



MT. OLIVE LUTHERAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER

May 2026

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- *May 2nd – WOMO Salad Luncheon @ 11AM in Fellowship Hall
- *May 3rd – Education Wing Renovation Updates @ 10AM in Fellowship Hall
- *May 6th – Elders Meeting @ 6:30PM
- *May 7th – National Day of Prayer
- *May 10th – Happy Mother's Day!
- *May 14th – Ascension Day
- *May 16th – Armed Forces Day
- *May 17th – Mite Sunday
- *May 24th – Pentecost
- *May 25th – Memorial Day
- *May 31st – Trinity Sunday
- *May 31st – Congregational Meeting @ 10AM

Missions



Gather a volunteer team of friends, family or neighbors to put on a fundraiser, educational event or service activity—like organizing a school supply drive, or hosting a car wash fundraiser. We'll provide the resources you need to get started, including up to \$250 in seed money.

To apply for a Thrivent Action Team, you must be a Thrivent client with membership. This would be a great opportunity to help with donating funds to the education wing renovations! Need help? Reach out to Pastor!

4 simple steps to project success

1. Apply to lead a project

Log into your Thrivent account to complete your application.
<https://login.apps.thrivent.com/login>

2. Get your Thrivent Action Kit

We'll send you a package of resources to support your project.

3. Take action

Rally your team to bring your community project to life.

4. Share your success story

Tell us about your project's positive impact so we can celebrate your success.

MT. OLIVE LUTHERAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER

A Message from Pastor Mike

May Flowers

Our first May Flower is “**Glorious Grass.**” Jesus says in **Luke 12:27–28** “*Consider the lilies, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass, which is alive in the field today, and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, how much more will he clothe you, O you of little faith!*”

When we see the glorious grass, we are reminded that God not only provides us with clothing and all of the other basic necessities of life, but He also clothes us with the righteousness of Christ so that we can enter into His presence, worship Him, and ask for His help in every situation. **Galatians 3:26–27** *for in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith. For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ.*

Our next May Flower is “**Wonderful Word**” and we find it in **1 Peter 1:24–25** *for “All flesh is like grass and all its glory like the flower of grass. The grass withers, and the flower falls, but the word of the Lord remains forever.” And this word is the good news that was preached to you.*

Flowers are fragile and like all things on this earth, they wither and fall. Our hope and our attention are not focused on the transient things of this earth but on the eternal Gospel or good news that not only remains beautiful forever but also makes our lives beautiful!

Another May Flower we find in the Bible could be called the **Surprising Singing** flower which comes from **Isaiah 35:1–2** *The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad; the desert shall rejoice and blossom like the crocus; it shall blossom abundantly and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the Lord, the majesty of our God.*

The good news of Jesus is God’s surprising salvation which causes the whole creation to respond with joy and singing. It’s like unexpected rain in the desert – in Baptism the Spirit waters and words us so that our lives produce joyful results that reflect the glory and majesty of God.

Finally we have the **Lovely Lily** that is described in **Hosea 14:5–6** *I will be like the dew to Israel; he shall blossom like the lily; he shall take root like the trees of Lebanon; his shoots shall spread out; his beauty shall be like the olive, and his fragrance like Lebanon.*

God is speaking here as He makes this beautiful promise: “I will be like the dew to Israel”. There are places in the world that receive no rain but plants and flowers live on the dew, the condensation that regularly occurs. When we see and smell flowers and trees we praise God for the way He cares for His creation and ask Him to guide us in gardening our land and our lives. This is also a wonderful promise of how God continues to send His grace to enlarge His church. As the Gospel continues to call people to faith in Christ, the shoots spread out and the fragrance of Christ is spread abroad.

Praise God for all the beauty of Minnesota in May, and for the ways He tends the people He has planted here at Mt. Olive!

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Mike Michalk

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Anna Skaret	5/1
Paul Meyer	5/5
Randall Berthiaume	5/12
Noah Kamps	5/12
Julia Skaret	5/16
Mike Peterson	5/18
Jean Westergaard	5/21
Janice Beise	5/23
Colleen Gonior	5/23
Sue McKee	5/28
Rita Kaiser	5/29



George & Linda Betts	5/14
Stephen & Dawn Audette	5/15
Gerald & Heather Berthiaume	5/17
Mike & Kathy Michalk	5/24

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

Treasuring God's Truth, Living Out His Love

- Thank you to all who have helped with the education wing renovations!
- Thank you to Pastor and Arlee for utilizing the Thrivent Action Team fundraiser and getting the education wing an additional \$500 for items needed!
- Thank you to all who provide treats on Sundays!

