

MOUNT OLIVE LUTHERAN CHURCH MESSENGER

A Congregation of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod

Pastor's Ponderings from Pastor Paul

Mount Olive is beginning an exciting new chapter. Work is underway to replace the roof and upgrade our heating and cooling systems. On September 15 (and 24), a large crane arrived in the lower parking lot to lift HVAC units from a flatbed truck. Inside, staff could hear gravel being removed from the roof—a clear sign that the project had begun.

Yet the construction project is only one part of this new chapter. The other is our ministry enhancement campaign, Blessed to be a Blessing. A new roof and upgraded heating and cooling systems may not sound inspiring, but they are essential to Mount Olive's ministry. Twenty-two years ago, the congregation took a tremendous leap of faith by building our current Welcome and Worship Centers. In 2004, we stood on the shoulders of those who came before us and trusted the Lord to provide guidance, leadership, and faith strong enough to move mountains.

Today, Mount Olive is taking another leap of faith. God continues to bless this congregation. During my time as your pastor, I have seen our faith deepen, enthusiasm for ministry grow, and hope for the future flourish. Blessed to be a Blessing will build on that momentum by helping us grow in faith, celebrate what the Lord is doing among us, and follow where the Holy Spirit leads Mount Olive in Anoka and the surrounding communities.

Lately, I have been reflecting on the many blessings God has given Mount Olive. He has blessed us with a faithful staff whose members continue to grow as a team and in their individual ministries. He has also blessed us with dedicated volunteers who generously offer their time and gifts in hospitality, Bible study, Sunday school, worship, congregational leadership, and many other areas. Every person who serves is a blessing to Mount Olive. Above all, God has blessed us with His Son. Jesus is the reason we are here, the reason we worship, and the reason we sing, pray, praise, and play.

I invite you to reflect on the blessings you have received from the Lord. During October, you will be invited to a Cottage Meeting led by one of our Elders. Together, you will consider the Lord's blessings and how you might respond in faith. On Sunday, November 15, you will have an opportunity to put that response in writing. Please pray about your commitment and ground it in gratitude for all our loving God has provided. By reaching the Blessed to be a Blessing goal, we can strengthen other areas of ministry and share the Lord's abundant blessings with the Mount Olive family and the wider community.

This is an exciting journey. Although it may sometimes feel daunting, we can move forward with confidence, trusting that our great and loving God will be with us every step of the way.



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Worship Info

Sermon Series: The Surpassing Worth of Christ

October 4
"Rubbish for the
Righteousness of Christ"
Isaiah 5:1-7

October 11
"The Peace that
Guards Your Heart"
Isaiah 25:6-9

Sermon Series: Blessed to be a Blessing

October 18
"The Abundant Giver"
Genesis 22:1-14

October 25
"The Sufficiency of Grace"
Exodus 16:11-18

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 (paul@mtolive-anoka.org)

Youth Bible Study (8th-12th grade) | Senior Youth Room

Sunday School | Family Center | then split into classes

10:30 AM | Contemporary Worship 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

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@hotmail.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)



Other Days at Mount Olive

THURSDAY

6:00 PM | October 8 & 22 | Worship Night

Welcome 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 | October 2 & 16 | 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 meet every 1st and 3rd Friday of the month.

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.

WOMEN OF MOUNT OLIVE

Women of Mount Olive and guests had a fun time on Saturday, September 19, sewing and assembling kits for the Days for Girls mission. Twenty-four ladies took part in the workshop, which was followed by a lovely potluck lunch. Thank you to all who participated!



Women and Girls of Mount Olive, as the Advent season and merriment approaches, let us celebrate together on Tuesday, December 8, at 6:30 PM. Please mark your calendar for the Christmas program, entitled "O Come Let Us Adore Him!" We will honor the birth of Jesus with scripture readings, carols, devotional, Christmas cookies, and fellowship in the engaging and beautifully decorated Sanctuary and Welcome Center. We encourage you to find someone to invite to this joyous event!

LUTHERAN WOMEN IN MISSION SUNDAY Sunday, October 4

October 4 is Lutheran Women in Mission Sunday!

WOMO joyfully proclaims Christ, supports missions, and serves others. Mite boxes will be collected to support the MN South District's \$204,375 mission goal and 10 mission groups. Pick up a box at the WOMO bookshelf. **On October 4 & 11, shop Christmas and greeting cards for \$7.50 per box of 12, with proceeds supporting missions.**

QUILT DEDICATION

The Mount Olive Quilters create handmade quilts to provide physical and spiritual comfort to those in need.

The quilts will be blessed and dedicated on **SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4.**

Please keep this ministry in your prayers.

JOIN QUILTERS!

Tuesdays • 12:30-3:00 PM • Cana Hall

All are welcome! No sewing skills required!

Questions? Contact Erna 612-910-9568

YOUNG ADULT



Please keep the following young adults in prayer this month and stop to sign a card for each of them on **Sunday, October 4.**

Matthew Larson

Brockton Graber

Gweneth Hale

Samuel Nader

Albert Breitwaser

Layla Alm

Lily Homan

Prayer of Encouragement for our Young Adults

Lord, I lift _____ up to you today as they go about their day. Please reveal yourself to them in a new way and remind them of your presence in their life. Help them to rely on your Holy Spirit for guidance and direction as they face the challenges of this new day. Encourage them with joy in trying situations and comfort them when they are discouraged. Grow and stretch them in a new way Lord and pour out your grace and mercy over them when they fall short. Develop in them an identity founded in Christ so that they would become grounded in who you say they are. Confirm in their heart that you are their Father and lavish your unending love on them today. Amen.



