



# MT. OLIVE LUTHERAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER

September 2025

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- \*September 3<sup>rd</sup> – Women's Bible Study Begins @ 10AM
- \*September 3<sup>rd</sup> – Elders Meeting @ 6:30PM
- \*September 7<sup>th</sup> – Sunday School Begins
- \*September 9<sup>th</sup> – Leadership Meeting @ 6:30PM
- \*September 14<sup>th</sup> – Jolly Ramblers
- \*September 14<sup>th</sup> – Congregational Meeting
- \*September 21<sup>st</sup> – Back to Church Sunday
- \*September 21<sup>st</sup> – Mite Sunday
- \*September 27<sup>th</sup> – Happy Birthday Mount Olive!

## Mission of the Month: Cornerstone Light of Life Church

When we pray for and support our Minnesota South District, we are engaged in many mission endeavors in our own backyard. The full list of missions supported by our district can be found at [mnsdistrict.org/missions](https://mnsdistrict.org/missions). At our district convention this past June, we passed a resolution with the title, "To Encourage Each Congregation to Review and Look to Strengthen Its Financial Commitment to the MN South District As Synod in This Place." Our Leadership Team has discussed this and it will be part of our conversation as we plan our 2026 Budget. I want you to know about and pray for and be encouraged by the missions of our district, and this month we feature Cornerstone Light of Life Church in St. Paul.

Cornerstone Light of Life Church in St. Paul describes their ministry this way: *Come experience the joy of belonging to a faith community that values community, worship, and purpose. Whether you're exploring your faith journey or seeking a place to belong, you'll find a warm welcome at Cornerstone. Together, let's build lives on the cornerstone of Jesus Christ.*



# MT. OLIVE LUTHERAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER

## A Message from Pastor Mike

**Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us. – 1<sup>st</sup> John 4:11-12**

Have you ever fallen into the trap of focusing on what you don't have instead of what you do have? Worrying too much about what you can't do instead of what you can? Comparing yourself to others and wishing you had what they have instead of being aware and grateful for what God has given to you?

Sometimes we fall into this trap in the church as well. We wish we had more people "like in the old days". We see churches growing and thriving and wonder why it doesn't happen for us in the same way. Wouldn't it be nice if we could just (fill in the blank) like they do over there?

But thankfully God has His ways of reminding us that each of us is uniquely gifted in His eyes. He doesn't expect us to do what others do, but He wants us to find joy in doing what He has given us to do. And one of the greatest things God gives us to do, as individuals and as a congregation, is to love one another. When we love one another, God abides in us and His love is perfected in us!

Loving one another happens when we are first loved by God. He sends us love letters all the time in His Word. He cares for us each day and washes away all our sins. He heals our wounds and shows us how to care for others. He gives Himself to us, His very own body and blood, in the bread and wine every Sunday. Lord, help us grow in awareness and gratitude for Your love.

And then we begin to discover the unique ways in which God is leading us to love one another. One of our brothers or sisters needs help and we are there. We are there because God is there first, abiding in us and in our relationships. He opens our eyes to see the opportunities every day. We can't do everything and help everybody, but there is one thing and one person who I can help, who I can love, and God leads me to that opportunity.

God is at work in you and me. He reveals Himself to the world through the way we love one another. He tailors the work of His love to every person, every congregation, every situation. Now we can rejoice that God is working in others, in other places, in other people – and also in us. Now we can focus not on getting bigger, stronger, richer, whatever – but on being the people He has made us to be, right here, right now, with all of our weaknesses and limitations, and with all of His grace and strength.

Lord Jesus Christ, help me receive and feel Your love for me today, and lead me to give and show that love to my brothers and sisters today, so that we can be confident that You are abiding in us and perfecting Your love in us. Amen.

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Claudia Bullock	9/2
David Miller	9/12
Justine Michalk	9/14
Kathy Smith	9/17
Betsy Kohls	9/18
Jane Salden	9/20
Sophia Millican	9/25
Mt Olive LC	9/27/1927
Linda Betts	9/28
Nate Reinitz	9/30



John & Linda Verkennes	9/7
Gene & Millie Snyder	9/14
Dick & Carol Morrison	9/17
Alan & Darlene Fasching	9/19
Jerry & Diana Kohls	9/28

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



**\*John Morrison**

## Treasuring God's Truth, Living Out His Love

- Thank you to Brian for weed whipping our grounds!
- Thank you to Paul for pulling weeds!
- Thank you to Don and Paul for mowing the lawn!
- Thank you to the Woytcke's for donating all food for the snacks for VBS!
- Thank you to all our VBS volunteers! Arlee, Linda V, Melanie, Pastor Mike, Brian, Joel, Sandi, Marianne, Lindsey, Annabelle, Alyson, Cam, Rylan, and Kamden!
- Thank you to Pastor for driving a member to a doctor appointment!
- Thank you to Andrew for donating the bags for LWR!

