

JULY 2023

BELIEVING, BELONGING, BECOMING

# MOUNT OLIVET MESSENGER



*mtolivet.org*



**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](mailto:julieg@mtolivet.org) or 612.767.2208.

## SUNDAYS

**DIAL-IN VIA PHONE**  
**833.775.1238**  
10am

**WATCH THE MPLS**  
**WORSHIP SERVICE AT**  
**MTOLIVET.ORG**  
9, 10am

**HOLY COMMUNION**  
8:30am only

**NURSERY (NOW FOR**  
**AGES 6 WEEKS TO**  
**AGE 6!)**  
9, 10am

## JULY 2

**SINGING OUR FAITH:**  
**MY LIFE FLOWS ON IN**  
**ENDLESS SONG**  
*Psalm 146:1-10*

**M** 9, 10am  
**SERMON** Pastor Kalland  
**W** 9, 10am  
**SERMON** Pastor Dixon

## JULY 9

**SINGING OUR FAITH:**  
**PRECIOUS LORD**  
*Matthew 14:22-33*

**M** 9, 10am  
**SERMON** Pastor Hammersten  
**W** 9, 10am  
**SERMON** Pastor Ruud

## JULY 16

**COMMUNION SUNDAY**  
**SINGING OUR FAITH:**  
**CHILDREN OF THE**  
**HEAVENLY FATHER**  
*Matthew 6:25-33*

**M** 9, 10am  
**SERMON** Pastor Cieslik  
**W** 9, 10am  
**SERMON** Pastor Freeman

*\*No Holy Communion at  
8:30am*

## JULY 23

**SINGING OUR FAITH:**  
**O CHRIST, YOUR HEART,**  
**COMPASSIONATE**  
*John 1:1-18*

**M** 9, 10am  
**SERMON** Pastor Lose  
**W** 9, 10am  
**SERMON** Pastor Dixon

## JULY 30

**SINGING OUR FAITH:**  
**LIFT EVERY VOICE AND**  
**SING**  
*Psalm 137:1-6*

**M** 9, 10am  
**SERMON** Pastor Kalland  
**W** 9, 10am  
**SERMON** Pastor Lose

## 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 2. More information is available on page 6.

### COVER IMAGE

The 2023 Cathedral of the Pines Camp Staff.



# The Power of Partnerships

*Two are better than one. For if they fall, one will lift up the other; but woe to one who is alone and falls and does not have another to help. A threefold cord is not easily broken. —Ecclesiastes 4*

Mount Olivet has a significant history of making an impact in the communities we serve. Sometimes that has been through institutions we founded and support, like the Mount Olivet Homes and Mount Olivet Rolling Acres. Just as often, it's through partnerships. We were a founding partner of Community Emergency Services more than twenty-five years ago and we continue to support their work with donations and volunteers to serve more than 100,000 of our neighbors with needed food, financial assistance, and spiritual comfort each year. We have also partnered with Simpson House to help end homelessness and with VEAP, Love INC, and Bountiful Baskets to combat food scarcity throughout the Twin Cities. Globally, we have partnered with Lutheran World Relief to bring much needed food, shelter, and medical supplies to those affected by the war in Ukraine and the earthquake in Turkey, just to name two of the sites where LWR is deeply involved.

This summer, I am excited to share that we are launching two more partnerships, each with the potential to make a huge and lasting impact in the lives of our neighbors in the Twin Cities and beyond. The first of these partnerships is with **RIP Medical Debt**. You likely know that medical debt is destroying the financial stability of large segments of America's most vulnerable communities: the sick, the elderly, the poor, and veterans. Medical debt isn't the result of bad decisions. It's a debt of necessity. Rising healthcare costs and endless bills are leaving families with nowhere to turn.

Into this breach comes RIP Medical Debt, which was founded in 2014 by two former debt collections executives, Craig Antico and Jerry Ashton. Over the course of decades in the debt-buying industry, Craig and Jerry met with thousands of Americans saddled with unpaid and un-payable medical debt and realized they were uniquely qualified to help these people in need by purchasing uncollected debt for pennies on the dollar and using donations to pay it off. On average, whatever is donated creates 100x the impact of the original donation.

