

Mount Olive Messenger

November
2016

Transition and Thanksgiving

Thomas Carlyle, the 19th century British essayist and historian wrote the following:

"Today is not yesterday: we ourselves change; how can our works and thoughts, if they are always to be the fittest, continue always the same? Change, indeed, is painful; yet ever needful; and if memory have its force and worth, so also has hope."

Change, indeed, is painful; yet ever needful. We are finding that out at Mount Olive these days. We are beginning the process of restructuring our program staff: evaluating tasks, workloads, and job descriptions; writing new job descriptions. We are moving away from some of the models we have used in the past, and trying to look carefully at what kinds of models for ministry will best serve our mission in the future. Before long, we hope, we will have new job descriptions written and be ready to post the positions and begin interviewing candidates. Meanwhile we are in transition and everyone has to pedal a little faster to keep up the pace. Thank you to everyone for all your support.

Along with this time of transition, we do not want to forget to say thank you. Our longtime office manager, Gail Quittem, was a valuable member of the staff for many years, and we want to say thank you to Gail by having a *card shower for her on Sunday, November 6*. We encourage all members to bring a card for Gail that day and express thanks for her work, and we will be sure to see that she receives them.

On the following *Sunday, November 13*, we will be having a *thank you coffee reception* for our departing Children, Youth and Family Director, Sara Hollander. Sara is returning to the audiology department at Mayo Clinic, where she was employed previously. Sara has also been a valuable member of the staff for the past 3 ½ years. Again, we encourage all members to greet Sara that day and wish her well in her time of transition, and thank her for her faithful work here.

In all of this transition and thanksgiving, we remember too that Carlyle said that **hope has force and worth**. St. Paul goes even further in his letter to the Romans when he reminds us:

"We also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us." (5:3-5)

God's love sustains us in times of transition and in times of thanksgiving. That is good news.

Blessings,

Pastor Glenn

MOUNT OLIVE LIFE



Family Fellowship Meal

Families with young children will gather in the Fellowship Hall on Friday, November 6 at 6:00 pm for a potluck meal and lots of fun. Everyone is welcome to attend! Families that are interested will be given the opportunity to gather in smaller groups throughout the year. Please sign up in the gathering area or Contact Serena Oudekirk- serena.oudekirk@phhonline.com or Renee Kuehl- rkuehl@brokerbin.com for more information.

Mindful Yoga Class

A four week **Mindful Yoga Class**, will begin Nov 9 at Mount Olive. Wednesdays from 12:00—1pm.. This class is intended for anyone who wants to move their body in a mindful way, and for those new to yoga. The initial four week class cost is \$40 for four classes. Students will need to provide a yoga mat, and can also bring a towel and water. To register call or email Stacey at Stacey@malaikamassage.com or 507.722.0711. Instructor Stacey Schultz, is a massage therapist in Rochester working with clients in medical or cancer treatment. She was also a missionary in Kenya for two years working with Habitat for Humanity.

Connection Cards

You may have noticed that the blue friendship pads and the prayer request cards are absent from the pews. In their place, we are utilizing a "Connection Card" as a way to connect with members and visitors, receive prayer requests and updated contact information, and share information that is requested. Please fill out one per family at each service you attend.



Volunteer Interest Forms

New volunteer interest forms are available in the front entry at Mount Olive. The information from these forms is very valuable to church staff and leaders as it matches your skills, interests, time, and talents with needs at Mount Olive and in the community. There are many ways for us to continue doing "Gods Work, Our Hands"! Please fill out a new form each year as new ministries are added. You may return your completed form to the box on the table in the entry or to the office.

Volunteer Schedules-Many openings are available on the November and December Worship Volunteer & Coffee Fellowship schedules. Nancy Britson, volunteer coordinator, utilizes Sign Up Genius, an online program, where volunteers choose the times they will serve in worship and fellowship time. Please contact Nancy to receive an invitation to the program or let her know your availability if you do not use a computer. New volunteers are always welcome!

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 brochure in the church office.

