

MOUNT OLIVE LUTHERAN CHURCH MESSENGER

A Congregation of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod

Pastor's Ponderings from Pastor Paul

We stand on the shoulders of giants. That thought has been on my mind lately. In October, I usually write about the Reformation and our Lutheran heritage. This year, I'd like to go in a bit different direction.

I've been reflecting on those who shaped my faith. Besides my parents and grandparents, they include Mr. Art Goldgrabe, Mr. Dan Schuldheiz, Mr. Fred Ruhnke, Dr. Richard Reinisch, Dr. John Scheck, Dr. Louis Brighton, Dr. Andrew Bartelt, Dr. Ronald Feuerhahn, and Prof. Hannibal Frederick. Through lessons that were not always easy, they taught me what it means to follow Jesus.

Who helped form your faith? Perhaps your list includes parents, grandparents, or childhood pastors such as Pastor Haakana, Pastor Heiden, and Pastor Stromig. Through them, you learned the importance of following Jesus.

Paul describes this in 1 Corinthians 3: According to the grace of God given to me, like a skilled master builder I laid a foundation, and someone else is building upon it.... For no one can lay a foundation other than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. — 1 Corinthians 3:10–11

This same idea is at the heart of our ministry enrichment campaign, Blessed to be a Blessing. For 90 years, generations at Mount Olive have taken leaps of faith—calling church workers, expanding our facilities, and beginning new ministries—trusting God to provide.

As Blessed to be a Blessing Commitment Sunday approaches on November 15, the Lord calls us to another leap of faith. We do not take it alone; we build on the witness of those before us and on the firm foundation of Jesus Christ, crucified, risen, and ascended.

We take such leaps because Jesus calls us to follow Him. Guided by those who came before us and empowered by the Holy Spirit, we trust God to provide all we need.

As Commitment Sunday approaches, prayerfully consider how God is calling you to take a leap of faith while standing on the shoulders of those He used to shape yours.



What's Inside

- 2 Better Together
- 3 WOMO, Young Adult, Preschool
- 4 Children and Youth
- 5 Blessed Campaign
- 6-7 Check It Out

Worship Info

November 1
All Saints Day

"The Overflow of Generosity"
1 Kings 17:7-16

November 8

"The Joy of Abounding"
Malachi 3:6-12

November 15
Commitment Sunday
9:30 AM Only

"Invested in Grace"
Zephaniah 1:7-16

November 22

"Surprised by the Crown"
Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

November 25

"Don't Forget the God Who
Feeds You"
Deuteronomy 8:1-10

BETTER TOGETHER

Sundays at Mount Olive

8:00 AM | Traditional Worship Service

9:15-10:15 AM | Education Hour

Adult Bible Study | Cana Hall | led by Pastor Paul
Youth Bible Study (8th-12th grade) | Senior Youth Room
Sunday School | Family Center | then split into classes
NEW! "The Big Ten" Parenting Study | Jerusalem

10:30 AM | Contemporary Worship Service

COMMITMENT SUNDAY

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15
9:30 AM**

(Note: one unified service)

Wednesdays at Mount Olive

6:00 AM | Early AM Bible Study (online)

We will continue "Stronghold of the Chosen"
Contact Paulette Lenz (mp.lenz@gmail.com)

9:00 AM | Exploration and Discovery Bible Study

(No study November 11) Contact Jim Rootes (farmalldork@gmail.com)

5:00-5:45 PM | Midweek Meals

Cana Hall • Contact Ann Maik (763.370.2248)

5:15 PM | Adult Vocal Choir

Contact Rachelle Lapham (rachelle.buuck@gmail.com)

6:45 PM | Bell Choir

Contact Karen Keast (karnkeast@outlook.com)

6:45 PM | Youth Group & Confirmation

Youth Group | "Life with Jesus" | Senior Youth Room
Contact DCE Martha (martha@mtolive-anoka.org)
Confirmation | Jerusalem
Contact Pastor Paul (paul@mtolive-anoka.org)

Better
TOGETHER

JOIN THE NURSERY TEAM

As we continue to welcome more
young families (PRAISE GOD!)
Martha is looking for people to help
in the Nursery on Sundays

Sign up at the Welcome Desk
or contact DCE Martha
with questions at
martha@mtolive-anoka.org

