



MOUNT OLIVE LUTHERAN CHURCH • ROCHESTER, MINNESOTA • 507-288-1580 • MOLIVE.ORG

A Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

State of the Olive News

It's time again to gather and discuss "The State of the Olive." This is an all-congregation event that allows space and time to discuss our hopes and dreams for Mount Olive. Last year we focused on a Visioning Proposal that suggested 2024/25 would be a year of Storytelling and Deep Listening. We've certainly lived into the storytelling aspect thanks to Richard's leadership with the grant we received. And we have been listening carefully to discern themes in our stories about who we are and what we value in this place.

As we begin our 2025/26 program year, we enter into a time of alignment and planning. This involves a needs assessment for our facility, financial and human resource needs, and discerning a plan to meet those needs.

- Over the past year, our facilities team has been gathering quotes for addressing a list of maintenance that is needed for our building and property.
- Over the summer, a "Dream Team" interviewed building users about how our spaces are working, and dreams they have for improvements.
- In October, our Church Council will meet with Rev. Barb Streed from the Synod Office to begin conversations about a call process following Pastor Glenn's retirement. A part of that process will involve completing a Ministry Site profile that will represent who we are as a congregation and the unique skills and gifts we are looking for in a rostered leader.
- From September to December, staff are completing time audits which assess how much time we are spending on various tasks, to help us negotiate any changes in our roles and responsibilities for the short or long-term.

At State of the Olive, we'll share details of how we might move forward with a plan to meet these needs, and some really exciting dreams for our facility as well. Please come, share your ideas and wisdom, and join in the dream of how the love we share might continue to overflow through the decisions and commitments we make as a community.



Love Overflowing Through Your Gifts

Sunday, October 12th will be your chance to let your love overflow through your financial commitments as we gather that day for Stewardship Sunday. During worship we will bring our Letters of Commitment for 2026 to the baptismal font as an indication of how we hope to let our love overflow in the coming year through the ministry of Mount Olive. Each commitment is so important. Each commitment plays a part in supporting our Four Pillars: Worship, Education, Service and Fellowship. We will also celebrate that day with a special Fellowship Hour overflowing with wonderful beverages and treats. We hope to see you there!



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Pastor Glenn's Retirement Process

As you read on the cover, Rev. Barb Streed, Assistant to the Bishop, will be meeting with the church council in October to discuss Pastor Glenn's retirement process as well as to begin a plan to search for a new pastor. We are also looking forward to celebrating Pastor Glenn's ministry – both with us and throughout his career! A tentative plan is for an Open House held at Mount Olive on Saturday, December 20 and special receptions following worship on Sunday, December 21. Pastor Glenn will be with us through the end of 2025. Watch for more details to come!

ISAIAH "Yes to Our Future" Summit

Sunday, October 26, 3:00-5:00 pm

Mayo High School, 1420 11th Ave. SE, Rochester

Join this public meeting with state, county, and city elected officials about how we protect our civil rights and social safety nets from federal overreach. ISAIAH will present our local issue agenda, generated from meetings of hundreds of community members about their concerns, dreams, and vision: What we want to say "yes" to. Register at bit.ly/YesSummitRochester



Fair Trade Market

Our Savior's Lutheran Church
2124 Viola Rd NE, Rochester

October 3 4:00pm-7:00pm

October 4 9:00am-4:00pm

October 5 10:00am-1:00pm

Over 20 fair and ethical trade vendors under one roof selling food, chocolates, home décor and so much more.

Brian McLaren: Wisdom and Courage for a World Falling Apart



Saturday, October 18, 9:30am-3:00pm at Mount Olive

Brian is an author, theologian, and faith leader who will lead a robust discussion on the state of the world and how people of faith can respond. Join us for a day of conversation, food, and fellowship. Lunch and snacks provided.

Tickets are now available to the general public for \$60 for a single ticket, \$90 for a pair. Purchase tickets by searching at www.Eventbrite.com or at this link: <https://tinyurl.com/44vpr8ns> Tickets are FREE for Mount Olivians while they last. Contact Richard to get yours - richard@molive.org.

