



Better Together: How We Lead & Serve at Mount Olive

As we look ahead to a new season of ministry this fall, we're excited to announce the upcoming sermon series: **"Better Together"**, launching on **Rally Sunday, September 7**. This series will explore how God calls us to live, grow, and serve in unity as the body of Christ. It's a reminder that we are not meant to follow Jesus alone—we are *better together*.

That same spirit of unity and shared purpose is reflected in how leadership functions at Mount Olive. Our congregation is supported and guided by two key leadership groups: the **Commission of Elders** and the **Mission and Ministry Council**.

COMMISSION OF ELDERS: SPIRITUAL SHEPHERDS

The **Commission of Elders** consists of spiritually mature men, appointed based on biblical qualifications (1 Timothy 3, Titus 1), and approved by the Vision Assembly. They serve under the Senior Pastor's leadership and are dedicated to the spiritual care of the congregation.

Their duties include:

- Strengthening the spiritual health of members and staff.
- Overseeing worship life and doctrinal faithfulness.
- Providing prayerful guidance and encouragement.

If there is no Senior Pastor in place, the Elders—along with associate or assistant pastors, if applicable—provide essential spiritual leadership and help guide the congregation through the pastoral call process.

MISSION AND MINISTRY COUNCIL: MINISTRY OVERSIGHT

The **Mission and Ministry Council** is composed of elected officers and members who oversee the church's operations and support its ministries.

Their responsibilities include:

- Managing finances, staffing, and ministry policies.
- Implementing the vision and plans approved by the Vision Assembly.
- Ensuring that all activities reflect our mission: *Living to Love People to Christ*.

Major decisions—such as calling a pastor, adopting the annual budget, or amending the Constitution—require the approval of the Vision Assembly (all voting members).

MOVING FORWARD—TOGETHER

As we prepare to kick off the "Better Together" series on **September 7**, let's remember that Christ is the true head of the Church (Ephesians 1:22), and He works through all of us—Elders, MMC, staff, and every member of the body—to build up His Church in love.

Whether in a season of growth or transition, we are never alone. We are better together—and we invite you to join us this fall as we live out that truth in worship, fellowship, and mission.

- Mount Olive Leaders

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Worship Info

August 3—Pastor Larry Behnken
Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14, 2:18-26;
Colossians 3:1-11; Luke 12:13-21

August 10—Pastor Craig Quiring
Genesis 15:1-6; Hebrews 11:1-16;
Luke 12:22-34

August 17—Pastor Robert Burmeister
Jeremiah 23:16-29; Hebrews 11:17-31,
12:1-3; Luke 12:49-53

August 24—Pastor Bill Pieper
Isaiah 66:18-23; Hebrews 12:4-24;
Luke 13:22-30

August 31—Pastor Don Schmiede
Proverbs 25:2-10; Hebrews 13:1-17;
Luke 14:1-14

Please welcome our visiting pastors!

Elders

Jesse Jett, Paul Letsche,
Harold Matson, Paul Peterson,
Jon Wellman, Ryan Peterson,
Tony Davis, Jeff Schultz,
Matt Teske

MMC

Ben Bremer, Jason Hoopman,
Amanda Polster,
Aaron Ledebuhr, TJ Jensen,
Skip Rumsch, Lauren Letsche,
Jen Busch

BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

• SUMMER SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDIES •

Senior Youth Room is OPEN: Incoming 6th grade through graduating seniors are welcome to meet in the Senior Youth Room each Sunday this summer from 9:00-9:45 AM to hang out, eat breakfast and play games. Contact Martha with any questions (martha@mtolive-anoka.org).

