

MAY 2017

THE *Messenger*

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



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Welcome to Kailea!

Welcome to Kailea Mattheis, our new Director of Children Youth and Family Ministry!

Kailea is from Hartford, South Dakota, and is coming to us via Wartburg Seminary, where she is finishing her Masters' Degree. Before her graduate work at Wartburg Seminary, she was a Religion major at Augustana University, and has been engaged in ministry with families and young people throughout her years in school. In addition to leading family and youth programs for students at Wartburg Seminary, she has also led summer experiences at Ne-So-Dak, the Lutheran outdoor ministry center in the Northeast corner of South Dakota. We are excited that Kailea's graduate program has included some work around Confirmation and inter-generational family ministries, and we look forward to learning how her insights will guide us as the Spirit of God nurtures and grows faith in our shared lives together.



Kailea will be joining us in late May. Keep an eye out for an announcement about a welcome gathering for her around that time.

THANK YOU, THANK YOU!

Lenten giving was very strong this year with many generous contributions of money and food. Thank you so much! Because of this strong giving we are able to fully fund our many mission partners year after year.

World Hunger	\$270
Soup Supper	\$1474 (minus expenses)
Channel One	\$1670 + over 300 pounds of food
<u>Lent/Easter</u>	<u>\$5786</u>
TOTAL	\$9200

Take note of the bulletin board outside the office door where thank-you letters are now posted as they arrive. It is heart-warming to read of the gratitude our mission partners have for Mount Olive.

Scout Pancake Breakfast May 7th



Following both services on May 7th, the Scouting groups that meet at Mount Olive will host a pancake breakfast. Come and enjoy pancakes, sausage, juice, and coffee. A free-will offering will be collected to support the Scouts.

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

Volunteer Update

May Worship and Coffee Fellowship Volunteer Schedules have been sent to all participants. The schedules are also available on the church website under "Service".

Volunteers have also been invited to help at worship services and fellowship in June via the online sign-up site: *Sign Up Genius*. If you did not receive the email invitation or "don't do computers" but are willing to serve, please contact Nancy Britson at 288-1580 ext. 202 or nancy@molive.org and she will help you. Training is available.

Grief Workshop

Heartland Hospice sponsors a workshop for those who are experiencing grief after the loss of a loved one. You are invited to a grief support group that explores the many ways that grief impacts our lives and how these experiences can sometimes be transformed into new meaning while walking the grief journey. Feel free to bring others with you who have experienced loss. Refreshments provided.

Thursday May 4 7:00 pm Bethel Lutheran Church
810 3rd Ave. SE

Contact Audrey Lukasak, Bereavement Coordinator at 292-1170 for more information.

Photo Retakes-Did you miss getting your picture taken for our *Community Book* photo directory? We have scheduled a new photo session on May 2 and 3. If you would like to be pictured, the sign up link is available on the church website or you may contact Nancy in the church office to be added to the list. Every family pictured receives a complimentary 8 x 10 photo as well as a new directory.

Life Touch

Inclusive Church Taskforce Update

The Inclusive Church Taskforce will be facilitating the education forum between services on May 7th! We will share an overview of how the group was formed and the resources being used to guide Mount Olive as we move forward. Together we will lay the groundwork for life-giving conversation and begin to share stories. We will also launch an interactive art display that will evolve over the summer and lead into more education over the coming months. We hope to see you there!

In the summer, on the 2nd Sunday of the month, after the late service, all are welcome to join in food, conversation, and adding to the art display. Please mark the following dates on your calendars:

- June 11
- July 9
- August 13

We are excited to continue exploring as a community how we can deepen our hospitality and inclusivity. 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>

Soup Supper Thank You

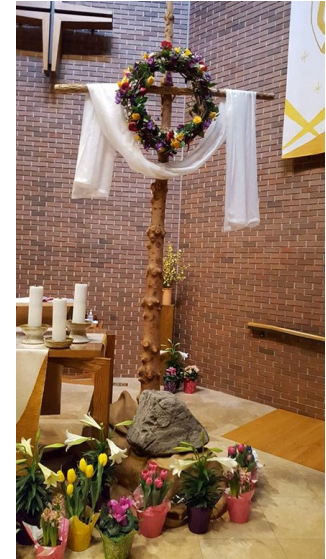
A big thank you goes out to the many volunteers who helped with the Wednesday night soup suppers this year during Lent. Your hard work in the kitchen and generosity in contributing soup are very much appreciated! In addition, the generous contributions of the congregation to the ELCA World Hunger appeal via the free will offerings at the soup suppers are also sincerely appreciated and will help communities around the world to provide solutions that get at the root causes of hunger.

