

MARCH 2026

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

**WATCH THE MPLS
WORSHIP SERVICE AT
MTOLIVET.ORG**
9, 10, 11am

HOLY COMMUNION
8:30 & 11:45am

NURSERY
9, 10, & 11am

MARCH 1

**ENCOUNTERING JESUS
HEALING A MAN BORN
BLIND**
John 9, selected verses

M 9, 10, 11am
SERMON Pastor Freeman
MUSIC Cherub, Chancel,
Cathedral, &
Sanctuary Choirs

W 9, 10, 11am
SERMON Pastor Lose
MUSIC Cherub, Chancel,
Cathedral, &
Sanctuary Choirs

MARCH 8

**ENCOUNTERING JESUS
THE GOOD SHEPHERD**
John 10, selected verses

M 9, 10, 11am
SERMON Pastor Cieslik
MUSIC Chapel, Hosanna, &
Sanctuary Choirs

W 9, 10, 11am
SERMON Pastor Dixon
MUSIC Chapel, Hosanna, &
Sanctuary Choirs

MARCH 15

**ENCOUNTERING JESUS
THE RAISING OF
LAZARUS**
John 11, selected verses

M 9, 10, 11am
SERMON Pastor Grangaard
MUSIC Cathedral &
Sanctuary Choirs

W 9, 10, 11am
SERMON Pastor Olson Popp
MUSIC Cathedral &
Sanctuary Choirs

MARCH 22

**ENCOUNTERING JESUS
JESUS ANOINTED FOR
HIS DEATH**
John 12:1-11

M 9, 10, 11am
SERMON Pastor Dixon
MUSIC Cathedral &
Sanctuary Choirs

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

ANNUAL MEETING
M 12noon

MARCH 29

**PALM SUNDAY
THE TRIUMPHAL ENTRY**
John 12:12-19

M 9, 10, 11am
SERMON Pastor Olson Popp
MUSIC Alleluia, Hosanna,
Chapel, Chancel,
Cathedral, &
Sanctuary Choirs

W 9, 10, 11am
SERMON Pastor Freeman
MUSIC Alleluia, Hosanna,
Chapel, Chancel,
Cathedral, &
Sanctuary Choirs

MIDWEEK LENTEN SERVICES: BREAD OF LIFE

M 12noon
Wednesdays this Lent, we want you to be fed by the Word and at the Lord's Table as we hear Jesus' promise: "I am the bread of life." In a time marked by hunger—hunger for meaning, hope, justice, and rest—we come to the Jesus who offers himself to us. Through scripture, song, prayer, and Holy Communion, we gather to place our trust in a God who feeds us not with easy answers, but with abiding grace. Come weary. Come curious. Come hungry. Christ will meet you there, and he will not let you leave empty.

PRAYER LINE

We all know the importance and power of prayer. If you or someone you love is in need of prayer, please call our prayer line at 612.767.2300.

Encountering Jesus in John

Okay, time for a little Bible trivia! As you know, we have four Gospels – stories about Jesus written by Matthew, Mark, Luke and John – that while similar in some ways are also quite distinct. With that in mind, a few questions. In which of the four Gospels does the scene of Jesus chasing the money-changers out of the Jerusalem happen at the beginning of the story instead of the end? Which of the four Gospels seems confused about when Jesus died, reporting that he died not on Passover (as the other three report) but the day before Passover? In which of the four Gospels is Peter not the chief disciple? In which of the Gospels does Jesus tell absolutely no parables? Finally, in which of the four Gospels does Jesus do only a handful of miracles and cast out no demons, but instead mostly just talks about himself?

Well, if you answered “John” for any of these questions, you got at least one right, and if you answered “John” for all of those questions, then you got them *all* right! John is just plain different! Let’s take the question about miracles, for instance. Rather than roaming the countryside healing people, feeding people, and casting out demons, Jesus does just a handful of miracles – seven, to be exact – and John doesn’t even describe them as miracles. Instead, he calls them “signs.” Why? Because John believes the importance of these signs is less in what they accomplish and more in what they reveal about Jesus, what they point us to. Similarly, in John’s Gospel, Jesus doesn’t teach in parables, but instead groups his teaching around seven statements or speeches about himself, each beginning with the words, “I am,” as in “I am the bread of life,” or “I am the good shepherd.” Again, John’s concern is that we know that Jesus is the Son of God who has come to reveal God’s love for the whole world.

We started reading John’s Gospel in December during Advent and we will continue reading through his story into May. It’s good to know, as we read it, that John is not aiming for a neutral or unbiased account of Jesus’ life. Rather, he’s offering testimony, making a confession, with a particular aim in mind. At the close of his Gospel, he comes clean, writing, “Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name” (John 20:30-31). John, you see, is after something – you and your faith! He hopes that, by the end of his story, you will believe Jesus is the Messiah.

