

MARCH 2022

BELIEVING, BELONGING, BECOMING

MOUNT OLIVET
MESSENGER



mtolivet.org

JOIN US

M MPLS CAMPUS

5025 Knox Ave S
Minneapolis, MN 55419
612.926.7651

W WEST CAMPUS

7150 Rolling Acres Rd
Victoria, MN 55386
952.767.1500

If you would like to receive a large print copy of the *Messenger*, please contact Julie Goodman at julieg@mtolivet.org or 612.767.2208.

ASH WEDNESDAY

MARCH 2

Mark 9:2-9

M 7am, 12noon, 5pm & *7pm

SERMON Pastor Kalland

W 5pm & *7pm

SERMON Pastor Freeman

**Youth-led service*

5 & 7pm Livestreamed at mtolivet.org

SUNDAYS

DIAL-IN VIA PHONE

833.775.1238

11am

WATCH THE MPLS WORSHIP SERVICE AT MTOLIVET.ORG

11am

HOLY COMMUNION

8:30 & 11:45am

NURSERY

9, 10, & 11am

MARCH 6

FEEDING THE FIVE THOUSAND

Mark 6:30-44

M 9, 10, 11am

SERMON Pastor MacLean

W 9, 10, 11am

SERMON Pastor Ruud

FIRST COMMUNION SERVICE

M 1pm

Streamed at mtolivet.org

MARCH 13

JESUS ASTOUNDS... AND IS ASTOUNDED

Mark 7:24-37

M 9, 10, 11am

SERMON Pastor Hammersten

W 9, 10, 11am

SERMON Pastor Dixon

FIRST COMMUNION SERVICE

W 1pm

MARCH 20

THE UNEXPECTED MESSIAH

Mark 8:27-38

M 9, 10, 11am

SERMON Pastor Lose

W 9, 10, 11am

SERMON Pastor Freeman

MARCH 27

I BELIEVE, HELP MY UNBELIEF

Mark 9:14-27,38

M 9, 10, 11am

SERMON Pastor Dixon

W 9, 10, 11am

SERMON Pastor Ruud

WEDNESDAY MIDWEEK WORSHIP

WEDNESDAYS, 12NOON, MPLS CAMPUS & STREAMING AT MTOLIVET.ORG

Spiritual practices are the means by which Christians have sharpened their hearing for millennia. We look forward to delving into the individual and communal dimensions of prayer, Bible study, service, reflection, and worship, and we can't wait to see the impact it has on our congregational life!

MIDWEEK SCHEDULE:

MARCH 9: *Prayer* with Pastor Hammersten

MARCH 16: *Bible Study* with Pastor Dixon

MARCH 23: *Service* with Pastor MacLean

MARCH 30: *Reflection* with Pastor Freeman

APRIL 6: *Worship (Communion Service)* with Pastor Ruud

GOING GOD'S WAY VIDEOS WILL CONTINUE TO BE AVAILABLE AT MTOLIVET.ORG!

Listen!

We live in a noisy world! Traffic, construction, the constant hum of electrical appliances at home and work, television, or music constantly on in the background. Yes, we live in a noisy world!

Most of us are well aware of the dangers of loud sounds to our hearing – working for long periods with power tools or listening to music at high decibel levels for sustained periods. In recent years, researchers have warned that we're less aware of the damage that constant background noise can do to us. As it turns out, our brains need quiet to process information and, more importantly, to reset and recharge. Absent periods of quiet, we have an increased difficulty deciphering all the noise we hear so that we can understand what it even means. More significantly, absent periods of quiet, our brains get overloaded and dulled and we have difficulty finding meaning and hope at all.

And then there's the cultural noise. Every day, it seems, there are more digital channels coming online, more outlets offering entertainment or information, each, and all of them clamoring for our allegiance. In recent years, this relentless competition for digital market share has led to a "culture of the outrageous," where people – entertainers, politicians, marketers, social media influencers, commentators, and pundits – will do anything, say anything in the relentless pursuit of our attention.

It's in just this kind of congested, super-saturated environment of endless noise and a cacophony of competing voices that we – as individuals, families, and a congregation – are seeking this Lent to slow down, breathe, make space for quiet, and... listen. Listen to ourselves. Listen to each other. And listen to God.

Just before embarking on the long road to Jerusalem and the cross, Jesus took his three closest friends up to the top of a nearby mountain. Once there, Peter, James, and John witnessed Jesus revealed in his glory. As Mark writes, "he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them" (9:2-3). And then Moses and Elijah, representing the law and the prophets at the center of Jewish history, appear on the mountain to speak with Jesus. The disciples are terrified, totally unsure what to do. All of a sudden a cloud overshadows everything

and a voice from heaven rings out, telling them just what to do: "This is my son, the beloved. Listen to him!"

That's it. "Listen to him." Not "fight for him," or "pledge your heart to him," or "dismiss those who don't follow him," but simply, "listen to him." Why? Because in the life, ministry, death, and resurrection of Jesus, God speaks to us as clearly as possible about just how much God loves us and wants us to love each other. Listen to him. So easy. And yet, as we know too well, so hard when there is so much noise in our lives and so many voices crying out to us.

