# From the Other Side

Many of you know that my grandfather died in early March, at the age of 93. As plans were made for his funeral and burial, I had the opportunity to simply be a gathering family member, rather than serving in my usual role as the presiding minister. Even though the flow of the funeral and burial services have become familiar to me, it was a completely different experience to be a part of this as a family member of the deceased. I realized that each moment was sacred in its own way: the sharing of memories, the pastor's carefully chosen words, the hugs from family and friends felt for the first time in years, the multi-state procession from funeral to graveside.

As the complex emotions of grief have continued to surprise us as we have together remembered "Paw Paw", I have been most struck by the support of so many people. Being on the receiving end of such care and grace reminds me of the deep belonging we experience in shared community. Thank you for the many written letters and kind words that you have offered in person, via email, on Twitter, and in prayer. They have rooted me deeply and meaningfully these past weeks.

May God's Spirit continue to be breathed upon and through us in such gracious ways.

**Pastor Paul** 

### MOUNT OLIVE LIFE

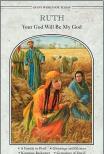
# **New Wednesday Evening Bible Study**

Pastor Glenn will be leading a new 7-week Bible Study on the Old Testament book of Ruth starting on Wednesday, April 6 at 6:30 pm.

The book of Ruth is unique in that it centers on the life of a non-Jewish woman, who is a refugee, who eventually becomes part of the ancestral line of King

David. Many contemporary themes emerge in this short book, challenging our assumptions about outsiders vs. insiders, believers and non-believers.

Study guides are available for \$7 each. Sign up and purchase your book in the gathering area.



# Mount Olive Softball

The Rochester church softball league gets underway the week of May 3 and continues into the summer. 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 \$20 to help defray the cost of team registration. For more information, contact coach Jason Coil (507-421-8736 or <a href="mailto:icoil@live.com">icoil@live.com</a>) or Nancy Britson (<a href="mailto:nancy@molive.org">nancy@molive.org</a>).

### **Librarians Arise!**

In the very near future we will be doing a reworking and relocation of the Mount Olive library collection. We would love to have a small task force of interested folks come together to discuss the best ways to make this happen. If you are interested in helping, please talk to Pastor Glenn.

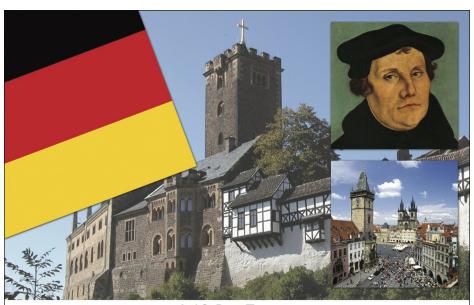
Breakfast with the Bishop Features Tim Penny Saturday, April 23, 9 - 11 am



Cabela's in Owatonna

Tim Penny, former U.S. Representative, and now President/CEO of the Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation will be the speaker at the 2016 Breakfast with the Bishop. Tim has been a life-long Lutheran with a strong faith. He is presently a member at St. John Lutheran in Owatonna. Please send a check for \$10 and your reservation to Rev. Michael Walerius, 224 Bryan Avenue, Owatonna, MN 55060.

# meeting nformational



A 12-Day Tour to

# GERMANY

September 27 - October 6, 2017

Hosted by: Mount Olive Lutheran Church Rochester, Minnesota



Rev. Paul & Katie Moody, Associate Pastor





For more Information please contact The church office at 507-288-1580

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For full brochure visit www.myfaithjourneys.com/login and enter group number: 17013

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# FRIENDS, FAMILY AND FAITH TOGETHER

LEARNING, GROWTH AND FELLOWSHIP

# April 3, 9:15-10:15 am Intergenerational Sunday Forum

Come celebrate the Second Sunday of Easter!

He is Risen! He is Risen Indeed!

Crafts to express our joy of Jesus' resurrection will be available for all to take part in.

There will be no Sunday School and we ask parents to accompany your children for the Intergenerational event! Thank you



# M e t a m o r p h o s i s Intergenerational Spring Wednesdays beginning April 13

Come and gather on Wednesdays as we explore what it means to be and to proclaim the community of

God's people through worship and discussion. Each week, dinner will be available beginning at 5:30 pm, with table discussions and worship beginning at 6:00 pm. Program materials will be provided as needed.



April 3, 9:30 am

Parents of infants and toddlers not yet in Sunday School join together in conversation and fellowship on the first Sunday of each month. Gather in room 13.

# **Youth Trip Fundraising**

- Book Sale at Mount Olive May 14-22 Proceeds will be used for summer mission trip travel cost.
- Thank you to all who participated in the "OPA" Meal! \$1500 was raised and will assist with meals while at Pine Ridge Reservation.

**Save the date:** End of the school year bunco party for all ages! Wednesday evening June 15. More details soon to come!

