

JULY 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.

SUNDAYS

DIAL-IN VIA PHONE
833.775.1238

11am

WATCH THE MPLS
WORSHIP SERVICE AT
MTOLIVET.ORG

10am

HOLY COMMUNION

8:30am only

NURSERY

9, 10am

JULY 3

THE INCREDIBLE
PROMISE

Romans 8:14-17a

M 9, 10am

SERMON Pastor Kalland

W 9, 10am

SERMON Pastor MacLean

JULY 10

NOTHING CAN
SEPARATE US FROM
GOD'S LOVE

Romans 8:31-35, 37-39

M 9, 10am

SERMON Pastor Cieslik

W 9, 10am

SERMON Pastor Hammersten

JULY 17

COMMUNION SUNDAY
THE FOOLISHNESS OF
GOD

1 Corinthians 1:17-25

M 9, 10am

SERMON Pastor Freeman

W 9, 10am

SERMON Pastor Dixon

**No Holy Communion at 8:30am*

JULY 24

THE SUPPER OF THE
LORD

1 Corinthians 11:17-26

M 9, 10am

SERMON Pastor Lose

W 9, 10am

SERMON Pastor Ruud

JULY 31

SPIRITUAL GIFTS

1 Corinthians 12:1-11

M 9, 10am

SERMON Pastor Hammersten

W 9, 10am

SERMON Pastor Kalland

WEDNESDAYS

MIDWEEK SUMMER WORSHIP AT THE MOUNT OLIVET
CONFERENCE & RETREAT CENTER

Looking for a way to worship on Wednesday evenings this summer? Come to the Conference & Retreat Center each week in the evening through August 3. More information is available on page 6.

COVER IMAGE

The Chapel at Cathedral of the Pines Camp.

A Future with Hope

I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope. –Jeremiah 29:11

Lately I've been thinking a lot about what a "post-Covid" Mount Olivet may look like. While I realize the pandemic is not completely behind us, we're certainly at a very different point than we were a year ago, let alone two years ago. We've come a long way, been through a lot, and also learned a lot. In light of that, here are three things I believe will guide us as we go forward.

1. *No one but God knows exactly what the church will be like going forward.* Don't get me wrong: we know a lot of things – about theology, worship, church life, stewardship, outreach, and more – but we don't know what the future holds after two years of greatly disrupted patterns of worship and congregational life and very different ways of engaging with each other. While some may be daunted by this prospect, I believe it is an opportunity for us to grow. When you think you already know the answer, there is very little you are likely to learn. But if we enter this next phase of our ministry with open and curious minds, we can discover new and effective ways to live out our mission.

2. *We are at our best and most effective when we build on our strengths.* For this reason, in a meeting of program directors and pastors early this summer, we made a list of some of Mount Olivet's historic strengths that will guide our commitments and provide a solid foundation for living into the future. The list... was not short! Here are just a few that quickly come to mind: Relationships are central to our ministry. We are blessed with exceptional worship and music (and the preaching's not bad, either ☺). We offer responsive and compassionate pastoral care to all ages. We have a tremendous commitment to our youth that is embodied in COP, choirs, and youth groups. We are focused on the Gospel, committed to preaching and teaching the good news in ways that are biblical, connected to our daily life, and non-partisan. We have a heritage of committed and effective outreach to the community, through many ministries at church and through our Affiliated Ministries. We have an incredibly capable and dedicated staff and fantastic facilities. As well as a loyal and generous congregation that entrusts our staff to continue the mission and ministries of Mount Olivet! All of which gives me great confidence that we will find a faithful way forward.

3. *Creativity will be key to being the best Mount Olivet we can be today.* Building on our historic strengths, harnessing what we've learned these last two years, and eager to learn still more, we are free to try out some new ways of being faithful to our mission. Some of that is happening already, and I'm delighted at some of the "early wins" we've experienced. We're trying to engage the larger community in our life together through events like our December Tree Lighting and Messiah Sing. We're also responding to the needs of our community through our all-day, year-round preschool; our new summer day camps; and focused donation drives and community meals. And we re-imagined our Mount Olivet Gala, attracting double the number of people and raising more funds for our Affiliates. Each of these endeavors was "just an idea" a year ago, and each has moved us forward in our ministry during this new era.