Thanksgiving Eve Worship and Pie Social

What better way to begin the Thanksgiving Day holiday than have a preview the night before! At 7:00 pm on Thanksgiving Eve we will be having a brief worship of Word and Song followed by fellowship time with a sampling of traditional pies. It's a great time to connect with friends and family who are home for the holiday, and give thanks to God for all the blessings we enjoy. Come and join the celebration! Sign up in the gathering area to bring a pie to share or to help with serving.



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. Watch for the opportunity to purchase poinsettias for the Advent and Christmas season later in November.

FRIENDS, FAMILY AND FAITH TOGETHER

LEARNING, GROWTH AND FELLOWSHIP

Mount Olive's Little Free Library

Have you noticed the "Little Library" outside near the Mount Olive sign? This is a product from the God's Work Our Hands Day. Thank you David Johnston and crew! What a gift to help promote community and learning.

How Does This Library Work?

This **Little Free Library** offers a way to share good things to read—favorite books from your childhood or books you would recommend to friends; books that teach, intrigue and engage you. All of us can help by keeping this collection stocked with good reading material.

Whose library is this? It belongs to everybody -- neighbors, friends, and people we don't even know yet. Anyone can use it. That's why we want to take care of it.

Take a book. If you see something you would like to read, take it. Look inside and see who gave it; who else has read it.

Share it. Return it to any Little Library or pass it on to a friend.

Give books. Leave notes in them. Be a friend of all libraries by helping any way you can. Pay it Forward!

We support reading for children, literacy for adults, and libraries around the world.



Intergenerational Event November 27, 9:15-10:15 am MOVIE & POPCORN

Come to the Fellowship Hall to bring in the Advent Season with a movie that helps us reflect on the meaning of Christmas.

Adult Forums for November

Nov. 6th—Gage East & Affordable Housing for the Homeless—Nancy Cashman.

Nov. 13th - Mission 21: Empowering Youth Survivors of Sex Trafficking.

Nov. 20th - Anyuak Faith Community, Austin, MN—Nygare Gilo.

Nov. 27th - Intergenerational Event—Thanksgiving weekend.



**November 6
9:30 10:15 am**

Parents of newborns through tots not yet in PK1 Sunday School come and join in conversation and fellowship. We will meet each **first Sunday of the month in the library nook of the Gathering Area.**

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

It is with mixed emotions that I write this letter. After three plus years of joyful service, I announce that I have resigned my position as the director of Children, Youth & Family Ministry with my last day being November 13, 2016. While I have no doubt that I was called to serve at Mount Olive, I now believe it is time for me to follow my next call of ministry.

I've recently accepted a position in the department of Audiology at the Mayo Clinic. I am very excited about returning to an area of vocation and ministry that I have served in the past, assisting with pediatric hearing assessments and working with cochlear implant patients. As well, this structured work day will allow me more week-ends to travel to visit family, especially my granddaughter Adeline.

Thank you for welcoming me into your hearts and lives, providing me great support and love for the faith formation of all individuals in the Mount Olive family.

God's peace, Sara Hollander



Second Sunday Service Day- November 13
Offering of Letters
Bread for the World
And "Care Socks" for LINK

In October we had youth from Gustavus Adolphus College come and share their gift of service through helping our families fill 50 school bags that were sent off to South America through Lutheran World Relief.

NOVEMBER 13 we will have our next Service Day where families again will work together supporting Bread for the World, a collective voice to end world hunger. We will be writing letters to our congress for support to improve nutrition among mothers and young children in third world countries.

In addition we will be filling our "Care Socks" for LINK. Please help by donating deodorant and socks. LINK (Living Independently with Knowledge) is a safe and supportive environment for teens and young adults, supported by Lutheran Social Services.



Morning Schedule for Youth and Parents:
9:15 am Announcements & music - Sanctuary
9:30 am Intergenerational service in the gathering area and library.

