

# MOUNT OLIVET MESSENGER



# 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

## 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

## APRIL 7

**THE ROAD TO EMMAUS**  
*Luke 24:13-35*

**M** 9, 10, 11am  
**SERMON** Pastor MacLean  
**MUSIC** Amanda Jenkins,  
soprano

**W** 9, 10, 11am  
**SERMON** Pastor Cieslik  
**MUSIC** Elena Stabile,  
soprano

## APRIL 14

**JOY AND DISBELIEF**  
*Luke 24:36-49*

**M** 9, 10, 11am  
**SERMON** Pastor Hammersten  
**MUSIC** Cathedral & Senior  
Choirs

**W** 9, 10, 11am  
*Cathedral of the Pines Camp  
Style Worship*  
**SERMON** Pastor Lose  
**MUSIC** Cathedral, Chancel, &  
Senior Choirs

## APRIL 21

**DOUBTING THOMAS**  
*John 20:19-29*

**M** 9, 10, 11am  
**SERMON** Pastor Freeman  
**MUSIC** Matthew Valverde,  
tenor & Senior Choir

**W** 9, 10, 11am  
**SERMON** Pastor MacLean  
**MUSIC** Julie Johnson, flute &  
Senior Choir

## APRIL 28

**RESURRECTION AND  
RECOMMISSIONING**

*John 21:1-17*

**M** 9, 10, 11am  
*Cathedral of the Pines Camp  
Style Worship*  
**SERMON** Pastor Lose  
**MUSIC** Cathedral, Chancel, &  
Senior Choirs

**W** 9, 10, 11am  
**SERMON** Pastor Kalland  
**MUSIC** Cathedral & Senior  
Choirs

**COVER PHOTO**

Kids participating in Sunday School at the Mpls Campus

# A Resurrection Community

Why is it so often easier to believe bad news than good?

This was a question Pastor Dixon and I were wrestling with while recording a recent episode of *The Gospel Unplugged*, our weekly preview of the Sunday sermon passages. We noticed that in pretty much all of the Gospel accounts, everyone has a hard time believing that Jesus has been raised from the dead... even though Jesus told them – several times! – that he would be crucified, die, and then be raised on the third day.

Maybe that's normal. As devastating as the news of a cancer diagnosis or failed marriage may be, we're kind of used to that. The hope of remission, or the promise of a renewed relationship, however, might be harder to accept. Perhaps it's easier to steel yourself for bad news than open yourself up to the possibility of good news... or, more to the point, the possibility of being disappointed when the good news doesn't prove true.

Interestingly, in St. Luke's story of Easter, in response to the terror of the women at the empty tomb, the angelic messengers don't simply announce Christ's resurrection, but also remind them of Jesus words and promise: *The women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen. Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, that the Son of Man must be handed over to sinners, and be crucified, and on the third day rise again."* And then they remembered his words, and returning from the tomb, they told all this to the eleven and to all the rest. (Luke 24:5-9)

That's an interesting way to think about the church: the place where we remind each other of the good news, of the promise of resurrection, and of the possibility that life is stronger than death and love more powerful than hate.

Think about belonging to a community like this: a place where you can count on being reminded that God loves you, that resurrection and new life are possible, that death does not have the last word, and that you are not alone. We gather each week precisely because it can be hard to believe and trust the good news of new life and God's ongoing work in the world for more than about seven days in a row without being reminded of it again!

This month, we'll be intentionally reminding each other of God's promises of resurrection, hope, and new life in two important ways. First, on Sundays, we'll be reading various stories in the four gospels about Jesus' resurrection appearances to learn together how to be a community of the resurrection; how to be, that is, a place that, first, recognizes that it can be difficult at times to believe good news and, second, therefore works extra hard to remind each other of the incredible news of God's grace and love and the power of resurrection.

Second, we'll also be hosting two Cathedral of the Pines Camp Sundays this month. On April 14 at the West Campus and on April 28 at the Minneapolis Campus, we'll have a chance to give thanks for our Cathedral of the Pines Camp and inaugurate our celebration of its 75th anniversary. COP is many things, of course— a place of cherished traditions, a beloved ministry where so many kids grow in their relationships with God and each other, and a bedrock ministry of Mount Olivet. But in light of Luke's story of the resurrection, it also occurs to me that COP is a place where kids learn to trust and believe the good news of God's incredible love for us. To put it another way, COP is where kids – no matter what they may be contending with at home or at school – learn that new life is always possible. At COP, God's love and the possibility of new life become more than just ideas. As Pastor Kalland likes to say, COP is where Jesus "grew legs" for him and became more than just a story in the Bible. So let's celebrate the wonderful treasure we have in COP and once again remind each other that resurrection life is possible.