The results so far have been spectacular— over \$5 billion in medical debts eradicated, providing financial relief for over 3 million individuals and families. In 2021, a new partnership was formed among faith communities in Minnesota to aid this effort. It is called *THEE Alliance for Forgiving Medical Debt*, which has set a goal to forgive \$100,000,000 of debt in Minnesota and Upper

Midwest by the end of 2024. You are invited to join Mount Olivet in assisting with reaching this goal. Any gift will help, as even a \$100 gift erases \$10,000 of debt! Make donations to Mount Olivet, marked RIP Medical Debt.

The second exciting partnership is **The Rise Early Learning Center**, an innovative and transformative high-quality childcare environment to be located within the *Rise on 7* affordable housing development in St. Louis Park, MN. Rise Early was initially sponsored by Westwood Lutheran Church in partnership with CommonBond Communities, an affordable housing agency with an outstanding reputation and demonstrated impact throughout Minnesota. Rise Early puts into practice some of the most promising and cutting-edge research devoted to bringing people out of poverty by locating an early childhood education (ECE) center *within* the affordable housing complex. With the help of CommonBond, families also receive social service visits, support, and education to address other issues that often keep families from moving to full independence. This combination of affordable housing, visionary early childhood programming, and the wrap-around family support services will provide the resources needed to maintain stable housing, enable individual family members to thrive personally (financially, socially, and emotionally), and break the cycle of poverty.

Mount Olivet has already committed \$20,000 to this effort from our outreach fund, and we are eager to draw on the strength and generosity of our congregation to see this remarkable endeavor take root, flourish, and hopefully inspire other communities. Applications are now being received for Rise Early and both the housing and child education center expect to open this fall. Again, all donations can be made to Mount Olivet, marked "Rise Early."

It is my deep belief that God made us to be in relationship with each other, to support and encourage each other, to lift each other up when we stumble, and to accompany each other through the challenges and opportunities of life. Partnerships are powerful, and I'm excited to continue the long and impactful legacy of Mount Olivet's partnering with worthy organizations to make a significant and salutary difference in the lives of our neighbors. Thank you for your support!

Yours in Christ,



*Pastor Lose*

**DAVID J. LOSE, SENIOR PASTOR**

## SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE

### Donations accepted through August 20

Back this Summer! Mount Olivet is hosting a school supply drive for local Minneapolis elementary schools: 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 bring your donations with you to Sunday worship this summer, or drop them off in the marked bins by the entrances at both campuses.

A list of suggested donation items is below:

- 400- Plastic Pocket folders with no brads – any color (West Campus)
- 100- 24 packs of Mechanical pencils (West Campus)
- #2 pencils
- Glue sticks
- Child-size scissors
- Headphones
- Dry-erase markers
- Individual dry-erase boards
- Erasers
- Pens (black or blue)
- Plastic folders with no brads (Mpls)
- Spiral notebooks
- Crayons
- Markers
- Colored pencils
- Sharpeners
- Water bottles
- All-purpose glue bottles
- Sturdy backpacks



## FOOD DRIVE

Sunday, July 16, 8:30-10:30am, 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.



