

Stewardship

For many years, people of faith have taken time in the Autumn season to give thanks to God for what yield the harvest brings. As we tend the final stages of our vegetable gardens, and watch the big farm implements move gracefully through the fields around Rochester, we also will be gathering as a congregation to give thanks to God and ponder how we will give of our abundance in the year to come.

October 16 is Stewardship Sunday at Mount Olive, at which time we will explore how we plan to be faithful this coming year in our support of others. Each monetary gift given to Mount Olive benefits not only the ministries of this place, such as worship services, children's ministries, food projects, and housing people experiencing homelessness, but a portion of these funds are also sent along to support other ministry partners near and far. This practice dates back to the ancient Church, who did this as well. When they gathered to pray and sing and share in fellowship around the Meal (Communion), they would often take an offering of food and other goods to support others in need. We continue to seek to do the same.

It is a powerful testament to God's ongoing faithfulness that we are able to continue to gather in this now-2000 year tradition of the way of Jesus and his disciples.

We hope you will be able to join with the congregation for breakfast on Sunday, October 16. There will be two opportunities for you to eat and listen and engage: 9:15 am and 11:45 am. The scouts are serving pancakes and sausage at both times. We will see you there!

Pastor Paul



MOUNT OLIVE LIFE

New Member Sunday October 9

If you are interested in joining Mount Olive, please contact Nancy Britson, New Member Coordinator, nancy@molive.org. New members will join at the 10:30 service on October 9. A reception for the new members will follow. Please plan to attend to extend a warm welcome.

Wednesday Night Meals Begin October 5 at 5:30 pm

Meals are open for everyone! In addition to the main entrée, a lettuce salad with toppings, peanut butter and jelly sandwiches, cookies, and applesauce/fruit cups are available. Please sign up in the gathering area if you are able to help with the meals.

Adventure Club - November 12

Visit the Minneapolis Institute of Art and the American Swedish Institute. Depart by bus from Mount Olive at 8:00 am and return by 6:00 pm. Space is limited. Sign up in the Gathering Area to reserve your spot.

Affirmation of Baptism October 30 at 10:30 am

Celebrate with our youth as they affirm their baptism.

A reception with refreshments will be held following the service. Faith statements will be posted.

Noah Balander
Karen Coenen
Sam Fletcher
Grace Freed
Charles Guy
Samantha Hennebeck
Claire Larson
Grant Natzke
Tyler Novak
Aaron Novak
Kayle Pierce
Sela Rist



Youth Orffestra

Rehearsals for this ensemble begin on Wednesday, October 5 at 5 pm in the music room. Youth in grades 5 and above are encouraged to participate in this mallet & percussion based ensemble, and will be presenting a musical offering to the congregation on Sunday, December 18 at both the 8 am and 10:30 am services. It is not a requirement to read music, so anyone wishing to participate is encouraged to sign up on the sheet in the gathering area. If you should have any questions, please contact Brock Besse at 288-1580 or at bbesse@charter.net.

Welcome To Handbells Class Tuesday, October 4 at 7:00 pm, rooms 3 & 4

Have you thought about participating in music at Mount Olive, but were unsure about music in general? Come to this introduction to all things bells ... from learning about music clefs, note placement, key signature, time signature to the correct way to ring handchimes and handbells and articulations. There are so many ways to praise the Lord, why not give this a try?

A 10-day Tour to Germany In the Footsteps of Martin Luther September 27 - October 6, 2017

Each year at the end of October, we as Lutherans celebrate Reformation Day in our worship together. This powerful remembrance brings us back to the theology that anchors us: God's unending, unearned, gift of grace that transforms our lives and world.

Next Fall, Pastor Paul will be leading a tour of Germany through many famous and significant Luther locales. We are in for an unforgettable experience as we follow in his footsteps and ponder how God used him to change the course of Western history.

Luther's courage and convictions not only initiated the Protestant Reformation and its accompanying musical and cultural shift, but his translation of Scripture into German impacted human culture in ways that are still developing. As we pilgrimage through the great cities and beautiful countryside of Luther's world, we will gain a deeper understanding and keener appreciation of his life. We plan to come away with a desire to live our own lives more courageously and purposefully.

Travel destinations include: arrival in Berlin, All Saints Church in Wittenberg (where Luther's 95 Theses were posted), the Hartenfels castle of Torgau, St. Thomas Church in Leipzig (where Bach served as choirmaster), Luther's home town of Eisleben, and the Wartburg castle in Eisenach (where Luther translated the New Testament into German), among others. Travel brochures are available in the church office.

