

MAY 2024

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

SUNDAYS

DIAL-IN VIA PHONE
833.775.1238

11am
(10am beginning 5/26)

WATCH THE MPLS
WORSHIP SERVICE AT
MTOLIVET.ORG

9, 10, 11am
(9 & 10am beginning 5/26)

HOLY COMMUNION
8:30 & 11:45am
(8:30am only beginning 5/26)

NURSERY
9, 10, 11am
(9 & 10am beginning 5/26)

MAY 5

RESURRECTION
STORIES
THE GREAT
COMMISSION
Matthew 28:16-20

New Member Sunday

- M** 9, 10, 11am
- SERMON** Pastor Lose
- MUSIC** Cathedral & Senior
Choirs
- W** 9, 10, 11am
- SERMON** Pastor Dixon
- MUSIC** Cathedral & Senior
Choirs

MAY 12

RESURRECTION
STORIES
THE ASCENSION
Luke 24:50-53; Acts 1:1-11

- M** 9, 10, 11am
- SERMON** Pastor MacLean
- MUSIC** Cherub, Alleluia,
Hosanna, Chapel, &
Senior Choirs
- W** 9, 10, 11am
- SERMON** Pastor Freeman
- MUSIC** Cherub, Alleluia,
Hosanna, Chapel,
Cathedral & Senior
Choirs

*11am Baccalaureate Sunday at
the West Campus*

MAY 19

PENTECOST SUNDAY
Acts 2:1-18, 21

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

*11am Baccalaureate Sunday at
the Mpls Campus*

MAY 26

THE UNUSUAL
SUSPECTS
ABRAHAM

Genesis 12:1-8

- M** 9, 10am
- SERMON** Pastor Kalland
- MUSIC** Takako Senn, trumpet
- W** 9, 10am
- SERMON** Pastor Dixon
- MUSIC** Jeff Nordquist,
trumpet

HOLY COMMUNION

First Wednesday of the month

- M** 12noon

LAKE HARRIET BANDSHELL WORSHIP

June 2, 10am, Lake Harriet Bandshell

Recognizing God at Work... Everywhere!

In his very fine sermon the week after Easter, Pastor MacLean referenced the Greek word *anagnorisis*, which means “recognition.” It’s a familiar literary device, both in the plays of ancient Greece, as well as in modern novels and movies. It occurs when one character suddenly recognizes someone they hadn’t earlier or learns something true about him or herself formerly hidden. It often marks a turning point in that character’s life, as that new recognition and knowledge makes all kinds of things possible.

There have been several *anagnorisis*-moments in the resurrection appearance stories we have been reading on Sundays this Easter season. Pastor MacLean’s sermon described one of them, when two disciples who walked with Jesus from Jerusalem to Emmaus fail to recognize him until he sits with them at supper. In an instant, their whole perspective changes when they recognize him “in the breaking of the bread” (Luke 24:35). Another occurred in St. John’s story of the disciples out fishing sometime after Easter when Jesus calls to them. At first, they don’t recognize him, but soon one shouts, or maybe whispers, “It is the Lord,” and that changes everything (John 21:7). Another important moment of recognition happens at Pentecost (May 19), when the disciples, anxiously awaiting the gift Jesus has promised, receive the Holy Spirit and suddenly see the challenges ahead of them not as barriers, but as opportunities to share the good news of Christ’s resurrection with everyone they meet (Acts 2).

The key element of these biblical stories is the sudden awareness that God is indeed present and active, even if you hadn’t recognized that before. And that doesn’t happen only in the Bible! We, too, have moments of recognition that can leave a lasting impression on us and shape our view of what is possible.

In fact, May is filled with such moments. We celebrate our high school seniors at baccalaureate on May 12 at the West Campus and on May 19 at the Mpls Campus. As we celebrate their accomplishments and mark this turning point in their lives, we also recognize things in them we perhaps hadn’t seen – a new maturity or readiness for more responsibility – and perceive that God has been at work in their lives through Hi-League, Cathedral Choir, Cathedral of the Pines Camp, and more. As we come to the close of another year of Sunday School and Confirmation this month, we not only thank our teachers and the many volunteers who make

these programs possible, but also recognize God’s presence and activity through them in nurturing faith in our children. Similarly, as we give thanks for our choirs after another wonderful year, we also recognize not simply that music enhances our worship, but that God is at work through the hymns and anthems to strengthen our faith. Little wonder why we like to say at Mount Olivet, “We know our faith because we sing it!”

