



MT. OLIVE LUTHERAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER

September 2026

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- *September 2nd** – Elders Meeting @ 6:30PM
- *September 7th** – Labor Day
- *September 9th** – Women's Bible Study Begins @ 10AM
- *September 9th** – Leadership Meeting @ 6:30PM
- *September 13th** – Jolly Ramblers & Open House
- *September 13th** – National Grandparents Day
- *September 20th** – Back to Church Sunday
- *September 20th** – Mite Sunday
- *September 27th** – Happy Birthday Mount Olive!
- *September 29th** – Church Directory Photos 2-8:30PM

MOUNT OLIVE LUTHERAN CHURCH

*Jolly Ramblers
Worship
Service and
Church Open
House*

Join us for a morning of Polka music followed by an open house / tour of our newly renovated Education wing and to learn more about our Sunday School program and Bible Studies.

SEPTEMBER 13, 2026

5218 BARTLETT BLVD, MOUND, MN 55364

09:00 - 11:00

WWW.MOUNTOLIVELCMS.ORG

MT. OLIVE LUTHERAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER

A Message from Pastor Mike

God gives the growth

*“As long as we remain on earth, **take comfort in this: Where two or three are gathered in His name, there Christ stands among us, as He has promised.** Where the Word of God is preached in truth and purity and where the Sacraments are rightly administered, there is the true church on earth. And no matter how feeble or small she may appear to mortal eyes, the church that our Lord has built stands glorious and terrible throughout the ages.”*

That quote is from a February 2024 article in The Lutheran Witness which you can find at <https://witness.lcms.org/2024/christian-hope-amidst-numerical-decline/>. Certainly we have seen the numerical decline in our own congregation, and yet God has been faithful and has blessed us in countless ways. We simply receive His gifts which are given as *“the Word of God is preached in truth and purity and the Sacraments are rightly administered.”* Where this happens, God causes His church, the body of Christ, to grow – but the growth cannot be measured in numbers.

In 2 Thessalonians 1:3 Paul writes: **3 We ought always to give thanks to God for you, brothers, as is right, because your faith is growing abundantly, and the love of every one of you for one another is increasing.**

This is how I think about Mt. Olive Lutheran Church: I give thanks to God for you, brothers and sisters, because your **faith** is growing abundantly, and the **love** of every one of you for one another is increasing. Because God continues to speak His Word to us and deliver His gifts through the Sacraments of Baptism and The Lord’s Supper, we **are** growing – growing in faith and love.

So what should we be doing? Focus on what God is doing in this place and invite others to be a part of it. We are mailing out 1500 invitations to our Jolly Ramblers Service and Open House on September 13 – pray that the Holy Spirit will bring to us the **people who need** to hear of God’s great love for them in Jesus Christ. Pray that the Holy Spirit will bring to us the **people who will help us** proclaim and teach the good news of salvation through faith in Jesus! I am praying and planning to offer an Adult Information Class this fall to present the God-given teachings and practices of our Lutheran Church for those who want to know more and for those who want a “refresher” on the foundations of our faith.

Paul says in 1st Corinthians 3, **6 I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. 7 So neither he who plants nor he who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth.** Only God gives the growth – and He does that as His Word and Sacraments are planted and watered here through Sunday worship, Bible Studies, and family and individual devotions (regular reading of God’s Word and prayer throughout the week). Praise God that in 2027 we will celebrate 100 years of God’s faithfulness to Mt. Olive! And praise God for what He will do and where He will lead us in the future. We will cling to His Word and Sacraments, invite others to join us, and so experience the growth that God gives.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Mike Michalk

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Claudia Bullock 9/2
Justine Michalk 9/14
Kathy Smith 9/17
Betsy Kohls 9/18
Jane Salden 9/20
Mt Olive LC 9/27/2027
Lynn Betts 9/28

John & Linda Verkennes 9/7

Jerry & Diana Kohls 9/28

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



*David Miller



*Annabelle Reinitz
*Kalli Lynn Cone

Treasuring God's Truth, Living Out His Love

- Thank you to everyone that donated school supplies for our Lutheran World Relief (LWR) School Kits and special thanks to Andrew Reinitz for the backpacks. Your contributions will change the lives of children around the world.
- Thank you to Noah & Nehemiah Kamps for the helping set up chairs and tables, weeding and pruning the rain garden and other landscaping!

Archives

We are looking for someone to take over the archives. Please reach out to Pastor if you are interested and willing to do this for our church!

Sunday Treats

Will begin again on Sunday, September 20th. Please consider donating treats or cash to provide treats!

Women's Bible Study

Will begin on Wednesday, September 9th at 10AM.