Thanks Again! ~ *Nancy Britson*

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.

Special thanks to everyone who provided the beautiful Easter flowers. They added so much to the services!



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.

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 and that works best for your schedule. Contact Gene Ostrom to let him know your availability. 507-288-2297

FISH

Please join us on Wednesdays May 3, 10 and 17 for our youth service group, Fun In Serving Him. This is a group for children in 1st through 5th grade. We meet from 6:30 to 7:30 pm. Our service projects will include; neighborhood food collection for Channel One, flower planting and an end-of-year party to celebrate all of our hard work. If you have any questions, please contact Carrie Fletcher.



Next Chapter Ministries

Our ministry partner, is expanding their support for men recently released from prison. With this expansion comes the need for mentors for each of these men. Is God calling you to this? Email Tommy at Thomas.Weigel@NextChapterRochester.org.

Next Chapter Ministries is also in need of some **kitchen items**, easy-to-understand versions of the **Bible**, and donations of **personal care items**. See the list on the sign-up area in the Gathering Area. Write your initials beside items you can donate; items may be left in the church office.

Mount Olive Quilters

Thursdays at 9:00 am

You are invited each week to enjoy quilting and fellowship.

No quilting experience needed!
Quilts will be blessed in worship on May 14th. 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 approaching! Mount Olive Victory Gardeners are once again planning on "digging in" and planting crops with the intention of donating the produce to Family Promise, Community Food Response, Bolder Options and Mount Olive. We currently have 5 beds to plant, as well as a raised trough. I encourage you and your family to come, get your hands dirty and deepen your faith in the goodness of the earth! Please see information about the gardens and the sign-up to help at the sign-up table in the gathering area. Contact Lori Kuhlmann-Leibfried with questions LoriKL@hotmail.com



Prayer Shawl Ministry

Tuesday, May 9th at 9:00 am

All knitters and crocheters are invited to attend. Yarn, treats, and guidance are provided. This group knits many beautiful prayer shawls throughout the year. If you know of someone who is in a difficult time of transition, has experienced loss, illness, etc. they might enjoy a prayer shawl. To request a shawl, contact Peg Whitley pmwhitley@charter.net, or call the church office at 288-1580. Prayer Shawls will be blessed in worship on May 14.

Backpacks for John Adams

Drivers and Packers are needed to finish out the school year for this food program for students at John Adams Middle School. The schedule is always posted on the Volunteer Sign-up Table in the Gathering Area. Select the date/time you will perform one or more of these tasks. Contact Warren Kemplin at 254-4932 with questions or for a replacement driver or packer should you have a conflict.

FAMILY PROMISE ROCHESTER
PRESENTS THE 2ND ANNUAL

No Place & Like Home

Family Promise Gala Fundraiser
Thursday, June 15, 2017, 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.
Rochester International Events Center
Tickets available from FamilyPromiseRochester.org
\$100 per person includes dinner, a dance lesson, and more!

No Place Like Home 5K

Monday, May 8, 2017

\$5 Run/Walk Begins at 6 p.m., All are Welcome!

Terraloco: 1190 16th St SW, Rochester, MN

Wizard of Oz Costumes Encouraged



Funds raised fight homelessness
with Family Promise Rochester!



Service

Worship

Thank You!

The Altar Guild would like to thank Gerard & Carolyn Goulet for the palm plant they donated for Palm Sunday.

We would also like to thank Bill Hollander for climbing the ladder to decorate the cross and change our tapestries. He was truly an "angel" for us during Holy Week.

Thank you to Brock and all of the musicians for the wonderful and meaningful music throughout Lent and Holy Week.