In this sense, May is a “bridge” month, drawing to a close many of the activities and patterns of our academic and program year while preparing for all that summer brings. (Speaking of which, summer worship hours with services at 9 and 10am only begin May 26!) Transitions bring with them opportunities for deeper recognition of growth and possibility. Such moments won’t end this month, of course. As we head into summer we’ll see our kids grow through their experiences at Cathedral of the Pines Camp and Day Camps, we’ll recognize that even as we volunteer to alleviate hunger and need in our community, we are also richly blessed in the opportunity to serve others, and we may discover how much we enjoy worshipping online when we are away from home. In all these moments, we discover again and anew that God is not only active on Sundays but is part of our lives every day, every month, all the time!

In fact, perhaps the most important moment of *anagnorisis* is when we realize that Sunday worship is not an end in itself but is the hour each week that prepares us to recognize God in all kinds of places we hadn’t thought to look. At work and play, at home and in our relationships, in the variety of places we find ourselves and more, God is already present, inviting our recognition of and participation in God’s ongoing work to love and bless this world.

So as we enter this busy month of transitions and celebrations, I pray that you have a new and deeper recognition that God loves you, is with you, and is working through you for the sake of your neighbors and world.

See you at Church!



Pastor Lose

DAVID J. LOSE, SENIOR PASTOR

WELCOME ALLISON!

We are both grateful and delighted to announce that Dr. Allison Bell Richards has accepted the position as Director of the Counseling Service and began her work on February 1, 2024.

Allison grew up at Mount Olivet, participating in Mount Olivet youth programs, working in the Youth Department, and spending multiple summers at Cathedral of the Pines Camp as a camper and later as Camp Staff. Holding a PhD from the University of Iowa, Allison worked in private practice in Minneapolis with a focus on grief, trauma, family of origin issues, transitions, identity development, anxiety, and depression. She is presently on the Mount Olivet Mental Health Task force and a member of the Cathedral of the Pines Camp Board. Allison lives in southwest Minneapolis with her husband and three children.



ADULT EDUCATION: YEAR IN REVIEW

Ask most anyone who has taken an Adult Ed class this past year: they were good! Our well-prepared pastors share fresh ideas and long-lived stories with wisdom and humor, carving space for wherever one is on their faith journey. All 2023-2024 classes (listed below) are available at mtolivet.org/education via videos and study guides.

Do yourself a favor and watch one or two—or all!

LIVING THE MESSAGE (EIGHT VIDEOS)

God Reimagined: the Biblical Foundation of Luther's Reformation

WORD WITH YOUR PASTOR CLASSES

(THREE SERIES WITH FOUR VIDEOS EACH)

For Heaven's Sake, Give It a Rest!: God's Radical Sabbath Command

The Rise & Fall of the American Christian Empire?

The Life & Legacy of Dietrich Bonhoeffer

Watch, learn, and grow in your faith whenever you'd like—and stay tuned for upcoming Adult Education offerings.

KATIE STEVENSON, *Coordinator of Adult Education*



REMINDER! LIVING THE MESSAGE - WALLS OPTIONAL: THE CHURCH TAUGHT BY PASTOR LOSE

Tuesday, 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. All are welcome. Information about next year's series that begins in October will be in upcoming *Messengers* and online.



COP NORTH SHORE EXPERIENCES

Tuesday, June 25, 5-8pm
 Wednesday, June 26, 5-8pm
 Tuesday, July 16, 5-8pm
 Friday, July 26, 5-8pm
Each experience is \$15/person

If you are traveling along the North Shore this Summer, come and spend some time at camp in celebration of 75 years of Cathedral of the Pines Camp! Enjoy a chapel service, a meal, and the beauty of Lake Caribou. Register at mtolivet.org.