## LIFE & GROWTH

MAY 13 - JUN 14

### BAPTISMS

**Eleanor A.A. Bourgoin**  
daughter of Kristin and Ben  
**William W.A. Bourgoin**  
son of Kristin and Ben  
**Annalie Helene Budd**  
daughter of Lillia and Alex  
**Griffin Stanley Carlson**  
son of Kaitlin and Brett  
**Bennett William DeNeui**  
son of Elizabeth and Tayne  
**Winifred Lou Doering**  
daughter of Kelly and Riley  
**William Henry Eppel**  
son of Emily and John  
**Lennon Marie Fetsch**  
daughter of Kelly and Aex  
**Annika Marie Hartzler**  
daughter of Greta and Matthew  
**Henrik James Heidenreich**  
son of Elizabeth and Kevin  
**Violet Therese Klem**  
daughter of Colette and Joshua  
**Karis Ruth Kumpf**  
daughter of Meghan and John  
**Bo Clark Maiser**  
son of Elizabeth and Justin  
**Rome Azul Martinez**  
son of Ashley and Miguel  
**Eloise Alexandra Patil**  
daughter of Ali and Zach  
**Elliott Wallace Priley**  
son of Tiffini and Anders  
**Hannah Lucy Rix**  
daughter of Nicole and David  
**Olivia Jane Rorro**  
daughter of Katherine and Michael  
**Ava Lucille Schmid**  
daughter of Elizabeth and Kevin  
**Thea Grace Schwingler**  
daughter of Ingrid and Pete  
**Nolan David Sime**  
son of Ashley and Kasey  
**Edward Torbjørn Stoehr**  
son of Madeline and Erling

### WEDDINGS

**Melissa Kittelson & Thomas Moore**, May 20  
**Lauren Lewandowski & Nicholas Hamer**, May 20  
**Anne Thorndyke & Daniel Przybylski**, June 3  
**Helena Springer & Tanner Frondell**, June 10

### DEATHS

**Virgil L. Johnson**, 1923–2023  
**Elaine Peterson**, 1932–2023  
**Johanna Rasmussen**, 1955–2023  
**Dale R. Rusch**, 1932 – 2023  
**Sandra Sandstrom**, 1940–2023  
**Victoria A. Tvetter**, 1956 – 2023  
**James W. Utecht**, 1928–2023  
**Marion L. Witt**, 1931–2023



## DAILY READINGS

### FROM PASTOR KALLAND

JULY 2023

- 1 Romans 12:1, Living Sacrifice
- 2 1 Peter 3:1, Revere Christ As Lord
- 3 Psalm 4:8, You Alone, Lord
- 4 Romans 15:2, Build Them Up
- 5 Ephesians 2:8-9, By Grace Through Faith
- 6 Psalm 31:3, My Rock And My Fortress
- 7 Ephesians 5:1 Imitators Of God
- 8 Romans 13:17, Respect, Honor
- 9 Proverbs 15:1, Gentle Answer
- 10 2 Corinthians 12:10, When I Am Weak, Then I'm Strong
- 11 Luke 9:48, The Least Is The Greatest
- 12 Psalm 18:35-36, God Sustains Us
- 13 Colossians 3:15, The Peace Of Christ
- 14 2 Corinthians 8:12,
- 15 Proverbs 1:7, Fools Despise Wisdom And Instruction
- 16 1 Corinthians 10:13, God Is Faithful
- 17 Hebrews 3:4, God Is The Builder
- 18 Psalm 119:36, Turn My Heart Toward You
- 19 Deuteronomy 4:29, Seek The Lord With All Your Heart And Soul
- 20 John 7:38, Rivers Of Living Waters
- 21 Psalm 27:14, Wait For The Lord
- 22 Galatians 5:13, Serve With Humble Love
- 23 Ephesians 2:4-5, By Grace
- 24 Proverbs 18:10, Fortified Tower
- 25 John 14:13, Glorified In The Son
- 26 Hebrews 12:2, The Pioneer And Perfecter Of Faith
- 27 Psalm 118:6, The Lord Is With You
- 28 Isaiah 28:29, Magnificent Wisdom
- 29 Romans 12:15, Rejoice and Mourn
- 30 Psalm 124:8, Our Help
- 31 Romans 8:31, What, Then, Shall We Say

## DEVOTION

Hope you are having a good summer. Do you have a favorite Bible verse? You know, one that you go to more often than not? I have a couple that bring comfort and promise. One is Jesus' last words in the Gospel of Matthew 28, **"and remember I am with you always to the close of the age."** God's love for us is not based on our performance as human beings. God's love comes first.

The other one is from Romans 8, **"nothing in all of creation will be able to separate us from the love of God which is ours in Christ Jesus."** That is a big deal. No matter what comes your way or what you are going through...sadness, joy, celebration, grief, adoration, depression, you are never alone. You are loved. The Lord is with you.