November 2016

Tuesday, Nov. 1st

9:15am Staff Meeting
6:30pm Cub Scout Den Meetings
6:30pm FSU Book Group
6:30pm Cub Scout Fundraising Turn In
7:15pm Volleyball at Zumbro Lutheran
7:00pm SSOM Meeting
7:30pm Glory Bells Rehearsal

Wednesday, Nov 2nd

5:00pm Orffestra - Music Room
5:30pm Meal
6:00pm Metamorphosis
6:30pm FISH
6:45pm Cantori Rehearsal
7:30pm Adult Choir Rehearsal
8:45pm Mount Olive Brass Rehearsal

Thursday, Nov. 3rd

9:00am Mount Olive Quilters
6:30pm Cub Scout Den Meetings
7:00pm In the Process' Al-Anon Meeting

Friday, Nov. 4th

5:00pm SherrieBelle Brinkworth student Recital
6:00pm Serve at Dorothy Day House

Saturday, Nov. 5th

8:30am Men's Discipleship
9:00am Altar Guild Set-up
10:00am French Creek Home Owner's Meeting
5:00pm Conventus

Sunday, Nov. 6th

Daylight Savings Begins 2:00am

8:00am Worship - Sanctuary
9:00am Coffee Fellowship
9:15am Education Hour
10:30am Worship
11:30am Coffee Fellowship
4:00pm Mayo Chamber Orchestra Concert
6:00pm Family Fellowship Table

Monday, Nov. 7th

6:30pm Boy Scout Troop Meeting

Tuesday, Nov. 8th

9:00am Prayer Shawl Ministry
5:30pm WELCA study leaders
6:30pm Exec Council
6:30pm Cub Scout Den Meetings
7:30pm Glory Bells Rehearsal

Wednesday, Nov. 9th

9:15am Staff Meeting
5:00pm Orffestra
5:30pm Meal
6:00pm Metamorphosis
6:30pm FISH
6:30pm Adult Bible Study
6:45pm Cantori Rehearsal
7:30pm Adult Choir Rehearsal
8:45pm Mount Olive Brass Rehearsal

Thursday, Nov. 10th

9:00am Mount Olive Quilters
9:00am Rochester Keyboard Club
5:30pm Facility and Grounds Team
6:30pm Cub Scout Den Meetings
7:00pm 'In the Process' Al-Anon Meeting

Friday, Nov. 11th

9:30am Ripe Olives - Charlies Eatery & Pub

Saturday, Nov. 12th

Adventure Club - Swedish Inst./Martin Luther Art and the Reformation
8:30am Men's Discipleship
9:00am Altar Guild Set-up
9:00am Habitat for Humanity work day
5:00pm Conventus
6:00pm Fellowship

Sunday, Nov. 13th

8:00am Worship
9:00am Coffee Fellowship
9:15am Adult Forum/Service Day
10:30am Worship
11:30am Coffee Fellowship
11:45am WELCA board meeting
12:00pm IHN Training
3:00pm Rochester Pops Orchestra rehearsal

Monday, Nov. 14th

5:30pm "Public Theology" Forum
6:00pm Widowed Persons Dinner and Meeting
6:00pm Bolder Options
6:30pm Lydia Circle
6:30pm Scout Venture Crew
6:30pm Monday Book Group

Tuesday, Nov. 15th

9:15am Staff Meeting
6:00pm Worship & Music Team Meeting
6:30pm WomenHeart of SE MN
6:30pm Volleyball at Zumbro Lutheran
7:30pm Glory Bells Rehearsal

Wednesday, Nov. 16th

5:00pm Orffestra
5:30pm Meal
6:00pm Metamorphosis
6:30pm Anna Circle
6:30pm Adult Bible Study
6:45pm Cantori Rehearsal
7:30pm Adult Choir Rehearsal
8:45pm Mount Olive Brass Rehearsal

Thursday, Nov. 17th

9:00am Mount Olive Quilters
6:00pm Cub Scout Pack Meeting
6:30pm Rachel Circle
7:00pm 'In the Process' Al-Anon Meeting

Friday, Nov. 18th

8:00am Prep for Columbia Dinner
9:30am Mary Circle
1:00pm Lyra Concert Set up and Rehearsal
6:00pm Family Promise Silent Auction - Bethel
7:30pm Family Promise Concert - Bethel
7:30pm Lyra Baroque Concert
9:30pm Lyra Baroque Concert Reception

Saturday, Nov. 19th

8:30am Men's Discipleship
9:00am Altar Guild Meeting and Set-up
9:00am District 41 Al-Anon meeting
11:00am Scout Lawn Raking Event #2
5:00pm Conventus
6:30pm Mission Colombia Dinner