These three convictions about how to move into the future aren't so much answers as they are commitments and pathways to finding a faithful way forward. While there will certainly be new challenges ahead, we are confident the future is in God's good hands and trust the promise that God will give us a future with hope. For this reason, the prayer with which we have closed worship these last two years continues to sum up our confidence that the Holy Spirit continues to be at work in us and through us, always for the good of God's Church and the benefit of God's world. I will close with those words, and invite you to pray it regularly: *Lord God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

Yours in Christ,



Pastor Lose

DAVID J. LOSE, SENIOR PASTOR



SOLAR UPDATE

A 20 KW solar system of panels was installed on the roof of Mount Olivet's Minneapolis Campus and started producing power in March of 2018. Eight months later, a similarly sized system went online at the West Campus. Ideal Energies installed the systems guided by CEO and Mount Olivet member Chris Psihos. At both campuses there are a total of 110 panels.

A recent review of the solar panels shows that the systems are operating within 4% of their estimated nameplate capacity, totaling more than 125 MWh to date. This power has eliminated more than 87 metric tons of CO2 out of the atmosphere based on typical emissions levels for the U.S. This is equivalent to the amount of CO2 absorbed by planting 1,450 trees.

Over their 25 year lifespans, the energy generated is estimated to avoid more than 672 metric tons of CO2 which is comparable to not burning over 367 tons of coal or 75,000+ gallons of gasoline.

The systems are net metered so when the panels are generating more electricity than the buildings are using, the electricity is sold back to the utility and goes on to the grid. When the church buildings use more electricity than the panels are producing, the utility provides electricity generated from a mix of sources (including coal, natural gas, nuclear and renewables).

The panels generate direct current electricity and are connected in series. Centralized inverters convert the power to alternating current for use. Panels are paired with optimizers to maximize production and allow monitoring of each panel in real time.

As roofs are replaced, the Creation Care Team will assess opportunities for additional solar capacity.

These installations are one of the ways Mount Olivet strives to care for God's creation.

SEdge FREEMAN, *Creation Care Team Member*

FIX-IT CLINIC

Saturday, August 13, 12noon-4pm, Mpls Campus

Bring your small household appliances, clothing, electronics, mobile devices and more to a free Fix-It Clinic hosted by Mount Olivet's Creation Care Team and Hennepin County. Receive free guided assistance from volunteers with repair skills to disassemble, troubleshoot and fix your items! Fix-It Clinics teach valuable troubleshooting and basic repair skills, build community connections, and reduce the number of repairable items that are thrown in the trash.

LIFE & GROWTH

MAY 14 - JUN 13

BAPTISMS

- Luke Robert Chapman**
son of Jaime and Jared
- Reese Polly Gunderson**
daughter of Megan and Marcus
- Tate Sutton McCabe**
son of Tiffany and Joshua
- Murphy William Perillo**
son of Grace and Michael
- Mallory Marion Regan**
daughter of Abby and Marc
- Ruby Elizabeth Robinson**
daughter of Nora and Reed
- Bjorn William Rohman**
son of Victoria and Eric
- Emerson Rose Rorro**
daughter of Katherine and Michael
- Nora Louise Swenson**
daughter of Jessica and Greg
- Lydia Kristine Thompson**
daughter of Ellen and Zach
- Robert Nicholas Tollefson**
son of Katie and Nicholas
- Cambryia Kristine VanGrinsven**
daughter of Molly and Adam
- Dimitri Ivanovich Ward**
son of Dianna and Ivan

WEDDINGS

- Madeline Nash & Christopher Bates**, *May 21*
- Jessica Bebo & Joseph Keogh**, *June 11*

DEATHS

- Marion L. Johnson**
1929 - 2022
- Ronald V. Skaim**
1935 - 2022
- Judith Taylor**
1956 - 2022
- Brian Toivonen**
1983 - 2022

