MOUNT OLIVET

MESSENGER

Believing, Belonging, Becoming



Join Us for Worship

7150 ROLLING ACRES RD, VICTORIA, MN 55386

Sunday Holy Communion 8:30am and following the last service (except 4/12) Sunday Morning Nursery 9, 10, 11am; Sunday School & Choir Sunday School 9 & 10am (except 4/5 & 4/12)

REMINDER All worship services, programs, events, and classes are subject to change this month. We will continue to be in touch regularly with any updates. Please look for information at mtolivet.org. To update your contact information, including your email address, log into your *Realm* account or contact us at 612.926.7651.

SUNDAY, APR 5

Palm Sunday

M 9, 10, 11 am, 12 noon

Sermon: PASTOR RUUD

Music: Senior, Cathedral, Chancel, Chapel, Hosanna, Alleluia & Cherub Choirs

w 9, 10, 11am

Sermon: PASTOR FREEMAN

Music: Senior, Cathedral, Chancel, Chapel, Hosanna,

Alleluia & Cherub Choirs

WEDNESDAY, APR 8

The Seven Last Words of Christ Concert by Dubois

™ 7pm

Music: Cathedral Choir & Alumni; and Soloists

THURSDAY, APR 9

The Living Lord's Supper

∞ 6, 7pm

Narrator: PASTOR MACLEAN

Music: Centennial Singers & Senior Choir

w 7pm

Narrator: PASTOR HAMMERSTEN

Music: Senior Choir

FRIDAY, APR 10

Good Friday

COMMUNION SERVICES

M 7, 12noon, 4, 6pm

Sermon: PASTOR KALLAND

w 6pm

Sermon: PASTOR LOSE

CHILDREN'S SERVICE

M 11am, PASTOR RUUD

Music: Cherub, Alleluia & Hosanna Choirs

w 11am, PASTOR FREEMAN

Music: Cherub, Alleluia & Hosanna Choirs

TENEBRAE SERVICE

7pm, PASTORS HAMMERSTEN & MACLEAN

w 7pm, PASTORS FREEMAN & DIXON

SUNDAY, APR 12

Livestream the Mpls Campus service at mtolivet.org at 9, 10 & 11 am Listen at WDGY radio 740AM at 11am

M 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 am, 12noon

Sermon: PASTOR LOSE

Music: Senior, Cathedral & Chapel Choirs; Orchestra

w 8, 9, 10, 11 am, 12 noon

Sermon: PASTOR DIXON

Music: Senior, Cathedral & Chapel Choirs; Brass Ensemble

SUNDAY, APR 19

Easter: Called & Sent

M 9, 10, 11 am, 12 noon

Sermon: PASTOR MACLEAN

Music: Senior & Cathedral Choirs; Centennial Singers

w 9, 10, 11am

Sermon: PASTOR HAMMERSTEN

Music: Senior & Cathedral Choirs

SUNDAY, APR 26

Easter: Called & Sent

4 9, 10, 11 am, 12 noon

Sermon: **PASTOR DIXON**

Music: Chancel, Chapel & Parents, Hosanna; Justin Staebell

w 9, 10, 11am

Sermon: PASTOR RUUD

Music: Chancel, Chapel & Parents, Hosanna; Chancel

Ringers

WEDNESDAY, APR 1

Lenten Midweek Worship with Holy Communion

■ 11 am Communion Service — followed by a Community Lunch, \$6, no reservation required Sermon: PASTOR HAMMERSTEN

EASTER Courage

Dear Mount Olivet Family,

I wrote the first draft of this letter on March 1. I am revising it on March 16. A lot has happened in the two intervening weeks, including the state of emergency that forced us to suspend in-person worship yesterday and all other Mount Olivet-sponsored activities for the next several weeks. By the time you read this and other articles here on April 1, even more will have happened. Yes, we live in anxious times, which means, of course, that we've never needed Easter Courage more. As we move forward, we will continue to provide updates on our website and, when necessary, through all-congregational emails. We will continue to offer resources to strengthen our faith. We will continue to marshal our resources to be a source of help and hope in our community. We will continue to pray for each other, for our health-care professionals, first-responders, and civic and community leaders. And we will continue trusting in God to help us discern how best to love our neighbor and be a witness to the courage and confidence that is ours in Christ. We will continue, that is, being the Church of Jesus Christ that is named Mount Olivet! Thank you for your continued prayers, support, and generosity. We will get through this! - PASTOR LOSE

It feels like there's a lot of fear in the air just now. Anxiety, fear, worry – these seem to be some of the hallmarks of our life in modern world. Yet it seems to be worse of late. Perhaps it's the specter of the spreading coronavirus. Or maybe it's the economic instability this pandemic has introduced. Or maybe it's.... The list continues, as lots of forces seem to conspire against us living fear-free. And it's not simply global events that fan our fears. Perhaps it's the illness of a loved one, or the safety of a child, or the deteriorating state of an important relationship that is making you fearful. Yes, fear seems both everywhere and overwhelming of late.

There are a few verses right near the end of St. John's Easter story that help me face this fear. Mary Magdalene has gone to the tomb early Sunday morning. When she finds it empty, she runs to tell the disciples. Two of them race to the empty tomb and, not sure what to make of it, return to their homes. Mary then sees Jesus, whom she doesn't at first recognize. But when he calls her by name, she realizes she is in the presence of the Risen Lord and immediately moves to embrace him. But he says, "Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.""

What I appreciate about this exchange is how honest it is. Of course Mary wants to embrace her Lord – seeing him alive after witnessing his crucifixion is the most unexpected and joyous moment of her life. Yet the moment Mary sees him, Jesus tells Mary that she can't hold onto him, which I suspect was hard to hear. There are so many times, I think, that we wish Jesus would be a little more tangible, a little more concretely present, in our lives. "If only you were here, Jesus, and I could hold onto you, I wouldn't be so afraid," we may think.