## Women of Mount Olive

### Looking ahead.....

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

- October 12<sup>th</sup> 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter WOMO Meeting
- November 3<sup>rd</sup> Spruce Tip Planter Assembly (tentative)
- November 7<sup>th</sup> Bazaar Set Up/Drop Off Day
- November 8<sup>th</sup> Holiday Bazaar and Bake Sale
- November 23<sup>rd</sup> Post Bazaar Meeting
- December 6<sup>th</sup> WOMO Christmas Party 11:30 AM

### 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 help and/or to note items you're willing to donate. Invite your friends and help spread the word!



## Applying Biblical Teachings

“Calling the Twelve to him, he sent them out two by two and gave them authority over evil spirits. These were his instructions: ‘Take nothing for the journey except a staff — no bread, no bag, no money in your belts. Wear sandals but not an extra tunic’” (Mark 6:7-9).

The invitation was to come and “see this great thing which has come to pass.” Come — hear the words of the Messiah. With not so much as a beggar’s bag to hold out in front of them to collect alms as they stood in the center of towns and cities and proclaimed their message, the disciples went forth. Divinely enabled by Christ, they were trusting in their Master’s promise that through the power of the Word the hearts of people would be moved and all their needs would be provided.

The Gospel message has not changed: The Word is enough! It provides every Christian with everything needed to proclaim the Gospel message, the message of a loving Savior who shed His blood for the forgiveness of sins. Gimmicks and slogans are not required. A slick marketing strategy need not be developed. Professional fund-raisers need not apply. God’s Word is enough! In fact, He said that His Word “ . . . will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it” (Isa. 55:11).

God has called each of us into an intimate relationship with Him through the working of the Holy Spirit through Holy Baptism and the Word. Through faith, our hearts trust God for and in all things as the Holy Spirit draws us into a closer walk with Jesus. He motivates us to become more and more an extension of His mission as we share the Gospel message with those with whom we come in contact.

So what does this have to do with giving to the Lord? Good question. Although the disciples were fully trusting in the Lord, His plan was that they would be dependent on those they served. The power of the Word worked in their behalf as people opened their homes and provided for their needs. Others who heard the good news of the Gospel gave of themselves, their possessions and their wealth to provide for the needs of the disciples.

Just as God called people and sent them forth, He does the same today. And as His children — redeemed by our loving Savior — we are moved by the Holy Spirit through the Word, and we give to support those who preach and teach the Gospel.

As we read, study and learn His Word, pray that the Holy Spirit will move our hearts to proclaim the message that Jesus is the Savior of the world. Pray that we will respond by faithfully giving to the work of the Lord that the Gospel may continue to be preached and taught. And pray that God will provide through us and others for those He has called as His messengers.



## 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**  
3-6<sup>th</sup> Grade
- ❖ **Confirmation -**  
**Sunday Morning’s -**  
**10:00 AM** 7<sup>th</sup> Grade  
and Older

*God is good!*

# MT. OLIVE LUTHERAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER

**Chuck Thiel and The Jolly Ramblers**

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2025**

**Outdoor Polka Worship Service at 9:00 A.M.**

**MT. OLIVE LUTHERAN CHURCH MOUND, MN**

**952.472.2756    🎵    [www.mountolivecms.org](http://www.mountolivecms.org)**



## **NATIONAL BACK TO CHURCH SUNDAY**

**September 21<sup>st</sup>**

Do you have friends, neighbors or family members that are unchurched? Many of them may have belonged to a church at one time but stopped attending for a variety of reasons. As you know, a number of people simply “got out of the habit” of going to church during COVID. Why not invite someone you know to attend worship with you on September 21<sup>st</sup>? Think about it; there is plenty of time between now and September 21<sup>st</sup> to begin some casual conversation with someone about their past experience with church, and to inquire about their interest in giving church another chance, or maybe there is someone in your life that has NEVER attended church. MOLC is filled with friendly people and always open and welcoming to visitors and guests. Assure anyone you might bring with you there is NO PRESSURE here! Think about what you might tell someone if they ask why YOU go to church. You might also consider just telling someone why you go to church/how attending church makes a difference in your life (even if they don’t ask you and the moment feels right). You may be quite surprised by the response you get or the conversation that may follow; try it!

# SEPTEMBER

2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 Labor Day	2 *Happy Birthday Claudia Bullock	3 *Women's Bible Study Begins @ 10AM	4	5	6
7 *Sunday School Begins *Happy Anniversary John & Linda Verkennes Grandparents Day	8	9	10	11 Patriot Day	12 *Happy Birthday David Miller	13
14 *Jolly Ramblers Service *Happy Birthday Justine Michalk *Happy Anniversary Gene & Millie Snyder	15	16	17 *Happy Birthday Kathy Smith *Happy Anniversary Dick & Carol Morrison	18 *Happy Birthday Betsy Kohls	19 *Happy Anniversary Alan & Darlene Fasching	20 *Happy Birthday Jane Salden
21 *Back to Church Sunday *Mile Sunday	22 Autumn Begins	23	24	25 *Happy Birthday Sophia Millican	26	27 *Happy 98th Birthday Mount Olive!
28 *Happy Birthday Linda Betts *Happy Anniversary Jerry & Diana Kohls	29	30 *Happy Birthday Nate Reinitz				

# Puzzle!

Use the words provided to complete the puzzle.  
Then write the numbered words in the correct blanks  
below to complete Psalm 67:6, NIV.

