

MOUNT OLIVET

MESSENGER

Believing, Belonging, Becoming



mtolivet.org

MAR 2020

VOLUME 8, ISSUE 3

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, MAR 1

Jesus the Healer

M 9, 10, 11am, 12noon

Sermon: **PASTOR LOSE**

Music: Senior & Cathedral Choirs

W 9, 10, 11am

Sermon: **PASTOR DIXON**

Music: Senior & Cathedral Choirs

WEDNESDAY, MAR 4

Lenten Midweek Worship with Holy Communion

M 11am Communion service— followed by a Community

Lunch, \$6, no reservation required

Sermon: **PASTOR KALLAND**

SUNDAY, MAR 8

Jesus the Shepherd

Centennial Celebration Highlight: Mount Olivet Rolling Acres

M 9, 10, 11am, 12noon

Sermon: **PASTOR RUUD**

Music: Chancel, Chapel & Hosanna Choirs

W 9, 10, 11am

Sermon: **PASTOR HAMMERSTEN**

Music: Chancel, Chapel & Hosanna Choirs

WEDNESDAY, MAR 11

Lenten Midweek Worship

M 11am

Sermon: **PASTOR FREEMAN**

SUNDAY, MAR 15

Jesus the Savior

M 9, 10, 11am, 12noon

Sermon: **PASTOR LOSE**

Music: Senior & Cathedral Choirs; Centennial Singers; Chancel Ringers

W 9, 10, 11am

Sermon: **PASTOR DIXON**

Music: Senior & Cathedral Choirs; Chancel Ringers



WEDNESDAY, MAR 18

Lenten Midweek Worship

M 11am

Sermon: **PASTOR MACLEAN**

SUNDAY, MAR 22

Jesus the Servant

M 9, 10, 11am, 12noon

Sermon: **PASTOR KALLAND**

Music: Senior & Cathedral Choirs; Centennial Singers

W 9, 10, 11am

Sermon: **PASTOR RUUD**

Music: Senior & Cathedral Choirs

WEDNESDAY, MAR 25

Lenten Midweek Worship

M 11am

Sermon: **PASTOR DIXON**

SUNDAY, MAR 29

Jesus the Connector

M 9, 10, 11am, 12noon

Sermon: **PASTOR CRAIG JOHNSON**

Music: Julie Johnson, flute

W 9, 10, 11am

Sermon: **PASTOR MACLEAN**

Music: Justin Staebell, baritone

Easter Flower Chancel Garden

Order through Su 3/22. During this special time of year, please consider honoring or remembering a loved one by purchasing a spring plant to beautify our sanctuaries for Easter morning. The cost is \$15 for small plants and \$25 for large plants. A list of donors and those remembered or honored will be included in the bulletin on Easter morning. You may pick up your Easter plant after the last service on Easter Sunday until 1:30pm or on TUESDAY after Easter from 9:00am-1:30pm at both Minneapolis and West campuses.

GOD

"For You"!

"I've got you." It's a phrase that's making the rounds these days. Whether in the dialogue of a favorite TV show or in casual conversation, you've probably heard it, maybe even said it. It's a shorter variant of, "I've got your back." But it's not just abbreviated, it's also deeper, and a little more personal. "I've got your back" is a promise that someone's looking out for you, that someone will stand up for you, not leave you

vulnerable, offer a measure of support and protection, particularly when things are difficult. "I've got you" says all that, too, but also implies a deeper and complete acceptance. "I'm there for you. I'm committed to you. I won't let you down." All this and more from those three short words.

In the Christian tradition, there's an even shorter phrase that says much the same thing about God's promise to be with us always. It's **"for you," as when Jesus says to his disciples at the Last Supper, "This is my body, given for you" (Luke 22:19). Christians across the centuries have recognized the importance of this more personal dimension of the Gospel.** As Martin Luther wrote in a Christmas sermon, "What does it matter if there is a God in heaven, if I don't know that God is for me. And what does it matter that Jesus was born, if I don't recognize that he was born, lived, died, and was raised again for me."

Think about it: the idea of "God" can be pretty abstract. And the words people often use to describe God tend to focus on impersonal characteristics or attributes – omnipotent (all powerful), omniscient (all knowing). All of which is fine... except you never quite know if this abstract all-powerful, all-knowing God actually cares about you.

Enter Jesus. In December, we focused on John's story of the Incarnation, the promise that God became human in Jesus – taking on our lot and life – precisely so we would understand that God in Jesus knows what it is like to be, well, us! In Lent, we follow the story of Jesus' ministry and his arrest and crucifixion in Jerusalem and learn just how far God will go to communicate God's tremendous love for us. And in our Easter celebration of Jesus' resurrection we hear again the promise that God's love and life are more powerful than all the sorrow, fear, or death the world may throw our way.

"For you." Two words that describe the more personal dimension of the Gospel. In order to explore the daily import of these two words and the promises behind them, we are designing a variety of worship and learning experiences. On Sundays, we continue reading through John's Gospel and focus on several significant stories that focus on different aspects of Jesus – healer, comforter, giver of new life, and more. Across these Sundays, we invite you to consider who Jesus is for you. At our midweek Wednesday morning services, we'll explore how it is that Jesus stays with us during times of struggle and celebration. Our Lenten devotions will focus on chapters 18 and 19 of John's Gospel, where he describes in great detail Jesus' last days and hours of his life, where we see his commitment for us laid bare.

We're also looking forward to discovering how God's promise of being "for you" can affect the nitty-gritty details of our daily lives. So we'll use our Wednesday evening Truth Talks to experience how God's promise to be with us and for us can help us contend with the heightened stress and anxiety of living in today's world. We'll also have a Mindfulness Retreat for our families at our Retreat Center to foster resilience and a sense of peace in our families.

"For you." Two simple words that remind us that, in Jesus, God is saying to us each and every day, "I've got you. I love you. I will never let you go." Come and join us for a wonderful, meaningful, and important Lenten journey into the very heart of the Gospel. And, as long as you're coming, invite a friend. Because the good news and promise that God is for you and for us all is just too good to keep to ourselves.

See you in Church!

Pastor Lose

DAVID J. LOSE, SENIOR PASTOR

Life & Growth

JAN 17 - FEB 17

Baptisms

Winston William Anderson, son of Shannon and Bradley
 Joshua James Bottema, son of Barbara and Zachary
 Cole Everett Carden, son of Amy and Dominic
 Jared Thomas Click, son of Melissa and David
 Jenna Nicole Click, daughter of Melissa and David
 Michael Jack Click, son of Melissa and David
 Madelyn Joy Ede, daughter of Jennifer and Christopher
 Charles Hart Britton Fredd, son of Jessica and Brian
 Ivy Sue Fransen Haroldson, daughter of Rachelle and Matthew
 Petra Rose Jensen, daughter of Tara and Marco
 Paisley Rae McCleary, daughter of Heidi and Eric
 Lloyd Edward Olson
 Emma Elizabeth Prestrud, daughter of Katie and Cory
 Amelia Jolene Schwein, daughter of Jennifer and Scott
 Zoey Jean Stewart, daughter of Brittany and Andy

Weddings

Emily Babusek & Grant Stadheim,
 January 25

Deaths

Robert O. Birney, 1931 – 2020
 Judith Colby, 1939 – 2020
 Lorraine L. Harris, 1924 – 2020
 Lowell H. Lewin, 1941 – 2020
 Gloria J. Magness, 1933 – 2020
 Richard D. Pihl, 1966 – 2020
 Richard E. Rees, 1944 – 2020