Mount Olive Ministry Expansion Campaign

PRAYER VIGIL

"Unless the LORD builds the house, the laborers build in vain." PSALM 127:1

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17

9:00 AM - 9:00 PM

Mount Olive Sanctuary

*As God's children, we call upon the Lord and bathe this campaign in prayer.
We ask for His guidance to oversee this important journey in faith.*

Sign-up sheets are at the Welcome Desk • Walk-ins are welcome

CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILY MINISTRY

OCTOBER 2026



BREAKFAST BUDDIES

9:15–10:15 AM in Family Center

For all children & youth, join us for breakfast and fun!

Scan QR Code
to bring breakfast



CONFIRMATION YOUTH GROUP

6:45–8:00 PM in Jerusalem & Sr. Youth Room



DISTRICT YOUTH DAY AT CSP



SUNDAY SCHOOL AND YOUTH BIBLE STUDY

9:15–10:15 AM in Family Center & Sr. Youth Room



NO CONFIRMATION OR YOUTH GROUP

MEA WEEKEND!



NO SUNDAY SCHOOL OR YOUTH BIBLE STUDY



NO CONFIRMATION CLASS

YES YOUTH GROUP

6:45–8:00 PM in Sr. Youth Room

Confirmation Students
invited to attend
Youth Group!



SUNDAY SCHOOL AND YOUTH BIBLE STUDY

9:15–10:15 AM in Family Center & Sr. Youth Room

TRUNK OR TREAT

2–4 PM in Lower Parking Lot & Welcome Center



CROSSOVER NIGHT

6:45–8 PM, 6th–12th Graders together in Sr. Youth Room

CHECK IT OUT!

WORSHIP
NIGHT

THURSDAY
Oct. 8 & Oct. 22
7:00 PM

Mount Olive Welcome Center

All Adults, Families & Youth are Welcome!
Join us for contemporary
worship & inspiring messages

Support Mount Olive's
Preschool and Youth Ministries

**WINTER PLANT
FUNDRAISER**

Purchase beautiful Pointsettias, Wreaths, Spruce Tips,
and Gift Cards from Lynde Greenhouse and Nursery.

All items will arrive by November 19 so you
can enjoy them for the whole holiday season!

Orders are due by Sunday, October 25. Pick up or drop off
order forms at the Welcome Desk or Preschool Office.

QUESTIONS? CONTACT MARTHA AT MARTHA@MTOLIVE-ANOKA.ORG

JOIN US FOR A THANKFUL CELEBRATION
FOOD AND FUN PROVIDED

YOUTHSGIVING

NOVEMBER 8
NOON-2 PM
SR. YOUTH ROOM

FOR ALL YOUTH
(6TH-12TH GRADERS)
FRIENDS INVITED
RSVP TO DCE MARTHA

**CLASSROOM
SUPPLIES**

THANK YOU to
everyone that
donated items
for this school
year! We truly
appreciate your
generosity.

You can still purchase
items from our Amazon
Wish List, scan QR code




An afternoon of fall fun for the whole family!

TRUNK OR TREAT

at Mount Olive Lutheran in Anoka

October 25
2-4 PM

Scan QR
code to
host a
trunk
or help



How you can support:

- 🍬 Donate individually wrapped and nut-free candy
- 🍂 Invite family, friends, coworkers, and neighbors to attend
- 🎃 Sign up to host a trunk or help with games, snacks, or pumpkin painting

Check out the table in Welcome Center to pick up postcards or sign up to help!

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



MOUNT OLIVE LUTHERAN CHURCH



Craft SATURDAY

OCTOBER 10, 2026
10 AM - 4 PM • Cana Hall

We have space, light, tables and chairs.
Just bring your creativity and supplies!

THIS EVENT IS FREE
Free will donations accepted
for cleaning costs

RSVP Jerusha
763.280.3047 | rua_76@hotmail.com

American Red Cross
Give blood. Help save lives.

BLOOD DRIVE

Mount Olive Lutheran Church
Thursday, October 15, 2026
12:00 - 6:00 PM
Coffee Shop Area

to schedule an appointment:

1-800-RED CROSS
[RedCrossBlood.org](https://www.RedCrossBlood.org)

Last Call for Scrip

The program has been discontinued, but we still have Scrip cards available.

Here is a glimpse of what is remaining:

- AMC
- American Eagle
- Apple Store
- Arby's
- Best Buy
- Buffalo Wild Wings
- Chili's
- County Market
- Denny's
- Gap/Old Navy
- Kohl's
- Red Lobster

Many more available
- check at the Welcome Desk

Cash or Check only

IN SYMPATHY

Sally Stern

Called to Glory August 12, 2026
Funeral at Mount Olive was held
September 18

David Nolette

Called to Glory August 15, 2026
Funeral at Mount Olive was held
September 12

Christmas IS COMING

Would you consider taking on the lead for one of the following?

- Poinsettia order and display
- Outdoor light display
- Poinsettia Tree assembly

Training will be provided.
Thank you in advance for your prayerful consideration.

PLEASE CONTACT PAM SCHWANDT
pamschwandt@gmail.com or 763.438.0682



October 2026

WORSHIP

Onsite and Online Worship Hours:

Sunday: 8:00 AM (Traditional)

9:15 AM (Education hour)

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

October 4....LWML Sunday & Quilt Dedication

October 6....Preschool Parent Night

October 8 & 22....Worship Night

October 10....Craft Saturday, District Youth Day @ CSP

October 13....Intro to Preschool Class

October 15....Red Cross Bloodmobile

October 17....Blessed to Be A Blessing Prayer Vigil

October 25....Trunk or Treat

