

It was Sunday, June 12 about 7:15 am. I walked into the office and said good morning to Brock who was busy preparing for worship. He looked up and said to me, "Glenn, did you hear about the people killed in Orlando?" "No," I said. "What happened?" It was then that I heard the first reports of what is now called The Orlando Massacre. A popular nightclub in Orlando, Pulse Nightclub, considered a "safe zone" for people who are lesbian or gay, or who identify as bisexual, transgender, or queer (LGBTQ), had become tragically unsafe as an assailant armed with an automatic weapon had entered the club in the wee hours of that Sunday morning and gunned down scores of people, leaving 49 dead and over 50 wounded, until he himself lay dead after a gun battle with police. This horrific event is the singularly most deadly attack of its kind in American history.

What has become increasingly obvious in the weeks following the massacre is that it was LGBTQ people who were targeted. The man who gunned these people down did not do so randomly. It has also become well-established that Pulse Nightclub was a kind of sanctuary for its clientele. It was a place where people who were looked on suspiciously elsewhere were welcomed and cherished and honored.

In his sermon on the Sunday following the Orlando shootings, Pastor Paul referred to the Pulse Nightclub as a safe haven, and also noted that sadly the church has often been a place where LGBTQ people have *not* been safe, not welcomed, cherished and honored. That really struck me. How is it, I thought, that a night club and *not* the church is a place where people feel safe? How is it that "sanctuary" is a term we can use in speaking of a night club, because it is safe, but a term that we *cannot* use in speaking of the church?

In response to the Orlando massacre, Pastor Paul issued a strong challenge to us as a community of faith and I believe that we need to meet that challenge. We need to have a serious conversation in the near future about Mount Olive becoming a Reconciling in Christ congregation (RIC). RIC congregations are explicit in their welcome and support of LGBTQ folks. There are currently two congregations in Rochester who are RIC congregations, People of Hope and Zumbro, and we need to have a conversation about joining their ranks.



There was a time when I believed to be welcoming to all people, without being explicit in welcoming LGBTQ people, was adequate. I have come to believe that that time is now past. The events of Orlando, and the countless other acts of intolerance, hate, and bigotry that continue to be tolerated in our country make it imperative that the church do more than it has done in the past. I ask that you pray for victims of this intolerance, and pray for our congregation as we discern the best ways for us to respond to God's call in this important time.

Yours in Christ,

*Pastor Glenn*

## MOUNT OLIVE LIFE

### July 9-10 is Mission Colombia Weekend!

We are thrilled to host Curtis and Katie Kline, ELCA missionaries to Colombia, at Mount Olive on July 9-10. The Kline's have been in Colombia for two years and have recently decided to extend their stay for two more years. Their work in that country involves accompanying rural farmers in their struggle to obtain fair wages for their produce, in addition to advising them in the area of human rights. Also, they are part of the work with victims of Colombia's armed conflict through the work of Jesuit Refugee Services.



Katie and Curtis will "show and tell" about their work in Colombia at each worship service on July 9-10. Following Saturday's service will be a potluck where we will be able to sit down and share food and fellowship with the Kline's and learn more about their work. Sunday Coffee Fellowship time is also an opportunity to connect with the Kline's and, also, to financially support their work. Be sure to attend worship that weekend and bring a friend.

Reminder: We anticipate that a group of Mount Olive members and friends will be going to Colombia in March 2017. If you are at all interested in such a trip talk to Pastor Glenn.

### Welcome New Members!

New Members were received at Mount Olive on Saturday June 18 and Sunday, June 19. The new members were welcomed during these services and honored with a reception following the service. Joining in June are:

- |   |                                |
|---|--------------------------------|
| ▪ Diane and Amanda Banach                                 | ▪ Darren and Megan Larsen      |
| ▪ Bob Berg  | ▪ Sonja Mansour                |
| ▪ John Firl   | ▪ Chris and Donna Miller       |
| ▪ Pam Hovey   | ▪ Rick, Deb, and Jack Peterson |
| ▪ Aaron, Michelle, Jullian, Henley,<br>and Graham Johnson | ▪ Paul and Kathy Remtema       |

Please give these new members a warm welcome!