Who is Jesus for Me? Sundays in Lent

In Sunday worship in March, we tackle some of the “big stories” that John tells to explore various facets of his portrayal of Jesus, inviting us each week to consider the question, “who is Jesus for you?” Of course, there is no need to choose only one dimension of Jesus but rather to explore all the ways Jesus promises that God is “for you” and how at different times and stages of our life, we might need to be reminded of one or another aspect of who Jesus is. We’ll put all the verses to each story below, knowing that we’ll read a more succinct selection during worship. And I’ll list a question below each topic to get you thinking ahead of time. See you in Church! — PASTOR LOSE

March 1: Jesus the Healer (The Man Born Blind - John 9:1-41). *When and how do you need Jesus to heal you, physically, spiritually, and more?*

March 8: Jesus the Shepherd (The Good Shepherd - John 10:1-18). *How might Jesus lead you to a more fulfilled and meaningful life?*

March 15: Jesus the Savior (The Raising of Lazarus - John 11:1-44). *How might be Jesus working through others to give you a sense of new life, and how might Jesus be working through you to encourage others as well?*

March 22: Jesus the Servant (Jesus Washes his Disciples Feet - John 13:1-17). *How does Jesus' example of serving others shape our sense of the life God calls us to lead?*

March 29: Jesus the Connector (Vine and Branches - John 13, 6-17; 15:5-7). *How might our life in the church help us allow Jesus to connect us to God and each other more deeply?*

Looking for More?

Join us on Wednesdays in Lent at 11am in the Mpls sanctuary for our midweek Lenten services! We will be more specifically and personally exploring how Christ abides with us, based on the previous Sunday's gospel readings. When in pain, when lost, when grieving, when serving, in our relationships, where does Christ abide? How do we abide in Him?

March 4 (Holy Communion), March 11, March 18, March 25, April 1 (Holy Communion)
 Community Lunch following on March 4 and April 1



Lenten Devotional

Follow Jesus' Passion according to St. John with daily readings written by Pastor Lose. Sign up for emails at mtolivet.org or pick up a booklet at church.

DEVOTIONS

"Abide in me as I abide in you." – John 15:4

I recently witnessed a colleague live out a very busy stretch of work life, and I asked him one day, "How do you do it?" Without missing a beat, he simply smiled, pointed to the sky, and said, "Only by the grace of God."

"Only by the grace of God." What a beautiful testament to his relationship with Christ! Abide in me as I abide in you.

In Henri Nouwen's book, *Following Jesus: Finding Our Way Home in an Age of Anxiety*, he opens with the question, "Are you following Jesus?" He goes on to say that we are people who run around a lot, do many things, meet lots of people, attend many events, organize lots of details. We are busy people who often have a hard time even articulating what we're busy with. When this happens, we get tired, and anxious, and we begin to wonder why we do what we do. We may even think about giving up what we're doing because we can't do it on our own.

But there are other times that despite our exhaustion, we know that something outside of ourselves is holding us up – and that is God.

Jesus says in John's gospel, "Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me."

God's grace is enough. Abide in Christ as Christ abides in you. This Lent, we invite you to worship on Sundays and Wednesdays to abide in Christ, the one who uplifts and sustains you again and again. — PASTOR FREEMAN



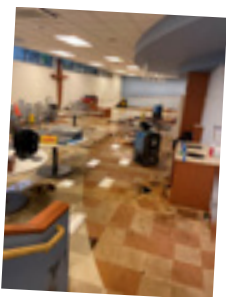
MPLS CAMPUS CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

Some of you may have noticed the scaffolding outside our facility at the Minneapolis campus as well as other interior projects happening around church. Here is what we have been working on:

Repairing and re-pointing all the exterior mortar joints on our beautiful stone façade on the west gable that faces the parking lot and surrounds the stain glass window in the balcony. After seventy years the mortar has decayed and water has been seeping in and damaging the interior plaster in the balcony and the front of the sanctuary. The mortar joints on the exterior east facing gable that surrounds the window at the altar will be repaired in the spring.

The stone chimney was decaying from the inside and outside with stones cracking and falling on to the roof. The chimney is now lined with stainless steel to protect the integrity of the chimney from the venting of our boiler system and the damaged roof has been repaired and some gutters replaced.

Soon we will begin remodeling our youth center which has been out of use due to electrostatic water pressure. This has been an ongoing challenge with water pushing up through the ground. The youth center is nine feet below Minnehaha Creek so the plan is to build a drain tile system and raise the level of the floor to match the corridor outside the gym.



Daily Readings

March 2020

FROM PASTOR KALLAND

- 1 1 Thessalonians 5:15, Good For Each Other
- 2 Matthew 5:19, The Least and The Greatest
- 3 Proverbs 2:6, Wisdom, Knowledge and Understanding
- 4 Galatians 6:2, Carry Each Other's Burdens
- 5 John 14:26, The Holy Spirit
- 6 Psalm 37:28, The Lord Loves The Just
- 7 Matthew 7:24, House On The Rock
- 8 Ephesians 2:4-5, God Is Rich In Mercy
- 9 Proverbs 12:22, Trustworthy
- 10 Ephesians 6:4, Don't Exasperate Your Children
- 11 1 John 2:2, Us And The World
- 12 Psalm 56:4, Not Afraid
- 13 Ephesians 4:3, Unity Of The Spirit
- 14 Luke 10:9, The Kingdom Of God
- 15 Psalm 4:8, Dwell In Safety
- 16 Matthew 5:18, Heaven And Earth
- 17 Romans 8:6, Life And Peace
- 18 Proverbs 19:8, Wisdom Loves Life
- 19 Colossians 3:17, Whatever You Do
- 20 Matthew 5:15-16, Let Your Light Shine
- 21 Psalm 90:2, Everlasting To Everlasting
- 22 Hebrews 12:14, Make Every Effort
- 23 Romans 14:11, Every Knee, Every Tongue
- 24 Proverbs 27:19, Life Reflects The Heart
- 25 1 Peter 5:7, Cast All Your Anxiety On The Lord
- 26 Jeremiah 32:17, Nothing Is Too hard For You
- 27 Psalm 12:36, Renew A Right Spirit Within Me
- 28 Matthew 12:50, My Brother And Sister And Mother
- 29 Mark 12:30, Heart, Soul, Mind And Strength
- 30 Proverbs 19:9, The Lord Establishes
- 31 John 3:16-17, Love

Lent 2020 - For You

Sundays in Lent - Who is Jesus for you?

We continue reading through the Gospel of John, taking on some of the bigger stories John shares to explore various dimensions of Jesus and his ministry and apply these to our day-to-day lives.

Sundays: Mpls: 9, 10, 11am & 12noon & West: 9, 10 & 11am

March 1: Jesus the Healer, March 8: Jesus the Shepherd, March 15: Jesus the Savior, March 22: Jesus the Servant, March 29: Jesus the Connector

Truth Talks — Wednesdays

March 4 **M** & March 11 **W**, 7pm — For you... Strength & Hope

March 18 **M** & March 25 **W**, 7pm — For you... Peace & Calm

Streaming at mtolivet.org on 3/4 & 3/18.

We continue our practice of letting Lent be a time to be honest about the challenges of our life in this world and learning together how our faith equips us to not just get by, but actually flourish. In our Truth Talks this year, we explore how God's promises can help us find a measure of calm, peace, and confidence in ourselves amid all the distractions of life.

PASTOR RUUD and guest speaker, **ANNIKA HENRY**, a junior at Augsburg University, will present at Truth Talks and guide us all through spiritual practices and mindfulness techniques to remind us of God's great love for us that we may develop great spiritual resilience.