But Jesus doesn't stop there. He also says he will be ascending to heaven to be, once again, with his Father and then adds something significant: "I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God." We may assume that God is with us, but to the faithful Jews that made up John's original community, hearing Jesus say "my Father and your father, my God and your God" would have been astounding. God is holy and powerful and yet, Jesus asserts, also tender and compassionate. In short, Jesus wants Mary to know that God is most like a loving parent who loves her (and us!) fiercely and so will never abandon her (or us!).

Earlier in John's story, Jesus told the disciples that, once

he had ascended to heaven, he would send the Holy Spirit, which he called the comforter, advocate, guide, and defender. So while Jesus tells Mary that she can't hold onto him in this moment, it's precisely so that the Spirit can be present to all believers at all times, granting them the courage and power to move forward in faith. And, indeed, Mary finds the strength to go to the disciples, tell them "I have seen the Lord," and in this way share with them the confidence and courage of Jesus' resurrection.

So... three "take aways" from this scene when it comes to facing the fears of the day:

1) Fears are far easier to face together than alone. Mary is comforted by Jesus; she in turn comforts and encourages the other disciples. When feeling fearful, take advantage of the worship services, classes, fellowship, and service opportunities Mount Olivet has to offer – whether in person or digitally! We are stronger together – always!

2) Jesus has promised us his presence in and through the Holy Spirit. Don't be afraid to ask God for a "double-dose" of the Spirit when you are anxious. Fear is not faithless, but rather a part of the faithful life. And courage isn't the absence of fear, but rather moving forward in spite of it. Pray for courage, confidence, and compassion. They are among God's favorite gifts to give!

3) Invite others to share in the community and faith we enjoy at Mount Olivet. No one struggling with their anxiety will resent or take offense at you saying, "I feel that way sometimes, too, and when I do I find comfort at my church. Would you like to come with me?" or "My church is putting together all kinds of resources to help us get through this anxious time. Would you like to be put on our mailing list?" We are in this together, and there's no better opportunity to invite folks to share the treasure we have in our faith than through our Holy Week and Easter services and the special resources we are putting together to reach people when we can't gather.

Yes, it is an anxious time. Yet we don't have to face our fears alone as we gather together to pray for, reclaim, and share the Easter courage Jesus promises us all.

See you in Church!

Pastor Lose

DAVID J. LOSE, SENIOR PASTOR

Life & Growth

FEB 18 - MAR 16

Baptisms

Asher Jeffrey Arnold, son of Julie and Jesse

Emilio George Arredondo, son of Nicole and Jefferson

Piper Elizabeth Arvidson Bluemle, daughter of Irene and Autumn Wren Catherine Arvidson Bluemle, daughter of Irene and Autumn Julian Theodore Becker, son of Kathleen

Lucinda Grace Bipes Timm, daughter of Robyn and Jeffrey

Zachary Calvin Hartzler, son of Greta and Matt

Aubrey May Krumwiede, daughter of Maddy and Dan

Tyson Jack Zabel, son of Natalie and Blake

Weddings

and Jason

Katherine Ellingworth & Steven Halverson, February 22

Deaths

Gerald D. Duffee, 1937 — 2020 John R. Fruetel, 1932 — 2020 Jon E. Gravender, 1939 — 2020 Dorothy A. Huseby, 1947 — 2020 Gerald W. Iwen, 1931 — 2020 Suzanne E. Lodmill, 1942 — 2020 Stanley W. Veker, 1920 — 2020

SUMMER COFFEE

Sundays 5/24 through 9/6 following all worship

services M Lower

Atrium Hosted by the Board of Life





Called & Sent: John in April

In April we reach the climax of John's story about Jesus in the events that take place in Jerusalem. Throughout this season, we have the opportunity to hear Jesus' call to life and to share that call and promise with others.

April 5 is Palm Sunday and we hear of Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem. Some of the crowds that gather come in part because they saw Jesus raise Lazarus from the dead, while others come because they have heard Jesus might be the Messiah. All of which may prompt us to ask, why do we follow Jesus, and what are we looking for from him?

During **Holy Week**, we will read portions of John 18-19 (the basis of our Lenten Devotions). On Wednesday, we have opportunity to hear Theodore Dubois' *Seven Last Words*, three of which come from John's Gospel. On Thursday, we can participate in a re-enactment of the Last Supper and partake of the Lord's Supper. And on Friday we will hear of Jesus' crucifixion, which in John reveals a Jesus devoid of fear or anxiety and completely at peace with his destiny. Across this week, we might wonder with others how Jesus met his fate with such calm and how he can help us claim God's peace in our lives today.

Easter Sunday is **April the 12th** and we will celebrate our Lord's resurrection with a festival service of hymns and brass! The Gospel for this day is John's distinct account of the empty tomb. Like Mary Magdalene, we will encounter the Lord who calls us by name not just to life, but to life in all its abundance.

April 19th continues the story of the first Easter, as Jesus encounters his disciples in the upper room and not only offers them peace and forgiveness but calls and commissions them to offer the same to others. How might we, as Jesus' 21st-century disciples, continue to offer these same gifts today?

On **April 26th** we will hear the familiar story of "doubting Thomas" and also have occasion to wonder whether Thomas was doubting or simply realistic. By taking seriously Thomas' questions, we might find ourselves invited into the new life Jesus offers and wonder how we can invite others into the same faith and blessing we share.



