

February 1, 2021

Dear Family of God at Mt. Olive Lutheran Church

We, as the leadership, are writing to you in the wake of unthinkable circumstances—the loss of our beloved Pastor Krause who was called to his eternal rest in Christ. This has left all of us with inexplicable grief as we mourn as well as the need to address our new circumstances with our current pastoral resources for worship. As you know Pastor Alex Marque is called to both Mt. Olive Lutheran Church and Concordia Lutheran Church as full-time pastor. This has not changed. It is pastor Alex's deepest desire to impress upon the members of Mt. Olive and Concordia his continued and consistent pastoral service with the love and care its members have come to expect and which, most importantly, is in accordance with God's word and the love of Christ.

As such, we as the leadership at Mt. Olive and Concordia have met with Pastor Alex and Pastor David as well as have been in constant communication with District President Alan Buss of our Northern Illinois District to find a schedule that will meet the pastoral needs of our grieving congregations. With the full support of the lay leadership, pastors and district president, we have come up with what is to be understood as “emergency logistics” for a temporary worship schedule. To emphasize, this emergency logistic plan is not meant to be a permanent alteration of our worship but is a temporary plan that is meant to meet the needs of our congregations with our available pastoral resources. As such for the next two months, starting on February 7th through March 28th **we will have as our worship schedule at Mt. Olive:**

Saturday night worship at 6:30pm

Sunday morning worship at 8:00am and 10:45am

Wednesday night worship at 6:00pm

Please notice that we will not have our 9:20am worship service during this temporary schedule.

This schedule will allow pastor Alex and pastor David to serve both Mt. Olive and Concordia each Sunday. **This temporary change will not alter our Sunday morning Bible classes or Sunday Connections schedule.**

It is important to note that **Concordia is also altering their Sunday worship and decreasing from two services on Sunday to one (at 9:20am) to allow for the pastors to travel back and forth.** In addition, **Resurrection is accommodating to this new schedule.** Pastor Alex and Pastor David will each fill in at Resurrection one Sunday a month (the first and last Sunday of each month) which will make it possible for pastor Alex to be present for preaching and worship at Mt. Olive and Concordia the 1st through the 3rd Sundays of each month and for pastor David to be present for the 2nd through the 4th Sundays of each month. This also means that Pastor Alex and Pastor David will serve together two Sundays each month as liturgist and preacher for more pastoral presence. Resurrection leadership has agreed to fill the pulpit for the remaining two Sundays of each month and already have scheduled preachers. Once again, **Pastor Alex is committed to fulfilling his call to both Concordia and Mt. Olive by being present at and preaching as many worship services as possible.**

The leadership has also committed to reassessing this schedule after one month in order to plan how we will move forward after March 28th.

We recognize that this may require some members to alter their normal worship time. We want you to know that this decision was not made lightly nor was it made without concern for you. All members of Mt. Olive and Concordia are important to the pastors and the leadership. We do believe, however that this is the best way to move forward in this emergency situation, where we are all learning to walk together in this new situation. We ask for your continual prayers for wisdom and guidance of our Lord Jesus Christ as we will continually be praying for you all as our brothers and sisters in Christ. Thank you.

In Christ,

James Wysocki, Congregation President

Jordan Shaver, Chairman of the Board of Elders

David Roskovic, Specific Ministry Pastor

Alex Marque, Pastor