DAILY READINGS

FROM PASTOR KALLAND

JULY 2022

- 1 Philippians 4:20, For Ever And Ever
- 2 Psalm 121:3, Will Not Slumber
- 3 Philippians 4:23, With Your Spirit
- 4 Psalm 121:1-2, Help Comes From The Lord
- 5 1 Corinthians 15:57, The Victory
- 6 Philippians 4:19, The Riches Of His Glory
- 7 Galatians 5:25, Live By The Spirit
- 8 Proverbs 31:8, Speak Up For Those Who Cannot
- 9 Isaiah 40:29, Gives Strength
- 10 Jeremiah 29:13, With All Your Heart
- 11 Acts 16:25, Midnight Praying
- 12 Philippians 1:21, To Live And To Die
- 13 Proverbs 10:29, A Refuge
- 14 Philippians 1:19, Your Prayers
- 15 Acts 13:3, Fasted And Prayed
- 16 Proverbs 3:1-2, Remember The Teachings
- 17 Matthew 5:14, Light Of The World
- 18 Proverbs 10:17, The Way To Life
- 19 James 3:13, Who Is Wise And Understanding
- 20 Acts 1:14, Constantly In Prayer
- 21 Psalm 37:28, The Lord Loves The Just
- 22 Proverbs 10:6, Blessings verses Violence
- 23 Matthew 6:25, Worry
- 24 Psalm 73:26, Our Portion Forever
- 25 Matthew 10:39, Finding and Losing
- 26 Proverbs 18:24, Friends
- 27 1 John 1:6, If We Claim
- 28 Proverbs 6:20, Keep And Do Not Forsake
- 29 Luke 6:38, Odd Math, Give And Get
- 30 Proverbs 31:19, Abundant
- 31 Ephesians 1:17, The Spirit Of Wisdom

DEVOTION

Come to me, all you that are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. - Matthew 11:28

A long, long time ago, two of my besties and I used to run marathons and bike distances. We'd pick a good cause to raise money for (and to spur us on) the Leukemia Society or the Lung Association-or something just for fun-the Rock n Roll Marathon- sign up and get training. We never took it too seriously, though. We all had little kids at home, and time and sleep were at a premium. Sometimes I think we did it just because it was a sacred, set-in-stone time alone every Saturday morning from 8-12. Pure luxury when you're balancing work and changing diapers and the age when they ask "Why Mommy? What's that? What doing, Mommy? Why?" 100 or so times a day.

Just us moms. We'd head out the door, leave our responsibilities behind, and just run. We would vent our joys and frustrations, share our life experiences with one another, seeking advice and encouragement- lifting us up and buoying us on in running, and in life.

The marathons were fun. Well, finishing them was fun, anyway. We loved running along with the beautiful autumn leaves and breezes in Minneapolis, seeing the amazing crowds cheering us on in Duluth, listening to the bagpiper on the notorious Lemon Drop Hill, and peddling through the Illinois countryside. Having no water until Mile 10 in San Diego on a blisteringly hot day? Not so much.

There comes a point in every marathon, at least for us back-of-the-packers, where you just want to stop. To sit down and rest. I remember one year sitting in a Porta Potty on Summit Avenue around mile 20 or so, my friend pounding on the door and yelling, "You're not even peeing are you?! You're just resting! Get out here and finish the race!!"

Busted.

That's how I felt yesterday. Confused, frustrated, exhausted. I had hit the proverbial running 'wall'. I crawled into bed at 11:58 and opened the *Jesus Calling* devotion by Sarah Young:

"REST IN ME MY CHILD. Give your mind a break from planning and trying to anticipate what will happen. Pray continually, asking my Spirit to take charge of the details of this day. Remember that you are on a journey with Me. When you try to peer into the future, and plan for every possibility, you ignore your Constant Companion, who sustains you moment by moment. As you gaze anxiously into the distance, you don't even feel the strong grip of My hand holding yours. How foolish you are my child! Remembrance of Me is a daily discipline. Never lose sight of My presence with you. This will keep you resting in Me, all day, every day. "

"Find rest, O my soul, in God alone; my hope comes from Him." Psalm 62:5

Thank you God. For water stops, orange slices, bagpipers, dear friends, and YOU. — PASTOR HAMMERSTEN



MOUNT OLIVET SUMMER MIDWEEKS

And It Was Good . . .

Spend this summer exploring the beauty of God's creation. Genesis 1 poetically describes God's creation of the sun, moon, and stars, and the plants, animals, and people over six days. God joyfully ended each day by declaring, "And it was good." Then God rested on the seventh day. Join the Mount Olivet pastors each Wednesday at the Conference & Retreat Center from June 22 through August 3 as they preach through the seven days of creation.

Begin each evening with fellowship and delicious food. Join our site naturalist, Dan Kahl, for nature talks and take-home tips for enhancing the beauty of your own yards. Then gather together for worship.

Bus transportation will be available from the West campus, Minneapolis campus, and 7500 York. Please register for buses 72 hours in advance. A minimum of 10 people is required from each site to provide busing. If we need to cancel the bus, you will be notified 48 hours in advance.

Schedule:

4:30pm Buses leave West and 7500 York, 5pm Bus Leaves Mpls Campus

5:30-6:30pm Dinner Served

6:30-7pm Nature Talk

7:15pm Worship

8pm Bus Departs

Cost: Dinner and program \$20. Bus Transportation \$10.