For more information:

- Contact Pastor Paul at 288-1580 or paul@molive.org
- Visit www.myfaithjourneys.com/login and enter group number 17013
- Pick up a travel brochures in the church office.

Fellowship Table Sign Up

There are three options. Each group meets three times during the year to share a meal and fellowship. Choose one or more.

- **Home Fellowship Table**
- **Restaurant Fellowship Table**
- **Family Fellowship Table**
(families with young children)

This is a great way to meet new people or bond with long-time friends. Groups are formed for one year and are open to couples, singles, and families. Pick up forms at the information table in the entry or in the gathering area; return by October 16.

Direct questions to:

Nancy Britson (nancy@molive.org)
or Serena Oudekirk (269-4646 or serena.oudekirk@phhonline.com).

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. A sign-up book and order envelopes are in the gathering area. **The 2017 flower calendar is now available.** Fill out an envelope with the designation, include payment, and put in the offering plate or office drop box.



FRIENDS, FAMILY AND FAITH TOGETHER

LEARNING, GROWTH AND FELLOWSHIP

God's Work, Our Hands Oct. 9, 9:30 am
Join together on the **Second Sunday Service day**. Students from Gustavus Adolphus College will assist in the joint service project.

Morning Schedule for Youth and Parents:

9:15 am Announcements & music - Sanctuary

9:30 am Intergenerational service

Fun in Serving Him October 5, 6:30 pm

Register in the gathering area for this youth service group. Projects include: decorating a tree for the Hiawatha Festival of Trees and packing backpacks for JA students.

Questions? Contact Sara (sara@molive.org) or Carrie (cxnfletch@aol.com)

Metamorphosis: How it's Shaping our Family Reflections by Carrie Krieger

Not your momma's confirmation class... This past school year, my husband and I joined the ranks of so many before us - we became parents of a confirmation-age student. Transitioning into this new role evoked memories of my own confirmation classes. My confirmation experience included release time from school every Wednesday afternoon near the end of the day. We would walk across the street to the Congregational Church where all of the churches in town held their release time classes. As we walked, I would commit to memory our assignment from Luther's Small Catechism, only to have it fade from my memory a few moments later, after putting it down on paper.

In contrast, while there has been no required memory work, I recall significantly more of what I have been learning at Metamorphosis when compared to my past confirmation experience. Memorization does have its place, but I'm not convinced its use in confirmation class is an optimal application. To be clear, Metamorphosis does not abandon Luther's Small Catechism and the Bible, but rather it draws from these teachings to show how they relate to God's world, through proclaiming story, proclaiming justice, and proclaiming community.

An invitation... As parents, we make many baptismal promises to our children. Collectively, these promises remind our children that we will help them "grow in the Christian faith and life." As a congregation, we promise to support and pray for those baptized. While the responsibility of faith formation falls mainly on parents, the support of the congregation is deeply valued.

Although formal confirmation classes begin at Mount Olive in the 6th grade, confirmation is truly a life-long journey. Metamorphosis helps us cultivate and enrich our own faith journey, while supporting the journeys of our fellow members.

Mission begins in our own congregation and perhaps even in our own families. Let us accompany one another in this great mystery we call life. Please join us at Metamorphosis this year as we walk together on our confirmation journeys!

Baptismal Journey

Infancy	Baptism
0 - 3 Years	Little Leapers (children and parents together)
Pre-K 3	Storybook Bible is given by parents in worship.
Pre-K 3 - Grade 4	Sunday School
Grade 5	Youth Bible is given by parents in worship. Sunday School education shifts to a Pre-Metamorphosis prep year, focusing on the Church Year with a special Great Three Days family learning event during Holy Week in the Spring. Students learn to assist in worship leadership and commit to at least two areas of worship leadership each year until Confirmation.
Middle School	Metamorphosis on Sundays and Wednesdays for two or more years, as is appropriate per Confirmand/family.
Middle School / High School	Post-Metamorphosis mentorship and faith statement creation, culminating in Confirmation (late October each year), with expected participation in Youth Forum until late High School.
High School	Ongoing Leadership: Wednesday evening table facilitation, Sunday morning classroom teaching, worship leadership, service opportunity coordination, et al.
Beyond	Meaningful engagement in the church and world as a follower of Jesus Christ.