DEVOTIONS

Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. When they saw him, they worshipped him; but some doubted. — Matthew 28:16-17

But some doubted... This almost parenthetical phrase may well be one of the most reassuring statements to me in all of Scripture.

Steve Waldman, founder of Beliefnet.com, says "people come in droves [to religion sites on the internet] because in church they risk being seen as doubters. The Internet allows them to search in privacy."

Mary Hull Mohr, a professor at Luther College, writes, "Most of us fear to doubt, and yet doubting is part of the search for truth. We especially fear doubt in the young, as if the questions they raise will inevitably lead them to a permanent loss of faith." I recently met with a young man who spoke apologetically about the doubt and questions that defined his faith. He must have expected a negative reaction, because when I immediately cheered, Hooray! he was quite taken aback.

Doubt belongs not in privacy, but in community where it can be nurtured. Faith is a gift of God's grace. In Matthew's account of the Great Commission, Jesus says nothing about belief preceding baptism. The disciples are sent out to baptize and then to teach...in much the same way we baptize infants and pronounce to teach them about Jesus' love and nurture them in faith.

The Risen Christ met his disciples on a mountain, a symbol of authority and authenticity in the Gospel of Matthew. And some worshipped him – it was most likely some of those who worshipped also doubted. This resurrection appearance produced not amazement, but worship... and doubt and hesitation.

But some doubted...if you are among those who doubt, be comforted that you are not alone. Don't look to the internet to find answers, but bring your hesitations into the worshipping community of God's people, young and old, where we can remind each other that Jesus is truly with us to the end of the age. Thanks be to God! — PASTOR MACLEAN

Join your pastors and staff on this special Sunday — pick up your volunteer gift, hear live music, and, of course, enjoy some mini-donuts! Also, our Baccalaureate high school seniors will be honored that morning, and we will be wrapping up — and celebrating! — Sunday School and choir. What a wonderful year! Thanks to all!

VOLUNTEER HIGHLIGHT:

When I retired, Eileen Scott encouraged me to "try" volunteering in the kitchen. I was searching for a place to make a difference and I feel like I found it. I have been continually impressed by this group of true professionals in the kitchen, have always felt welcomed through all the staff changes, and have enjoyed meeting other church members who love to cook, too. I have been given the title of "Sandwich Man" in the kitchen—my specialty! Having a "hands on" contribution to funeral receptions and faith events makes me feel good and needed. There is a place for you to volunteer at Mount Olivet (with many opportunities in the kitchen!). Take it from the "Sandwich Man" — get involved!

- MICK MILLS

Daily Readings

April 2020

FROM PASTOR KALLAND

- 1 Matthew 19:21, Treasure in Heaven
- 2 Psalm 59:16, Our Fortress and Refuge
- 3 Ephesians 4:32, Forgive Each Other
- 4 1 Corinthians 15:22, Made Alive in Christ
- 5 Psalm 34:15, Attentive Ears
- Colossians 3:12, Compassion, Kindness, Humility, Patience
- 7 Ephesians 4:26-27, Don't Go to Bed Angry
- 8 Psalm 20:4, Dreams and Desires
- 9 Jeremiah 29:11, Plans For You
- 10 Ezekiel 18:32, Repent and Live
- 11 Proverbs 10:9, Walk in Integrity
- 12 Luke 24:6-7, Not Here, Risen
- 13 Matthew 10:28, Do Not Be Afraid
- 14 Psalm 118:25-26, In The Name of The Lord
- 15 Isaiah 26:13, Trust
- 16 1Thessalonians 5:24, He Will Do It
- 17 Proverbs 16:28, Conflict and Gossip
- 18 James 5:16, Confess Your Sins to Each Other
- 19 Isaiah 53:5, By His Wounds
- 20 Psalm 138:8, Endures Forever
- 21 Ephesians 3:16-17, Established in Love
- 22 1 Corinthians 15:3-4, According to the Scriptures
- 23 Psalm 71:23, Shout For Joy
- 24 1 Johns 4:11, Love One Another
- 25 1 Peter 2:17, Honor Everyone
- 26 Proverbs 17:9, Foster Love
- 27 1 John 5:14, God Hears Us
- 28 Matthew 4:17, Repent
- 29 Psalm 139:23-24, Search Me and Know My Heart
- 30 1 Corinthians 13:2, If Not Love, Then Nothing

Holy Week at Mount Olivet

Sunday, April 5, Palm Sunday – Mpls 9, 10, 11 am & 12 noon; West 9, 10, 11 am Join us for our festive Palm Sunday worship services, featuring all Mount Olivet choirs, brass ensemble, and a triumphant processional with palms. All members of the congregation are invited to join in the reenactment of the entrance of Jesus into Jerusalem by waving a palm branch as the choirs process. Palm branches will be available as you enter the Sanctuary. "Hosanna! Hosanna in the Highest!"

Wednesday, April 8, The Seven Last Words of Christ Concert by Dubois – Mpls 7pm For over 70 years, Mount Olivet has presented the moving Lenten oratorio The Seven Last Words of Christ by Theodore Dubois. Join us this Holy Week to experience this powerful work, featuring Cathedral Choir and alumni, soloists, and orchestra.

Thursday, April 9, The Living Lord's Supper – Mpls 6 & 7pm, West 7pm
You are invited to

you are invited to witness the scene in the upper room as Jesus and his twelve disciples share a final

meal together before Jesus' death on the cross. Communion will be served before a live depiction of the famous painting "The Last Supper" by Leonardo da Vinci. This visual and meaningful service will feature special music by the Senior Choir (MPLS and WEST) and Centennial Singers (MPLS).