Sunday, Nov. 20th

8:00am Worship
9:00am Coffee Fellowship
9:15am Education Hour
10:30am Worship
11:30am Coffee Fellowship
3:00pm Rochester Pops Orchestra rehearsal

Monday, Nov. 21st

5:30pm "Public Theology" Forum
6:00pm Bolder Options
6:30pm Boy Scout Troop Meeting

Tuesday, Nov. 22nd

9:00am Ruth Circle
1:00pm Naomi Circle
6:00pm Adult Faith Ministry Team
7:30pm Glory Bells Rehearsal

Wednesday, Nov. 23rd

9:15am Staff Meeting
11:30am Bolder Options Board Meeting
6:00pm Adult Choir Rehearsal
7:00pm Thanksgiving Eve Service
7:45pm Pie Fellowship

Thursday, Nov. 24th

7:00pm 'In the Process' Al-Anon meeting

Saturday, Nov. 26th

8:30am Men's Discipleship
9:00am Altar Guild Set-up
12:00pm Russian Service and fellowship
5:00pm Conventus

Sunday, Nov. 27th (IHN Host Week)

8:00am Worship
9:00am Coffee Fellowship
9:15am Intergenerational Event
10:30am Worship
11:30am Coffee Fellowship
2:00pm Rochester Pops Orchestra rehearsal

Monday, Nov. 28th

5:30pm "Public Theology" Forum
6:30pm Boy Scout Troop Meeting

Tuesday, Nov. 29th

9:15am Staff Meeting
6:00pm CYF Ministry Team Meeting
7:15pm Volleyball at National Volleyball Center
7:30pm Glory Bells Rehearsal



ADULTS

LEARNING, GROWTH AND FELLOWSHIP

Women of the ELCA News

Monthly Bible study leaders will meet with Pastor Glenn in the front conference room on Nov.8 at 5:30 pm. Please RSVP to Pastor Glenn (glenn@molive.org).

I want to give special recognition to Elaine Monson, the coordinator of the Mount Olive Quilters. As most are aware, this past September we celebrated the completion of over 2000 quilts made by Mount Olive Quilters, since 2003. Elaine has been instrumental in the success of this group. She calls this amazing project, "her baby", and her extreme dedication really shows. Elaine has been involved in all the tasks of the quilting process: washing, ironing, sorting fabric, cutting, organizing quilt packets, fabric and batting shopping, sewing, taping down quilt backs, layering, tying, boxing and transporting, etc. She has done it all, but the success of the group comes from her patient teaching, compassion for others and her humble example. Organizations that have benefited from the work of the quilters include; LWR, The Rochester Women's Shelter, Ironwood Springs Christian Ranch, Good Earth Village, Mount Olive Women of the ELCA, Mount Olive Youth, Gage East Apartments for homeless youth and families, Mount Olive Colombia Mission, etc.

This well oiled machine is organized so that any member of Mount Olive who desires can help. Quilt top packets are available in the wooden cupboard in the gathering area for members to pick up and complete at home. Every Thursday morning from 9:00-10:30+ quilters gather to cut, tie and bind the quilts using the completed tops. No one can say how many hands have touched the quilts that we send out, but it is done with love and joy, sometimes tears, and a lot of good conversation. It is a great multi-generational time of fellowship. Thanks, Elaine, for all you do to keep us quilters going.

I also want to recognize Gail Forstie and Sandy Schlenker who constantly support Elaine's efforts, and keep the quilting process going when this Snow Bird (Elaine) is away for the winter. Thank you ladies, your hard work and organization has not gone unnoticed. Finally, I want to thank Karen and Mark Masbruch for the incredible amount of fabric they have donated over the years. More than **1,000** yards! Thank you so much, your donations have meant that we are never without fabric and that our donated funds can be used for the purchase of batting, backing and other supplies. Just think of the 1000's of individuals who have been blessed by this ministry. It brings a smile to my face.

Respectfully submitted, Sherry Sanden Will, president, Mount Olive Women of the ELCA



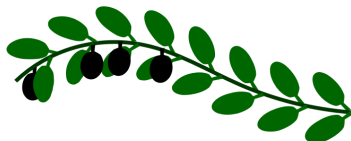
Faith Seeking Understanding (FSU) Tuesday, November 1 at 6:30 pm

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 jodyjpmymers@gmail.com.