But John isn’t naive. He knows that confessing faith – especially in his day – can be difficult and that people react in different ways to Jesus. And so he structures a large part of his Gospel around particular *encounters* Jesus has with different characters. By the time you read this, you’ll have heard several of these encounters already: with Nicodemus (chapter 3) and with a Samaritan woman (chapter 4). This month, we’ll hear several more, as Jesus encounters a man blind from birth (chapter 9) and his friend Lazarus who has died too young (chapter 11), and during Holy Week Jesus will have dramatic encounters with Peter and Pilate (chapters 18 & 19). In each of these encounters, John does two things: he reveals something about Jesus, and he offers us different responses to Jesus. In this way, John is offering us both more insight into Jesus and different options about how to respond. Again, John isn’t neutral. After he guides us through a variety of different options of how to react to Jesus, he culminates with Jesus’ encounter shortly after Easter with Thomas, the one we know as “Doubting Thomas”, where Thomas professes his faith, a profession John hopes we will embrace.

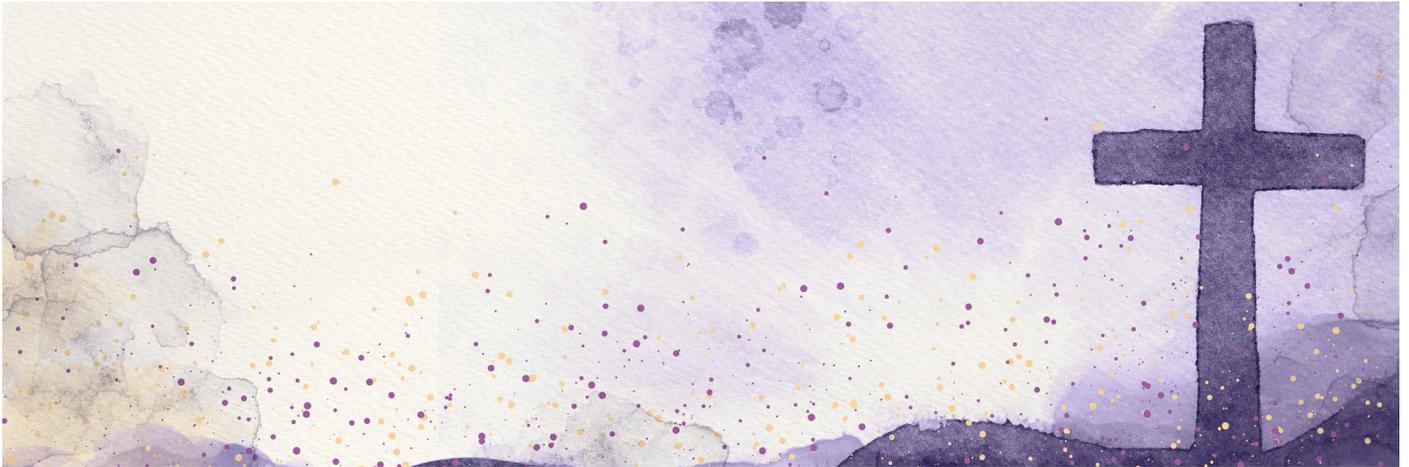
John’s narrative approach to his Gospel is both unusual and important, and so we’re lifting it up in two ways. The first is through our Lenten theme – “Encountering Jesus” – as we hope to bring these encounters alive so you can feel their power. The second is through an intergenerational Bible study on Sunday, March 8, at 5pm in the sanctuary at the Mpls campus, when we’ll delve more deeply into John’s odd and impactful story. Throughout, we hope you’ll gain deeper insight into Jesus and his revelation of God’s love and that you will be strengthened in your faith as we approach the climax of John’s dramatic story of Jesus’ life and mission in Holy Week and Easter. So jump in, follow John’s story of Jesus with us, and get ready for an encounter with the Messiah that just might change your life!

See you in Church!



Pastor Lose

DAVID J. LOSE, SENIOR PASTOR



DO YOU KNOW WHAT LENT IS?

The various seasons of the church year – Advent, Epiphany, Lent, Pentecost – are designed to help us enter into the story of Jesus more fully. But, of course, that only works if we understand what each one is trying to tell us! The season of Lent is a great example. What does this season mean, how do we observe it, and what might it offer?

Lent officially begins on Ash Wednesday, which this year was February 18, and runs through Holy Week. It consists of 40 weekdays and six Sundays. The “40 days” reminds us of several stories in Bible – the 40 days Noah was in the ark, the 40 years the Israelites wandered in the wilderness, and the 40 days Jesus fasted and was tempted before beginning his ministry.

