

OCTOBER 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**
9, 10, 11am

HOLY COMMUNION
8:30 & 11:45am

NURSERY
9, 10, 11am

OCTOBER 2

FAITHFUL FRIENDS
Mark 2:1-12

- M** 9, 10, 11am
SERMON Pastor MacLean
- W** 9, 10, 11am
SERMON Pastor Kalland

OCTOBER 9

**LIVING STONES,
CHOSEN PEOPLE,
ROYAL PRIESTHOOD**
1 Peter 2:4-5, 9-10

- M** 9, 10, 11am
SERMON Pastor Cieslik
- W** 9, 10, 11am
SERMON Pastor Dixon

OCTOBER 16

**RECLAIMING OUR
STORY**
2 Kings 23:1-2, 21-23

- M** 9, 10, 11am
SERMON Pastor Lose
- W** 9, 10, 11am
SERMON Pastor Ruud

OCTOBER 23

THE GOOD SHEPHERD
John 10:1-16

- M** 9, 10, 11am
SERMON Pastor Hammersten
- W** 9, 10, 11am
SERMON Pastor Dixon

OCTOBER 30

**REFORMATION
THE NEW COVENANT**
Jeremiah 31:31-34

- M** 9, 10, 11am
SERMON Pastor Lose
- W** 9, 10, 11am
SERMON Pastor Ruud

WEDNESDAYS

HOLY COMMUNION
The first Wednesday of each month at the Mpls campus at 12noon, a brief in-person Holy Communion service will be offered. No registration required.

The Gift and Promise of Belonging

About twenty years ago, the field of psychology took a dramatic turn. Practitioners realized that after more than a century of treating mental illness, mental health conditions had not improved but actually declined. In response, psychologists began shifting their focus from simply treating mental illness to building mental health and resilience. One of the factors researchers identified as paramount to maintaining mental health and happiness is an important word at Mount Olivet and the focus of this month's sermon series: *belonging*.

Three important things to note about belonging from recent research. First, belonging is not the same as "fitting in." While these two are often confused, the difference couldn't be more stark. "Fitting in" requires you to assess what you need to do or be or change in order to be accepted. In contrast, belonging is the sense that you are accepted just as you are. Second, belonging is a "gift that keeps on giving," as when you feel you belong you are likelier to feel greater confidence, hope, and peace as well. Third, belonging reminds us how important community is. While our culture tends to celebrate individualism, the confidence that you belong and are accepted by others is one thing that you can't achieve by yourself. Belonging is always a gift given and received in community.

Interestingly, this new research actually confirms deep convictions within the Christian tradition. Baptism, the rite by which we receive people into the Church, is principally about belonging. For this reason, the Apostle Paul and other early church leaders talked about baptism in terms of "adoption" (Rom. 8) and "being grafted into" the family of faith (Rom. 11). As we heard in worship this summer, Paul also spoke about all of us belonging to the body of Christ (1 Cor. 12), each one of us granted unique gifts and abilities to contribute to the communal good. We've chosen several biblical stories this month to help us explore and deepen not just our understanding of belonging, but our actual sense that we *do* belong, that we are accepted as we are and valued for who we are. These passages share timeless truths about the power of friendship (Oct. 2) and the importance of a community's story (Oct. 16), and they offer a powerful vision of how God uses us to build a church (Oct. 9) where all are welcome and belong (Oct. 23). I hope you can attend worship in-person or, when you have to miss, catch the livestream or a recording of the service.

I was struck again at how central belonging is to our life at Mount Olivet this past Rally Sunday, the day Sunday School resumes, we welcome our choirs back into the loft, and anticipate another year filled with opportunities to grow in our faith and deepen our relationships with God and each other. It's a day when it feels like every nook and cranny of the church is filled with the excitement of all that is to come. In between worship services on days like this, I love to get over to the music and education wing of the Minneapolis campus to pray with the choirs and greet the families and kids coming to Sunday School.

I especially enjoy meeting those kids who are just starting their journey at Mount Olivet, as it's so fun to anticipate all that awaits them: choir, camp, confirmation, youth group, retreats, and more. On this day, however, and especially for those who are new, all the activity can be a little daunting, and a kaleidoscope of emotions can wash over a child in just a few moments. One young girl, for instance, proclaimed when she saw me, "I just started kindergarten!" with a huge smile on her face. On seeing the classroom where she was going, however, she froze, probably wondering if she would "fit in." But then she saw a familiar face, received a hug from the teacher, and you could see her not just relax, but actually bask in the sense that she belonged, that she was meant to be here.

That's the gift that we try to offer everyone who comes through the doors of our church: the belief, conviction, and confidence that they – that all of us! – belong here, are meant to be here, can count on being accepted just as we are, valued for who are, and drawn into a community and congregation blessed by God to be a blessing to the world.

