



MT. OLIVE LUTHERAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER

October 2025

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- ***October** – Pastor Appreciation Month
- ***October 1** – Elder's Meeting @ 6:30
- ***October 5** – Congregational Meeting @ 10:15AM
- ***October 8** – Leadership Meeting @ 6:30PM
- ***October 12** – WOMO Meeting @ 10AM
- ***October 13** – Columbus Day
- ***October 18** – LWML Rally @ Redeemer @ 9AM
- ***October 19** – Mite Sunday
- ***October 26** – Reformation Sunday
- ***October 26th** – Celebrate Pastor Appreciation Month After Service!
- ***October 31** – Reformation Day
- ***October 31** – Happy Halloween!

LWML Basics and the Mite Box

WHAT IS THE LUTHERAN WOMEN'S MISSIONARY LEAGUE?

- The Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML) is an official auxiliary of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS).
- It has at its "mission heart" thousands of volunteers who are daily dedicating their lives to making a difference in this world.
- It is also "Lutheran Women in Mission," a phrase that reflects the object of the LWML, adopted by the Board of Directors in January 1998.
- It is women who are finding avenues to use their God-given talents as they meet the challenge to share the Gospel message.
- It is composed of individual women and women's groups within congregations of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, on campuses, in residence homes, or in other settings.
- It provides individual membership to women in LCMS congregations with or without a group affiliated with the LWML. Women may have an interest in the mission and ministry of the LWML – and wish to be part of the organization – but cannot, for a variety of reasons, be part of a local group. Individual membership is designed for these women.
- It seeks to develop and maintain a greater mission consciousness among the women of the Synod through education, inspiration, and service.
- It places a major emphasis on the support of mission and ministry throughout the world by means of Mite Box offerings. These Mite Box offerings have funded over 100 million dollars in mission grants since the organization's inception in 1942.

THE MITE BOX Based on the Biblical account of the widow's mite (Luke 21:1-4), the Mite Box is intended for regular contributions of "mites" – offerings above and beyond the support given to the congregation and the Synod. Mite Box contributions amount to millions of dollars that fund district and national mission grants and implement the LWML program. Mite Boxes are available from the district, zone, through the LWML Catalog, and/or online. They are distributed to every woman in a group, and often to each member of the congregation. Mite Boxes ideally will be located in a prominent place where all who see them will be reminded to contribute regularly and pray for the grant recipients. Some congregations display a large version of the Mite Box so those who do not attend LWML events may contribute their mites. Mite Box offerings should be gathered at LWML functions, preferably with a prayer or a Mite Box devotion. Some resources are available as free downloads at www.lwml.org. Societies remit Mite Box contributions regularly to a designated district financial officer; individuals may send their mites to that same district financial officer.

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A Message from Pastor Mike

Nothing or everything?

The book of Ecclesiastes stresses two important realities about life which at first may seem contradictory: you are nothing, and you are everything.

Ecclesiastes drives home the reality of life under the sun: in the long run, everything is meaningless. People are born and people die, nations rise and fall, wealth is gained and lost, but ultimately the conclusion is **“I have seen everything that is done under the sun, and behold, all is vanity and a striving after wind.” (Eccles. 1:14)**

But you must understand the little phrase “under the sun.” With these words Solomon describes the limits of his investigation into the realities of life. “Under the sun” means “apart from God.” It describes the worldview of materialism – the belief that everything that exists is physical matter, and that ideas about God are just figments of our human imagination. The universe is a closed system. There is no place for God. Any hope for happiness depends entirely on the human intellect and activity.

Well, Solomon tried just about every activity known to man, and he exercised his intellect more than any other person, but did he find happiness? Not at all – not “under the sun.” **“Then I said in my heart, ‘What happens to the fool will happen to me also. Why then have I been so very wise?’ And I said in my heart that this also is vanity. For of the wise as of the fool there is no enduring remembrance, seeing that in the days to come all will have been long forgotten. How the wise dies just like the fool! So I hated life, because what is done under the sun was grievous to me, for all is vanity and a striving after wind.” (Eccles. 2:15-17)**

But Solomon did find happiness when he let it break in from beyond the sun. When he brought God into the equation, things added up differently. **“There is nothing better for a person than that he should eat and drink and find enjoyment in his toil. This also, I saw, is from the hand of God, for apart from him who can eat or who can have enjoyment?” (Eccles. 2:24-25)**

We live “under the sun” but we also live “from the hand of God.” Apart from God, you are nothing. Your life, your stuff, all your accomplishments are meaningless. But when you receive the gifts that come from the hand of God, you are everything. Who you are and what you do matters – you matter to God. He will make your life meaningful when you live with Him. If you insist on living your life “under the sun,” apart from God, then you will be nothing; it will all be meaningless. But when you live in relationship with God, receiving His good gifts, you are everything to Him. He will weave your life into His great tapestry of salvation.

