



# MT. OLIVE LUTHERAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER

September 2024

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- \***September 4** – Ladies Bible study Begins @10AM
- \***September 4** – Elder's Meeting @ 6:30PM
- \***September 8** – Jolly Ramblers Service and Brunch Potluck
- \***September 11** – Leadership Meeting @ 6:30PM
- \***September 15** – Mite Sunday
- \***September 15** – Back to Church Sunday
- \***Sunday 15** – Sunday School Begins
- \***Sunday 22** – Congregation Meeting

## Community Prayers



### YOUR DISTRICT MISSION GIFTS AT WORK

Gen Connect is a ministry of St. Michael's, Bloomington, focused on reaching the 1.5 generation of immigrant families. We all struggle to find our true identity in Christ, and children of immigrants face this with even greater difficulty. Parents feel ill-equipped to pass on the faith and navigate culture clashes, and children feel lost in the shuffle.

Two years ago, the congregation called Rev. Hunde Takele to lead its intentional outreach effort. They have modeled integrated Sunday School and Confirmation classes, served refugee families with love and resources, and raised up an initial cohort of young adults to become leaders in the south metro. The Gen Connect young adult group has jumped right into their mission of "Loving our neighbors in response to God's love."

Please pray for Gen Connect in your personal and corporate prayers, that those who lead & serve would be strengthened in their efforts to reach people with the good news of Jesus.

To support this and other district missions, please go to [www.mnsdistrict.org/donate](http://www.mnsdistrict.org/donate)

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## A Message from Pastor Mike

I hope you enjoy reading these as much as I enjoyed finding them!

A man appeared before St. Peter at the pearly gates. "Have you ever done anything of particular merit?" St. Peter asked.

"Well," the man said, "once I came upon a gang of bikers who were threatening a young woman. I approached the largest and most heavily tattooed biker and smacked him on the head, kicked over his bike, ripped out his nose ring, and threw it on the ground. 'Now leave her alone!' I yelled."

St. Peter was impressed: "When did this happen?"

"Just a couple of minutes ago."

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"Dad, I want to ask you a question," said little Josh after his first day of Sunday School.

"Of course," said his Dad.

"The teacher was reading the Bible, about the Children of Israel building the Temple, the Children of Israel crossing the Red Sea, the Children of Israel making the sacrifices," said Josh.

"So what's your question?" his Dad asked.

"Well, didn't the grown-ups do anything?!"

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Our church was saddened to learn this week of the death of one of our most valued members, Someone Else.

For many, many years as a part of this church Someone Else did far more than a normal person's share of the work. Whenever there was a job to do, a class to teach, or a meeting to attend, everybody said, "Let Someone Else do it." Whenever leadership was mentioned, this wonderful person was looked to for inspiration as well as results; "Someone Else can work with that group." It was common knowledge that Someone Else was among the most generous givers. Whenever there was a financial need, everyone assumed Someone Else would make up the difference.

Now Someone Else is gone! We wonder what we are going to do. Someone Else left a wonderful example to follow, but who is going to follow it? Who is going to do the things Someone Else did? When you are asked to help this year, remember — we can't depend on Someone Else anymore.

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A woman approached the minister after the sermon, and thanked him for his discourse. "I found it so helpful," she said.

The minister replied: "I hope it will not prove as helpful as the last sermon you heard me preach."

"Why, what do you mean?" asked the astonished woman.

"Well," said the minister, "that sermon lasted you three months."

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A newly-ordained pastor, in the first days of his first call, was attempting to console the widow of an eccentric man who had just died. Standing before the open casket, the nervous young pastor said, "I realize this must be a very hard blow for you, Mrs. Svenson. Just try to remember that what we see before us is only the husk, the shell of your dear husband—the nut has gone to heaven."

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"The secret of a good sermon is to have a good beginning and a good ending; and to have the two as close together as possible."

—George Burns

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## WOMO NEWS

### **SAVE THE DATE! Annual Bake Sale & Bazaar will be Saturday, November 9, 2024**

WOMO is busy planning for our annual upcoming bake sale and bazaar. The success of the event requires involvement from others in the congregation. We need crafters and bakers as well as shoppers!

A limited number of spruce tip planters will once again be available for sale. We are seeking larger pots to use in the making of the planters, so if you are willing to donate an empty pot or decor, please see Lindsey in the church office.

Please be working on craft items you might donate and thinking about the delicious baked goods or home canned goods you are willing to contribute. All contributed items should be priced when they are dropped off.

There will once again be a *Timeless Treasures* table for donated new or next to new/good condition used items. All items must be priced prior to drop off. We will NOT accept clothing, shoes, or books.

A *Community Coffee Table* will also be available where you can visit with friends over a beverage and a pastry, so invite your friends and enjoy fellowship as well as shopping!