The Oratorio was truly magnificent!



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.

**Summer Worship Schedule
begins Memorial Day Weekend.
Services at 5:00 pm Saturday and
8:00 and 9:30 Sundays.**

Save the Date
Outdoor Services
June 24 and 25

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

• Service Sunday May 14

May 14 is the last Service Sunday of the program year. Students will make bandages from donated sheets. The bandages are used for wound care around the world. Adults are needed to help the little ones utilize the special bandage rollers made by Warren Kemplin. (Thanks Warren!)

• Children Singing In Worship May 14

The Wee Ones and the Junior Choir will both be singing for the 10:30 service on May 14th. Practice will take place as usual during the education hour that day.

• Last Day of Sunday School May 21

May 21 is the last day of Sunday School. Everyone is invited into the sanctuary at 9:15 to hear the students share what they have learned in Sunday School over the past year.

Thank You Sunday School Staff!

Special thanks to all of this year's Sunday School Teachers. Your dedication to the students as well as your large commitment of time in this year of staff transition is much appreciated! This year's teachers were:

Linda Schueler, Bethany Buus, Mike Vance, Anna Strand, Katie Cornelius, Kelly Christensen, Erin Sinnwell, Kathleen Haase, Beth Armstrong, Sara Swartwood, Jen Boysen, Dorothy Ostrom, Kellen Lambeau, Nathan Fletcher, Pat Determan, Lara Smoley, Carrie Fletcher, Jessica Bachman, Jessi Hafeman, Nikka Vrieze, Nels Pierson, Kris Liedtke, Jim Berg, Regina Seabrook, Kim McKeon, Renee Schaefer, Bob Welsh, Connie McCullough-Service Sundays, Kim Wanek- Sunday School Superintendent, Jessi Hafeman- Asst. Superintendent, Music-Brock Besse, Lara Smoley, Jim Haase, and Jason Sinnwell.

Sunday Morning Adult Forum Schedule

The Sunday 9:15 forums will conclude on Sunday, **May 7** with a forum lead by the Inclusive Church Task Force. At this forum, the Task Force will introduce their summer dialogue vehicle, an interactive art project for all ages. **May 14** is a Service Sunday so all worshippers are invited to participate in rolling bandages. Adults are needed to help the little ones wind the bandages. **May 21** is the last Sunday of Children's Sunday School. They will be sharing highlights from what they have learned at 9:15 in the sanctuary.

Spring Metamorphosis

Wednesdays after Easter, we will gather to *Proclaim Community!* Come and join us as we take what we've learned all year and begin to figure out what it means to *live it out in community*.

Spring Wednesday Nights Through May 17

5:30 pm Meal and Fellowship
(Sign up in the gathering area to help)
6:00 pm Metamorphosis Intergenerational
Exploration: Proclaim Community
6:30 pm Fun In Serving Him (FISH)
7:30 pm Adult Choir Rehearsal
8:45 pm Adult Brass Ensemble Rehearsal

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 May 20. For more information, email Ahmed Ragab at akragab16@gmail.com

Palm Sunday Intergenerational Learning

-pictures to the right and below- Kids of all ages enjoyed the animals, crafts, games, and food on April 9th.

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. Senior's information is due to Carrie Fletcher by May 14th. You may email the photo and information sheet to Carrie@molive.org or drop it to her at church.

If you'd like to share news of graduates of higher education, send the information to Nancy Britson and their names will be included in the bulletin on recognition Sunday. Nancy@molive.org 288-1580 ext. 202





Mount Olive Softball

The Rochester church softball league gets underway on Tuesday May 9th and continues into the summer. **More players are needed to fill out the roster this year.** Come and join the fun! Co-ed 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! 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) will be co-managers this year. Anyone interested in joining the team is invited to a pre-season cookout at the home of Mike and Gloria Schad on Sunday April 30th at 5:00 pm. Bring a dish to share and your family. Contact Jason or Ryan for more information or contact Nancy Britson at nancy@molive.org

Mount Olive Adventure Club Group Dinner at HuHot

Join us for a group dinner at HuHot restaurant in the Apache Mall on May 5th at 5pm. If you'd like to attend please RSVP to Rachel Carlson at 612-816-1215 or Erin Sinnwell at 507-990-6079.