# **Wednesday Night Meals**

Everyone is invited to enjoy a meal and fellowship prior to the Wednesday evening worship and learning. Please sign up in the gathering area to help. Confirmation students may help along with their parents. A suggested donation of \$3 is collected. Each meal includes vegetables, mixed greens with toppings, peanut butter and jelly sandwiches, applesauce/fruit cups & cookies.

### Menu:

April 13 Walking tacos April 20 Chicken fritters ala parmesan

April 27 Breakfast for dinner May 4 Spaghetti and meatballs May 11 Mystery Meal



On March 10, several Mount Olive high school youth attended a leadership event at Gustavus Adolphus in St. Peter, MN.

The Leadership Workshop at Gustavus was a wonderful experience. We worked on finding our individual strengths, and we learned how we could best use them in a group setting. Everybody has a different way of leading, we just need to know how to use our strengths to best compliment other people's strengths. We also learned that it is important to reflect on our passions and goals, to know how to best use our gifts. ~ Mickaela Pasch



# Fun In Serving Him

Wednesday Nights Resuming April 13

Please join us for our next quarter of FISH. We will do service projects that reach our church community, the community of Rochester, and the animal community. We will meet from 6:30 to 7:30 pm. FISH is open to children in grades 1 through 5. If you have any questions about this program please contact Sara Hollander at sara@molive.org or Carrie Fletcher at cxnfletch@aol.com.

# **Adventure Club Outings**

Mary Poppins, April 17 2:00 pm
Participants will meet at the Civic Center.

Story-telling, April 19, Good Earth Village.
Meet at Mount Olive at 5:00 pm, travel to Good
Earth for a cozy evening in a log cabin. You will
hear personal stories, true as remembered, and
live music. A meal will accompany the stories. This
live, intimate story-telling style will blow you away.

# THANK YOU for your PROCLAIM JUSTICE WORK in March!

6-8th graders traveled to **Channel One** to help fill the food shelf and package food:





A group of Families served a dinner at the **Ronald McDonald House**:



### Walk for Water:

Thank you to ALL who walked with our 6-8 grade youth and those of you who provided donations. Over \$700 was contributed to the ELCA Water Project.

# **ADULTS**

LEARNING, GROWTH AND FELLOWSHIP

# Sunday Forum 9:15 am Grab some coffee or tea and gather in the fellowship hall.



	Intergenerational Fellowship Event				
April 10	Mayo Hospice Chaplains & Spiritual Care				
April 17		Can I Trust the Bible?			

	ns ?	L
April 24	Question ask that	

May 1

Does the Bible Contradict Itself?

Science & Religion - An Historical Synopsis

# Faith Seeking Understanding (FSU)

Faith Seeking Understanding reads and shares conversations about books on theology, religion, spirituality and Christianity and our changing church. All are welcome. Please contact Jody Myers if you have questions at jodyjpmyers@gmail.com.

# April 5 at 6:30 pm

Meister Eckhart: A Mystic Warrior for our Time, by Matthew Fox



Matthew Fox



# Pub Theology See what's trending.

Come to Life's Too Short Brewing Company (2001 32nd Ave NW) on Monday nights, catching up at 5:30. The discussion begins at 6:00.

Pastor Paul Moody leads conversation surrounding a topic which is published at Rochesterpublictheology.wordpress.com and distributed by email. If you would like to be included on the email distribution list, please email Pastor Paul at paul@molive.org.

# **Monday Book Group**

# April 11 at 6:30 pm

The Boys in the Boat, by Daniel James Brown

This book celebrates the 1936 U.S. men's Olympic eight-oar rowing team - nine working class boys who stormed the rowing world, transformed the sport, and galvanized the attention of millions of Americans.



All are welcome. Meet in the Mount Olive library the second Monday at 6:30 pm. If you have questions, please contact Jodi Schoer at mjschoer@charter.net or Darlene Vowels at vowelsjd@charter.net.



# Mount Olive Women's Day of Service Saturday, April 16, 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

All Mount Olive women as well as teenage girls in grades 6-12 are invited to participate. Projects include:

- Habitat for Humanity work site (8:30 am start)
- Knitting and crocheting prayer shawls
- Sewing baby layette items for LWR
- Sewing quilt tops, tying and binding quilts for LWR and Rochester Women's Shelter.

No experience necessary.

This is the perfect opportunity to learn new skills or share your talents. Our goal is to have 50 women working side by side, and of course having fun while we do it. Please share your gift of time as faithful women empowered by the Holy Spirit. Our morning of service and fellowship will conclude with a shared meal. Sign up in the gathering area or contact Sherry Sanden Will at sher05@charter.net.