Yes, there is plenty of bad news out there. (Which might just be why it's easier to believe.) But at this Church we come together to hear, remember, and remind each other of the good news of God's love for all, the promise of new life, and the hope of resurrection. So come help us live into the promise of new life and resurrection. It's the best story around, and we get to tell it week in and week out!

See you in Church!



Pastor Lose

DAVID J. LOSE, SENIOR PASTOR

# CELEBRATING 75 YEARS OF CATHEDRAL OF THE PINES CAMP!



## CATHEDRAL OF THE PINES CAMP STYLE WORSHIP

Sunday, April 14, West Campus  
Sunday, April 28, Mpls Campus

Join us for worship on these Sundays for a camp style worship service.



## CATHEDRAL OF THE PINES CAMP 75TH ANNIVERSARY

### NORTH SHORE EXPERIENCES

- Tuesday, June 25, 5-8pm, \$15
- Wednesday, June 26, 5-8pm, \$15
- Tuesday, July 16, 5-8pm, \$15
- Friday, July 26, 5-8pm, \$15

Are you traveling along the North Shore this Summer? Come and spend some time at camp with us in celebration of 75 years of Cathedral of the Pines Camp! Enjoy a chapel service, a meal, and the beauty of Lake Caribou. To register, visit [mtolivet.org](http://mtolivet.org).

### CELEBRATION PARTY

Friday, October 11, 2024, 6-11pm, the Metropolitan Club  
Mark your calendars for the Cathedral of the Pines Camp 75th Anniversary Celebration! This 21+ event will be filled with food, dancing, and the joy of decades past. Your presence will make this milestone truly memorable. Tickets will go on sale this summer. Keep an eye out!

## LIFE & GROWTH

**FEB 14 - MAR 14**

### BAPTISMS

**Paige Marcia Bishop**

*daughter of Jessica and Jonathan*

**Vance Russell Crowe**

*son of Sarah and Brian*

**Finnegan Grant Gherity**

*son of Kelly and Grant*

**Molly Ann Gherity**

*daughter of Kelly and Grant*

**Claire Mae LaFond**

*daughter of Jennifer and Patrick*

**Margaret Marie Olson**

*daughter of Kristin and Nathan*

**Alfred Lee Olson**

*son of Kristin and Nathan*

**Natalie Ann Opdahl**

*daughter of Breanna and Lyle*

**Charles Duncan Satterstrom**

*son of Christina and Michael*

**Cecily Victoria Stommel**

*daughter of Kelsey and Noah*

**Ashton Lee Timm**

*son of Jennie and John*

### DEATHS

**L. Michael Espeland**

1942 – 2024

**Caroline S. Hoppentrath**

1927 – 2024

**Robert J. Jensen**

1925 – 2024

**Paton Lewis, Jr.**

1928 – 2024

**Ronald D. Lynne**

1938 – 2024

**DuVonne J. Swenson**

1944 – 2024

**LaVerne C. Tollefson**

1947 – 2024

## DEVOTION

“O sing to the Lord a new song for He has done marvelous things. Make a joyful noise to the Lord all the earth.”

–Psalm 98:1 & 4

It's April, can you believe it or is it just me; the seasons seem to go faster each year. Do you remember the old saying from grade school about April? “April showers bring May flowers...what do Mayflowers bring?...Pilgrims.”

It's spring– that time of year when the earth comes back to life. It's a time to open the windows and let in a little fresh air. The birds sing joyfully in that crisp breeze. It's also a time of year when some people are “enjoying” allergies.

Spring is a sign of new life. Plants are pushing up through the dirt, buds are forming, green is coming back. It's as if it's a new creation. It says in 2 Corinthians:17, “So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!”

Spring and every day for that matter is a time of growth. Digging in the soil; planting flowers and plants is therapeutic. With spring it takes sunshine, water, and maybe a bit of fertilizer to help things grow. In our spiritual lives it takes, grace, worship, time with God and digging into His Word to help us grow. As it says in Revelation 21:5, “God makes all things new.”

Blessings. The Lord is with you.