COP 75TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION PARTY

Friday, October 11, 2024,
 Open House beginning at 5:30pm, Program at 7pm,
 Live Band at 8pm, The Metropolitan Club, \$35

Join us 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 on Monday, May 6 at mtolivet.org.

LIFE & GROWTH

MAR 15 - APR 15

BAPTISMS

Landon Alexander Asmus

son of Brianna and Alexander

Lyla Joy Collings

daughter of Kiersten and Shane

Connor Aaron Justman

son of Emily and Jeff

Everly Michele Owl

daughter of Nina and Nicholas

Quinn Marie Reese

daughter of Alexandra and David

Dylan John Swenson

son of Jessica and Greg

Abigail Noelle Thompson

daughter of Gretchen and Peter

DEATHS

Catherine E. Arden

1942-2024

Bradley D. Bulver

1969-2024

Kristin Gibbs

1955-2024

Larry J. Gustin

1936-2024

Luverne D. Hallberg

1929-2024

Sandra J. Hogan

1940-2024

Patrick S. Klise

1938-2024

Heather L. Mestad

1960-2024

Phyllis J. Strand

1935-2024

DEVOTION

“How very good and pleasant it is when kindred live together in unity!”

—Psalm 133:1

Perhaps you’ve heard the story of the Special Olympics athlete poised to win the gold medal in the 100-meter dash when he noticed that a fellow 100-meter competitor had slipped and fallen. Rather than finish the race in first place, this front-runner turned around, held out his hand, picked up the man who had fallen, and walked with the other runner across the finish line, hand-in-hand, in last place.

The story raises the question, where and when are we willing to give up what is perceived as the prize for the gift of living together in unity?”

The Psalmist writes in Psalm 133, “How very good and pleasant it is when kindred live together in unity.”

Kindred are people joined together by God’s grace, which is all of us. Still, we are really good at making distinctions between one another. We like to elevate some and dismiss others, but God makes it clear that living in unity means walking with each other in good and in bad, not a step ahead nor a step behind, but *together*.

Just as the Special Olympics athletes showed us, moments that look or feel like “last place” are actually the places where God’s grace, love and unity most clearly dwell.

Dear God, thanks for your grace, which allows us to live together in unity. Amen. — PASTOR FREEMAN



NEW MEMBER OPPORTUNITIES

NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION

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 ggreen@mtolivet.org or 612.767.2289. Upcoming orientations will be held in the fall with new member Sunday in November.





MOUNT OLIVET SERVES

PASTOR FREEMAN, *Associate Pastor*

EASTER ANGEL BASKETS

PHOTOS CLOCKWISE
Easter Angel Baskets ready to be distributed to families at the Mpls Campus.

Many Mount Olivet volunteers picking out Easter Angel Baskets to deliver to families in need at both the Mpls and West Campuses.

In the early 1990s, Pastors Linton Scott and Mary Brown introduced a ministry to Mount Olivet called Easter Angel Gifts that continues to flourish today. This ministry shares the joy of the gospel by providing Easter baskets and groceries to neighborhood families in need. Originally serving Pastor Scott’s inner city ministry, Easter Angels has grown to include community partners CES (Community Emergency Service), VEAP (Volunteers Enlisted to Assist People), Bountiful Basket Food Shelf, and Love INC (Love In the Name of Christ). With the help of these organizations, Mount Olivet provides groceries for 2-3 meals per family as well as Easter treat baskets for the kids.

Hundreds of Mount Olivet volunteers delivered these baskets to 140 families throughout the Twin Cities metro this year. While creating and delivering the baskets is fun, it is building relationships with one another that brings such meaning to this Easter ministry.

A special thanks to our volunteer leaders– Jessica Gunderson, Sarah Sather, Sandy Souba, Milt Haugen and Victoria Circle at the West Campus, and Monica Kremer, Bruce Hinks, and Faith and Richard Wisland at the Minneapolis Campus. Thank you for the ways you put faith into action through this ministry every year! Christ’s love shines through you!



MINNESOTA FOODSHARE MARCH FOOD DRIVE

Thank you for your generous donations at the Mount Olivet Food Drive on March 17 which provided 2,141 pounds of food and over \$1,500 in cash to help fill the food shelves of Community Emergency Service in Minneapolis and Bountiful Basket in Victoria. Your commitment to ensure all are fed is a gift to our community and a witness to Jesus' call to love our neighbors.