So come each Sunday to be reminded again that you belong... and to share that gift of belonging and acceptance with others. You'll likely see some old friends and just as likely meet some new ones, as together we grow into God's call and promise to be, together, the body of Christ! See you in Church!



Pastor Lose

DAVID J. LOSE, SENIOR PASTOR

MOUNT OLIVET HIRES NEW DIRECTOR FOR THE COUNSELING SERVICE

We are excited to share the news that Sherri Dunham is our new Director of the Mount Olivet Counseling Service. Sherri is a licensed professional clinical counselor who started her work at the Counseling Service in May of 2021 and became the formal Director on July 1 of this year. Sherri grew up in the Twin Cities area and has been practicing mental health for the past 12 years. She worked in accounting and technology for 15 years prior to transitioning to health care, bringing a unique business background to the organization. Sherri earned her master's degree from the University of St. Thomas in counseling psychology and is a trauma-informed therapist specializing in mindfulness and integrating spirituality with clinical psychology. In her free time, Sherri enjoys spending time with family and friends, camping, reading and retreats. Welcome to your new role, Sherri!



BECOME A MOUNT OLIVET MEMBER

Mount Olivet offers a tremendous number of worship services, fellowship groups, service opportunities, and educational events and programs. Exploring the possibility of joining Mount Olivet is as easy as contacting Carol Nault, our Director of Membership. She can answer your questions and help you explore how Mount Olivet can enrich your faith. Attend a very informative new member orientation and find out what it means to be a member of this amazing congregation! Meet the pastors, some of the staff, members of the Board of Life and Growth and connect with other people who will be joining Mount Olivet. The upcoming dates are:

- Saturday, October 29, 9:30-11 am, Mpls Campus
- Sunday, October 30, 12noon-1:30pm, West Campus
- Sunday, November 6, 12noon-1:30 pm, Mpls Campus

New Members will be recognized during the worship service on Sunday, November 13. To learn more or to register, please contact Carol Nault, at caroln@mtolivet.org or 612.767.2204.

MOUNT OLIVET HOMES' VOLUNTEER OPEN HOUSE!

Thursday, October 13, 1-4pm, Mount Olivet Home

Interested in learning about opportunities at Mount Olivet Homes? Already one of our active volunteers? All are invited to an afternoon of treats, beverages, information, prizes and fun! There are volunteer opportunities open at Mount Olivet Home, Careview, and Day Services for people ages 15 and above. Programming throughout our facilities is in full swing, and we would love to welcome you to our team. Please invite a friend, family member – anyone who is ready to make a difference in the lives of others, as well as their own! RSVP requested for this event to Laurie Hancer at 612.821.3232 or lhancer@mtolivethomes.org.

LIFE & GROWTH

AUG 13 - SEP 12

BAPTISMS

- Beau Thomas Bridgeford**
son of Grace and Thomas
- Oaks Grayton Carlson**
son of Katy and Brett
- Ethan Chen Erickson**
son of Bingqing and Steven
- Emily Jeanne Henjum**
daughter of Nicole and Chris
- Jett Alexander Ingersoll**
son of Ian Ingersoll
- Grace Rosalie Patterson**
daughter of Ashley and Christopher
- Hayes Douglas Swatfager**
son of Kristina and Daniel
- Mathilda Rose Truwit**
daughter of Lauren and Peter
- Jude Erickson Truwit**
son of Lauren and Peter
- Blake Kelly Wotschke**
daughter of Stephanie and Daniel

WEDDINGS

- Patricia Denison & Scott MacKinnon**, September 3
- Christina Wulf & Justin Dedrick**, September 9

DEATHS

- Maxine G. Anton**
1928 – 2022
- Margaret A. Eaton**
1918 - 2022
- Elizabeth L. Jones**
1929 – 2022
- Lois Lash**
1925 – 2022
- Linda D. Martin**
1946 - 2022
- Robert H. Rustvold**
1922 – 2022
- John JI Sampers**
1992 – 2022
- Elizabeth M. Schoon**
1928 – 2022
- Ann Sonnesyn**
1947-2022
- James J. Spar**
1953 – 2022
- Judy Volinkaty-Bickel**
1942 – 2022