– PASTOR KALLAND



## NEW MEMBER OPPORTUNITIES

### NEW MEMBER ORIENTATIONS

Sunday, April 7 12noon-1:30pm, Mpls Campus

Sunday, April 14 12noon-1:30pm, West Campus

Saturday, May 4 9:30-11 am, Mpls Campus

### NEW MEMBER SUNDAY

Sunday, May 5, Mpls & West Campuses

Mount Olivet offers many worship services, fellowship groups, service opportunities, and educational events and programs. Exploring the possibility of joining Mount Olivet is as easy as contacting Gail Breen, Coordinator of Membership, Fellowship, & Special Events. 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. To learn more or to register, please contact Gail Breen, at [gbreen@mtolivet.org](mailto:gbreen@mtolivet.org) or 612.767.2289.

# Mother's Day Brunch & Worship

**Sunday, May 12, 9:30am**  
**Worship, Brunch seatings**  
**at 10:30am & 12noon,**  
**Conference & Retreat Center**

Every spring, our chefs showcase their talent for our most-attended event of the year: a Mother's Day brunch like no other. Get away and celebrate Mom with delicious food, beautiful views, and warm hospitality at the Conference & Retreat Center. Expect mouthwatering dishes and a wide assortment of desserts. While you're here, enjoy a dip in the pool, a hike on our trails, a round of gagaball, or a restful sit on one of our outdoor patios. Arrive early for a worship service led by Pastor Kalland and Rev. Theresa Latini at 9:30am. All are welcome. Cost is \$35 for adults (14yrs+), \$20 for youth (6-13yrs), children 5 and under are free. Online registration is now open at [mtolivetretreat.org/events](http://mtolivetretreat.org/events). Choose your preferred seating when signing up. Due to the scale and popularity of this event, prepayment is required at registration, and refunds cannot be given.



# Spring Volunteer Day

**Saturday, May 18, 9am-3pm,**  
**Mount Olivet Conference &**  
**Retreat Center**

Our annual Spring Volunteer Day is coming up on Saturday, May 18! Whether you're a family looking for volunteer opportunities, a small group wanting a day away together, or a volunteer day regular, all are welcome to attend.

Join us as we prepare the Conference & Retreat Center grounds for spring and summer by planting flowers, wood chipping the trails, repairing outdoor benches, and helping with other seasonal projects. Children and families can play Gagaball, climb on the natural playscape, take a dip in the pool/whirlpool, explore the trails, and enjoy a delicious meal from our kitchen. Thank you for helping us care for creation! Registration is now open at [mtolivet.org/events](http://mtolivet.org/events).



## SAVE THE DATE: MIDWEEK SUMMER WORSHIP SERVICES

**BEGINS WEDNESDAY, JUNE 26**

5:30-6:30pm Dinner Served, 6:30-7pm Nature Talk, 7:15pm Worship, 8pm Bus Departs

## WORD WITH YOUR PASTORS

### THE RISE AND FALL OF THE AMERICAN CHRISTIAN EMPIRE?

Taught by Pastor Dixon  
Wednesdays, April 10 through  
May 1, 10:30-11:30am, Mpls  
Campus or via videos

### THE END OF THE STORY: THE RESURRECTION STORIES IN THE FOUR GOSPELS

Taught by Pastor Cieslik and  
Pastor Lose  
Thursdays, April 11 through May  
2, 10:30-11:30am, West Campus  
Beginnings and endings matter!  
That is, you can tell a lot about  
the character, importance, and  
direction of a story based on how  
an author begins it and then draws  
it to a close. The same is true of our  
four Gospels that tell the story of  
Jesus. And, while these four stories  
share a number of similar elements,  
they also differ in many important  
and revealing ways. Join Pastors  
Lose and Cieslik for this four-part  
class that will help you dive deeper  
into each Gospel by exploring  
how each shares the good news of  
Christ's resurrection!

