

A Church of Compassion

If you attended worship in April you might have heard reference to a new initiative in Rochester called City of Compassion. It turns out that there is a growing movement amongst mayors around the country who have a common aspiration: that their city be known as a City of Compassion. Mayor Brede has asked an interfaith group of residents (clergy and lay) to begin plans for an event this fall which will move this process forward in Rochester. This, I believe, is an exciting and positive development in our city and one which is sorely needed in this time when divisions between people seem so deep.

As I've thought about our city leaders' aspiration to make this a city whose policies and procedures and ways of living are notably compassionate I've wondered, "What would it take for a *church* to be known as a *church of compassion*?" If we look at the definition of compassion in the dictionary we see that compassion is a **"sympathetic consciousness of others' distress together with a desire to alleviate it."** So for a church to be known as church of compassion it would need to have this consciousness.

I believe Mount Olive already has this consciousness, and we need simply to keep tapping into it. Starting soon, our congregation will partner with Next Chapter Ministries, a Christian ministry to persons who have been incarcerated. We hope to learn how best to support these persons, as well as to being open to what God will teach us through them. On Sunday, May 8, the morning Adult Forum will feature leaders of the LINK program, a local program to help homeless youth. Again, we hope to be partners with this ministry, focusing on young people in severe need. Also, beginning in May, Mount Olive will be hosting two Elder Network workshops. The first is called Powerful Tools for Caregivers, and the second, Living Well with Chronic Conditions. These workshops are open to our whole community again to help us support others in distress and do what we can to lighten their load.

I urge you to seek out opportunities to exercise your compassion consciousness. I believe that God will bless you and many others through you.

Blessings,
Pastor Glenn

MOUNT OLIVE LIFE

Global Mission Team News

A small group of Mount Olive members who are enthusiastic about Global Missions has begun meeting in hopes of reinvigorating our relationships with our companion synods in Tanzania, Colombia, and South Sudan. Through initial contacts with the synod we learned that Curtis and Katie Klein, ELCA missionaries to Colombia, have only one congregation from our synod supporting them at this time. Knowing that, we have pursued a relationship with the Kleins, and are happy to announce that we will be hosting them at Mount Olive on July 9-10. They will present their work at each worship service that weekend, and there will be a chance to meet-and-greet them after each service and support their work financially. Also, anyone interested in learning about a possible trip to Colombia in 2017 is invited to attend a gathering on May 16 at 7:30 pm in the church library, when Karl and Holly Dalager, former missionaries to Colombia now living in Austin, MN will be here to meet with us. If you are interested in being part of the Global Missions Team, please talk to Pastor Glenn.



New Member and Visitors Coffee: June 5 in the church library

A special coffee time will be held on June 5 at 10:45 in the church library for visitors to Mount Olive and anyone considering membership. You are invited to come for refreshments and the opportunity to meet Mount Olive staff, ministry team leaders, and a chance to learn what we are all about at Mount Olive. Anyone is welcome to attend! Please contact Nancy Britson, Welcome and New Member Coordinator, if you have any questions about membership at Mount Olive.

New Member Sunday June 19

New Members will be received at Mount Olive on Sunday June 19 during the 9:30 service. A reception follows to give everyone a chance to extend a warm welcome to the new members. Please contact Nancy Britson, Welcome and New Member Coordinator for more information.



Volunteer Appreciation Weekend May 21 and 22

Mount Olive is blessed with so many willing volunteers that serve in so many ways! Everyone is invited to receptions following all services the weekend of May 21 and 22. Let the Mount Olive staff serve you in gratitude for all that you do!

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*

Worship Volunteer Update

Volunteers have been invited to help at worship services and with coffee fellowship in June 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'.

Lenten Giving Blessings

The blessings of the Lenten season just keep on coming! We budgeted \$2000 for Lenten offerings to be split between Channel One, Habitat for Humanity, and IHN. The total given, when the season concluded, was over three times this! \$6680! What this means is that a number of other ministry partners also benefitted through this Lenten giving, including Good Earth Village, Lutheran Social Services, Lutheran Campus Ministries, Rainbow Preschool, and the ELCA.

In addition, specific gifts given during Lent also supported these other ministries:

ELCA Water Project	\$722.40
Channel One	\$565.00
Tanzania	\$135.00
ELCA World Hunger	\$255.00
Mount Olive Youth	\$2650.00
ELCA World Hunger	\$1389.61 (from the Lenten Soup Suppers after expenses)

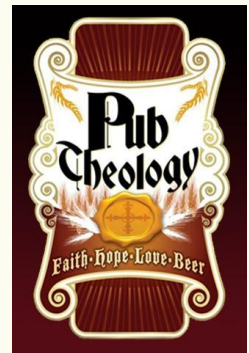
Thank you very much for being a blessing to so many!