This Lent, we will have a number of opportunities to practice listening. Listening for God's presence in our lives and listening to God's call to care for ourselves, each other, and God's world. On Sundays, we will listen to a variety of encounters Jesus has with all kinds of people to better understand what God is saying to us through Jesus' ministry. In our daily devotions, we can slow down and listen to the story Mark tells of the last days and hours of Jesus' life and hear again just how much God loves us. On Wednesdays, we will focus on some of the classic "spiritual practices" that have helped Christians over the centuries listen to God: prayer, Bible study, reflection, service, and worship. And through our digital Lenten calendar, we will offer daily opportunities to sharpen our listening skills by putting these ancient spiritual practices to work in our everyday lives. All so that we can detect with more confidence God's presence in our lives, hear God's word of love, be encouraged in faith and life, and share God's love with others in word and deed.

Listen to him. So simple. So important. At times so challenging. Yet, together, so totally do-able! I look forward to sharpening our listening skills throughout this Lenten season so that, come Easter, we can hear once again and anew the life-changing, world-altering good news that God's love and life are more powerful than all things, even death itself.



Pastor Lose

DAVID J. LOSE, SENIOR PASTOR

FOOD DRIVE

March 6, 8:30-11 am, Mpls & West Campuses

Please bring non-perishable food items between services at both campuses on Sunday, March 6. Food and monetary donations from the Mpls Campus will go to Community Emergency Services (CES) and to Bountiful Baskets from the West Campus.

EASTER BUTTER BRAID SALES

Order online through Sunday, March 20

Pick Up: Sunday, April 3, 9-11 am, Mpls Campus

Mount Olivet Homes Auxiliary is selling Butter Braids online just in time for Easter! Orders will be taken at mtolivet.org through March 20. A limited supply of extra Braids will be available on a first-come basis on April 3. Each Braid is \$14; case (6 of the same flavor) is \$84. Flavors include: Caramel Roll, Cinnamon Roll, Blueberry Cream Cheese Braid, Cinnamon Braid, Apple Braid, Strawberry Cream Cheese Braid, and Raspberry Braid.

ANNUAL MEETING

Sunday, March 20, 12noon, Mpls Campus

Join us at the annual meeting to hear from your Mount Olivet pastors and the congregation council as we review the past church year and plan for Mount Olivet's bright future, a future filled with hope.

EASTER CHANCEL GARDEN

Order online through Sunday, March 27

We are thrilled to bring back the Easter Chancel Garden. 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 \$25 per plant. Look for plant options and complete your purchase by visiting mtolivet.org/easter-chancel-garden or by calling Nancy Nelson at 612.767.2264. A list of the donors and those remembered or honored will be included in the bulletin on Easter morning. Easter Plants can be picked up at both campuses on Sunday, April 17, after the 11am service until 12:30pm or on Tuesday, April 19, from 9am-12noon.

ANGEL GIFTS

Donations Accepted through April 1

Assemble & Deliver Baskets on April 9, 10am-12noon, West Campus

Assemble & Deliver Baskets on April 9, 1pm-3pm, Mpls Campus

Please join us in donating, assembling, and delivering Easter baskets and food to show God's hope and coming light this Easter season to families identified through our Community Partners. Please drop off NEW items and cash donations to either campus, marking all items "Angel Gifts" through April 1. Help assemble the Baskets on Saturday, April 9 at both campuses. More information at mtolivet.org.

LIFE & GROWTH

JAN 13 - FEB 11

BAPTISMS

Mireille Switz Ruthie Anderson

daughter of Greta and Paul

Westyn Mae Lambrecht

daughter of Taylor and Kyle

Bennett David Stewart

son of Brittany and Andy

Theodore Arnell Thompson

son of Gretchen and Peter

DEATHS

Charles R. Bard

1925 - 2022

Mary Lou Erickson

1933 - 2022

Larry D. Larson

1937 - 2022

Maurice L. Lindblom

1926 - 2022

Jean M. Shogren

1945 - 2022

Olga A. Swanson

1915 - 2022

Gloria J. Tew

1923 - 2022

Mary A. Wenborg

1927 - 2022

DAILY READINGS

FROM PASTOR KALLAND

MARCH 2022

- 1 Romans 3:21-22, No Difference
- 2 Psalm 33:18, Unfailing Love
- 3 Romans 12:21, Overcome Evil With Good
- 4 Proverbs 11:9, The Righteous Escape
- 5 1 John 5:5, Jesus Is The Son Of God
- 6 Genesis 50:20, God Intended It For Good
- 7 Proverbs 17:28, Keep Silent
- 8 James 3:10, Praise And Cursing
- 9 John 16:24, Until Now
- 10 Malachi 2:2, Resolve To Honor God
- 11 Romans 5:19, Many Will Be Made Righteous
- 12 1 Corinthians 16:14, Do Everything In Love
- 13 Psalm 55:22, Cast Your Cares On The Lord
- 14 2 Corinthians 5:19, Message Of Reconciliation
- 15 Revelation 3:19, Be Earnest And Repent
- 16 Psalm 25:6-7, The Sins Of My Youth
- 17 Romans 5:21, Through Our Lord Jesus Christ
- 18 Matthew 9:13, Calls Sinners
- 19 James 1:21, Humbly Accept
- 20 Job 6:14, Kindness
- 21 Psalm 23:1-2, The Lord Is My Shepherd
- 22 Colossians 4:2, Devote Yourself To Prayer
- 23 Hebrews 9:15, Mediator Of A New Covenant
- 24 Genesis 2:18, Suitable
- 25 Deuteronomy 13:4, Follow The Lord
- 26 Psalm 91:1-2, In Whom I Trust
- 27 Proverbs 8:13, The Fear Of The Lord Is Hatred Of Evil.
- 28 Romans 12:4-5, Belongs To All The Others
- 29 1 John 2:17, Lives Forever
- 30 John 11:25-26, Do You Believe This?
- 31 1 Corinthians 15:57, Thanks Be To God