*All Confirmation students and Cathedral and Chancel Choir members will be in attendance, and their parents and caring adults are strongly encouraged and welcome to attend. A parent session with **SARAH WATNE**, Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor (LPCC) and counselor at our Mount Olivet Counseling Service, will follow each Talk as confirmands and choir members return to their classes and rehearsal.*

Mount Olivet members of all ages who seek to know God's peace in their lives are invited.



Lenten Midweek Worship - Abide with Me, 11am, Mpls Campus

The Gospel of John was written "so that we may come to believe." (John 20:31) On Wednesdays in Lent, we will be more specifically and personally exploring how Christ abides with us, based on the previous Sunday's gospel readings. When in pain, when lost, when grieving, when serving, in our relationships, where does Christ abide? How do we abide in Him? We look forward to seeing you on Wednesdays at 11am in the Mpls sanctuary for our midweek Lenten services!

Wednesdays at 11am - Mpls

March 4: *Abide with me in pain* (Holy Communion)

March 11: *Abide with me when lost*

March 18: *Abide with me in grief*

March 25: *Abide with me in service*

April 1: *Abide with me in relationship* (Holy Communion)

Community Lunch following on March 4 and April 1

"For You" Lenten Devotional

St. John offers one of the most distinct and high symbolic accounts of Jesus' last days, following in his footsteps from his arrest in the garden to trials with Annas, Caiaphas, and Pontius Pilate, through the pain of the cross and ultimately victorious embrace of his destiny in order to triumph over all the death and darkness of the world. This year's Lenten Devotions follows John's story closely, drawing us into his account so that we might believe, as John encourages, "that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name" (John 20:31). Devotions are available in the narthex the first two Sundays of Lent and you can subscribe to receive a daily email at mtolivet.org.

Family Mindfulness Retreat, Saturday, March 28, 9am-1pm, Mount Olivet Conference and Retreat Center

While stress and anxiety are normal parts of daily life, they also can become debilitating for some of us at times. How do we cope in the midst of high stress? How can we manage our anxiety? How does our faith support us in being healthy and resilient? Doctors, psychologists, and educators alike increasingly teach mindfulness to reduce stress, anxiety, and increase feelings of calm, wellbeing, and happiness. Parents and children will learn and practice basic mindfulness techniques—breathing exercises, walking and other meditations, coloring, yoga, and contemplative prayer—in the beautiful setting of our retreat center. Leave the day with a list of resources you can use at home together. Lunch is included as part of the day. Cost is \$20 per adults, \$15 per child, Max of \$50 per family. Register at mtolivet.org.



Holy Week

Sunday, April 5, Palm Sunday — Mpls 9, 10, 11am & 12noon; West 9, 10, 11am

Wednesday, April 8, The Seven Last Words of Christ Concert — Mpls 7pm

Thursday, April 9, Living Lord's Supper — Mpls 6 & 7pm, West 7pm

Friday, April 10, Good Friday — Mpls 7am, 12noon, 4 & 6pm (Holy Communion), 11am (Children's Service), 7pm (Tenebrae Service), West 6pm (Holy Communion), 11am (Children's Service), 7pm (Tenebrae Service)

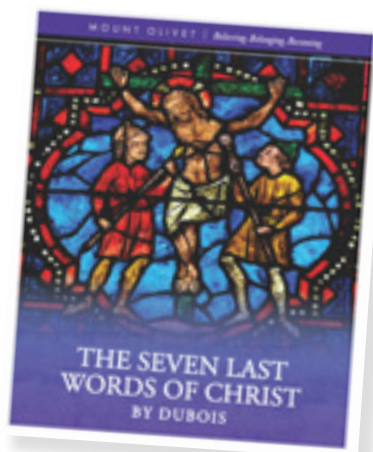
Easter Sunday — April 12

Mpls Campus: 7, 8, 9, 10, 11am & 12noon

West Campus: 8, 9, 10, 11am & 12noon

Live stream the Mpls Campus services at mtolivet.org at 9, 10 & 11am.

Have you heard more clearly and trusting more deeply God's promise to be "for you" through Lent, we come to John's distinct and intimate portrayal of Jesus' resurrection. Brass, choirs, beautiful music, flowers, and Scripture and sermon will combine to remind us that Jesus' triumph over the death and the grave can infuse our daily lives with a life-changing sense of confidence and courage!



Seven Last Words Explored

M 3/30 7-8pm, *M* Rehearsal Hall and *Tu* 3/31 7-8pm, *M* Rehearsal Hall. Embrace our church's tradition by joining **PASTOR LOSE** and **DR. BEVERLY CLAFLIN** to learn about Théodore Dubois' masterpiece, The Seven Last Words of Christ. This Lenten tour de force has been an annual fixture at Mount Olivet for over seventy years, having first been performed here during Holy Week, 1948. Last year's presentation featured an orchestra, soloists, and over two hundred Cathedral Choir members and alumni! Completion of the class will surely provide you with new insights when you attend this work's upcoming presentation on Wednesday, April 8th. This two-night class will feature expert analysis and discussion, as well as provide interesting insights into the textual and musical aspects of this work. The first session will feature biblical exploration by Pastor Lose, whereas the second will feature a discussion of musical aspects and interpretation by Dr. Beverly Claflin. This class is open to everyone, as you do not need to be a scholar or musician to enjoy and learn.

Images from 1948 for The Seven Last Words of Christ Service

THIS WEEK

Today—

4:00 p.m.—Baptismal Service

5:00 p.m.—Holy Communion Service

Tuesday—March 23rd

8:00 p.m.—Holy Communion Service

Wednesday—March 24th

1:00 p.m.—HOLLY CIRCLE at home of Mrs. Hubert Benson, 4017 Morningside Road

7:00 and 8:30 p.m.—Holy Communion Services

Maundy Thursday—March 25th

4:00, 7:00 and 8:30 p.m.—Holy Communion Services

Good Friday—March 26th

11:00 a.m.—Children's Service

7:00 p.m.—Holy Communion Service

8:30 p.m.—Mount Olivet Choir presents "The Seven Last Words"

CHOIR CONCERT

As a part of our Holy Week observance the Mount Olivet Choir will present Du Bois' "The Seven Last Words," on Friday at 8:30 p.m. Soloists will be Mrs. Isora Iverson, Mr. Robert Krause and Mr. Paul Behrend. The entire cantata will be under the direction of Mr. O. B. Dahle. Carol Jean Sykora, violinist, will be guest soloist.



Mount Olivet Rolling Acres ~ Journey to a Brighter Future!

Tracy Murphy, Mount Olivet Rolling Acres, President



Mount Olivet Rolling Acres (MORA) is a ministry that was birthed, through the church, by parents of children with disabilities in the 1960's. They were looking for an inclusive and loving environment where their children could learn and grown.

Over 50 years later, MORA has grown to support adults and children across Minnesota. Our services have expanded from summer camp and residential group living to include supporting people in their own homes, weekend respite services for caregivers, crisis coordination, case management, behavior supports, day services, nursing supports and recreational activities like Glee Club and yoga. We support a wide range of needs for people: mental health challenges, physical and intellectual disabilities, as well as people who are aging.

We are all about people. The people who work for us and the people we work with daily. We welcome new employees at new hire training every two weeks and our newest resident moved in at the end of January. In January 2020, we also celebrated 40 years of service with two of our longest tenured staff. And, four of those "kids" who lived on campus with us in 60's are still living with us (see story on page 10)! Of course, they are all now in their 60's and we have become family.