Interested in Membership at Mount Olive?

If you have been one of the many visitors at worship in recent months, perhaps you are interested in knowing more about membership. Each fall we gather those who have expressed interest in membership and offer an orientation where you can learn more about what membership entails and what you can expect when you join Mount Olive. This fall that orientation will take place between worship services at 9:15 on November 9th. New Member Sunday is planned for November 23. If you, or someone you know, are interested in membership, please fill out a Connection Card found in the pew rack during worship, or see Director of Congregational Life, Nancy Britson, or one of the pastors.



October 26 is Wear Red Sunday!

If you are a Lutheran you will be 505 years old on October 26th, Reformation Sunday. Congratulations! Be sure to wear red to worship that day and celebrate our heritage along with the confirmands who will be affirming their baptism that day. Lutherans continue to be a vigorous part of the worldwide church, a proudly reforming movement, and one that continues to hold up the centrality of God's grace. Happy Birthday!

Affirmation of Baptism Service October 26

October 26th is Reformation Sunday and we will be confirming, affirming, and celebrating the following 8th-9th graders at 10:30am worship service: Lucy Armstrong, Brady Grossbach, Wyatt Laqua, Noah Mannix, Harper Sinnwell, and Jack Vance. We will have a slideshow that includes the students' faith statements and a reception following the service. Please join us to celebrate these youth and their on-going leadership.



Weekly Prayer Service at Mount Olive

Mondays 5:30 - 6:00 pm in the sanctuary

All are welcome to "Pray Without Ceasing," our short, contemplative service of music, meditation and readings. As part of an ELCA initiative hundreds of churches also do, we center our hearts on the needs of our community and our neighbors. Drop in any Monday night.



Youth serving as greeters.

Altar Guild Meets

Altar Guild is a group of people who support worship at Mount Olive by setting up and cleaning up from communion, seeing to the decorations in the sanctuary (banners, flowers, candles, etc), and other tasks as needed. If you are interested in helping out or learning more about it, the next Altar Guild meeting is Saturday, **October 11** at 9:30 am in the Gathering Area at church. All interested people, including men, women, and families, are welcome!

Altar Flowers

The sign-up schedule to provide flowers in the chancel for birthdays, anniversaries, baptisms, births, or in memory of loved ones is available on the Gathering Area cabinet. Write your name on the chart, fill out a payment envelope, enclosed payment, and drop it in the offering plate or office drop box.

Volunteering In Worship

We rely on worship volunteers to keep the services running smoothly and to show hospitality to everyone attending worship. Everyone's help is appreciated, whether the role is small or large, and all ages are welcome. Please consider signing up to help in worship by using the Sign Up Genius link <https://tinyurl.com/jtzbwjkj>, or sign up at the Welcome Desk following worship. Details and directions are sent each week from Nancy Britson, Director of Congregational Life. You may also email Nancy with your availability at nancy@molive.org.

God's work. Our hands." Sunday

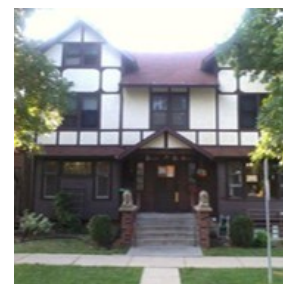
September 7, 2025, was Mount Olive's annual "God's work. Our hands." Sunday. Members of all ages came to lend their helping hands with 8 different service projects. Thank you to everyone who participated! It was great to see everyone visiting and working to serve others in our congregation, the community, and the world. Here's what was accomplished:

100 Snack Kits Assembled	15 Dozen Chocolate Chip Cookies Baked
6 Fleece Blankets Tied	20+ Kindness Rocks Painted
Several Bandages Rolled	50+ Ornaments Made
50 Youth Mentorship Kits Assembled	50 Toiletry Kits Assembled

A special thank you to all those who helped lead the projects: Joshua Fletcher, Samantha Fletcher, Bella Govrick, Jill Lundberg, Rob Nelson, Edie and Mark Schultze, Aaron VanBuskirk, Alex Wanek, and Bonnie Wolff.

