



MT. OLIVE LUTHERAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER

April 2026

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- *April 1st – April Fools' Day
- *April 1st – Elders Meeting @ 6:30PM
- *April 2nd – Maundy Thursday Services @ 10AM & 6:30PM
- *April 3rd – Good Friday Service @ 6:30PM
- *April 5th – Happy Easter!
- *April 6th – Otten Bros. Give & Grow Program begins!
- *April 8th – Leadership Meeting @ 6:30PM
- *April 13th – WOMO Meeting @ 10AM
- *April 15th – Tax Day
- *April 19th – Mite Sunday
- *April 22nd – Earth Day
- *April 22nd – Administrative Professionals Day

Give & Grow

otten bros.
Give
and
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 this flyer 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.

INSPIRATION FROM THE GROUND UP



OTTEN BROS.

Garden Center & Landscaping

2350 West Wayzata Blvd., Long Lake, MN 55356
952-473-5425 www.ottenbros.com

The Flower Farm

— Garden Center —
& Greenhouse

3435 US Highway 12 SE, Delano, MN 55328 | 763-972-2311

Must present flyer at time of purchase.
 Discount customer's purchases not eligible
 for the Give & Grow Program 80GIVE041

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A Message from Pastor Mike

Let God in!

Revelation 3:20 (ESV) — 20 Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and eat with him, and he with me.

Let Jesus in.

When we hear His voice, let us open the door. Open the door of your heart and mind and let Jesus in. He comes for a feast, His feast, His Supper, in which we receive His body and blood and we receive every gift that He has won for us by the sacrifice of His body and blood. He gives us food to sustain our faith, food that endures to eternal life (John 6:27).

Let Jesus in.

John 14:23 (ESV) — 23 Jesus answered him, “If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him.

When we let Jesus in, the Father comes with Him! Jesus, the Redeemer of all, comes with the Father, the Creator of all, to make their home with you! This is why we treasure the Word of God and we make time to hear and take it to heart. We go to church to hear God’s Word proclaimed for us. We go to Bible Study because there Jesus and the Father speak to us and the Word changes our lives for the better. We take time for personal and family devotions, asking God to heal and bless our relationships so that our homes may truly be places where God is dwelling.

Let Jesus in – and the Father – and the Holy Spirit.

John 16:13–15 (ESV) — 13 When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth, for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. 14 He will glorify me, for he will take what is mine and declare it to you. 15 All that the Father has is mine; therefore I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.

Jesus makes it clear that the gift of His coming also includes the gift of the Holy Spirit, the Spirit of truth. It is the Spirit who declares to us all that the Son has won for us. The Spirit delivers to us the forgiveness of our sins and the power to live a new life of faith and obedience.

Let God in!

When you know things are not right, let Jesus in. He will put things back in order again. When your mind is troubled, let Jesus in. He brings peace and the assurance of His presence. When you are faced with daunting tasks, let Jesus in. He gives wisdom and patience and perseverance. The practice of “letting Jesus in” to our minds and hearts is really the work of the Holy Spirit in us. God uses our troubles as He would use every experience of our lives – to show us our need for Him. And when He has made us aware of our need, He then fills that need by giving us Himself not just once in a while but continually.

Those in whom God has come to dwell now live as lights in this dark world. We reach out to those living in the darkness, with troubled minds and hearts, to tell them of the One who desires to dwell in them as well, bringing forgiveness and peace and new strength. We pray for and support missionaries and pastors and others who proclaim Jesus to those who don’t know Him. Our goal is that all may know the grace of Jesus and welcome Him into their lives by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Let God in – in every situation – He is already there, ready to give you what you need.

Yours in Christ, Pastor Mike Michalk

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Amanda Skaret 4/6
Leona Shore 4/7
Beverly Beno 4/12
Carol Morrison 4/18
Joan Coddon 4/19
Millie Morrison 4/20
Richard Morrison 4/25

*No Anniversaries for April!



Gerald "Jerry" Bullock



We Christians simply cannot get over the reality of the Resurrection. For us, the fact that God raised Christ from the dead proves that Christ's way alone is God's answer to the sins and horrors of the world. The truths Christ taught when he walked on earth stand solid and irrefutable. The light he brought is the only light that never goes out, for it is the eternal light of God's glory.

Christ's life is the clearest example of how God intends for us to live. His way is the way that makes the most sense for our lives on this earth. The saints throughout history have shown that again and again. The hope Christ offers is the only true and lasting hope. Ultimately, it is our assurance that life can be good and joy-filled for all.

Consider the words St. Paul wrote to the church at Rome and apply them to your own life: "Just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his" (Romans 6:4-5, NRSV).

If that is not a tremendous cause for abiding joy, then what is?

Treasuring God's Truth, Living Out His Love

- Thank you to all who continue to help with the education wing renovations!
- Thank you to all who helped with Jerry Bullock's funeral! Setting up, cooking, baking, picking up supplies/food, serving, cleaning up after and take down!
- Thank you to all who donated to the food shelf for our door offering on March 22nd!
- Thank you to all who bring treats for Sunday fellowship time!
- Thank you to all who attended Lenten worship services!