DEVOTION

He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me." – Mark 8:34

March is the prime season for a casual fan of college basketball such as me, and part the fun for me is watching the coaches. Coaches tend to leak into the demeanor and actions of their players, and this year I've been attentive to the men's Gopher team under the guidance of new homegrown, hometown, Minnesota alum, first-time, and youngest current head coach in the Big Ten, Ben Johnson. While Coach Johnson and the Gophers have been up against formidable odds and will probably not win a title this year, they've won some great games and I've witnessed wisdom, poise, grit, confidence, and comradery. It's a good sign, and it keeps me tuning in.

These days, we have so many choices in whom we will allow to "coach" us or whom we'll "play for." Those choices have great effect. They affect how we see the world. They affect how we respond to situations and the goals to which we aspire.

Some coaches encourage cheating, falsity, violence, and a win-at-all-costs spirit. Some coaches don't have the knowledge necessary for the level of play needed. Meanwhile, the best coaches know that life is bigger than the game and our individual selves. The best coaches get the most out of players and at the same time teach players to be tough yet kind, determined yet honest, intense yet honorable, skilled yet humble.

It has me thinking about how Jesus "coaches" disciples and how we respond in life, and it spurns the question, whom do you/we follow? Whom do you/we allow to teach and guide? To whom do you/we listen, or believe, or trust? Whom are you "playing for"? Jesus says, "follow me."

God, give us the courage to do so, in our whole life...and go Gophers!

— PASTOR RUUD



of

LISTENING AT MOUNT OLIVET

Throughout this Lent season and particularly when life is difficult, it can be hard to detect God's presence. Yet we have been promised that God is always with us, sustaining and strengthening us for lives of meaning and purpose. This Lent, we look forward to sharpening our listening skills together so that we can listen for God's presence in our lives and listen to what God is saying to us. While we continue to navigate the pandemic we are reminded almost daily how grateful we are to have technology that helps us listen to this important message!

WATCH Sunday morning worship on mtolivet.org/live-on-sundays at 11am

LISTEN to previous Sermons at mtolivet.org/sermons

ENJOY our children's worship video [Going God's Way](https://mtolivet.org/going-gods-way) mtolivet.org/going-gods-way

SUBSCRIBE to our email list to make sure you are receiving updates from Mount Olivet, devotions, Gospel Unplugged videos, and seasonal digital calendars at mtolivet.org/connect-at-mount-olivet



PALM SUNDAY

Sunday, April 10, 9, 10, and 11 am, Mpls & West Campuses

This morning's worship will be a festive service with brass quartet, timpani, and choirs all celebrating Christ's entrance into Jerusalem. Come to lift your voice and wave palm branches with Senior, Cathedral, Chapel, and Hosanna Choirs for the Palm Sunday processions. Join with the whole congregation in singing, "Hosanna to the King!"

SEVEN LAST WORDS OF CHRIST

Wednesday, April 13, 7pm, Mpls Campus

This beloved Holy Week musical event is back after a two-year absence. If you are a Cathedral Choir alum, please join us for a review rehearsal on Wednesday, April 13 at 6pm in the rehearsal hall before the performance at 7pm. All singers must be vaccinated and fully masked. Three classes of our High School singers have never sung this work. They will need your experienced voices to join and support them this year more than ever!

MAUNDY THURSDAY

Thursday, April 14, 7pm, Mpls & West Campuses

Join in this service of Holy Communion which represents the night Jesus instituted the Lord's Supper. We come to receive the gifts and to commit ourselves once again to the way of Christ.

GOOD FRIDAY

Friday, April 15

Mpls Campus: 7am, 12noon, 5pm and 7pm (Tenebrae service)

West Campus: 5pm and 7pm (Tenebrae service)

Communion services to remember the sacrifice that was made on our behalf in the crucifixion of our Lord.

EASTER SUNDAY

Sunday, April 17

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

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

A joyful worship service celebrating the risen Christ! We hear God's word and join in song with the choirs and brass in proclaiming that "Christ has risen indeed!"

DIGITAL LENTEN CALENDAR

This year's Digital Lenten Calendar will center around "40 days of listening," using spiritual practices in action to reflect and grow in your faith.

LENTEN DEVOTIONAL

Explore the Passion of St. Mark this Lent. Copies at church beginning Sunday, February 20. Daily emails will be sent to subscribers.

EASTER GIFTS

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

WAYS TO GIVE

Via Envelope: send back the remittance envelope that was mailed to you in your Easter mailing.

Give Online: with your credit card or bank information by visiting mtolivet.org/online-giving. Scroll until you see the "Give Online Now" button.

Realm Connect App: login using your Realm username and password and click "Giving."

Text to Give: text "MTOLIVET" to 73256 and follow the instructions provided.

Contact Us: we are here to help! Contact Tricia Lerohl-Morgan in our finance office at 612.767.2255 or by email at tricial@mtolivet.org.

WORD WITH YOUR PASTORS: SO WHAT?!? DOES LUTHER'S THEOLOGY STILL MATTER?