DAILY READINGS

FROM PASTOR KALLAND
OCTOBER 2022

- 1 Psalm 34:19, The Lord Delivers
- 2 2 Peter 3:18, Grow In Grace
- 3 Psalm 34:15, The Eyes Of The Lord
- 4 Acts 16:32, Believe In The Lord Jesus
- 5 Romans 14:4, The Lord Is Able
- 6 Proverbs 3:9, Honor The Lord With Your Wealth
- 7 Romans 14:13, Stop Passing Judgement
- 8 Matthew 11:29-30, Gentle And Humble In Heart
- 9 Psalm 73:25, Who Have I In Heaven?
- 10 Romans 14:8, We Are The Lord's
- 11 Hebrews 13:6, What Can Mere Mortals Do To Me?
- 12 1 Thessalonians 4:14, Died And Rose Again
- 13 Romans 6:5-6, A Resurrection Like His
- 14 Proverbs 10:2, Ill-gotten Treasure
- 15 John 3:3, Born Again
- 16 1 Thessalonians 5:6, Awake And Sober
- 17 Psalm 3:8, Blessings Be On Your People
- 18 John 1:14, Full Of Grace And Truth
- 19 Proverbs 31:9, Defend The Rights Of The Poor And Needy
- 20 John 4:14, Welling Up To Eternal Life
- 21 Psalm 80:19, Restore Us
- 22 2 Corinthians 4:17, Momentary Troubles
- 23 Acts 13:38-39, Through Jesus
- 24 Acts 2:21, Call On The Lord
- 25 John 1:18, The One And Only Son
- 26 Psalm 118:5, I Cried To The Lord
- 27 Mark 9:25, Servant Of All
- 28 James 4:10, Humble Yourself
- 29 Matthew 7:12, Do To Others
- 30 1 Peter 1:15-16 In All You Do
- 31 Revelation 5:13, For Ever And Ever

DEVOTION

“Have I not commanded you, be strong and courageous? Do not be terrified, do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.” – Joshua 1:9

My grandma gave me a great piece of wisdom years ago when I was discerning a major life decision. She saw me struggling, leaned over, and quietly shared two simple words with me, “Be brave.”

I imagine the words to be much like the words given to Joshua in the passage above. After Moses’ death, the Lord commissioned Joshua to lead the Israelites across the Jordan into the promised land of Canaan.

It must have been a frightening undertaking for Joshua and the people of Israel to change what they were doing (wandering in the wilderness) and proceed to the land that God had promised. Yet it says so very clearly that the Lord would be with them wherever they would go.

The same is true for us. Bravery and courage are often named when we see big acts of heroism and sacrifice. But the truth is, as Joan Chittister beautifully states, “courage is what carries simple people through an average day. It’s the spiritual strength that gives direction in the midst of confusion.”

I’ve heard it said that there are 365 passages in the Bible that say, “Do not be afraid.” That is a reminder for each day of the year. I’ve also heard it said that courage is not separated from fear, but is a child of fear. Though we long to be free of fear, it is fear that actually ushers in the ability to be courageous.

God knows that fear is normal, but God also leads us to trust and live courageously, for God promises to be with us wherever we go.

“Be brave.” That’s enough for today and every day. Thanks be to God. Amen. — PASTOR FREEMAN



MOCW HOLIDAY BOUTIQUE & HOLIDAY MARKET



Saturday, November 5, 9am-2pm, Mpls Campus

Saturday, November 12, 9am-2pm, West Campus

Join us for the MOCW Holiday Boutique and Holiday Market featuring fine art, crafts, pottery, jewelry, home decor, culinary gifts, “Dala House” kids-only shopping, and more! For questions about the Boutique, contact Sandy Remes at mtolivetboutique@gmail.com or 612.791.1094.

For questions about the Market, contact Teresa Elsbernd at 612.867.1087 or Deb Kind at westholidaymarket@gmail.com or 612.718.6753 for West Campus Market.

Y UNG IN HEART & FRIENDS

65 YEAR ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION!!!

Tuesday, October 18, 12noon, Mpls Campus, \$10 per person

Come and celebrate 65 years of Young in Heart & Friends with great food, music, a brief historical overview, community service opportunities, and news about upcoming events. The Bob Coates Band will be our entertainment. Register by October 14, at mtolivet.org, or by contacting Tricia Asuncion at tasuncion@mtolivet.org or 612.767.2210.

FALL FIELD TRIP TO BACHMAN'S

Thursday, October 27, 11:30am

Mpls Campus/Bachman's on 60th and Lyndale

Enjoy great food, shopping and fellowship. See all of nature's finest blooming plants that bring joy to our lives.

Event Timeline:

- 11:30am: Meet at the Mpls Campus, bus departs at 11:40am
- 12noon: Lunch at Patrick's Bakery and Café. Choice of box lunch (includes sandwich or salad, chips, dessert and a beverage). Orders will be taken after registration.
- After lunch: enjoy shopping and fellowship
- 1:30pm: Bus departs for Mount Olivet, Mpls Campus

Registration for this event is limited to 25 people. Cost information below:

Option 1: Event and Transportation: \$22 which includes meal, all taxes and gratuities.