Good Friday Tenebrae Service Mpls Campus & West Campus: 7pm

In this unique worship service we hear Biblical readings that recall the betrayal, abandonment, and agony of Jesus through the events of Holy Week. After each reading, a candle is extinguished, eventually leaving the sanctuary in total darkness. The congregation leaves in silence, anticipating the continuation of the story on Easter morning.

Good Friday Children's Service Mpls Campus & West Campus: 11am

The time-honored Children's Good Friday Service is the perfect worship opportunity for families and children during Holy Week. Come and

hear about the life of Jesus and listen to our young singers share the story of Christ's sacrifice for us on this most Holy of days.
Especially designed for children ages 3 through 8, the short service is participatory and age appropriate in telling the story of Christ's crucifixion and ction. This special service has been

resurrection. This special service has been a cornerstone of Mount Olivet's Holy Week traditions dating back to the 1930s.

Nursery is provided during the service for the wee little ones.

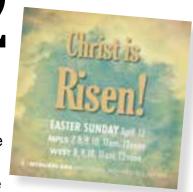
Good Friday Communion Services Mpls Campus: 7am, 12noon, 4, 6pm West Campus: 6pm

Easter Sunday, April 12

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

Livestream the Mpls Campus services at mtolivet.org at 9, 10 & 11 am. Having 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!



MOUNT OLIVET

Believing, Belonging, Becoming

HOLY WEEK & EASTER 2020

Dear Mount Olivet Members & Friends,

"Christ is Risen!" That was the first confession of the earliest Christians – that their Lord and teacher and friend, the one they had seen crucified, had been raised from the dead.

"Christ is Risen!" This continues to be the central confession of Christians today. Why? Because Easter changes everything. Think about it: Once God has raised Jesus from the dead, what can possibly be the same? Our relationships, our jobs, our outlook on the future ... Easter changes everything because we can live with confidence, hope, and courage as the resurrection demonstrates that God's love and life are stronger than anything, even death.

"Christ is Risen!" Sharing this good news is the reason Mount Olivet exists. Our worship, music, fellowship, youth programs, education, outreach, service. Everything we do is inspired by and meant to share the good news that God is with us, that God sees in each of us someone worthy of love and respect, that God intends to use our gifts to make a difference in the world, and that God's love for us and the world will never end.

Come to the services of Holy Week and Easter to be renewed in your faith. Believe the good news that God loves you. And give generously to share that same good news with all the world. For Christ is Risen indeed!



Angel Gifts Sa 4/4 10am w Fellowship Hall; 2 pm @ 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 . 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 campuses.

Children & Family Ministry: Sharing God's Love

What a privilege to be working with the children, parents, families, and volunteers in our ministry! As families constantly modify schedules around school, work, sport seasons, and extracurriculars - we continue the tradition of providing high-quality, faith-filled opportunities at Mount Olivet throughout the year in Sunday morning programs (Sunday School, Choir Sunday School), in family events (Party at the Pumpkin Patch, Gingerbread Decorating, Bingo Night), and in summer offerings (Mount Olivet Day Camp, Vacation Bible School, God's Kids Sing). See page 12 for current offerings.

We look forward to being a constant community of support for kids and parents alike, sharing God's love, and building a strong foundation of faith for our young people to take with them as they go out into the world.

- Katy Michaletz, Director of Children & Family Ministry



"I have been an active volunteer in this department for over 30 years. Volunteering in the Children and Family Ministry department gave me the opportunity to watch children (mine included!) grow in their faith journey, work with and meet talented and dedicated volunteers, as well as develop my own life-long relationships with staff and other volunteers... a very rewarding experience." - Ann Youngdahl Boline

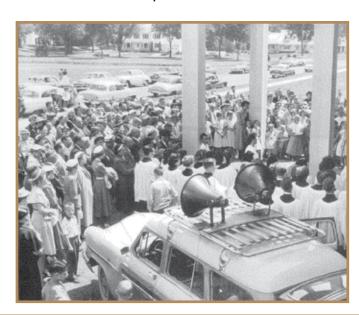
Sunday School: 100 Years of Teaching God's Love



Front Row: Sara, Sam, Loren, Luke, Ethan, me Middle Row: Rachel, Ben, Jacob Back Row: Christopher (the tall one!), Luke, Max, Henry (hiding behind Max), Alex and Charlie (Professor Chuckles)

I started teaching because I wanted to be involved with my three boys and their friends as they went through their Sunday School years. It was fantastically rewarding, and one of the best decisions I ever made. I stayed because I really liked getting to know the kids, and helping them become aware of who they are as Christians. The photo above is my last Sunday School class with my son Christopher as my assistant. We have been lucky enough to have had this same great group of kids since they were seven years old. It's hard to believe they will be going into 7th grade in the fall. What a joy it has been to teach and get to know them at Mount Olivet!

Thanks to you all for a wonderful 5 years! Bill Rohlf, Sunday School teacher since 2008



In 1954, the cornerstone for the new Sunday School building was laid. Members gathered to celebrate the expansion.





Sunday School Leaders circa 1945



We have been teaching as a family at Sunday School at Mount Olivet for more than 25 years. We love the enthusiasm and pure joy young children show as they learn about Jesus. One of our students recently told me, "Jesus is always with me because he is in my heart." We feel blessed to be able to do this.

- Heide Muhs

Join in the Faith Building... Join in the Fun!

Virginia Peterson,

Director of Sunday Church School, 1976-1996, and Director of Children's and Family Ministry, 1996-2013

In 1996 a new ministry was envisioned at Mount Olivet -- a ministry designed to be an intergenerational, faith building experience for children and families. A thread woven through all of this new ministry was service. At its heart was the conviction that service opportunities are key in teaching our children how Jesus would have us live out our faith, and that being engaged in service is an essential component of spiritual and faith development, establishing a lifelong pattern of helping those in need.