REGISTER AT MTOLIVET.ORG

DATE	PASTOR	SCRIPTURE	SPECIAL MUSIC	NATURE CLASS	MENU
JUL 6	Pastor Kurt Kalland "Third Day of Creation"	Genesis 1:9-13	Justin Staebell, tenor	Invasive Insects	BBQ Ribs, Potato Salad, Baked Beans, Coleslaw, and Rhubarb Cheesecake
JUL 13	Pastor Bill MacLean "Fourth Day of Creation"	Genesis 1:14-19	Brian Ohnsorg, tenor	How to Help the Birds	Fried Chicken, Macaroni and Cheese, Cucumber Salad, and Raspberry Sorbet
JUL 20	Pastor Ben Cieslik "Fifth Day of Creation"	Genesis 1:20-23	Luke Randall, baritone	Hummingbirds: Avian Mighty Mites	Jerk Chicken topped with Tropical Salsa, Coconut Spiced Rice, Sweet Potatoes, Garden Salad, and Vanilla Panna Cotta
JUL 27	Pastor Mark Dixon "Sixth Day of Creation"	Genesis 1:24-31	Amanda Jenkins, soprano	Oddities in Nature	Slow Cooked Corned Beef with Braised Purple Cabbage, Steamed Potatoes, Garden Salad, and Crème Brulee
AUG 3	Pastor Rebecca Freeman "Seventh Day of Creation"	Genesis 2:1-4	Kate Snyder, soprano	Animal Stories	Roasted Turkey Dinner with Turkey Gravy, Whipped Potatoes, Cranberry Compote, Glazed Carrots, Garden Salad, and Chocolate Torte with Raspberry Coulis

Tending To Trauma: Yours, Mine, And Ours

Monday, August 8, through
Tuesday, August 9

“The opposite of trauma is connection,” says therapist and sociologist Terry Real. Traumatizing experiences leave us feeling isolated and lonely. In this retreat, therapist and professor Carla Dahl will lead us in exploring how to relate to our personal trauma histories, how to recognize and tend to the evidence of traumatic experiences in others, and how to deepen our awareness of collective trauma (including intergenerational trauma and community experiences of disaster). We will discuss physiological and spiritual aspects of trauma, the importance of self-compassion, and practices and rituals that help re-establish connection with ourselves and others. Whether you are personally experiencing trauma or caring for others with traumatic experiences, (or both), this retreat will increase your capacity to live with hope and healing in the midst of it all.

Carla Dahl is Professor Emerita of Congregational and Community Care at Luther Seminary in St. Paul, Minnesota. She has trained therapists and clergy since 1993 and also has a private counseling and consulting practice, working with individuals, couples, and groups around issues of grief, spirituality, relationships, and life transitions. She’s written in the areas of ambiguous loss, families and spirituality, and the training of helping professionals; her current research focus is on long-distance grandmothering, and her research assistant, 6-year-old Guthrie, lives in northeastern Wisconsin.

A variety of overnight accommodations are available including single or double occupancy in our hotel-style rooms and occupancy in our dorm rooms. Register at mtolivetretreat.org/events.



Outdoor Summer Concert

Saturday, August 13, 5:30-
7:30pm, Conference &
Retreat Center, \$20 includes
dinner and concert

Register now for the third outdoor concert! Like the great songwriting duos of yesteryear, Louis & Dan bring comedy and smarts to music for today’s families.

Best friends, neighbors, and college professors (Louis teaches musicology at St. Olaf College, Dan teaches philosophy at Carleton College), they go together like Tacos and Tuesdays. Louis & Dan blend unique musical talents and clever word play to create deeply authentic and entertaining music. Their whimsical perspectives carry a dash of nostalgia, resulting in music that speaks to curious kids and discerning grown-ups alike. Their fourth album “The Greats” — an homage to the songs and songwriters that have inspired Louis & Dan — will be released on July 22. Their first three albums are available for listening on all major streaming platforms. To register visit mtolivetretreat.org/events.

As a reminder, we will host our second concert on July 15 with Zach Spirov.

Stargazing with Mike Lynch Save the Date

Friday, September 23 & Saturday, September 24, Conference
& Retreat Center

Save one of two dates for Stargazing this year with retired WCCO meteorologist Mike Lynch! We’ll have giant telescopes aimed at Jupiter, Saturn, star clusters, galaxies, and more. Make the stars your old friends as we watch the great celestial show in the skies over Mount Olivet Conference and Retreat Center.