When we bring our children to baptism, we as parents (and as a congregation!) make promises:

*to live with them among God's faithful people,
bring them to the word of God and the holy supper,
teach them the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments,
place in their hands the holy scriptures, and nurture them in faith and prayer,
so that they may learn to trust God,
proclaim Christ through word and deed,
care for others and the world God made,
and work for justice and peace.*

This is a tall order! And it doesn't just happen overnight. These promises are fulfilled throughout childhood (and beyond). We seek to fulfill these promises together as a community, as we continue to figure out what it means for us to live as God's people.

See the table above that describes the flow from baptism through adolescence and into adulthood. There is always some flexibility in the movement from year to year, but we hope that this outline will help you as a family identify places to engage as you grow together.

If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Paul or Sara Hollander (paul@molive.org and sara@molive.org).

ADULTS

LEARNING, GROWTH AND FELLOWSHIP

2016 Mount Olive Women's Retreat

Friday, October 14, 6:30 pm- 8:30+ pm and Saturday, October 15, 9 am- 4 pm

Location: Mount Olive Lutheran Church

Guest Speaker: Pastor Shelley Cunningham, Zumbro Lutheran, Rochester

Cost: \$30- Includes registration, Saturday continental breakfast and lunch



Is your marble jar full? Come to the Mount Olive Women's Retreat to find out. Guest speaker, Pr. Shelley Cunningham will lead us to explore the answer to this question as we focus on **Christian Community** and the concepts of **Authenticity, Trust** and **Compassion**. The retreat is open to all women of Mount Olive and their female friends, and part of what makes a women's retreat like this so valuable and engaging is the presence of women from all generations. **Please we want you. We need you.** Here are some comments from last year's retreat: "This retreat was life changing for me." "I will carry what I learned at this retreat with me for the rest of my life." "Thank you for planning this. It was a great experience." "Thanks for bringing us together." "My favorite part was the conversation of the women." "My overall favorite part of the retreat was to be present with loving, passionate, caring women and having engaging conversation." "Thought provoking." "I enjoyed all the content. I look forward to pondering the questions that I wrote on my note cards. I will watch for the mystery of each day."



Register in the gathering area, or contact Sherry Sanden Will, sher05@charter.net or 281-0457.

Women of the ELCA News

Monthly Bible study leaders will meet with Pastor Glenn in the front conference room on October 4 at 5:30 pm. Please RSVP to Pastor Glenn (glenn@molive.org).

Volleyball

The church volleyball league starts soon. Please sign up in the gathering area; you will be contacted once the schedule is set. Games are played on Tuesday evenings at Zumbro Lutheran Church and last 45 minutes. Gina Rislow is the team captain this year.

Ripe Olives Invite You!

On the 2nd Friday of each month (Sept. – May) at 9:30 am, seniors from Mount Olive will meet at Charley's Eatery (1654 US Hwy 52, Hillcrest Shopping Center), for coffee and a roll. Attend as often as you can. No need to call or sign-up, just come. The more the merrier!

Faith Seeking Understanding (FSU) Tuesday, October 4 at 6:30 pm

Read and share conversation about a variety of books on theology, religion, spirituality and Christianity and our changing church. If you have questions, please contact Jody Myers at jodyjpmyers@gmail.com.

October 4



***Love is an Orientation*, by Andrew Martin & Brian McLaren**

Andrew Martin's life changed forever when his three best friends came out to him in three consecutive months. He was compelled to understand how he could reconcile his friends to his faith. This book is changing the conversation about sexuality and spirituality, and building bridges from the GLBT community to the Christian community and, more importantly, to the good news of Jesus Christ.

Pastor Paul will lead discussion of this selection.

November 2

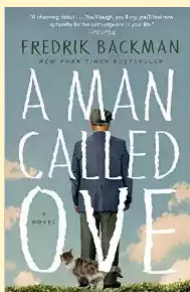
***Living the Questions* - Video Discussions: pastors David Felten and Jeff Procter-Murphy present a lively and stimulating tour of what it means to be a "progressive" Christian.**

Featured voices include top Bible scholars and church leaders, including Diana Butler Bass, John Dominic Crossan, Amy-Jill Levine, Brian McLaren, Helen Prejean, and John Shelby Spong.

Monday Book Group

October 10 at 6:30 pm in the Mount Olive Library

All are welcome. Please join in for some wonderful discussion and fun! If you have questions, please contact Jodi Schoer at mjschoer@charter.net. Meet in the Mount Olive library.