## WORDS:

GOD, BLESSES, HARVEST,  
YIELDS, US, LAND

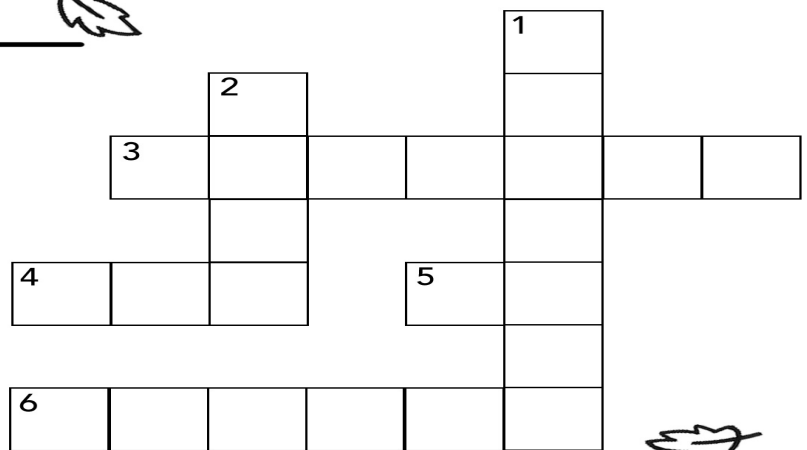


## ACROSS

3. Rhymes with farthest.
4. Rhymes with nod.
5. Rhymes with thus.
6. Rhymes with fields.

## DOWN

1. Rhymes with messes.
2. Rhymes with hand.

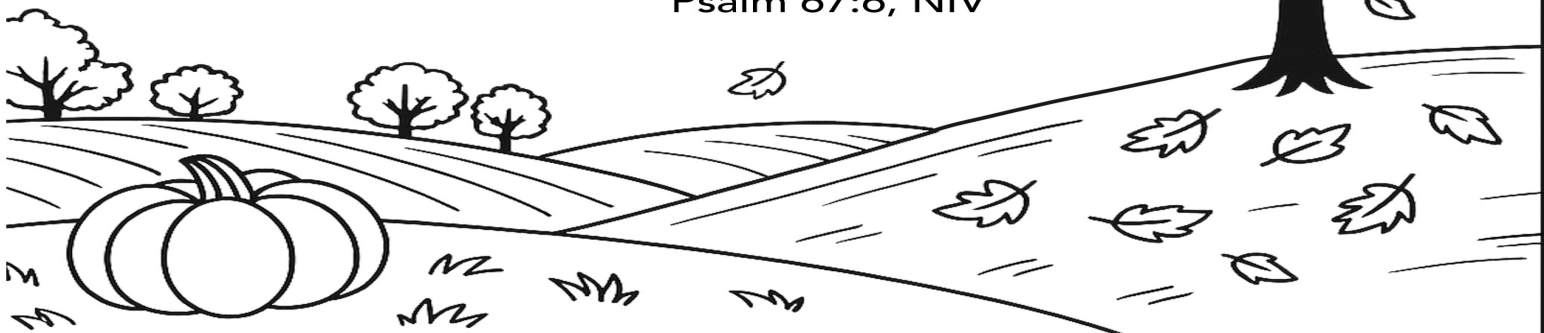


The \_\_\_\_\_ 2 \_\_\_\_\_ 6

its \_\_\_\_\_ 3 ; \_\_\_\_\_ 4 ,

our God, \_\_\_\_\_ 1 \_\_\_\_\_ 5 .

Psalm 67:6, NIV







5218 Bartlett Blvd  
Mound, MN 55364  
[www.mountlivelcms.org](http://www.mountlivelcms.org)



## OFFERING TEAM

### Looking for a counter!

We are 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!

As Christians, we trust in the power of God's Word,  
not money or possessions.

"Calling the Twelve to him, he sent them out two by two  
and gave them authority over evil spirits.  
These were his instructions: 'Take nothing for the journey  
except a staff — no bread, no bag, no money in your belts.  
Wear sandals but not an extra tunic'" (Mark 6:7-9).

## MT. OLIVE LUTHERAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER

### Contact Us

Pastor Mike Michalk –  
952.388.3858

[Pastor@mountlivelcms.org](mailto:Pastor@mountlivelcms.org)

Church Office (Lindsey) –  
952.472.2756

Church Cell 952-245-5218  
[Admin@mountlivelcms.org](mailto:Admin@mountlivelcms.org)

Website - [www.mountlivelcms.org](http://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:** 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, Lindsey Eccles

**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