

# August 19, 2024

Dear Mount Olivet Family,

I write to share that Pastor Karl Jacobson died yesterday. I have few details, but I do know that he was surrounded by his family, who accompanied him on this last leg of his mortal journey with prayers, faith, tears, and the hope of resurrection we share in Christ Jesus. I've known Karl for more than twenty years and wish so much that you all would have had a chance to get to know him as your pastor. I will share details of his memorial service when they are available. For now, please hold his wife, Pastor Angela Fairbanks Jacobson, their five children, and all their family in your prayers.

As St. Paul writes, "We have been buried with Christ by baptism into death, so that, just as he was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his" (Romans 6:4-5). For this reason, while we grieve Pastor Jacobson's passing, we are confident he rests now in the arms of his Savior. And for that we are grateful.

Yours in Christ and his promise of resurrection,

Pastor Lose

Senior Pastor

# August 15, 2024

Dear Mount Olivet Family,

I am writing to share with you some difficult news. Pastor Karl Jacobson, whom we voted to call as an Associate Pastor on June 16 with an anticipated start in early September, was taken to Regions Hospital several weeks ago with what turned out to be a case of meningitis. It is viral, rather than bacterial, meningitis, which is good news, but it is a severe case and he was placed immediately into an induced coma in order to treat the infection. Since his admission, there has been some steady progress, as well as some significant ups and downs, and he still struggles to breathe and maintain consciousness independently. Most recently, he was transferred to Regency Hospital in Golden Valley which specializes in helping patients recover from significant illness, and we're grateful for that step forward. I have visited Pastor Jacobson at the hospital and will continue to do so. We have placed him on our prayer list, and I would invite your prayers for him and his family.

At this point, I do not know when or if he will be able to serve as a pastor at Mount Olivet, but I do know for a certainty that he will not be able to start this September as planned. Our greater concern right now is his wellbeing and return to health, and so we will continue to pray for and support him and his family. Pastor Jacobson has a CaringBridge site ([linked here](#)), which shares updates posted by his wife, Pastor Angela Jacobson. Thank you for your prayers for him and his family.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Lose

# June 17, 2024

The special congregation meeting was a success and our Mount Olivet members have called three new associate pastors.

Pastor Grangaard will begin her ministry on Sunday, July 7.

Pastoral Candidate Olson Popp will begin her ministry on Monday, July 15, with an ordination at her home church in Nebraska in August.

Pastor Karl Jacobson will begin his ministry in early September.

Welcome to Mount Olivet!

# May 30, 2024

Dear Mount Olivet Members and Friends,

At a regularly scheduled meeting on May 29, 2024, the Congregation Council received the Call Committee's unanimous recommendation to call three candidates to Mount Olivet as Associate Pastors. The Council also set the date of a special congregational meeting to vote on calling the three pastoral candidates for Sunday, June 16, 2024, at the Minneapolis Campus at 11 am. The three pastoral candidates are, in order of anticipated start date, Jeni Grangaard, Jenna Olson Popp, and Karl Jacobson.

Pastor Grangaard has served as a pastor in the ELCA since 2010. A graduate of Augsburg College (2002) and Luther Seminary (2009), she was awarded Luther Seminary's Graduate Preaching Fellowship and spent the year of travel and study that award afforded in East Africa, Jerusalem, Israel, and Palestine. She served Glyndon Lutheran Church in Glyndon, MN, for five years before returning to Jerusalem to serve as the Country Coordinator for the ELCA Young Adults in Global Mission program from 2015-2019. Most recently, Pastor Grangaard has served as Seminary Pastor at Luther Seminary. Her expected start date is July 7.

Candidate Olson Popp graduated from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln in 2016 and Luther Seminary in 2023. Also a recipient of Luther Seminary's Graduate Preaching Fellowship, she spent her time of study and travel exploring ministry in non-traditional worship settings across the United States. Prior to Seminary, Candidate Olson Popp served as Director of Development of the Lutheran Campus Ministry at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln with a focus on facilitating a \$6M Capital Campaign (2016-2019) and serving as Director of Community Missions at Southwood Lutheran Church, Lincoln, NE, from 2020-2021. Her anticipated start date is July 15 with an ordination planned in August.

Pastor Jacobson has served at the Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd, Minneapolis, from 2013-2024, and as Lead Pastor there from 2018 forward. Prior to that call, he taught at Augsburg University (2007-2013), completed a Doctorate in Theology (with a focus on the Old Testament) at Providence University in 2014, received his MDiv from Luther Seminary in 1996, and a BA from St. Olaf in 1992. He has served a variety of pastorates and held several teaching positions in Minnesota, Virginia, and California, and he is the author or co-author of several books and numerous articles with a particular focus on the Psalms. His anticipated start date is September 8.

The Congregation Council set Sunday, June 16, 2024, as the date for a specially called congregational meeting to vote on the Call Committee's recommendation to call these three exceptional candidates as Associate Pastors at Mount Olivet Lutheran Church. The meeting will be held in the sanctuary of the Minneapolis Campus at 11 am. This will be an important day for Mount Olivet, and so I encourage all church members to attend the congregational meeting to hear from our three candidates, vote on the Call Committee's recommendation, and celebrate all that God is doing in our midst.

Yours in Christ,  
Senior Pastor Lose

# February 27, 2024

Dear Mount Olivet Members & Friends,

I am writing to share with you that Associate Pastor Ruud will conclude his ministry at Mount Olivet on Sunday, March 10. Pastor Ruud has shared with us the following: "I have encountered and felt that I am being called to a new venture in my work at this time. I'm not entirely sure what it is yet, but I will be taking some time for myself to discern where God is leading next. Huge gratitude to the congregation for the years of walking together in ministry and the Gospel shared among us in so many ways. Prayers for the journey, and peace to all."

Pastor Ruud has served as an Associate Pastor at Mount Olivet since the summer of 2018, during which time he has offered leadership to our confirmation and adult education programs and has lent his support to various fellowship groups including our Career and Calling group. We have all been blessed by his theological acumen and significant gifts as a preacher, teacher, and pastoral caregiver. We are grateful for his leadership and dedication and offer prayers of gratitude and discernment for him and his family as he explores what is next. There will be an opportunity to greet Pastor Ruud and wish him well on March 10 between services at the Mpls Campus.

Yours in Christ,  
Pastor Lose  
Senior Pastor