

MOUNT OLIVET

# MESSENGER

*Believing, Belonging, Becoming*

*Mount Olivet Celebrates 100 Years!*



60th Anniversary Worship Service  
 Sunday, April 20  
 at 10:00 A.M.  
 Met Indoor Sports Center  
 Bloomington, MN  
*Is Marching On*  
 Pastor Youngdahl



50<sup>th</sup>  
 Anniversary  
 1920-1970  
 Mount Olivet  
 Lutheran Church  
 Minneapolis, Minnesota



[mtolivet.org](http://mtolivet.org)

# Join Us for Worship

**M** MINNEAPOLIS CAMPUS  
5025 KNOX AVE S  
MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55419  
612.926.7651

**W** WEST CAMPUS  
7150 ROLLING ACRES RD,  
VICTORIA, MN 55386  
952.767.1500

Sunday Holy Communion 8:30am and following the last service  
Sunday Morning Nursery 9, 10, 11am; Sunday School & Choir Sunday School 9 & 10am

## SUNDAY, JAN 5

### Epiphany

**M** 9, 10, 11am, 12noon

Sermon: **PASTOR MACLEAN**

Music: Senior & Cathedral Choirs; Heidi Amundson, violin

**W** 9, 10, 11am

Sermon: **PASTOR LOSE**

Music: Senior & Cathedral Choirs

## WEDNESDAY, JAN 8

**M** 11am service— followed by a Community Lunch,  
\$6, no reservation required

Sermon: **PASTOR FREEMAN**

## SUNDAY, JAN 12

### Anniversary Sunday

**M** 9, 10, 11am, 12noon

Sermon: **PASTOR LOSE**

Music: Senior, Cathedral, Chapel & Hosanna Choirs; Brass

**W** 9, 10, 11am

Sermon: **PASTOR DENNIS JOHNSON**

Music: Senior, Cathedral, Chapel & Hosanna Choirs; Brass

Join us on this festive morning, where we will celebrate the anniversary of Mount Olivet's first worship service. In 1920, 19 adults and 14 children worshiped on a cold Sunday in January. Their strength, perseverance, and faith are the reason Mount Olivet is preparing to enter its second century.

## ANNIVERSARY SUNDAY CELEBRATION

Su 1/12 after services, **M** Fellowship Hall **W** Atrium. What better way to celebrate the anniversary of Mount Olivet's first worship service than with donuts! Come grab a donut from the donut bars located at each campus, after you attend the special and festive service.



Look for more  
information about  
Mount Olivet's  
Centennial  
Celebration  
on pages 10  
through 15 of this  
Messenger.

## SUNDAY, JAN 19

**M** 9, 10, 11am, 12noon

Sermon: **PASTOR RUUD**

Music: Senior & Cathedral Choirs; Centennial Singers

**W** 9, 10, 11am

Sermon: **PASTOR DIXON**

Music: Senior & Cathedral Choirs

## SUNDAY, JAN 26

**M** 9, 10, 11am, 12noon

Sermon: **PASTOR LOSE**

Music: Gustavus Adolphus College Choir

**W** 9, 10, 11am

Sermon: **PASTOR KALLAND**

Music: Senior & Cathedral Choirs

## EPIPHANY COME AND SEE

Jan 5	Epiphany & the Arrival of the Magi	Matthew 2:7-15
Jan 12	The Report of Jesus' Baptism	John 1:29-34
Jan 19	Jesus' First Disciples	John 1:43-51
Jan 26	Wedding at Cana	John 2:1-11

**WATCH & LISTEN LIVE!** The **M** 11am Sunday morning worship service followed by **PASTOR TERRY MOREHOUSE'S** Faith Alive program is broadcast live at mtolivet.org and at WDG radio 740AM.

## ACCESSIBILITY & HEARING DEVICES

Both the Mpls and West Campus church sanctuaries are handicapped accessible. At Mpls, use the elevator located in the main entry to go to the sanctuary on the 2nd level. At West, enter through the main level doors to go to the sanctuary. Hearing devices also are available at the information desk in the narthexes at the Mpls and West Campuses.

**NURSERIES** for children 6wks to 3yrs are located next to Fellowship Hall on the lower level of both campuses. See times above. Questions: Amy Porthan amyp@mtolivet.org.



# A CAUSE FOR CELEBRATION

Henry Mitchell, a noted preacher, teacher, and historian of African American preaching, once said something in a lecture that has stayed with me ever since: “Over time, communities become what they celebrate.” Linger with that thought for a moment. What are the things we celebrate as a country, or community, or family, and how do those things that most receive our attention and adoration shape who we are?

I think that’s a good question to ponder with regard to our congregation as well, particularly as we lift up the 100th anniversary of Mount Olivet. Sunday, January 12, will be our Anniversary Sunday, one hundred years and one day after nineteen adults and fourteen children first gathered together to worship as the community that would soon become Mount Olivet Lutheran Church. But what, exactly, are we celebrating?

Is it the indomitable spirit of those who first gathered? Is it the many buildings – and capital campaigns that made those buildings possible – that have been home to this congregation? Is it the impact this congregation has had – and continues to have – through its many affiliated ministries? Is it the visionary pastoral and lay leadership that has guided the congregation for a century? Is it the multitudes of people who have called this church home and given generously of their time, talents, and money to make it what it is? Is it the lives changed through participation in the worship, learning, fellowship, and service opportunities to which this congregation is committed?

I would answer “yes!” to all of these possibilities and more. But I would also suggest one more, and even go so far as to say this is the central element of our celebration and thanksgiving: *God’s presence in, promises to, and work through Mount Olivet Lutheran Church.* God is present in this church and has been from the beginning. If that were not true, we would not have flourished and grown. Before, above, and beyond all else, Mount Olivet is a place where people encounter – and are encountered by – the God of love and grace we know through Jesus Christ. Similarly, we gather each week grateful for, and trusting in, the promises that God makes to us in Christ: that we are accepted and loved as we are and that God will hold us close and bring us through all things, even death into new life. Finally, we give thanks for and celebrate God’s intention to use all of who we are and what we have to serve God’s children

and world. The Church never exists for itself, but rather reflects God’s love for the world by making that love tangible through care, compassion, and service.

We have much to celebrate at Mount Olivet. And I think it’s vital that we keep God’s presence and promises at the center of our celebrations because this is what enables and empowers everything else and shapes who we are as a people. I suspect that the folks who first gathered at the Iverson farmhouse on that cold Sunday in January of 1920 to form Mount Olivet Church could never have imagined what we are today: a church of more than 15,000 Christians worshipping at two campuses; the owner and operator of a conference and retreat center to the south and beloved camp to the north; a sponsor of ministries that care for the elderly, for the young, for those with disabilities, for those struggling with mental illness, and for those who are dying; a gathering space for budding musicians and seasoned teachers; the host to lutefisk suppers and holiday boutiques, car aficionados, circles, and quilters; a partner with social service groups throughout the Twin Cities; and so much more.

At the same time, they also could not have imagined that by the close of the decade the nation would be plunged into an economic depression the likes of which had never been seen. Nor could they have imagined that “the war to end all wars” that had just recently ended would prove to be only the prelude to a second, and more devastating, world war. They could not have imagined any number of other challenges that would come their way, and yet they persevered and eventually flourished. Why? Because God was in the midst, making and keeping promises and using them to serve their community.

Just so, we cannot predict what opportunities and challenges will come our way. But we move into the future confident that God is still with us, that God is still making and keeping promises, and that God is still at work in and through us for the sake of the world God loves so much. And that, my beloved people of Mount Olivet, is cause for celebration!