"Summer Stuff for Kool Kids" launched the new programming. It was a summer overflowing with biblically-based, service-oriented, and chocked-full-of-fun offerings for preschoolers through sixth graders including day camp adventures like Jesus to the Rescue Camp and Camp Noah's Park. Older elementary campers could opt for "Summer of Service" camps, "doing good together" at sites like St. Joseph's Home for Children and People Serving People. Designed especially for our preschoolers was Camp Read to Me, Tiny Pray and Play Camp, and more!

The ministry progressed into a plethora of programs for the congregation and community friends. "Kids Klub" insured after school fun for Mount Olivet and community kids with arts and crafts, Bible stories, gym play, and service projects. Special events on Saturdays and vacation break days found us bowling, roller skating, and visiting museums.

There were also numerous family events, including: Father/Daughter Square Dance; Mom's Magical Mystery Tour; and programming designed for single parent families. An important component of this ministry were the grandparent/grandchild events, where fun was had on Doing Service Together Days, Grandpa and Grandson Days Away and of course, the enormously beloved Grandmother and Granddaughter American Girl Tea. And

a highlight of every year (including this year!) was the ohso-popular Gingerbread House Decorating in December, which included a birthday party for Baby Jesus.

The entire congregation got involved with the Family Advent, Lenten, and Summer Service Projects where members generously donated filled school backpacks, books for reading programs, Crisis Nursery Supplies, and clothing for victims of natural disasters. (Remember the red wagon in the narthex?)

As time went by it was extremely gratifying to witness the congregation's willingness to become involved as volunteers, a much needed component essential to the ministry's continued success. Parents, grandparents, and retired members volunteered, and, beautiful to behold, members even took vacation days to support the work. They were there for whatever was needed: table teachers at camps, field trip chaperones, and, of course, helping with setup and staying sometimes very late for cleanup.

The most touching aspect of this phenomenon was the volunteer corps that evolved out of the young children that grew up participating in the ministry. Kids whose first experience was "Camp Read to Me" as preschoolers would then end up spending their entire summer as loyal volunteers during middle and high school. Younger siblings graduated to assist just like their big brother or sister had modeled for them. The commitment of all these volunteers was and is humbling, heartwarming, and invaluable to the ministry.

The mission of Children's and Family Ministry was to establish a partnership with the families of Mount Olivet as they nurtured the spiritual development and faith formation of their children and lived out their faith together. Who knew it would turn out to be so much fun!







WHAT DO YOU THINK SUNDAY SCHOOL WILL LOOK LIKE 100 YEARS FROM NOW?

As we celebrate our 100th anniversary, we thought it might be fun to ask our current students what they thought Sunday School at Mount Olivet will look like 100 years from now. Some of their clever answers are below:

- Bible stories from virtual reality glasses
- People will teleport to church
- Mount Olivet will have a campus on another planet!
- Robots will join kids in class
- We'll be having the 200th celebration!

We'll have to wait and see! One thing we hope and pray is that 100 years from now the message of Jesus' love for all of God's children remains loud and clear— at the Mpls or West or Neptune campus!

Parents Share In May 1978, when I was nine months pregnant with our third child, Joyce Pedersen, visionary and persuasive head of Adult Education, encouraged me to teach a parenting class the following fall. I said, "Yes" ... and the rest is history. After three classes that year, participants

pressed for ongoing parent education and support.
Thanks to my colleague and cherished friend, Colleen
Person, the following week, we started a parenting group we dubbed "Parents Share."
Parents do share ideas, resources, love, and support with one another. Each and every week, it is a new



creation. New people arrive. New issues surface. New gifts appear. New ministry is done. Faith is formed in every participant and in the children God has entrusted to their care. Whoever comes, they share challenges, triumphs, doubts, personal disasters, daily miracles, and lived wisdom about all it means to raise a child of God faithfully. Over the years, parents claim that this group saved their lives.

- Marilyn Sharpe

Mount Olivet Preschool - Linda Healy, Director of Preschool since 1995

During this Centennial celebration in the life of Mount Olivet Church, our preschool is celebrating its fiftieth year. Mount Olivet Preschool is a happy, joyous, faith-filled, play-focused (sometimes loud!) place to be! The school has evolved from a strictly morning program to a five-day preschool. Parents can now choose the days and number of days their children will attend, making it easier to accommodate busy families. And what a special treat it is to have former preschoolers come back with their own children! Parents can sometimes say it best:

"We are so thankful for Mount Olivet Preschool as they nurture a love of learning through play and friendship. We value a Christian education as part of the learning. Our son adores his teachers and is eager for school each day."

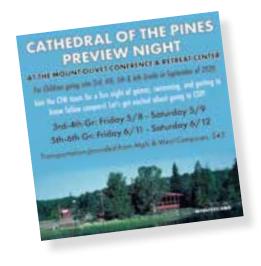
"We chose this program based on several referrals from neighbors and friends. It is such a special place. The teachers are deeply personable and caring. The structure is a great balance of free-play, guided learning, singing, art and activities. Our son has developed great self-confidence and, just as importantly, loves school."





COP Preview Nights at Mount Olivet Conference & Retreat Center





Family Bingo Night!

Su 4/26 4:15-6pm 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.

SUNDAY SCHOOL & CHOIR SUNDAY SCHOOL SCHEDULE REMINDER!

Sunday, April 5: No Sunday School Class! Choir Sunday School: All choirs are singing in the Palm Sunday services. Please check the calendar on our website for performance schedule. Sunday, April 12: Happy Easter! No Sunday School or Choir Sunday School classes.

Sunday, April 19: Regular Classes Resume.

