

All Saints is Sunday November 7

One of the most important days in the Church Year is the Festival of All Saints. This is the single Sunday in the year when we celebrate the lives and faith of those from our circle who have died in the past year. We speak their names, ring a chime, and light a candle in their memory. We remember too, that they are now part of the Church Triumphant, that body of saints that have died and experienced the defeat of death at the hands of our Lord Jesus Christ.



This year, as part of our commemoration, we will once again have the All Saints Luminary Walk on Sunday evening at 5:30 pm in the church parking lot. All who intend to participate in this are invited to pick up a luminary bag from the table in the church entry, decorate it in any way you feel is honoring to your deceased loved one, and then bring it with you to the luminary walk. We will set these luminaries out in a circle; they will form the focal point for our service that evening. All are welcome to this vigil, whether they have provided a decorated luminary or not.

Thanksgiving Eve Worship and Pie Fellowship

We are made in God’s image. God is a generous creator. We are created to be generous. As we read *A Generous Life* together during stewardship season, we were reminded that we give because God first gave to us. Helping our neighbors, sharing kindness, and giving gifts of time and money can help spread gratitude – something this world needs. Generosity and gratitude go hand in hand. You are invited to join us as we celebrate generosity and gratitude with



Thanksgiving Eve Worship on Wednesday, November 24 at 6:30 pm. This is a service of music and scripture where we will give thanks for God’s abundance and acknowledge God’s goodness. As is tradition, we will serve pie, coffee, and cider following the service! Worshippers are encouraged to bring a monetary donation to Channel One in efforts to help feed the hungry and live out our call to be generous beings.

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Stewardship Season Continues

On Sunday, October 24th, we brought out financial pledges for 2022 before God in an act of worship. It was a grand day to celebrate our generous God, by living into our own identity as those who have been made in the image of this generous God. We have received many pledges. Thank you, thank you! We are still looking for pledges from members who were unable to be present on October 24th. Please know that every pledge is received gratefully, and every pledge is essential to the mission and ministry of Mount Olive. You may mail in or drop off your pledge card in the church office at any time. If you'd like to know about online giving, please contact our church administrator, Bill Hollander. (288-1580, ext. 204, or bill.h@molive.org). We pray you are blessed in your giving.

60th Anniversary Celebration

By the time you receive this newsletter, we will have had our long-awaited 60th anniversary celebration. Many people have contributed to make this Anniversary year, and particularly Anniversary Sunday, a real celebration, but the following people deserve our special thanks:

- 60th Anniversary planning committee: Barb Sorenson, Sandy Dalquist, Jane Sheffield, Lori Colwill, Lori Kuhlmann-Leibfried, Tom Rigby, and Jill Lundberg
- Nancy Britson: for compiling the church photo directory, reception details, and many publications
- Travis Beck and Richard Bruxvoort Colligan for composing the anniversary hymn
- Dick Geier for editing and writing the congregational history
- Stephanie Pasch for designing and producing the Anniversary banner
- Mount Olive staff and members who contributed behind the scenes in many ways.

If you were not present on Anniversary Sunday, history booklets and directories may be picked up in the church office or sent electronically. Look to the website for photos, videos, and more from the day.



Contribute to the “Wall of Wonder!”

In celebration of Mount Olive's 60th Anniversary, you are invited to help build the “Wall of Wonder,” a timeline of Mount Olive's history on display in the front entry. It is an opportunity for you to share your own perspective on the past 60 years and help us look toward the future with a greater understanding of where we have been. Come to the forum at 10:10 am on November 14 where we'll brainstorm events to fill in the timeline. Then, plan to attend the forum on December 5 where we'll reflect on the Wall and think about what lessons it might hold for our future together. For more information, contact Travis Beck at travis@molive.org.

Welcome New Members!

We were very pleased to recognize 14 new members during worship services on October 17. Those joining the congregation are: Jessica Bachman, Alan and Jeanette Carlson, Rob and Annie Erdmann, Sally Fritts, Garrett Lane and Sierra Mastin, Les and Diane Leamons, Gretchen Mannix, Bob and Michelle Thomsen, and Mary Waudby. Please seek out these new members of the congregation and give them a warm welcome! New member brochures with information about each new member are available in the office.