The Prayer Practice: Sunday mornings at 9:00 AM this summer. Meet in the Library for a video study on prayer. Questions? Contact Paul and Sandy Peterson at twin1peterson@gmail.com

• WEEKLY BIBLE STUDIES AT MOUNT OLIVE •

Early Morning Wednesday Women's Bible Study—ONLINE: This Bible study meets on Wednesdays online at 6:00 AM. This summer we will continue studying the life of Jesus through the video series "The Chosen". If you are interested in joining, contact Paulette Lenz, (mp.lenz@gmail.com).

Exploration & Discovery Bible Study - Wednesday Edition: Meets at 9:00 AM in Jerusalem Room (#2108), led by Jim Rootes. No class on August 13.

Summer Youth Group on Wednesday Nights: See graphic on page 5 for specifics! Contact Martha with questions (martha@mtolive-anoka.org).

EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."
Jeremiah 29:11

RANDY PALMER

Director of Worship and Technology

I grew up in the small town of Mattoon, Wisconsin, a town of only 350 people. My family went to St. Peter Lutheran Church, an LCMS church with a congregation of about 50 people. I attended the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point where I joined the worship band for Cru and found my love for contemporary worship. While in college I served as a counselor and VBS Director at Camp Luther in Wisconsin. After college I was the Director of Worship at Lakeside Community Church in Algoma, Wisconsin before coming back to the LCMS here at Mount Olive. In my free time I love to go golfing (if anyone needs a golf partner please let me know!), as well as disc golfing and watching football / hockey. I am a die-hard Pittsburgh Steelers and Penguins fan! I also enjoy playing drums or going to Open Mic Nights to play some of my favorite covers.

As the Director of Worship and Technology, my job is to select and lead the songs for the second service as well as create the service layouts for both services. I also create all the slides you see each week at both services and help facilitate the cameras, computers, lights and sound that is needed for service and for our live stream. Since starting at Mount Olive, I started Praise and Worship Night once a month. This is an event that allows people to come together and sing their favorite songs, pray and hear a testimony or devotional from someone on staff or fellow member. We try to incorporate different ways to worship or pray so that it isn't the same every time. Praise and Worship Night is a time to invite friends and family who have never attended church or are intimidated by a Sunday morning service. It shows the values we hold at Mount Olive and allows families who are looking for a new church community to feel welcome. I am very blessed for the gifts and talents that God has given me to spread His love to others. Contemporary music brings out an energy that I can't find anywhere else and I hope I can share that energy with everyone who enters His Sanctuary.



WOMEN OF MOUNT OLIVE

**Women in Mission Capitol Conference Fall Event
Hosted by Mt Olive Lutheran—Anoka**

HOW TO DO MISSION WORK IN YOUR OWN BACKYARD

Saturday September 27, 2025

8:30 Registration

\$8.00 at the door

(Includes Breakfast)



cbellanger@linc.org

Speaker: Chris Bellanger

LINC—Twin Cities City Director

Our Mission

Bring Gospel hope and help to every community so that everyone would have the opportunity to experience the Gospel in ways they can understand from someone they know.

OFFERING

**MN SOUTH LWML
IN REACH**

We will be collecting cash
and checks payable to
MN S LWML



In Gathering

**ITEMS FOR
CENTRAL CARE BAGS**

(Bags will be assembled as a project
at this event)



More information about
LINC may be found at

LINC.org

Event to be held at:

**Mt Olive Lutheran Church
700 Western St
Anoka MN 55303**

Please help the Women of Mount Olive in the making of Central Care Bags by donating some of the following items and dropping them in the Care Bag basket behind the Welcome desk by September 20:

- Socks
- Water bottle
- Bandages
- Small package wet wipes
- Toothbrush
- Toothpaste
- Sunscreen
- Chapstick
- Small packs of Kleenex
- Comb, small hairbrush
- Nail clippers
- Single-serve snacks (crackers & tuna, peanut butter or cheese, nuts, trail mix, fruit snacks)
- Gallon size Zip-lock bags

**Now is a good time
to start shopping for
Operation Christmas Child.
School supplies are on sale
(notebooks, markers, etc.)!**

Collection is November 17-24, 2025



CarePortal

For centuries, the Church has been known as the people who lean into and are drawn to the toughest parts of their communities because of the great, eternal hope they have. CarePortal ensures that the Church continues to have access to these situations and make the most of the opportunities to give glory to Christ as we serve as His ambassadors.