## BOOK DISCUSSIONS

**DAYTIME:** 10-11:30am the 2nd  
Tuesday of each month

**EVENING:** 7-8:30pm the  
2nd Wednesday of the month  
Both held in the Mpls  
Campus Library

### UPCOMING BOOKS:

**APRIL 9/10:** *Demon Copperhead*  
by Barbara Kingsolver

**MAY 8/14:** *The Only Woman in  
the Room* by Marie Benedict

# WALLS OPTIONAL: THE CHURCH TAUGHT BY PASTOR LOSE

**TUES, MAY 7, 6:30-7:30PM; MPLS CAMPUS ROOM 207;  
OR VIA PRE-RECORDED VIDEO**

*This is the final class of the Living the Message 2023-2024 series. Videos of the entire series are available at [mtolivet.org/education](https://mtolivet.org/education).*

I love when, upon discovering I'm a pastor, someone asks, "Where is your church?" Often I'll offer our Minneapolis and Victoria addresses. But sometimes, when I'm feeling a little more mischievous, I'll instead reply, "Well, right now some of my church are teaching school and others are learning, some are working downtown and others from home, and some are volunteering to make their communities better while others are taking care of a loved one." Then, when I get the inevitable puzzled face in response, I'll say, "Oh, you mean the building we gather in each week," and then share our address.

According to Martin Luther, you see, the church is not simply, or even primarily, a building. Rather, the church is the Body of Christ, Jesus' current-day disciples sharing the good news of God's grace through word and deed. And "deed," in this case, is really important. The church doesn't just talk about the gospel, but also lives it by being faithful in our everyday lives and roles.

If the church is God's people at work in the world, you may wonder, then why do we come together each week in our beautiful building? Great question! Sometimes it's easy to see God at work in the world, and sometimes God's presence can be more ambiguous, or even ambivalent. When you have a chance to help someone or make a positive impact, for instance, you can point directly to how God is working through you to bless this world. But when things aren't going well, or it feels like what you do doesn't make a difference, or when the darkness of the world seems overpowering, it's easy to lose faith. So we gather together on Sunday to hear God's promises and call, and then we are sent out into the world to live that good news. The church, in this sense, *is* that living body that is both called and sent, gathered and scattered, to care for the world God loves so much!

**PASTOR LOSE**, *Senior Pastor*

### UPCOMING CLASS DATES

Class time is 6:30-7:30pm or via pre-recorded videos  
Tuesday, April 2, Mpls Room 207  
Tuesday, May 7, Mpls Room 207

**FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO REGISTER:  
MTOLIVET.ORG/EDUCATION OR  
BY CONTACTING KATIE STEVENSON AT  
KATIES@MTOLIVET.ORG OR 612.767.2232.**

# UPCOMING EVENTS YOUTH MINISTRY



## HI-LEAGUE SCHEDULE

*Sunday, 4/7, 12noon-4pm* Twins Game. Register on Realm.  
*Sunday, 4/14, 7pm*, Sharegroups hosted at the Mpls Campus.



## CAMP SUNDAY

*Sunday, 4/14, West Campus*  
*Sunday, 4/28, Mpls Campus*  
Join us for a Cathedral of the Pines Chapel style worship!



## CATHEDRAL CHOIR TRIP

*4/19-4/21* The Cathedral Choir is traveling to Kansas City, Missouri this year. We will be singing at Church of the Resurrection located in Leawood, Kansas.



## 6TH GRADE END OF YEAR PARTY

*Wednesday, 4/24*  
The last meeting of our first year of 6th grade programming. Join us in celebrating a fabulous first year!



## FINAL CHANCEL CHOIR & CONFIRMATION

*Wednesday, 4/24* It's the last night of Chancel Choir and Confirmation. Make sure you are there to celebrate a fun year together.



## CATHEDRAL OF THE PINES CAMP COUNSELOR TRAINING

*Sunday, 4/28, 7-8:30pm, Mpls Campus*  
All students planning to workstaff or counsel this summer at Cathedral of the Pines are required to attend this training.  
**PARENTS:** Please pick one of the following parent meetings to attend: 6:15-7pm or 8:15-8:45pm.



## ONLINE CONFIRMATION

Do you know a 7th or 8th grader that lives out of state but wants to be a Mount Olivet member? They should join online confirmation in the fall! Contact Angie St. Dennis for information.





## CATHEDRAL CHOIR TRIP

One of the coolest things about Cathedral Choir is how our high schoolers get to share their voices during worship. We do this for our own congregation almost every week, but we also have the unique opportunity to share our voices with other congregations through the Choir Trip. Every year we travel as a choir to another church to perform during their worship. This year we are going to Kansas City, Missouri! We will be performing at the United Methodist Church of the Resurrection in Leawood, Kansas, and sharing our voices with their congregation during worship on Sunday morning. If you would like to see our performance, you can find it on their website at [resurrection.church/leawood](http://resurrection.church/leawood) on Sunday, April 28. Thank you for praying for us during our travels and for the ways in which you support our high school students!