Al-Anon Groups Meeting at Mount Olive

One of the most important sources of support for persons experiencing a marriage or significant relationship with a person suffering from addiction is the Al-Anon network. These groups meet regularly to offer counsel, support, and encouragement. Presently there are three separate meetings each week at Mount Olive: Saturdays at 9:00 am, Sundays at 2:00 pm, and Thursdays at 7:00 pm. If you want more information, please call Jessica at 507-696-1047.

Confirmation

Kate Klavetter was confirmed on Sunday, October 24. Thanks to all that have supported her through her faith journey to this milestone. Kate continues to be grateful for the opportunities at Mount Olive, especially the trip to Colorado this summer where she encountered God and community in God's creation with fewer worldly distractions.



Advent Mid-Week Worship

The first Sunday in Advent is November 28. That means that Advent Mid-week services will begin Wednesday, December 1, and go through December 22. Services will be at 6:30 pm. Each midweek service will include the beloved Holden Evening Prayer, a Bible reading and a reflection by one of the pastors. Worshipers are encouraged to light candles on an Advent Wreath at home and join in midweek worship during this contemplative season.

Worship Volunteer Opportunities

Worship volunteers are needed this fall to keep our 9:00 am Sunday service running smoothly. Volunteers help with greeting, ushering, reading the lessons, leading prayers, serving communion and more. **Ushers are especially needed.** We ask that all volunteers are fully vaccinated as a safety precaution. If you would be willing to help out, please click here to sign up: www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0449a5a92aa1fb6-mount1 or contact Nancy Britson, Volunteer Coordinator, with your availability or questions—nancy@molive.org or 507-288-1580 ext. 202. Training is available for new volunteers.

Pastor Glenn's Devotions

Starting in the First Week of Advent, November 28, Pastor Glenn will again be writing daily devotions each week during the church year, which will be accessible either online or via paper copy on Sunday mornings. Pastor Glenn's first set of devotions, written in 2020, will soon be published by Wipf & Stock, under the title *Quarantining With God*. Watch for a release date.

Fall Worship Schedule

Sunday, 9:00 am—Traditional Worship, a full service with Holy Communion in the sanctuary.

Sunday, 11:00 am—Tailgate Worship, a condensed service in the parking lot with Tupperware communion (bring your own communion supplies). Geared towards families, there is also a children's sermon. As the weather gets cooler, participants can listen to the service in the comfort of their vehicles via FM radio.

Wednesday, 6:30 pm—Wednesday worship, also with Holy Communion, follows the lectionary texts from the previous Sunday. A shorter service with a more casual feel may be just what is needed in the middle of a hectic week.

Online Worship— The 9:00 am worship service is livestreamed from the Sanctuary each Sunday, and is also available on the Mount Olive [YouTube channel](#) after 10:00 am on Sunday. The link is shared on www.molive.org each week. See the [worship](#) link on the church website for any services you may have missed.



2nd Sunday of Service - Christmas Ornaments and Good Gifts

On **November 14**, the Sunday school children will be making beautiful Nativity ornaments to be shared with residents of our local care facilities. Retired preschool teacher, Linda Schueler, has collected supplies for this wonderful project, so please be sure your child is here to join in the fun.

In addition, we will be taking donations for **ELCA Good Gifts** (God's Global Barnyard) which not only helps to fight hunger in 83 different countries, but also transforms lives. Here's how it works: Choose the amount you'd like to donate and bring your donation to the Good Gifts table at church on Sundays, **November 14 and 21**. You will then receive an ornament with a



picture of the animal that will be given to a family in need; there are many animals to choose from. This could be the perfect gift for someone you know. Make the donation in their name and present them with the ornament. You'll both be happy, knowing that these donations are supporting a family or community in need. Donations will be taken between services and after Tailgate worship on both Sundays. Contact Carrie Fletcher at carrie@molive.org with any questions.