*Pastor Lose*

DAVID J. LOSE, SENIOR PASTOR



# Life & Growth

NOV 15 - DEC 16

## Baptisms

William Gabriel Patrick Allen, son of Amanda and Benjamin  
 Louis Martin Bares, son of Alissa and Matthew  
 Eloise Elizabeth Beitlich, daughter of Lauren and Eric  
 Gus Charles Christiansen, son of Cari and Cole  
 Lane David Fronek, son of Kimberly and Todd  
 Soren Benjamin Hanson, son of Melissa and Ben  
 Autumn Maurer Iversrud, daughter of Michelle and Robert  
 Rowan Knox Martin, son of Jenna and Ryan  
 Theodore Allen Meredith, son of Bree and Ian  
 Bjorn Daniel Miller, son of Danielle and Eric  
 Blake Audrey Moran, daughter of Sara and Tom  
 Remi Adalyn Schrag, daughter of Alicia and Nicholas  
 Henry Thomas Shabino, son of Allison and Patrick  
 Maxwell James Singh, son of Marcie and Harpreet  
 Harpreet Singh

## Weddings

Karyn Ostrem & Seth Vander Kooy,  
 November 16

## Deaths

Edna G. Anderson, 1926 – 2019  
 Andrejs Austrums, 1939 – 2019  
 Franklin Biffle, 1932 – 2019  
 Bruce F. Boje, 1948 – 2019  
 Elizabeth K. Dudley, 1932 – 2019  
 Margaret Gudmundson, 1926 – 2019  
 Jack C. Guldborg, 1946 – 2019  
 Donna J. Meese, 1948 – 2019  
 Robert H. Petersen, 1921 – 2019  
 Katherine G. Thomas, 1931 – 2019  
 Ozzie Way, 1933 – 2019



## Epiphany – Come and See!

One of the repeated invitations Jesus makes to all kinds of people across the pages of St. John's Gospel is "Come and See." It is an invitation and promise all rolled into one, as those who come and see are then introduced to a level of acceptance and grace that is as life-giving as it is surprising. Across January we will be immersed into some of these early and significant stories.

Before jumping into John, however, we take a brief and meaningful detour into St. Matthew's Gospel on **January the 5th**, as he relates the story of the magi — first-century Persian astrologers and philosophers who are the first to "come and see," as they are guided by a star to discover and worship the newborn king in Bethlehem. This is the second year that we will celebrate the **Festival of Epiphany** on the day our choirs and Sunday school classes return and activities at church resume their normal flow after the holidays. Our celebration will again feature the Three Kings of Matthew's story at both campuses, and after their appearance in worship they'll also visit our Sunday School children.

*A question to ponder: what guides you as you navigate this life, and how might Mount Olivet help you follow the light that guides us to God's grace?*

**On January 12th**, we celebrate **Anniversary Sunday**, one hundred years and one day after fourteen children and nineteen adults first gathered at the Iverson homestead to worship together in what would become Mount Olivet Lutheran Church. Our story that day from St. John's Gospel is all about John the Baptist. Except in John's Gospel, he never baptizes Jesus! Instead, he serves as a witness to Jesus' anointing by the Holy Spirit and his identity as the Son of God.

*One question this story prompts: in what ways do we witness to the grace we've experienced in Christ, and what might we do to share our faith and love of church with others?*

Jesus calls his first disciples in the story we hear from John on **January 19th**. Some are eager and interested and follow quickly. Others are slower to respond. And still others are downright skeptical that this guy from Nazareth can possibly be the promised Messiah. Which is kind of neat, as today there are still all kinds of responses to Jesus — quick, slow, doubtful, skeptical, and more. And yet Jesus calls us all and waits with patience and grace for our response.

*What, we might ask, holds us back from answering Jesus' call, and what difference does it make to know Jesus will wait, continuing always to invite us into a deeper experience of grace?*

**On January 26**, we hear of Jesus' first "miracle" — John likes to call them "signs." Interestingly, it is not casting out demons or feeding thousands, but rather something that initially feels more mundane: turning water into wine at a wedding. But wine, in the ancient world, was a sign of blessing, and so the story highlights that as long as Jesus is on the scene, God's blessings are abundant and without end.

*As we hear this story, we might wonder where we've experienced God's abundance and blessing in our lives, and how we might help others to see God at work blessing them.*



## DEVOTIONS

I think we sometimes forget about Epiphany. Maybe it's because we have such a huge cultural emphasis on Christmas that everything around it gets diminished. Maybe it's because Christmas seems to start earlier and earlier every year, so by the time we get through New Year's we just don't have much left in the tank. Or perhaps it's because the moral of the Epiphany story is not as clear as Christmas. At Christmas we celebrate the incarnation, the birth of God in human form. God in Christ Jesus has come to live among us as one of us in order to perfectly love us. At Epiphany we celebrate...what?

Epiphany is, quite simply, the first chapter of the new story. On this festival day, we celebrate the irresistible spread of the Christmas story. Before email, before Twitter, the Three Wise Men of Matthew 2 (or the Three Kings, or the Magi) knew of Christ's birth because this good news was written across the heavens. We celebrate that God revealed Jesus to the nations from the very first. And we celebrate that this, along with Christmas, reveals more about who God is. Our God is one who chooses to take on our form, take on the burdens and pains and limits of our reality. And our God is one who transforms that reality by setting us free from those burdens and pains and limitations. Epiphany reminds us that this God is also one who insists on sharing this new reality with every nation. — PASTOR DIXON



## THANK YOU MOUNT OLIVET MEMBERS AND FRIENDS!

Thank you for your strong support of Mount Olivet and its ministries for 2019. Thousands of lives were enhanced and transformed through spiritual education, pastoral care, music ministry, youth programming, community outreach, and more because of your support. We are grateful to you for fulfilling your annual and capital campaign pledges and giving memorials and other gifts throughout the year. We also appreciate the thousands of volunteer hours given so freely. Your contributions of all shapes and sizes make a difference! We promise to be good stewards of your generosity, and thank you for your continued support in 2020 and beyond.

— Your Mount Olivet Pastors and Staff

### Are You a Qualified Thrivent Choice Donor?

Use Your Thrivent Choice Dollars to Make a Difference for your church! Thrivent Financial distributes charitable grant funds. Their benefit members can recommend how those grant funds are distributed. Benefit members are 16 years or older who meet membership eligibility, have been admitted for membership, and have a qualified connection to a Thrivent Financial insurance or annuity product.

If you are a benefit member, go to [thrivent.com/thriventchoice](http://thrivent.com/thriventchoice), click on "Get Started," then click "Direct Thrivent Choice Dollars." After you log in, you can select the organization you wish to receive your Choice Dollars. Mount Olivet Lutheran Church is included in the listing of eligible organizations. Or, by phone at 800.847.4836, when prompted say "Thrivent Choice," then press 1 to direct your Choice Dollars.

Consider using this easy way to contribute to your church! Thank you!