With how fast the world is changing, including legislation, available workforce, and aging issues (for

all of us), we invested in a year-long strategic planning process: *Journey to a Brighter Future*. This process helped us understand and prioritize where we are heading and who we need to bring with us along the way.

We identified three priorities that will allow us to reach our vision of being the agency that drives standards for community-based disability services throughout the upper Midwest:

1. Invest in the Employee Experience
2. Align Priorities
3. Expand Support for our Mission

I am thrilled to be a part of MORA's future. *Journey to a Brighter Future* will be a lot of hard work and it will be so gratifying to know that we are making a difference in the lives of the people we support today and long into their futures.

When I joined MORA, I was drawn in by the values of interdependence and the infinite worth of people. I have learned so much from the people we support and our amazing staff. They are authentic, brave, funny, smart, hardworking, fun loving, and truly know how to live in the moment.

Join us for the journey!



Photo circa 1954 of the original cabins at a summer camp for children with disabilities that would become Mount Olivet Rolling Acres.



In January 2020, the Rolling Acres main offices returned to Victoria from Chanhassen. Case management services have expanded with more staff and clients being served so that growing group now offices in the Chanhassen space. Growth is good!

Did You Know?

Rolling Acres has multiple Core Services, including:

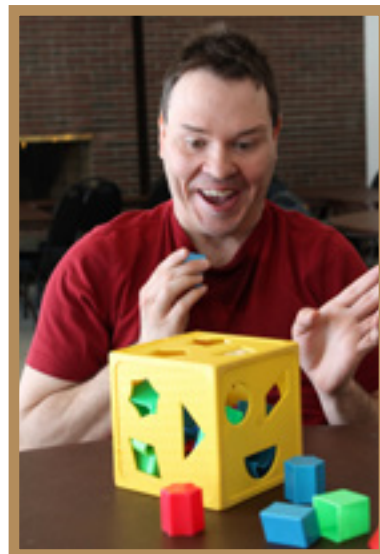
Residential care: serving 143 people through long-term care in homes both at MORA's main campus in Victoria, MN, and in 33 community homes throughout the Twin Cities metro area.

Case Management: support to people with I/DD as well as people with high medical and mental health needs including the aging population. **The Metro Crisis Coordination Program (MCCP):** immediate help to individuals and their families who are in the midst of a situational or behavioral crisis.

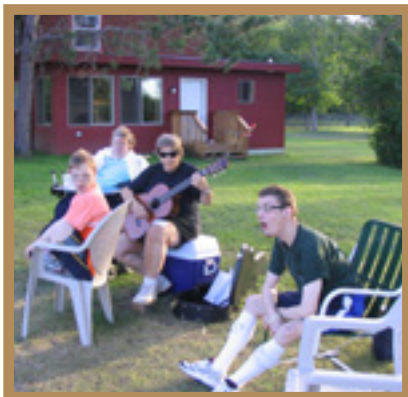
Andover Youth Support Home (AYSH): short-term, residential care for youth, ages 5- 17 years, who have a mental illness and are currently in a state of crisis.

Adult Day Services (ADS): full-time, Monday- Friday day care services for individuals with I/DD with a variety of educational, recreational, and social opportunities that enhance their quality of life.

Sherwood Home: full-time residential and care services for four adults with severe and persistent mental illness for over fifteen years. The support from this program has almost entirely eliminated hospitalizations for the individuals that live at Sherwood.



ADS brings smiles to everyone's faces!



Singing fun at McGregor Cabins

Discover Summer: MORA's therapeutic day camp for youth diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder and Asperger's Syndrome.

McGregor Cabins: services May – December for families with a member with a developmental disability who find it difficult to vacation at resorts or hotels because of the person's unpredictable behavior. Also, the Wounded Service Member program, has provided a free-of-cost weekend for wounded service members, with war-related injuries, and their families.

Extended weekend respite care: open to clients from across Minnesota whose caregivers, typically parents or siblings, need a break from their daily duties.

In-home Family Support Services (FSS): services to families who live with family members who have an I/DD diagnosis--support happens within the family home and augments the family's natural caregiving.



MORA Glee Club

From a Life of Invisibility to Happy Activity, with the Help of Rolling Acres

Jeanine Martinson Black

When our first son Steven was born in 1956 it was obvious he had club feet and other physical disabilities. Later we learned he also had developmental delays. We enjoyed and loved him, but as a mother I was terrified for his adult future. Away from home most people ignored Steven as if he was invisible. Public schools did not have to take students with disabilities then. And programs serving children with special physical or developmental needs didn't accommodate kids like our son who lived with both developmental and physical disabilities. I wanted to "let go and let God" handle our problems. Easy to say, but so hard to do.

In the 60s when I heard that Mount Olivet was considering a live-in facility for disabled children, I joined the church and put Steve on the waiting list. Steven joined Sunday School, my three other children became active in church activities, and I served as a choir mother for Carol Murray's preschool choir, taught Sunday School, and cooked at Cathedral of the Pines. We all loved being part of this church.

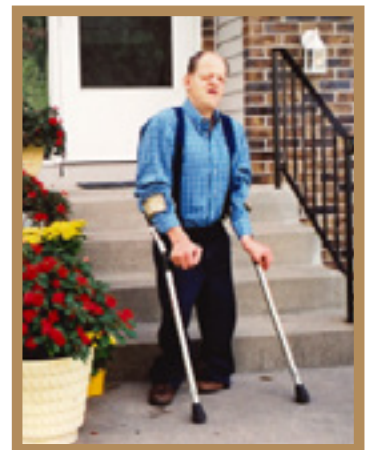


Rolling Acres was finally completed as a residence for 50 children in 1969, and Steve was the second resident accepted. Steve received love and acceptance from the wonderful staff who skillfully dealt with his sometimes strange or defiant behaviors. They appreciated him for being fun and funny, and focused on understanding what his needs were. His Rolling Acres teacher even taught him to read and write, as he had very little understandable speech. He fought these lessons, but eventually communicated his desires through his very legible printing. I once received a letter from Steve that was three pages long and told me 13 things – a wonder for someone who couldn't speak! At Rolling Acres he led a happy, active life and visited our family regularly.

In the late 70s we moved out of state and decided to take Steve with us. Big mistake! There was nothing there like Rolling Acres! When we returned to Minnesota there were no openings at MORA, but Steven finally got into a Rolling Acres group home for four residents in Shorewood. He has lived there for over 25 years, and some of the dedicated staff have been with him the whole time. They really are like family.

After an 18 year out-of-state absence I just rejoined Mount Olivet, which feels like coming home. And every time I walk through the church doors I breathe a prayer of thanks to God and to this church that changed our lives. I am grateful for the Mount Olivet Rolling Acres project that Pastor Paul Youngdahl pushed for, even though it was expensive and hard. I am thankful for the quality of care that Steve has received over the years. And I am hopeful for the assisted living support that Rolling Acres is starting to provide to allow group home residents like my son age in place in the homes they know and love.

Rolling Acres provides happy, safe places to live. This happens through the support of the wonderful people of Mount Olivet and the annual golf tournament (this year on August 24!) and barbeque events. Of course, I attend these events as the family member of a resident. But each time I am moved to tears when I see all of the Mount Olivet people who dedicate time to support this community. Your generosity has a positive effect on people with disabilities. It also has a powerful impact on their families. I thank you from the bottom of my heart for becoming more like Jesus as you serve others and support them with MORA group homes!