Ecclesiastes ends with these words: **“The end of the matter; all has been heard. Fear God and keep his commandments, for this is the whole duty of man. For God will bring every deed into judgment, with every secret thing, whether good or evil.” (Eccles. 12:13-14)** This is very similar to what Jesus said in the final words of Matthew’s gospel, **“And Jesus came and said to them, ‘All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.’” (Matt. 28:18-20)** You are Jesus’ disciple, and you are everything to Him. You matter. Your life is meaningful. As long as you live “under the sun,” live from the hand of God.

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Gene Hanson	10/11
Brian Gustafson	10/13
Marianne Meyer	10/14
Brad Gustafson	10/15
Lindsey Eccles	10/15
Heather Berthiaume	10/24
Eli Klein-Wyman	10/27
Brayden Wyman	10/28



Wally & Gloria Brehm	10/2
Rob & Melanie Kamps	10/4
David & Kathy Smith	10/4
Don & Betsy Kohls	10/13
Paul & Marianne Meyer	10/14
Darryl & Shelley Frederickson	10/22

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



* Doris Splettstoesz
* Jerry Babb

Treasuring God's Truth, Living Out His Love

- Thank you to Pastor Mike for everything he does for all of us each and every day!
- Thank you to Marianne, Paul, Don and Sandi for packing the LWR School Supply bags!
- Thank you to Joel for taking care of the recycling each month!
- Thank you to all who brought food, treats, and drinks for the Jolly Ramblers Potluck!
- Thank you to those who give a free will offering on Sundays for treats. This helps to cover the costs of juice, coffee, plates, napkins, utensils, etc.
- Thank you to those who donate treats for Sunday fellowship time!
- Thank you to Arlee for giving Dick Bromley rides to Church on Sunday's!
- Thank you to Joel for maintaining the Memorial Garden!
- Thank you to Kevin for joining the counting committee!

October is Pastor Appreciation Month!

Pastors are in short supply and MOLC is blessed and fortunate to have Pastor Michalk. During the month of October there will be a basket in the narthex where you may place notes/cards/gifts of appreciation for Pastor Mike. Please make a point of praying daily for Pastor and his family during the month as well.

Join us on **Sunday, October 26th** in the fellowship hall after worship for cake and to thank Pastor for all he does for the congregation.

Autumn Changes

As the leaves begin to change, think about the change you've experienced because of the gift of eternal life our Savior has given us. He suffered and died so that we sinful beings could live! Give thanks to our Creator for His great artistry and the beautiful nature that surrounds us. Autumn leaves are beautiful, but they're dying. Chlorophyll molecules that make the leaves green break down and the trees reabsorb the nutrients back into their roots. The leaves change color and die, so that there might be new buds/new life in the spring. Give thanks for our Savior's death and resurrection that promises us new life!

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“Blessed by God to be a Blessing”

“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places” (Eph. 1:3).

Everything we have comes from God’s bountiful hand and is a blessing to us from Him. Our response to God’s provision should be one of contentment and thanksgiving, realizing that God is indeed our Source.

But our response should be much more than that. Because of God’s love for us, and because He has demonstrated that love in so many ways, we should seek to cultivate a stewardship lifestyle. A stewardship lifestyle is one which realizes that our role is that of a manager, a steward, who is accountable to God for the use of the resources — time, talents and treasure — which God has given to us.

Stewardship, in fact, has been compared to a three-legged stool. Remove one of the legs, and the stool cannot stand. But when all three legs are present, then the stool is able to do that for which it was designed. Similarly, a stewardship lifestyle consists of time, talents and treasure, all of which are gifts from God and all of which are to be used for God’s glory.

God’s servant, Moses, gave us tremendous insight concerning the “treasure” aspect of stewardship when he wrote in Deuteronomy chapter 8: “. . . remember the Lord your God, for it is he who gives you power to get wealth.” For that reason, there is no such thing as a self-made man or woman.

That’s why our role is not one of ownership, but that of a manager, a steward, of what God has given to us. What’s the difference between an owner and a manager? An owner has rights; a manager has responsibilities. That’s why we hold our possessions with an open hand — not a clenched fist — realizing that everything is a gift from God. And as we do so, we seek to put first things first.

In describing exactly how we are to do that, Jesus said, “. . . lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also” (Matt. 6:20-21).

How do we lay up treasures in heaven? How do we seek first God’s kingdom when it comes to financial matters? How can we who have been blessed by God in turn be a blessing? One of the primary ways is by giving to the ministry here at Mount Olive Lutheran Church. Our giving to God is thus a response to His blessings in our life and to His love for us. We do not give to prove anything or to earn anything. Rather, we give out of joyful hearts that have been redeemed by God’s grace and in response to all He has done for us.



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!