Other Days at Mount Olive

WEDNESDAY

6:00 PM | November 11 | Worship Night

Family Center • Contact Randy Palmer (randy@mtolive-anoka.org)

6:30 PM | First Place for Health

Bethlehem Room • Contact: Janet Orrick (763.421.3223 - Leave message at the Welcome Desk)

FRIDAY (1st & 3rd Fridays)

9:30 AM | November 6 & 20 | Senior Fellowship & Bible Study

Bethlehem Room • Contact: Lynn Antoine (blantie@hotmail.com or 763.777.0412, by phone or text)
We will be reading through and studying the Psalms. We have active discussion and sharing; please consider joining us. If you have not attended before, please let me know you are joining so we have enough table and chairs.

WORSHIP
Night

WOMEN OF MOUNT OLIVE

Please join us for the Christmas program, **"O Come Let Us Adore Him!"** on Tuesday, December 8, at 6:30 PM. We will honor the birth of Jesus with scripture readings, singing carols, and sharing Christmas cookies and goodies in the beautifully decorated Sanctuary and Welcome Center. We encourage you to find someone to invite to this joyous event! For childcare during the event, RSVP to DCE Martha Harkins (martha@mtolive-anoka.org).

Our in-gathering effort will be for Granny's Closet, a local organization working to improve the quality of life for seniors and adults with disabilities in the Anoka and Sherburne counties. They provide their clients with personal care items, clothing, and household goods. www.grannyscloset.org



Our next meeting will be Monday, November 2 at 2:00 PM. We will welcome a speaker from Granny's Closet to learn more about their ministry and the work they do to serve others in our community.

YOUNG ADULT



Please keep the following young adults in prayer this month and stop to sign a card for each of them on **Sunday, November 1.**

Peyton Swenson
Angelina Collins

Gabe Engebretson
Steven Wachholz

Jordyn Risse
Lucas Dahlberg

Clare Forrest
Will Larrabee

Prayer of Gratitude for our Young Adults

"Lord God, let _____ never forget all that you do for them on a daily basis. Sustain them with the hope of their salvation and the other countless blessings you provide with your continuous presence in their life. Lead them to live their life in testimony to your incredible blessings, that your love may be known and experienced by all those they serve, in Jesus' name. Amen."

PRESCHOOL

THANK YOU to everyone who has generously donated supplies, gift cards, and other items to our preschool! As we celebrate 45 years of ministry at Mount Olive Christian Preschool, we are especially grateful for the continued support and generosity of our church family. Your kindness makes a meaningful difference in the lives of the children and families we serve. Thank you for helping us continue to nurture children in faith, learning, and love, and for being such a blessing to our ministries!



The Preschool is beginning to plan its annual Christmas Boutique, one of the children's favorite traditions! Each child gets to shop for special gifts for family members with the help of a volunteer. The children (and their families!) LOVE this event, and it's one of those special preschool memories that families remember and talk about for years to come.

We are now accepting donations of NEW items for the boutique. Dollar stores and dollar sections are great places to find fun, affordable gifts! Donations can be left at the Welcome Desk or in the preschool office. THANK YOU for helping us make this special tradition memorable for our preschoolers! Drop off items by November 22.

Baptism Quilts: Our baptism quilts are a special way to welcome little ones into God's family. We are looking for someone with a heart for sewing who would be willing to help create these meaningful keepsakes for our newest members. If you are interested, please contact Kathy West at KLW2@comcast.net.

CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILY MINISTRY



NEW

THE BIG TEN

PARENTING STUDY

10 weeks to more peaceful parenting

**SUNDAY MORNINGS
FROM 9:15-10:15 AM
IN JERUSALEM
BEGINNING NOVEMBER 1ST**

Wednesday Nights

Nov. 4, 11, 18 6:45-8:00 PM

Confirmation (Jerusalem) &
Youth Group (Sr. Youth Room)

Nov. 11 Worship Night at 6 PM

Nov. 25 **NO** Confirmation &
Youth Group (Thanksgiving Eve
Worship at 6 PM)