If you feel called to connect with and love those who need to see and be reminded of the light of Christ, please consider joining our CarePortal Response Team!

Contact Allyson Goettsch for more information.

Support for 26 children
in our Community



12 Requests Met



See some of the requests we can
help with by Scanning the
QR code or visit



<https://system.careportal.org/church/103033>



Summer
Worship



Sundays
8:00 & 10:00 AM
May 25 - August 31

Communion on 2nd & 4th Sundays

**GO CLASSROOM
SUPPLIES PICKIN'**

Check out the big tree in the Welcome Center to help donate supplies for our Preschool classrooms and our Children & Youth Ministries!



Scan QR Code to view our Amazon Wish List



INCOMING 6TH, 7TH, AND 8TH GRADERS

**Confirmation
Orientation**

Wednesday, September 3
6:30 PM in Jr. Youth Room

If you have a youth planning to participate in Confirmation or if you have questions, please email Martha at martha@mtolive-anoka.org.

BACK TO SCHOOL

 **FUN**

TUESDAY, AUGUST 26 ★ 4:30-6:30PM
MOUNT OLIVE FAMILY CENTER

BOUNCE HOUSE ★ ICE CREAM ★ CRAFTS
GAMES ★ BACK TO SCHOOL DEVOTION

ALL KIDDOS & FAMILIES ARE INVITED!
COME AND GO AS YOUR SCHEDULE ALLOWS!

Questions? Contact our Director of Children, Youth & Family Ministries, Martha Harkins, at martha@mtolive-anoka.org

The Sr. Youth Room is

OPEN

Sunday Mornings
9:00-9:45 AM

August 3, 10, 17, 24

ALL youth that just completed 5th grade through graduating seniors invited!

Hang out, eat breakfast, & play games

Questions?
Contact DCE Martha at martha@mtolive-anoka.org

BETTER TOGETHER

Mount Olive Anoka
RALLY DAY 2025

Hebrews 10:23-25

Save the date; more information to follow!

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

9:30 AM Worship Service
11:00 AM Potluck

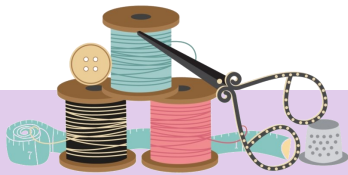


ADULT CHOIR / BELL CHOIR

Are you interested in
Adult Choir or Bell Choir?

Practices will begin on
Wednesdays this fall.

More information
will be coming!



No Summer Quilters
in August.
We will resume in
September.
Watch for more info.

MOUNT OLIVE YOUTH SUMMER WEDNESDAY NIGHTS

For all Youth entering 6th Grade through Graduated Seniors

UPCOMING SCHEDULE:

August 6 Summer Youth Group 6-7 PM

August 13 Bonfire at Davis Home 7-8:30 PM

August 20 End of Summer Party 6-8 PM

August 27 Praise & Worship Night 6:30-7:30 PM

Questions? Contact DCE Martha
at martha@mtolive-anoka.org

SIGN UP FOR



FinancialPeace

UNIVERSITY

You're ready to sign up for an FPU class if...

- ▶ You're sick of living paycheck to paycheck
- ▶ You make good money but still feel broke
- ▶ You wonder if you could be doing better
- ▶ You want to honor God with your finances

Childcare will
be available

MONDAYS starting SEPT 8 - NOV 3
6:30 PM - 8:15 PM



Scan this QR code to sign up. Contact Aaron Ledebuhr for more info: aal.usmc@gmail.com

PRESCHOOL



Even though it's summer, the preschool has been busy getting ready for the new school year! The **Orientation Open House will be August 26** and there are many things to prepare before the big day! Teachers have been cleaning and organizing classrooms, new staff have been hired (two new aides!), documents have been created or updated, and orientation information has been mailed out!