## Congregational Potluck Saturday July 10

There will be a potluck following the Saturday evening service on July 10. Please bring a dish to share. Beverages and table ware will be provided. Sign up in the gathering area to help with set-up and clean-up. Curtis and Katie Kline, ELCA Missionaries in Colombia, will be sharing their experiences at all services July 9 and 10. Sunday Coffee Fellowship time will also be in their honor with the opportunity to financially support their mission.

## Healing Service

Life can be hard. We suffer losses, we deal with stress and anxiety, and our bodies/minds/spirits don't always live up to the standards that we hope they will.

In a recognition of our need for healing and wholeness, we will be offering time in worship to name this and explore the ways God makes us whole in the midst of life's difficulties. On the fifth Sunday (of each month with five Sundays), beginning Sunday, July 31, during the communion hymns in our Sunday services, we will provide space and time for contemplative prayer and anointing. More information to come.



# God's work. Our hands.

**Save the Date!**  
**God's Work Our  
Hands Sunday**  
**September 11**

Mark your calendars for September 11, 2016! For the past few years, we have had Rally Sunday, a Ministry Fair, or both on the first weekend after school starts as a way to begin the program year for students and the many different ministries at Mount Olive. This year we, along with Lutherans throughout Rochester and around the U.S., will be recognizing "God's Work, Our Hands" Sunday on September 11. Everyone in the congregation will be given the opportunity to share God's love that Sunday with projects at Mount Olive and throughout Rochester. For more information about this day, which also marks the 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks, please refer to this link on the ELCA Website: <https://www.elca.org/dayofservice>

# FRIENDS, FAMILY AND FAITH TOGETHER

LEARNING, GROWTH AND FELLOWSHIP

## 2016 Summer Mission Trip

July 16-22 thirteen Mount Olive members will be traveling to Pine Ridge reservation for a week long servant experience. The posture of the servant experience will be one of building relationships with the people we meet, as we become servants, learners, listeners, sharers, and friends. Visiting Pine Ridge Reservation, specifically the Red Shirt village, involves moving into the midst of another culture. Red Shirt is a small unincorporated community in Oglala Lakota County, South Dakota,

Please hold us in prayer as we travel and join us at worship on July 23 and 24 where we will share our stories. Members attending: Caleb Harris, Nikka Vrieze, Joey Krieger, Terry Krieger, Emily Kuehl, Sonja Pierson, Lori Kuhlman-Leibfried, Thomas Schad, Christian Swenson, Annika Natzke, Sophia Natzke, Sara Hollander, and Paul Moody.



## Adventure Club



### Squash Blossom Farm - July 10 4-6 pm

Meet for pizza and music at the Squash Blossom Farm. If you are interested in biking or walking the 3 mile trek on Douglas Trail plan to leave from the White Oaks Park off of 55th St. NW at 3:00 pm.

### Berne Pizza - July 13 5-8 pm (Rain date August 5)

23148 County Hwy 24 - West Concord, MN

5-8 pm pizzas sold

6:30 pm music

Bring blankets, camping chairs, beverages snacks. Erin Sinnwell will arrive in time to save an area where we can all be together.



### The Old Barn Resort - August 12-14

Make reservations now to camp out at The Old Barn Resort: 507-467-2512

If you can't make it for the weekend, come for the day for \$4. Take part in the activities, food and fun!



## Adventure Club



Great day at the Honkers game!

# Bunco

# Night



On June 15 there was a fun gathering to celebrate the end of the school year.



# ADULTS

LEARNING, GROWTH AND FELLOWSHIP

## Altar Flowers

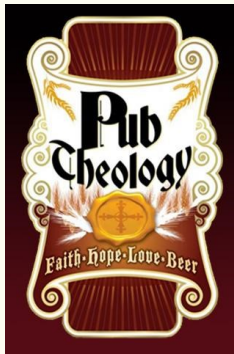
You may sign up for flowers to brighten the sanctuary. Place orders for birthdays, anniversaries, baptismal birthdays, births, or in the memory of loved ones. There is a sign-up book in the gathering area. Fill out an envelope with the designation and include payment. Place orders at least one week in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



## 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](http://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](mailto:paul@molive.org).



