

February 22, 2023

With the arrival of severe weather later this afternoon, we have decided to cancel our 5pm and 7pm Ash Wednesday services at both campuses in order to keep our members, staff, and community members safe.

For those of you wishing to participate in an Ash Wednesday service, please [click here view](#) the 12noon worship service.

In addition, the Mpls Campus and West Campus buildings will close today, Wednesday, February 22, at 2pm and are closed tomorrow, Thursday, February 23, with all activities canceled. Mount Olivet will resume regular business hours on Friday, February 24. Thank you, and stay safe!

February 21, 2023

In anticipation of severe weather approaching the Twin Cities Tuesday through Thursday, we still plan to hold our 8am and 12noon Ash Wednesday services at the Mpls Campus. The 12noon service will also be livestreamed. We will continue to monitor the weather and the road conditions and make a decision about the 5pm and 7pm Ash Wednesday services at both campuses, no later than 1pm on Wednesday, February 22nd. We will send an additional email confirming those plans.

January 11, 2022

Dear Mount Olivet Members and Friends,

At a special meeting this evening, the Congregation Council received the Call Committee's unanimous recommendation to call the Reverend Benjamin M. Cieslik to serve as an Associate Pastor at Mount Olivet. The Council also set the date for a special congregational meeting to vote on this recommendation: Sunday, February 6, 2022, 12noon at the Minneapolis Campus.

Pastor Cieslik brings 12 years of pastoral experience to Mount Olivet, having served at Bethlehem Lutheran Church in the Twin Cities since 2010 in the roles of Associate Pastor (2010-2015), Executive Pastor (2015-2017), and Co-Lead Pastor (2017-2022). He is a graduate of St. Olaf College and Luther Seminary. Pending a successful congregational vote, Pastor Cieslik will oversee our digital outreach initiatives, will take primary responsibility for our Young Adult ministry, and will focus on expanding our community engagement. He will start his role at Mount Olivet on or about April 10, 2022.

Pastor Cieslik is a strong preacher, a creative thinker, and brings deep and varied leadership experience to Mount Olivet. He is particularly passionate about engaging people of all ages with the Gospel by both traditional and new means. He is married to Beth (Bevis) Cieslik, a life-long member of Mount Olivet and former Cathedral of the Pines staff member. They are parents to two beloved children: daughter Greta (age 10), and son Bjorn (age 6). Pastor Cieslik knows Mount Olivet well, having served as a Confirmation Mentor and as a participant in the Young Marrieds group along with Beth. In addition to his college and seminary experience, Pastor Cieslik has also received training from Studio/E in Minneapolis in leading during uncertain times through entrepreneurial innovation. He shares that he has a deep love for travel, time on the water, and in the mountains. He's particularly partial to the North Shore, which fortunately has a little bit of both, and he treasures opportunities to share good food and conversation with friends and family.

Sunday, February 6, 2022, will be an important day for Mount Olivet, and so I encourage all of our members to come to our special congregational meeting at the Minneapolis Campus at 12noon to vote on the Call Committee's recommendation.

With joy and thanksgiving,
David J. Lose, Senior Pastor