Option 2: Event Only: \$17 which includes meal, all taxes and gratuities. You provide transportation to and from Bachman's.

Registration will be open through October 18, at mtolivet.org, or by contacting Tricia Asuncion at tasuncion@mtolivet.org or 612.767.2210.

WELCOME RACHEL SUFFICOOL!



Rachel Sufficool may be a new staff member in Congregational Care, but is not new to Mount Olivet. Rachel (Ericksen) Sufficool has grown up at Mount Olivet. Rachel has been a part of the choir programs, Hi-league, taught Confirmation, volunteered as a workstaffer and counselor and was on Camp Staff at Cathedral of the Pines.

Rachel's role at Mount Olivet in the Congregational Care department as the Wellness Coordinator. She will be a part of events that we host, focus on issues related to mental health and work with people with developmental disabilities. Rachel's background is in special education, and she previously worked in the St Paul public schools.

We are excited to have Rachel as a part of the Congregational Care Team!



GETTING THE HELP YOU NEED

A resource for those experiencing a mental health crisis was recently rolled out. The phone number 988 is now the designated three-digit dialing code that routes callers to the National Suicide Prevention Line. I'm glad for this easily accessible component of care that will certainly improve mental health outcomes in the U.S. Having said that, my hope is that people at risk for mental health crises will access care before it reaches that level of need.

Most people who delay seeking help at the onset of mental health symptoms do so because their symptoms develop gradually. They are the mental health equivalent of joint pain that develops over a period of time caused by overuse rather than a severe injury sustained in an accident. Some of these common mental health symptoms include: changes in sleep or appetite, not really enjoying things like you used to, having trouble concentrating, feeling more irritable, avoiding things that make you anxious, and/or having persistent fearful thoughts.

Like a sore shoulder, these symptoms are ones we might try to manage on our own first. None of them would likely send a person to the nearest hospital for care. But if left to persist, untreated mental health symptoms and the unhealthy ways we sometimes cope with them, can worsen and sometimes lead to a crisis. If you are noticing a shift in your thoughts, feelings, or behavior that's causing suffering, please consider getting help sooner rather than later. We are here to help you at Mount Olivet Counseling Service.

SARA WATNE, MA, LPCC, Mount Olivet Counseling Service

MENTAL HEALTH CONNECT

Mount Olivet Church is one of 33 churches in the Twin Cities who are a part of Mental Health Connect. Mental Health Connect is an interfaith collaborative ministry based at Bethlehem Lutheran Church Twin Cities, addressing mental health awareness, fighting stigma, working through systemic barriers, and increasing access to mental health services. Mental Health Connect serves all people, and will help you navigate through your specific situation with support and resources. Mental Health Connect offers webinars and special events throughout the year. If you would like to learn more about the Mental Health Connect please contact them at 612.642.1220 or navigator@mhconnect.org or visit their website mhconnect.org.

COUNSELING SERVICES

Our services help people work through their problems through the use of psychotherapy, and/or medication in a supportive setting that is open to those of all faith perspectives. Our therapists include Licensed Marriage and Family Therapists, Licensed Professional Clinical Counselors, and a Licensed Alcohol and Drug Counselor. We offer therapy for adults, older children, adolescents, couples and families. We are currently providing in-person services and secure telehealth services via video and telephone. To schedule an appointment with the Mount Olivet Counseling Service please contact Molly Pach at mpach@mtolivetcounseling.org or 612.927.7335 ext. 110.

Original Blessing: *Creation*

A well-known and much-examined and debated doctrine in Christian theology is the doctrine of “original sin” that seeks to articulate and describe the nature of the brokenness, conflict, trouble, and/or discord in our relationship to God, each other, and the creation. Yet, even before “original sin” one could say both from scripture and experience that there is first “original blessing.” The blessing is initiated by God, and the first words of the Bible articulate it well, “in the beginning God created...” (Genesis 1:1). This is to say, before anything happens in our life or the story of God’s work there is first the original blessing of the relationship God institutes in creation.

This “original blessing” first establishes the foundation to the question, “Who?”, as in, “Who created?” It establishes all that exists, certainly including our own lives, as under the authorship and authority of God. Yet, while it may seem simplistic at first, digging into this blessing reveals huge implications of deep relationship, our interwoven responsibility between God, each other, and the whole creation, and God’s stunning gift of vocation to us as partners – yes, partners! – with and in relationship with God in caring for, stewarding, preserving, and nurturing all that God has made. Wow!

Join in this November as we learn, discuss, and ponder the enormous depth of God’s original blessing in the creation and how it matters for our walk with God and each other in this world!