## Fair Trade Coffee

Stop by the **Fair Trade Coffee** display in the gathering area to check out the varieties of ground and whole bean coffee and tea available for purchase. You can also sign up to sponsor the coffee on an upcoming Sunday. For \$15 you can help offset the cost of the coffee served during fellowship time and celebrate an occasion such as a birthday, anniversary, or the memory of a loved one.

## Mount Olive Quilters

**Each Thursday at 9:00 am**

You are invited each week to enjoy  
quilting and fellowship.

# Worship and Sunday Coffee Volunteer Update

## **Schedules for July**

Worship Volunteers and Sunday coffee and cookie fellowship schedules have been distributed to all volunteers. The current schedule is updated regularly and posted on the Mount Olive website, [www.molive.org](http://www.molive.org), under the "Service" tab. For any questions about volunteering at Mount Olive, please contact Nancy Britson, Volunteer Coordinator, at [nancy@molive.org](mailto:nancy@molive.org) or 288-1580 x 210.

## **Worship Volunteers Needed**

There are many opportunities to volunteer at worship services and for fellowship at Mount Olive in August. Nancy Britson, Volunteer Coordinator, utilizes an online program called Sign Up Genius where volunteers choose the dates and positions where they want to serve. If you have not received an invitation, or do not "do computers", please contact Nancy to sign up. Training is available and new volunteers are always welcome!

## **Lector Training**

There will be a brief training for lectors on Sunday, July 17 following the 9:30 service. This will be a time for new readers to learn the basics or for experienced lectors to have a refresher and a chance to practice in the sanctuary. The public reading of the scriptures is one of the central parts of our worship life together. Your part in this is greatly appreciated!



## SERVICE AND SOCIAL OUTREACH MINISTRY (SSOM)



Building community, strengthening lives.

A huge thank you to all of you that attended the Family Promise Gala, There's no place like Home. The fundraiser collected more than 12,000 for helping homeless families in Rochester. It was the first event of its kind and it was a huge success!

**The next Interfaith Hospitality Network hosting week is August 21 through August 28.** Keep an eye out for signup sheets in the gathering area and a link for online signup.



### Elder Network Workshop #2

Mount Olive is pleased to host a second Elder Network workshop, **Living Well with Chronic Conditions**, beginning Wednesday, June 29, 9:30-noon, in the church library. This workshop meets each week for six weeks and the suggested fee is \$20 for the entire workshop. If you or someone you care for is living with chronic health conditions you are encouraged to attend this fine workshop. To register call Holly Brown, Respite Companion Coordinator, at 285-5272 or email her at [hollyb@elder-network.org](mailto:hollyb@elder-network.org).

### Next Chapter Ministries Vacation Bible School

In August a group of Mount Olive members will be joining with the staff of Next Chapter Ministries to provide a mini-Vacation Bible School for the kids involved in Next Chapter. These kids have parents who are presently incarcerated or have been recently released from prison. If you would like to be involved in meal preparation and/or serving, or in helping in the evening bible school, please talk to Pastor Glenn. Also, please remember these children in your prayers.



**NextChapterMinistries**  
A NETWORK FOR CHANGING LIVES



## Heartland Hospice Seeking Volunteers

Heartland Hospice is seeking friendly and caring individuals interested in making a difference in the life of patients with limited life expectancies. Friendly visitors provide companionship and socialization to patients wherever they call home. Free training is provided with flexible scheduling to meet individual needs. For more information, call Emily Weichert, Volunteer Coordinator, at Heartland Hospice (507) 292-1170.

Heartland 

Hospice Care

## Mayo Clinic Blood Donor Center invites you to donate blood!

The Mayo Clinic Blood Donor Program invites you to make blood donation a part of your giving tradition. A blood donation can save the life of a child with leukemia, restore the strength of a cancer patient, or provide a critical transfusion to an accident victim. There is no substitute for this life-saving gift, so patients rely upon the caring spirit of blood donors like you.

As additional donor restrictions are implemented and our population ages, the pool of willing donors could decline, threatening the local blood supply. The Mayo Clinic Blood Donor Center encourages healthy, eligible individuals to roll up their sleeves and give blood. To make your donation appointment or for more information, call (507) 284-4475, e-mail [donateblood@mayo.edu](mailto:donateblood@mayo.edu) or see our website at [www.mayoclinic.org/donate-blood-rst](http://www.mayoclinic.org/donate-blood-rst).