Changing the Landscape

Susan Wilcox, longtime Mount Olivet Rolling Acres supporter

Mount Olivet Lutheran Church changed the landscape of residential service for persons with intellectual disabilities when they opened Mount Olivet Rolling Acres (MORA) in 1968. Residential services prior to this time were primarily provided by state institutions and the living conditions inside of these institutions were deplorable.

Mount Olivet made a commitment to provide Board leadership, financial support, business acumen, and fundraising/volunteer resources to MORA and has fulfilled this commitment now for over fifty years. Thanks be to God and to the congregation of Mount Olivet for this dedication and loyalty.

During the '70s, MORA stood out as a premier residential treatment program for children with severe intellectual disabilities. The organization took great pride in offering residential and educational programming on the beautiful campus in Victoria, MN. At that time, the concept of MORA was to provide as normal a living situation as possible to residents. To achieve this goal, residents lived in home-like cottages and were cared for by skilled staff members.

Mount Olivet's role in developing MORA has contributed significantly to raising awareness of the social, emotional, and physical challenges and needs of persons with complex intellectual disabilities and of the importance for these individuals to lead lives of dignity and connection and MORA continues to expand their services and raise awareness (see page 9 for an update on all their services).



*Rolling Acres Cornerstone Laying - Nov. 17, 1968
Wendell Erickson, Vice President, MORA Board
Pastor Noren, Mount Olivet Senior Pastor*

One Goal: Be a Friend

Cindy Johnson, lifetime member of Mount Olivet

I am proud of our Mount Olivet congregation for so many reasons, but perhaps what I am most proud of is the commitment to serve the vulnerable. Just as Jesus served all people.

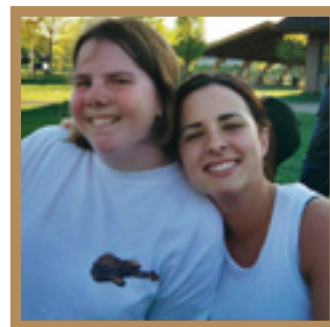
I first visited Mount Olivet Rolling Acres in 9th grade with the "Buddies" program, which paired a Hi-Leaguer and a resident. I had limited exposure to this population and I was actually very nervous to meet my "buddy," but it became my all-time favorite activity and I continued volunteering for four years.

In 1983, Craig and I were blessed to have a beautiful daughter, Laura. As Laura developed, it was clear that she was disabled. We worked tirelessly to be sure Laura received all the help she needed, but when Laura hit junior high, her exposure to her non-disabled peers was very limited and it was clear this was a missing link in Laura's life. I was Laura's best friend.

After telling Laura's story and giving a "pitch" for a new program at Mount Olivet, Pastor Youngdahl agreed to let me start "Circle of Friends," which paired a high school student with disabilities with a non-disabled peer for weekly events. There was only one goal in mind: be a friend. Laura blossomed as a result of this program. She ditched her Disney lunch box for a more grown-up one, wanted CD's of the latest boy bands, and told me she needed some clothes from the Gap. Her world was suddenly so much bigger!

"Circle of Friends" was so important to the first participants that they began to mourn the end after they

graduated. Thus a new program was born for people in their 20's called "Thursday Friends," and now there is a program for 30+ called "Mount Olivet Friends." In each of these programs, one would be hard pressed to decide who was gaining the most from these relationships ... the participant or the volunteer.



*Laura Johnson & Katy Michaletz
Circle of Friends friends*

Here are just a few of the stories I have heard that have resulted from these programs:

- One participant was the best man in his volunteer's wedding--very close friendships form!
- One parent shared that he believed Circle of Friends had saved his son's life. Before joining, he felt so alone that he never left the basement.
- Several volunteers have chosen to go into careers serving the disabled population.

To this day, Laura makes every effort to attend church. She can feel the love that surrounds her there. Thanks to all who have worked and are still working tirelessly to make sure that we as a congregation continue to serve this population. You are changing lives!

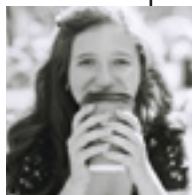
Mount Olivet United

MO United brings Mount Olivet West Hi-Leaguers and Mount Olivet Rolling Acres residents together for community and relationship building activities hosted at the Mount Olivet Rolling Acres Gym. MO United meets on Tuesday evenings, 6:30-8:00pm for two 8-week sessions in the fall and spring. Regular attendance during the 8-week sessions is required. Volunteers may participate in one or both Fall/Spring sessions. Fall session: Oct/Nov. Spring session: Feb/Mar. If you have questions about MO United, please contact Kate Belschner kbelschner@mtolivet.org, 952.767.1502

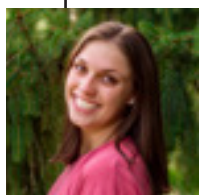


MO United has been such a fun and rewarding experience. I've met so many new people and created relationships both with other high schoolers and Rolling Acres residents. MO United is a great way to relax and try new activities during the week, such as yoga, crafts, and sing-alongs. This program is very unique because it brings people who probably wouldn't otherwise meet together through shared experiences, and gives me a chance to get out of my comfort zone. It's also helped me become a better communicator and leader. It's been such a fulfilling opportunity and I definitely encourage others to join! — **JORRUN KUEHN**

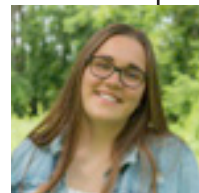
I was a sophomore my first year in MO United, and I initially went because my friends who were in it said they liked it. However, very quickly I fell in love for my own reasons. Everyone was friendly and it was a good way to take a break in my week. Then I started to really get to know everyone at Rolling Acres and became good friends with them. Whenever MO United starts up again it is nice to see friendly faces but also new faces that I know I will get the opportunity to know. MO United is something that is very special to me and I will be sad when I have to leave it next fall. — **SHEA HAILE**



I have done MO United since it started three years ago. At MO United you get paired up with a buddy and help them with the weekly activities. We play games like basketball and hockey, do crafts during the holiday season, and have special nights out! Every week, I look forward to spending my time with my church friends and the residents of Rolling Acres, who have now become my friends. This program puts a smile on everyone's face, especially mine. I love getting to catch up with the residents weekly and play games with them. Spending my Tuesdays at MO United has made me more inclusive and overall a happier person. Leaving church on Tuesdays, my heart is full and I will miss this wonderful program immensely next year. — **MEGAN KIMBALL**



I have loved being a part of this program because it has given me the chance to get out of my comfort zone and do something that I had never done before. Not only has it given me the chance to get closer with my friends from church, but it has also given me the chance to meet residents from Mount Olivet Rolling Acres that I otherwise probably would have never met. Getting the chance to hang out and get to know the residents is such a great opportunity. Every week after MO United I leave feeling so fulfilled because I got the chance to spend time with such genuine people. It is so special for both the Rolling Acres residents as well as the Mount Olivet high schoolers to get to spend time together. I am so grateful for the opportunity to be a part of such a special program and I hope that other people get the chance to experience it as I have! — **ANNA ROIGER**



I didn't really know what I was getting into when I joined MO United, and I never would have imagined it would impact me so much. What surprised me was how much I started to look forward to those Tuesday nights just as much as the residents do. The relationships I made have truly impacted my life! I never knew I could laugh so much during yoga, and I never knew that the girls would be so awesome at "Just Dance." Another thing that amazes me is that the residents are always there for you when you need it. After graduation it will be sad to no longer be involved in MO United, but hopefully I can stay in touch with the residents who became some of my closest friends. — **MOLLY KIMBALL**



I first started going to MO United last spring because my friend Molly told me I would really enjoy it...And I did! After the first 10 minutes I could tell this was a special group. I never realized the amount of joy you could bring to someone until you see them light up with a smile because you were there to see them, there's nothing like it. Yes I go there to see my friends but the real reason is to see my friends at Rolling Acres. They are such kind hearted, loving individuals, that really make everyone there happy. I see MO United as a get away from what might be currently happening in my life, then see the difference I can make in another's. The impact I realized made on another person really meant a lot to me. I now go every Tuesday and look to be more and more involved in my church looking for more ways to make others smile. — **NOAH BORWEGE**

CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION



UPCOMING CENTENNIAL MONTHS

Sunday, 4/19: Children & Family Ministry

Sunday, 5/10: Youth Ministry

Sunday, 6/14: Mount Olivet Conference & Retreat Center

Sunday, 7/12: Counseling Service

The Mount Olivet Spirit Store will be open on these Centennial Celebration Sundays!