Mount Olive Adventure Club Escape Challenge

Join the group for this fun and challenging activity! The challenge is *Dr. Eugene's Diagnosis*. Can the group save Dr. Eugene and the entire hospital??? Your help is needed!

The event takes place at Escape Challenge at 6301 Bandel Road NW on Saturday May 20th at 1:30 pm or 3:30 pm (The time of the event will be determined when the tickets are purchased.) This event is suggested for ages 16 and older and the cost is \$28 per person.

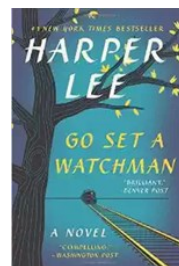
A signup sheet will be located in the gathering area through May 14th. This event is limited to 10 participants so sign up early! The tickets will be purchased by Rachel Carlson on May 14th and payment will be due to Mount Olive.

If you have any questions, please contact Rachel Carlson at carl1347@morris.umn.edu or 612-816-1215.

Monday Book Group

The Monday Book Group meets to discuss a wide variety of literature. The last meeting of this program year will be Monday, May 8 at 6:30 pm in the library. We will be discussing *Go Set A Watchman* by Harper Lee. Twenty-six year old Jean Louise Finch--Scout-- returns home from New York City to visit her aging father Atticus. Set against the back drop of the civil rights tensions and political turmoil that were transforming the South, Jean Louise's homecoming turns bittersweet when she learns disturbing truths about her close knit family, the town, and the people closest to her.

New readers are welcome to join us anytime. If you have questions contact Jodi Schoer at mjschoer@charter.net.



Ripe Olives is a group of Mount Olive seniors who meet monthly for fellowship, food, fun, and learning. On Friday, May 12 the group will hear Pastor Glenn speak about "My Life as Professional Musician." Unbeknownst to many, Pastor Glenn spent 15 years as a fulltime professional trombonist in New York, Chicago, and St. Paul before becoming a pastor. The group will gather in the Fellowship Hall at 9:30 am. Please sign up in the gathering area. Coffee, treats, and some wonderful music from Pastor Glenn will be provided. All are welcome!





Zumbro Conference Womens's Gathering

On April 20th, Mount Olive served as hosts for the Zumbro River Conference of the Women of the ELCA Spring Gathering. Thank you to all the women and (men) who helped make the Women of the ELCA Zumbro River Conference Spring Gathering a welcoming and joyful event. Mount Olive hosted more than 140 women. Special thanks go to Sherry Sanden Will, Kim McKeon, Nancy Britson and Denise Foy for all of your careful

planning, to Brock Besse for providing beautiful music for the evening and preparing a women's choir for the closing worship service and to Pastor Paul for presiding at the communion for the closing worship service. Many positive comments were shared.



Women of the ELCA Thankoffering

On May 13 and 14 we will again be gathering Thankofferings for the church-wide Women of the ELCA. This tradition goes back to the 1800s, when Christian women formed "mite" or "cent" societies collecting offerings at home to support the mission of the church. On occasion, they would gather as we do in worship and make their offerings with thanks and praise. When Women of the ELCA was formed 30 years ago, we committed to continue this tradition of giving in gratitude for blessings. Each year, in thousands of congregations, Thankofferings are given to support the life-changing ministries of Women of the ELCA. Together, we do more than we could ever do apart. Envelopes will be provided in bulletins on May 13 and 14. Checks may be made out to Mount Olive with "Thankoffering" in the memo.

WELCA Bible study leaders will meet with Pastor Glenn for the final time this season on Monday, May 8 at 5:30 pm in the small conference room. Please RSVP Pastor Glenn.

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. Registration materials are available in the gathering area. For more information and online registration, visit welcatg.org or contact Ruth Monson (507-319-0578 or ruth.a.monson@gmail.com)





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

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Alleluias Return!

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507-288-1580

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bbesse@charter.net Ext. 203

Bill Hollander— Congregational Administrator

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carrie@molive.org Ext. 209

Tina Coil— Nursery Assistant