GIVE & GROW



Otten Bros. Garden Center & Landscaping is proud to present our community fundraising program called GIVE & GROW. Our goal is to provide an easy way to help local clubs, schools, churches and other community organizations earn money. Shop with us April 6th thru May 31st and 10% of each pre-taxed dollar you spend at any of our two locations and 5% of all signed landscape projects will go to Mount Olive Lutheran Church. It is an easy way to raise funds for your group. Present the flyer (in narthex) to our cashiers upon checking out. We take care of the rest. Take advantage of the GIVE & GROW program as many times as you like until May 31st.

OFFERING TEAM

Looking for a counter! The finance team is looking for a counter to help count the weekly offerings. This would be 1 Sunday a month commitment on a rotation. Please reach out to Lindsey if you would be willing to help!

Applying Biblical Teachings

“And now, brothers, we want you to know about the grace that God has given the Macedonian churches. Out of the most severe trial, their overflowing joy and their extreme poverty welled up in rich generosity. For I testify that they gave as much as they were able, and even beyond their ability. Entirely on their own, they urgently pleaded with us for the privilege of sharing in this service to the saints. And they did not do as we expected, but they gave themselves first to the Lord and then to us in keeping with God’s will” (2 Cor. 8:1-5).

If you look at the conditions in which the Macedonian Christians lived, you probably would wonder why they had not requested to be remembered with monetary gifts (as had the poor in Jerusalem) by their fellow brothers and sisters in Christ. If any group of people were in need, the Macedonian Christians were. Yet, they literally begged to give and then exceeded every expectation as to their ability to give. In proportion, their giving exceeded many who were blessed and had larger sums of money to give. This giving was truly God’s rich grace in action working through His faithful servants who had given themselves without reservation in His service.

What a powerful example the church in Macedonia set for the church of all ages, an example that every Christian should take to heart. Too often today, we see our churches as beggars, constantly having to admonish, plead, urge, coax and prod their members to give just to pay the bills, let alone the sending of monetary gifts to help needy brothers and sisters in Christ. These actions concerning giving are totally foreign to what took place in Macedonia by the power of the Gospel. The love of Christ, the risen Lord and Savior, filled their hearts without restriction, and in Christ’s love, they begged to give, even as they gave evidence concerning the power of the Gospel.

All too often the Law is used to motivate, and the full message of the power of the Gospel becomes distant. That which many of us learned in our youth must never be forgotten. By the power of the Water and the Word, a great change takes place, a change that Martin Luther dramatically captured in his small catechism. By the power of the Gospel, we are moved from restraint into action, from “Thou shalt have no other gods before Me,” to “We love God above all things when with our whole heart we cling to Him as to our God and gladly devote our lives to His service.”

By the power of the Gospel, we are moved from restraint into action, from “Thou shalt not kill,” to “We should help and befriend our neighbor in every bodily need,” and “We should be merciful, kind, and forgiving towards our neighbor.” By the power of the Gospel, we are moved from restraint into action, from “Thou shalt not steal,” to “We should help our neighbor to improve and protect his property and business,” and “We should rejoice when we see him prosper.”

By the power of the Gospel, the Macedonian Christians were moved from restraint into action. Their lives were devoted to the service of God as they cared for their needy brothers and sisters in Christ and begged to help and befriend them. Though others had prospered more than they had, they still rejoiced in their giving as they demonstrated the power of the Gospel.

May God grant each of us a special measure of His grace so that like the Macedonian believers, each day we may serve Him more and more, exceeding all expectations in all that we do, including that of our giving.



JOIN US FOR BIBLE STUDY

- ❖ **Tuesday’s 7:00 AM - Men’s Bible Study**
- ❖ **Wednesday’s 10:00 AM - 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**

FAITH OVER FEAR

Trusting God in Uncertain Times

Women of Mount Olive

Where does the free will offering treat money go?

WOMO gets this question from time to time with people thinking we use the money to buy cookies/bars/treats and we do not! All treats are donated, and we would welcome others contributing treats from time to time. There is a sign-up sheet on the treat serving table in the fellowship hall if you are willing to provide treats (store bought or homemade).

The funds collected on Sundays are used to buy coffee, coffee creamers, sugar/sweeteners, juices and lemonade as well as plates, napkins, cups and utensils. The money collected on Sundays does not even begin to cover the purchase price of these items! If you would like to donate a can of coffee (any kind) or a canister of lemonade mix, or coffee creamer or any other items noted, that would be welcomed. Cash donations to WOMO for purchasing fellowship supplies are also appreciated.