Dorothy Day House

As a volunteer from Mount Olive, we only ask you to either order a meal or deliver a home cooked meal to the house before 6:00 pm for the night you signed up. Dorothy Day Hospitality house is located at 703 1st St SW, Rochester. You do not need to stay and/or clean up. The house volunteers will serve and clean up after the meal. The guests and volunteers at the house are **required** to wear masks and practice social distancing while inside. They are not required to be vaccinated. When you wish to volunteer to serve a meal you may either sign up on the sheet for Dorothy Day in the Gathering Area at church or you may contact me. We are currently in need of a volunteer for **December 3**. Thank you for your service! Jene Bodensteiner, Volunteer Coordinator for Dorothy House at Mount Olive. E-mail: jbode6@me.com Phone: (507)287-0257 or (507)398-2009.

Family Promise Annual Choir Concert and Silent Auction

Due to COVID, this event will be brought to you virtually this year. The silent auction will open online on Friday, **November 12th** at 7am and close on Sunday evening, November 14th, at 7pm. Brock Besse from Bethel Lutheran Church is compiling a beautiful and heartfelt concert for all to see, including music, interviews and photos! Click [here](#) for the link to the silent auction.



Thank you to all who donated and helped assemble the Personal Care Kits in October.

Your generous donations will help our neighbors around the world when disaster strikes and they are in need of basic care items. We were able to assemble a total of 70 kits to send to those who are in need. The Sunday School children helped Pastor Glenn bless the kits at the Tailgate worship service on October 10. A special thank you to Cathy and Keith Hanson for their continued commitment to this important ministry.



Photos from the October Service Sunday

Mitten Tree Collection Begins

With colder weather approaching, many children will be searching their closets for winter gear and coming up short. In November and through the Advent season, the Mitten Tree will be on display in the Gathering Area. You may place gently used or new (elementary through middle school sized) coats, snow pants, snow boots, hiking boots, wool socks, hats and/or mittens under or on the tree. Another alternative is to donate funds that coordinators will use to purchase items requested by the school for specific students. Envelopes will be available on the tree or you may make a gift by clicking the green “Donate Now” button at the bottom of the church website homepage- www.molive.org and indicate “mitten tree” in the comment. The goal of this ministry is to help kids at our neighborhood schools stay warm over the winter by providing them with appropriate gear. Contact Ann Willis-eawillis@charter.net with any questions.



Channel One Offering

Please consider making a monetary donation during the month of November to support the work of Channel One Regional Food Bank. Donations will be accepted at the Thanksgiving Eve service or any time during the month. You may click on the [“Donate Now”](#) button on the church website or send a check to Mount Olive. Please indicate Channel One in the “other” section online or your check memo.

Mount Olive Prayer Shawl Group

The Mount Olive prayer shawl group will meet on **November 9** at 10:00 am in the Fellowship Hall. Yarn, needles, patterns, and guidance are supplied; please contact Vickie Kubly if you would like to join the group—507-282-7696. If you would like to request a prayer shawl for someone who is experiencing illness, loss, or a difficult time, please contact Vickie, or you may call the church office at 507-288-1580.

Mount Olive Quilters

The quilters meet each Thursday morning at 9:00 am in the Fellowship Hall to prepare and tie quilts that are sent to Lutheran World Relief and local service organizations. Everyone is welcome to join them. They can always use more cotton fabric for making the colorful quilt tops. Donations may be left in the Gathering Area cabinet, where there are also small and large quilt top kits for sewing at home. If you have any questions, please contact Donna Grever at 507-206-4605 for more information.

Red Kettle Bell Ringing for Salvation Army

On Saturday, **December 4**, 1:00-3:00 pm, Mount Olive members will be ringing bells for the Salvation Army Red Kettle Fundraiser. We will be ringing indoors at HyVee North on 37th St. Sign up in the Gathering Area for a 30 - minute time slot! Bell ringing and donating to a Red Kettle looks a little different this year. All our bell ringers are required to wear masks and use hand sanitizer, answer a health questionnaire before their shift, keep distant from donors, and sanitize the kettles regularly. If this time doesn't work into your holiday schedule, you can still help by choosing your own time slot at www.registertoring.com. Their touchless *Kettle Pay Technology* allows donors a completely contact-free way to “Do the Most Good” this Christmas. Donors simply “bump” or scan their phones to make a digital donation at the red kettle.



Sunday Forums

For those who have attended Sunday forums at 10:10 in the Fellowship Hall, you know how powerful these forums have been. We heard stories of resilience, courage, and faith in spite of great obstacles. November continues this trend as we hear from a variety of voices. Check out the following line-up.