A NIGHT OUT WITH MOUNT OLIVET

THURSDAY, MAY 28, 2020, OPEN HOUSE 5-10PM

THE HUTTON HOUSE

MEDICINE LAKE

10715 S Shore Dr, Medicine Lake, MN 55441

Come raise a glass to Mount Olivet in celebration of 100 years! Your \$30 ticket will get you in the door for appetizers, a chance to 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.

Registration opens March 1 at mtolivet.org



Orchestra Hall Worship Service

11/15/2020
9am & 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.

CENTENNIAL FUND

In celebration of the 100th anniversary of the mission and ministry of Mount Olivet Lutheran Church, we are launching a fundraising appeal that gives thanks for our past, strengthens our present ministry, and prepares us for another century of witness and service. We invite you to be a part of this exciting endeavor as we live into the future of hope God is preparing for us! These gifts will focus on three areas of need: 1) giving thanks for a century of service, 2) caring for our sacred spaces, and 3) preparing us for a second century of ministry.

WAYS TO GIVE

- Text the words "MTOLIVET Centennial Fund" and your desired dollar amount to 73256.
- Online at mtolivet.org/online-giving (click on "Give Now" and select "Centennial Fund" from the drop-down menu)
- Use the Centennial Offering Envelope

Mount Olivet is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt nonprofit organization. Your charitable contribution is tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. A letter acknowledging your contribution will be sent to you from Mount Olivet.

REGISTER TODAY



Ladies' Night

FEATURING **PASTOR FREEMAN** AND
DINNER SERVED BY THE MEN OF MOUNT OLIVET

MONDAY, MARCH 9, 2020
6:30PM, WEST CAMPUS

\$15. REGISTER AT MTOLIVET.ORG OR 612.926.7651

MTOLIVET.ORG MPLS 612.926.7651 • WEST 952.767.1500



12th **MOTORHEADS' WINTER EVENT**

Tue, Mar 10, 2020

Shuttle from Mount Olivet West Campus
7150 Rolling Acres Rd, Victoria (arrive between 5:30 & 7pm)

MTOLIVET.ORG MPLS 612.926.7651 • WEST 952.767.1500

Career & Calling Breakfast Spring 2020

W 4/22 7-9am, **M**

Fellowship Hall. Join

us for our next Career

& Calling Breakfast,

where the people are
friendly and engaging,

the food is delicious, and the conversation

is inspiring. Erin Newkirk, entrepreneur and
consultant, will speak on the topic of making

time. Our culture pushes – even celebrates –

busyness. Erin has great strategies for pushing

back and making time to do what is important

to you in your career and in your life. Cost is

\$10. Register at mtolivet.org.



Schedule

7:00 Opening prayer, breakfast buffet

7:30 Welcome

7:40 "Making Time" presentation

8:15 Table conversations, Q&A

9:00 Program concludes

You have our blessing if you need to leave early.

NO Mount Olivet Garage Sale!

Mount Olivet will not be hosting a garage sale moving forward. Thank you so much for your donations and time volunteering in years past! Stay tuned for new and exciting opportunities that will support our affiliate ministries.



Mix it up!

47TH ANNUAL FASHION SHOW & LUNCHEON

Saturday, April 18, 11am
MPLS CAMPUS

Raffle to benefit Mount Olivet Rolling Acres
\$20, register at mtolivet.org

MTOLIVET.ORG MPLS 612.926.7651 • WEST 952.767.1500

Just for Fun Golf Scramble

M 5/11 11am-7pm, Deer Run Golf Club, 8661 Deer Run Dr, Victoria. 11am check-in, driving range open, sandwich buffet lunch; 12:45pm golfers get into electric carts; 1pm golf begins; following golf there will be a happy hour, grilled steak / chicken buffet dinner, and awards presentation. Rain or shine. Register 3/1-5/1. Sign up as an individual or as a group (up to 4). \$100pp must be paid with registration. Bring \$5 cash to buy a mulligan.

SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES



March Food Drive! *Su 3/15 after all worship services, (M) (W) Parking Lots.* You're encouraged to be a part of the March MN FoodShare campaign by dropping off food or monetary donations at either campus. The donations collected in Minneapolis will support Community Emergency Services (CES) while the West donations will benefit Bountiful Baskets. Items most needed are: fruit, soups, chili, boxed mac and cheese, canned tuna, canned chicken, sugar, oil, and flour. This is a great opportunity to help end hunger in our communities!

Volunteer Needed! West Kitchen Help Now that the beautiful, new facilities are complete and more and more events are happening at the West Campus, we are in need of volunteers in the kitchen. Contact Chef Sally McNamee, smcnamee@mtolivet.org or 612.767.2222 to be included on the volunteer email list. She will reach out as events arise for your availability.

Angel Gifts *Sa 4/4 10am (W) Gronseth Fellowship Hall; 2 pm (M) Gym.* Help make a difference in our local communities this Easter season! At both campuses, we will pack Easter and/or food baskets for those in need through Love Inc (W) and Pastor Scott's Inner City Ministries (M). Once packed, help deliver the baskets to the families and be a witness of God's hope and coming light! Donations needed for the Easter baskets: stuffed Easter animals, bubbles, card games, coloring books, coloring crayons, small puzzles and sidewalk chalk. Donations accepted at the Minneapolis & West campus.

FELLOWSHIP OFFERINGS

Men's Breakfasts *Tu 7am, The Hilltop Edina; Th 7am, American Legion Chanhassen.* Mar 3/5: **BIBLE STUDY LED BY PASTOR KALLAND**; Mar 10/12: **JODY BARBEE & TRICIA ASUNCION SPEAKING ON "BEHIND THE SCENES AT MOUNT OLIVET**; Mar 17/19: **BIBLE STUDY**; Mar 24/26: **MIKE GONSIOR SPEAKING ON "WHAT KIND OF CAR A PASTOR SHOULD DRIVE."**

Friends Forever Arizona Round-Up (50yrs+) *Su 3/22 8:30am, Living Water Lutheran Church, Scottsdale, AZ.* Arizona residents, visitors and friends are invited to join Pastor MacLean and Friends Forever for a special Mount Olivet Sunday in Scottsdale. We will have brunch and dinner together. Cost: \$20 for brunch, menu items for dinner. Register at mtolivet.org by 3/19.