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.



FRIENDS, FAMILY AND FAITH TOGETHER

LEARNING, GROWTH AND FELLOWSHIP

Volunteer Appreciation Sunday May 22

Thank You Sunday School Staff

This is a time to recognize all those who help us make Mount Olive a very special place to learn and grow.

This year's teachers are:
Linda Schueler, Bethany Buus, Erin Sinnwell, Anna Strand, Mike Vance, Lis Blazing, Beth Armstrong, Jen Johns, Connie McCullough, Jen Boysen, Colin Boysen, Andi Stensland, Kathleen Haase, Kevin Rislow, Dorothy Ostrom, Carrie Fletcher, Lesa Peterson, Erin Schoer, Jill Mullenbach, Nathan Fletcher, Nels Pierson, Aaron Larson, Cheryl Larson, Shannon Heldt, Greg Heldt, Jim Berg, Lara Smoley, Jason Sinnwell, Jim Haase, Jessi Hafeman, and Kim Wanek.



May 1, 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.

Book Sale at Mount Olive

May 14-22

Books will be available to purchase before and after each worship service the weekend of May 14 and May 21. Monies raised will be used to help with the summer mission trip travel expenses.

Milestone Celebration

Sunday May 15 at 9:15am

Each year our elementary youth take a segment of the small catechism to learn, reflect and express. You are invited to come and hear what they have to share.



Through May 11

Spring Wednesday Nights

- 5:30 pm Meal and Fellowship
- 6:00 pm Metamorphosis Intergenerational Exploration: Proclaim Community
- 6:30 pm Fun In Serving Him
- 6:30 pm Bible Study: OT book of Ruth (ends May 18)
- 7:30 pm Adult Choir Rehearsal
- 8:45 pm Adult Brass Ensemble Rehearsal

**RUN
FOR
GOD**



Has changed its name to:
***Mount Olive
in Motion***

It is never to late to begin.

Come meet others who are WALKING/Running, staying in MOTION for God. Contact Sara Hollander or Shannon Heldt if interested in more information.

**81 BABY CARE KITS WERE
ASSEMBLED BY OUR SUNDAY
SCHOOL YOUTH WITH THE SUPPORT
OF JOLENE BAKER. THANK YOU TO
ALL!**



Lutheran World Relief
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT. LASTING PROMISE.



Adventure Club

Stop and pick up an Adventure Club brochure in the Gathering Area with the next 6 months of ADVENTURES listed in it .

If you would like your name added to the email list for more information contact Sara Hollander at sara@molive.org.

Elder Network Workshops at Mount Olive



Mount Olive will be hosting two new workshops by the Elder Network starting soon. Both workshops are six weeks in duration and have a suggested fee of \$20 for the entire workshop.

- ◆ Powerful Tools for Caregivers beginning Wednesday, May 25, 1:00-3:30 pm in the church library.
- ◆ Living Well with Chronic Conditions, beginning Wednesday, June 29 at 9:30 am in the church library.

Registration is limited, please contact Holly Brown, Respite Companion Coordinator at 507-285-5272 or online at hollyb@elder-network.org.

Experienced Preschool Teacher Needed

Rainbow School is hiring an experienced preschool teacher for the 2016-2017 school year. Hours are 8:30 am - 3:30 pm on Mondays / Wednesdays and 8:30 am -1:00 pm on Fridays. For a job description and application, please visit www.rainbowschoolmn.org/jobs.html.



ADULTS

LEARNING, GROWTH AND FELLOWSHIP

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



May 1	Hard Questions: Can I ask that? Science & Religion - An Historical Synopsis
May 8	LINK
May 15	Serenity House Presentation



Prayer Shawl Ministry
Tuesday, May 10 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.

Mount Olive Quilters

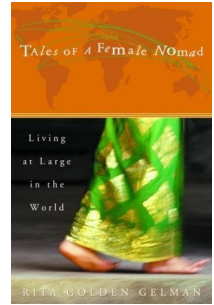
Each Thursday at 9:00 am

You are invited each week to enjoy
quilting and fellowship.

Monday Book Group

May 9 at 6:30 pm

Tales of a Female Nomad
By Rita Golden Gelman



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.



Ripe Olives

**Friday, May 13
at 9:00 am**

Meet at HyVee North for breakfast. Please sign up so reservations can be made. 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.

Altar Flowers

You may sign up for flowers to brighten the sanctuary. Place orders for birthdays, anniversaries, baptismal birthdays, births, or in the memory of loved ones. There is a sign-up book in the gathering area. Fill out an envelope with the designation and include payment. Place orders at least one week in advance.