October 24th Painting Class

There is a sign up in the narthex for anyone (men and women) 16 and older to participate in our group canvas painting class to be held in fellowship hall on **October 24th from 10 am – 12 Noon**. There are 3 price points, so please indicate your preferred canvas size when signing up. You may pay with cash, check, credit card or Venmo as you check in for the class. We will be painting a fall or spring landscape (participants may choose to paint either one) featuring a river running through a forest with flora on either side of the riverbank. Fee includes canvas, instruction, and all necessary supplies. Invite a friend or a group of friends and sign them up too! You must sign up no later than **Sunday, October 18th** so that we have adequate supplies.



Applying Biblical Teachings

"Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God" (Col. 3:1).

By God's grace, we have been given the benefit of Christ's resurrection. Through Word and Sacrament, we have been justified sanctified and shall in this body be glorified. Therefore, we seek those things which are not of this world, but those things which are of heaven, where Jesus the Christ is seated at the right hand of God the Father. We do not seek the things of this world, for just as we "have been raised with Christ," we have died also. The Apostle Paul also writes in his letter to the Colossians, "For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God" (Col. 3:3). What does a dead person know of or care about his money, investments and possessions? The answer is, "Nothing." How can a dead person use his money, investments and possessions? The answer is, "He cannot." As Solomon explained in Ecclesiastes 2:21, "For a man may do his work with wisdom, knowledge and skill, and then he must leave all he owns to someone who has not worked for it. This too is meaningless and a great misfortune." But the apostle's writing goes further. A dead person cannot fulfill the requirements of the ceremonial law of any form of religion that requires the use of money, possessions, talents, etc. How many times can a dead person be required to attend church? How many Bible verses can a dead person be required to memorize? How much service may a dead person be required to do? How many tithes can a dead person give? The answer to all of these questions is the same: None! When one sets requirements for any reason by applying human wisdom and understanding, then that person is perverting the Gospel message. That person has failed in understanding the Gospel, for he or she is operating, serving and giving in the realm of the dead. This is the warning the Apostle Paul was giving in his letter to the Colossians. We are children of the first resurrection. By water and the Word, we have been raised with Christ to a new life, having our hearts set on things above. Though physically we may look the same, we are not. We have been raised to a spiritual life, which in this world is invisible, for it is hidden in Christ. This life already has power and victory over sin, physical death and the power of the devil. This life, with its heart set on things above, operates with the intangible things it has in Christ. What does this mean? We are a Gospel-led people. We have been given the victory of Christ. We have put on Christ. We are imitators of Christ. In Christ, we are a competent people who need not be told by others what our decisions must be. We do God's will, for in this victory of the resurrection, we have the freedom to do what God desires. Thus, when it comes to worship, we say and do as David wrote, "I love the house where you live, O Lord, the place where your glory dwells" (Psalm 26:8). When it comes to the study of God's Word, we say and do as Luther wrote in that we "hold it sacred and gladly hear and learn it." When it comes to serving God and those around us, we say and do as the Apostle Paul wrote in his letter to the Hebrews and "do not forget to do good and to share with others" (Heb. 13:16). And when it comes to giving, we respond as the Apostle Paul wrote to the Corinthians, "On the first day of every week, each one of you should set aside a sum of money in keeping with his income" (1 Cor. 16:2).



JOIN US FOR BIBLE STUDY

- ❖ **Tuesday's 7:00 AM -**
Men's Bible Study
- ❖ **Wednesday's 10:00 AM -** Women's Bible Study (Sep-Apr)
- ❖ **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

MT. OLIVE LUTHERAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER

Women of Mount Olive

ANNUAL BAKE SALE & BAZAAR SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2026

We hope members of the congregation are creating items for donation to help make this event a huge success. WOMO would not raise the funds for missions and community nonprofit organizations without the contributions from our congregation. The sale will be held from 9 AM – 1 PM and set up and drop off will take place on Friday, November 6 from 4 PM – 6 PM. If you're able to help with donations, set up, or help the day of the sale watch for the sign-up board in the narthex.

Spruce tips have been ordered, and we will once again be selling spruce tip planters. We are in need to pots (9" – 12" in diameter) so if you're able to donate one or more, please set them outside under the "bridge" between the two buildings.

Upcoming Dates of Importance

2026

- October 12th - WOMO Meeting @ 10AM in Fellowship Lounge
- October 24th – Painting Class for men and women 10AM-Noon (Sign up in the Narthex!)
- 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.)