Open Gym

(1-6yrs & Caregivers)

Sa 4/25 & 5/16 9-11am, 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. FREE! No registration needed.



Mount Olivet Preschool Registration is Open! or Mount Olivet Preschool's 50th Anniversary Year! Lo

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!



WITH MOUNT OLIVET

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

THE

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN AT MTOLIVET.ORG. COST \$30

HUTTON HOUSE

MEDICINE LAKE

10715 S Shore Dr, Medicine Lake, MN 55441

"Although we attend the West Campus worship services most often, we always look forward to events that include both campuses. It's a great way to catch up with friends we have from the Minneapolis campus and to make new friends. "A Night Out with Mount Olivet" will give us another opportunity to do just that. Hope you will join us there and look forward to seeing you!"



- LES AND DAWN DAHLBERG

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!

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 available at both campuses

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.

New Member Orientations

Su 4/5 12:30-2pm, Fellowship Hall; Su 4/19 2-3:30pm, Fellowship Hall; or Sa 5/2 9:30-11am, Fellowship Hall. People who will be joining Mount Olivet on Sunday, May 3, 2020, are invited to attend one New Member Orientation. You will meet your Pastors, staff, members of the Board of Life and Growth, connect with other new members, and find out what it means to be a member of this amazing congregation!

Eyeglass Donations

Mount Olivet Lutheran Church is collecting used eye glasses in partnership with the Foundation for Philippines Medical Missions. Millions of people around the world have never seen their loved ones in focus because eye glasses are not available to them. Eye glasses, prescription, reading and sun glasses are all accepted. Please bring to the reception desk at both campuses. FPMM have fitted 10,000+ people, from young children to older adults with the gift of sight! Mount Olivet is happy to support this mission and appreciates your donations.

SAVE THE DATE: Orchestra Hall Worship Service to Celebrate 100 years!

Su 11/15, 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.

fel·low·ship /'felō SHip/

friendly association, especially with people who share one's interests.



47th MOCW Fashion Show & Luncheon

Sa 4/18 11am, Fellowship Hall. This year's theme is "Mix it Up" and the show will feature a fun mix of styles for all ages and lifestyles. The event also will include a raffle to benefit Mount Olivet Rolling Acres. Fashion show cost is \$20pp. Purchase 8 seats to reserve a table. All other seating will be first come, first served. Register at mtolivet.org by 4/7.

Career & Calling Breakfast Spring 2020

W 4/22 7-9am, Pellowship 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.



Evereve Shopping Event *Th 4/23 10am-8pm, Evereve Edina, 3914 W 50th St, Edina.* Inspired by the MOCW Fashion Show? Need something fresh for spring and summer? Come shop with us at Evereve on 50th & France and give back to Mount Olivet at the same time. Shop throughout the day or enjoy a little wine & snacks from 6:30-8:30pm while you shop. The staff at Evereve is so helpful with styling and making sure that you feel comfortable picking up some new basics or trying something new! Just mention that you are shopping with Mount Olivet and they will donate 15% of your purchase price to Mount Olivet!

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 by 5/1 at mtolivet.org. Sign up as an individual or as a group (up to 4). \$100 per person must be paid with registration. Bring \$5 cash to buy a mulligan.





Men's Breakfasts Tu 7am, The Hilltop Edina; Th 7am, American Legion Chanhassen. Mar 31/Apr 2: Bible study led by pastor maclean; Apr 7/9: No Breakfast; Apr 14/16: Bible study led by pastor dixon; Apr 21/23: Speaker-Steve Clough, the Bonniville salt flats speed record holder on his 1954, 750CC Indian motorcycle; Apr 28/30: Bible study led by pastor dixon

Young Adults Donate & Do @ VEAP (22-45yrs)

Tu 4/21 6-7:30pm, VEAP, 9600 Aldrich Ave S, Bloomington. Come and be part of our Young Adult service project at VEAP. Bring toilet paper and/or diaper donations (if you can) to help us add to our donation of goods that we will then repackage to be passed out to those in need. 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. Please wear closed-toed shoes and clothes that can get dirty. Register through the Young Adult group in Realm.





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. Following the exhibit, please join us at Eat Street Social (18 W 26th St, Mpls) for fun and fellowship.

Friends Forever: Serve at Homebound Communion (50yrs+)

Sa 4/27 9:30am-1pm, Mellowship Hall & Kitchen. Celebrate spring with our dear Homebound members who continue to enjoy the kinship spirits at Mount Olivet. Smiles and laughter are always welcome. We need 12 volunteers to help setup, greet, serve, and clean up. To sign up, contact Jenny Nellis or RSVP in our Friends Forever Realm Group. If you are able to provide transportation, please contact Ann LaBree.



Friends Forever: Dragonfly Project (50yrs+) Su 5/3 3-6pm, MN Landscape

Arboretum: Oswald Building, 3675 Arboretum Dr, Chaska, MN 55318. Assemble Dragonfly key chains and condolence cards which carry a message of hope to people who are grieving. We will meet in the MacMillan Auditorium in the newer Oswald building and then will dine together after our card assembly. By using the facility, each participant will also receive a Day Pass to the Arboretum for May 3. Register at mtolivet.org.



Hi-er League @ COP

5pm Th 6/4 through 5pm Su 6/7, Cathedral of the Pines. Please join us for our 7th Annual Hier League weekend at Cathedral of the Pines! Join PASTOR HAMMERSTEN and PASTOR DIXON, Genevieve Kalland, Anna Kragness, and Andrew Young for a weekend of fellowship and fun. Take this time to unwind before that summer job begins or you have to fully adjust to being home for the summer. This is a wonderful trip to reconnect with your church friends, share college experience, and get support from a loving community. Chapel! Bonfires! Skipping rocks in Grand Marais! Sacred Ground! Grilled cheese, tomato soup and Rice Krispie Bars! Walk to the cross and IP! Spots are filling quickly, so register today at mtolivet.org.