## Daily Readings

### January 2020

FROM PASTOR KALLAND

- 1 Deuteronomy 31:8-9, Never Leave You
- 2 Joshua 1:9-10, Where Ever You Go
- 3 Psalm 23:4, Thou Art With Me
- 4 Psalm 27:1, My Light and My Salvation
- 5 Psalm 86:17, Helped Me and Comforted Me
- 6 Psalm 119:76, Unfailing Love
- 7 Psalm 9:9, Refuge and Stronghold
- 8 Psalm 46:1, Ever-present Help
- 9 Psalm 116:48-52, Your Promise
- 10 Lamentations 3:31-62, Uphold My Cause
- 11 John 14:16-17, Will Be With You
- 12 John 14:26-27, My Peace I Give You
- 13 Colossians 3:13, Forgive One Another
- 14 Matthew 6:14-15, If You forgive
- 15 Luke 17:3-4, Watch Yourselves
- 16 Ephesians 4:31-32, Be Kind and Compassionate
- 17 1 John 1:9, Will Forgive Us
- 18 Isaiah 43:25-26, Let Us Argue Together
- 19 Acts 3:19, Repent and Turn to God
- 20 Isaiah 1:18, Let Us Settle The Matter
- 21 2 Corinthians 5:17, New Creation
- 22 Ephesians 1:7, The Riches of God's Grace
- 23 Hebrews 10:17, Remember No More
- 24 Daniel 9:9, Merciful and Forgiving
- 25 Colossians 1:13-14, Redemption and Forgiveness
- 26 Psalm 103:12, As Far As East Is From The West
- 27 Numbers 14:19-21, In Accordance With Your Great Love
- 28 Micah 7:18-19, Who Is A God Like You?
- 29 Matthew 6:9-15, Deliver Us
- 30 Mark 11:25, Forgive Them
- 31 Matthew 26:28, For the Forgiveness of Sins



MOUNT OLIVET  
**Presents:**  
**An Evening with**  
**WILL STEGER**

**SUN, MAR 1, 5-7PM,**  
**M FELLOWSHIP HALL.**

Mount Olivet members and the community are invited to attend a power point presentation and dinner event with **WILL STEGER**, a world renowned explorer from Minnesota known for his numerous polar expeditions, deep understanding of the environment and his efforts to raise international awareness of environmental threats. He has traveled tens of thousands of miles over 50 years witnessing climate change and leading teams on significant polar expeditions.

Among his numerous awards, Will Steger became the National Geographic Society's first Explorer-in-Residence in 1996 and has authored four books as well as received several Honorary Doctorate degrees. Will founded two non-profits, the Will Steger Wilderness Center in Ely, MN and Climate Generation: A Will Steger Legacy dedicated to engaging educators, youth and communities in solutions to climate change. A limited number of autographed books will be available for sale or any of his books may be purchased online at Amazon.com.

Cost is \$15. Register online at [mtolivet.org](http://mtolivet.org).

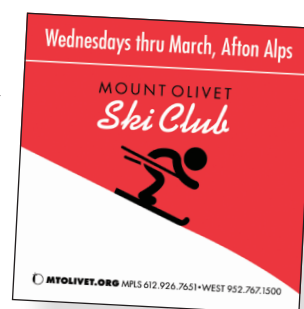
## FELLOWSHIP GROUPS

**Men's Breakfasts** *Tu 7am, The Hilltop Edina; Th 7am, American Legion Chanhassen.* Jan 7/8: **BIBLE STUDY**, Jan 14/16:

**MARILYN CORRIGAN** "Not everyone understands me...do I need a translator?" Marilyn Corrigan has over 25 years experience in the human resource development field. She was director of employee development and training for a major utility and worked 13 years in a high technology industry. She also was an adjunct faculty member at the University of St. Thomas for 15 years in the Executive MBA program. She currently teaches classes for the College of Continuing and Professional Studies for the University of Minnesota, Jan 21/23: **BIBLE STUDY**, Jan 28/30: **SPEAKER.**

**Ski Club** *W 1/8 through 3/25, 9am, Afton Alps 6600 Peller Ave S, Hastings.* Join the Mount Olivet Ski Club at Afton Alps Chalet on the 2nd floor at 9am on Wednesdays. Can't make it in the morning? Meet us for lunch at Paul's Restaurant at 12noon. **NEW THIS YEAR!** Afton Alps is requiring a "Mount Olivet Membership Card" to receive your discount on lift tickets/rentals.

Cards will be available for pick up at the Mpls Campus in the main office. Lift Tickets: Adults \$34. Rentals (ski, boots, poles, helmets, snowboards) \$26. These rates apply from 9:30am-9:30pm. **NEW TO THE GROUP?** Contact Katie Shepherd [kshepherd@mtolivet.org](mailto:kshepherd@mtolivet.org) to be added to the group list and to have a card made.



**Young Adult 3rd Tuesday** *Tu 1/21 7-8pm, Wooden Hill Brewery, 7421 Bush Lake Road, Edina.* If you find yourself free on Tuesdays join us for Young Adult 3rd Tuesdays! We will meet at Wooden Hill Brewery for our fourth 3rd Tuesday of the year! Come to hang out, get to know each other, and enjoy a brew. **PASTOR DIXON** will be there holding down the fort, look for him to find where Mount Olivet will be gathering together. Hope to see you there!



### Flying Solo @ Utepils

*Su 1/12 4-7pm, Utepils Brewing.* Let's get together this winter to play some board games, cards or pool. If you're hungry, we can order a pizza or check out the food trucks. Register at [mtolivet.org](http://mtolivet.org).

### Flying Solo: BINGO

*Su 2/9 1:30-5pm, Richfield VFW 6715 Lakeshore Dr, Richfield 55423.* Come join your friends for an afternoon of fellowship while winning big at BINGO. Register at [mtolivet.org](http://mtolivet.org).



# JOIN US AT MOUNT OLIVET

## Career & Calling Breakfast Winter 2020

W 1/22 7-9am, **M** Fellowship Hall. It's one thing to network. It's another to develop relationships that inspire your work, guide your career path, and expand your opportunities to share your strengths with the world. Our upcoming speaker **CATHY PAPER** asserts, "Relationships are everything. And building them requires a process." She will take us through a process for building relationship currency that fuels progress toward goals, expands leadership skills, and increases creativity. Join us for good food and conversation about how to take our networks from a loose list of connections to a mutually beneficial tribe that propels us to do our best work. Cost is \$10. Register at [mtolivet.org](http://mtolivet.org).



- 7:00 Opening prayer, breakfast buffet
- 7:30 Welcome
- 7:40 "Building Relationship Currency" presentation
- 8:15 Table conversations, Q&A
- 9:00 Program concludes

You have our blessing if you need to leave early. It's a work day, after all!

## Save the Date! MOCW Ladies' Night

M 3/9 6:30-8pm **W** Fellowship Hall. Save the Date for the Annual MOCW Ladies' Night. This year we will be taking the dinner to the West Campus where we will hear from our newest **PASTOR, REBECCA C. FREEMAN**. Men Serve at Ladies' Night-To volunteer, contact [mocwvolunteer@gmail.com](mailto:mocwvolunteer@gmail.com).

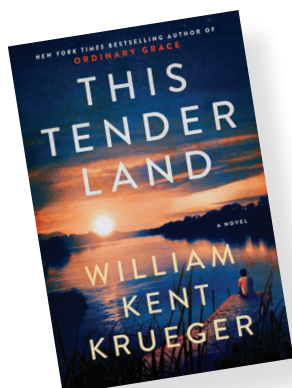


**Joy Circle Baby Kits** Throughout February, **M** Main Office **W** Narthex. Joy Circle is collecting baby items for Pastor Scott's On-Call Ministry. Donated items will be used to assemble "Baby Kits" for families in need. Items needed: new and gently used baby clothing (0-12mons only), diapers, wipes, baby lotion/shampoo, new and gently used books. Thank you for helping out this special ministry! Contact [fellowship@mtolivet.org](mailto:fellowship@mtolivet.org) if you have additional questions.

## Help Needed: Volunteer Team Leader for Careview Gift Shop

Mount Olivet Careview has a dedicated Gift Shop that is open daily to serve the residents, their families, staff, and volunteers. This is staffed 100% by volunteers and we need your help. We are seeking an individual to work in conjunction with our current two team leaders, who would like to take on a leadership role organizing the volunteers and handling a bit of training. The commitment would be 1-2 hours a week. If you are interested, please reach out to Jenny Nellis at 612.767.2247 or [fellowship@mtolivet.org](mailto:fellowship@mtolivet.org) for more information.