WORSHIP COMMITTEE

If you play piano or another instrument or would like to provide special music (vocal or instrumental) for a worship service, please talk to Jan Preble or Pastor Mike. Special music can really add to a worship service and your talent(s) would be much appreciated!

SUNDAY TREATS

Please consider making/baking/buying treats and/or donating coffee creamer and juice/milk for Sunday morning fellowship after worship. It seems the same people are providing treats every Sunday, and it would be nice if a few new folks would volunteer and give "the regulars" a break. Thank you for giving this prayerful consideration. It is a simple way to contribute to your church family!

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

“For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life” (John 3:16).

In this one sentence, Jesus’ words frame the entire Gospel. As literature, these words are unequalled. As substance, they are beyond all human understanding. If these words said that God loved His Son, we could understand that, for His Son was obedient unto Him, even unto death. If these words said that God loved the heavenly angels, we could understand that, for they serve Him day and night. But these words are spoken to God’s enemies, to humanity, to us. This is beyond our comprehension.

Think about it: God so loved the world, a world that does not thank or praise Him, but disobeys, despises, rejects and reviles Him and His Word, that He gave His only Son unto death to save the world. Out of His love, a love beyond our understanding, without any goodness or worthiness in us, the Father gave and continues to give. It is this love which St. Paul describes in Romans 8:32, “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?”

The Son so loved the Father that in obedience at Gethsemane, He prayed, “My Father, if it is not possible for this cup to be taken away unless I drink it, may your will be done” (Matt. 26:42). Then out of love that surpasses all human understanding, He joyously and gladly shouldered all the sins of the world on Himself and laid down His life on the cross as payment for them.

Only in faith, that which is the working of the Holy Spirit through water and the Word, can this unexplainable giving in love be looked upon without being considered foolishness. To lovingly give abundantly over and over to a weak, poor, wretched enemy who constantly is attacking and provoking an overwhelming destructive response is foolishness. But not to God.

To a watching world, Christian giving in love is also foolishness and not understood. Each time the offering plate is passed and Christians give out of love, the world sees this as foolish, misguided and downright stupid. The world’s response echoes Paul’s words to the church at Corinth: “The man without the Spirit does not accept the things that come from the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him, because they are spiritually discerned” (1 Cor. 2:14).

By the power of the Gospel, we give this resounding reply to the world: We believe, without full understanding, that “. . . God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.” And because God first loved us and gave, we love Him. In response to His love, we gladly give as we have been given.



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

Salad Luncheon, Saturday, May 2, 2026, 11 AM – 2 PM in Fellowship Hall

All adult women affiliated with Mount Olive are welcome to attend. Please bring a salad of your choice to share with the group. Watch for a sign-up sheet in the narthex. You're welcome to invite a guest or two as well, but please note their names on the sign-up sheet as well.

With salads, the possibilities are nearly endless so feel free to bring what you wish! Pasta salad, green salad, fruit salad, tuna salad, chicken salad, gelatin salad, vegetable salad and others will provide a nice variety. Plan to bring your favorite to share.

WOMO members will provide beverages and desserts. There will also be a few "door prizes" given away.

Because we've all enjoyed playing a game in the past, we plan to once again play "the dice game" and ask that all women attending bring a wrapped gift item(s) of nominal value (\$5 - \$10) for a bit of additional fun and "stealing". If you're bringing guests, ask them to bring a wrapped gift too, if they want to participate in the game.

We will open with a short prayer and devotion and then feast on salads, play our game and wrap up by enjoying dessert. Plan to join with other women for an afternoon of fellowship and fun.

LWML MN South District Convention

The district convention will be held June 18-20 in Mankato. *Gifts from the Heart* will be gathered at the convention for two ministries, The New Freedom Store and Prison Ministry. There will be a bin in the narthex to collect requested items. Please donate if you're able. The list of items being requested follows:

- Visa Gift Cards (**Please write the amount on the card, if it's not already printed**)
- 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, April 13 at 10 AM**. Please plan to attend as we go over details for the upcoming salad luncheon and discuss the district convention.

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 -Elders Meeting @ 6:30PM	2 *Services @ 10AM & 6:30PM Maundy Thursday	3 *Service @ 6:30PM Good Friday	4
5	6 *Happy Birthday Amanda Skarett!	7 *Happy Birthday Leona Shore!	8 -Leadership Meeting @ 6:30PM	9	10	11
Easter Sunday						
12 *Happy Birthday Beverly Benol	13 -WOMO Meeting @ 10AM	14	15	16	17	18 *Happy Birthday Carol Morrison!
19 -Mite Sunday *Happy Birthday Joan Coddon!	20 *Happy Birthday Millie Morrison!	21	22 Earth Day Administrative Professionals Day	23	24	25 *Happy Birthday Richard Morrison!
26	27	28	29	30		

MOUNT OLIVE



LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

The Father's love is the foundation of all giving.

**"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son,
that whoever believes in him shall not perish
but have eternal life" (John 3:16).**

MT. OLIVE LUTHERAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER

Contact Us

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Church Cell 952-245-5218

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