Sunday Mornings

Nov. 1 Breakfast Buddies, "The
Big Ten" Parenting Study Begins

Nov. 8 & 22 Sunday School,
Youth Bible Study & Parenting
Study

Nov. 15 & 29 **NO** Children, Youth
& Parent Classes

JOIN US FOR A
THANKFUL CELEBRATION

YOUTHSGIVING

FOR ALL YOUTH
(6TH-12TH GRADERS)
FRIENDS INVITED

**NOVEMBER 8
NOON-2 PM
SR. YOUTH ROOM**

FOOD AND FUN PROVIDED

RSVP TO DCE MARTHA OR
SIGN UP ON YOUTH BOARD

FAMILY ADVENT-URE

Create a Family Advent Calendar
and learn about "The Jesse Tree"

Sunday, November 22

Noon-1:30 pm

in Family Center

Lunch provided

*suggested donation
of \$10/family*

All are welcome!
RSVP at Welcome Desk
to ensure enough
materials & lunch





MOUNT OLIVE IS LOOKING FOR FAITHFUL, WILLING LEADERS TO JOIN OUR BOARD

- **President:** guides the Board and Mission and Ministry Council, facilitates meetings, and helps keep our governance and communications clear and steady.
- **Treasurer:** oversees the congregation's finances and works with staff and leaders so our resources support our ministry.
- **Member at Large:** brings a congregational voice to the table, helps shape decisions, and supports the work of the Board wherever it's needed.

You don't need to be an expert to serve. What matters most is a love for this congregation and a willingness to listen, pray, and work with others. Board service is a chance to use your gifts, get to know fellow members, and help guide Mount Olive's mission in our community and beyond.

We are now accepting candidates, and the election will be held at our Vision Assembly in January. If you're interested, or want to learn more, please talk with Roger King, Ben Bremer, or Pastor Paul. We'd also welcome your suggestions of someone who would be a good fit, leave those names at the Welcome Desk or email Pastor Paul.

BLESSED TO BE A BLESSING



BLESSED TO BE A *Blessing*

2 CORINTHIANS 9:6-8

COMMITMENT SUNDAY

Join us for worship as we make our campaign commitments
and look ahead to the future of Mount Olive.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2026
One service at 9:30 AM

► LUNCH WILL BE SERVED AFTER THE SERVICE ◀

FAQ

What are we going to save in interest by paying off the mortgage early?

We will save significant money by paying the loan off early. We are paying approximately \$8,650 in interest a month now; every early payment lowers that number. By paying down the principal, Mount Olive will have options. We can either lower our monthly payment or pay the loan off years early, freeing up money for ministry.

CHECK IT OUT!



A colorful graphic for Craft Saturday. The text "Mount Olive Lutheran Church" is at the top in a red, sans-serif font. Below it, "Craft Saturday" is written in a large, stylized, red-outlined font. Underneath that, "November 14" and "10 AM - 4 PM" are written in a bold, red, sans-serif font. The background is a light yellow with various craft-related icons: a paint palette, a pencil, a star, and a ball of yarn. At the bottom, there is a line of text: "We have space, light, tables and chairs. Just bring your creativity and supplies!" followed by "This event is free! Free will donations accepted for cleaning costs" and "RSVP Jerusha: 763.280.3047 | rua_76@hotmail.com".

A graphic for the Lynde Greenhouse Fundraiser. The top features a close-up of green pine branches with brown pine cones. Below this, the text "LYNDE GREENHOUSE FUNDRAISER" is written in a bold, green, sans-serif font. The main text is in a black, sans-serif font: "THANK YOU to everyone who ordered winter plants from Lynde Greenhouse for the Mount Olive Youth Winter Fundraiser!". Below this, it says "Please pick up your plants in the Welcome Center" followed by "Thursday, November 19 (1:00-4:00 PM) or Friday, November 20 (10:00 AM - 4:00 PM)" and "OR Sunday morning, November 22 (8:00 AM - 12:00 PM)". At the bottom, it says "If you need later time on November 19 or 20, contact Brenda for a later pick up time."

A graphic for Operation Christmas Child. The top left features the "OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD" logo, which includes a red bow and the text "A PROJECT of SAMARITAN'S PURSE". To the right, it says "2026 National Collection dates" in a red, sans-serif font. Below this, "November 16-23" is written in a large, bold, red, sans-serif font. The main text is in a black, sans-serif font: "Samaritan's Purse sends gift-filled shoeboxes to children in need around the world together with the message of the Gospel of Jesus Christ." Below this, a red bow icon is followed by "Please consider packing a shoebox!" in a bold, red, sans-serif font. At the bottom, a green banner contains the text "Bring boxes in by Nov. 8 and we will get them to a drop off site." in a white, sans-serif font. On the right side, there is a photo of three young children in colorful traditional clothing holding and smiling with red shoeboxes.