It takes a village for us to keep this wonderful outreach running and we could really use your help!



**Joy Circle Presents: An Evening with Author William Kent Krueger** W 2/12 doors open 6:30pm, program at 7pm **M** Main Sanctuary. Come listen to Award-Winning Author & The New York Times Bestselling Author of *Ordinary Grace*, he will discuss the journey that brought him to write *This Tender Land*, read the prologue, and end with Q & A. All congregation event, all are welcome to attend! Free will offering-donate to charitable organizations in the Native American community.



# 2020 ADULT LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

## BIBLE STUDIES

**Living the Message Pastor's Introduction** *Tu 1/7 & 2/11 6-6:45pm* **M** *Choir Rehearsal Hall*. Whether or not you participate in a Living the Message small group, you are welcome to join us at **PASTOR RUUD'S** introductions to each month's study. In Jan, we focus on John 9:1-41 to answer the question, *Who can see Jesus?* In Feb, John 11:1-44, *What does it mean that Jesus is the "Resurrection and the Life"?* These and all our monthly studies will take us deeper into key texts and themes in John, the Gospel on which our Sunday sermons will be based from now through May. Please come—you'll be glad you did.

**Wednesday/Thursday Word: 1, 2, 3 John** *W 1/15, 1/22, 1/29, 2/12, 2/19 10:30am-12noon* (small group 10:30-11am; Pastor presentation 11am-12noon), **M** *Rm 207*; *Th 1/16, 1/23, 1/30, 2/6, 2/13 10-11:30am* **W** *Rm 228/229*. These epistles are moving, loving, pastoral responses meant to rally the faithful in the churches of Asia Minor who were facing many threats to their existence. These were churches John had tended and encouraged for many years. Now, knowing his own life is fading, he urges his "children" to continue to confess Christ as the Son of God and hold fast to the hope and promise for this life and the life to come that they have been given through Christ's death and resurrection. Join the Mount Olivet Pastors Wednesday in Mpls or Thursday at West for this inspiring study. Register at [mtolivet.org](http://mtolivet.org). Donations given in class.

**Sundays & Tuesdays Together: So That You May Have Life** *Su 1/12 through 2/9 10-11:30am*, **W** *Rm 133/134*; *Tu 1/14 through 2/11 7-8:30pm* **M** *Rm 207*. Come and encounter Jesus in the Gospel of John so that "believing you may have life in his name" (John 20:31). This five-week class, led by **REV. DR. THERESA LATINI**, Executive Director of Mount Olivet Conference & Retreat Center, will explore the distinct themes in John's depiction of Jesus' origins, his life on earth, death, and resurrection. Special attention will be given to Jesus' relationships with Nicodemus (a religious leader), the Samaritan woman (a foreigner and outcast), Lazarus (a dead friend), Thomas (a skeptical disciple), Mary Magdalene (the first witness to the resurrection), and the unnamed Beloved Disciple. Donation given in class.

## ONGOING GROUPS

- **Chair Holy Yoga** *M&W except holidays 12:15-1:15pm*, **M** *Gym*, *F except holidays 10-11am* **W** *228/229*. A great physical and spiritual boost to your day that does not require getting down and up from the floor, yet greatly improves balance, strength, and flexibility. Connect, exercise, have fun, and meditate on Jesus' love! Taught by certified instructors. \$5 paid to instructor.
- **Spiritual Energy Healing** *M except holidays 6-8pm*, **M** *Rm 457*. Learn and experience how prayer, God's power, and the natural energy paths within the body can bring comfort and healing.
- **LGBTQ Voice and Verse** *2nd Tu 6-7pm* **M** *208*. Join **PASTOR RUUD** and others for this educational opportunity of communal study in love, support, and continued understanding of all aspects of gender identity and sexual orientation in faithful life together. Through shared experience, discussion, and learning, the gathering seeks to build mutual awareness and insight in this particular reality of faith and life toward honor and love for all.

## BOOK DISCUSSIONS

- **Evening Book Discussion** *2nd W 7-8:30pm*, **M** *Library*. Books: *Turtles All the Way Down* by John Green (1/8), *The Sympathizer* by Viet Thanh Nguyen (2/12).
- **Midday Book Discussion** *3rd Tu 11:30am-1pm*, **M** *Library*. Books: *Hour of the Bees* by Lindsay Eager (1/21), *Dear Father, Dear Son* by Larry Elder (2/18). Bring a bag lunch if you wish; all are welcome to join us! Facilitated by Church Librarian Chelle Urabe.



# MOUNT OLIVET CONFERENCE AND RETREAT CENTER



**Women's Weekend 2020: Daring to Hope!** 4pm F 1/24 through 12pm Su 1/26, Mount Olivet Conference & Retreat Center. When sorrows swirl around us and loss seems inevitable, when we despair for the future and the only certainty seems uncertainty, God whispers in our hearts, reminding us to dare to hope. Hope cradles us in God's love and promise. Hope reminds us that we are not alone. How, though, do we keep the turbulence in our hearts, and in the world, from drowning out God's whisper? Where do we look to be reminded of God's goodness and lovingkindness? Come explore these questions at the Mount Olivet Conference & Retreat Center with a group of fun, insightful women. Plan to spend time walking in the woods, relaxing in the whirlpool, scheduling a massage (extra cost), or quietly meditating. Led by **PASTOR HAMMERSTEN** and **PASTOR FREEMAN** and Retreat Center **DIRECTOR THERESA LATINI**. Register at [mtolivet.org](http://mtolivet.org).

## SAVE THE DATE!

### Day Lenten Journey: Dare to Pray!

Tuesday, 3/3 at the Mount Olivet Conference & Retreat Center.

\$20 Registration with additional \$5 for bus transportation.

### Retreat: Dare to Lead!

Monday, 8/10 through Wednesday, 8/12 at the Mount Olivet Conference & Retreat Center. Featuring Rev. Sarah Ciavarri

### Blood Drive (16yrs+)

Tu 1/28 2:30-6:30pm, **M** Parking Lot; W 1/29 2:30-6:30pm, **W** Parking Lot. There will be a blood drive hosted by Mount Olivet, facilitated/managed by Memorial Blood Centers. Blood donations will be collected in their free standing "bloodmobiles." Every day, blood donors help patients of all ages: accident and burn victims, heart surgery and organ transplant patients, premature babies and those battling chronic illness. In fact, every two seconds, someone in the U.S. needs blood. Mount Olivet Lutheran Church will host blood drives this January during National Blood Donor Month at both campuses! Minneapolis campus on Tuesday, January 28th 2:30-6:30 pm & West Campus Wednesday, January 29th 2:30-6:30 pm. Reserve your appointment slot today by visiting [www.mbc.org/searchdrives](http://www.mbc.org/searchdrives) and enter sponsor code 0313 for Minneapolis and sponsor code 3345 for West. Thank you for giving the gift of life! Questions, or to register by phone, contact Sarah Prescher RN, Parish Nurse 612.767.2235

# PASTORAL Care EVENTS

### Young in Heart & Friends (65yrs+)

Tu 1/28 12noon, **M** Fellowship Hall. Featuring music by **SATIN JAZZ**. \$9 and donation to Pastor Scott's On Call Ministry. Friends welcome! Register by 1/24: 612.926.7651

### Make Your Wishes Known (18 and Older)

Sa 2/8 8:45-10:30am, **W** Gronseth Fellowship Hall. Join us at the West Campus to hear Annette Langdon, Advanced Care Planning Liaison and ELCA Deacon with Fairview M Health, share how easy it is to make your final wishes known. Annette will guide us through the MN Health Care Directive, answer any questions and help make this process easy. Staff from our Mount Olivet Affiliates will share what they can offer regarding end of life. A Notary will also be available. Register by 2/7 at [mtolivet.org](http://mtolivet.org) or contact Julie Goodman, [julieg@mtolivet.org](mailto:julieg@mtolivet.org) or 612.767.2208.

