



MT. OLIVE LUTHERAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER

November 2025

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- *November 1st – All Saints' Day
- *November 2nd – Daylight Savings time ends
- *November 3rd - Spruce Tip Planter Assembly @ 10AM
- *November 7th - Bazaar Set Up/Drop Off Day 4-7PM
- *November 8th - Holiday Bazaar and Bake Sale 9AM-1PM
- *November 11th – Veterans Day
- *November 23rd - WOMO Meeting @ 10AM
- *November 25th – Thanksgiving Worship & Pie Social 6-8PM
- *November 27th – Happy Thanksgiving
- *November 30th – First Sunday of Advent

District Missions

Minnesota South District Churches care for the homeless

The following is from an article by DCE Dr. Jim Seeman from The New Freedom Store, one of the missions supported by our MN South District:



On Friday morning, July twenty fifth, mindful of soaring temperatures and a triple digit heat index, six volunteers from the New Freedom Store, the Lutheran Early Response Team, and the Saint Paul Outreach Center joined together to visit the eighty-five homeless residents of Pig's Eye Lake Regional Park and to gift them with one thousand seven hundred bottles of drinking water. These same good people, answering our savior's direct request to serve the "least of these," have consistently worked together creating something of an informal "kindness coalition," routinely bringing water, fruit juice, fruits, and salty snacks.

This year already the coalition has also distributed two hundred sixty tents and sleeping bags, sleeping mats, clothing, and various sundries such as toilet paper, trash bags, adult wipes, and hygiene products. This may seem like a lot, but the homeless population has been on the rise ever since the onset of covid.

This is the role of the "kindness coalition," to walk alongside of them, not as leaders, teachers, or preachers, but rather as brothers and sisters in the faith, to convey compassion, minimize suffering, let his grace shine forth, and to help them heal their wounds. The measure of this mission is, after all, how we treat those who have nothing to offer in return. The New Freedom Store is sponsored by the District but supported by private contributions. Please put "New Freedom Store" in the memo line. Minnesota South District, LCMS, 14301 Grand Ave S., Burnsville, MN 55306. Care to know more? Contact seemann@csp.edu. Subscribe to the newsletter, or volunteer. We will be going out again very soon.



MT. OLIVE LUTHERAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER

A Message from Pastor Mike

“For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.” (Hebrews 4:12, ESV)

Think for a moment about all the things God has done so that *you* might be transformed by His Word, calling you out of death and darkness into the marvelous light of life in Jesus Christ: men and women in many places, in many situations, over many centuries, experienced God at work in their lives, and their struggles and triumphs, their pleas and praises, were written down to make what we know as the Bible or Holy Scripture. ***The people who wrote the Bible were transformed by the living and active Word of God.***

God directed the whole process of the formation of the Bible: He told them what to write and what not to write, and many times when people or organizations tried to silence them or destroy what they had written, God miraculously protected and preserved His Word from disappearing. Jesus came, the Word of God made flesh, and He confirmed and fulfilled all of the promises and prophecies. We receive the gift of Holy Scripture as we receive the gift of our Savior Jesus: just as He was fully human and fully God, so the Bible is fully human, written by human beings in human words, and also fully divine, written by God. Jesus sends His Holy Spirit to enlighten believers and teach them to know whether or not the things they are hearing are truly based on God’s Word or are deceptive human teachings which contradict God’s Word. The Holy Spirit has always guided the church to discern between purely human doctrines which distort God’s Word and purely divine doctrines which proclaim and clarify God’s Word. ***Those who are guided by the Holy Spirit are transformed by the living and active Word of God.***

God’s Word is much more than words on a page. Think of those you have known you have not only spoken God’s Word to you but also lived it. ***Give thanks to God for parents and teachers, pastors and fellow church members, who have demonstrated the transforming power of God’s Word.*** Read Hebrews 11 and reflect on the heroes of faith, long ago or living today, who believe what God says and ask Him to conform their lives to His Word. When God’s Word is at work in us, we can’t help but be changed and influence others to seek the transforming power of God’s living and active Word.