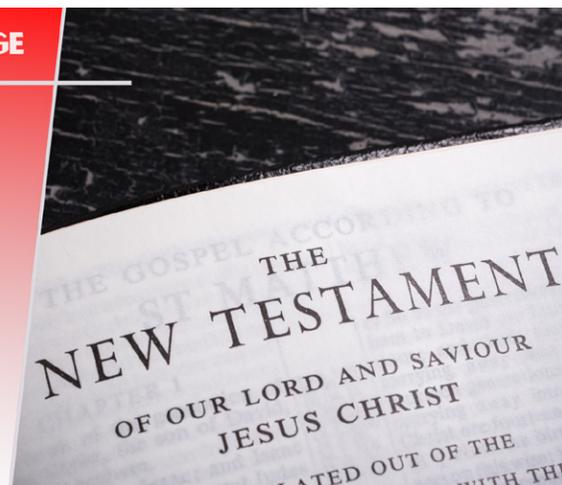
Through his preaching and writing, Martin Luther spurred a reformation of the whole church. His beliefs – that we are justified by grace through faith, that each of us has a calling (vocation), that God uses both government and church to enrich our lives, and that God encourages and directs our lives of faith through law and gospel – shaped the sixteenth century profoundly. But... that was 500 years ago. Does Luther's theology still speak? What relevance do his convictions hold for us today? We'll address these questions by taking a page from Luther's own history. When writing his small and large catechisms, Luther would take central elements of the Christian faith – the Apostles' Creed, Ten Commandments, etc. – and break them down into bite-size pieces and then ask of each one, Was ist Das? Literally "What is this?" Or, more broadly, "What does this mean?" or even "Why does this matter?" So also, we'll lift up four key elements of Luther's theology and ask: "So what? Why does this still matter today?"

— PASTOR LOSE

More information, including dates and teaching pastors, in the April Messenger. Registration opens April 1 at mtolivet.org/education or by contacting Katie Stevenson at katies@mtolivet.org or 612.767.2232.

LIVING THE MESSAGE

EVERYTHING YOU EVER WANTED TO KNOW ABOUT THE NEW TESTAMENT



What About All These Other Letters?

Hebrews, James, 1 & 2 Peter, 1 John, 2 John, 3 John, Jude (April Session)

In addition to the 13 letters written by or attributed to Paul, there are eight other letters in the New Testament. They all date from a later period than either the letters of Paul or the Gospels, they are directed more generally to the church at large, and they are trying to contend with challenges that came from the rapid growth and spread of the Christian church. What is the nature of Christian leadership? What do we do with people who believe differently? How do we preserve the tradition when the world and church are changing so quickly? These and other questions addressed make these letters challenging, interesting, and at times instructive as we face similar challenges today.

PASTOR LOSE

MARCH 1 (WEST CAMPUS): How Did Paul's Legacy Continue? *Ephesians, Colossians, 2 Thessalonians, 1 & 2 Timothy, Titus*

APRIL 5 (MPLS CAMPUS): What About All These Other Letters? *Hebrews, James, 1 & 2 Peter, 1 John, 2 John, 3 John, Jude*

Participate via in-person presentations and/or emailed videos. Previous videos available at mtolivet.org/education. Register at mtolivet.org/education or by contacting Katie Stevenson at katies@mtolivet.org or 612.767.2232.



Why Retreat?

Recently my daughter and I spent a weekend at Mount Olivet Conference & Retreat Center. Half-way through a two-week stint of online schooling, we were desperate for time away in this peaceful, beautiful setting. We hiked through the snow, played games in the renovated library lounge, and swam a lot. At one point, Eleanor requested that we watch Netflix on her iPad. I resisted the temptation to point out that in my childhood this was not remotely possible. Instead, I talked to her about going on “retreat.” As many times as she had romped through the grounds and buildings of the Conference & Retreat Center, I had never really talked about the uniqueness and purpose of retreating.

It’s easy to forget that going away on retreat is not the same as going away on vacation, heading to a spa or wellness resort, or even staying in a hotel for few nights. Retreat is a spiritual practice intended to renew our connections to God, each other, and nature. When we retreat, we slow down. We let our bodies follow their natural rhythms. We listen to each other attentively; we notice the call of songbirds and the wind rustling through the prairie; and we attune ourselves to the buried longings of our own hearts. We contemplate God’s love for us and for all creatures. We are renewed and rejuvenated for daily life. So, it helps to turn off our devices and take off our watches and simply be present to God and each other.

We hope you will consider giving yourself or your family the gift of retreating together. We are waiting to welcome you.

DR. THERESA LATINI, *Executive Director of the Mount Olivet Conference & Retreat Center*

SAVE THE DATES!

LIVING WELL, LEADING WELL

Tuesday, April 26, 6:30-8:30pm via Zoom with Lutheran pastor-theologians Rolf Jacobson and Karl Jacobson. Their topic will be humor and the healing power of laughter.

MOTHER’S DAY WORSHIP & BRUNCH

Sunday, May 8, worship service at 9am and brunch to follow.

DAY LENTEN JOURNEY: THE HOLY IN-BETWEEN

Tuesday, March 8, 10am-3pm, Mount Olivet Conference & Retreat Center, \$20 and \$10 extra for bussing

This year’s theme “The Holy In-between” invites you to reflect on Lent’s often-neglected last day, Holy Saturday. Squeezed between Good Friday and Easter Sunday, Holy Saturday is the day when God is silent. When the disciples feel bewilderment and despair. It is a painful, in-between day that, upon reflection, teaches us to wait upon God in between all forms of life and death. Join Pastor Freeman, Pastor Ruud, MOCRC Executive Director Rev. Theresa Latini, and Program Director Rev. Jeremy Bork for a day of exploring the history and meaning of this day as it shapes our journey through Lent this year. Cost includes lunch and program. Register at mtolivet.org at least 24 hours in advance. Bussing needs to be reserved at least 72 hours in advance.