The last story is particularly formative, as Lent is meant to be a season of holding back, of restraining ourselves, of entering into a time of self-examination and repentance. In some traditions, for instance, people are encouraged to “give something up” for Lent, in this way identifying with Jesus’ fast and providing a chance for greater reflection. Other churches will omit singing the joyful “Alleluia” during the hymns and music of the season, inviting more contemplative music. Lent is also a season to “take up” things that strengthen our faith like daily prayer, reading devotions, doing more volunteer work, and making gifts dedicated to those who are poor. In all of these ways, Lent has been set apart to help us appreciate and live into Jesus’ sacrifice on the cross and triumph over death and evil in the resurrection.

One last note: The word “Lent” comes from the Old English word *“lencten,”* meaning springtime or, more simply, “lengthening.” It is that time of year when the amount of sun we enjoy grows daily, and corresponds with the focus on Jesus as the light of the world and his resurrection as the source of new life. The pairing of nature’s cycle of new life in springtime and the resurrection of the source of eternal life is caught well in one of our Easter hymns: “Now the green blade rises, from the buried grain, wheat that in dark earth many days has lain. Love lives again, that with the dead has been; Love is come again like wheat the springs up green.”

So take some time this Lent to reflect on your faith, on God’s great love for us in Jesus, on Jesus’ command that we live most fully as his disciples when we love one another, and in all these ways prepare for our Easter celebration, accompanied by many “Alleluias”!

EASTER CHANCEL GARDEN

Order online through Sunday, March 15, \$30 per plant

Please consider honoring or remembering a loved one by purchasing a spring plant to beautify our sanctuaries for Easter morning. Please visit mtolivet.org/easter-chancel-garden or contact Jody Barbee at 952.767.1501 to complete your purchase. A list of the donors and those remembered or honored will be included in the bulletin on Easter Sunday. Easter plants can be picked up at both campuses on Sunday, April 5, after the 11am service until 12:30pm or on Tuesday, April 7, from 10am-12noon.

EASTER BUTTER BRAIDS

Order online through Sunday, March 15, \$18 per Braid

Pick Up: Sunday, March 29, 8:30-11am, Both Campuses

Don’t miss out on your Easter Butter Braids! Order online at mtolivet.org in time for Easter! Order pickup will be at both campuses; when placing your order please choose the campus where you will be picking up your order. Butter Braids are a fundraiser for our affiliates facilitated by MOHA.

LIFE & GROWTH

JAN 13 - FEB 13

BAPTISMS

Frances Nancy Carbonneau

daughter of Rachel and Pete

Addison Grace Blooston

daughter of Anna and Jim

Lucille Frances Falsani

daughter of Elizabeth and Kelly

Luella Love Freese

daughter of Brooke and Alex

Scottie Louise Jantscher

daughter of Lauren and Kurt

Bradon Lee Kilgore

son of Jennifer and Andrew

Vina Lily Montgomery

daughter of Rebecca and Anthony

Micah Marcello Rezac

son of Erin and Justin

Piper Rose Schmidt

daughter of Deanna and Kohlton

Harold William Zawicki

son of Paige and Thomas

DEATHS

Jaimee Costello

Patty L. Erickson

Beth Helgoe

Carolyn J. Haas

Terence J. Hogan

Douglas C. Holen

Marilyn Jarnberg

Mary Beth Lamb

Janet A. Presley

Joyce Richards

Emily Roust

DEVOTION

I hope these words from the sixth chapter of Numbers sound familiar!

*“The Lord bless you
and keep you;
the Lord make his face shine on you
and be gracious to you;
the Lord turn his face toward you
and give you peace.”*

Notice that last word: “peace.” Apart from the trinitarian formula—“in the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit, Amen”—this is the last word of our worship service every Sunday morning. In the original Hebrew, it’s “shalom,” which is a bigger, fuller concept than our “peace.” By peace, we often mean merely the absence of conflict, but shalom is a way of living together wherein we go beyond refraining from violence, and actively love and care for our neighbors and seek to improve their lives. Peace is when I simply live next to you without ever breaking into your house and taking your television set. Shalom is when I go out of my way to make sure my neighbors have enough food to eat, and give them some of my property if they are struggling.

Shalom is rare in our world. Even peace feels all too elusive sometimes. But this is the last word in our worship. This is our sincere, desperate prayer to God, not only that God would grant us peace, but make us into agents and instruments of that peace, that shalom.