SEPTEMBER



2026

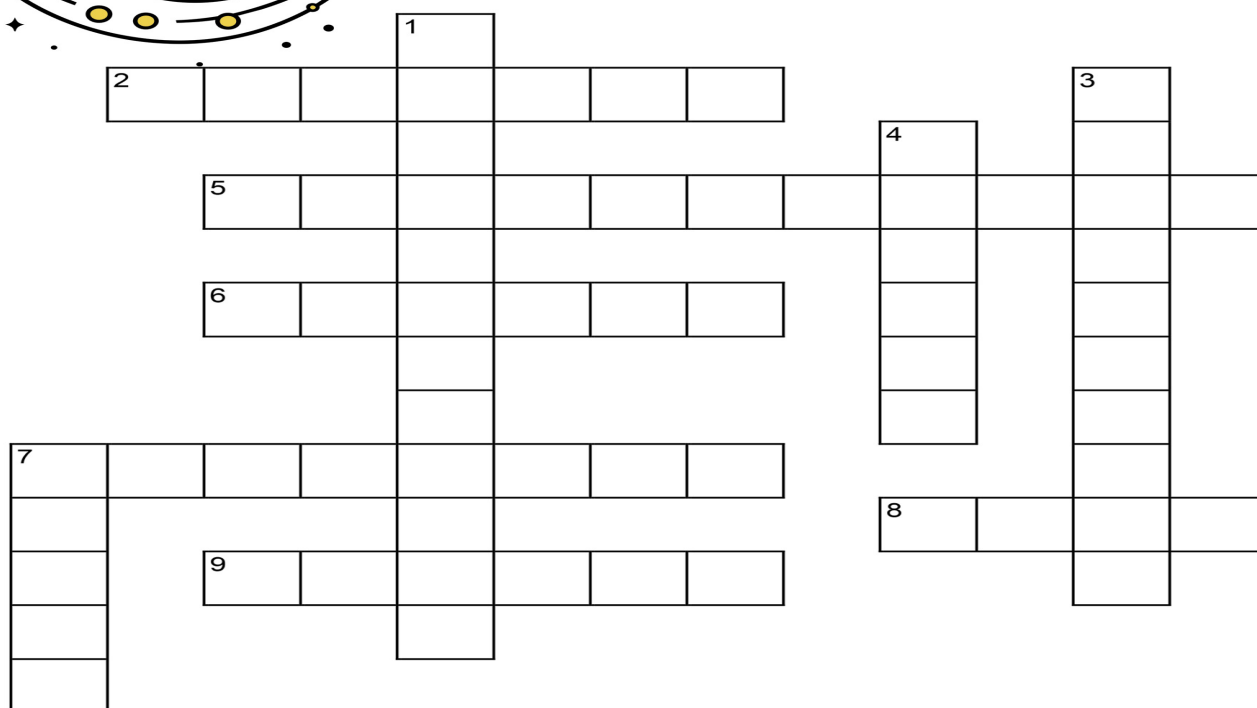
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2 -Happy Birthday Claudia Bullock! -Elders Meeting @ 6:30PM	3	4	5
6	7 -Happy Anniversary John & Linda Verkennes! Labor Day	8	9 -Leadership Meeting @ 6:30PM	10	11 Patriot Day	12
13 -Jolly Ramblers Polka Service & Open House Grandparents Day	14 -Happy Birthday Justine Michalk!	15	16	17 -Happy Birthday Kathy Smith!	18 -Happy Birthday Betsy Kohls!	19
20 -Happy Birthday Jane Salden! -Mite Sunday	21	22 Autumn Begins	23	24	25	26
27 -Happy Birthday Mount Olive Lutheran Church!	28 -Happy Birthday Lynn Betts! -Happy Anniversary Jerry & Diana Kohls!	29 -Church Directory Photos 2-8:30PM	30			

Puzzle!



BEATITUDES

Fill in the blanks below to complete the crossword. Answers are based on Matthew 5:1-13, NIV.



ACROSS

2. _____ and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven.
5. Blessed are the _____, for they will see God.
6. Blessed are those who _____ and thirst after righteousness.
7. Blessed are the _____, for they will receive mercy.
8. Blessed are the _____, for they will inherit the earth.
9. Blessed are those who hunger and _____, for they will be filled.

DOWN

1. Blessed are the _____, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
3. Blessed are those who are _____ for righteousness' sake.
4. Great is your _____ in heaven.
7. Blessed are those who _____, for they will be comforted.

Answer key: 2 Across: Rejoice, 5 Across: pureinheart, 6 Across: hunger
7 Across: merciful, 8 Across: meek, 9 Across: thirst, 1 Down: poorinspirit
3 Down: persecuted, 4 Down: reward, 7 Down: mourn

MOUNT OLIVE



LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

By the power of the Gospel,
Christians give willingly
from the heart by faith in victory.
“Since, then, you have been raised with Christ,
set your hearts on things above, where Christ is seated
at the right hand of God” (Col. 3:1)

MT. OLIVE LUTHERAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER

Contact Us

Pastor Mike Michalk –
952.388.3858

Pastor@mountolivecms.org

Church Office (Lindsey) –
952.472.2756

Church Cell 952-245-5218

Admin@mountolivecms.org

Website - www.mountolivecms.org

Office Hours

Monday -Thursday 8:00 – 11:00AM

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: Linda Verkennes, and Phil Holmen

Committees

Education: Arlee Mueller, Andrew Reinitz

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

Women of Mount Olive - President: Jan Preble, **Secretary & Treasurer:** Lindsey Eccles

Worship: Sandi Woytcke and Jan Preble