A suggestion for this summer, take some time to reflect, to notice the beauty around you, to ponder and to dwell on the promise and wonder of God's love for you. Remember God will never leave you or forsake you.

— PASTOR KALLAND



## UPCOMING AT MOUNT OLIVET

### YOUNG IN HEART & FRIENDS

**Tuesday, July 18, 1pm, Mpls Campus, \$5 per person**

Join us for refreshments, fellowship, and fun! Wear your Christmas sweater or festive apparel for Christmas in July Bingo. Register by July 14, at [mtolivet.org](http://mtolivet.org).

### FLYING SOLO COFFEE IN THE COURTYARD

**Sunday, July 16, following the 10am service, West Campus**

Enjoy some coffee and sweet treats following the worship services. Please register at [mtolivet.org](http://mtolivet.org) if you plan to attend.

### VENDOR APPLICATION FOR THE MOCW HOLIDAY BOUTIQUE AND HOLIDAY MARKET

**Register through July 15**

Vendor Registration is still open at [mtolivet.org/fellowship](http://mtolivet.org/fellowship) for the MOCW Holiday Boutique and Holiday Market!

### MOCW SOCIAL

**Tuesday, August 15, 5-7:30pm, Edina Country Club**

The MOCW Board is hosting a fun social! All are welcome to enjoy a night of fellowship! No need to register.

### 19TH MOTORHEADS' SHOW & BLESSING SERVICE

**Sunday, August 20, 5pm Show, 6:30pm Blessing of Motors & Drivers, West Campus**

This event features awesome vehicles, the Nordic Surf Band, outdoor blessing service, awards, a FREE raffle drawing, food, and more!



# MOUNT OLIVET SUMMER MIDWEEKS

## *Singing the Hymns of Revelation*

Spend this summer learning and singing music from the book of Revelation. With seven distinct hymns and frequent outbursts of adoration, the book of Revelation has been likened to a musical. It soars with songs of praise that declare God's majesty, and it repeatedly reminds us of God's promised triumph over sin and death.

Join the Mount Olivet Pastors each Wednesday at the Conference & Retreat Center through August 2 as they share some of their favorite hymns inspired by the book of Revelation.

Begin each evening with fellowship and delicious food and end with midweek worship. In between, don't miss the nature talks with Site Naturalist, Dan Kahl, who will be retiring this fall after 23 years of caring for the land, animals, and buildings of the Conference & Retreat Center.

Bus transportation will be available from the West Campus, Mpls Campus, and 7500 York. Please register for buses at least 72 hours in advance. A minimum of 10 people is required from 7500 York/Mpls 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.

DATE	PASTOR & HYMN	SOLOIST	SCRIPTURE	NATURE CLASS	MENU
<b>JULY 5</b>	Pastor Ruid "This is the Feast"	Matthew Valverde, tenor	Revelation 5:9-14	Birdscaping: Landscaping for The Birds	BBQ Ribs, Corn on the Cob, Baked Beans, Blueberry Watermelon Feta Salad, and Grilled Peaches with Vanilla Bean Ice Cream
<b>JULY 12</b>	Pastor MacLean "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"	Diane Loudon, cello	Revelation 21:1-7	The Eyes Have It: A Deeper Look At Animal Eyes	Wood Fired Chicken Enchiladas, Yellow Rice, Cheesy Black Beans, Tossed Garden Salad, and Vanilla Crème Brule
<b>JULY 19</b>	Pastor Kalland "Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence"	Jordan Buchholtz, piano	Revelation 19:1-8	Biomimicry: Nature Did It First	Balsamic Braised Beef Roast, Creamy Polenta, Glazed Carrots, Tossed Garden Salad, and Bread Pudding with Maple Bourbon Sauce
<b>JULY 26</b>	Pastor Dixon "For All the Saints"	Justin Staebell, baritone	Revelation 7:2-17	The Buzz About Bees	Roasted Salmon with Tuscan Butter Sauce, Wild Rice Pilaf, Grilled Asparagus, Tossed Garden Salad, and Lemon Cheesecake Bars
<b>AUGUST 2</b>	Pastor Cieslik "Crown Him with Many Crowns"	Luke Randall, baritone	Revelation 19:11-16	Garden Tour	Roasted Turkey Dinner with Turkey Gravy, Whipped Yukon Gold Potatoes, Sautéed Green Beans, Tossed Garden Salad, and Pumpkin Pie Cheesecake