## Mount Olivet's Early Beginnings



As we continue to celebrate the 100th anniversary of Mount Olivet we are discovering a rich history of music, service, education, growth, inspiration and loyalty. God's work in and through our congregation is even more apparent when we consider the humble beginnings launched by the faith and fellowship of four families.

A century ago those families – 20 adults and 23 children – signed the charter to become Mount Olivet Lutheran Church. In the early days, monthly meetings were held in the homes of members, and the minutes were written in beautiful longhand. Worship moved to the vacant Iverson farmhouse, and in September of 1920 the founders decided to start advertising church services in the local newspapers. By Christmas 1921, Mount Olivet had grown enough to have its first choir, accompanied on the organ by Hazel Andresen, who was just fourteen years old.

The first new sanctuary was constructed at 53rd and Lyndale in 1923 at a cost of \$3,000 – \$45,000 in today's dollars. That year also marked the formation of Mount Olivet's Luther League, a youth ministry with chapters in Lutheran churches across the nation. In 1924 three young people became the first confirmation class led by Reverend G. P. Williams, the first pastor called to Mount Olivet.

From these early beginnings to today's vibrant congregation and programs, we have much to celebrate over the life and growth of our church, thanks to God's presence in the people and ministries of Mount Olivet. We encourage you to reflect and give thanks to God for what Mount Olivet means to you!

*"I remember how the church grew, a few members at a time. We didn't take in more than one or two families at a time and, my, but they were welcome!"*

*"On Christmas and Easter, of course, the church was filled, and the janitor would go down into the basement and put up supports so the floor wouldn't give way."*

*"Mount Olivet history is still in the making. If you pause to look at the magnificent church building with its cross lifted to the sky, it seems impossible that it all started in an old frame building with 43 members."*

~ Margaret Serley Budding  
Charter member of Mount Olivet



## Who Is Serley?



### DID YOU KNOW?

The Minneapolis campus has two chapels flanking the main sanctuary. One is named for Pastor Reuben K. Youngdahl and the other for Olaf Serley (both pictured above). Mr. Serley was a business man and charter member of Mount Olivet, and the leader of the group who took the initiative to get a new Lutheran church for south Minneapolis.

His son, also named Olaf, was only six years old when the church was organized, and he was the last living charter member who was still active at Mount Olivet when he died in 1990. His sister Margaret chronicled her childhood memories of the harmony and warm spirit of the church's first decade (see left).

The chapel named for the senior Serley honors all those pioneers who faithfully gave heart, mind, soul, and sweat that we might have the blessings of Mount Olivet today.

## Norwegian? Swedish?

In Minnesota, the land of strong opinions about lefse and lutefisk, there is a friendly rivalry between Norwegians and Swedes that is still alive and well today (as any St. Olaf or Gustavus grad will admit). These cultural affiliations were even more pronounced at the time of Mount Olivet's formation in 1920, given the heavy immigration pattern from both countries to the Midwest, not to mention the relatively recent establishment of Norway's independence from Sweden in 1905. From language to food to social circles to church, one's country of origin played a defining role.

So it might be surprising that Mount Olivet, a proudly Swedish Lutheran church, was almost a member of the Norwegian synod. Of the first four families that came together to worship in the Richfield district of Minneapolis, two hailed from Norway. They led the infant congregation to first approach the Norwegian Lutheran Church for help establishing a new congregation in the area, a request that was turned down. Augustana Lutheran Synod, a Swedish American entity, recognized the need for another church in this area of the Twin Cities and offered its guidance and leadership to developing Mount Olivet.

## English? Evangelical?

Adding more ambiguity to the cultural heritage of our congregation, the original name was Mount Olivet English Lutheran Church, a nod to the language used for worship services. In light of WWI, U.S. immigrants experienced increasing pressure to demonstrate loyalty to their new country. Native tongues were spoken in some homes, and some early church records were written in Swedish, but cultural heritage was secondary to keeping their Lutheran faith alive in the new country.

Today an observant eye might notice a stone on our Minneapolis church building that reads "Mount Olivet Evangelical Church." Martin Luther's early followers were called "Evangelicals," a term derived from the Greek word for "gospel," due to Luther's emphasis on Jesus' good news that we are loved and saved not by our good works but by God's gift of faith.

As Shakespeare put it, a rose by any other name would smell as sweet. What matters more than our cultural roots or descriptive adjectives is our recognition of God's glory and grace, our love for Jesus and our neighbors, and our openness to the Holy Spirit working in us and through us. Mount Olivet is more than a name, a building, a centennial milestone. It is a community of believers dedicated to loving and serving God together. Thanks be to God!



## Booming Metropolis, Blossoming Church

Minneapolis, situated along the Mississippi River near fertile farmland, grew quickly thanks to the flour milling industry that reached its peak around 1916. Though the Great Depression slowed development in the 1930s, growth resumed after World War II as soldiers returned home and started families. The city's population, measured at 200,000 in 1900, climbed to 520,000 residents by 1950.

Streetcars fueled residential development in the emerging inner-ring suburbs as businesses and families moved away from the urban core. Nearby Richfield was the fastest growing of all the Minneapolis suburbs, with its population bursting 363% between 1940 and 1950. Like the rest of mid-century Midwestern America, southwest Minneapolis neighborhoods and nearby suburbs saw a dramatic increase in the number and size of its schools, churches, synagogues and shopping

centers. Organizations and religious congregations served an important role in bringing people together and welcoming them to their new neighborhoods.

Mount Olivet, near the Minneapolis border with Richfield, was nicely situated to serve as a church home for the flourishing neighborhood. With a senior pastor who had a passion for door-knocking and relationship building, many people found themselves warmly welcomed into the congregation within days of moving into the area. It was more than an invitation to worship, however. It was powerful encouragement to become active in the church's ministries. So the people came, they got involved, and they stayed in this vibrant, impactful community. They heard about God's love and grace Sunday mornings, and they lived out that Christian welcome and service, building a faith congregation that now numbers more than 15,000 baptized people.



*This 1923 downtown glimpse of Nicollet Avenue highlights the city's hustle and bustle.*

*Thanks to one of the best intercity streetcar systems in the nation, growth continued out to the city's edges and suburbs in the 1940s.*



*"Big things come to those who plan and pray for big things. Mount Olivet has a big program ahead and we rejoice that the spirit of Mount Olivet is such that everyone is willing to do his part where God has placed them."*

*~ Dr. Frank Nelson,  
10th Anniversary keynote speaker*



## Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow



*The 25th anniversary celebration featured a banquet dinner downtown at the Nicollet Hotel on Thursday, May 3, 1945. This photo captures just a fraction of the congregants who gathered for fellowship at this mile marker.*

*To celebrate the 50th anniversary, the congregation came together for a special dinner at the Minneapolis Auditorium on Friday, April 24th. Pastor Paul H. A. Noren and Pastor Paul M. Youngdahl show off a sheet cake featuring the various church homes for the congregation through the decades.*



### Join the 100th Celebration!

Sunday, January 12  
during regular services

Sunday, November 15  
at Orchestra Hall  
9 & 11am

We hope you will join us for special worship opportunities to praise God for the many blessings we receive at, in, and through our church home. Help us make more history as we give thanks for God's continuing inspiration and ministry through Mount Olivet.