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.

Adult Education

BOOK DISCUSSIONS

- **Evening Book Discussion** 2nd W 7-8:30pm, Library. Lively conversation is the hallmark of the Evening Book Discussion Group. Our upcoming books will be: Where the Crawdads Sing by Delia Owens (4/8); The Witch Elm by Tana French (5/6); Small Fry by Lisa Brennan-Jobs (6/10). All men and women are invited to join us!
- **Midday Book Discussion** 3rd Tu 11:30am-1pm, Library. On 4/21 we will discuss, Being Mortal by Atul Gawande and on 5/19, Educated by Tara Westover. Bring a bag lunch if you wish; all are welcome to join us! Facilitated by Church Librarian, Chelle Urabe.

BIBLE STUDIES

Living the Message Pastor's Introduction Tu 5/5 6-7pm,

Rehearsal Hall. All are welcome to Pastor Ruud's Living the Message final

introduction of the year centered on the Gospel of John. In May, we will study John 20:11-31 while asking, "How Does Jesus' Relationship with His Disciples Continue?" Join us!



Wednesday/Thursday Word: "A Journey Through Hell with the Pastors"

W beginning 4/15 10:30am-12noon (small group 10:30-11am; Pastor presentation 11am-12noon), Rm 207; Th beginning 4/16 10-11:30am Rm 228/229. In this three-week session, your Mount Olivet pastors will present on the instances (or lack thereof) of the devil, "antichrist," Satan, and all things "hellish" in Scripture. It's sure to evoke burning discussion!

Mondays & Tuesdays Together: Martin Luther's Life-giving Work on Scripture M 4/20 & 4/27 7-8:30pm, w

Fellowship Hall; Tu 4/21 & 4/28 7-8:30pm Rm 207. Join Luther Seminary church historian and Reformation Professor, Mary Jane Haemig, for two sessions on Martin Luther and the Bible. Session one will focus on Luther's revolutionary translation of scripture into the everyday language of the people, and session two will highlight his powerful insight and understanding of the Scriptures to proclaim the gospel of Christ. Join us!

Cost: Donation given in class.

ONGOING GROUPS

Chair Holy Yoga W & F
12:15-1:15 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 at time of class.

Spiritual Energy Healing *M except holidays 6-8pm,* 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 6-6:45pm 208. LGBTQ Voice and Verse is an 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. All persons with diverse viewpoints are welcomed and held safe at these meetings. Questions? Contact Pastor Ruud.

Learning Swedish
Language through
Hymns and Songs M 3/2
through 5/18 (except 4/6 & 4/13)
7-8pm, 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!

PASTORAL



Prayer Shawl Ministry WEST

Tu 4/211pm, 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.

Young in Heart & Friends (65yrs+)

Tu 4/28 12noon, M Fellowship Hall. Featuring Lakeville North High School Now & Then Singers. \$9 and donation to Pastor Scott's On Call Ministry. Friends welcome! Register by 4/24: 612.926.7651.

Spring Homebound Communion Service and Luncheon

Sa 4/25 11am to 1pm, Main Sanctuary & Fellowship Hall. For homebound members, family and friends. A Service of Holy Communion, followed by a luncheon. Register: Ann LaBree, 612.767.2288 annl@mtolivet.org.

Incheon. Help create a meaningful experience for our homebound members. Transportation available upon request. Please contact Ann LaBree at 612.767.2288 or annl@mtolivet.org if you are able to provide transportation for this event beginning at approximately 10am. Ann will match drivers with the members who need a ride, and contact you with the information.

NURSE NOTES

DID YOU KNOW?

Every time you look down to text or downward at a laptop, up to 60lbs of weight-equal to 4 bowling balls is added to the stress on your neck. This can lead to a condition referred to as "tech neck."

WHAT'S THE SOLUTION?

- Look at your device with a neutral head position by bringing it to eye level rather than looking down.
- There's an app for that! Tech Neck is available for android and iPhone, the app coaches you to help improve posture
- 10 min of YOGA greatly improves/prevents tech neck symptoms
- Take 2-3 minute breaks each hour from screens

COUNSELING SERVICE SUPPORT GROUPS

The Mount Olivet Counseling Service is located at 1804 W. 50th St, Minneapolis, MN. Price is \$10/session for members and \$20/session for non-members. Please contact Anne Lied, 612.927.7335, annel@mtolivetcounseling.org to attend.

The First Year Without Them *W* 4/1 through 5/20 2-3pm, Mount Olivet Counseling Service. A support group facilitated by Mount Olivet counseling staff, for those who have lost a loved one in the last year. Focus is on mourning, restoring and moving through the first year without them.

Depression Support W 4/1 through 5/20 5-6pm, Mount Olivet Counseling Service. Whether you're newly diagnosed with depression, or have had it off and on for a while, know that you are not alone. This group, facilitated by Mount Olivet counseling staff, is designed to be a place of support to sort out how depression affects you and to focus on getting and staying well.



PATHEDRAL CHOIR Minnesota M O t L C 10,000 lakes

ROAD TRIP TO KANSAS CITY

The Cathedral Choir, along with Pastor Lose, Mount Olivet music and youth staff, and supporting young adults will be traveling to Kansas City the weekend of April 24 – 27. They will be singing at The Church of the Resurrection in Leawood, Kansas, the largest Methodist Church in the US, with a membership of more than 22,000. The Choir will be singing at two of the Sunday morning services on the 26th: 9:15am and 11am. The final service at 11am will be livestreamed on the church's website, COR.org. Please keep the choir and their adult leaders in your prayers as they all travel to Kansas City.