PASTOR RUUD

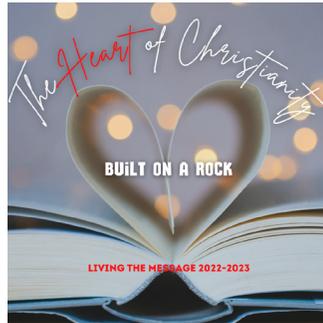
UPCOMING CLASSES:

OCTOBER 4: God Talk: *Theology In and Out of the Bible* at Mpls in 207

NOVEMBER 1: Original Blessing: *Creation* at West in the Rehearsal Hall

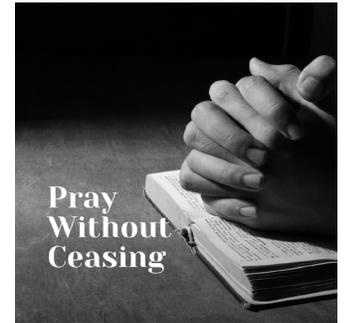
DECEMBER 6: Missing the Mark: *Sin* at Mpls in 207

This Living the Message is taught by Pastors Lose and Ruud the first Tuesday of each month beginning in October (6:30-7:30pm), or via monthly emailed videos.



Pray Without Ceasing

It’s not too late to join some of your Mount Olivet Pastors in tackling, discussing, and learning about all prayer. Sign up now and you can catch up with the October videos and/or attend the November classes.



OCTOBER 19/20:

What Is Prayer? with Pastor MacLean

OCTOBER 26/27: *Prayer & the Community of the Spirit* with Pastor Dixon

NOVEMBER 2/3: *Prayers My Grandmother Taught Me* with Pastor Kalland

NOVEMBER 9/10: *How Should We Pray?* with Pastor Freeman

This “Word with Your Pastors” series centered on the prayer runs 10:30-11:30am Wednesdays at Mpls and Thursday at West or via emailed pre-recorded videos.

BOOK DISCUSSIONS EVENING & DAYTIME OPTIONS

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

UPCOMING BOOKS:

OCTOBER: *After You’d Gone* by Maggie O’Farrell

NOVEMBER: *Harlem Shuffle* by Colson Whitehead

DECEMBER: *Four Seasons in Rome* by Anthony Doerr

JANUARY: *The Seed Keeper* by Diane Wilson

DAYTIME DISCUSSIONS: 10-11:30am the second Tuesday of the month; Mpls

EVENING DISCUSSIONS: 7-8:30pm the second Wednesday of the month; Mpls

Register for all Adult Education classes at mtolivet.org/education or contact Katie Stevenson at katies@mtolivet.org or 612.767.2232.

Growing Through Grief

Saturday, November 5,
9am-4pm, Held at Mount
Olivet Conference & Retreat
Center and co-sponsored
with Grace Hospice, Mount
Olivet Congregational Care
team, and the Counseling
Service.



Whether you are grieving the death of a loved one, severed relationships, the loss of dreams, or more, this retreat will provide an opportunity for you to grow and heal. Experientially focused, it will include options for processing grief through music, art, movement, prayer, meditation, and time in nature. In addition, participants can meet briefly with a counselor, spiritual director, or pastor for support and consultation throughout the day.

LEADERSHIP TEAM:

Sherrri Dunham, MA, LPCC is a Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor and the Clinical Director at Mount Olivet Counseling Service.

Rev. Kurt Kalland is Associate Pastor and Pastoral Adviser to the Congregational Care team at Mount Olivet Lutheran Church.

Rev. Theresa F. Latini, Ph.D. is Executive Director of Mount Olivet Conference & Retreat Center and an ordained minister in the Presbyterian Church (USA).

Mary Lord, MM, MT-BC is a Board-Certified Music Therapist with a Certification in Hospice and Palliative Care Music Therapy and offers end-of-life care at Grace Hospice.

Nancy Loyd, MA is the Grief Support Supervisor at Grace Hospice as well as a Certified Spiritual Director.

Kristen Mastel is a certified Forest Therapy Guide with Forest Therapy Hub, an Outreach Librarian, and a Minnesota Master Naturalist.

Sara Watne, MA, LPCC is a Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor who facilitates the grief support group at Mount Olivet Counseling Service.

Register at mtolivetretreat.org/events. Lunch included. Sliding fee scale options: \$50, \$75, \$125.

Fall Volunteer Day

Saturday, October 29, 9am-3pm, Conference & Retreat Center

Looking for a fall volunteer opportunity or time away in nature with the whole family? Sign up now to help ready the Mount Olivet Conference & Retreat Center grounds for the winter season.

Volunteers will help with installing deer fencing around white cedar trees, raking leaves, wood splitting, wood chipping, and other seasonal projects.