A graphic for Mount Olive Quilters. The top features the text "Mount Olive" in a blue, sans-serif font, followed by "QUILTERS" in a large, bold, purple, sans-serif font. Below this, there is a photo of a colorful quilt. To the right of the photo, it says "We meet every TUESDAY in Cana Hall at 12:30 PM" in a blue, sans-serif font. Below the photo, it says "NEEDS: New cotton fabric (1/2 yd or larger) and gently-used cotton sheets." in a purple, sans-serif font. At the bottom, it says "We will NOT meet in December" in a blue, sans-serif font. Below that, it says "Questions: Bernice 763.277.1548 Erna 612.910.9568" in a black, sans-serif font.

ALL WOMEN AND GIRLS ARE INVITED TO THIS SPECIAL CHRISTMAS EVENT

O Come Let Us
ADORE HIM

Tuesday, December 8, 2026
6:30 PM

SHARE SCRIPTURE • SING CAROLS • PRAISE AND WORSHIP THE NEWBORN KING

At elegant tables the celebration continues:
Mingle • Cheese & Crackers • Handcrafted Christmas Cookies
Share the merry memories, laughter & lore of the season

Email to reserve childcare: martha@mtolive-anoka.org

INGATHERING OF DONATION ITEMS FOR "GRANNY'S CLOSET"

Senior Fun Time
POTLUCK

🎵 "Come Ye Thankful People, Come" 🎵

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 4
11:30 AM
CANA HALL

JOIN US for fellowship,
fun and a turkey dinner!
We will also be collecting
donations for the Food Shelf.

sign up in the welcome center

Questions?
Contact Jane Luke: 612.709.4318

MIDWEEK MEALS

We are taking DONATIONS of:
cream of mushroom soup • elbow macaroni
pasta sauce • flour • sugar • butter

Thank you for helping support this ministry!

11 NOVEMBER 2026
VETERANS DAY
HONORING ALL WHO SERVED

**Veterans are encouraged to wear their
uniform to worship on November 8.**

WE WILL RECOGNIZE AND PRAY FOR ALL VETERANS AT THE BEGINNING OF EACH SERVICE.

SAVE THE DATE
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 30
10 AM - 1 PM

**CHRISTMAS
DECORATING**

LUNCH WILL BE SERVED
Watch for a sign up at the Welcome Desk

IN SYMPATHY

Pastor Bruce Frederickson
Called to Glory October 12, 2026.
Funeral was held October 30.

BAPTISMS

Kolbie Jean Lindenberg
Born March 21, 2026
Baptized October 4, 2026.
Parents: Zachary Allen & Danielle Jean Lindenberg

Adeline June Parvi
Born February 17, 2026
Baptized October 18, 2026
Parents: Dean Edwin & Brooke Eileen Parvi



November 2026

WORSHIP

Onsite and Online Worship Hours:

Sunday: 8:00 AM (Traditional)

9:15 AM (Education hour)

10:30 AM (Contemporary)

COMMITMENT SUNDAY

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15
9:30 AM

(Note: one unified service)



[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

- Nov 04 ... Senior Fun Time Potluck
- Nov 08 ... Preschoolers sing - 10:30 service | Youthsgiving 12 PM
- Nov 11 ... Worship Night 6 PM (Wednesday evening in the Family Center)
- Nov 14 ... Craft Saturday
- Nov 15 ... Blessed to be a Blessing Commitment Sunday One Service 9:30 AM
- Nov 19 ... Pick up your Winter Poinsettia Fundraiser (Nov 19, 20 or 22)
- Nov 22 ... Family ADVENT-ture 12 PM in Family Center
- Nov 25 ... Thanksgiving Eve Worship
- Nov 29 ... Cana Hall Adult Bible Study 9:15 AM (NO Sunday School or Parenting Study)
- Nov 30 ... Decorating Mount Olive for Christmas
- Dec 08 ... O Come Let Us Adore Him Christmas Event

IN ALL
Things
GIVE
Thanks