CHOIR TRIPS: Rooted in Fun & Faith, A Mount Olivet Tradition

Hands down, my absolute favorite Cathedral Choir trip was back in 2009 when we went to St. Petersburg, Florida. It was my senior year choir trip, and I got to miss two days of school with some of my best friends. It goes without saying that things were going well before our plane even took off. The merriment continued once we got there when we saw that we were staying in a hotel that was right on St. Pete Beach. The hotel had everything-hammocks, pools, and an awesome courtyard where we could hang out! With the incredible weather, we also had ample time in the sun that weekend (and there was a lot of pink skin by the end of the trip). The church we sang at was beautiful and they were so welcoming. I was so proud to be a part of such a great choir that was sharing their gifts in worship.



The Youth Staff had so many activities set for us in Florida that it's hard to pick a favorite. The best one

that comes to mind is what they had planned for us on the second night when we walked down to the beach as a group and watched the sunset together. Once it got dark, we got to play glow-in-the-dark beach volleyball with a live DJ. There were glow-in-the-dark volleyball nets and fluorescent face paint for us to wear, it was so cool!

I'm usually not a fan of the travel days when you have to go home, but that wasn't the case for this trip. Before we headed to the airport on the last day, we got to explore Sea World with our friends. We even sat in the Splash Zone! What a way to spend the last few hours in Florida.

I have so many great memories from that trip, and I hope that Hi-Leaguers are able to make memories

just as impactful (if not more) on the choir trips to come! — ANNIE MOYNIHAN, COORDINATOR OF SENIOR HIGH YOUTH

Youth Events & Information

ATTENTION SENIORS & THEIR PARENTS

Save the Date for the 2020 Baccalaureate Breakfast on May 17th at 7:45am. All Mount Olivet 2020 Graduates and parents are invited to celebrate!

Registration information coming soon.

JHA - Living Lord's Supper

Th 4/9 6-8pm 207, w Youth Center. Join your youth staff for a meaningful faith experience at the Living Lord's Supper! This service is a theatrical recreation of Jesus with his disciples as portrayed in Da Vinci's painting of "The Last Supper." We will have front row seats for this 1-hour service and have a special JHA dinner before the service! Also, anyone is welcome to attend this meaningful worship service in the sanctuary at 7:00pm! FREE!

Confirmation Schedule

There will be NO Confirmation classes on the following dates: SUN 4/5 , WED 4/8 . W, SUN 4/12 . The last confirmation classes are Sunday April 26 and Wednesday, April 29!

Hi-League Schedule

4/5 7-8:30pm **W** TABLE TALKS **W** PIZZA & BINGO. 4/12 NO HI-LEAGUE.

4/19 comedy sportz $\bigcirc 7-8$ ($\bigcirc bus 6:30-8:30pm$).

MOUNT OLIVET CONFERENCE AND RETREAT CENTER

Retreat Center Receives Grant to Explore Expanding Missions and Offerings

Congratulations to Mount Olivet Conference & Retreat Center Executive **DIRECTOR REV. DR. THERESA LATINI** on being awarded a \$15,000 grant through the Louisville Institute's Pastoral Study Project. The grant will enable Theresa to explore how the educational programming

and geography—the 150 acres of woods and rolling prairie—of Mount Olivet Conference & Retreat Center can form mindful, resilient leaders for a changing church and world. In addition to welcoming Mount Olivet members and local churches, businesses and non-profits, Mount Olivet Conference & Retreat Center aims to become a recognized center for leadership education. As part of the grant, Theresa will visit and study three conference and retreat centers across the nation. She will seek to discern how Mount Olivet Conference & Retreat Center can contribute to the well-being of leaders in the church and other mission-driven organizations. In consultation with others, she will propose a unique plan for the retreat center to expand its educational offerings and build upon its long-standing ministry of nurturing the intellectual, emotional, and spiritual growth of all people. We look forward to sharing more about this grant in a future Messengers and in presentations at the retreat center.

Mother's Day Worship & Brunch

Sunday 5/10, Mount Olivet Conference & Retreat Center. Worship 10am, Brunch Seatings at 11am, 12:30pm & 2pm.

Spend Mother's Day at Mount Olivet Conference & Retreat Center! You will enjoy uplifting worship, delicious food, beautiful sights, and fun for the whole family. Led by Pastor Kurt Kalland and Rev. Dr. Theresa Latini, worship with communion will begin at 10am in our chapel overlooking

Chub Lake. Reserve your time for brunch and dine on favorites from

our kitchen like crème brulee french toast, eggs benedict, and smoked ham. Plan for outdoor fun before or after you eat! Badminton, bocce ball, and other lawn games will be set up. Swim in the indoor pool or relax in the whirlpool and sauna. Explore the woods, prairie, and marsh during a guided nature walk. Or spend quality family time on our outdoor patio. Celebrate Mom with delicious food, beautiful views, and warm hospitality!

Reservations will be taken starting at 9am on Friday, April 10 by **TELEPHONE**ONLY: 952.469.2175

\$22 adults (13 years & older); \$10 youth (5-12 years); children under 5 are free



SAVE THE DATE

Midweek Summer Worship 2020

Wednesday Evenings June 17, June 24, July 1, July 8, July 15, July 22, July 29, and Aug 5

Midweek Schedule

4pm Buses Leave West
Campus & 7500 York

4:30pm Bus Leaves Mpls
Campus

5-6:15pm Dinner is served
6:15-6:45pm Nature Talk
7pm Worship





5025 KNOX AVENUE SOUTH • MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55419-1095

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





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