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Women of Mount Olive

Looking ahead.....

All WOMO members and any women interested should put the following 2025 dates on your calendar:

- November 3rd Spruce Tip Planter Assembly (tentative)
- November 7th Bazaar Set Up/Drop Off Day
- November 8th Holiday Bazaar and Bake Sale 9AM-1PM
- November 23rd Post Bazaar Meeting
- December 6th WOMO Christmas Party 11:30 AM

Greeting Cards Available from WOMO

A variety of boxed greeting cards for different occasions are for sale in the narthex. Each box contains 12 greeting cards and costs just \$5. Stop and take a look! They are available in the narthex on the shelves near the door to the balcony stairwell.

WOMO Secretary Needed

WOMO is still seeking someone to take on the role of Secretary for our group. This position does not take a huge time commitment. You're simply taking notes about the discussion and votes that occur at our meetings and our formal meetings are only once per quarter. See WOMO President, Jan Preble if you're willing to serve in this capacity.

WOMO ANNUAL BAKE SALE & BAZAAR IS FAST APPROACHING!

This event will take place on **Saturday, November 8th from 9 AM – 1 PM**. We hope everyone is busy making, baking, building and crafting various items to donate to help us with our sale. Set up and drop off for contributions will be **Friday, November 7th from 4-7 PM** in fellowship hall. The greater variety of items we have to sell, the greater the success of the sale and the more missions and community organizations we can support. PLEASE PRICE ALL THE ITEMS YOU DONATE! WOMO members will not price your items as we have no way of knowing how much time or money you put in to making your creations! Once again we will have a *TIMELESS TREASURES* table offering new, next to new, and gently used items for sale. If you have things to donate, please price them and drop them off on Friday. We will **NOT** accept clothing, shoes, or books. Household items, home decor, seasonal decor, personal accessories (purses, scarves, etc.) and gift items accepted. Please sign up in the narthex to be a vendor, volunteer, and/or to note items you're willing to donate. The sign-up board is located by the elevator in the narthex. Invite your friends and help spread the word!

Mites/Mite Boxes

You probably see "Mite Sunday" on the church calendar each month but may not know what to do with your Mite box full of coins, or maybe you forget to bring it on Mite Sunday. You may give your Mite box to WOMO President, Jan Preble at any time. All Mite funds collected go to LWML to support a wide array of missions and nonprofit organizations across the country and throughout the world. If you need a Mite box, they are available in the narthex on the shelves near the door to the balcony stairwell.

OCTOBER

2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
PASTOR APPRECIATION MONTH!			1 -Elders Meeting @ 6:30PM	2 *Happy Anniversary Wally & Gloria Brehm	3	4 *Happy Anniversary Rob & Melanie Kamps *Happy Anniversary David & Kathy Smith
5 -Congregational Meeting World Communion Sunday	6	7	8 -Leadership Meeting @ 6:30PM	9	10	11 *Happy Birthday Gene Hanson *Happy Birthday Adam Wyman
12 -WOMO Meeting @ 10AM Pastor/Clergy Appreciation Sunday	13 *Happy Birthday Brian Gustafson *Happy Anniversary Don & Betsy Kohls Columbus Day	14 *Happy Birthday Marianne Meyer *Happy Anniversary Paul & Marianne Meyer	15 *Happy Birthday Brad Gustafson *Happy Birthday Lindsey Eccles	16	17	18
19 -Mite Sunday	20	21	22 *Happy Anniversary Darryl & Shelley Frederickson	23	24 *Happy Birthday Heather Berthiaume	25
26 Reformation Sunday	27 *Happy Birthday Eli Klein-Wyman	28 *Happy Birthday Brayden Wyman	29	30	31 -Happy Halloween! Reformation Day	

Puzzle!

Who made the following statements in the Bible?

1. "Am I my brother's keeper?"

Samuel, John, Cain, Andrew

2. "I have no silver and gold, but what I do have I give to you."

Peter, James, John, Paul

3. "What is truth?"

Herod, Pilate, Simon Magus, Cornelius

4. "Choose you this day whom you will serve ... but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD!"

Abraham, Jacob, Moses, Joshua

5. "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God."

Nathaniel, John, Peter, Paul

6. "In a short time would you persuade me to be a Christian?"

Herod Agrippa, Pilate, Caiaphas, Annas

7. "Do not urge me to leave you or to return from following you. For where you go I will go."

Rebekah, Rachel, Ruth, Rahab

8. "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith."

Paul, Peter, James, Barnabas

MOUNT OLIVE



LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Mound, MN 55364
www.mountolivecms.org

Blessed by God to be a Blessing

“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus
Christ,
who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing
in the heavenly places” (Eph. 1:3).

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Contact Us

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Church Cell 952-245-5218
Admin@mountolivecms.org

Website - www.mountolivecms.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, 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