# Zumbro River Conference Spring Event

Thursday, April 21 at 4:45 pm until 8:30 pm Theme: Women of the ELCA; Not Your Grandma's Circle

Faith Lutheran (308 2nd St. NW, Dodge Center)
Guest Speaker: Mr. Garwin McNeilus
Cost: \$12, includes dinner. Sign up by April 3 in the
gathering area. Make payment to SE MN Synod
ELCA and mail to Sherry Sanden Will.

# Mount Olive Quilters Each Thursday, 9 am

You are invited each week to enjoy quilting and fellowship.



# **Prayer Shawl Ministry** Tuesday, April 12 at 9:00 am

All knitters and crocheters are invited. Yarn, treats, guidance, wisdom, support, and humor are shared! Gather in the front conference room.



# **Ripe Olives**

# Pot Luck Breakfast and Presentation Friday, April 15 at 9:00 am

Gary Melin will present on his experiences as a 1988 heart transplant recipient. Please use the sign up sheet in the gathering area.

Please contact LouAnn Wiebke with questions, 282-0355.

Ripe Olives is a group of Mount Olive's more experienced adults who meet monthly for fellowship and educational programs. While anyone is welcome, most attendees are retired folks.

# SERVICE AND SOCIAL OUTREACH MINISTRY (SSOM)

# **Global Mission Conversation Beginning**

On Monday, March 14, a group of interested members met to talk about the future of global missions at Mount Olive. The agenda included such things as:



- 1) Do we want to continue to connect with one of our companion synods?
- 2) If yes, which companion synod? Tanzania, Colombia, or South Sudan?
- 3) Are there are other global mission partners we should consider?
- 4) What are the ways we can connect with international persons in Rochester?

If you'd like to be involved in this ongoing conversation, please let Pastor Glenn know.

# Lenten Food Drive Totals



Thank you! Mount Olive contributed 1,141 pounds of food and supplies for families in our area!

Many thanks to our Mount Olive family for all your prayers and concern during our daughter, Robin's, recent hospitalization.



She is now home and making progress in her recovery. Thank you all for your kindness and caring.

Ed & Gloría Rosencrants

### You are Invited!

April 16, 10:00-11:30 am

Each third Saturday of the month, the Rochester Muslim community invites the public to an open house at the Rochester Muslim Community Center at 4915 Hwy 52 North, between Slumberland and Salvation Army. This is an opportunity to come and talk to your Muslim neighbors, ask any questions, and clarify what you hear about Islam in the media. The next open house is April 16, 10:00-11:30 am. If you need more info talk to Pastor Glenn or go to www.rmccmn.org.

# **Worship Volunteer Update**

Volunteers have been invited to help at worship services and with coffee fellowship in May via the online sign up site: **Sign Up Genius**.

If you are willing to serve, new or experienced volunteers are always needed. Training is available. Please contact Nancy Britson, Volunteer Coordinator, and she will help with the process or answer any questions. You can reach her at nancy@molive.org or 288-1580 ext. 210.

Current schedules are available on the church website, molive.org under 'Service'.

# **Mount Olive Welcomes Bolder Options**

The not-for-profit agency, Bolder Options, will begin renting space from Mount Olive beginning in April. Room 14, the Old Council Room, will become their office space. They have 3 employees. Bolder Options' goal is to help provide direction and purpose, and to offer programming to youth who are at-risk of not completing high school, and at-risk of getting involved in delinquent behaviors. Bolder Options has been in the Twin Cities for 22 years (their president, Darrell Thompson, has been with the organization for that entire time). They started program-



ming in Rochester (directed by Scott Robinson) over 4 years ago and have been operating out of The Boys and Girls Club, but have outgrown that space. Their web-site is www.bolderoptions.org. We look forward to welcoming Bolder Options to Mount Olive.



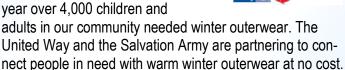
# LWR Baby Care Kits

Pick up a shopping card at the display in the Gathering Area April 2-10. After shopping, deliver your items to the LWR special collection box near the display by April 17. As in the past, our Sunday School kids will be assembling the kits on Sunday April 24.

# Spring Cleaning Winter Outerwear Collection

Clean out your closets, find your winter coats that won't fit next winter, and donate them!

Will you help us keep Olmsted County warm next winter? Last year over 4,000 children and



There will be a collection container at Mount Olive during April where you can drop off a gently used winter coat!





### **Pentecost Celebration**

On Sunday, May 15, we celebrate the first day of Pentecost, marking the end of the Easter season and the descent of the Holy Spirit on the Apostles. In celebration of this holy day, the adult brass ensemble, joined by other Mount Olive musicians will lead worship with newly arranged liturgy and hymns by Brock Besse in the big band style. Please join us as we kick off the Pentecost season.