The choir trips are very special to me in so many ways. I've been able to experience new places and grow my relationships with my church friends. I have been on two choir trips to Chicago and San Diego. Chicago was a lot of fun because I loved staying in a hotel with my friends, I really enjoyed shopping in downtown Chicago, and going up one of the tallest buildings to view the city. Getting to walk on the beach and enjoy the sun in San Diego was so nice, and the early morning coffee runs were definitely a highlight. One of my favorite things about the choir trips is our tradition of going to a MLB game. I love sitting with everyone and hanging out as a group, and I'll never forget how Charlie Teien got on the big screen for his crazy dancing at the Padres game last year. Performing at different churches has been an eye-opening experience. I've learned a lot, and it has also made me appreciate Mount Olivet more for being such an amazing place. This year, I am really looking forward to the Kansas City trip, especially because I feel like my church friend group has expanded. I'm excited for the new experiences and all the memories to be made. I'm so grateful to be a part of such an amazing choir with opportunities to sing in different states!

— Grace Rauner, Junior at Eastview High School

## TOILET PAPER DONATIONS REQUESTED FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL'S SERVICE DAY!

**Sunday, April 28, during Sunday School classes**

The Minneapolis and West Campus will be working together to repackage toilet paper for Mount Olivet's ministry partner, VEAP. Please consider donating toilet paper (any size or quantity) to either campus! Toilet paper can be marked for Sunday School and dropped off at either campus.



## NEW! ONLINE CLASS FOR EXPECTANT PARENTS

Mount Olivet is pleased to present a new program in collaboration with licensed parent educator, Beverly Gillen of The Stork School to support expectant parents. If you are pregnant/adopting/on a surrogacy journey, **join Mount Olivet's private cohort** to meet other expectant parents and learn essential tips about caring for yourself and your baby.

Course topics include everything you need to be confident in your new role, including postpartum self-care, baby safety, parent-child attachment, brain development, early literacy, baby soothing and feeding, family finance, the unique role of fathers/partners, the couple relationship, baby faith development, and more.

Progress through the weekly modules at your own pace over six weeks. Celebrate your accomplishments and meet your cohort at the in-person gathering at Mount Olivet. More information and registration can be found at [mtolivet.org](http://mtolivet.org).

# MIDDLE SCHOOL CAMPS ARE STILL OPEN!

We have three fun options for middle school students over the summer!

Call or text a friend (or two!) and join us!

## SUMMERTIME PLAYERS!

**MONDAY, JULY 15 THROUGH FRIDAY, JULY 19, 9AM-4PM, \$300**

This is a music-based day camp specifically designed for middle schoolers. Days are action-packed with team games, singing and dancing to pop and musical theater songs, and afternoon field trips. STP! is the perfect place to make new friends and to bond with the Youth Staff and Music Staff at Mount Olivet!

## MIDDLE SCHOOL MINI CAMPS

**TUESDAY, JUNE 18 THROUGH THURSDAY, JUNE 20, 9AM-4PM, \$180**

We will get ice cream and go on fun field trips including swimming and hanging out at MOA!

**TUESDAY, AUGUST 20 THROUGH THURSDAY, AUGUST 22, 9AM-4PM, \$180**

Join us for an endlessly fun week as we go to Grandslam, go swimming, bowling, as well as play a variety of fun games at church!

# MOUNT OLIVET GALA

Lighting Up  
Lives



**THURSDAY, MAY 2, 2024**  
**OAK RIDGE COUNTRY CLUB, HOPKINS, MN**

**TICKET SALES ARE OPEN UNTIL APRIL 25!**  
**\$35/PERSON - PURCHASE YOUR TICKET AT [MTOLIVET.ORG](http://MTOLIVET.ORG).**

Celebrate all of the Mount Olivet Affiliate Ministries! This festive night will include a short program at 7pm sharing information about our affiliate organizations and ways to support them. The cost includes a program, heavy appetizers, and entertainment. A cash bar will be available that accepts cash and credit cards. Casual cocktail attire is requested. Plenty of on-site parking available. Registration is open and will close on April 25. To register, visit [mtolivet.org](http://mtolivet.org) or call Laurie Hancer at 612.767.2267.

#### **SILENT AUCTION DONATIONS ARE NEEDED**

Everyone is invited to donate Silent Auction items. The Gala Committee is encouraging the congregation to donate one of the following suggested items below. **Donations are due by April 15** and can be dropped off at the Mpls Campus. Questions? Please contact Karen Beese, Gala Chair, at 612.747.1256.