— PASTOR DIXON



NEW MEMBER OPPORTUNITIES

NEW MEMBER LUNCHEONS

Sunday, March 29, 12-1:30pm, Mpls Campus

Sunday, April 26, 12-1:30pm, West Campus

Sunday, May 3rd, 12-1:30pm, Mpls Campus

Join us to find out what it means to be a member of Mount Olivet! Meet the pastors, staff, members of Board of Life and Growth, and connect with other new members. Brunch will be served, and childcare is available for infants through 5 years old.

NEW MEMBER SUNDAY

Sunday, May 17, Mpls & West Campuses

New members will be recognized during worship services.

If you have questions about membership, please contact Katie Lose at 612.767.2287 or klose@mtolivet.org.



BREAKFAST AT PERKINS AN EASTER TRADITION

Holy Week at Mount Olivet is special. It's full of mountaintop faith moments that are both reflective and triumphant. Sharing these special moments with each other through worship and fellowship helps us remember God's Easter promise.

An early Easter morning breakfast is one of those sacred Holy Week fellowship traditions. For many years our Cathedral Choir has met at various Perkins locations on Easter morning to share a breakfast together - at 4:30am! As of late, we have been meeting at the location off of Highway 494 & France Ave in Bloomington. For alumni wondering, we still honor the long-standing tradition of buying each high school senior their breakfast in gratitude for their many loyal years of choir participation and service!

Being together and experiencing Holy Week with each other is one of the best reminders throughout the year that we are each a child of God, loved, and not alone. Happy Easter!



Hi, my name is Lena Christianson, and one of my all-time favorite church/Cathedral Choir traditions is the breakfast at Perkins the morning of Easter! I love getting up super early to celebrate the special holiday with my friends, and it's so fun when our whole choir is involved, too! The tradition of getting up super early makes it so much more memorable. I love singing in the choir, especially on important holidays like Easter, because it really brings us all together, and it is always so fun to see how full the church gets while we're singing.

LENA CHRISTIANSON, SENIOR AT EDINA HIGH SCHOOL



WORD WITH YOUR PASTORS

"I AM": JESUS IN JOHN'S GOSPEL

**TAUGHT BY PASTOR GRANGAARD, PASTOR LOSE,
PASTOR OLSON POPP, AND REV. LATINI**

Mpls Campus: Wednesdays, April 8 through April 29, 10:30am

West Campus: Thursdays, April 9 through April 30, 10:30am

Series also available via videos filmed live at the Mpls presentation and sent out one week after each Mpls class date.

In the Gospel of John, Jesus speaks some of the most beautiful and provocative words in all of Scripture, each beginning with the phrase "I AM." These short declarations are far more than spiritual metaphors or memorable one-liners. They are windows into Jesus' identity, the heart of his mission, and the kind of life he has come to give us.

Over four weeks, we will examine the function of the "I AM" statements in the Gospel of John. We will linger with specific "I AM" statements as John presents them: *bread of life, good shepherd, and true vine*. Each image is grounded in ordinary human need—hunger, fear, loss, longing, belonging, guidance, and hope—yet each opens outward into the mystery of who Jesus is. In John's Gospel, Jesus does not merely bring help from God; he is God's power and presence dwelling among us. He comes to recreate and redeem, to liberate us from sin and death, and to restore what is fragmented within us and between us.

Together we will explore how the "I AM" statements invite us into a living relationship with Christ—one that is both deeply personal and world-transforming. This is not simply a class about titles for Jesus; it is an invitation to hear and see the One who meets us in our humanity and draws us into abundant life.

Come ready to read closely, reflect prayerfully, and listen for Jesus' voice speaking into our lives today: **I am.**

LIVING THE MESSAGE

STORIES THAT SHAPE US

This Living the Message series runs the first Tuesday of the month through May 2026, 6:30-7:30pm or via emailed videos. All are welcome at any time.

THE BOOK OF JOB: NO ONE CARES ABOUT JOB UNTIL THEY NEED JOB

Tuesday, March 3, 6:30-7:30pm, Mpls Campus Room 207

Job, a righteous and faithful man, loses everything. No one understands why. After 37 chapters of humans failing to answer the "why" question, God and Job talk it out, leaving Job humbled and in awe of the God who created the universe. Eventually, Job is given a new life and a new future, not as a replacement for what he's lost but as his own resurrection from the void. This is a book filled with more questions than answers, and we'll focus more on the human aspects of Job's story that resonate with our own lives. My hope is that you can find a friend in Job, as you wrestle with suffering, loss, grief, and your own questions of "why does this happen?"

— PASTOR OLSON POPP

JOHN 20:24-29: RESURRECTION IS NOT REVERSAL: DOUBTING THOMAS

Tuesday, April 7, 6:30-7:30pm, West Campus Rehearsal Hall

Thomas wasn't there when Jesus first appeared to the disciples. So when the other disciples tell him they had indeed seen the Lord...he doesn't believe them.

