mount Olive Adventure Club is a diverse and dynamic group of people of all ages that enjoy exploring a wide variety of activities! If you would like to be added to the Adventure Club email list or Facebook group, or have questions about any of the activities below, contact coordinators Erin Sinnwell—etracy515@hotmail.com or Rachel Carlson—carl1347@morris.umn.edu



Adventure Club Attending Honkers Baseball Game

Join the Adventure Club on Sunday, **June 24** at 1:05 pm for the Rochester Honkers vs. Eau Claire. Erin Sinnwell will arrive early and get a group of seats in Section C at Mayo Field , 403 E. Center Street downtown Rochester. Tickets are \$8 per person and can be

HONKERS purchased at the door (kids 3 and under are free). After the game, the group will walk to **BASEBALL** The Chocolate Twist, an ice cream shop that benefits the Rochester Boys and Girls Club. A sign-up sheet will be in the Gathering Area. Contact Erin Sinnwell with questions 507-990-6079.

Summer Camping Trip - The Adventure Club will have its 4th annual camping trip **July 13-15** at the Old Barn Resort near Lanesboro. Arrive Friday evening to get your tent or camper set up. On Saturday morning, we have breakfast together and then many will bike into Lanesboro for the day. In the afternoon, we head back to the campgrounds for swimming in the pool, a potluck supper, games, songs, and a small worship service. On Sunday morning we have a quick breakfast and head back to Rochester. There are spots reserved for July 13-15 for the Mount Olive group - both tent and camper spots. Call the Old Barn Resort to-

Berne Wood-Fired Pizza - Save the date **July 25** for a trip to Berne, MN for some music and wood-fired pizza. The bands that night are *Smash and Grab* and *Incognito*. Watch for more details in the July Messenger for this fun summer event.

Summer Fun For Kids!

On June 3rd, June 17th, July 15th, July 29th, August 5th, and August 19th, join Kailea on the side yard (depending on the weather) to play games between the 8:00 and 9:30 am services. Mark

day to reserve your spot - (507) 467-2512!



your calendars to learn some fun games to play outside!

New Member Orientation and Welcome

Are you interested in membership at Mount Olive? There will be an informational coffee for interested visitors on **June 17** following the 9:30 service. Please come to the library at **10:45 am** to meet the staff and ministry team leaders, other new members, and learn about everything going on at Mount Olive. New Members will be received into membership on **June 24** at the 9:30 service. Following the service, everyone will have a chance to extend a warm welcome to the new members. For more information, please contact Nancy Britson, Director of Congregational Life, at nancy@molive.org.



Family Promise 3rd Annual Gala

Thursday, **June 14** is the 3rd Annual Family Promise Gala. The event will be held at the International Event Center (near the Rochester International Airport) 6:30-9:30 pm. Tickets are now on sale for \$100/person, which includes food, desserts, and entertainment from Jack and Kitty, a folk music duo. There will also be a gift card raffle and silent auction. Attire for the event is black tie optional, but

red shoes are encouraged. Tickets can be purchased online at <u>familypromiserochester.org</u>, or call the Family Promise business office directly at 507-281-3122. Contact Erin Sinnwell with questions: 507-990-6079.

Tanzania Mission Trip Fundraising Total

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the Tanzania Mission Trip Fundraising Dinner. Our goal was to raise \$5000 for: fundraising dinner expenses, a few travel expenses for the Mount Olive mission team, gifts and honoraria for our Tanzanian hosts, and educational projects and technology needs that we encounter while in Tanzania. Thanks to you we exceeded our goal. Our final total is \$5378!





More Colombia Connections

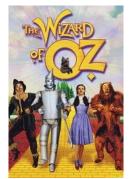
Members of the 2017 Mission Colombia trip met with Bishop Ata and Pastor Anjelica at the home of Terry and Carrie Krieger. Pastor Glenn also gave them a brief tour of Rochester including a visit to the Gonda building where they enjoyed artwork and heard the chimes of

the Mayo Carrillon at the Plummer Building.

As mentioned on the cover, we will also have the chance to meet with our Colombian Missionaries, Curtis and Katie Kline (right) on June 20 for a workshop and ice cream social. You can keep up with the Klines on their blog: 8000feetandcounting.blogspot.com/



Missionaries Curtis and Katie Kline



Mount Olive members in The Wizard of Oz

Honors Choirs of SE MN is performing their summer musical, The Wizard of Oz, June 20-24 at Lourdes High School. Con-

gregation members Emily Haase, Lydia Sinnwell, and Jason Sinnwell will be part of the cast! Go to https://honorschoirs.org/tickets-events for ticket pricing and ordering.

Mount Olive Softball

The Rochester church softball league is well underway and continues having games on Tuesday evenings into the summer. More players are welcome to join the team and help defend their championship title! Games are played at McQuillan Fields 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! There is a participant fee of \$25 to help defray the cost of team registration. The team manager this year is Jason Sinnwell (sinnweja@gmail.com) please contact Jason if you are able to play.



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

Flowers in the Sanctuary

The sign up for providing flowers on the chancel is available in the Gathering Area. You may place orders for special occasions or in memory of loved ones. Sign up at the Gathering Area cabinet where you will find the calendar and payment envelopes. Please write your name and the designation for the flowers on both the calendar and the payment envelope. Your envelope may then be placed in the offering plate or the office drop box. Order at least one week in advance. Thank you for brightening the sanctuary!

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.



Mount Olive Lutheran Church

2830 18th Ave. NW Rochester, MN 55901

Summer Office Hours: 9:00 am-4:00 pm Mon.-Thurs.

Closed Friday

507-288-1580 Website: molive.org

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

Mount Olive Staff		
The Rev. Dr. Glenn Monson Senior Pastor	The Rev. Paul Moody Associate Pastor	Deacon Travis Beck Director of Worship, Music, and Arts
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