# MOUNT OLIVET CELEBRATES THROUGH MUSIC AND ART



Some years ago, historian Thomas Cahill wrote a cleverly titled and thought-provoking book, *How the Irish Saved Civilization*. His major point was that in the darkest years of the middle ages, it was the church – and especially the monasteries of Ireland – that continued to create, preserve, and save great works of art. From paintings to illuminated manuscripts, the Irish church founded by St. Patrick became a repository of the best of Western culture when so much of Europe was being overrun by barbarians. And when Europe emerged from the “dark ages,” it was the light of the Irish church that led the way.

Sometimes I think today’s Church is called to a similar task. The Church has for centuries, of course, commissioned great art. From Michelangelo’s frescoes to Handel’s “Messiah,” the Church has for centuries cultivated and sponsored art that both shares the faith and promotes beauty. But in recent years, as the church at large has struggled and the culture has moved away from classical art, the role of the church to promote both the faith and artistry has never

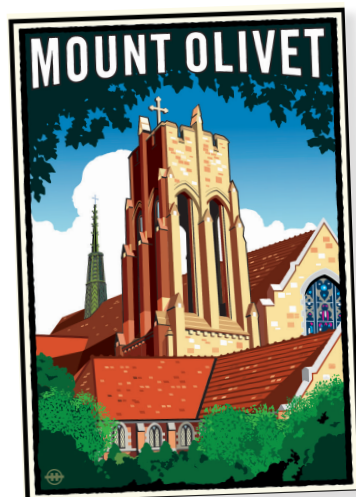
been more important. Lutherans have historically been at the forefront of that movement.

Consider for just a moment, the proud choral traditions – and Christmas concerts! – of our Lutheran colleges. We believe God is delighted by beautiful things and that art continues to both ennoble the soul and provide an opportunity to learn about and experience God’s grace.

In that tradition, as part of our Centennial celebration Mount Olivet and devoted members of our church have commissioned five choral works and several pieces of artwork to give voice to our love of our church and our faith, make it easier to share that love with others, and be enriched by the beauty of these pieces.

First, the musical compositions, selected to highlight Mount Olivet’s love of congregational singing and our remarkable choirs for all age levels.

1. World-renowned composer and conductor of The Concordia Choir, René Clausen, has composed a special arrangement of the beloved hymn “Great is Thy Faithfulness” for choir and congregation. René is a longtime friend of Mount Olivet, having brought the Concordia College Choir here on many occasions, and we hope he will be able to conduct this piece at our culminating Centennial Worship service at Orchestra Hall next November.
2. Emmy Award-winning composer, Steve Heitzeg, is creating an acapella anthem based on a Dag Hammarskjöld text for the Senior Choir. Steve, a graduate of Gustavus College, came to Mount Olivet last spring to see and hear the choir before starting his work and we are excited to see how he combines two prayers by Dag Hammarskjöld, the Swedish diplomat, Secretary General of the United Nations, and life-long Lutheran.



3. John Leavitt, a prolific composer who has also been at Mount Olivet many times as a guest conductor, composer, and organist, is working on an anthem for our Cathedral Choir. The composition will be based on a Scripture passage that we hope our young people will commit to memory and take with them throughout their lives.
4. Mark Patterson, a well-known choral composer, is setting selected scripture passages into an anthem with piano accompaniment for our Chapel Choir (4th–6th grades) which we know will inspire them and us.
5. As shared in the December Messenger and debuted at our Christmas Concert, we were delighted with the winning entry of our first-ever Christmas Carol competition and thrilled that the winning composer was John Widen, life-long member of Mount Olivet and current member of the Senior Choir.



Second, two recognized artists have been engaged thus far to help us see and appreciate our beloved church.

“Mount Olivet Evening” is by renowned water-color painted John Salminen. Known particularly for his urban landscapes, Salminen has received more than 200 awards for his artwork and has been featured in more than thirty



single-artist exhibitions. His painting evokes a sense of the warmth of Mount Olivet fellowship and hangs in the main hallway of the Minneapolis Campus across from the Church Lounge.

Mark Herman, the graphic designer behind the well-known “Minnesota Landmark Series” – featuring iconic sites such as the Boundary Waters, Lake Harriet, Fort Snelling, and more – has created a “Mount Olivet Series” of graphic designs that are available in prints. So far, we have seen his day and night renderings of the Minneapolis Campus, a landscape of the new West Campus, and his “Christmas at Mount Olivet.” More prints, featuring Cathedral of the Pines, are coming!

We are delighted by the opportunity to lift up the ministry and legacy of Mount Olivet, promote the arts in our community, and continue the tradition of combining faith and art in meaningful ways. We are also grateful to all those who have contributed generously to make these commissions possible! - PASTOR LOSE



## CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION SAVE THE DATES!

### Feed My Starving Children Mobilepack Event, Sat Mar 7, WEST CAMPUS

FMSC is a Christian non-profit organization committed to feeding God's children hungry in body and spirit. The approach is simple—volunteers hand pack meals specifically formulated for malnourished children, and the meals are shipped to distribution partners. This effort requires **500 VOLUNTEERS OVER 3 SHIFTS IN JUST ONE DAY!** Please prayerfully consider volunteering your time and/or financially contributing to this event. To honor our 100 Year Celebration our goal is **100,000 meals**.

**VOLUNTEER - REGISTER** at [mtolivet.org](http://mtolivet.org)

**Fri, Mar 6:**

**SET UP** 4pm - 6pm

**Sat, Mar 7:**

**PACK FOOD (3 SHIFTS!)** 9-11am\*, 12noon-2pm, 2:30pm-4:30pm

**CLEAN UP** 4:30pm- 6:30pm

\*Nursery will be provided for children 0-5. Children 6+ welcome during any shift.

### DONATE FINANCIALLY

**GIVE ONLINE** at <http://give.fmssc.org/mtolivet>.

- Invest \$50 for one box of food (216 meals)
- Donate \$80 and a child will eat for an entire year
- Give \$10 for a family of 4 for a week



**A Night Out With Mount Olivet**  
**5/28/2020 at The Hutton**  
**House**

Come raise a glass to Mount Olivet in celebration of 100 years! Your \$30 ticket will get you in the door, nosh on heavy apps, play some yard games, and take a memorable photo in the photo booth. Cash bar and valet parking will also be available. This is a 21+ event.



## Mount Olivet Preschool Registration Opens 1/31!

Join Mount Olivet Preschool for it's 50th year! Online registration opens on Friday, January 31st, 2020 for the 20-21 school year.



## MLK Day Away! (1st-4th Gr)

*M 1/20 8:30am-4:30pm bus from MPLS & WEST.* We've planned a great day at the Retreat Center- sledding, swimming, and more! Invite your friends! Please dress for the weather - outdoor gear, and suit/towel for swimming. \$35 includes activities, transportation and lunch! Register at [mtolivet.org](http://mtolivet.org).

## Parent Share (Winter Session)

*W 1/8 through 2/26 9:30-11am M Rm 199.* Parents Share, now in its forty-first year, is a gathering of parents, who bring their current parenting issues and gather the wisdom and experience of all of the parents who attend. Marilyn Sharpe, Mount Olivet member and certified parent educator, facilitates the group. Each session will include one topic identified by the group during the first week and prepared and presented by Marilyn during the first half hour of the last seven sessions. The final hour will be filled with the topics being lived by participants. Nursery provided by Mount Olivet and limited to the first eight children.