Dorothy Day House

Mount Olive has been in partnership with the Dorothy Day Hospitality House for many years. Our responsibility is to provide a meal for the guests staying there on the first Friday evening of each month. When you sign up to serve at Dorothy Day House, volunteers prepare a home-cooked meal on site or provide a frozen or commercially prepared meal and share it family-style with the guests in the home's dining room. We need volunteers for the next several months.



If you have never served this ministry before, we can make sure to match you up with a seasoned volunteer. Rest assured, they will help with the process. Serving at Dorothy Day House is truly rewarding. You may sign up on the sheet in the Gathering Area at church. If you have any questions or concerns with serving at Dorothy Day House, please contact Mark or Sarah Jerde at: sarahjerdepa@gmail.com.

Thank You, Jene Bodensteiner

After more than a decade of being the Dorothy Day House coordinator, Jene Bodensteiner is stepping away. Because of her work, thousands of people have enjoyed a hot meal. On behalf of the staff of Mount Olive and the entire congregation, we extend a sincere and heartfelt thank you for all your work with this ministry, Jene!

Welcome, Mark and Sarah Jerde

Mark and Sarah Jerde have stepped forward to become the new Dorothy Day House coordinators. Thank you for stepping forward to lead this important ministry, Mark and Sarah!

Mount Olive Quilters

The quilters meet each **Thursday at 9:00 am** in the Fellowship Hall to prepare and tie quilts that are sent to Lutheran World Relief and local service organizations. Everyone is welcome to join them. They can always use more cotton fabrics for making the colorful quilt tops. Donations may be left in the Gathering Area cabinet.



More than 30 quilts were blessed during the worship service on September 21 and the quilters present were also offered a blessing. A reception in their honor followed both services honoring the quilters for surpassing the milestone of 2,000 quilts given since 2003.

Lutheran World Relief Personal Care Kits

During the month of October, we will be continuing a 30-year tradition at Mount Olive by collecting items for LWR personal care kits. Items needed for kits include:

- bath towels size 20x40 to 27x52 (darker colors preferred)
- bar soap 4-5 oz (2/kit)
- metal nail clippers



Kits also include a tooth brush and a comb, which we currently have enough of, but will always accept. Please contact, Sherry Sanden Will, at sher05@charter.net if you have questions or would like to help assemble kits during Sunday School on November 9, 2025.

Mount Olive Prayer Shawl Group

The Mount Olive prayer shawl group will be meeting on **October 14**, at 10:00 am. The group is looking to welcome new members. Yarn, needles, patterns, and guidance are supplied; please contact Vickie Kubly if you would like to join the group—507-282-7696. If you would like to request a prayer shawl for someone who is experiencing illness, loss, or a difficult time, please contact Vickie, or you may call the church office at 507-288-1580.



Channel One Empty Bowls

Pre-orders started on, September 22!

Order here: www.helpingfeedpeople.org/empty-bowls/place-your-order/

Event date: October 21st and 22nd, 2025

Times: 11 am to 2 pm and 4 to 6 pm pickups

Where: Pinnacle Catering Facility ([2112 2nd St SW, Rochester](#))



As part of this to-go style, pre-order only event, participants will enjoy [gourmet soups](#) and bread from local restaurants as well as [hand-painted bowls](#), serving as a reminder of those who may not know where their next meal will come from. This event remains a crucial part of Channel One's work to increase food security for our friends and neighbors. All funds raised from the 21st annual event in 2025 will be put back into our community and will directly benefit those who are facing food insecurity in our region.

Feel free to reach out to Jessica Sund, Director of Development and Communications, at jessicasund@channel-one.org or [507-424-1729](tel:507-424-1729) with any questions about Empty Bowls To-Go.

The Landing MN Gala

The Landing MN is having their 5th annual Holiday of Hope Gala on December 5th at the Hilton Hotel in downtown Rochester. Tickets are now on sale until November 15th. This event brings the community together to celebrate successes for the year with food, dancing, an educational and inspiring program and more! Click [here](#) or go to www.thelandingmn.org to learn more or purchase tickets today!