- Restaurant gift cards
- Bottles of wine
- Experiences (boat rides, cooking classes, themed dinners)
- Tickets (sporting games, concerts, Broadway shows, theater)
- Jewelry and fashion items
- Home maintenance tools
- Pet services (grooming, boarding, pet accessories)
- Home décor and artwork
- Personal service gift certificates (salon, massages, fitness)
- Travel (airline tickets, condos, cabins, resorts)
- Themed baskets (Italian, baking, baby, coffee)
- Cash donations

#### **SPONSORSHIPS ARE NEEDED**

All sponsorship funds will be directly distributed to our affiliates. Sponsorship levels include: \$1,000, \$2,500, \$5,000, \$10,000 and \$25,000. Each level offers increasing benefits.

For more information, please contact Heather Guerin, Director of Development, at 651.216.6524.



**THANK YOU FOR YOUR  
SUPPORT!**

# UPCOMING EVENTS CONGREGATIONAL CARE

## YOUNG IN HEART & FRIENDS

Tuesday, April 16, 12noon,  
Mpls Campus, \$10

Young in Heart & Friends invites you to join us for lunch and a presentation by the Rev. Dr. Theresa Latini, "Fascinating Forgotten Stories of the Bible." Where can you find a group of subversive midwives, courageous widows, shrewd warriors, powerful queens, wise sages, and skilled businesswomen? In the Bible! Come and learn about some of the fascinating and forgotten (female) characters in the Bible, and how they participated in God's grand story of salvation. Don't miss this incredible presentation, and make sure to bring a friend! Register by April 12, at [mtolivet.org](http://mtolivet.org), or by contacting Tricia Asuncion at 612.767.2210 or [tasuncion@mtolivet.org](mailto:tasuncion@mtolivet.org).



## SPRING COMMUNION SERVICE AND LUNCHEON

Saturday, April 27, 11am-1pm, Mpls Campus

A worship service and Holy Communion, followed by a delicious lunch in Fellowship Hall, designed for members and family who are often unable to come to church. Please join us for this special worship service, food and fellowship. We encourage family to attend with their loved ones; however, transportation can be arranged. To register for this event or be a volunteer driver, please contact Nancy Nelson at 612.767.2288 or [nnelson@mtolivet.org](mailto:nnelson@mtolivet.org).



## MAY HEALTH EVENT

Saturday, May 4, 9-11:30am,  
Mpls Campus, \$15

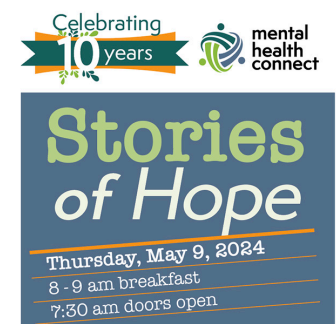
The Mount Olivet Mental Health Task Force invites you to join us in welcoming Erin Walsh as she discusses the topic, "Status Update: Kids, Technology, and Mental Health." Erin will use brain science, warmth, and humor to cut through conflicting messages, and walk us through the latest research on mental health as it relates to technology. Learn practical tools and strategies for positive communication, setting boundaries, and being the media mentor that children and teens need to thrive in the digital age. Be prepared to engage thoughtfully in the question, "How do we live well in a world dominated by screens?" A light breakfast will be served. Register at [mtolivet.org](http://mtolivet.org) by Thursday, May 2, or by contacting Rachel Sufficool at 612.767.2235 or [rsufficool@mtolivet.org](mailto:rsufficool@mtolivet.org).



## MENTAL HEALTH CONNECT PRESENTS: STORIES OF HOPE BREAKFAST

Thursday, May 9, 8am-9am,  
Mpls Campus, \$25

Join us for this inspiring fundraising event presented by Mental Health Connect and 33 churches throughout the Twin Cities. MHC provides community-based resources, support, and education to improve access to mental health services and to connect individuals and families with services they need. Our guest speaker, David Lohman, will be sharing his Story of Hope. David grew up going to Bethlehem Lutheran Church, was the associate conductor of the Broadway tour, *The Phantom of the Opera*, has worked at theaters throughout the Twin Cities and performed with the Dallas Symphony, St Louis Symphony, and has the Minnesota Orchestra. He is currently the Minister of Music at St. Luke Presbyterian Church and works with congregations in welcoming LGBTQ members. Register at [mtolivet.org](http://mtolivet.org).