### Hours and locations:

**Mayo Clinic** - Hilton Building

Mon. through Fri., 6 am - 4:30 pm (every second Thursday, open until 7)

**Saint Marys Hospital** - Joseph Building

Mon. through Thurs., 7:30 am - 3:45 pm,

Fri., 6:30 am - 3:00 pm

**IBM** (only if you work on the IBM campus) - Building 004, Room B10

Mon.-Thurs., 6:00 am-11:00 am

12:45 pm- 3:00 pm

# Mission Colombia Weekend - July 9 and 10

Each worship service will feature Curtis and Katie Kline, ELCA missionaries to Colombia.

**Saturday:** A **potluck** meal follows the service. Bring a dish to share and enjoy food and fellowship with the Kline's.

**Sunday:** Coffee fellowship time following both services is another opportunity to learn more about Curtis and Katie's work in Colombia.

Financial contributions will be accepted to support their mission work.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<div>JULY 2016</div>					<b>1</b> 6:00p Serve at Dorothy Day House	<b>2</b> 9:00a Altar Guild Setup 5:00p Worship
<b>3</b> 8:00a Worship & Coffee Fellowship 9:30a Worship & Coffee Fellowship	<b>4</b> Office Closed 	<b>5</b> 9:15a Staff Meeting 7:00p Service and Social Outreach Ministry Team	<b>6</b> 9:30a Living Well with Chronic Conditions Workshop with Elder Network 7:00p God's Work, Our Hands Planning Meeting	<b>7</b> 9:00a Mount Olive Quilters 7:00p 'In the Process' Al-Anon	<b>8</b>	<b>9 Mission Colombia Weekend</b> 9:00a Altar Guild Setup 9:00a Habitat for Humanity Work Day 5:00p Worship 6:00p Potluck with Colombian Missionaries
<b>10 Mission Colombia Weekend</b> 8:00a Worship & Coffee Fellowship 9:30a Worship & Coffee Fellowship 1:00p Eagle Scout Court of Honor 4:00p Adventure Club - Pizza/Music at Squash Blossom Farm 7:00p Next Chapter Ministries VBS Meeting	<b>11</b> 5:30p Public Theology 6:30p Lydia Circle 6:30p Boy Scout Troop Meeting	<b>12</b> 9:15a Staff Meeting 6:30p Executive Council Meeting 8:00p Church Softball	<b>13</b> 9:30a Living Well with Chronic Conditions Workshop with Elder Network 5:00p Adventure Club - Berne Pizza	<b>14</b> 9:00a Mount Olive Quilters 5:30p Facility and Grounds Ministry Team 7:00p 'In the Process' Al-Anon	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> 8:00a Pine Ridge Mission Trip Send-off 9:00a Altar Guild Setup 10:00a District 41 Al-Anon Meeting 10:00a Open House at Muslim Community Center 5:00p Worship 
<b>17</b> 8:00a Worship & Coffee Fellowship 9:30a Worship & Coffee Fellowship 10:45a Lector Training	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> 9:15a Staff Meeting	<b>20</b> 9:30a Living Well with Chronic Conditions Workshop with Elder Network	<b>21</b> 9:00a Mount Olive Quilters 7:00p 'In the Process' Al-Anon	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> 9:00a Altar Guild Setup 5:00p Worship
<div>P i n e R i d g e M i s s i o n T r i p</div> 						
<b>24</b> 8:00a Worship & Coffee Fellowship 9:30a Worship & Coffee Fellowship 11:30a Columbarium Committee Meeting	<b>25</b> 5:30p Public Theology 6:30p Venture Crew	<b>26</b> 9:15a Staff Meeting 8:00p Church Softball	<b>27</b> 9:30a Living Well with Chronic Conditions Workshop with Elder Network 11:30a Bolder Options Board Meeting	<b>28</b> 9:00a Mount Olive Quilters 7:00p 'In the Process' Al-Anon	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> 9:00a Altar Guild Setup 2:00a Bakke/Smith Wedding 5:00p Worship
<b>31</b> 8:00a Worship & Coffee Fellowship 9:30a Worship & Coffee Fellowship 10:40a Columbarium Committee Mtg.						