Family Promise

Family Promise is a ministry partner serving homeless families in Rochester. If you are interested in supporting the new shelter, Promise House, by donating items they need, you can visit the Amazon Wish Lists below or you can contribute funds using the Mount Olive website [ministry partners link](#).

- [Make Promise House Home](#)
- [Office Needs](#)
- [Household Needs](#)

Visit www.fprochestermn.org to learn more about the organization and how you can get involved.



Sunday Forums Are Amazing!

The Sunday Forum planning team is excited to present the fall line-up of presenters coming your way. We meet each Sunday at 9:15 am in the Fellowship Hall. Here's the October line-up:

- 10/5 - Wild Goose Festival Reflections** – Pastor Lisa, Richard BC, and Travis Beck, having just returned from presenting and hearing others at this global worship and arts festival, will present a forum on their learnings and participation
- 10/12 - Tharan Leopold**, regional representative for the ELCA Foundation, will present a forum on managing wealth, legacy giving, and the work of the ELCA Foundation.
- 10/19 - No Forum** (MEA weekend).
- 10/26 - The Landing MN** - Mount Olive member and Development Director **Erin Sinnwell**, will present a forum on this essential ministry to the unhoused and how we can be part of their ongoing work.

Study the Gospel of Mark with Pastor Glenn

Starting on Wednesday, **October 1**, Pastor Glenn will begin leading an 8-week study of the Gospel of Mark. The classes will be held via Zoom, on Wednesdays at 6:30 pm and Thursday mornings at 10:30 in the church library. The books are \$10 and may be purchased in the church office or via the envelopes provided on the Gathering Area sign up cabinet at church. For any questions, please see Pastor Glenn.

Men's Discipleship Resumes October 25

The Men's Discipleship group will resume their weekly Bible studies on Saturday mornings at 8:30 am in the front Conference Room. This fall, the group is studying the book of James. This group meets most Saturday mornings during the program year for study, discussion, and fellowship. Contact Mark Masbruch for more information - mmasbruch@hotmail.com.

Mount Olive Women's Ministry

The Women of the ELCA Triennial Gathering will be held in Des Moines Iowa July 16-19, 2026. Mount Olive's Women's Ministry Team is excited to offer scholarships for three women to attend. There will be preference given to those who have never attended a Triennial gathering before. After the conference, the WMT group will ask the scholarship recipients to share their experiences via an article or a Sunday forum. For questions or to be considered, please reach out to Erin Sinnwell by November 15th. To learn more about this event, click here: <https://community.elca.org/women-of-the-elca-13th-triennial-gathering>



Mount Olive's women's small groups continue to meet monthly for Bible study and fellowship. The fall study, "Money, Stewardship, and Generosity" is written by Rev. Christa von Zychlin and available in *Gather Magazine* or in the office. If you are interested in joining a group, contact Erin Sinnwell -507-990-6079 or erinsinnwellphotography9@gmail.com.

The Women's Ministry Team is forming a team to plan a women's retreat in the upcoming year. If you would like to be a part of the team, please contact Paula Roberts - roberts64paula@gmail.com.

Important Dates:

October 7 - Monthly study leader preparation with Pastor Glenn in the front Conference Room at 5:30 pm. Bring your *Gather Magazine* and a Bible.

October 7 - The Women's Ministry Team meets at 6:30 pm in the front conference room. The team is still looking for a secretary to take notes at their monthly meetings. Contact Erin Sinnwell with interest.

October Sunday School Schedule

Sunday School is **9:15 - 10:15 am** on Sunday mornings. Beginning with MUSIC in the sanctuary! Kids will sing an anthem on the 2nd Sundays during the 10:30 am worship service!

1st Sunday: **Oct. 5** Classroom Sunday School

2nd Sunday: **Oct. 12** Large Group Sunday School (*Service Sunday - Fall Craft for Homebound*)

*Kids Sing at the 10:30 am worship service!

3rd Sunday: **Oct. 19 NO SUNDAY SCHOOL** (MEA Weekend)

4th Sunday: **Oct. 26** Classroom Sunday School & *Breakfast Club! (6th-12th) At Church!*

Confirmation/Wednesday Nights (6th-12th)

Youth meet regularly on Wednesday nights, 6:30 - 8:00 pm.