If you want flyers to distribute to help promote this event, please ask Lindsey in the church office.

### **Lutheran World Relief School Kits**

Thank you to EVERYONE in the congregation that contributed items for the school kits. Special thanks to Andrew Reinitz for donating the backpack bags.

Our goal is to pack 100 school kits for use around the world.

### **LWML**

We continue to collect mite boxes to support all kinds of work and missions around the world and in the United States. Your coins and contributions truly do make a difference! Thank you to all that regularly turn in mite boxes.

LWML Sunday will be October 6, and WOMO will host the LWML 2025 Spring Rally in April.

### **Looking ahead.....**

- September 11: Fill LWR school bags after women's Bible study
- October 6: LWML Sunday
- November 4: Spruce Tip Planter Assembly 10 AM
- November 8: Bake Sale & Bazaar Set Up and Donation Drop Off Day
- November 9: Bake Sale & Bazaar
- November 17: WOMO Meeting after worship
- December 1: WOMO to Host Holiday Party, Potluck & Gift Exchange for all adult women of MOLC
- April 26, 2025: LWML Spring Rally at MOLC

# MT. OLIVE LUTHERAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER



Claudia Bullock	9/2
Zachary Babb	9/10
David Miller	9/12
Justine Michalk	9/14
Kathy Smith	9/17
Betsy Kohls	9/18
Jane Salden	9/20
Bobbi Andres-Paine	9/23
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
Brian & Brenda Hentges	9/18
Alan & Darlene Fasching	9/19
John & Millie Morrison	9/23
Jerry & Diana Kohls	9/28

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

- Thank you to everyone who volunteered to assist with Vacation Bible School. It truly takes a village!
- Phil & Harriet will be starting up the choir at LMS. Starting Tuesday, September 3<sup>rd</sup> at 2PM practice in chapel, social time afterwards. They sing 1 Sunday a month at LMS for 2 services at 10 and 11AM. On Tuesday, August 27<sup>th</sup> at 2 PM there will be a special meeting to kick off the choir!

## Worship Committee / Jolly Ramblers

The Jolly Ramblers are coming **September 8** for our annual polka service. Bring your lawn chair and join us for worship.

There will be a potluck following the polka service, so please bring a dish to pass. There is a sign up sheet in the narthex.

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!



## SUPPLIES/DONATIONS NEEDED

If you can donate empty planter pots 9" – 14" in diameter (new pots, or used pots that have been emptied of dirt and cleaned/washed), or any décor items (ribbons, various decorative stakes, pinecones, birch sticks, etc.) please bring them to church no later than Sunday, October 27.

If you wish to contribute funds for WOMO to purchase décor items for the pots, please give your financial contribution to Jan, Lindsey, or Claudia.

## Sunday Treats

We always need treats donated for Sunday fellowship following worship. Please consider making/baking/buying treats and/or donating coffee creamer and juice/milk for Sunday mornings. This is a simple way to contribute to your church family!



## Applying Biblical Teachings

The formula “*e* equals *mc*<sup>2</sup>” is familiar to many, but is understood by only a few people. Most of us know it had something to do with Einstein and was the formula that led to the release of enormous energy. Similarly, in the operation and ministry of a local church, “*e*” might stand for *effectiveness*, “*m*” for *members*, “*c*” for *commitment*, and the “2” for the *effort multiplied by itself*. The fruit of that kind of effort is much more powerful than what Einstein discovered.

We here at Mount Olive Lutheran Church have been given the power of the Gospel. We are a congregation blessed with people who have many talents and gifts. Trusting in God, we have great vision, for we know what God has stated about His Word: “. . . It will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it” (Isaiah 55:11).

Yet, at times our trust is found lacking in the *effectiveness* of the promise. When trust is lacking, we set up for ourselves stumbling blocks that affect our faith. One such stumbling block is the use and giving of our wealth and money.

Jesus Himself gave a warning, “So if you have not been trustworthy in handling worldly wealth, who will trust you with true riches?” (Luke 16:11). We may think we understand the formula for great *effectiveness*. Do we? Let’s look at the formula.

The “*c*” is the *commitment* of Jesus, as Lord and Savior, to the *members*, “*m*,” of His church. The *effort multiplied by itself*, “2,” is the never tiring work of the Holy Spirit in our hearts.

God’s work is done *effectively* through us. His *commitment* to His members and His *effort multiplied by itself* many times over equals the *effective* carrying out of His desires.

Our faith embraces and keeps the true riches, the heavenly goods, and exhibits itself by doing what God desires. The stumbling block is avoided, for genuine, God-given faith cannot be wrong.

By the power of the Gospel, we are trustworthy and place the proper priorities on the use of our money as we give glory to God and serve our neighbor, especially our fellow believers. We remember the words St. Paul wrote to the Corinthians, “You will be made rich in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion. . . .” (2 Cor. 9:11).