GETTING TO KNOW THE BIBLE can sometimes feel like a difficult chore, but I'd argue that it doesn't have to be. Even learning and calling to mind a few brief stories and teachings of Jesus or having some sense of who wrote the scripture and what the faithful hoped to pass along can bring instant aid and assurance, direction and perspective, and even fun and humor to situations.

For instance, these past years and months I've carried closely Jesus' words about children: "The kingdom of God belongs to such as these" (Mark 10:13-16). I'm struck by how this sentence has directed my attention in the world and my work. I find I'm reminded to listen closely to what kids say and encounter. Or when confronting challenges in the world, I'm reminded to be attentive to kids. Also I remember in my baptism I'm named a "child of God." Apparently, the kingdom belongs to me as well!

At Cathedral of the Pines, a daily chapel song quotes a story in the gospel of Mark: "I believe; help my unbelief" (9:24). What a gift! I recall it's okay to be honest about my doubts and continued questions. Following Jesus doesn't mean I need to have an answer to everything.

Bible stories can bring joy. One of my favorites is the ridiculous promise Abraham and Sarah receive in the book of Genesis, when despite being childless and well past the normal years of fertility, God promises a kid. Hearing it, both Abraham and Sarah laugh so hard they fall on their faces! Have you ever laughed that hard? I have. Have you ever laughed that hard in wild cynicism toward God? I've done that, too! And here's the delight, when God's promise comes to fruition Abraham and Sarah in humble humor name their child *Isaac*, which in Hebrew means "laughter."

All this to say, I encourage you to keep reading and listening and studying the stories of scripture. Take it easy. Make it fun. Maybe put a story or verse on your mirror where you brush your teeth or by the door to the cabin, or next to where you keep your shoes. "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path" (Psalm 119:105). Maybe just focus on a few little sayings or stories which are meaningful to you. **GET TO KNOW THEM WELL AND SEE HOW THEY DIRECT YOUR ATTENTION IN THE WORLD AND YOUR FAITH IN CHRIST.**

And as always, take advantage of the educational offerings we seek to provide through Mount Olivet. From the Gospel Unplugged, to upcoming Bible studies, to sermons, to devotions, it's all offered in an attempt to help us all grow in faith. And if you ever get stumped, no worries. Feel free to send a question any of the pastors' way. We'll try to help, and if nothing else, you may hear you're not alone.

PASTOR RUUD

MOUNT OLIVET EVENING & DAYTIME BOOK DISCUSSION

Come and enjoy a lively discussion of a new book every month. Mary Slinde is facilitating both the evening and daytime discussions. The same book will be discussed at the evening and daytime options. New members are always welcome! You can join in for one discussion – or all!

DAYTIME DISCUSSIONS:

10-11:30am the second Tuesday of the month; Mpls (begins in September)

EVENING DISCUSSIONS:

7-8:30pm the second Wednesday of the month; Mpls (ongoing)

For more information and to register: mtolivet.org or contact Katie Stevenson at katies@mtolivet.org or 612.767.2232.

SAVE THE DATES!

MESSIAH SING-A-LONG

Sunday, December 4

Mpls Campus

Join Mount Olivet for a fun and casual community sing-a-long of Handel's Messiah! This festive 45 minute sing-a-long is sure to invigorate your Christmas spirit with great music, comradery, and performances by Mount Olivet's fantastic soloists and musicians. This will be a Christmas experience that you won't want to miss!

CHILDREN'S CHOIRS SING IN WORSHIP

Sunday, December 11

Mpls & West Campuses

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Sunday, December 11

3pm & 5pm, Mpls Campus

These beautiful and inspirational concerts have become a favorite Christmas event for the congregation and for the community at large. It will be a beautiful night of music that proclaims the joy and wonder of Christ's birth in song!