**Youth also meet on Sundays 9:15-10:15 am during Sunday School hour with "Service Sundays" on the 2nd Sunday of the month & Breakfast Club on the 4th Sunday of the month*

October Confirmation Dates

Wed. Oct. 1 – More Name Games & FAITH Activity (Spiritual Timelines Part II)

Wed. Oct. 8 – FAITH STATEMENT WORKSHOP STUDIO! (Spiritual Timelines Part III)

Wed. Oct. 15 – **NO CONFIRMATION!** (MEA Weekend) *Faith Statements ONE WEEK AWAY

Wed. Oct. 22 – FAITH STATEMENTS! & Special Treat (Parents & All Students INVITED TO ATTEND!)

Sun. Oct. 26 – REFORMATION SUNDAY

10:30 am Affirmation of Baptism Service for: Lucy, Brady, Wyatt, Noah, Harper, and Jack

Wed. Oct. 29 – *Halloween Party @ Church! "Spooky Scattergories" & other "Ghouly Games"*

Children, Youth, & Family Events for October! (All Ages & Families!)

Artist Studio: Pumpkin Carving and Pizza Party!

Monday October 20 – 5:30-7:00 pm, Mount Olive Fellowship Hall

Join us at church for pumpkin carving/painting and pizza! We have lots of tarps and carving supplies. Bring your own pumpkin and bowl to take home pumpkin seeds, if you'd like! We may have some extra pumpkins.



Trunk or Treat at Peace United Church

(1503 2nd Ave NE Rochester, MN)

Friday, October 31 – 4:30-6:30 pm

Join Mount Olive folk in the greater Rochester Community with some of our partners in ministry at Peace United Church! Several of our kids (and Evan!) have visited Peace United Church of Christ for their Music and Drama Camps and they invited us to come to Trunk or Treat on Halloween Night if we want a bonus candy spot!



*If you are interested in decorating a trunk & giving out candy – you will need to register at this link:

<https://app.onechurchsoftware.com/peaceunited/events/882> If you plan to attend, please contact Evan Fitzsimmons so he can coordinate Mount Olive people to park our vehicles together on the special evening!

1st Annual Mount Olive Youth Fall Retreat in November! (6th-12th Grade)

The second weekend of November will mark the 1st Annual Fall Retreat for our 6th-12th Grade Youth.

This year, our theme is "Belonging as One" focusing on the theology of groups we belong to, and ultimately

Olive Branch Worship

Sunday, October 5th, 4:00 - 5:00 pm, Fellowship Hall

We're in the 4th quarter of the calendar year, and it's full! Between Reformation Day and New Year's, there are at least ten celebrations to mark! How do we navigate the very full movements of life in this time? What do you look forward to? What do you dread, and how do we take care of ourselves? Come for generous communion, music, and a romp through the meaning of the 4th quarter. You, your cousins, and neighbor kids are all welcome.



F.S.U.2 (Faith Seeking Understanding)

Monday, October 13, 6:00-7:30pm in The Olive Pit

It's Reformation month. That means Lutherans around the world consider our roots and also where our branches stretch. As a denomination that prides itself (that's a sin, of course) on "always reforming," what are your top 3 favorite things about being a Lutheran? We'll discuss Christology, soteriology, sacraments and creeds, exploring our denominations gifts and blind spots. All are welcome! Bring a red-colored snack to share.

LGBTQIA+ Ally Training

Tuesday, October 14, 2025 6-7:30 PM

Olive Branch has been invited to be part of a great four-part training series led by *OutFront Minnesota* and our friends at Peace United Church of Christ, 1503 2nd Ave NE, Rochester. You've wondered what the next step is for you to be a meaningful support to the queer community, but you've had questions. This is for us! This first session covers terms relating to gender and sexuality, pronouns, and steps we can take to be a better ally. Includes theological tenets, reflection on experiences of gender, and best practices in being a welcoming and affirming person and congregation. A community meal is served at 5:00 pm and we are invited to join. Register on your own here: https://secure.everyaction.com/KknNHhvNgEyKPKxvS44v_g2 and let Richard know you're attending.