# JOIN US!

## FIKA MUSIC SERIES: PETER AND THE WOLF

Sunday, April 14, 12:15pm, Mpls Campus, free of charge

The concert featuring the musical composition, *Peter and the Wolf*, written by Sergei Prokofiev, will be a fun event for the entire family. Known as a “symphonic tale for children,” the concert will involve a woodwind quintet, a narrator, and the listening audience!

## FLOWER ACRYLIC POUR ART CLASS

Tuesday, April 16, 6-8pm, Mpls Campus, \$40

Pour painting is an innovative way to use acrylic paint to create an art piece. In this class, you will learn the process of mixing acrylic paints with other materials to give it a more fluid consistency so that it can be poured directly onto a canvas. In this class, we will learn what tools are needed to create a beautiful flower-designed pour. An 8 x 10 canvas and all the supplies for the pour are included. Please bring a box or tray to bring your canvas home in. Register at [mtolivet.org](http://mtolivet.org).

## FLYING SOLO

### MIA'S ART IN BLOOM

Thursday, April 25 7-9pm, Minneapolis Institute of Arts

Join Flying Solo at the Minneapolis Institute of Arts as we are led by a MIA docent for a guided tour of the annual celebration of the arts and flowers, presented by the Friends of the Institute. Join us for fellowship at Eat Street Social following our tour. Register at [mtolivet.org](http://mtolivet.org). Questions? Contact Pastor Freeman at [rfreeman@mtolivet.org](mailto:rfreeman@mtolivet.org).

### SERVING AT SPRING COMMUNION & LUNCHEON

Saturday, April 27, 10-11am OR 11am-2pm, Mpls Campus

Help serve at the Spring Communion Luncheon! You can set tables or serve the meal and clean up. Sign up to volunteer at [mtolivet.org](http://mtolivet.org).

## CAREER & CALLING: TRANSITION PLANNING WORKSHOP

Tuesday, April 30, 5:30-7pm, Mpls Campus

Join Career & Calling for this informative workshop featuring Sandra Johnson, Executive Coach and Business Strategist, who will outline five strategies to grow your career, help you align your purpose and passion with a plan to move your career forward, and aid us in exploring specific and tactical actions that you can take immediately. This is a great opportunity for people that are between jobs, looking for an internal promotion, or simply looking to spice up your career. Register at [mtolivet.org](http://mtolivet.org).

## MOCW CIRCLE CELEBRATION

Tuesday, May 21, 5-7:30pm, Edina Country Club

MOCW Circle Members, please join us as we celebrate YOU! Mount Olivet is so grateful for your continued work and support of our church. There will be a short program at 6pm and appetizers will be served along with a cash bar. Cost is free and no registration is needed. Please join us!

## FRIENDS FOREVER ON THE NORTH SHORE

Saturday, July 27 through Monday, July 29, Cathedral of the Pines Camp

Take a trip up to Lutsen and enjoy the beautiful North Shore and our beloved Cathedral of the Pines summer camp with the Friends Forever group! We will gather throughout our two days together in faith, fellowship, and fun. There will be time at Cathedral of the Pines with devotions, meals, and chapel, as well as free time in Grand Marias and all the adventures that the North Shore has to offer throughout the summer! Transportation and lodging are on your own. Registration is REQUIRED at [mtolivet.org](http://mtolivet.org) by July 1.



# THE MOUNT OLIVET CHURCH FOUNDATION

Over the years, Mount Olivet has been blessed by generous members, generous in their weekly giving and generous in leaving a legacy to the Church through an estate gift. In 1980, Pastor Paul Youngdahl created the Mount Olivet Foundation as a place to steward such gifts. He understood that it is all too easy for a church to become dependent on funds donated through wills and estates rather than encourage present members to take active responsibility for their church through their stewardship. He also understood that funds placed in a foundation can yield benefits for the church for years, and even decades to come.

Currently, the Mount Olivet Church Foundation uses its money for three purposes:

1. It allocates a 5% draw of the funds available to support the regular operation of the church. In this sense, the Foundation functions like an endowment, where the interest from invested funds supports the ongoing ministries and programs of the church.
2. At the direction of the Church Council, Foundation Funds can be used for special projects. These may include capital projects to enhance our buildings or strategic investments in ministry areas at church or through our partners.
3. Foundation funds also function as emergency reserves, a category that is important in case of an unforeseen crisis. We are grateful to have never yet needed to use this reserve!!