***A Man Called Ove*
by Fredrik Backman**

A feel-good story in the spirit of The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry and Major Pettigrew's Last Stand, this novel about the angry old man next door is a thoughtful exploration of the profound impact one life has on countless others.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Tuesday, October 11, 9:00 am

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

Mount Olive Quilters

Thursdays at 9:00 am

You are invited each week to

enjoy quilting and fellowship.

SERVICE AND SOCIAL OUTREACH MINISTRY (SSOM)

Mission Colombia, We Are On!



If you were in worship in July you might have heard Katie and Curtis Kline, ELCA missionaries to Colombia, speak at Mount Olive. They told about their work in peacemaking, advocacy and education in that land. When we met with them following their presentation we asked, "How can Mount Olive best partner with you in your ministry in Colombia?" They answered, "Come and visit the people of Colombia and then you will understand how to best partner with us." And so, we are doing just that!

We are going to Colombia March 10-20, 2017! A number of enthusiastic supporters of global missions at Mount Olive have already committed themselves to this trip, including five youth! We still have room for 3 more persons on this trip. If you are seriously interested in going on this mission trip, talk to Pastor Glenn as soon as possible.

To support the youth who are going on this trip we are having a wonderful Colombian meal combined with an auction and raffle this fall. Save this date: **Saturday, November 19 at 6:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall.** Tickets will be \$20 each/\$75 maximum per family

Are you interested in going to Baton Rouge?

This past summer a devastating and deadly flood swept through Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Eleven people lost their lives, an estimated 30,000 homes were damaged, and hundreds of thousands of people were impacted by this disaster. The clean-up has now started. Crews are needed to muck out houses and rebuild homes. If you are interested in being part of a Mount Olive crew going to Baton Rouge in October 31 – November 5, please see Pastor Glenn. Preliminary plans are in the works.

Journey of Peace VII is October 23

On Sunday, October 23, 2:00-4:00 pm the Assisi Heights Spirituality Center will host the 7th annual Journey of Peace. The day's activities will center in nurturing, recognizing and awakening acts of compassion in the city of Rochester. Non-profit groups from throughout Rochester will present the multiple works of compassion they see happening on a daily basis. Come and celebrate the various expressions of compassion flourishing in our community and stimulate new seeds of compassion.

Christmas Tree Needed

The Altar Guild is looking for someone willing to sponsor the Christmas tree for our sanctuary for the Advent and Christmas season. Please contact Sharon Parker at 507-269-0385 or email sharonk2001@msn.com.



God's work. Our hands.

God's Work Our Hands Thank You!

Thank you to everyone who participated in God's Work Our Hands Sunday on September 11. Many volunteers of all ages mobilized to serve at Mount Olive and in the community. Check out the church Facebook page or the bulletin board near the library to see photographs.



Volunteer News

October Worship Volunteer & Coffee Fellowship schedules were sent to all participants. You can find the schedule under the "Service" tab at www.molive.org. Volunteers are always needed; to help, contact Nancy Britson. She utilizes Sign Up Genius, an online program, where volunteers sign up to serve in worship and fellowship time as they are able. Please contact Nancy receive an invitation to the program or let her know the dates that you are available.

Volunteer Interest forms will be available October 9. These forms are a way to connect your "Time and Talents" with needs at Mount Olive and in the community. Your selections are used to connect opportunities and interested volunteers. Please fill out a new form each year as new opportunities are available. Visit www.molive.org to fill out the on-line form or pick a paper form up at the Welcome Center.

Next Chapter Ministries News



NextChapterMinistries
A NETWORK FOR CHANGING LIVES

This summer we began a wonderful partnership with Next Chapter Ministries, a local ministry serving persons and families impacted by crime. We led a mini-VBS at the Next Chapter youth house, and on God's Work, Our Hands Day, we sent a crew to sand down and refinish the porches on the men's houses. As we are getting to know each other better we are learning of all sorts of ways we can be involved with Next Chapter. Check out the following list – could it be that God is calling *you* to this ministry?

- Youth House: lead a month-long class in a skill that you have (cooking, sewing, dance, etc.), mentor a child, bring a meal once-a-month, teach a skill one-on-one.
- Men's House: mentor a resident, build relationships while attending Next Chapter Bible study, lead or assist in a jail Bible study.
- Women's House: mentor a resident, bring a meal to a Bible study, help with transportation to Bible studies, build relationships while attending Bible study, teach a skill one-on-one.