Thomas is known for his doubt, but nowhere in John's story is he referred to as Doubting Thomas. Rather, he is known for needing to know, needing to see. The last time he saw his Lord was on the cross, dead with nails marked in his hands and a spear in his side. For Thomas—and for us—Jesus really died on the cross. If the resurrection is real, it must include Jesus' wounds. Thomas teaches us an important truth: Resurrection is not reversal. It is not going back or avoiding the heartbreak. It is life on the other side of death. In this class we will dive deep into this well-known story and, like Thomas, behold our Lord and our God, wounds and all.

— PASTOR GRANGAARD

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT ALL ADULT EDUCATION CLASSES OR TO REGISTER, GO TO [MTOLIVET.ORG/EDUCATION](https://www.mtolivet.org/education) OR CONTACT KATIE STEVENSON AT [KATIES@MTOLIVET.ORG](mailto:katies@mtolivet.org) OR 612.767.2232.

HOLY WEEK

PALM SUNDAY

Sunday, March 29, 9, 10, & 11 am, Mpls & West Campuses, and livestreamed at mtolivet.org

The excitement that filled Jerusalem when Jesus entered the city long ago will be felt at Mount Olivet on Palm Sunday! Throughout the morning, choirs of all ages will join together, accompanied by the triumphant sounds of brass and the voices of the congregation. Come, lift your voice, wave palm branches, and sing with joy, “Hosanna to the King!”

If you pre-ordered Easter Butter Braids, don't forget to pick them up at the campus you selected during the ordering process. Orders must be picked up by 11am at both campuses.



THE SEVEN LAST WORDS OF CHRIST CONCERT

Wednesday, April 1, 7pm, Mpls Campus and livestreamed at mtolivet.org

This Holy Week musical event is a beloved tradition for many during the Lenten season. *The Seven Last Words of Christ* by Théodore Dubois is a sacred cantata, based on the final words spoken by Jesus on the cross. Each musical movement is enhanced with a short meditation by a pastor. This deeply expressive and dramatic work features Cathedral Choir and alumni, soloists, and an orchestral and organ accompaniment. All Cathedral Choir alumni are invited to join in the chorus of singers. The adult presence in this concert is important musically and serves as a powerful witness to our high school choir. Alumni, if you plan to sing, please meet in the Rehearsal Hall at 6pm.



LIVING LORD'S SUPPER

Thursday, April 2, 7pm, Mpls & West Campuses, and livestreamed at mtolivet.org

Step into a powerful experience of Holy Communion, commemorating the night Jesus instituted the Lord's Supper. Witness a live portrayal of this sacred moment, then come forward to receive the bread and cup, renewing your commitment to walk in the way of Christ. This service is significant for young people and children, offering a vivid visual experience that brings the story to life. Join us!





GOOD FRIDAY

Friday, April 3

Mpls Campus: 8am, * 12noon, 5pm, & * 7pm (Tenebrae service)

West Campus: 5pm & 7pm (Tenebrae service)

These deeply meaningful communion services provide a sacred time to remember and reflect on Christ's sacrifice, given for us through His crucifixion. The 7pm Tenebrae service, also known as the Service of Shadows, offers a profoundly moving experience as we listen once more to the story of Jesus' journey to the cross. This solemn service invites reflection and reverence (please note that at 7pm communion will not be served).

**these services will be livestreamed*



EASTER SUNDAY

SUNDAY, APRIL 5

MPLS CAMPUS: 7, 8, 9, 10, & 11AM, PASTOR LOSE

WEST CAMPUS: 7, 8, 9, 10, & 11AM, PASTOR DIXON

ALL MPLS CAMPUS SERVICES WILL BE LIVESTREAMED AT MTOLIVET.ORG

Celebrate the joy and triumph of Easter in a jubilant worship service honoring the risen Christ! With uplifting scripture, a meaningful message, stirring choral anthems, and the majestic sounds of brass, we will unite in worship, raising our voices to proclaim the victorious message: "Christ is risen indeed!" Let this be a time of renewal, hope, and rejoicing in the promise of new life in Christ.

If you ordered an Easter plant for the Chancel Garden, please pick up your plant following the 11am service until 12:30pm or on Tuesday, April 7 from 10am-12noon.



INVEST IN HOPE

TICKETS GO ON SALE MARCH 1!