The preschool has one summer camp the month of August: Camp Splish Splash. We are looking forward to an awesome week full of all things water!

YOUNG ADULT



Keep these young adults in prayer this month and stop to sign a card for each of them on Sunday, August 3.

Lord, we know that your Spirit is right alongside helping _____.

If they don't know how or what to pray, it is okay. Your Holy Spirit does the praying in and for them, making prayer out of their wordless sighs and their aching groans. The Spirit knows them far better than they know themselves and keeps them present before You. That's why we can be so sure that every detail in their lives of love for you is worked into something good. May they live their lives absolutely convinced that nothing - living or dead, angelic or demonic, today or tomorrow, high or low, thinkable or unthinkable - absolutely nothing can get between them and Your love because of the way that Jesus has embraced them. We love you Father. Amen (*Romans 8:26-28, 38*)



Lukas Squier

Ava Kehr

Grace Kehr

Natalie Schultz

Odin Western

Nicole Post

Jeffrey Wachholz

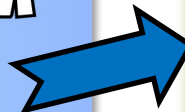
Joe Naber

YOUTH MINISTRY

YOUTH LEAD TEAM INFORMATIONAL MEETING

SUNDAY, AUGUST 17
11:15AM IN COFFEE SHOP AREA

Anyone who would like to help with children or youth ministry is invited to attend to learn more about ways you can serve! If you cannot make the meeting but are interested in helping, please contact DCE Martha at martha@mtolive-anoka.org



COULD YOU...

KEEP US IN PRAYER
DONATE SUPPLIES
PROVIDE SNACKS/MEALS

HELP WITH:
SUNDAY SCHOOL
JR. HIGH BIBLE STUDY (SUN.)
SR. HIGH BIBLE STUDY (SUN.)
CONFIRMATION (WED.)
WED. NIGHT YOUTH GROUP
SPECIAL FAMILY EVENTS
SPECIAL YOUTH EVENTS



ENDURE
2025 LCMS YOUTH GATHERING
HEBREWS 12:1-3





August 2025

WORSHIP

Through August 31

Onsite & Online Worship Hours:

Sunday: 8:00 AM (Traditional)
10:00 AM (Contemporary)

Rally Day

Sept 7: 9:30 AM service only

Starting September 14

Onsite and Online Worship Hours:

Sunday: 8:00 AM (Traditional)
9:15 AM (Education hour: Sunday
School and Bible Studies)
10:30 AM (Contemporary)



[Website](http://www.mtolive-anoka.org): www.mtolive-anoka.org



[Youtube](#): (search Mount Olive Lutheran Anoka)



[Facebook](#): (search for Mount Olive Anoka)



QCTV: (Channel 19). View previous week's worship
Sundays: 6:30 AM, 12:00 PM
Wednesdays: 8:00 PM

UPCOMING EVENTS

Aug 1 Family & Youth Game Night
Aug 4-7 Preschool Camp Splish Splash
Aug 17 Youth Lead Informational Meeting
Aug 26 Preschool Orientation
 & Back To School Fun Night with Martha
Aug 27 Praise & Worship Night
Sep 3 Confirmation Orientation
Sep 7 "Better Together" Rally Day (Worship 9:30 AM & Potluck 11:00 AM)
Sep 8 Financial Peace University class starts
Sep 14 Fall Worship Times change back to 8:00 & 10:30 AM
 with Education Hour at 9:15 AM

THANK YOU

For Lending A Helping Hand

YOUR GENEROSITY IS MAKING A
DIFFERENCE AND KEEPING OUR
GROUNDS AND CHURCH BUILDING
BEAUTIFUL AND WELCOMING!