Dwell ·in· **Christ**



*Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly;
teach and admonish one another in all wisdom;
and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms,
hymns, and spiritual songs to God.*

Colossians 3:16

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 8:30a Men's Discipleship Group 9:00a Altar Guild Setup 5:00p Conventus Worship
2 8:00a Worship & Coffee Fellowship 9:15a Education Hour 10:30a Worship & Coffee Fellowship 3:00a Rochester Pops Rehearsal	3 6:30p Boy Scout Troop Meeting	4 9:15a Staff Meeting 5:30p Women of the ELCA Study Leaders 6:30p Faith Seeking Understanding 6:30p Cub Scout Dens 7:00p Welcome to Handbells Class	5 5:30p Dinner 6:00p Metamorphosis 6:30p Adult Bible Study 6:30p Fun in Serving Him 6:45p Cantori Rehearsal 7:30p Adult Choir Rehearsal 8:45p Brass Ensemble Rehearsal	6 9:00a Mount Olive Quilters 6:00p Cub Scout Dens 4, 5, 6 7:00p 'In the Process' Al- Anon	7 6:00p Serve at Dorothy Day House	8 8:30a Men's Discipleship 9:00a Altar Guild Setup 9:00a Habitat for Humanity Work Day 5:00p Conventus Worship 6:00p Fellowship
9 New Member and Service Sunday 8:00a Worship & Coffee Fellowship 9:15a Education Hour 10:30a Worship 11:30a New Member Reception 3:00p Rochester Pops Rehearsal	10 5:30p Public Theology 6:00p Widowed Persons 6:30p Lydia Circle 6:30p Monday Book Club 6:30p IHN Training at Zumbro 6:30p Crew	11 9:00a Prayer Shawl Ministry 9:15a Staff Meeting 6:30p Exec Council 6:30p Cub Scout Dens 7:30p Glory Bells	12 5:30p Dinner 6:00p Metamorphosis 6:30p Adult Bible Study 6:30p Fun in Serving Him 6:45p Cantori Rehearsal 7:30p Adult Choir Rehearsal 8:45p Brass Ensemble Rehearsal	13 9:00a Mount Olive Quilters 9:00a Rochester Keyboard Club 5:00p Bolder Options 5:30p Facility & Grounds Ministry 6:30p Cub Scout Dens 7:00p 'In the Process' Al- Anon	14 9:30a Ripe Olives 6:30p Women's Retreat	15 8:30a Men's Discipleship 9:00a Women's Retreat 9:00a Altar Guild Setup 10:00a District 41 Al-Anon Meeting 5:00p Conventus Worship
16 8:00a Worship 9:00a Stewardship Breakfast 9:15a Education Hour 10:30a Worship 11:30a Stewardship Breakfast 1:30p Time of Remembrance Service with Heartland Hospice	17 5:30p Public Theology 6:30p Boy Scout Troup Meeting	18 9:15a Staff Meeting 6:30p Mutual Ministry Team 6:30p WomenHeart support group	19 6:30p Adult Bible Study 6:30p Anna Circle	20 9:00a Mount Olive Quilters 7:00p 'In the Process' Al- Anon	21	22 Intention Weekend 8:30a Men's Discipleship Group 9:00a Altar Guild Meeting & Setup 5:00p Conventus Worship 6:00p Fellowship
23 Stewardship Intention Weekend 8:00a Worship & Coffee Fellowship 9:15a Education Hour 10:30a Worship & Coffee Fellowship 3:00p Rochester Pops Rehearsal	24 5:30p Public Theology 6:30p Boy Scout Troup Meeting	25 9:00a Ruth Circle 1:00p Naomi Circle 7:30p Glory Bells	26 9:15a Staff Meeting 5:30p Dinner 6:00p Metamorphosis 6:30p Adult Bible Study 6:30p Fun in Serving Him 6:45p Cantori Rehearsal 7:30p Adult Choir Rehearsal 8:45p Brass Ensemble Rehearsal	27 9:00a Mount Olive Quilters 6:00p Cub Scout Pack 6:30p Rachel Circle 7:00p 'In the Process' Al- Anon	28 9:30a Mary Circle	29 8:30a Men's Discipleship Group 9:00a Altar Guild Setup 5:00p Conventus Worship
30 Reformation/ Confirmation 8:00a Worship & Coffee Fellowship 9:15a Education Hour 10:30a Worship 11:30p Confirmation Reception 3:00p Rochester Pops Rehearsal	31 5:30p Public Theology	 O c t o b e r 2 0 1 6				