In addition to these regular projects, we're partnering with Children & Family Ministries to host a Family Day Away! Sign up with CFM if you're interested in participating in programming like art, hiking, and swimming. Both the volunteers and families will enjoy a delicious meal from our kitchen and have opportunities to swim in the pool, explore the trails, play on the natural playscape, and delight in any of our indoor and outdoor amenities.

Thanks in advance for helping us care for this corner of creation! Register at mtolivetretreat.org/events to register for Fall Volunteer Day and mtolivetretreat.org/events for Family Day Away.



Save the Dates!

CRAFTY LADIES RETREAT

November 18-20, Conference & Retreat Center

Experienced and beginning crafters are invited to Conference & Retreat Center for a weekend of uninterrupted crafting. We provide the beautiful space and you bring your craft projects! Meet other crafters, enjoy home cooked meals from our kitchen, and relax and unwind with a peaceful walk in the woods or a dip in the whirlpool. Register by Friday, November 11 at mtolivetretreat.org/events.

DAY ADVENT JOURNEY

November 29, 9am-3pm, Conference & Retreat Center

Mark your calendars for Day Advent Journey 2022! Spend a day at the Conference & Retreat Center to prepare for the next liturgical season. Led by pastors from the church and the retreat center. Cost is \$20 for lunch and program. Bus transportation is available for \$10 from the West Campus, 7500 York, and the Mpls Campus. Register at mtolivetretreat.org/events by Tuesday, November 22.

UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES

To register for these events or learn more about these offerings, please contact Geoff Arenson, Director of Youth Ministry, geoffa@mtolivet.org, 612.767.2212.



PUMPKIN PATCH UNLOAD

OCTOBER 9 1-4pm, 1700 Parking Lot. Families, we need your help unloading the pumpkins! Look for registration information from Geoff! Please contact Geoff with questions at geoffa@mtolivet.org.



JHA SCREAM TOWN

OCTOBER 15 Join the JHA Youth Staff and friends for a pizza party at the WEST campus followed by a night at Screamtown for some spooky fun! All are welcome.



MEA DAY AWAY

OCTOBER 20 Join the JHA Youth Staff and friends on for an MEA Day Away adventure! We will be going on a hike followed by lunch, shopping time, and rides at the Mall of America.



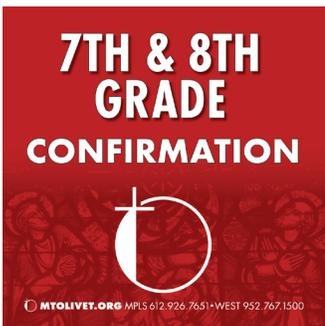
HI-LEAGUE FALL CAMP

OCTOBER 20-23 9th, 10th, and 11th Graders have the chance to spend a long weekend up at Cathedral of the Pines this fall! To register login to your CampBrain account and select weekend retreats 2022.



HI-LEAGUE SCHEDULE

10/9 1-4pm. Pumpkin Patch Unload
10/16 5-8pm. Hayride
10/30 7-8pm. Halloween Bingo



CONFIRMATION

REMINDERS!

There will be no Confirmation on Wednesday, October 19, or Sunday, October 23.



INSTAGRAM

ARE YOU ON INSTAGRAM?

Follow us on Instagram @mtolivet_youth. We post fun pictures, information about upcoming events, and weekly devotionals written by our youth!



PUMPKIN PATCH

OCTOBER 10-30

Come and get a pumpkin from the Pumpkin Patch to support the Cathedral Choir. The Patch is open weekdays 1-7pm, and on weekends 10am-5pm.



CHANCEL CHOIR GUSTAVUS RETREAT HIGHLIGHT

I've rarely seen wider eyes or bigger smiles on the faces of middle school kids than when the Chancel Choir steps foot in the campus cafeteria during their annual retreat to Gustavus Adolphus College (chicken tenders AND pizza AND cheeseburgers, oh my!). Their energy is palpable as they jump around en masse at the dance in The Dive and play games with the Youth Staff and high school counselors (many of whom attended the same retreat when they were in Chancel Choir). And then there's my favorite part - tired Chancel Choir kids from both Mount Olivet campuses stumbling into Christ Chapel the next morning for a rehearsal, singing songs together in that sacred space while sharing a pew with friends they've made in confirmation, or at camp, or just the night before. It's an action-packed 18 hours for sure, and if you're in 7th or 8th grade, an experience that's not to be missed! The Gustavus Adolphus retreat is open to all Chancel Choir members. Register for the Chancel Choir and the retreat at mtolivet.org.