- ❖ **Tuesday’s 7:00 AM -**  
Men’s Bible Study
- ❖ **Wednesday’s 10:00 AM (September – May) -** Ladies’ Bible Study
- ❖ **1st Wednesday of the month 1:00 PM - @**  
Lake Minnetonka Shores
- ❖ **Thursday’s 9:00 AM -**  
Adult Bible Class
- ❖ **Friday’s 3:00 PM -**  
Harrison Bay Bible Class



God is good!

# HELLO september

2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2 Labor Day	3 -Men's Bible study @ 7AM *Happy Birthday Claudia Bullock	4 -Women's Bible study Begins @ 10AM -Elder's Meeting @ 6:30PM -LMS Bible Study @ 1PM	5 -Adult Bible study @ 9AM	6 -Harrison Bay Bible study @ 3PM	7 *Happy Anniversary Linda & John Verkennes
8 Jolly Ramblers Outdoor Service Grandparents Day	9	10 -Men's Bible study @ 7AM *Happy Birthday Zachary Babb	11 -Women's Bible study @ 10AM -Leadership Meeting @ 6:30PM Patriot Day	12 *Happy Birthday David Miller -Adult Bible study @ 9AM	13 -Harrison Bay Bible study @ 3PM	14 *Happy Birthday Justine Michalk *Happy Anniversary Gene & Millie Snyder
15 -Mite Sunday -Back to Church Sunday -Sunday School Starts	16	17 -Men's Bible study @ 7AM *Happy Birthday Kathy Smith *Happy Anniversary Dick & Carol Morrison	18 -Women's Bible study @ 10AM *Happy Birthday Betsy Kohl *Happy Anniversary Brian & Brenda Hentges	19 *Happy Anniversary Alan & Darlene Fasching -Adult Bible study @ 9AM	20 *Happy Birthday Jane Salden -Harrison Bay Bible study @ 3PM	21
22 -Congregational Meeting @ 10:15 Autumn Begins	23 *Happy Birthday Bobbi Andres-Paine *Happy Anniversary John & Millie Morrison	24 -Men's Bible study @ 7AM	25 -Women's Bible study @ 10AM *Happy Birthday Sophia Millican	26 -Adult Bible study @ 9AM	27 *Happy Birthday Mount Olive Church -Harrison Bay Bible study @ 3PM	28 *Happy Birthday Linda Betts *Happy Anniversary Jerry & Diana Kohls
29	30 *Happy Birthday Nate Reintz					

You're invited to attend a Theological Convocation on the topic of Worship Theology and Practice on Friday, September 20 at Glory of Christ Lutheran Church in Plymouth. Please contact Pastor Mike for more information, registration, and transportation.



# 2024 THEOLOGICAL CONVOCATIONS



In 2024 the *Minnesota South District*  
will sponsor

## THEOLOGICAL CONVOCATIONS

Hosted by a local congregation in each region across the district

**9:00 AM - 12:00 PM**

*Lunch to follow*



Pastors, lay people, and the general public are cordially invited to attend all convocations in all regions. There is no charge, but we kindly ask you to register to have a count for materials and lunch preparation. Registration will close one week prior to each date. Use the QR code to register.

### DATES, TOPICS, AND REGIONS

**FRIDAY, MAY 31**

*Ecclesiology and the Future of the LCMS*  
(Hosted at Emanuel, Inver Grove Heights)

**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 20**

*Worship Theology and Practice*  
(Hosted at Glory of Christ, Plymouth)

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 18**

*Office of the Ministry & Routes to Ordination*  
(Hosted at Trinity, Rochester)

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25**

*Theology of the Practice of the Lord's Supper*  
(Hosted at St. Paul's, Fulda)



MOUNT OLIVE



LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Faith, which receives the “true riches” of heaven,  
exhibits itself in the conscientious use of worldly goods.  
“So if you have not been trustworthy in handling worldly  
wealth, who will trust you with true riches?” (Luke 16:11)

## 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

[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:** David Miller

**Vice President:** George Betts

**Recording Secretary:** Lindsey Eccles

**Treasurer:** Vacant

**Elders:** Arlee Mueller & Nate Betts

**Trustees:** Jim Merchant & Darryl Frederickson

**Directors:** Linda Verkennes, Harriet Gustafson and Michael Peterson

### Committees

**Education:** Arlee Mueller, Andrew Reinitz, Becca Boser, and  
Dawn Audette

**Finance - Secretary:** Shelley Frederickson, **Thank You Cards:** Rita  
Kaiser

**Outreach:** Vacant

**WeCAN Fellowship Representative:** Becca Boser

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

**Worship:** Sandi Woytcke and Jan Preble