*Empowered
Women*  *Empowering
Women*

Mount Olive Women's Day of Service, held on Saturday, April 16, 8:30am-12:45 pm, was a site to behold. 29 women, teenage on up, met for a morning of service and fellowship. Four headed to a Habitat for Humanity home on the SE side of town. They literally worked in the trenches and returned for a shared meal with mud up to their chins, smiles on their faces, and the comment, "I would happily do it again." In the fellowship hall scissors were snipping baby jackets and fringed blankets. Needles were moving up and down through quilt batting, patchwork quilt tops, and embroidered banners. Sewing machines were spitting out quilt tops, baby jackets, receiving blankets and completed quilts with bound edges. Prayer shawls grew inch by inch as a group of ladies chatted and prayed over their work. Potatoes were planted in the church garden. When the morning was over the work of loving caring hands had created comfort and warmth for body and soul. We ended our day with a shared meal, sharing stories of the day, with appreciation for new skills learned, new friendships formed and inspired by the talents of our faithful sisters. Thank you to all who gave of their time and gifts on this beautiful day and to those who provided salads and desserts for our meal. A big thank you to Thrivent Financial for providing seed money for sandwiches, snacks, drinks and supplies.

Women of the ELCA Leadership

Election of officers occurred in April. A big thank you to Carrie Krieger for serving 4 years as secretary. Her hard work and dedication along with her skill as an organized leader has been greatly appreciated. Regina Seabrook will be replacing her on June 1. Thank you Regina for accepting this call. Sherry Sanden Will was reelected for a second year as President. The search is still ongoing for Vice President. We ask the women of Mount Olive to prayerfully consider this important leadership position.

Women of the ELCA Thankoffering

Beginning in the late 19th century, Lutheran women were given small Thankoffering boxes to place in a special location in their homes as a visible reminder of blessings received. Women would add coins to those boxes almost daily as particular blessings were noted. On May 7 and 8 we will again collect the Thankoffering during worship services. Women of the ELCA Thankofferings support the total outreach of the organization for its ministries and mission. Thank you in advance for your generous gifts.



Empowered Women=Empowering Women is the coalition of Mount Olive staff, women active in Women of the ELCA, and all other women young and old. Combining our strengths and spiritual gifts has led to some very meaningful events in the last year including the Women's Fall Retreat and Mount Olive Women's Day of Service. Contact Sherry Sanden Will or Sara Hollander if you want to know more.

SERVICE AND SOCIAL OUTREACH MINISTRY (SSOM)

Want to Get Your Hands Dirty?

The 2016 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 Interfaith Hospitality Network, Community Food Response, Bolder Options and Mount Olive. We currently have 3 beds to plant, but may be blessed with more! 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.



You are Invited!

May 21, 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 May 21, 10:00-11:30 am. If you need more info talk to Pastor Glenn or go to www.rmccmn.org.



Dorothy Day Summer Volunteers Needed

June 3, July 1, August 5

Two or three volunteers are needed to prepare and serve dinner to guests at the Dorothy Day Hospitality House. Dinner is served at 6 pm. This is a wonderful service opportunity for all: families, youth, confirmands and other groups and individuals. Sign up on the Dorothy Day volunteer calendar located in the gathering area. Contact Anna Strand (Mount Olive volunteer contact for Dorothy Day Hospitality House) with questions at 617-899-2484 or annabstrand@gmail.com.



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.



Lutheran World Relief
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT. LASTING PROMISE.

Thank you Jolene!

The entire congregation thanks Jolene Baker as she concludes her six years as coordinator for Mount Olive's LWR care kit ministry. This ministry is one that has been going on at Mount Olive for many years.

Jolene has spent countless hours diligently planning, scheduling, organizing, promoting, encouraging, recruiting, acquiring materials, sewing, managing and delivering baby care kits and personal care kits to Lutheran World Relief. Her dedication and service is very much appreciated!

Taking on this role are Cathy and Keith Hanson. Thank you for volunteering to lead this important ministry!



Jolene Baker

Mitch Olson Completes Eagle Scout Project

Thank you to everyone who assisted with my Eagle Scout project. This project focused on water management and beautification within the patio landscape. The work provided an environmentally friendly way of dealing with water run off that was eroding the soil. It also prevented water from running back towards the building and potentially causing damage. I am from Troop 498 which is housed within Mount Olive and I am so honored to be a part of the troop and the church. This was truly a combined effort with my scout and church communities. Thank you to all of you who provided leadership, grabbed a tool and came to work with a positive attitude, made snacks and meals, or offered support in a variety of other ways. It could not have been done without each and every one of you. I hope you enjoy your improved outdoor space.



Thank you all so much, Mitch Olson

Pentecost Celebration

Sunday, May 15

Pentecost, marks 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 hymns by Brock Besse in the big band style. You don't want to miss it. Come wearing red!