FEARFULLY & WONDERFULLY MADE?

Tuesday March 15, 6:30-8:30pm, via Zoom, \$20

The Virtual Workshop series “Living Well, Leading Well” returns Tuesday, March 15 with Rev. Dr. Anna Madsen. Based on Anna’s personal experience of grief and her son’s traumatic brain injury, this workshop will wrestle with questions surrounding disability, suffering, and the possibility of redemption and hope despite pain and loss. Psalm 139’s claim of being “fearfully and wonderfully made” might initially sound comforting, but in light both of disability and suffering, it raises questions about whether we are fearfully and wonderfully made...for this? Join Anna in this first workshop to hear her theological and personal responses to these questions and more. Register at mtolivetretreat.org/events or directly in *Realm*.

We're Here To Help

Mount Olivet Lutheran Church is one of the few churches in America that provides professional, ethical, licensed counseling services to aid church and community members in dealing with the tensions, pressures, and stresses of daily life. Our services help people work through their concerns in a supportive setting that is open to those of all faith perspectives and walks of life. Our therapists include Licensed Marriage and Family Therapists, Licensed Professional Clinical Counselors, and a Licensed Alcohol and Drug Counselor. We offer therapy for adults, children, adolescents, couples, and families. A variety of support and educational groups are offered as well. We offer both in-person and secure telehealth sessions.

To register for a group or to gain more information about Mount Olivet Counseling Service, please contact Molly Pach at 612.927.7335 ext. 110, or by email at mpach@mtolivetcounseling.org.

THE FIRST YEARS WITHOUT THEM

Wednesdays, March 2 through May 11, 3–4:30pm, via Zoom, \$125, Mount Olivet Counseling Service

Come find healing in the first years following the death of a loved one. Sara Watne, MA, LPCC, leads this support group which utilizes contemplative practices, poetry, film clips and discussion to encourage participants along their path of mourning and reconciliation.

HEALING THROUGH DIVORCE

Thursdays, April 7 through June 9, 6:30–8pm, via Zoom, \$125, Mount Olivet Counseling Service

In this support group, cultivate a stronger connection to yourself and others on your journey of healing and recovery from divorce. You will be guided to explore and discover deeper meaning, purpose, and strength buried within your painful experiences, helping you to embrace compassion, hope, and trust in yourself and your life. Sherri Dunham, MA, LPCC joins your healing process to help you embrace self-compassion and thrive in your new landscape.

MARRIAGE PREPARATION WORKSHOP

Saturday, April 23, 9:30am–3pm, via Zoom, \$150 per couple, plus \$35 scoring fee for the Prepare Inventory, Mount Olivet Counseling Service

As you mark this momentous occasion and begin your married life together, we invite you to participate in this important, practical, and relevant marriage preparation workshop. This fun and engaging 6-hour workshop, along with the completion of the Prepare Assessment, is designed to enrich your relationship as a married couple; focusing on important topics like positive communication skills, healthy conflict resolution, financial management, and spirituality. Lunch is included, and you will have ample time to discuss the topics and materials together as a couple as well as with the other participants. Facilitated by Shannon Himango, MA, Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist; Director of Mount Olivet Counseling Service; and Meg Steeves, Graduate Practicum Student Counselor.

SUMMER CAMPS



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL JUNE 20 - 23 AGES 4-6TH GRADE

Get ready for S'more Jesus at our VBS Camp Out! We'll have a great, faith-filled week! This will be incorporated into the Day Camp week for those campers K-6th grade, and we'll offer a morning session for Pre K-2nd graders. This camp is offered at both campuses. Mpls Campus 6/20-6/23 & West Campus 6/27-6/30.



LET'S GET COOKING JUNE 27- JULY 1 K-6TH GRADE

Learn some skills in the kitchen while having a blast! During Cooking Week, we will learn to decorate our own aprons and bake bread, go on some fun field trips including a Three Rivers play area and swimming at the Mount Olivet Conference and Retreat Center and break the rule "don't play with your food!"

Visit mtolivet.org/summer-camps to learn more about all Summer Day Camp options and to register. If you have questions, please contact Kristin Olson, kolson@mtolivet.org or 612.767.2246.

MOUNT OLIVET DAY CAMPS

Each Day Camp is \$225/session and includes snacks, a t-shirt, activities, and field trips. Camps run from 8:30am-4:30pm, with early drop off (7:30am) and extended day (until 5:30pm) options.

AGES 4 - 2ND GRADE HALF DAY OPTIONS

Vacation Bible School at Mpls Campus

M 6/20 – Th 6/23 \$50

Vacation Bible School at West Campus

M 6/27 – Th 6/30 \$50

KINDERGARTEN - 6TH GRADE FULL DAY OPTIONS

God's Kids Sing!