— **Amanda Jenkins, Director of Chancel Choir, Minneapolis Campus**



The Chancel Choir Gustavus Retreat has a special place in my heart. Not only is it a great time to meet new friends and rehearse in a beautiful chapel, but it is something that can grow with you. I joined this retreat as a Chancel Choir member in junior high. I was nervous to go but was soon laughing with my friends and eating amazing food in the cafeteria – I couldn't stop smiling!

As I continued into high school, it was an easy decision to counsel this retreat. I was excited to get to know the new Chancel Choir members and participate in the high energy, laughter, and bonding that this weekend brings. I realized that Gustavus was an environment where I felt comfortable growing closer to God – something that Mount Olivet always gave me. Through going to this retreat year after year, I realized Gustavus was a lot like Mount Olivet, which is why I decided to attend college there.

It was truly a full circle moment when I was able to help with this retreat as a college student. I saw the groups of junior highers running into Alumni Hall, eager and looking forward to all the memories they would make on this overnight. I knew exactly how they felt. It made my heart full knowing that this retreat really solidified how much I loved Mount Olivet and all the opportunities it brings you to learn more about yourself and more about your relationship with your spirituality.

— **Elsa Beise**



SUMMER SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE RECAP & IMPACT!

Thank you! Thank you! The congregation-wide school supply drive was a wonderful success! Donations poured in over the summer weeks and filled an entire storage room! During the last few days of summer programming, our Day Camp campers helped to organize and pack all donations. This was no small task!

200 marker packs and 500 highlighters were sent to support the Love INC school supply drive supporting 544 students in the Waconia (District 110) and Chaska-Chanhassen (District 112) schools. All other donations were separated and delivered to delighted staff at local Minneapolis Public Schools: Anishinabe Academy, Cityview Community School, and Lucy Craft Laney Elementary School. Your generosity in this first-ever school supply drive is so appreciated. We wish all students and teachers a safe and successful school year!



SUNDAY SCHOOL

Join us at the Mpls and West Campuses for a music and arts-based Sunday School program during the 9 or 10am worship services. You'll have the chance to learn about our faith through Bible study, sing as a choir, enjoy movement and music activities, as well meet new friends. If you have questions, please contact Amy Porthan at amyp@mtolivet.org or 612.767.2285. Register at mtolivet.org!

PARENTS SHARE

Wednesdays, October 5 through November 23, 9:30-11am, Mpls Campus Room 199

Parents Share is a gathering of parents who bring their current parenting issues and gather the wisdom and experience of all of the parents who attend. Marilyn Sharpe, Mount Olivet member and certified parent educator, facilitates the group. Limited nursery is provided at no cost. Register at mtolivet.org.

TRUNK OR TREAT

Friday, October 29, 5:30-7pm, Mpls Campus

Come celebrate Halloween and trunk or treat with us! Wear your Halloween Best! All Friends and Family are welcome! For more information, please contact Alyssa Hill at ahill@mtolivet.org or 612.767.2216. Register at mtolivet.org!

PARTY AT THE PUMPKIN PATCH!

Saturday, October 15, 10am-12noon, Mount Olivet Pumpkin Patch

It's a party and you're invited! Join us at the pumpkin patch for a morning of fun – treats, a bounce house, and new this year – LIVE MUSIC featuring Louis & Dan and the Invisible Band!

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 — was released on July 22. Their first three albums are available for listening on all major streaming platforms. Check them out wherever you listen to music – and come for the live show!

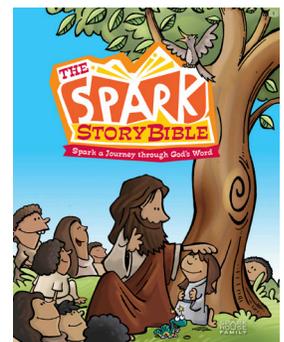


4th Graders & Parents: Bible Presentation & Class

**Sunday, October 2, Mpls Campus
Sunday, October 9, West Campus**

At baptism, parents make a promise to help their children grow in the Christian faith and life. As a community of faith, we also make a promise to support the newly baptized in their new life in Christ. One way we honor this promise together is by presenting Bibles to students during Sunday School. On Sunday, October 2 (Mpls Campus), and Sunday, October 9 (West Campus), we invite 4th graders and their parent(s) to an informational class and Bible presentation. This is an exciting day for these young people and their families as they continue to grow in faith and learn more about God's story!

Please register your 4th grader for the Bible Class & Presentation online! Contact Katy Michaletz at kmichaletz@mtolivet.org or 612.767.2245 with questions.





THANK YOU FOR YOUR GIFTS

Thank you to all who have made your giving plan and/or pledge for Mount Olivet and its ministries for 2023! Reminder to those who have not yet done so that there is a booklet (available at church and online) with steps to guide you as you plan your part in Mount Olivet’s future. Please take a moment to make your 2023 giving plan—ALL members and gifts of ALL sizes are important and needed! Thank you!