Christmas in July

Swimming. Backyard BBQs. Fireworks. Christmas Carols. It may seem like one of these things doesn't belong in the month of July, but while many are spending time at the cabin or the beach, soaking in the summer sunshine and listening to their favorite summer tunes, the Worship and Music office is buzzing with strains of "Joy to the World" and "O Come All Ye Faithful." Here in the middle of summer, plans for the upcoming Christmas season are in full swing; dozens of pieces of music are thoughtfully selected, professional musicians are booked, and choir schedules are finalized. You may even hear the Senior Choir gathered in the Rehearsal Hall, merrily sight-reading a new Christmas Eve anthem. It won't be long until little faces beam at us from the front of our Christmas tree-adorned sanctuaries as small, sweet voices sing about the wonder of Jesus' birth. In just a few short months, church members and visitors from far and near will gather to experience the joy of belting out the "Hallelujah Chorus" at our 2nd annual Messiah Sing-a-long, or immerse themselves in the beauty of the annual Christmas Concert, a beloved tradition that requires hours of planning and coordination of everything from lighting and sound design to detailed staging and movement directions for 200+ singers, to sorting through hundreds of battery-operated candles to make sure they're ready to illuminate the sanctuary during the beautiful closing anthem "Peace, Peace." There is certainly a lot of work to do, and so much to look forward to. So, while you're out on the golf course this summer, perhaps hum a verse of "Silent Night" and be reminded that the joy of Christmas is with us all year long, even in the middle of July!

AMANDA JENKINS, *Assistant to the Director of Worship and Music*

UPCOMING EVENTS YOUTH MINISTRY



LLAMA FARM VISIT

JULY 19

1-5pm. Visit Carlsons Lovable Llama Farm and grab Adeles Frozen Custard after. If you have question Contact Anna Herd at aherd@mtolivet.org.



HI-LEAGUE RETREAT

AUGUST 10 - 14

Compete with and against other high schoolers at COP during this high energy week! Fun will be had by all!!



9TH GRADE POOL PARTY!

AUGUST 17

Get to know Dr. Claffin, the high school youth staff and some of the Cathedral Choir section leaders at this fun Pool Party!



JHA AT VALLEYFAIR

AUGUST 22

10am-4pm. This event is for 7th and 8th graders. Meet new friends before confirmation or connect with people you met at camp this summer!



CATHEDRAL OF THE PINES CAMP

GRADES 6, 7, & 8

**TUESDAY, JULY 5 -
SUNDAY, JULY 10**

**WEDNESDAY, JULY 27 -
MONDAY, AUGUST 1**

**SUNDAY, JULY 10 -
FRIDAY, JULY 15**

CONFIRMATION CAMP

**MONDAY, AUGUST 1 -
SATURDAY, AUGUST 6**

DON'T FORGET TO SEND YOUR FRIENDS A LETTER!

Camper Name and Camping Dates
Cathedral of the Pines
PO Box 159
Lutsen, MN 55612-0159



7TH & 8TH GRADE CONFIRMATION

Confirmation occurs during the 7th and 8th grade years in school. The Confirmation program helps 7th and 8th graders learn more about the Bible and their faith while forming important relationships with their peers, pastors, youth staff, and small group leaders. Along the way, students not only learn about their faith, but make it their own. Confirmation includes weekly meetings, guided by pastors, youth staff, and small group leaders, as well as several retreat and camping opportunities. Students celebrate their affirmation of baptism in September of their 9th grade school year.

Confirmation registration is open now. Use the labeled QR Codes below to register today! If you have any questions, please contact me at 612.767.2244 or Angelas@mtolivet.org. God's blessings!

— **ANGIE ST. DENNIS**, Confirmation Coordinator, Mpls Campus



Hi, I'm Henry and I'm in Confirmation and Chancel Choir. Confirmation is really fun and I think everyone should do it. It's a great chance to hang out with your friends outside of school. Everyone there is super chill. I've met a lot of new people through confirmation and I'm very happy about that. First, you go into a large group and listen to the pastor give a lesson about a subject. Then you go into a small group and talk about it. Small group is really fun. I have learned a lot about the Bible and its lessons for me. And if you do Chancel Choir, you get to eat dinner at church before Confirmation. The dinner is really good. It's usually pizza or something great that the cooks at Mount Olivet make. Overall Confirmation is super fun and I recommend it to anyone who's going to be in 7th grade next year. It's an awesome chance to be with your friends and meet new people. I look forward to Wednesday nights and I think you will too.

— **HENRY STRACKE**, 8th Grade, South View Middle School



REGISTER TODAY!

Scan the QR Codes below to register for a confirmation class!

**MPLS CAMPUS 7TH
GRADE CONFIRMATION**



**MPLS CAMPUS 8TH
GRADE CONFIRMATION**



**WEST CAMPUS 7TH
GRADE CONFIRMATION**



**WEST CAMPUS 8TH
GRADE CONFIRMATION**



JOIN US & VOLUNTEER IN SUNDAY SCHOOL!



“I think Sunday School is the foundation—the beginning of feeling safe and loved at church. If you have a place to belong and start learning about Jesus, you can continue to grow in your faith and friendships, who wouldn’t want to be a part of that?!”