All welcome. Rides available. Other dates for this training series:

- Nov. 11 - Your Faith Community & Allyship
- Dec. 2 - Queer Theology 101
- Jan. 13 - Unclobbering the Bible



Off The Page

Monday, October 27, 6-7:30 pm,
Olive Pit

As we make our way into autumn, we'll look at a Bible passage about harvest. Bring your wondering, and pumpkin-spiced imagination. No experience necessary. All welcome!



Request the weekly "Three Things" Olive Branch e-newsletter with a reminder of our weekly events and special happenings— just tell Richard BC or email him at richard@molive.org.

Olive Branch October

- 10/4 - State of the Olive 9am-noon
- 10/5 - Olive Branch Worship 4-5pm
- 10/13 - FSU 6-7:30pm
- 10/14 - OutFront Ally Training
- 10/18 - McLaren event
- 10/20 - Artist Studio Pumpkin Carving w/CYF 6-7:30pm (See pg. 9)
- 10/27 - Off the Page 6-7:30pm

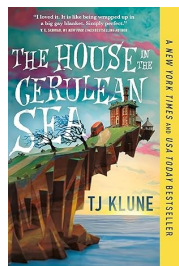
Women's Monthly Coffee Meet Up

Mount Olive women are invited to meet at 9:00 am on Friday, **October 3** for coffee/tea at the Market Grille at Hy-Vee West Circle at 4221 West Circle Drive. Come each month for fellowship and good conversation. If you have questions, ask Cathy Hanson at 507-398-3917 or kchanson89@gmail.com.

Brews Brothers Meets At Kinney Creek

Brews Brothers, a fellowship opportunity for Mount Olive men, continues to meet the second Thursday of each month at a local brewery. This month, on Thursday, **October 9**, 4:30 to 6:00 pm, they are trying a new place, Kinney Creek Brewery at 1016 7th St NW in Rochester. The only agenda is to chat, get to know new people, and enjoy a good beer.

Drop in as you're able. All are welcome! Contact Keith Hanson at kjhanson17@gmail.com with questions.

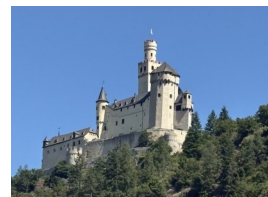


Monday Book Group

The Monday Book Group gathers monthly to discuss a wide variety of literature. They meet on the second Monday of the month at 6:30 pm. On **October 13**, they **will** discuss *The House in the Cerulean Sea* by TJ Klune. An enchanting story, masterfully told, the story is about the profound experience of discovering an unlikely family in an unexpected place—and realizing that family is yours. Contact Jodi Schoer with any questions at mjschoer@charter.net.

Ripe Olives

Ripe Olives is Mount Olive's group for retired and semi-retired folks to gather for a meal, fellowship, learning and fun. They meet on the 2nd Friday of each month at 9:30 am. On **October 10**, the program is "**The Rhine River: Castles, Cathedrals, and Commerce**" led by Nancy Britson. Nancy will share about her recent trip to this historic region telling about the sites she enjoyed covering both ancient history and modern commerce. Breakfast is provided with a free will offering. Sign up in the Gathering Area or RSVP to Nancy - nancy@molive.org.



Register for Fellowship Tables

Fellowship Tables are a casual, "no agenda" way to gather to share a meal with friends, new and old. Now is the time to sign up for one of these fun groups! Here's how it works: Interested individuals, adult couples or singles, are divided into groups of 7 to 9 that meet during the program year to share a meal and fellowship in homes or restaurants. This is a great way to branch out, meet new people, or bond with long-time friends without a huge time commitment. Pick up a registration form available from the Gathering Area cabinet.

Please return your forms to the box on the cabinet by October 12. Each group will have a volunteer organize their first meeting. Direct your questions to Nancy Britson - nancy@molive.org.