- STEP #1: CONNECT GOD’S STORY AND YOUR STORY**
- STEP #2: COUNT YOUR BLESSINGS**
- STEP #3: PAUSE AND REFLECT**
- STEP #4: GIVE THANKS!**
- STEP #5: MAKE YOUR GIVING PLAN FOR 2023**
- STEP #6: PRAY FOR THE MINISTRIES OF MOUNT OLIVET**
- STEP #7: CELEBRATE!**

For more information about giving options, go to mtolivet.org/giving or contact the finance department: Tricia Lerohl-Morgan at 612.767.2255 or tricial@mtolivet.org.

AS YOU MAKE YOUR GIVING PLAN FOR 2023, CONSIDER THESE QUESTIONS:

Where have you seen or felt strength for the day at Mount Olivet this past year?

Imagine it is ten years from now: what are your hopes for Mount Olivet?

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

14TH MOTORHEADS FALL TOUR – CHANHASSEN AUTOPLEX!

Sunday, October 2, following the 11am worship service, West Campus, \$15 per person

Join us for worship at 11am at the West Campus followed by a quick lunch at church before we head out to the Chanhassen AutoPlex to check out the “garages” and cool cars! Your return trip is on your own. Payment is required with registration at mtolivet.org by September 29. Please contact Deb Kind at 612.718.6753 or dkind100@me.com with questions.

CATHEDRAL CHOIR PUMPKIN PATCH

Monday, October 10, through Monday, October 30, 1700 Parking Lot, Mpls Campus

Come to the pumpkin patch to purchase a pumpkin to support the Cathedral Choir. The Patch is open weekdays 1-7pm, and on weekends 10am-5pm. Thank you in advance for supporting this ministry for our youth.

FLYING SOLO

Sunday, October 9, 5:30pm, Normandale Lake Parking Lot at 84th & Chalet Road

Put on your hiking boots for an easy 1.9-mile loop trail, to enjoy the “Hunter’s Moon” around sunset to view this beautiful full moon. We will meet in the Normandale Lake Park parking lot at 84th & Chalet Road (look for the purple balloons). Register at mtolivet.org.

PARTY AT THE PATCH

Saturday, October 15, 10am-12noon, Mpls Campus

Join us at the Pumpkin Patch for a party! A festive morning at the Mount Olivet Pumpkin Patch – we’ll have live music from Dan and Louis and the Invisible Band, a bounce house, and some treats as you shop for your perfect pumpkin! More details are available on page 13.

DONATION DRIVES

Sunday, October 16, 8:30-11am, Mpls & West Campuses

This month our community partners have identified the following items as immediate high-needs items. At the Mpls Campus, our partners VEAP and Simpson Housing are in immediate need of: travel-size personal care items, household cleaning items and white t-shirts, and non-perishable food. At our West Campus partners Love INC and Bountiful Baskets are in need of: full-size personal care items, new sheet sets (twin, full, or queen), and non-perishable food. Thank you for helping our community partners strengthen their ministries!

MOUNT OLIVET ART CLASSES

HALLOWEEN FAMILY PAINTING CLASS

Tuesday, October 25, 6-7:30pm, Mpls Campus, Adult and one child: \$50, Adult and two children: \$65

This Halloween painting class is a fun “Date Night” for you and your child to make art together. No experience is needed, this class is about spending quality time with your child and having fun. Each person is provided a 16 x 20 canvas, acrylic paints, and all the supplies needed to create their own masterpiece that can stand alone or be hung side-by-side for a combined work of art. The instructor will lead you step-by-step through the painting. Register at mtolivet.org by October 20.

BEGINNER PISSARRO PAINTING CLASS

Tuesday, November 8, 6-7:30pm, Mpls Campus, \$35

In this class you will learn to paint in the style of Camille Pissarro. You will learn a bit of history of Pissarro as you follow step-by-step instructions to create his “Snow Effect at Eragny Road.” An 8 x 10 inch canvas and all supplies needed are included. Adults and mature children of all artistic abilities are invited to join this wonderful class! Register at mtolivet.org by November 3.

VOLUNTEER AT HUMANITY ALLIANCE

One of our newer community ministry partners, Humanity Alliance, is serving many who are experiencing food insecurity with nutritious meals. There are several meal delivery volunteer opportunities available similar to delivering for Meals Via Wheels. Contact our Volunteer Coordinator, Laurie Hancer at 612.767. 2267 or lhancer@mtolivet.org for more information.



**MOUNT OLIVET
LUTHERAN CHURCH**

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PARTY AT THE PATCH

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15
10AM-12NOON**