PHOTOS CLOCKWISE

Anna Herd, Mount Olivet youth, and Dave Knoll in Food Drive truck at the Mpls Campus.

Mount Olivet volunteers helping with the Community Meals on Thursdays.



SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES: VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES AT MOUNT OLIVET & BEYOND



“How can I help?” is a commonly heard question around Mount Olivet. We love your eagerness to serve and invite you to volunteer at the church and beyond! Here are a few opportunities for you:

LOVE INC DRIVERS: Deliver hygiene packs to families in need.

SIMPSON HOUSE MEALS: Each month, about 10 Mount Olivet volunteers gather to serve a meal and get to know our Simpson Housing Clients. We'd love to add your name to our volunteer list!

COMMUNITY MEALS ON THURSDAYS: Each week, Mount Olivet volunteers gather to serve meals to neighbors through our drive-up meal ministry. From meal prep to meal delivery, we have a place for you!

PASTOR SCOTT ON-CALL MINISTRY: Pastor Scott has a 52-year history of getting to know and caring for our inner-city neighbors. If your schedule allows for an on-call notification, this is the ministry for you!

MOUNT OLIVET HOME AND CAREVIEW HOME: Opportunities are available for volunteers age 15 and above. From assisting with BINGO to accompanying residents to chapel, to one-on-one visits to helping in the Gift Shop, your gifts are always welcome!

Please contact Laurie Hancer, our Coordinator of Service and Volunteers, at 612.767.2267 or lhancer@mtolivet.org, if you are interested in any of these opportunities.



YOUTH MINISTRY



JUNIOR HIGH EVENTS: 7TH & 8TH GRADERS

8TH GRADE SINGS WITH CATHEDRAL CHOIR

Sing: Sunday, 5/5, 8-10:30am, Mpls & West Campuses
8th graders are encouraged to join Cathedral Choir!

JHA LOCK OUT

8pm Friday, 5/31 through 6:30am Saturday, 6/1
7th and 8th graders are encouraged to join the Youth Staff for a night of all fun and no sleep! Register on *Realm*.

SUMMER EVENTS

Be sure to keep an eye out for some fun summer events with the Junior High Staff! Also, don't forget about the Middle School Day Camp opportunities!
Visit mtolivet.org/summer-camps or contact Kristin Olson at kolson@mtolivet.org for more information.

HI-LEAGUE EVENTS: 9TH - 12TH GRADERS

HI-LEAGUE MOLT EVENT

Sunday, 5/5 7-8:30pm, Mpls Campus
This event is put on by our Mount Olivet Leadership Team. They have been planning this event all year so come, hang, and have fun!

HI-LEAGUE SPRING RETREAT

Friday, 5/10 through Saturday 5/11, Mount Olivet Conference & Retreat Center
We will hike, play softball, swim, and do devos at the bonfire. A perfect way to end the school year and welcome summer.

BACCALAUREATE SERVICES

Sunday, 5/12, 11am, West Campus
Sunday, 5/19, 11am, Mpls Campus
We will be having a special Baccalaureate service and breakfast to celebrate the class of 2024. We are so proud of all that our graduating students have accomplished.

HI-LEAGUE YEAR-END CELEBRATION

Sunday, 5/19, 7-8pm, West Campus
The last Hi-League of the year. Games, food, fellowship and devotions. See you there!



WE WILL MISS YOU, MOUNT OLIVET

Throughout the years I've spent growing up at Mount Olivet I have met some of my best friends and biggest role models. I've been lucky enough to be a part of many youth programs Mount Olivet has to offer, including Circle of Friends, Adopt-a-Grandparent, Cathedral Choir, MO United, MO Hoops, Sharegroups, Mount Olivet Leadership Team, Mount Olivet Board, and attending the Hi-League activities on Sundays. Getting involved was one of the best decisions I made during my high school years. I found my people and got to see what a strong community really looks like. The community at Mount Olivet is so strong because we show up for one another. The support, friendship, and generosity is unlike any other community I have been part of. So, even though I won't be surrounded by this amazing community four times a week like I am now, Mount Olivet and its lasting relationships will always be something that I know I can come back to and stay a part of. — **Ellie Hecker, Mpls Campus MOB President and Senior at Southwest High School**