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.

Ripe Olives meet November 11th

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 breakfast or coffee and a roll. Attend as often as you can. No need to call or sign-up, just come. The more the merrier!



Volleyball Players Needed!

The church volleyball league starts with games November 1st and 15th at Zumbro Lutheran and Nov. 29th at the Volleyball Center. Games last 45 minutes and are open to 9th grade and up. Contact Gina Rislow, team captain at rislow29@gmail.com.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Tuesday, November 8, 9:00 am

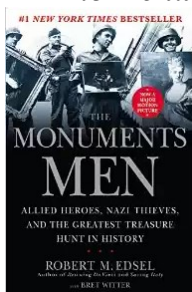
All knitters and crocheters are invited. Yarn, treats, guidance, wisdom, support, and humor are shared! Meet in the front conference room.

Monday Book Group

November 14, 6:30 pm in the 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.

The Monuments Men



By Robert M. Edsel & Bret Witter
In a race against time, behind enemy lines, a special force of American and British museum directors, curators, art historians, and others, called the Monuments Men, risked their lives scouring Europe to prevent the destruction of thousands of years of culture by the Nazis.

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!

On Saturday, November 19 the halls of Mount Olive will be filled with the wonderful smells of Colombian cooking as preparations will be in full swing for the Mission Colombian dinner at 6:30 pm that evening. All members and their guests are welcome. We will sample Colombian cuisine, learn a bit about Colombian culture, and hear about the opportunity before us to connect with the Lutheran Church of Colombia, and our ELCA missionaries there, Katie and Curtis Kline.



This dinner and auction will also be a fund-raising vehicle for our families and youth planning on going to Colombia on March 10-20, 2017. Tickets for the dinner are \$20/person or \$75 max/family. Many silent auction items will also be available for bidding, so everyone is invited to join in the fun, even if you are unable to attend the dinner. Thank you for your support of global missions!

Mitten Tree

Want to help keep kids in our community warm this winter? 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 (grade school sized) coats, snow pants, snow boots, wool socks, hats and/or mittens under or on the tree. The items contributed will be distributed to our kids in our community.



Family Promise News

- **Family Promise training** at Mount Olive--Nov 13th in fellowship hall, lunch will be served at 11:45 and training begins at 12. Lunch and childcare provided for children also. Sign up in the gathering area. All volunteers are required to receive training every 3 years.
- **Family Promise annual choir concert** held at Bethel Lutheran church Friday evening Nov .18th. Silent auction 6:00-7:15pm and concert begins at 7:30pm. Free to the public, free-will offerings accepted and all proceeds benefit Family Promise.
- **Family Promise hosting** at Mount Olive Sunday, November 27th-December 4th. Sign up will be in the gathering area and online.

Thankyous Abound!

Hardly a week goes by that we don't receive a thank you from one of our mission partners at Mount Olive. In the last month we received the following thankyous:

- "YOU DID IT! Thank you! With your food drive contributions of 293 pounds of food, you made a real difference to families facing hunger concerns this summer." Barb Schramm, Channel One
- "Your Personal Care Kits went to Burkina Faso, departing our warehouse on September 28, 2016. Personal Care Kits provide critical hygiene supplies to keep families healthy and able to work and attend school. Thank you so much for bringing hope to our neighbors in need around the world." Melanie Gibbons, Lutheran World Relief

*Thank
you*

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.



A new shipment of Fair Trade Coffee has arrived and is on display in the gathering area. Mount Olive serves Fair Trade Coffee,

a project of Lutheran World Relief, as a way to provide a fair, just and equitable marketplace for small-scale farmers around the world. To help defray the cost of serving fair trade coffee, members are invited to sponsor a Sunday morning's coffee for \$15.00. Please sign up on the calendar, fill out and include payment in the envelopes provided and leave in the basket near sign up poster. Checks should be written to Mount Olive with "coffee" in the memo. Sponsors will be indicated with a sign on the coffee table each Sunday. Donations without sponsorship are also welcome.



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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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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