## Musikgarten (Birth-5yrs & Caregivers)

*6/23-8/5, M Rm 393.*

TUESDAYS	WEDNESDAYS
9:30-10am, Birth-3yrs	9:30-10am, 3-5yrs
10:15-10:45am, Birth-3yrs	10:15-10:45am, Birth-3yrs
11-11:30am, 3-5yrs	11-11:30am, Birth-3yrs
6:15-6:45pm, Birth-3yrs	

Children from birth-age 5 and caregivers have the opportunity to sing, dance, and play simple instruments such as rhythm sticks, shakers, jingles and drums. Our licensed Musikgarten teachers will help your child develop listening skills, focused attention, imagination, creativity and self-expression. Cost is \$60 per child; 50% sibling discount offered. Registration open 1/13 at [mtolivet.org](http://mtolivet.org).



## Babygarten: A Weekly Preliteracy Program for Infants & Toddlers

*Th 1/9 through 2/13 10-11am, M Rm 296.* A weekly faith based program for infants and toddlers focused on preliteracy skills through story, song, prayer and art. Facilitated by Amy Porthan, Children and Family Faith Formation Coordinator. \$72. For more information contact, Amy Porthan, 612.767.2224, [amyp@mtolivet.org](mailto:amyp@mtolivet.org).



## Open Gym (1-6yrs & Caregivers)

*Sa 1/11, 2/8, 3/7 9-11am, M Gym.* Come run, jump, and play with our Nursery Coordinator, **SAM BALZER** as she continues the Open Gym fun! Designed for children ages 1-6 and their parents. \$5/ family at the door. No registration.

## Angst Documentary Screening

*Su 2/23 6:30-8pm M.* Mount Olivet is hosting a screening of Angst, a documentary centered around the experience of living with anxiety. Throughout the documentary, along with personal testimony from youth, mental health experts provide background information and parents weigh in. Viewers leave with a better understanding of what anxiety is, how it can affect people, and ways we can help others suffering with anxiety. Please register at [mtolivet.org](http://mtolivet.org). FREE because of a generous gift from a Mount Olivet member.

## NEW! Mindfulness Retreat

*Sa 3/28 9am-1pm, Mount Olivet Conference & Retreat Center.* Parents and children are welcome to join us at the Mount Olivet Retreat Center for a morning focused on Mindfulness as a way to manage anxiety and stress in our daily lives. Look for more information in the February Messenger, and save the date for this meaningful retreat. Lunch will be included. Cost is \$20 per adults, \$15 per child, Max of \$50 per family.

# A Past, Present, and Future Look at the Youth Office



## Cindy Johnson, High School Youth Director 1978 – 1983

I consider serving as a Youth Director at Mount Olivet one of the greatest blessings of my life. Perhaps I understood the difference the MO youth programs can make in young people's lives because of the profound difference it made in me as a rather lost young person. In my time there, the staff grew from one to five. Our days were filled with preparing for the programs offered to youth: Hi-League on Sunday nights, which was attended by more than 100 youth; Lock-Ins, retreats, teaching confirmation and outreach. It was incredible to watch youth and adults making a difference in the lives of others. Forty youth boarded a bus every Monday and went to Rolling Acres to work with residents. The seniors were part of a group we called "Outreach" who led devotions, did skits for Hi-league on important topics and called on new 9th graders, inviting them to attend programs. Perhaps the reason this was the most gratifying position I ever held was that I was able to witness first hand the love of God working through others to change the lives of young people in profound ways.

## Geoff Arenson, Director of Youth Ministry

Mount Olivet's Youth Ministry is a place that made a difference in my life growing up. I went to Valley View Middle School and Edina High School and very much enjoyed my time there, but the place that I felt most valued & loved was at the community of Mount Olivet Lutheran Church. Many strong pastors, youth leaders and supporting adults have helped each of us on the current Youth Staff in our joys and struggles with our faith and life — past, present and to the future. Our programming consists of Confirmation & Choir, Hi-League, Junior High Alive, Circle of Friends, MO United, Adopt-a-Grandparent, Sunday Serve, MO Hoops, Sacred Ground, Cathedral Choir Pumpkin Patch, Cathedral Choir Trips, 7th Grade Confirmation Retreats, and of course, Cathedral of the Pines. Currently we try to focus Ministry on Faith, Community, Service, and Leadership. Having strong programming is a direct reflection of the passion, energy, and love of each ministry team working together with each other to create fun and meaningful events. Overall, central to Mount Olivet's youth programming is walking alongside our youth through their faith journey and helping them toward positive friendships with their church peers.

## Robin Moody, Hi-League President (MPLS)

Most people in my age group don't have a church home, or at least not one they love like those at Mount Olivet do. While sometimes getting up for choir at 7:00am on a Sunday morning feels impossible, it's always worth it when you see the smiles of the congregation. Volunteering can be seen as something you do to get into your dream college, but it becomes a fun Monday night with a new companion at Circle of Friends. Going to a summer camp for the first time can be terrifying, but the loving staff of Cathedral of the Pines supports each camper in having a successful week. The Youth Leaders and high schoolers at Mount Olivet make church another fun community in the busy lives of its members. For the past two years I have been on the Mount Olivet Board, this year getting the opportunity to serve as President. I have been able to participate in traditions like putting together the Thanksgiving Early Service and sharing my highs and lows of the week with my fellow board members. I have also been a part of new traditions, like having high schoolers lead devotions, and ordering sweatpants along with our annual sweatshirts! These small changes offer hope for the future of this church. Someday my peers and I will have the opportunity to lead upcoming generations at Mount Olivet, which is so exciting. I look forward to the future of this church.



**Confirmation 7th Grade Retreats** **M** Jan 31-Feb 1, **W** Feb 7-8, **M** Feb 14-15, **W** Mar 13-14. Meet at Mpls or West campus depending where the bus leaves from at 4:40pm in the youth center. Pick up Saturday at the same campus at 10:30am. This is a required overnight at the Mount Olivet Conference and Retreat center. We will spend time eating good food, playing fun games with the Jr. High Youth staff, a special Communion service with our Pastors, swimming, hanging out with our high school counselors and of course Sacred Ground! Get ready for a fun overnight!! Register at [mtolivet.org](http://mtolivet.org).

## High School & 7th Grade Make Up Confirmation

*Su 1/5 through 1/26 10:30-11:15am* **M** Youth Office **W** Youth Office. If you are in high school and would like to get confirmed, or if you have not completed 7th grade confirmation and would like to do so, then please join us for this course taught by our high school youth staff. The course will end with a special confirmation service, for the high school students, on Sunday January 26 at 12:40 during our communion service.

## Confirmation Schedule

There will be **NO** Confirmation classes on the following dates: **WED 1/1** **M** **W**, **SUN 1/12** **M**.

## Hi-League Schedule

*Sunday Evenings.*

1/5 **TABLE TALKS** **M** **W** 7-8:30pm

1/12 **CREATION MEDITATION** The meditation features stories from the book of Genesis by **PASTOR HAMMERSTEN**. Music will also be led by piano, guitar & vocals. (**M** 7-8pm **W** bus 6:30-8:30pm).

1/19 **NO HI-LEAGUE.**

1/26 **ICE SKATING AT CENTENNIAL LAKES** **M** **W** 7-9pm. Cost is \$15.





## Camp Sunday

*Su 2/9 during worship, M W.* Come celebrate Cathedral of the Pines Camp on Sunday, February 9. All Sunday morning services will be "Camp-Style." Photos of camp life throughout the years will be on display in the Fellowship Hall and Gronseth Fellowship Hall. Later that afternoon, the 2020 COP Camp Rally will be held at the West campus 4-6:30 pm.