How is God’s Word working on you? I love to hear about your encounters with the Word, and I am here to help you experience God’s Word in all its power. We have an enormous wealth of resources to help us understand and be transformed by His Word. This might be a good time to check out what Concordia Publishing House offers, resources to help you and gifts you might give to people you love. ***Let God’s living and active Word transform you – every day!***

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Mike Michalk

MT. OLIVE LUTHERAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER



George Betts	11/6
Emmeline Reinitz	11/13
Lena Michalk	11/15
John Skaret	11/15
Marilyn Mulvanny	11/16
Arlee Mueller	11/20
Fawn Gage	11/21
Jordan Reinitz	11/24
Marilyn Lemke	11/25
Jerry Kohls	11/26
Dave Sandquist	11/26



Dave & Mary Sandquist 11/22

***Contact the office if you have a change in personal information.**



* Marlene Gehring



Pick up your 2026 offering envelopes in the narthex!

Treasuring God's Truth, Living Out His Love

- Thank you to Pastor, Brian, Jim, Dave, Joel, Don, Arlee, Jerry, Sandi, Rosie, Leona, Sandy, Claudia, Jan, Lindsey and everyone who assisted with Jerry Babb's funeral!
- Thank you to Brian for meeting with Mediacom regarding our Wi-Fi and cleaning up the wiring under Lindsey's desk!
- Thank you to Terry for working with Mediacom regarding our contract!
- Thank you to all the ladies for baking goods for the recent funerals!
- Thank you to Pastor, Brian, Don, Jim, Jerry, Darwin, Sandi, Jane, Lindsey, Rosie, Leona, Marianne, Claudia, and everyone who assisted with Marlene Gehring's funeral!
- Thank you to Harriet Gustafson and Phil Holmen for organizing and leading the "Jesus Sent" choir at Lake Minnetonka Shores!
- Thank you to all who donated items for our Spruce Tip Planters!
- Thank you to Joel Reinitz for being willing to serve as the Alternate Lay Delegate from our Circuit to the LCMS Convention in July 2026!
- Thank you to Harriet for all the years spent as a lay delegate for LWML!
- Thank you to Don Woytcke for showing up early every Tuesday morning to get the coffee brewing and everything ready for the 7AM Men's Bible Study!
- Thank you to Kevin Larson for taking on the Treasurer position for 2026-2028!

WE GATHER TOGETHER TO ASK THE LORD'S BLESSING

As the season of Thanksgiving draws near, pause and reflect on the many blessings in your life. All of us here at Mt. Olive are fortunate to be part of a caring church family. We are truly part of a place "where everybody knows your name" and people step up and help one another when needs arise. We pray with each other and praise God with each other. We are so very blessed to have Christian friends with whom we can share the joys, as well as the hard times of life!

All that we have comes from God and even in uncertain times, we know we can rely on God to provide all we truly need.

Think about how you might bless Mt. Olive and serve God in the coming year with your time, talents and funds. This may require stepping out in faith as everyone struggles to balance work and other commitments with serving the church or paying bills and financially supporting the church. Pray about these things and trust God.

Applying Biblical Teachings

“So I say to you: Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you” (Luke 11:9).

If the question, “Why do I not have?” is raised, the answer that must be given is, “Because you have not asked.” God commands us to ask. When we ask for something in prayer, according to His will, He will give it to us. That is His promise. The Apostle Paul wrote, “He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all — how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things?” (Romans 8:32).

In his epistle, James powerfully captures what happens when self interest and selfishness overshadow our Christian living and a proper and diligent prayer life is not maintained. “What causes fights and quarrels among you? Don’t they come from your desires that battle within you? You want something but don’t get it. You kill and covet, but you cannot have what you want. You quarrel and fight. You do not have, because you do not ask God. When you ask, you do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, that you may spend what you get on your pleasures. You adulterous people, don’t you know that friendship with the world is hatred toward God? Anyone who chooses to be a friend of the world becomes an enemy of God. Or do you think Scripture says without reason that the spirit he caused to live in us envies intensely? But he gives us more grace. That is why Scripture says: ‘God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.’ Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Come near to God and he will come near to you. Wash your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded” (James 4:1-8).