There are many things I am going to miss about church when I graduate, but the one thing I will miss the most is the people. I have met so many great people in my years at Mount Olivet and created so many great relationships. One of my most meaningful relationships is with my old Confirmation teacher, Tim Thoma. Tim has been there for me since I met him, and I know he always will be. I have also made many friends between the West Campus and Minneapolis Campus. As one of the MOB presidents, I've been able to meet and work with a lot of people. I've enjoyed being able to create a bigger connection with the other MOB leaders. I've met so many people and have so many great relationships at Mount Olivet, and I am excited to continue to nurture those relationships past high school. — **Dalen Smith, West Campus MOB President and Senior at Chanhassen High School**



What I am going to miss most about Mount Olivet is the people. Not just the high schoolers, but the Youth Staff, Camp Staff, pastors, and many more. I have met some of my lifelong best friends through youth activities and it's truly the reason I keep coming back to church. Mount Olivet was the first place I felt like I truly belonged. I try to be involved in as many activities as possible at Mount Olivet, especially this being my last year as a Hi-Leaguer. Some of my favorites include Circle of Friends, MO United, and Cathedral Choir. I would like to thank the Mount Olivet youth program for introducing me to the best people. They are the people I've found comfort in for the past four years, and will continue to stay in touch with for the rest of my life. When we all go our separate ways we will always have a place to call home- Mount Olivet. — **Aubrey Van Liere, Mpls Campus MOB Vice President and Senior at Edina High School**



When I graduate, I think the thing I will miss most is the people. Next year I will be attending the University of Tennessee, and I'm not sure of any other people going with me. The community I have built at Mount Olivet over the past few years means a lot to me, and spending nights at camp or choir have led to some of my favorite memories throughout my high school journey. I currently take part in MO United, Mount Olivet Board, and Cathedral Choir, so I spend around three days at church a week. Through these groups I have grown close to many church staff and peers, and no longer seeing them consistently will be devastating. Thankfully, this community is so strong I know I will have people to come home to, and that I will be able to stay in touch throughout my future. — **Jase Wartgow, West Campus MOB Vice President and Senior at Chanhassen High School**



UPCOMING EVENTS CONGREGATIONAL CARE

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 by Thursday, May 2, or by contacting Rachel Sufficool at 612.767.2235 or rsufficool@mtolivet.org.

MENTAL HEALTH CONNECT PRESENTS: STORIES OF HOPE BREAKFAST

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

Join us for this inspiring fundraising event presented by Mental Health Connect. 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 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.

YOUNG IN HEART & FRIENDS

Tuesday, May 21, 12noon,
Mpls Campus, \$10

Young in Heart & Friends invites you to join us for a Senior Prom! Step back in time for our “To the Moon and Back” themed event, complete with music from The Bob Coates Band. Dance the afternoon away, or relax and enjoy a variety of songs provided by Bob and his crew! Sally and her team will prepare a variety of hors d'oeuvres to be enjoyed throughout the event. Prom attire encouraged, but not required. We hope you are able to join us, and remember to bring a friend! Register by May 17, at mtolivet.org, or by contacting Tricia Asuncion at 612.767.2210 or tasuncion@mtolivet.org.

NEW! CONGREGATIONAL CARE PRESENTS: COFFEE & CONVERSATION

Tuesday, June 11, 10-11:30am, Mpls Campus, FREE!

Join us for coffee and conversation, with a presentation on the topic, “If You Didn’t Buy a Ticket, You Haven’t Won the Lottery: Avoiding Online Scams.” Gary Spears, Hennepin County Technology Coordinator and a representative from Minnesota AARP Resource, will share current and most common online scams, as well as offer practical tips for determining if an inquiry is legitimate. We’ll also discuss security settings, online risk, how to alert authorities of a suspected scam, and how to file a report if you believe you’ve been taken advantage of by a scam. Also included will be time for questions, with answers provided by Gary and Minnesota AARP Resource. Register at mtolivet.org, or by contacting Nancy Nelson, nnelson@mtolivet.org, or 612.767.2288.