Thursday, May 7, Open House 5-9pm, Program 7pm
Oak Ridge Country Club, \$40

Celebrate all of the Mount Olivet Affiliate Ministries! This festive night will include a short program at 7pm. The cost includes a program, heavy appetizers, and entertainment. A cash bar will be available and accepts credit cards. Casual cocktail attire is requested. Complimentary valet parking as well as on-site parking available. Ticket sales begin Sunday, March 1, and close on Monday, April 20. To purchase a ticket, visit mtolivet.org or contact Laurie Hancer at 612.767.2267.

UNABLE TO ATTEND THE MOUNT OLIVET GALA? HERE ARE WAYS YOU CAN HELP SUPPORT THE GALA!

SILENT AUCTION DONATIONS ARE NEEDED

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. For donation questions, please contact Karen Beese, Gala Chair, at 612.747.1256. **All donations must be new.** Below is a listing of suggested donations for the Silent Auction.

Premier Items and Unique Experiences:

- Experiences (host a gathering or activity)
- Tickets (theatre, concerts, sporting events, golf, shows)
- Travel (airline tickets, hotels, condos, cabins, resorts)
- Restaurant and food gift cards
- Jewelry and fashion items
- Bottles of wine for the "Wine Wall" (value of \$20 or more)
- Electronics (laptops, cameras)
- Memorabilia (autographs or sports gear)

Standard Items:

- New home maintenance tools
- New home décor items and artwork
- Personal service gift certificates (salon, massages, fitness)
- Pet services (grooming, boarding, pet accessories)
- Themed baskets (cooking, children, pets, coffee, etc.)
- Cash donations (checks payable to Mount Olivet Lutheran Church)

BECOME A SPONSOR

Sponsorship levels available from \$1,000 to \$20,000
Sponsorship Goal for 2026: \$100,000
Contact: Tyler Hauser, Coordinator of Development, at 612.767.2214 or thauser@mtolivet.org.

MAKE A DONATION

The Mount Olivet Gala Supports the following affiliates:
Cathedral of the Pines Camp
Mount Olivet Conference & Retreat Center
Mount Olivet Careview Home
Mount Olivet Day Services
Mount Olivet Home
Mount Olivet Rolling Acres

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!



Easter For All

SORT, PREPARE, DONATE, OR DELIVER!

During this Lenten season we are inviting everyone to participate in Easter for All! This event is a service opportunity where small gift items are collected, assembled into baskets, and distributed to families and individuals in need. Our community partners: CES, VEAP, Love INC, and Pastor Scott's Ministry identify families who will benefit from donations. Each family receives an Easter basket and groceries to make a healthy family meal for Easter.

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

DONATE

Through Sunday, March 22

Monetary Donations: Help Mount Olivet offset the cost of groceries for the families receiving Easter baskets. By donating \$100 you can cover the grocery costs for one family of four. Donations can be dropped off or mailed to church labeled "Easter for All" or online at mtolivet.org.

Basket Items: All items need to be small enough to fit into a standard Easter basket.

VOLUNTEER

Friday, March 27, 3-6pm, Mpls Campus

Friday, March 27, 4-6pm, West Campus

Help is needed organizing and shelving food and item donations by category for the Saturday event.

Saturday, March 28, 10am-12noon, West Campus

Saturday, March 28, 1-3:30pm, Mpls Campus

Volunteers will assemble baskets or select food to deliver to families designated by one of our community partners: Love INC, VEAP, CES, or Pastor Scott's Ministry.

Thank you in advance for your time and generosity in making Easter for All a success! Without your donations and time we would not be able to make such an impact in our communities.

**VISIT MTOLIVET.ORG TO SIGN UP TO DONATE OR VOLUNTEER,
OR CONTACT LAURIE HANCER AT LHANCER@MTOLIVET.ORG OR 612.767.2267**

MOUNT OLIVET SCHOOL OF MUSIC & THE ARTS

music and art made in community

Now in its 22nd year, The Mount Olivet School of Music & the Arts (MOSOMA) continues to thrive with 28 professional teachers and over 250 students! Our staff musicians do more than teach; they mentor, guide, and invest in each student's growth, offering wisdom and encouragement that extend far beyond the lesson itself. You will often hear them share their talents in worship services, FIKA concerts, and other musical events offered by Mount Olivet. Many also play professionally throughout the community and the United States, always modeling artistry, service, and leadership for their students. This month, we are featuring one of our MOSOMA teachers, Jake Meyer, who is a clarinet instructor.

I've been teaching clarinet lessons and performing in concerts at Mount Olivet since 2018. As a music teacher, my primary job is to help my students develop excellent clarinet technique and musicianship. I love this work, but my vocation as an educator goes far beyond simply teaching the clarinet.