Young Adults Donate & Do @ VEAP (22-45yrs) *Tu 4/21 6-7:30pm, VEAP, 9600 Aldrich Ave S, Bloomington.* While at VEAP, we'll have a tour of the facility, hear about the importance of our donations and why donating more than just food is needed, and repackage our toilet paper donations. Please wear closed-toed shoes and clothes that can get dirty. If you can, please bring a donation of toilet paper. Register at mtolivet.org

Flying Solo: MIA Art in Bloom (40-60yrs) *Th 4/23 6:30-9pm, Minneapolis Institute of Art, 2400 3rd Ave S, Minneapolis.* Join us at MIA for the Art in Bloom exhibit. We will meet by the fountain on the 2nd floor. Then following the exhibit, please join us at Eat Street Social (18 W 26th St, Mpls) for fun and fellowship.

Ski Club *W through 3/25, Meet at 9am Lunch at Paul's Restaurant 12noon, Afton Alps 6600 Peller Ave S, Hastings.* 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 to be added to the group list and to have a card made.

Young Adult 3rd Tuesday

Sa 3/7: Feed My Starving Children (West Campus) & Ax Throwing (Victoria Burrows)
3/17: Surly (Pizza Room) | 7-8pm
4/21: Donate & Do @ VEAP | 6:30-8pm

2020 ADULT EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

Adult Ministry Team

We are excited to announce the new Adult Ministry team that will combine the various areas of ministry— Fellowship, Adult Education, and Service/Outreach— that involve the adults of our congregation. Katie Shepherd will serve as Director of Adult Ministry, leading and giving strategic oversight to the whole. Jenny Nellis will serve as Coordinator of Adult Ministry, supporting the work across these areas. Katie Stevenson will serve as Coordinator of Faith Formation, with particular responsibility for our adult education offerings. Laurie Hancer will serve as Coordinator of Service and Volunteers, with particular responsibility for our outreach/service offerings. Pastors Hammersten is serving as the pastoral advisor for Fellowship, Pastor MacLean serves as the pastoral advisor for Outreach and Service, and Pastor Ruud serves as the pastoral advisor for Adult Education.

BIBLE STUDY

Living the Message Pastor's Introduction

Tu 3/3 6-6:45pm, **M** Choir
Rehearsal Hall; Tu 3/31 6-6:45pm,
W Gronseth Fellowship 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. March Intro on 3/3 at Mpls: *What does it mean to be a disciple of Jesus* (John 13:1-35). April Intro on 3/31 at West: *How Does Jesus' Relationship with His Disciples Continue?* (John 20:11-31). 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.



BOOK DISCUSSIONS

• Evening Book Discussion

2nd W 7-8:30pm, **M** Library.
Books: *Waking up White: And Finding Myself in the Story of Race* by Debby Irving. (3/11), *Where the Crawdads Sing* by Delia Owens (4/8)

• Midday Book Discussion

3rd Tu 11:30am-1pm, **M** Library.
Books: *Saving Simon* by Jon Katz (3/17), *Being Mortal* by Atul Gawande (4/21). Bring a bag lunch if you wish; all are welcome to join us! Facilitated by Church Librarian Chelle Urabe.

ONGOING GROUPS

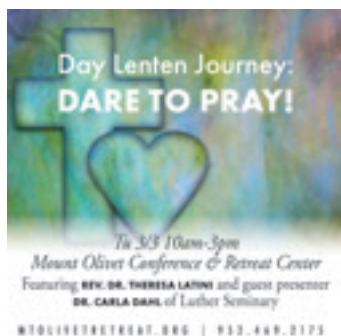
Chair Holy Yoga M 12:15-1:15 **M** Gym. A great physical and spiritual boost to your day that does not require getting down and up from the floor, yet greatly improves balance, strength, and flexibility. Connect, exercise, have fun, and meditate on Jesus' love! Taught by certified instructors. \$5 paid 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.

Learning Swedish Language through Hymns and Songs M 3/2 through 5/18 (except 4/6 & 4/13) 7-8pm, **M** Rm 486. Have fun learning a bit of Swedish through singing Swedish hymns and folk songs. Led by **PETER JOHNSON**, you will sing in unison (not 4-part harmony) and *A cappella* (without accompaniment). As you learn the songs, you also will learn something of Swedish phonetics, vocabulary, and grammar – and have lots of fun!

MOUNT OLIVET CONFERENCE AND RETREAT CENTER



Day Lenten Journey: Dare to Pray!

Tuesday, 3/3 10am-3pm, Mount Olivet Conference & Retreat Center. God invites us to pray boldly and promises to hear our prayer. Yet, sometimes prayer is a struggle or an afterthought; sometimes we grow weary or bored in prayer; and, sometimes we wonder how best to pray for friends, family, and ourselves. Come and explore multiple ways (both old and new) of communing with God—and each other—in prayer. Learn how Christians have prayed throughout the centuries and explore practices that work for you. Dare to pray anew as you begin this Lenten Season!

Led by Retreat Center Director **REV. DR. THERESA LATINI** and **DR. CARLA DAHL**, Professor of Congregational and Community Care Leadership at Luther Seminary and Certified Family Life Educator.

Cost is \$20 for lunch and program. Bus transportation is available for \$5 from West Campus (8:45am), 7500 York (8:45am) and Mpls Campus (9:15am). **RESERVATIONS REQUIRED AT MTOLIVET.ORG OR BY CALLING THE RETREAT CENTER AT 952.469.2175.**

Save the Date! Mother's Day Brunch

Sunday 5/10, Mount Olivet Conference & Retreat Center.

PASTORAL *Care*

NURSE NOTES

MEDICATION SPRING CLEAN

Medicines in home cabinets are highly susceptible to misuse and abuse. Studies show that people who abuse prescription drugs often obtain them from medicine cabinets of family and friends. **Store all medications in their original containers and in a place that children and visitors cannot easily access.**

It is recommended to sort through medications at least annually and properly dispose of any outdated and unneeded medications.

Do not flush old or unwanted medications of any kind down the toilet or drain and don't put them in the trash. This practice contaminates our lakes and streams and drinking water, these medications cannot be removed during water treatment.

There are more than 300 medication collection boxes located at law enforcement facilities and pharmacies in Minnesota, there is likely one very near to you. Collection sites accept all types of medications from households at no charge. To search for a medication drop site visit pca.state.mn.us/living-green/managing-unwanted-medications or call your pharmacy.

GRACE HOSPICE VOLUNTEERS

Grace Hospice is a partner with We Honor Veterans and is committed to supporting those that have served our country. We believe that Veteran volunteers provide an extraordinary kind of support and companionship to our patients. Through visits, pinning ceremonies and more these volunteers are able to offer a final salute and thank you for serving our country. We are in search of Veterans to share their time and stories with our patients.

Our visiting times are flexible and individualized for what works best for both you and the patient. Volunteers will be provided with training. If interested please contact Sarah Matthews at 651.485.2768 or SMMatthews@gracecaring.org

Young in Heart & Friends (65yrs+)

Tu 3/24 12noon, **M** Fellowship Hall.

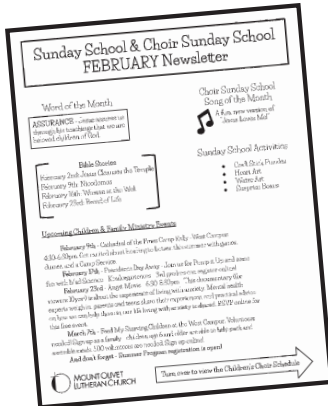
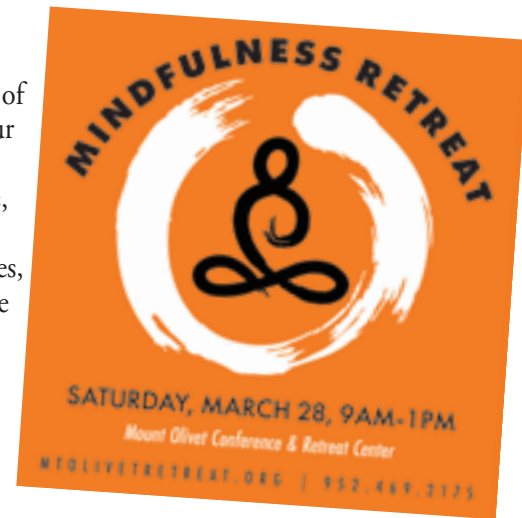
Following a delicious lunch, **MOUNT OLIVET PRINCIPAL ORGANIST RIC OWEN** will provide a mini recital in our Main Sanctuary. \$9 and donation to Pastor Scott's On Call Ministry. Friends welcome! Register by 3/20: 612.926-7651.