## MEMBER REGISTRATION OPENS MON, JAN 13

### NON-MEMBER REGISTRATION OPENS MON, MAR 2

We are excited to announce a new registration system for COP 2020. The new system, CampBrain, is specifically designed for camping programs and you will use CampBrain for all things COP (registrations, payments, health forms, etc). We are especially excited that all info that is put into your CampBrain account this year, will be retained and will be able to be used in years to come. Details of the new system and registration process will be sent to you via email and will be available on the Camp page of the Mount Olivet website in early January.

## COP Camping Weeks

*Grades as of Sep 1, 2020*

*Non-Members: Add \$55*

*Special Diets: Add \$30*

### Grades 3 & 4

(1) 7/15-7/19 W-Sa \$390\*

(2) 8/8-8/12 Sa-W \$390\*

### Grades 5 & 6

(1) 7/11-7/15 Sa-W \$390\*

(2) 7/24-7/29 F-W \$424\*

### Grades 7 & 8

(1) 6/26-7/2 F-Th \$445\*

(2) 7/19-7/24 Su-F \$425\*

(3) 7/29-8/3 W-M \$424\*

### 9th-Gr Confirmation Camp

For Mount Olivet members only.

An opportunity to celebrate the completion of Confirmation requirements with Mount Olivet youth staff and friends.

(1) 7/6-7/11 M-Sa \$375\*

(2) 8/3-8/8 M-Sa \$375\*

### Grades 10-12+

(1) 6/22-6/26 M-F \$300\*

### Grades 10-12

(1) 8/12-8/16 W-Sa \$330\*

*\* Full payment requested at time of registration*



## Cathedral of the Pines Camp Rally

*Su 2/9 4-6:30pm, W.* Hey Campers and Families! Come see the new West Campus facilities and join us for a fun filled evening to gear up for Cathedral of the Pines - 2020!

Play some Camp Carnival games and go home with some fun prizes!

After the Carnival, we will have a complimentary dinner and program put on by your 2020 Counselors and Workstaff. The program includes Camp songs, skits and a slideshow of life at COP! After dinner, we will have a Camp-style worship service in the Sanctuary. Lottery results for Opening Weekend, Family Work Week and Family Camp will be posted. Also, don't forget to purchase your 2020 Camp swag!

## Meet your Cathedral of the Pines Staff



Kristi Youngdahl,  
Camp Director



Kris Ericksen,  
Camp Coordinator



# 2020 SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMS

Registration opens on January 13!

## COP Preview Nights at Mount Olivet Conference & Retreat Center (2nd-3rd Gr as of Sep 2020)

5pm F 5/8 to 10am Sa 5/9 or (5th-6th Gr as of Sep 2020) 5pm F 6/11 to 10am Sa 6/12, (M W Bus). Join the CFM team for the COP Camp Overnights! We will swim, hang out, play games, and get excited about going to camp! Invite a friend, and look forward to a great time at the Mount Olivet Retreat Center. Bring swim gear, weather appropriate clothing, and a sleeping bag/pillow. \$45 includes accommodations, food, and bus.

## God's Kids Sing! (1st-6th Gr as of Sep 2020)

M-F 6/15-6/19 9am-4pm (8am+ early drop-off available) (M Fellowship Hall (W Bus 8am-4:15pm)). God's Kids Sing! is a fun-filled creative arts camp for children entering 1st through 6th grade. Every day participants will have a blast singing, moving, and making awesome art projects in sessions lead by professional educators and enthusiastic high school counselors. Bring a school friend and make some new ones - God's Kids Sing! is tons of fun for everyone! \$170 (\$20 early drop-off fee; \$20 W bus fee).

## JHA Mpls- Waterpark Day Away

Sa 6/20 10am-2pm (M 207). Come join the Minneapolis Youth Staff for Water Park Day Away at Cascade Bay in Eagan! Cost for this event is \$30 which includes admission into the park & transportation from the Mpls Campus. Hope to see you there!

## Vacation Bible School

### (4yrs-2nd Gr as of Sep 2020)

M-Th 6/22-6/25 8:45am-11:45am (M W). Put your hard hats on and get ready to report to the job site! This year for Vacation Bible School we'll use a construction theme to learn about the many ways that faith is our foundation in life. These fast paced, faith-filled, and fun mornings include music, story time, crafts, snacks, games, and more! \$45.

## Mount Olivet Day Camp

### (1st-4th Gr as of Sep 2020)

M-F 7/20-7/24 8:30am-4:30pm, Meet at (M (W Bus 8am-5pm)). Join us for a great week of community building, outdoor play, service projects, in-house field trips, and did we mention fun? We'll spend a couple of days at the Mount Olivet Retreat Center, bring in a few guests to Mount Olivet and venture out into the community for an action-packed week! \$175 includes: daily lunch and snacks, t-shirt, all activities & transportation for the week.

## AC in the AC! (K-3rd Gr)

W 7/29 8:30am-4:30pm (W). Kindergarteners through 3rd Graders are invited to a little Arts & Crafts (AC) in the Air Conditioning! Take some time out of the heat of the summer to make some crafty crafts and maybe even a couple friends! Please bring a lunch! Snacks, crafts, and fun will be provided! \$35.

## JHA - 8th Grade Leadership Retreat

3:30pm M 8/17 through 10am Tu 8/18 (M 207 (W Narthex). As a thank you for your consistent involvement throughout 7th grade we invite you to join us for the 8th grade leadership retreat. We will go to the retreat center for games, worship, swimming, and sacred ground and most importantly, leadership workshops throughout the night. We believe our programs are so successful because we have strong upper classmen leaders, and we believe you are those people. We hope you can join us! Cost is \$50.

## God's Kids Sing!

### Counselors (9th- 12th+ Gr as of Sep 2020)

M-F 6/15-6/19 8:30am-4pm (M Fellowship Hall (W Bus 8am-4:15pm)). Hey High Schoolers! GKS is looking for counselors (going into 9th grade thru graduating seniors) who are interested in sharing their day with our wonderful GKS kids. Classes in music, art, dance, bible study, mindfulness and more – all with your HS friends and tons of new little friends. This camp is so popular, because of you! Come join us for the week of fun!

## NEW! Messy Camp! (3rd-6th Gr)

W 8/12 8:30am-4:30pm (M). Exactly what it sounds like! We will be playing some messy games involving shaving cream, fruit loops, ping pong balls, and more! Wear comfortable clothing that you wouldn't mind getting dirty! Bring your lunch for the day. Snacks, activities, and messy fun will be provided! \$35.

## JHA West- Valleyfair

W 8/19 9:30am-3pm (W Narthex). Join your West Youth Staff for a trip to Valleyfair! We will leave at 9:30am from the West campus and head to the park for a fun day of rides! We will return to the church at 3:00pm. Cost is \$30 and includes transportation and park admission. Please bring money for lunch. We can't wait for you to join us! Transportation provided from the West Campus. Cost is \$30.

Mount Olivet Messenger

USPS 365-500  
Published monthly by  
Mount Olivet Lutheran Church  
5025 Knox Avenue South  
Minneapolis, MN 55419-1095

Periodicals postage paid at  
St. Paul, MN

POSTMASTER  
Send address changes to  
Mount Olivet Messenger  
5025 Knox Avenue South  
Minneapolis, MN 55419-1095

**PAGES 18-19**



**SUMMER  
YOUTH  
PROGRAMS**  
NOW REGISTERING!

 **WWW.MTOLIVET.ORG** MPLS 612.926.7651 • WEST 952.767.1500

**PAGE 15**

**FEED MY  
STARVING  
CHILDREN**



**MOBILEPACK**  
**SAT, MAR 7, 3 SHIFTS**