I mentioned earlier that the Foundation is a place we steward gifts made through the wills and estates of members who want to see their church flourish well beyond their lives, but the Foundation receives current gifts as well. In fact, two years ago, Mount Olivet received its largest single gift from a living member who wanted to see the impact of her giving during her lifetime. Interest from that gift, placed in the Foundation, allowed us to renew some of the spaces we use for music and education as our Sunday School and Confirmation programs have grown. Over the seven years I have been at Mount Olivet, the Foundation has more than doubled through gifts like this one, the wise use of these funds by the Council, the strategic stewardship of the Foundation by the Investment Committee of our Church Council, and the legacy gifts of dedicated members.

Thirty years ago, as the Foundation began to grow, Mari Carlson, then our Director of Development, established the “Vision Partners” program as a way of recognizing all those who wanted to leave a legacy to Mount Olivet Church or one of its Affiliated Ministries. Each year, we recognize our Vision Partners in a variety of ways and often gather everyone together for a special event to celebrate the difference these gifts have made... and continue to make!

If you are interested in making a gift to the Mount Olivet Foundation to increase the impact of our current ministries while also ensuring our future vitality, or if you would like more information on making a legacy gift, you can always reach out to me. I’m also grateful to introduce you to Pastor Brian Mortensen, a Lutheran pastor and Mount Olivet member who currently oversees our Vision Partners program and has deep experience in helping members plan a legacy that reflects their gratitude for Mount Olivet and will strengthen the church for years to come.

Yours in Gratitude,

Pastor Lose

For more information about how you can become a Vision Partner, please contact Brian Mortenson at [bmortenson@mtolivet.org](mailto:bmortenson@mtolivet.org) or at 612.767.2259.

## MPLS CAMPUS MAIN OFFICE CONSTRUCTION

We are excited to be updating our main office reception area at the Minneapolis Campus this spring. We will be adding offices and a small conference room. We are anticipating work to begin mid-April.

During construction, our main office will be relocated. Directional signs will be posted.



# MINISTRY MOMENT: SEVEN LAST WORDS OF CHRIST



For decades, Mount Olivet has presented this beloved Holy Week musical event. All Cathedral Choir alums are invited to support this important tradition by singing with the current choir members. The adult presence in this concert serves as a powerful witness to our high school singers and demonstrates the importance of continued faith practices.

Beverly Claflin, Director of Worship and Music, shares some of the reasons she finds this concert so valuable:

*"My favorite part of this concert is how it creates a sense of belonging for the singers of all ages and abilities—all working together for a common purpose. In the rehearsal before the concert, you can feel the history of this long-standing tradition. One can hear the excitement from those returning to choir after years of being away, as well as those currently in choir realizing that they are now a part of this Seven Last Words history.*

*I also love how at the rehearsal we find ways for the chorus members to relate to the variety of characters they represent. That knowledge helps them approach the various sections of the music differently. From "He is death guilty" to "Christ we do all adore Thee" the singers experience and portray a wide range of emotions. As a performer, one does not walk away from this experience without understanding the power of community, music, and the gift that we each have through Christ's love for us."*

Thank you for supporting this important Mount Olivet ministry that reaches through generations!

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

## THANK YOU!

### WAYS TO GIVE

If you'd like to make a one-time gift or set up a recurring gift to Mount Olivet and its ministries, there are many ways to do so!

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

**Give Online:** visit [mtolivet.org/online-giving](https://mtolivet.org/online-giving) or scan the "Give Here" QR Code to the right.

GIVE HERE





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PERIODICALS  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
TWIN CITIES, MN

**Mount Olivet Messenger**

USPS 365-500

Published monthly by

Mount Olivet Lutheran Church

5025 Knox Avenue South

Minneapolis, MN 55419-1095

Periodicals postage paid at

St. Paul, MN

**POSTMASTER**

Send address changes to

Mount Olivet Messenger

5025 Knox Avenue South

Minneapolis, MN 55419-1095

# MOUNT OLIVET GALA

*Lighting Up  
Lives*



**THURSDAY, MAY 2, 2024**

**OPEN HOUSE 5-9PM - PROGRAM 7PM**

**OAK RIDGE COUNTRY CLUB - 700 OAK RIDGE ROAD, HOPKINS**