During clarinet lessons, I help my students develop critical thinking, problem-solving, time management, and persistence. I help them learn to listen, communicate, and collaborate. Most importantly, I help them learn to unlock their creative voice, express themselves with conviction, and believe in themselves. Lessons become a space where students grow, experiment, and become themselves. It is a joy and a privilege to support such incredible and inspiring young people on this journey each day.

I care deeply about my students. I strive to be a positive, supportive mentor in their lives, not just helping them get better at clarinet, but also helping them become better people. I believe that by learning and making music together, we are able to forge meaningful connections with each other, enrich our lives, and celebrate our ability to create and share art, which is what it is to be human. For me, this is the best part about being a music teacher.

JAKE MEYER, *Principal Clarinet, Ocala Symphony Orchestra, Private Lesson Instructor with MOSOMA*



THE MOSOMA REPRESENTS A WARM, WELCOMING ENVIRONMENT WHERE PEOPLE COME FIRST, LEARNING FEELS SAFE AND SUPPORTIVE, AND EXCEPTIONAL TEACHERS INSPIRE EVERY STEP OF THE WAY. FOR MORE INFORMATION, CHECK OUT OUR MOSOMA TEACHERS ONLINE AND THEN FILL OUT THE PRIVATE LESSON INTEREST FORM VIA THE QR CODE TO THE LEFT.





MENTAL HEALTH TASK FORCE

JULIE GOODMAN, Director of Congregational Care

In 1987 Pastor Tim Fuzzey and Mount Olivet member Joanna Kuehn founded the Mount Olivet Mental Health Task Force. The mission of the Mental Health Task Force is to raise awareness, educate, and reduce the stigma associated with mental health challenges. Thirty-eight years later that mission continues here at Mount Olivet.

The Mental Health Task Force (MHTF) is comprised of professionals and volunteers who have a “servant’s heart” and are truly on a mission in helping others. We work to provide educational opportunities and resources for our members and the surrounding community. We are fortunate to have Pastor Kalland as our Pastoral Advisor and Allison Richards, Director of the Mount Olivet Counseling Center, on our team to offer guidance and support.

Each Spring, the MHTF provides an educational health event. This year’s event will be held on Saturday March 14, from 9:30-11am at the Minneapolis Campus. For more information about the event see page 14.

In May, we will host the Annual Mental Health Connect Fundraiser Breakfast. Mount Olivet is one of 40 faith communities who are a part of this amazing collaborative. Mental Health Connect reaches out to churches to start or enhance a mental health ministry. They also provide educational events, training, and a navigation line to help people get the resources they need.

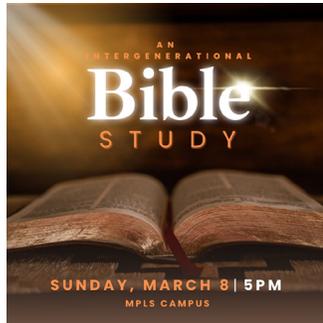
The MHTF will continue to offer other opportunities throughout the year. We are here to serve the members of Mount Olivet and the surrounding community. Having a mental health ministry as a part of our church offers people peace of mind that our church cares for them and is a safe place to be themselves.

FEATURED EVENTS

AN INTERGENERATIONAL BIBLE STUDY: JOHN – THE ODDBALL GOSPEL!

Sunday, March 8, 5pm, Mpls Campus

Join us for a Bible study for all ages, led by Pastor Lose and facilitated by our pastoral team. Did you know that John almost didn't make it into our Bible? Or that the author is not John, one of Jesus' twelve disciples, but likely an unidentified character only named as "the disciple Jesus loved?" Or that John at points contradicts the testimony of Matthew, Mark, and Luke? And that John doesn't really care about that (and we probably shouldn't either)? John is, in a word, different. Or in two words, really different! (Hence, "the oddball Gospel.") But John is also the source of some of the most profound reflections on Jesus in the New Testament. So come and join us for a Bible study for all ages, led by Pastor Lose and facilitated by our pastoral team. You won't regret it!



MENTAL HEALTH TASK FORCE PRESENTS: ADDRESSING MENTAL HEALTH IN RELATION TO HEALTHY AND UNHEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS

Saturday, March 14, 9:30-11am, Mpls Campus, Free

Join us for this informational morning with Steph Page, co-founder and visionary behind Stories Foundation and Storyteller Cafe. During this informational session you'll gain knowledge, learn tips and talking points for you to have with your children about safe and healthy boundaries, internet safety, and resources for social media. Please register by March 12 at mtolivet.org.