November 7 – The *Be Smart* Program- Parents, childcare givers, grandparents, and all adult family members: Come and learn how to keep your home safe for kids! Every year, nearly 260 children unintentionally shoot themselves or someone else when they find unlocked, loaded guns. Another 600 American children die by gun suicide each year. The *Be Smart* program was designed to stop children from becoming gun violence victims. You can be part of the solution to this American problem! Donna Miller, *Moms Demand Action* co-lead, and Anne Suchomel, the *Be Smart for Kids* lead, will guide this forum. This presentation is for adults only.



November 14 – Wall of Wonder– Travis Beck will lead us in a session to brainstorm events to fill in Mount Olive's history timeline. What events had the most impact on you in the past 60 years? You may also use this link send your contributions: <https://forms.office.com/r/Y2aelFhhgf>.

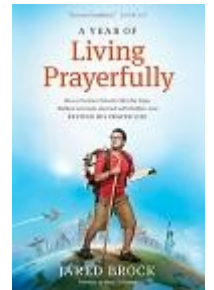
November 21 – Held in the Seasons (HITS), Noticing Advent– We are nearing the end of the longest season of the church year and will soon enter into Advent. Join us for our Sunday forum "Held in the Seasons: Advent" to think deeply about this season and what you might pay attention to in this time of waiting. As always, coffee, treats and a special seasonal gift awaits all in attendance.



November 28 – Thanksgiving weekend, no forum

Adult Book Study

Would you like the opportunity for a casual, but faith-based book study with other adults? We're offering a participant-led study of the book, *A Year of Living Prayerfully: How A Curious Traveler Met the Pope, Walked on Coals, Danced with Rabbis, and Revived His Prayer Life* by Jared Brock. A description: Although up to 90% of us pray, very few of us feel like we've mastered prayer. *A Year of Living Prayerfully* is a fascinating, humorous, globe-trotting exploration of prayer that will help you grow your own prayer life. Everyone is welcome to the discussion on Saturday morning, **November 13**. We'll meet in the Fellowship Hall at 9:30 am over a light breakfast and coffee. Please sign up in the Gathering Area or RSVP to Nancy in the church office—nancy@molive.org.



Women's Small Groups

Six Mount Olive women's small groups, also known as circles, continue to meet for fellowship and a study from *Gather Magazine*. Some groups meet in person, socially distanced and some meet via Zoom. Meeting times vary and include: Tuesday or Friday mornings, Tuesday afternoon, and Monday, Tuesday and Thursday evenings. Most groups do not meet in December. Contact Nancy Britson in the church office with any questions or if you are interested in joining a small group - nancy@molive.org.



Study Leaders for the November meeting dates will meet with Pastor Glenn on Tuesday, November 2 at 5:30 pm in the conference room near the office.

Mount Olive on Social Media

The pandemic has changed the way we do some things at Mount Olive. We offer an online worship service that many participate in, many of our meetings now take place on Zoom, and we have offered other ministries online. In efforts to meet people where they are, we are experimenting with our social media platforms. Online announcements, faith formation videos, outdoor moments and more can be accessed on our Facebook and Instagram pages:

www.facebook.com/MOliveMedCity
www.instagram.com/molivemedcity/

If you are on either of these platforms, consider following us to stay more connected with the Mount Olive community!

Confirmation Retreats

7th and 8th graders continue to meet every other Wednesday and one Sunday a month for a three hour retreat. They are exploring their faith and learning what it means to be Lutheran. Not only do we have fun, we wrestle with the tough questions that intersect our faith lives. Pastor Luke is always looking for people to collaborate with. If you are interested in supporting confirmation ministry, please contact him - luke@molive.org.

High School Fellowship

November 3 and 17 at 7:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall; contact Pastor Luke with any questions. – luke@molive.org.

November Sunday School Schedule:

November 7 – large group Sunday School

November 14 – Second Sunday Service Project

November 21 – large group Sunday School

November 28 – No Sunday School Thanksgiving Weekend

Sunday School will continue to meet outside as long as the weather permits, moving to the Fellowship Hall when it does not. If the weather necessitates a move indoors, we'll wear masks.