Prayer Shawl Ministry WEST

Tu through 11/17 1pm, **W** Conference Room 220. Members and those interested in becoming part of our Prayer Shawl Ministry are invited to join us for a meeting and fellowship.

NEW! Mindfulness Retreat

Sa 3/28 9am-1pm, Mount Olivet Conference & Retreat Center. While stress and anxiety are normal parts of daily life, they also can become debilitating for some of us at times. How do we cope in the midst of high stress? How can we manage our anxiety? How does our faith support us in being healthy and resilient? Doctors, psychologists, and educators alike increasingly teach mindfulness to reduce stress, anxiety, and increase feelings of calm, wellbeing, and happiness. Parents and children will learn and practice basic mindfulness techniques—breathing exercises, walking and other meditations, coloring, yoga, and contemplative prayer—in the beautiful setting of our retreat center. Leave the day with a list of resources you can use at home together. Lunch is included as part of the day. Cost is \$20 per adults, \$15 per child, Max of \$50 per family.



CHECK OUT THE NEW SUNDAY SCHOOL AND CHOIR SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER!

Newsletters will be distributed in Sunday School and Choir Sunday School on the first Sunday of the month in church and via email! You will see the bible stories for the month, the word and song of the month, along with upcoming activities at church. Enjoy!

REMINDER!

NO Sunday School on April 5th (Palm Sunday)! Choir Sunday School: please check calendar for Palm Sunday performance schedule. NO Sunday School or Choir Sunday School on Easter Sunday, April 12th. All classes resume on Sunday, April 19th, 2020!

Spring Babygarden

Th 3/12 through 4/16 10-11am, M Rm 296. Please join us for a weekly class full of reading, rhyming, singing, and more! These activities help lay the groundwork for the important skills that babies develop in the first 18 months of life; all of which contribute to their capacity to learn about and enjoy the world around them. With a faith based emphasis it's not too early to start establishing the values of your family! Amy Porthan, Faith Formation Coordinator will guide parents with activities and discussion on how to include God and their faith with their child. Register at mtolivet.org! \$72. For more information contact, Amy Porthan, 612.767.2224, amyp@mtolivet.org.

Open Gym (1-6yrs & Caregivers)

Sa 3/7, 4/25 & 5/16 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!



Family Bingo Night!

Su 4/26 4:15-6pm M Fellowship Hall. Join the Children & Family Ministry team for the 3rd Annual Family Bingo Night! Great prizes for all ages, fun for the whole family, dinner provided - what more could one ask for?! We hope you can join us! Registration appreciated for food preparation purposes at mtolivet.org. **NEW THIS YEAR - FAMILY BINGO NIGHT AT THE WEST CAMPUS - SAVE THE DATE FOR TUESDAY, MAY 12TH FROM 5:30-7:30PM.**



Mount Olivet Preschool Registration is Open!

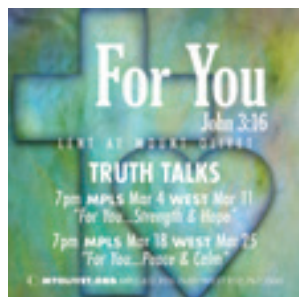
Join us for Mount Olivet Preschool's 50th Anniversary Year! Looking for a preschool where your children can learn and grow at their own pace? A place filled with play, music, creativity, and God's love? Look no further than the Mount Olivet Preschool! Our days include art, music, math/science, stories, outdoor play, large muscle activities, faith development, and more!



7th & 8th Grade

Truth Talks (7th-12th Gr)

W 7-8:15pm 3/4 & 3/18 **M** and 3/11 & 3/25 **W**. Mpls 4:30pm Wednesday Confirmation should attend 7pm Truth Talks on 3/4 and 3/18, there will be no 4:30pm classes on those days. Cathedral Choir will be meeting in the sanctuary and sitting in a reserved area. Parents are welcome and encouraged to attend the Truth Talks, there will be a parent presentation following the service.



JHA West- Bowling Sa

3/7 10am-2pm **W** Narthex. Join your West Youth Staff for a (not at all) competitive day of bowling! We will work up our appetite bowling at Country Club Lanes in Excelsior, and enjoy some Joey Nova's pizza afterwards. Cost is \$30 and included transportation, shoe rental, and lunch. We are so excited for this event and would love to see you, and any of your friends, there! Cost is \$30. Transportation provided.

Confirmation 7th

Grade Retreats Sa 3/13 4:40pm - Su 3/14 10:30am **W**. 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! Remember no electronics or phones allowed. Contact Maxwell Jones, mjones@mtolivet.org if you have questions

Confirmation Schedule

There will be **NO** Confirmation classes on the following dates: **SUN 3/29 **M**, SUN 4/5 **M**, WED 4/8 **M** **W**, SUN 4/12 **M**.**



MO UNITED SCHEDULE

Mar 3: **SERVICE PROJECT**

Mar 10: **MOVIE NIGHT**

Mar 17: **KARAOKE NIGHT**

Mar 24: **FIELD DAY**

9th-12th Grade Hi-League Schedule

3/1 **TABLE TALKS **M** **W** 7-8:30pm.**

3/8 **REQUIRED! COP INFORMATIONAL MEETING**

W 6:30-8:30pm (M** bus 6-9pm).**

3/15 **HOPKINS MOVIE THEATER **M** **W** 6-9pm.**

3/22 & 3/29 **NO HI-LEAGUE.**

ARE YOU EXCITED FOR CAMP? US TOO! Let's celebrate the soon to be summer together at the COP Informational Meeting on Sunday, March 8th from 6:30-8:30pm. All hi-leaguers hoping to counsel or workstaff this summer are required to attend this event. There will be a required parent(s) meeting from 6:30-7:15 with Kristi Youngdahl. Hi-leaguers, please check in at the Minneapolis Campus Lower Narthex. There will be no transportation provided from the West Campus. If you cannot attend this meeting please contact Kristi Youngdahl kristiy@mtolivet.org mtolivet.org. Can't wait to see you there!

2020

SUMMER

YOUTH

PROGRAMS

9TH - 12TH GR+

God's Kids Sing!

Counselor

M 6/15 - F 6/19

VBS Counselor

M 6/22 - Th 6/25

MO Day Camp Counselor

M 7/20 - Th 7/24

7TH & 8TH GR

JHA Waterpark

Sa 6/20 - \$30

VBS Counselor

M 6/22 - Th 6/25

JHA Valleyfair

Tu 8/19 \$30

(\$10 Season Pass Holders)

Visit mtolivet.org to register and for more information about Summer youth programs!

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 8-13



PAGES 6-7



PAGE 18



Saturday March 28
9AM-1PM
MOUNT OLIVET
CONFERENCE &
RETREAT CENTER

PAGE 14