MOUNT OLIVET LUTHERAN CHURCH

MENTAL HEALTH TASK FORCE PRESENTS:
ADDRESSING MENTAL HEALTH IN RELATION TO
HEALTHY AND UNHEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS

A COMMUNITY AWARENESS EVENT

Saturday, March 14
9:30-11am
5025 Knox Ave S, Minneapolis, MN 55419

MTOLIVET.ORG MPLS 612.926.7651 • WEST 952.767.1500

MASTERWORKS CONCERT: RUTTER REQUIEM

Thursday, March 12, 7pm, Mpls Campus, Free

Mount Olivet Music & Art warmly invites you to the second annual Masterworks Concert: John Rutter's *Requiem*! The *Rutter Requiem* is one of the most widely performed choral works of the 20th century, known for its unique blend of traditional Latin Requiem texts and English Psalm texts. The expressive, contemporary work will feature professional instrumentalists, soloists, and choral singers from Mount Olivet and the greater community. This event is free. Please consider bringing a food donation as a way to support and care for members of our community in need.



MARCH FOOD DRIVE

Sunday, March 22, 8:30-11am, Mpls & West Campuses

You are encouraged to take part in the March MN FoodShare campaign on Sunday, March 22, during our March Food Drive. Please drop off food or monetary donations at either campus. Items collected in Minneapolis will support Community Emergency Service (CES) and the West donations will go to Bountiful Baskets. This is a great opportunity to help alleviate hunger in our communities!





UPCOMING AT MOUNT OLIVET

MARCH 2026

MORE INFORMATION & REGISTRATION AT [MTOLIVET.ORG](https://mtolivet.org)

COP 11 O'CLOCK ACTIVITY FOR CURRENT 3RD, 4TH, & 5TH GRADERS

Sunday, March 1, 11am-12:30pm, Mpls Campus, \$10

Join us for fun with your old friends and new friends for some "11 O'Clock" activities fun! You can choose from a nature walk, crafts, playing in the gym, and more! Lunch will also be served!

CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP

Thursday, March 5 & Thursday, March 19, 10:30-11:30am, Mpls Campus

Led by Sarah Strasen, LICSW, this group offers connection, resources, and encouragement for anyone currently in a caregiving role. In this time set apart from the day-to-day, we will look for sources of hope, resilience, and compassion within ourselves and one another.

FLYING SOLO: SERVE THE COMMUNITY MEAL

Thursday, March 5, 3:30pm-5:30pm, Mpls Campus

Join Flying Solo as we serve our drive-through Community Meal! Register online at mtolivet.org.

AN INTERGENERATIONAL BIBLE STUDY: JOHN – THE ODDBALL GOSPEL!

Sunday, March 8, 5pm, Mpls Campus

Join us for a Bible study for all ages, led by Pastor Lose and facilitated by our pastoral team. You won't regret it!

CAREER & CALLING

Tuesday, March 10, 5:30-7pm, Microsoft Teams

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.

17TH MOTORHEADS @ LE CHATEAU

Tuesday, March 10, 5:30-8pm, West Campus, \$20 paid by 3/8, \$25 at the door, \$10 for youth 18 and under

Join fellow Motorheads for this fun gathering at the Herreid-Rivet home (Le Chateau) where you will enjoy delicious food, cool cars, interesting displays, Pastor Kalland's devotion, and more!

YOUNG IN HEART & FRIENDS LUNCHEON

Tuesday, March 17, 12noon-1:30pm, Mpls Campus, \$10

Join us for lunch and to hear Rev. Theresa Latini, Executive Director of the Mount Olivet Conference and Retreat Center speak on St. Patrick, survivor, missionary and courageous witness of faith. Please register by March 13.

ANNUAL MEETING

Sunday, March 22, 12noon, Mpls Campus

Join us at the annual meeting to hear from your Mount Olivet Pastors and the Congregation Council as we review the past church year and plan for Mount Olivet's bright future, a future filled with hope.

ART CLASS: PAPER QUILLING FLOWERS

Tuesday, March 24 6pm, Mpls Campus, \$40

Paper Quilling is the art of rolling, shaping, and gluing colorful strips of paper to a background to create a design. In this class you will learn about tools needed as you create a flower design following step-by-step instructions.

LOOKING AHEAD!

GROWING THROUGH GRIEF

Saturday, April 11, 9am-4pm, Conference & Retreat Center, \$50-\$100

Whether you are grieving the death of a loved one, severed relationships, the loss of dreams, or more, this day retreat will provide an opportunity for you to grow and heal.

FIRST YEARS WITHOUT THEM

Thursdays, April 23 through June 11, 2:30-4pm, Mpls Campus, \$100

Come find healing in the first years following the death of a loved one. Sara Watne, MA, LPCC leads this support group.



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17TH MOTORHEADS @ LE CHATEAU

Tue, Mar 10, 2026 Shuttle from West Campus (arrive between 5:30 and 7pm)

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