## FREE SUMMER OUTDOOR CONCERTS

Join us for two remaining free outdoor concerts this summer! Registration is encouraged at [mtolivetretreat.org/events](http://mtolivetretreat.org/events).



**CRAIG & MAREN  
WASNER AND ROB  
RYDEN**

Friday, July 21  
5:30-7:30pm concessions  
6:30-8pm concert



**LOUIS & DAN AND THE  
INVISIBLE BAND**

Saturday, August 26  
1-4pm family activities  
4-6pm concessions  
5-6pm concert

# THE HUM OF SUMMER HOSPITALITY

Summer is in full swing at Mount Olivet Conference & Retreat Center. Midweek Services, nature talks, outdoor concerts, family reunions and personal retreats fill our days and evenings. During the past two months (May and June), we have hosted 65 retreats for over 1500 people. Twenty-three of these groups visited for the first time—the American Lung Association, the Alliance of Nurses for a Healthy Environment, Sunrise Movement (a climate action organization), students from Goshen College, and Bodhicitta Sanga.

Summer at the Conference & Retreat Center hums not only with the noise of groups coming and going but also with the noise of crickets, frogs, honeybees, red-winged blackbirds, and more. Listening to these sounds, we may remember that we belong to God's good creation, that we are beloved and valued beyond measure. Like Mary Oliver, we may find ourselves marveling over a grasshopper or praying peacefully as we stroll through lush green fields. And maybe, by God's grace, we understand anew that we have been given one wild and precious life to share with each other in love.

### The Summer Day by Mary Oliver

Who made the world?  
Who made the swan, and the black bear?  
Who made the grasshopper?  
This grasshopper, I mean —  
the one who has flung herself out of the grass,  
the one who is eating sugar out of my hand,  
who is moving her jaws back and forth instead of up and down —  
who is gazing around with her enormous and complicated eyes.  
Now she lifts her pale forearms and thoroughly washes her face.  
Now she snaps her wings open, and floats away.  
I don't know exactly what a prayer is.  
I do know how to pay attention, how to fall down  
into the grass, how to kneel down in the grass,  
how to be idle and blessed, how to stroll through the fields,  
which is what I have been doing all day.  
Tell me, what else should I have done?  
Doesn't everything die at last, and too soon?  
Tell me, what is it you plan to do  
with your one wild and precious life?

Theresa Latini, Executive Director, Conference & Retreat Center

## SAVE THE DATE: STARGAZING WITH MIKE LYNCH

Friday, September 22 & Saturday, September 23



# BABYGARTEN OUTDOORS!

Thursdays July 20 through August 24, 10-11am, Mpls Campus, \$72 for 6 week session

We will play, read, and sing at this weekly faith-based hour-long class developed by a children's librarian and early childhood specialist. Babygarten focuses on reading, rhyming, and activities. It is more than a playgroup or storytime. Babygarten provides pre-literacy skills for children in a faith-based environment. Amy Porthan, Early Childhood Educator and Mount Olivet Faith Formation Coordinator, will guide parents, grandparents, or caregivers with activities and discussion on how to include God and faith in their parenting. If you have questions, please contact Amy Porthan at 612.767.2285 or [amyp@mtolivet.org](mailto:amyp@mtolivet.org).

"Babygarten provided my child and me special time each week to participate in different activities that foster our love of God and literacy. We read books, sang songs and did arts and crafts together. Amy does a wonderful job of differentiating the different activities to fit the needs of each individual child."