LWML MN South District Convention

Gifts from the Heart

The Women of Mount Olive are collecting items for *Gifts from the Heart* to bring to the convention in mid-June. The New Freedom Store and Prison Ministry are the two charities we are trying to help. Watch for a bin in the narthex from **May 3 - June 14** where you may place your donations. If you are donating Visa gift cards, please give them to Jan Preble or Lindsey Eccles so they can be secured. The items noted below the Visa gift cards may be placed in the bin in the narthex.

- Visa Gift Cards (**Please write the amount on the card(s), if it's not already printed & give to Jan or Lindsey**)
- Spring coats
- Sweatshirts
- Thrivent T-Shirts
- Fleece Throw Blankets
- Emergency Thermal Mylar Blankets (the silver survival blankets that come in small pouches)
- Quilts
- Granola Bars

Next Meeting!

Please mark your calendar for the next WOMO meeting to be held in the **Fellowship Lounge/Library on Monday, July 13 at 10 AM.**

Upcoming Dates of Importance

2026

- 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 – 4-6PM
- 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.)



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 *Happy Birthday Anna Skaret	2 -WOMO Salad Luncheon @ 11AM
3 -Education Wing Renovation Updates @ 10AM in Fellowship Hall	4 *Happy Birthday Paul Meyer	5 *Happy Birthday Paul Meyer	6 -Elders Meeting @ 6:30PM	7 National Day of Prayer	8	9
10 Mother's Day	11	12 *Happy Birthday Randall Berthiaume *Happy Birthday Noah Kamps	13	14 *Happy Anniversary George & Linda Betts	15 *Happy Anniversary Stephen & Dawn Audette	16 *Happy Birthday Julia Skaret Armed Forces Day
17 -Mite Sunday *Happy Anniversary Gerald & Heather Berthiaume	18 *Happy Birthday Mike Peterson Victoria Day (Canada)	19	20	21 *Happy Birthday Jean Westergaard	22	23 *Happy Birthday Janice Beise *Happy Birthday Colleen Gonior
*Happy Anniversary 24 Mike & Kathy Michalk Pentecost	25 Memorial Day	26	27	28 *Happy Birthday Sue McKee	29 *Happy Birthday Rita Kaiser	30
-Cong. Meeting @ 10AM Trinity Sunday	31					

Puzzle!

In spring and summer, we remember mothers and fathers with special days. Find the parents of these Biblical children. Check the verse given for help.



- Joash (2 Kings 11:2)
- Obed (Matthew 1:5)
- Joseph (Genesis 35: 22-24)
- John the disciple (Matthew 4:21)
- John the Baptist (Luke 1:13)
- Lo-Ruhamah (Hosea 1:6)
- Jezreel (Hosea 1:4)
- Esau (Genesis 25:28)
- David (1 Samuel 16:19)
- Jacob (Genesis 25:28)
- Samuel (1 Samuel 1:19-20)
- Gershom (Exodus 2:21-22)
- Samuel (1 Samuel 1:19-20)
- Jesse (Matthew 1:5)
- Gershom (Exodus 2:21-22)
- Joseph (Genesis 35: 22-24)
- Isaac (Genesis 21:3)
- John the Baptist (Luke 1:13)
- Jonathan (1 Samuel 14:1)
- Solomon (1 Kings 2:1)
- Jesus (Matthew 1:18)
- James (Matthew 4:21)

- A _____
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- R _____
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- ____ V _____
- ____ Y _____
- Z _____

MOUNT OLIVE



LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Mound, MN 55364
www.mountlivelcms.org

**By the power of the Gospel, Christians,
without restrictions, offer themselves to the Lord,
thus making their abilities, energies and
possessions available for God's direction.
“ . . . but they gave themselves first to the Lord
and then to us in keeping with God's will” (2 Cor. 8:5).**

MT. OLIVE LUTHERAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER

Contact Us

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Admin@mountlivelcms.org

Website - www.mountlivelcms.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: Kevin Larson

Elders: Arlee Mueller and Joel Reinitz

Trustees: Jim Merchant & Darryl Frederickson

Directors: David Miller, Linda Verkennes, and Phil Holmen

Committees

Archives: Marilyn Mulvanny

Education: Arlee Mueller, Andrew Reinitz, Becca Boser

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 & Treasurer:** Lindsey Eccles

Worship: Sandi Woytcke and Jan Preble