Mother's Day Brunch & Worship

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

Looking for a unique Mother's Day brunch getaway? Begin the day at Mount Olivet Conference & Retreat Center with a worship service at 9:30am, choose a 10:30am or 12:30pm brunch seating, and spend the rest of your time on the trails, in the pool, around a yard game, or among the natural playscape, all within the beauty of these grounds. Online reservations are open until they are filled. Due to the scale and popularity of this event, prepayment is required and refunds cannot be given.



Spring Volunteer Day

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

Join us for our annual Spring Volunteer Day and Family Day Away on Saturday, May 18! All ages are encouraged to attend.

Every helping hand, no matter the size, contributes to the many seasonal projects we need to complete to prepare the Conference & Retreat Center for spring and summer. As a thank you for your care for creation, enjoy a delicious meal from our kitchen, and indulge in the countless amenities like the pool, trails, gagaball, natural playscape, or yard games. Register today at mtolivetretreat.org/events.



MIDWEEK SUMMER WORSHIP SERVICES

WEDNESDAYS, JUNE 26 THROUGH AUGUST 7

5:30-6:30pm Dinner Served, 6:30-7pm Nature Talk, 7:15pm Worship, 8pm Bus Departs
Summer Midweeks at the Conference & Retreat Center resume on June 26 and run for seven weeks through August 7! Each evening begins with a meal from our kitchen, followed by a nature talk from retreat center staff, concluded by a worship service led by Mount Olivet pastors.

This year's theme "God's Wide Welcome" explores biblical examples of God's generous hospitality toward all people, often those least expected. Hear stories that tell the endless ways God extends welcome to absolutely everyone, and be inspired to share that inclusive love with others.

Cost is \$20 for dinner & program, and \$10 for bus transportation from 7500 York and the MPLS campus. Online registration is now open. Pay for each week separately or save on time and money by making a one-time purchase of \$100 to attend all seven (\$170 with bus transportation). Call the retreat center at 952.469.2175 with any questions you might have.



2024 MOUNT OLIVET PRESCHOOL GRADUATES

A group of 25 preschoolers will be moving on to kindergarten from the Mount Olivet Preschool! What a joy it has been to watch them grow and learn over the past few years! We are confident they are off to great things in elementary school.

If you are interested in learning more about the Mount Olivet Preschool, please contact Preschool Director, Lisa Rosenfield at rosenfield@mtolivet.org or 612.767.2216.



BAPTISMS AT MOUNT OLIVET

We celebrate the sacrament of Holy Baptism with members and non-members alike at the Minneapolis and West Campuses year round. Baptisms often take place during the last service of the morning on Sundays (11am during the school year, and 10am in the summer months) or after worship services have concluded as schedules allow.

Parents are invited to attend a baptism class to learn more about the baptismal promises and connect with a pastor ahead of the baptism.

If you are interested in baptism, please contact Katy Michaletz, Director of Children & Family Ministry, at 612.767.2245 or kmichaletz@mtolivet.org for more information and current scheduling options.



SUNDAY SCHOOL

We will conclude the 2023-2024 program year in Sunday School on Sunday, May 12, at both campuses. All children's choirs will participate in worship, and enjoy a treat with their class afterward. Please look for an email with song information, day-of logistics, and volunteer opportunities. It's been a wonderful year in Sunday School – thank you for joining us! Registration information for the fall is available online.



SUMMER NURSERY CARE & EXTENDED AGES

Nursery care is available weekly during worship throughout the summer months for ages 6 weeks to 6 years. No registration is necessary – our trained, caring staff will be happy to welcome your children to the nursery spaces each week. If you have any questions, or if you have information about caring for your child that would be helpful to the nursery staff – please contact Sam Balzer, Nursery Coordinator via email at sbalzer@mtolivet.org.



MINISTRY MOMENT: COMMUNITY MEALS

On March 14, 2024, our Mount Olivet Community Meals program celebrated its fifth anniversary. Beginning in 2019 as an inside seated dinner, these meals grew and shifted with the pandemic to be distributed curbside. During the pandemic, 700-1000 meals were served twice a week and bag lunches were also provided. Today 500-650 meals are distributed every Thursday evening with a choice of entree and more, including cakes, sweets, and treats that are donated from Jerry's Foods.