Sunday Fellowship Volunteers Needed

We're in need of people to help with Sunday Fellowship Time - Coffee makers, servers, and people to provide treats. Sign up at this link: tinyurl.com/fsd3f. Contact Renee Schaefer, Sunday Fellowship Volunteer Coordinator with questions about serving for fellowship time—renee@molive.org.

Pops Orchestra Concert

The Rochester Pops Orchestra presents a "Tribute To John Williams and Hans Zimmer" Sunday, **October 19**, 2025, 4:30 pm at Bethel Lutheran Church. Featuring selections from movies including "Star Wars", "The Empire Strikes Back", "Superman", and "The Lion King" to name a few. Tickets are available now at www.rochesterpops.com or by calling the Box Office at



507-318-0801. Tickets will also be available through Sunday October 12 in the Gathering Area before and after services. Please note the time change for this concert. We have been receiving several requests for an afternoon concert so will be experimenting with that for some (but not all) of our concerts this season.

NAMI Walk a Success

The Mount Olive Lutheran NAMI Walks team walked on Saturday, September 27 to raise money for the National Alliance for Mental Illness (NAMI). NAMI Southeast MN offers programs and services to help people who are struggling with mental illness in the Rochester and surrounding communities. Thanks to the generous support of congregation members and friends, the team raised over \$4 500! Many thanks to team leader Connie Mudore and everyone who supported the team with prayer, presence, and donations! For more information contact <https://namisemn.org>.

Good Gifts Gala for Good Earth Village

You are invited to the Good Earth Village Good Gifts Gala at Somerby Golf Course in Byron on Thursday, October 23, 6 - 8:30 pm. The theme this year is “Restore the Land: Renew the Mission.” This special evening will focus on renewing their trails and lands so that future campers, retreaters, and visitors can fully engage in the life-changing experiences Good Earth Village offers. Purchase tickets or learn more about donating funds, quilts or silent auction items at this link: <https://goodearthvillage.org/gala>



Installation of the New ELCA Presiding Bishop

The Rev. Yehiel Curry was elected as the next presiding bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) at the ELCA Churchwide Assembly in Phoenix, Ariz., on July 30, 2025. He will begin this role on Oct. 1, 2025, and be installed on October 4, 2:00 pm at Central Lutheran Church in Minneapolis. Doors will open at 1:00 pm and the service begins at 2:00 pm. A public reception to greet the new presiding bishop will be held at Central Lutheran following the installation. For Rev. Curry’s bio, more information or the livestream link of the service visit: <https://www.elca.org/about/churchwide/office-of-the-presiding-bishop/presiding-bishop-installation>

Mount Olive’s Welcome Statement:

“We trust that God calls Mount Olive Lutheran Church to a ministry of reconciliation. We embrace as a gift the diversity of our neighborhood and the world, and we extend God’s hospitality by welcoming, hearing, and treasuring: All gender identities, gender expressions, and sexual orientations; All races and ethnicities; All ages and abilities; All economic statuses and education levels; All faith journeys and personal histories. We work for racial equity and commit to anti-racism as the way of right relationship with God and one another. As Christ welcomes all, we too welcome the full inclusion of all people into the life, ministry, and sacraments of Mount Olive, joining in a journey toward greater love, understanding, and mutual respect.”



Mount Olive Lutheran Church

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A Reconciling in
Christ Community

Mount Olive Staff

The Rev. Dr. Glenn Monson Teaching Pastor glenn@molive.org Ext. 206	The Rev. Lisa Janke Directing Pastor lisa@molive.org Ext. 205	Deacon Travis Beck Director of Worship, Music, and Arts travis@molive.org Ext. 203
Evan Fitzsimmons Director of Children, Youth, & Family evan@molive.org Ext. 207	Dr. Richard Bruxvoort Colligan Director of Spiritual Formation richard@molive.org Ext. 210	Nancy Britson Director of Congregational Life nancy@molive.org Ext. 202
Terry Krieger Office Administrator terry@molive.org Ext. 204	Carrie Fletcher —Director of Service and Social Outreach and Nursery Coord. carrie@molive.org Ext. 209	Renee Schaefer Sunday Fellowship Volunteer Coordinator renee@molive.org