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 8:00a Worship & Coffee Fellowship 9:15a Education Hour / Forum 9:30a Little Leapers 10:30a Worship & Coffee Fellowship 12:00p Germany Trip Meeting 2:00p Den 1 Cub Scout Meeting 2:00p Piano Recital	2 5:30p Public Theology 6:30p Mutual Ministry 6:30p Scout Venture Crew	3 9:15a Staff Meeting 6:30p Faith Seeking Understanding Book Group 6:30p Service and Social Outreach Ministry Team 7:30p Glory Bells Rehearsal 9:00p Church Softball	4 5:30p Meal 6:00p Metamorphosis 6:30p Ruth Bible Study 6:30p FISH 7:30p Adult Choir Rehearsal 8:45p Adult Brass Rehearsal	5 9:00a Mount Olive Quilters 5:30p Tech Support Team Meeting 6:30p Scouts: Dens 3,4,5,6,7 6:30p Rachel Circle 7:00p 'In the Process' Al-Anon	6 Synod Assembly 6:00p Serve at Dorothy Day House	7 Synod Assembly 8:30a Men's Discipleship Group 9:00a Altar Guild Setup 5:00p Worship
8 8:00a Worship & Coffee Fellowship 9:15a Education Hour / Forum 10:30a Worship & Coffee Fellowship 2:00p Den 1 Cub Scout Meeting	9 5:30p Public Theology 6:30p Monday Book Group 6:30p Lydia Circle 6:30p Scout Venture Crew 7:00p Interfaith Hospitality Network Family Promise Coordinators Meeting	10 8:30a MMTA - Sanctuary 9:00a Prayer Shawl Ministry 9:15a Staff Meeting 6:00p Habitat for Humanity Volunteer Thank You Dinner 6:30p Full Council Meeting 7:30p Glory Bells Rehearsal	11 8:30a MMTA - Sanctuary 5:30p Meal 6:00p Metamorphosis 6:30p Ruth Bible Study 6:30p FISH 7:30p Adult Choir Rehearsal 8:45p Adult Brass Rehearsal	12 8:30a MMTA - Sanctuary 9:00a Mount Olive Quilters 5:30p Facility and Grounds Ministry Team 6:30p Scouts: Dens 3,4,5,6,7 7:00p 'In the Process' Al-Anon	13 8:30a MMTA - Sanctuary 9:00a Ripe Olives	14 8:00a District 41 Al-Anon 8:30a Men's Discipleship Group 9:00a Altar Guild Setup 9:00a Habitat for Humanity Work Day 4:30p Book Sale - Youth Fundraiser 5:00p Worship
15 Pentecost Book Sale - Youth Fundraiser 8:00a Worship & Coffee Fellowship 9:15a Education Hour / Forum 10:30a Worship & Coffee Fellowship 2:00p Den 1 Cub Scout Meeting	16 5:30p Public Theology 6:30p Boy Scout Troop Meeting 7:30p Global Mission Team	17 9:15a Staff Meeting 6:00p Adult Faith Ministry Team 6:00p Church Softball 6:30p WomenHeart Support Group 7:30p Glory Bells Rehearsal	18 6:30p Ruth Bible Study 6:30p Anna Circle 7:30p Adult Choir Rehearsal	19 9:00a Mount Olive Quilters 7:00p 'In the Process' Al-Anon	20 9:30a Mary Circle	21 8:30a Men's Discipleship Group 9:00a Altar Guild Meeting & Setup 9:00a District 41 Al-Anon 1:00p Wildfeuer/Molde Wedding 4:30p Book Sale - Youth Fundraiser 5:00p Worship 6:00p Volunteer Appreciation Reception
22 Book Sale - Youth Fundraiser 8:00a Worship 9:00p Volunteer Appreciation Reception 9:15a Education Hour 10:30a Worship 11:30a Volunteer Appreciation Reception 2:00p Den 1 Cub Scout Meeting	23 5:30p Public Theology 6:30p Cub Scout Troop Meeting	24 11:00a Ruth Circle 11:30a Circle Luncheon with Staff 1:00p Naomi Circle 6:00p Church Softball	25 9:15a Staff Meeting 1:00p Powerful Tools for Caregivers with Elder Network	26 9:00a Mount Olive Quilters 7:00p 'In the Process' Al-Anon	27	28 8:30a Men's Discipleship Group 9:00a Altar Guild Setup 5:00p Worship
29 8:00a Worship & Coffee Fellowship 9:30a Worship & Coffee Fellowship	30 Memorial Day Office Closed	31 Staff Planning Event at Good Earth Village 6:00p Church Softball	 <div style="font-size: 48px; font-weight: bold; color: blue; margin: 0;">MAY 2016</div> 			