Second Service Sunday

Instead of Sunday School on November 14, we will continue the Second Sunday Service Projects. Meet at 10:30 am in the Gathering Area and please bring masks. Kids will complete the project, making Nativity ornaments for shut-ins and we'll have some time for music as well. All ages are welcome.



More photos from the October Service Sunday

(Mostly) Men's Discipleship

Men's Discipleship is a Bible study group for men (and at least one woman) meant to move them closer to God and to help them understand God's will in their lives. They meet weekly, on Zoom, on Saturday mornings at 8:30 am. They are studying Corinthians this fall in their continuing study of Paul's letters. This group is open to anyone in the congregation. Contact Mark Masbruch for more info. and the Zoom invitation-mmasbruch@hotmail.com.





New Partnership with Gray Duck

It's been an exciting October in our new church space at Gray Duck Theater and Coffeehouse! Here's what we love most about it:

1. It is a contained space that is cozy while still letting us spread out – and the theater is all ours every Monday night 5:30-8:00 pm. (Join us anytime - it would be great to have a few more people in attendance so new people can 'blend in' easier. All ages welcome).
2. Gray Duck has a deep commitment to celebrating LGBTQIA+ folx, just like Olive Branch.
3. Enthusiastic hospitality from Andy the owner, Rachel the assistant manager and the crew of baristas.
4. Great sound system, comfy seating, yummy popcorn and that delicious Raspberry Hibiscus iced tea.
5. We get the whole theater to ourselves to offer FREE MOVIE NIGHTS each month!



Free Movie Night

In October we enjoyed a family friendly movie “We Bought A Zoo.” This month we're trying *something completely different* – “Monty Python and the Holy Grail”

When: Monday, **November 29**, show starts at 6:00 pm

Where: Gray Duck Theater & Coffeehouse, 619 6th Ave NW

Who's invited: Anyone who likes to laugh. Please share this invite widely! And yes, they absolutely do serve popcorn, soda and delicious coffee. Questions? Email Richard at richard@molive.org

Peter Mayer Concert

Friday, **November 12** at 7:30 pm MN (Doors open at 6:45pm)

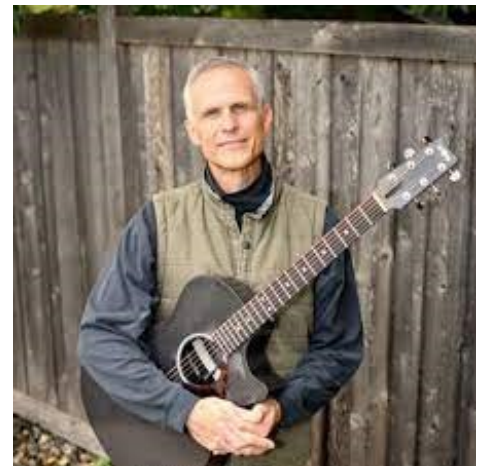
The Chosen Bean in Chatfield, MN

Backstage – General Admission

Advance Pricing: \$20 All Seating, \$23 at the door

Live Stream: \$10

Minnesota Singer-songwriter Peter Mayer has been singing and songwriting for over 20 years, performing in venues across the United States and beyond. He writes songs for a small planet--songs that celebrate life on earth and the mysterious and wondrous fact of our existence--songs about the vast cosmos that surrounds us and how we are a part of it all. He also writes songs about dress hats, pumpkins and pajamas, and even love and freight trains just like a good folk musician should. While we're not going as a group, maybe we can meet up for supper beforehand. Email Richard at richard@molive.org if you'd like to connect before the show. Get your tickets online at www.chatfieldarts.org/peter-mayer-1 right away, because space is limited.



Young Adult Fellowship

Adults that identify as “younger” have been starting to gather for fellowship more frequently. Last month we met at the new restaurant, Purple Goat, for some lawn games, and we met at Little Thistle for drinks and conversation. This month we are meeting on Thursday, **November 18**, from 7:30-9 pm at The Workshop Food Hall and Bar, 1232 3rd Ave SE, Rochester, for trivia! We are also hoping to have a board game night, thinking about some winter activities, and planning more fun. If you are interested in participating or helping lead, please contact Pastor Luke – luke@molive.org – or Rachel Carlson – carl1347@morris.umn.edu.