# Spring Wednesday Nights



5:30 pm Meal and Fellowship (begin April 13)

6:00 pm Metamorphosis Intergenerational

Exploration: Proclaim Community (begin April 13)

6:30 pm Bible Study on the Old Testament book of Ruth (begin April 6)

6:30 pm Fun In Serving Him (begin April 13)

7:30 pm Adult Choir Rehearsal

8:45 pm Adult Brass Ensemble Rehearsal

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	API	RIL 201	6		1 6:00p Serve at Dorothy Day House	2 8:30a Men's Discipleship Group 9:00a Altar Guild Setup 5:00p Worship
					Interfaith H	ospitality Network Host Week
8:00a Worship & Coffee Fellowship 9:15a Intergenerational Event 9:30a Little Leapers 10:30a Worship & Coffee Fellowship 2:00p Den 1 Cub Scout Meeting 3:00p Rochester Pops Orchestra Rehearsal	6:30p Scout Venture Crew	9:15a Staff Meeting 6:30p Faith Seeking Understanding Book Group 6:30p Service and Social Outreach Ministry Team 7:30p Glory Bells Rehearsal	6:30p Ruth Bible Study 7:45p Adult Choir Rehearsal 8:45p Adult Brass Rehearsal	9:00a Mount Olive Quilters 6:30p Scouts: Dens 3,4,5,6,7 7:00p 'In the Process' Al-Anon	9:30a Retired Pastor's Luncheon	8:30a Men's Discipleship Group 9:00a Altar Guild Setup 9:00a Habitat for Humanity Work Day 5:00p Worship
10 8:00a Worship & Coffee Fellowship 9:15a Education Hour 10:30a Worship & Coffee Fellowship 11:45a Women of the ELCA Board Meeting 11:45a Children, Youth and Family Ministry Team 2:00p Den 1 Cub Scout Meeting 3:00p Rochester Pops Orchestra Rehearsal	11 5:30p Public Theology 6:00p Widowed Persons Event 6:30p Monday Book Group 6:30p Lydia Circle	9:00a Prayer Shawl Ministry 9:15a Staff Meeting 6:30p Executive Council Meeting 7:30p Glory Bells Rehearsal	5:30p Meal 6:00p Metamorphosis 6:30p Ruth Bible Study 6:30p FISH 7:45p Adult Choir Rehearsal 8:45p Adult Brass Rehearsal	9:00a Mount Olive Quilters 9:00a Rochester Keyboard Club 5:30p Facility and Grounds Ministry Team 6:30p Scouts: Dens 3,4,5,6,7 7:00p 'In the Process' Al-Anon	9:00a Ripe Olives 6:30p Piano Recital	8:30a Men's Discipleship Group 9:00a Women's Day of Service 9:00a Altar Guild Meeting & Setup 10:00a District 41 Al-Anon Meeting 5:00p Worship
8:00a Worship & Coffee Fellowship 9:15a Education Hour 10:30a Worship & Coffee Fellowship 2:00p Den 1 Cub Scout Meeting 2:00p Adventure Club - Mary Poppins 7:00p Rochester Pops Orchestra Rehearsal	18 5:30p Public Theology 6:30p Boy Scout Troop Meeting	9:15a Staff Meeting 6:30p Worship & Music Ministry Team Meeting 6:30p WomenHeart Support Group 7:30p Glory Bells Rehearsal	5:30p Meal 6:00p Metamorphosis 6:30p Ruth Bible Study 6:30p FISH 6:30p Anna Circle 7:45p Adult Choir Rehearsal 8:45p Adult Brass Rehearsal	9:00a Mount Olive Quilters 4:45p Zumbro Conference Women of the ELCA Event 6:30p Scout Pack Meeting 7:00p 'In the Process' Al-Anon	9:30a Mary Circle 6:30p Scout Pack Committee Meeting	23 8:30a Men's Discipleship Group 9:00a Altar Guild Setup 9:00a Lutheran World Relief Baby Care Kit Setup 5:00p Worship
8:00a Worship & Coffee Fellowship 9:15a Education Hour 9:30a LWR Baby Care Kit Assembly 10:30a Worship & Coffee Fellowship 2:00p Den 1 Cub Scout Meeting 7:00p Rochester Pops Orchestra Concert at Century HS	25 5:30p Public Theology 6:30p Cub Scout Troop Meeting	9:00a Ruth Circle 1:00p Naomi Circle 7:30p Glory Bells Rehearsal	9:15a Staff Meeting 5:30p Meal 6:00p Metamorphosis 6:30p Ruth Bible Study 6:30p FISH 7:00p Adult Choir Rehearsal 8:45p Adult Brass Rehearsal	9:00a Mount Olive Quilters 6:00p Habitat for Humanity Volunteer Appreciation Dinner 6:30p Rachel Circle 7:00p 'In the Process' Al-Anon	29	30 8:30a Men's Discipleship Group 9:00a Altar Guild Setup 5:00p Worship