—AMEE LIABRAATEN, Mpls Campus Sunday School Volunteer

Behind the scene: Sunday School volunteers; Elizabeth Klassen and Denise Johnson share their time during the week. We’re grateful for their help in prepping activities and crafts for upcoming Sunday School curriculum.



We’d love to have you support our Sunday School ministry as a volunteer! Please contact Faith Formation Coordinator, Amy Porthan, for more information at amyp@mtolivet.org or 612.767.2285.

SUNDAY SCHOOL 2022-23 REGISTRATION IS OPEN! We will offer a music and creative arts-based Sunday School program during the 9 and 10am services at the Minneapolis and West Campus for children 3 years (and potty trained) through 6th grade. The first day of Sunday School will be Rally Sunday, September 11!

SAVE THE DATE FOR THE MOUNT OLIVET PRESCHOOL OPEN HOUSE!

Tuesday, August 23, 5:30-7pm, Mpls Campus Preschool

Come get a tour of the Mount Olivet Preschool, meet the staff, and learn about the programming options we can offer to children and families. We’d love to partner with you for your child’s early education experience and hope to see you there! Please contact Alyssa Hill, Mount Olivet Preschool Director with any questions about programming or enrollment options at ahill@mtolivet.org or 612.767.2216.



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.

KINDERGARTEN - 6TH GRADE FULL DAY OPTIONS

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



FOOD DRIVE

Sunday, July 10, 8:30-11 am,
Mpls & West Campuses

Please donate non-perishable food items for our community partners. Donations from the Mpls campus will benefit VEAP and West campus donations will benefit Bountiful Baskets.



BLOOD DRIVE

Monday, August 1, 1-6pm,
Mpls Campus

Your blood donation saves lives, and is more important now than ever! The Blood Mobile will be at the Minneapolis Campus, James Ave side on Monday, August 1 from 1-6pm. To schedule an appointment contact Memorial Blood Centers at 1-888-GIVE-BLD or visit mbc.org/search/drives and enter sponsor code 0313.

SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE

DONATIONS NEEDED!

On-going through Sunday, August 21

This summer Mount Olivet is hosting a school supply drive for local elementary schools to ensure students have the materials they need to enrich and succeed in their learning environment. We have partnered with three elementary schools in Minneapolis: Anishinabe Academy (A MPS Community School focusing on Native American language and culture), Lucy Craft Laney (A MPS Community School serving PK-5th grade students in North Minneapolis), and Cityview (A MPS Community School as well as a Turnaround Arts School, making connections to academics through creativity and the arts). We are also working with Love INC at our West Campus through an existing school supply drive benefiting elementary schools in the west metro. Please join us in this exciting new summer service opportunity by bringing your donations with you to Sunday worship this summer. Suggested donation items:

- #2 Pencils
- Erasers
- Pens (black or blue)
- Pencil boxes
- Pencil pouch
- Pocket folders
- Loose-leaf paper
- Spiral notebooks
- Crayons
- Markers
- Colored pencils
- Sharpeners
- Water bottles
- Glue sticks
- All-purpose glue bottles
- Scissors
- Headphones
- Backpacks
- 500 yellow or multicolor highlighters
- 200 Packs of 10 basic/classic washable markers



INNER CITY MINISTRY UPDATE

Pastor Scott and our volunteers continue our inner city ministry program. Please be aware that the Inner City Ministry is no longer accepting donations of any electronic equipment. This includes all computer related equipment (i.e. monitors, computers, speakers, keyboards, computer games, printers, etc.), plus radios and televisions. Please recycle this equipment responsibly thru county electronics recycling programs or through any other private recycling services. We still welcome and will gratefully continue to accept gently used clean clothing, bedding, household goods, toys and furniture. Please continue to contact Pastor Scott to arrange for furniture pick-ups.

WHY DO WE GIVE?

WHY DO WE GIVE TO MOUNT OLIVET? MANY REASONS, BUT TODAY WE SHARE WITH YOU TWO IMPACTFUL EXPERIENCES THAT SOLIDIFY OUR COMMITMENT TO SUPPORT THE MANY MINISTRIES OF MOUNT OLIVET.