One cannot separate the true Christian life, that of glorifying God and the giving of loving service to those around us, from prayer. If one were to view the heartbeat of the Christian life as the Holy Spirit working through Word and Sacrament, then most definitely, prayer would have to be the pulse. One cannot emphasize enough that prayer is a vital part of Christian life.

It is sad that we often relinquish ourselves and our church to the poverty of being without God’s full measure of power, riches, wisdom and strength simply because we fail to diligently ask in Christ’s name.

We are to take everything to God in prayer. First, we confess our sins and plead for forgiveness for Christ’s sake. Then, in Christ, we pray for power to overcome sin and the fury of Satan as we go about His work. In Christ, we pray for the financial resources we need to carry out His work and to provide for our earthly needs. In Christ, we pray for wisdom to properly use all that He has given us. In Christ, we pray for strength to do all things according to His will. When we pray diligently in faith, God answers and brings our will into conformity with His will.

“Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God” (Phil. 4:6).



JOIN US FOR BIBLE STUDY

- ❖ **Tuesday’s 7:00 AM -**
Men’s Bible Study
- ❖ **Wednesday’s 10:00 AM (Sept – Dec & March – June) –**
Women’s Bible Study
- ❖ **Friday’s 10:00 AM -**
Adult Bible Class – @
Lake Minnetonka
Shores or by Phone
- ❖ **Sunday School 10:00 AM (Sept – May) Ages**
3yr-6th Grade
- ❖ **Confirmation –**
Thursday’s - 6:00 PM
7th Grade and Older

God is good!

Women of Mount Olive

- WOMO has been busy preparing for the Annual Bake Sale and Bazaar to be held Saturday, November 8th from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. Help is still needed for set-up on Friday, November 7th and baked goods and craft items are needed too. ALL ITEMS MUST BE PRICED!
We need shoppers for the bazaar to be a success, so please invite your friends to shop and visit over a cup of coffee and a treat! There will once again be a community coffee table for visiting and time for fellowship in between browsing for treasures. Please join us!
- WOMO wishes to give special thanks to Jim Merchant for making it possible for us to create spruce tip planters. Jim's hard work in getting/hauling soil and setting up our workstations has made things far easier for WOMO members and we are truly grateful!
- We also wish to thank Arlee Mueller for putting up our new banner that promotes our bazaar. Thank you, Arlee!
- At the last WOMO meeting, we discussed planning some church wide activities for times of fellowship and fun. Watch for information on potluck lunches/brunches, *cabin fever* bingo and other things to come!
- SAVE THE DATE for the WOMO Annual Christmas Party. All women affiliated with Mt. Olive are welcome to join WOMO members in the fellowship hall for our Christmas luncheon, gift exchange and cookie exchange. We will meet at 11:30 AM. Bring a dish to share. Our lunch will be followed by our gift exchange and cookie exchange. If you want to participate in our gift exchange, bring ONE wrapped gift with a value of \$10-\$20. The WOMO cookie exchange does not operate in the way typical cookie exchanges work where all who participate bring a dozen cookies for every person participating. If you wish to participate in the WOMO cookie exchange, bring just 2-4 dozen of your favorite Christmas cookies/bars/candies. At the end of our Christmas party, those that brought cookies may take home a "variety plate" of cookies. Hope to see you there!
- THANK YOU, HARRIET! - The Women of Mt. Olive thank Harriet Gustafson for serving as a delegate to the LWML district convention for decades. After countless years of serving in this role, Harriet is stepping down. Harriet's mother got Harriet involved with LWML when Harriet was a very young woman. We wish Harriet the best as she moves on and if any female member of Mt. Olive wishes to learn more about the LWML or wants to get more involved, Harriet is a wealth of information!

Upcoming Dates of Importance

2025

- November 3rd – Spruce Tip planter making date
- November 7th – Bazaar set up – SAVE THE DATE! 4PM-7PM
- November 8th – Bazaar – SAVE THE DATE! 9AM-1PM
- November 23rd – Post Bazaar meeting
- December 6th - Holiday Party at 11:30AM (Potluck, Cookie exchange – bring 2-3 dozen if you want to participate. Gift exchange \$10-20 optional if you want to participate.)