Many of those picking up meals are seniors on fixed incomes. No proof of financial need is required and there is no limit to the number of meals requested. Many meals are picked up by others for relatives and neighbors. As Sally McNamee, Mount Olivet's director of culinary services who heads up these Community Meals, says: "There is still much food insecurity, and each person has needs we are not privy to. It's our job to just make and share these meals—no questions asked." To date, there have been over 180,000+ meals served, 1,200 volunteer shifts created, and... 6,200 pounds of oranges shared! Thank you to all our members, volunteers, and staff who have made—and make—this ministry possible!

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 or 612.767.2255.

Give Online: visit mtolivet.org/online-giving or scan the "Give Here" QR Code to the right.

GIVE HERE



JOIN US!



CAREER & CALLING MAY VIRTUAL MEETING

Tuesday, May 14, 4:30-6pm, Mpls Campus

Join us for an online conversation as we network, learn, and grow together! Mount Olivet's Career & Calling ministry offers our members and friends an arena for nurturing our careers and supporting each other. We aim to grow professionally through networking, learning, and supporting each other as we balance work and life. Register online at 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!



16TH MOTORHEADS AT MTKA DRIVE-IN

Tuesday, June 4, 6-7:30pm, Minnetonka Drive-in

Arrive between 6pm and 6:45pm. At 7pm, Pastor Kalland will share a brief devotions. All car enthusiasts are invited to this classic 50s-style restaurant that features car hops, burgers, and cool cars. No reservations needed. Cost: food ordered off menu.



MOCW HOLIDAY BOUTIQUE & MARKET VENDORS NEEDED!

We would love to have you participate as a vendor at the 2023 MOCW Holiday Boutique, on **Saturday, November 2, from 9am-2pm at the Mpls Campus**, and/or the MOCW Holiday Market on **Saturday, November 9, 9am-2pm, at the West Campus**. Vendor application opens June 1 and are accepted through July 15. New this year! All Vendors will pay a \$50 non-refundable table fee per event during the application process, please note that there are a limited number of second table requests and there will be an additional charge of \$25 that will be requested at the time of registration as well. All vendors will be notified of your acceptance no later than August 1. If you have questions

about the Mount Olivet **Mpls Campus Holiday Boutique**, contact Sandy Remes and Maggie Carlson at mtolivetboutique@gmail.com or for the **West Campus Holiday Market**, contact Nicole Ensrud and Christine Davis at westholidaymarket@gmail.com.



JOIN PASTOR HAMMERSTEN IN FELLOWSHIP!

We had so much fun raising our kids together, eating pizza in the Youth Center when they sang in choir, attending the Young Marrieds group with Pastor Kalland, and spending time at Cathedral of the Pines Camp! Remember the summer so many of us were pregnant together we took over the First Aid building at camp? Life got busy after that, of course, but now that we're finding ourselves with a little more free time, I thought it would be fun to get the band back together-figuratively AND literally! And it seems that lots of people are having the same thoughts. We've had requests from long-time members who are asking for new ways to get involved and serve again, as well as from people who are brand new to our church family and want to meet new people. We're all looking for connection! For fun places to get involved, to find community, and to reconnect. **If that's you...Welcome! Join us for Burgers, Beers, and a Band! – PASTOR HAMMERSTEN**



TUTTLE'S NIGHT: BURGERS, BEERS, AND A BAND

Thursday, May 9, 5:30-8pm, Tuttle's in Hopkins

Meet at Tuttle's in Hopkins for dinner and live music! This will be the perfect chance to reconnect! We'll have lots of time for catching up and rocking out to music with a band created just for this occasion! Its All Star Mount Olivet members are: **Peter Borne, Joel Chechik, Tom Hammersten, Big Jim Myers, and Nate Hatzung!** Suffice it to say it'll be fun. Cost: Food and drinks off the menu. Register today at mtolivet.org!

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 by July 1.



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Summer Worship Hours



SUMMER HOURS BEGIN SUNDAY, MAY 26
WORSHIP AT 9 & 10AM