SINGING ON CHRISTMAS EVE 2021

This past year, Christmas Eve was extra special. I was so grateful to be singing with the Senior Choir at Minneapolis. The joy-filled energy in that beautiful sanctuary was palpable. Family and friends hugged or fist-bumped with hearty greetings of “Merry Christmas!” and “So good to SEE you!” The pews were filled more so than they had been in a long time. The Christmas Story was beautifully told in word and song as it has been for decades at Mount Olivet. Pastor Lose reminded us all of the incredible love given to everyone through the gift of the baby Jesus. We as a choir sang “The First Noel” and I leaned into my favorite alto note (middle A) with a renewed sense of purpose. And as a congregation, we closed out the service with a rousing rendition of “Joy to the World!” (Joy, indeed - the Lord has come!) And as we all lit candles at the 10pm service, I felt such immense gratitude in my heart and my bones.



My giving to Mount Olivet and its ministries is a direct response to that experience of utter love, community, and joy I felt on Christmas Eve 2021. How can I not give back? How about you?

KATIE STEVENSON, *Director of Stewardship*

VOLUNTEERING AT THE COMMUNITY MEALS

Volunteering with the Community Meals has been both a great way to give back to the community, and an eye-opener. I worked there one or two times a week, had a blast with my fellow volunteers, and enjoyed talking with the many people who drove through to pick up meals they needed. The eye-opening part was that I saw many different types of people in need. There were families, single people, and everyone in-between. You never knew why they needed the assistance, but I was happy to help provide it without any judgment or prerequisites. It’s one of the reasons I give to Mount Olivet and its ministries. How about you?



MARK STEVENSON, *Grateful Volunteer who just happens to be married to the Director of Stewardship*

PLEASE CONSIDER MAKING A GIFT TO MOUNT OLIVET

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

WAYS TO GIVE

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.*



UPCOMING AT MOUNT OLIVET

YOUNG IN HEART

Tuesday July 12, 1pm, \$3 per person

Young in Heart and Friends are invited to an afternoon at the movies, we will be watching Rodgers and Hammerstein's "The King and I." Please register by July 8 at mtolivet.org or by contacting Julie Goodman 612.767.2208 or julieg@mtolivet.org.

SENIOR CHOIR OPEN SING

July 10, 8am Rehearsal, Sing at the 9 & 10am Services Mpls Campus

Have you ever thought about joining the choir? At the Mpls Campus, we will offer a pop-up choir experience for anyone interested in singing for worship. This is an easy opportunity to join with members of the Senior Choir and experience the joy of singing beautiful music with others. It will be a fun morning and we would love to have you join us! Visit mtolivet.org for more information and to sign up!

FLYING SOLO COFFEE IN THE COURTYARD

Sunday, July 17, following the 10am service, Mpls Campus

Sunday, August 14, following the 10am service, West Campus

Join us for worship and then enjoy some coffee and sweet treats in the courtyard at the Mpls Campus following the service. Flying Solo is an adventure, service and fellowship group for Singles ages 40-60! Please register at mtolivet.org if you plan to attend. If you have questions, please contact Pastor Freeman at rfreeman@mtolivet.org.

VENDOR APPLICATION FOR HOLIDAY BOUTIQUE AND HOLYDAY MARKET

Register through August 1

Calling Local Vendors for the Mpls Holiday Boutique and West Holiday Market! The Boutique is on Saturday, 11/5, 9am-2pm at the Mpls Campus and the Market is on Saturday, 11/12, 9am-2pm at the West Campus. Apply for either or both at mtolivet.org. Questions? Contact Sandy Remes at 612.791.1094 for the Mpls Holiday Boutique, and Deb Kind 612.718.6753 or Teresa Elsbernd 612.867.1087 for the West Holiday Market. Invite fellow crafters to apply!

MOCW SOCIAL

Tuesday, August 16, 5-8pm, Edina Country Club

The MOCW board is hosting a fun social to bring people together. Grab your fellow circle members, non-member friends, or come as you are to enjoy a night of fellowship! No need to register. Donations are accepted the night of the event. Hope to see you there!

18TH MOTORHEADS' SHOW & BLESSING SERVICE

Sunday, August 21, 5pm Show, 6:30pm Blessing of Motors & Drivers, West Campus

Featuring awesome vehicles, the Nordic Surf Band, outdoor blessing service, awards, and FREE raffle drawing. Food will be served outdoors (bring your own chair). There is no charge for spectators or exhibitors, but donations are encouraged and appreciated! No preregistration necessary (windshield signs and souvenir dash plaques will be available at the event). Rain or shine!



**MOUNT OLIVET
LUTHERAN CHURCH**

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FOOD DRIVE

Sun 7/10, Mpls & West