M 6/13 – F 6/17 \$225

Vacation Bible School Day Camp

M 6/20 – Th 6/24 \$225

Cooking Week

M 6/27 – F 7/1 \$225

Drop in Days

W 7/6 – F 7/8, daily rate of \$45

Super Summer

M 7/11 – F 7/15 \$225

Nature Camp

M 7/18 – F 7/22 \$225

Imagination Creation

M 7/25 – F 7/29 \$225

Bugging Out

M 8/ 1 – F 8/5 \$225

Drop in Days

M 8/22 – F 8/26, daily rate \$45

Drop in Days

M 8/29 – Th 9/1, daily rate \$45

6TH - 9TH GRADE

Summertime Players!

M 7/18 – F 7/22 \$225



2022 YOUTH CAMPING SCHEDULE ELIGIBILITY DETERMINED BY GRADE AS OF SEP 1, 2022

GRADES 3, 4, & 5

Week 1: Sa, 7/23 – W 7/27

Week 2: Sa, 8/6 – W 8/10

GRADES 5, 6, & 7

Week 1: M 7/18 – Sa 7/23

GRADES 6, 7, & 8

Week 1: Su 6/26 – F 7/1

Week 2: Tu 7/5 – Su 7/10

Week 3: W 7/27 – M 8/1

9TH GRADE

CONFIRMATION CAMP

(MOUNT OLIVET

MEMBERS ONLY)

Week 1: Su 7/10 – F 7/15

Week 2: M 8/1 – Sa 8/6

GRADES 11, 12, &

GRADUATES

Summer Starter: Su 6/19 – Th 6/23

GRADE 10

10th Grade Starter: Th 6/23 – Su

6/26

GRADES 10, 11, & 12

Hi-League Retreat: W 8/10 – Su 8/14



MOUNT OLIVET SUMMER CAMPS

If you haven't registered for a session (or more) of day camp this summer – call or text a friend and sign up together! From cooking week, to God's Kids Sing!, to a theme week all about bugs...we have a little something for everyone! For more information on dates, field trips, drop-in days, and each day camp offering – visit mtolivet.org/events and select the Summer Camps option. We are looking forward to a fantastic summer with you!

If you're entering 9th - 12th grade – you'll have the chance to be a counselor this summer for day camps! With leadership training later in the spring, you'll be well equipped to lead a group of campers through any or all of our day camp options and have a lot of fun at the same time! Sign up online!

Join our Children & Family Ministry Team – we are hiring for the summer! If you know a great, energetic person who is available to assist in summer programming, send them our way! Summer staff must be at least 19 years old. For more information about the positions, job descriptions, and how to apply, please contact Kristin Olson, Children's Camp Coordinator at kolson@mtolivet.org or 612.767.2246.

SUNDAY SCHOOL REMINDERS

We'll be filming songs for the Easter Concert Video on Sunday, March 13, at both campuses, all ages! We hope to see you then! Palm Sunday is April 10 and will feature music by the Hosanna and Chapel Sunday School choirs – mark the date, and join us in worship! It is sure to be a fun and festive morning! More information about filming and song lyrics has been sent to each Sunday School group. Please reach out to Amy Porthan, Faith Formation Coordinator, with any questions at amyp@mtolivet.org or 612.767.2285.

MOUNT OLIVET PRESCHOOL

It's a perfect time to set up a tour and visit the Mount Olivet Preschool as you consider early education options for your child this fall. Meet the highly qualified staff, visit the beautiful classroom spaces, and learn about all the ways we support preschool families at Mount Olivet. For tour information and program options and availability, contact Preschool Director, Alyssa Hill, at ahill@mtolivet.org or 612.767.2216.

NEW! FAMILY MINI-GOLF

Saturday, March 19, 1-3pm, West Campus

Get the family together and work your way through a variety of pre-designed holes at the West Campus! Activities will include a friendly putting contest (for prizes!), and an opportunity to design your own hole. If you have a putter, feel free to bring it – and we'll have some available as well. Register at mtolivet.org.

MO HOOPS

MO Hoops is Mount Olivet’s high school basketball program that competes against other churches around the Twin Cities. The league aims to promote Christian values through sport and competition. This season, Mount Olivet has three teams and over thirty players from sixteen different high schools! MO Hoops also has a group of dedicated managers who help design apparel, take pictures during games, run the scoreboard, and cheer on the teams.

Mount Olivet teams compete in the Holy Hoops League, with the 2022 season running in two four-week segments. The first half runs from February 20 through March 13, and the second half runs from May 1 through May 22. Games are held on Sunday afternoons at Christ the King Lutheran Church in New Brighton, with transportation for players and managers offered from Mount Olivet campuses. We would love to see you at a game, and please reach out if you are interested in playing next year!

— SAM SANDA, MO Hoops Coach & Youth Staff



Hi, my name is Lilly Allen and last year I was a manager for MO Hoops. I wasn’t quite sure how important I was going to be to the team because I knew about 15 other girls were also signing up to be the managers. I didn’t know what to expect, but it sure wasn’t driving 40 minutes to a church in early spring to see a basketball game being played in the parking lot. At that point I was very interested in what Sam Sanda convinced me to do.