2026

- January 12th – WOMO Meeting @ 10AM in Fellowship Lounge
- April 13th - WOMO Meeting @ 10AM in Fellowship Lounge
- May 2nd – Salad Luncheon @ 11AM (Bring a \$5-10 gift if you'd like to participate in the game)
- July 13th - WOMO Meeting @ 10AM in Fellowship Lounge
- October 12th - WOMO Meeting @ 10AM in Fellowship Lounge
- November 2nd – Potential Spruce Tip Planter Assembly @ 10AM
- November 6th – Bazaar set up – 4-7PM
- November 7th – Bazaar 9AM-1PM
- November 16th – Post Bazaar Meeting @ 10AM in the Fellowship Lounge
- December 5th – Holiday Party @ 11:30AM (Potluck, Cookie exchange – bring 2-3 dozen if you want to participate. Gift exchange \$10-20 optional if you want to participate.)

NOVEMBER

2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1 All Saints' Day
2 Daylight-Saving Time Ends	3 -Spruce Tip Planter Assembly @ 10AM	4	5 -Elders Meeting @ 6:30PM	6 *Happy Birthday George Betts	7 -Bazaar set up 4-7PM	8 -WOMO Bazaar 9AM-1PM
9	10	11 Veterans Day	12 -Leadership Meeting @ 6:30PM	13 *Happy Birthday Emmeline Reinitz	14	15 *Happy Birthday Lena Michalk *Happy Birthday John Skaret
16 *Happy Birthday Marilyn Mulvanny -Mite Sunday	17	18	19	20 *Happy Birthday Arlee Mueller	21 *Happy Birthday Fawn Gage	22 *Happy Anniversary Dave & Mary Sandquist
23 -WOMO Meeting @ 10AM	24 *Happy Birthday Jordan Reinitz	25 -Thanksgiving Worship & Pie Social 6-8PM *Happy Birthday Marilyn Lemke	26 *Happy Birthday Jerry Kohls *Happy Birthday Dave Sandquist	27 Thanksgiving	28	29
30 Advent Begins						

Puzzle!

Write the words below in alphabetical order inside the squares. Then read down the second column of letters to complete the hidden phrase below.

FEAST, KHAKI, MOUTH,
ESSAY, LLAMA, ORBIT, CARRY,
UDDER, BRUSH, ITEMS,
~~APPLE~~, LEARN, CIDER

A	P	P	L	E



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MOUNT OLIVE



LUTHERAN CHURCH

5218 Bartlett Blvd
Mound, MN 55364
www.mountolivelcms.org

By Christ's command, we pray, according to God's will,
for power, riches, wisdom and strength.

"So I say to you: Ask and it will be given to you;
seek and you will find; knock and the door
will be opened to you" (Luke 11:9).

MT. OLIVE LUTHERAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER

Contact Us

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952.472.2756

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Admin@mountolivelcms.org

Website - www.mountolivelcms.org

Office Hours

Monday -Thursday 9:00 – Noon
Pastor's Hours: Tuesday &
Saturday 9:00 – 11:00 or by
appointment

Leadership Team

President: Andrew Reinitz

Vice President: George Betts

Recording Secretary: Lindsey Eccles

Treasurer: Terry Podratz

Elders: Arlee Mueller, Nate Betts and Joel Reinitz

Trustees: Jim Merchant & Darryl Frederickson

Directors: Linda Verkennes, Harriet Gustafson and David Miller

Committees

Archives: Marilyn Mulvanny

Education: Arlee Mueller, Andrew Reinitz, Becca Boser, and Dawn Audette

Finance Secretary: Shelley Frederickson

Offering Counters: Shelley Frederickson, Leona Shore, Rita Kaiser, Brian Podratz, Terry Podratz, Jan Preble, Linda Verkennes, and Kevin Larson

Thank You Cards: Rita Kaiser

Outreach: Vacant

WeCAN Fellowship Representative: Becca Boser

Women of Mount Olive - President: Jan Preble, **Secretary:** Sandi Woytcke
(Interim) **Treasurer:** Lindsey Eccles

Worship: Sandi Woytcke and Jan Preble