Family Trip to Lark Toys

Need to do some Christmas shopping? Interested in a fun family event? Let's meet at Lark Toys on Sunday, **November 21**, at 1:00 pm. They have an incredible hand carved carousel, a toy museum, llamas, ice cream, fudge, and lunch options, great kids' books, and has been rated one of the top 10 toy stores in the world. Plus, it is only 45 minutes from church! Join Pastors Luke and Lisa for this fun afternoon of playing and shopping.

Monday Book Group



The **Monday Book Group** gathers monthly to discuss a wide variety of literature. They will meet via Zoom on **November 8** at 6:30 pm. This month's selection is ***Below Stairs*** by Margaret Powell. Brilliantly evoking the long-vanished world of masters and servants portrayed in *Downton Abbey* and *Upstairs, Downstairs*, Margaret Powell's classic memoir of her time in service, *Below Stairs*, is the remarkable true story of an indomitable woman who, though she served in the great houses of England, never stopped aiming high. If you would like to be added to the email list or receive the Zoom invitation for November,

contact Jodi Schoer at mjschoer@charter.net.

Ripe Olives

The Ripe Olives, Mount Olive's group for retired folks, meets on the 2nd Friday of each month at 9:30 am in the Fellowship Hall. On **November 12**, we will be joined by Mount Olive staff member, Bill Hollander, as he shares about his time in the Army in Afghanistan. For Ripe Olives, there'll be a simple continental breakfast, coffee, and juice. Please RSVP to Nancy Britson in the church office, 507-288-1580 or nancy@molive.org or sign up in the Gathering Area at church.

Women's Christmas Party

The annual Women's Christmas party, hosted by Mary Circle, will be on Sunday, **December 12** at 3:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. All women of the congregation are invited to attend. This fall, the women's circles at Mount Olive have been studying how the Holy Spirit revives and reforms us as followers of Jesus. As we gather to celebrate coming of Christmas, we'll once again be moved by the spirit through music and learning, and will also have the opportunity to provide support for a local organization. Watch for more details to come in bulletins and email.



Mount Olive Anniversary “Spirit Wear”

Mount Olive Lutheran Church is celebrating 60 years of blessings and being a blessing in 2021. You are invited to join us in celebrating this anniversary year by making an order of clothing with the Mount Olive logo. Stop by the table in the Gathering Area to see clothing samples and pick up order information. All orders are online at this link: <https://mtolive60years.itemorder.com/shop/sale/> Place your orders on or before the expiration date of **Wednesday, Nov. 9, 2021**. At that time all orders will go into production. Please allow 3 weeks for delivery. Your orders will be distributed at Mount Olive when they arrive. Thank you!

Welcoming the Stranger

Mount Olive is exploring the opportunity to partner with fellow Lutheran churches to help sponsor an Afghan Refugee family. If you would like more information about this opportunity or to become involved, contact Carrie Fletcher at carrie@molive.org or Pastor Glenn at glenn@molive.org.

Prayers and Prayer Chain Updates

Mount Olive members and friends in need of prayer are being remembered by prayer chain members, the Mount Olive staff, and are included in our bulletins that are not shared online. Prayer chain requests are sent along via email to the group as they are received by the prayer chain coordinator, Kim Ignatius, and also sent out before weekend services. If you have a prayer request and would like the prayer chain to be in prayer for you or someone you love, or if you would like to join the prayer chain as one who prays, please contact Kim at: 507-271-6087 or ignatius.kimberlie@charter.net.

You may also contact any of the pastors with requests via phone or email—see contact information below.



Mount Olive’s Welcome Statement:

“We trust that God calls Mount Olive Lutheran Church to a ministry of reconciliation. We embrace as a gift the diversity of our neighborhood and the world, and we extend God’s hospitality by welcoming, hearing, and treasuring:

All gender identities and sexual orientations

All races and ethnicities

All ages and abilities

All economic statuses and education levels

All faith journeys and personal histories

As Christ welcomes all, we too welcome the full inclusion of all people into the life, ministry, and sacraments of Mount Olive, joining in a journey toward greater love, understanding, and mutual respect.”



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