I knew I’d have fun because I always do at church, but I didn’t know I would make so many new friends through a church basketball league! That 40 minute drive was worth it every time. As managers, we had so many different and VERY important jobs like running the MO Hoops Instagram account, keeping score, being the videographer/photographer, and of course my favorite part, organizing the team banquet at the end of the season. Other managers and I sometimes even got to play during the JV games, we even scored a couple of times too. MO Hoops was a big family at the end of the season. I would also add that we did get first place in the church basketball league. If you want to play or be a manager it’s 100% worth it because we always have a great time with the MO Hoops fam! — LILLY ALLEN

Hello, my name is Nate Stone and I have been coming to Mount Olivet ever since I was in 3rd grade. Mount Olivet is the place where I have found some of my best and life-long friends. It is also where I discovered who I am as a person through Confirmation, COP, Hi-League and other groups that I never thought I would find myself a part of, like MO Hoops. For anyone who doesn’t know me, I come from a hockey background and this was all I did growing up (and continue to do now). It was hockey 24/7, 365 so I didn’t play any other winter season sports, such as basketball. I always loved to shoot around in my driveway when it was nice out, but I never played any type of organized basketball until I joined MO Hoops my sophomore year of high school. My decision to join MO Hoops was not based on my basketball skills, but because I wanted to spend more time at church and with my friends. Throughout those 3 years, MO Hoops gave me so much more than just the basic knowledge of basketball, it gave me life-long memories, relationships with people that I will never lose, and most importantly it brought me closer to God in ways I never thought were possible. I want to leave you with a little saying that we have at MO Hoops and it is something I try to live my life by today; “In God’s name we play, Amen.” — NATE STONE

As a player, MO Hoops is awesome. I’ve been playing since freshman year and heading into the senior season now! We travel to New Brighton to play so while it is a bit of a drive, it’s a good time to bond with peers. We always make it fun no matter win or lose. It’s always good competition playing against the other church teams playing. This year, having three teams is the most we’ve had since I started so it is fun to see everyone getting excited for it! We promoted it at camp this summer and at various Hi-League events this fall! MO Hoops consists of boys and girls and it doesn’t matter how good or bad you think you are which is why I love it! We have great coaches that make it even more enjoyable and we always represent Mount Olivet well! We make sure to balance our fun with seriousness while playing and the coaches relate to us on that level too. With three teams representing MO this year, we hope to get another championship to add to the collection! — OWEN SLINDE



UPCOMING AT MOUNT OLIVET

Registration and more information available at mtolivet.org/events.



13TH MOTORHEADS @ LE CHATEAU

Tuesday, March 22

Arrive at the West Campus between 5:30 and 7pm (shuttles run continuously until 9pm)

\$10 paid by 3/20, \$15 at the door, \$5 for youth 18 and under.

Join fellow Motorheads for this fun gathering at the Herreid home (Le Chateau).

Enjoy delicious food, cool cars, interesting displays, devotions, and more!

YOUNG IN HEART

Wednesday, March 23, 12:30pm, Mpls Campus, \$9 and a donation to Pastor Scott's ministry is welcome

Plan to attend the Young in Heart luncheon where *Minor Mischief A Cappella*, a vocal ensemble, will brighten your day. Please register no later than March 18 at mtolivet.org, or by contacting Ann LaBree at 612.767.2288 or annl@mtolivet.org.

FLYING SOLO: VOLUNTEER FOR OUR COMMUNITY MEALS

Thursday, March 24, 3:45-5:45pm, Mpls Campus

Join Flying Solo as we serve our drive-through Community Meals at the Mpls Campus. If you have additional questions, please contact Pastor Freeman at rfreeman@mtolivet.org. Register at mtolivet.org.

LIFE LINE SCREENING

Friday, April 8, 9am-4pm, Mpls Campus

Life Line Screening, the nation's leading provider of preventive health screenings, will offer affordable, non-invasive, and painless health screenings. Life Line Screenings can help make you aware of a previously silent, unrecognized problem that can now get treated at an early stage, or confirm that you are on the right path and should continue your healthy habits. Don't let heart disease and stroke get in your way of the life you love. Register at mtolivet.org, by texting the word "circle" or 797979 or by calling 1.888.653.6441. If you have any questions, please contact Julie Goodman at julieg@mtolivet.org or 612.767.2208.

NEW ART CLASSES!

ADULT WATERCOLOR PAINTING CLASS

Thursday, March 3, 6-8pm, Mpls Campus, \$35

Paint a beautiful watercolor painting in this two hour class. Step-by-step instructions and discussion on the techniques used in the painting, such as wet on wet and wet on dry are included as we work together in this class. This is a great way to learn to paint in watercolors even if you have no experience. All supplies are provided.

ADULT/CHILD PAINTING CLASSES

Friday, March 4, 10am-12noon, Mpls Campus, adult and one kid \$50, adult and two kids \$65

This class is a fun collaboration for you and your child (6yrs+) to paint together. No experience is needed; this class is about spending quality time with your child and having fun. Each person is provided a 16x20 canvas, acrylic paints, and all the supplies needed to create their own masterpiece. The instructor will lead you step-by-step through the painting.

MIXED MEDIA ART CLASS

Friday, April 29, 5:30-7:30pm, Mpls Campus, \$35

In this mixed media class for ages 12 and older, you will work with a variety of art supplies as you combine and layer them to create a uniquely beautiful work of art. The instructor will lead you through the process as you are introduced to each new supply.

Thanks to Your Generosity...

...nearly 400 7th and 8th grade Confirmation students gather weekly in a safe, loving, faithful community where they repeatedly hear, "You are a child of God; you are loved; and you are not alone," and they share about the ups and downs and hopes of life. Our kids want to be here on Wednesday nights and Sunday mornings!

...39 preschoolers (and their families) are enjoying the remodeled classrooms and learning spaces in the Mount Olivet Preschool!