—CHERYL JENKINS



# REGISTER FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL!

Join us this fall for Sunday School at the Mpls and West campuses! Sunday School classes are offered during the 9 and 10am worship hours for children in preschool through 6th grade throughout the program year (Rally Sunday to Memorial Day). All Sunday School classes are taught by professional music educators and supported by our dedicated volunteers. During Sunday School, your child will learn about their faith, develop friendships with peers through music, Bible study, crafts, dance, games, devotions and more! Children are able to sing as a choir in worship throughout the year, as well as support Mount Olivet ministry partners in various service projects.

## SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES INCLUDE:

Preschool age: Cherub Sunday School

Kindergarten & Grade 1: Alleluia Sunday School

Grades 2 & 3: Hosanna Sunday School

Grades 4, 5, & 6: Chapel Sunday School

Register at [mtolivet.org](http://mtolivet.org) or reach out to Faith Formation Coordinator, Amy Porthan, at [amyp@mtolivet.org](mailto:amyp@mtolivet.org) or 612.767.2285 with any questions.







## THANK YOU!

Summer is here! Cathedral of the Pines Camp and Mount Olivet Day Camps are in full swing. Students are busy with sports like soccer, baseball, basketball camps and more! Summertime Players, Mount Olivet's middle school music camp, is just around the corner! We hope that everyone is able to take in some relaxing, sunny, and fun-filled days with your family and friends this summer! As a youth staff we are so thankful for all of our Mount Olivet students and the many hours they give of their summer to counsel and workstaff at COP and the Day Camps. Sharing our faith and connecting with each other is important and as a youth staff we cherish that time with all of you at our camps in the summer.

In the August *Messenger* look for some summer themed pictures with articles from our high school students highlighting the summer and a look to fall at Mount Olivet and the school year ahead! **-THE YOUTH STAFF**

## REGISTER TODAY!

We are accepting registrations for Confirmation (7th & 8th Grade), Chancel Choir (7th & 8th Grade), and Cathedral Choir (9th-12th Grade) now!

Confirmation and Chancel Choir will start at both campuses on Wednesday, September 27.

Cathedral Choir will start at both campuses on Wednesday, August 30.

Scan the QR Codes below to register today!

Please reach out to a Youth Staff member if you have questions about registration.

**7TH GRADE  
CONFIRMATION**



**8TH GRADE  
CONFIRMATION**



**CHANCEL CHOIR  
7TH & 8TH GRADE**



**CATHEDRAL CHOIR  
9TH-12TH GRADE**



# THREE BIBLE QUESTIONS

I enjoy the story of scripture. Big surprise, I know! Yet, there are parts which are difficult and parts which have taken more time and admittedly more effort than I'd prefer to put forth to gain a greater understanding. Over the years, I continue to rely on three basic questions which have helped me and which I utilize nearly every single time I open the text. I share them with you now—hopefully for your use and benefit. Three questions, in order:

## WHAT'S BEHIND THE STORY?

Start with a brief refresher and/or basic knowledge of the nature and setting of the particular book from which you're reading. The Bible is like a library. Each book is a unique literary work. Learn who wrote it and when, what the context is, what the main threads are, and what kind of writing it is (poetry, narrative, a letter, wisdom sayings, prayer, etc.). Even the most basic, brief insight helps set the scene. Read the intro from a sound study bible or look at a synopsis online from a good source like [www.enterthebible.org](http://www.enterthebible.org).

## WHAT'S IN THE STORY?

What actually happens in the passage? What seem like the key parts? What is God/Jesus up to? Is God challenging? Comforting? Directing? Assuring? Guiding? How are the characters in the story affected, and what might the writer have hoped to get across to those who read it first?

## WHAT NOW FOR YOU/US?

This is the "so what?" of the process. What does it say/mean for us here, now, in our own circumstances both individually and collectively? Remember, we're in a different time and place, yet the main threads may still speak volumes!