...STUDENTS PARTICIPATE IN SERVICE PROJECTS LIKE CIRCLE OF FRIENDS, MOUNT OLIVET UNITED, ADOPT-A-GRANDPARENT, SUNDAY SERVE, AND MORE – PROVIDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR THEM TO NOT ONLY GIVE BACK, BUT TO REFLECT, GROW, AND BUILD COMMUNITY TOGETHER.

...WE HAVE HIRED A CHILDREN'S DAY CAMP COORDINATOR AND ARE OFFERING A SUMMER FILLED WITH DAY CAMP OPPORTUNITIES AT THE MINNEAPOLIS CAMPUS.

...we continue to feed hungry people in our community, over 115,000 meals to date!

...200 families living on margins had gifts under the tree through your Christmas for All donations, turkey dinners were delivered to our homebound seniors in December, and gift cards for groceries and daily items were provided to people in need.

...HUNDREDS OF HOUSEHOLDS ARE CARED FOR UPON THE DEATH OF LOVED ONES, ASSURING THEM THAT THEY ARE NOT ALONE IN TIMES OF SADNESS AND GRIEF.

...in-person and online Bible studies are offered to learn more about the great stories of God in Christ.

...Mount Olivet Counseling Service provided over 1400 in-person and virtual therapy and support group sessions for people in the past six months, right where they are in the midst of navigating the ups and downs of life, and whatever their economic circumstances.

...the youngest in our congregation (and even a few not-so-young!) enjoy a weekly "Going God's Way" video to learn about God's Word and participate in music and creative arts activities during Sunday School.

...THE GOSPEL MESSAGE IS TOLD EACH AND EVERY WEEK (IN-PERSON OR LIVE-STREAMED TO THOUSANDS) THROUGH SERMONS PREACHED BY OUR SEVEN (SOON TO BE EIGHT!) PASTORS, ANTHEMS SUNG BY OUR CHOIRS, AND OUR NARRATIVE LECTIONARY STORIES (NOW IN THE GOSPEL OF MARK!).

...2143 campers, counselors, workstaffers, cooks, and health professionals experienced the joy and community of Cathedral of the Pines in summer 2021. As the Chapel song goes, God is so good!

...the monthly Messenger—filled with the good news of Mount Olivet's ministries—is mailed to over 6,000 households every month!

...we are able to be flexible with event and programming costs so that all kids who want to be involved at church can be!

...beautiful, creative, and meaningful special worship services are offered throughout the year including: Reformation, All Saints, Epiphany and more.

...210 groups and nearly 4000 people experienced rest, renewal, and rejuvenation at our Conference and Retreat Center in Farmington.

Above all, thanks to your generosity... you help remind thousands of people every week of God's constant love. THANK YOU!

CENTENNIAL GALA

A NIGHT OUT FOR MOUNT OLIVET

THE HUTTON HOUSE

10715 S Shore Dr, Medicine Lake, MN 55441

THURSDAY, APRIL 28

OPEN HOUSE 5-9PM

This night will include a short program at the top of each hour sharing information about our affiliate organizations and ways to support them. This evening will also be a celebration of over a century of Mount Olivet Church's ministry.

Cost \$35 for program and heavy appetizers, cash bar will be available.

Registration required at mtolivet.org or call Laurie Hancer at 612.767.2267.

From time to time, people outside the Mount Olivet community ask me what makes this congregation so special and why I love serving here so much. My answer is always the same, and always two-fold. The first part is Mount Olivet's consistent emphasis on creating and nurturing authentic relationships among its members. Yes, Mount Olivet is a large church, but there are a thousand and one opportunities to gather in smaller groups where you can get to know others and be known yourself; where you can learn, be challenged, and grow; where you can put your gifts to use to make a difference; and where you know that if you're not able to attend, you'll be missed. From MOCW Circles and Bible study groups to book clubs and a variety of service opportunities, and from Motorheads and Friends Forever to Thursday Friends and our choirs, Mount Olivet is a large community built upon numerous smaller groups that invite you into meaningful relationships where you can grow closer to God by growing closer to one another.

The second thing I share is my admiration for Mount Olivet's commitment to serve our communities. Again, there are so many ways our members share their blessings with others and are blessed in return. Community Meals, Greet-and-Give donation drives, opportunities to work alongside Pastor Scott or serve at Simpson House – opportunities abound. In addition to these "hands-on" events, Mount Olivet has made perhaps its greatest impact both in our congregation and in the community through our affiliated ministries: Mount Olivet Home, Careview Home, and Day Services; Mount Olivet Rolling Acres; Cathedral of the Pines Camp; and the Mount Olivet Conference and Retreat Center. Through these institutions – all "top of their class" in their various categories – Mount Olivet touches and transforms the lives of literally thousands of people each year... and has been doing so for most of its 100-year history.

On Thursday, April 28, we have a chance to celebrate, give thanks for, and strengthen Mount Olivet as a place that fosters relationships and serves our communities as we come together for our Centennial Gala. It promises to be a spectacular evening of fellowship, fun, and fund-raising that gives us a chance to renew and revel in our relationships, learn more about the remarkable work our affiliate ministries do, and support them in a variety of ways. Join me – and join your Mount Olivet family! – for a wonderful evening where we give God thanks for relationships and community outreach of our congregation!

PASTOR LOSE, *Senior Pastor*



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Listen!
LENT 2022

“Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white. Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, ‘This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!’”

– Mark 9:2-3, 7