That's it. Three questions. What's behind? What's in? What now? I guarantee it will be worth it to ask these questions as you read the Bible. Beyond that, pray. Ask God to reveal what God would hope for you and us. And remember, if you get stumped, don't sweat it! Believe me, even the nerdiest of Bible nerds get confused. Try to see questions or confusion as fertile ground for more conversation. I for one love that conversation and I'm confident vouching for my colleagues that we'd all love to engage with you in deepening our relationship with this amazing, blessed, holy, and life-giving word! Keep reading and listening!

PASTOR RUUD

# MOUNT OLIVET BOOK DISCUSSION

**JULY 11/12:** *The Maid* by Nita Prose

**AUGUST 8/9:** *The Last Flight* by Julie Clark

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

**EVENING DISCUSSIONS:** 6-7:30pm the second Wednesday of the month

*Both held in the Mpls Campus Library*

*Register online at [mtolivet.org/education](http://mtolivet.org/education) or by contacting Katie Stevenson at [katies@mtolivet.org](mailto:katies@mtolivet.org) or 612.767.2232.*

# MUSIC & ART OPPORTUNITIES

## MEN'S CHORUS

Sunday, July 16, 8am

Rehearsal

Singing at the 9 & 10am

Worship Services, Mpls Campus

Calling all singing men! Adult and high school male voices are invited to sing together in this special summer men's chorus with Brandon Berger conducting! Bring your friends, your neighbor, anyone who loves to sing!

*Additional rehearsal encouraged on Thursday, July 13, 6-7:15pm at the Mpls Campus*

## SUMMER CHOIR

Sunday, August 6, 8am

Rehearsal

Singing at the 9 & 10am

Worship Services, Mpls Campus

Have you always wanted to sing in the Senior Choir at Mount Olivet? Now's your chance! Come enjoy the fun of singing together. It will be a morning you won't want to miss!

*Additional rehearsal encouraged on Thursday, August 3, 6-7:15pm at the Mpls Campus*

## OIL PAINTING FOR BEGINNERS

Wednesday, July 19, 6-8pm, Mpls Campus, \$45

Always wanted to experience the joy of painting with oils but been afraid to try? This class is for you! You will create a beautiful oil painting on an 8x10 inch canvas with step-by-step instructions. Register by July 14 at [mtolivet.org](http://mtolivet.org).





## WAYS TO GIVE

If you'd like to make a one-time gift or set up scheduled giving to Mount Olivet and its ministries, there are many ways to do so. Thank you for your generosity and support!

**Give Online:** visit  
[mtolivet.org/online-giving](https://mtolivet.org/online-giving)

**Via Your Realm Account:**  
 login and click "Giving"

**Text to Give:** text  
 "MTOLIVET" to 73256

**Via QR Code:** Scan below



**Contact Us:**  
 Tricia Lerohl-Morgan at  
 612.767.2255 or  
[tricial@mtolivet.org](mailto:tricial@mtolivet.org).

**THANK YOU!**



## THE EASE AND CONVENIENCE OF SCHEDULED GIVING

Did you know that more and more Mount Olivet members make their contributions to the Church by scheduling their giving?

While a certain number of members have regularly found the ease and convenience of giving, over the course of the pandemic that number more than doubled. Not only is it an easy way for you to give, but it also shares your giving plan for the coming year with us at church, helping us plan a responsible and faithful budget. (Thank you!)

If you are interested in learning more, you can go to [mtolivet.org](https://mtolivet.org) and choose "online giving" from the GIVING drop down menu. That will prompt you to log into your Realm Account where you can set up the amount and timing of your gifts. (Or choose one of the other options to set up giving listed in the sidebar.)

Thank you for helping us live into God's dreams for Mount Olivet through your generous gifts and ongoing support!

**KATIE STEVENSON**, *Director of Stewardship*

PS: One quick reminder: if you regularly make a pledge which also helps us plan our budget – thank you! – that pledge does not automatically change your scheduled giving. Because that is entirely under your control and deals with your specific form of payment, please check that your scheduled giving matches your intended pledge.

**Mount Olivet Messenger**

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*Sun 7/16, Mpls & West*