

The Olive Branch

March 7, 2018

Accent on Worship

Anna Scott

Imagine it's Monday morning, like the one this week; snowy, cold, icy, and you must pack all of your things for the day, or that you may own at all, and head outside at 7:00am. Maybe you got breakfast, maybe not. Maybe you have a few dollars in your pocket, probably not. Where would you turn? What would you do? This is a reality that many people and families face on a daily basis. When experiencing homelessness, sometimes it's not necessarily where to spend the night that is difficult, but where to spend the entire day.

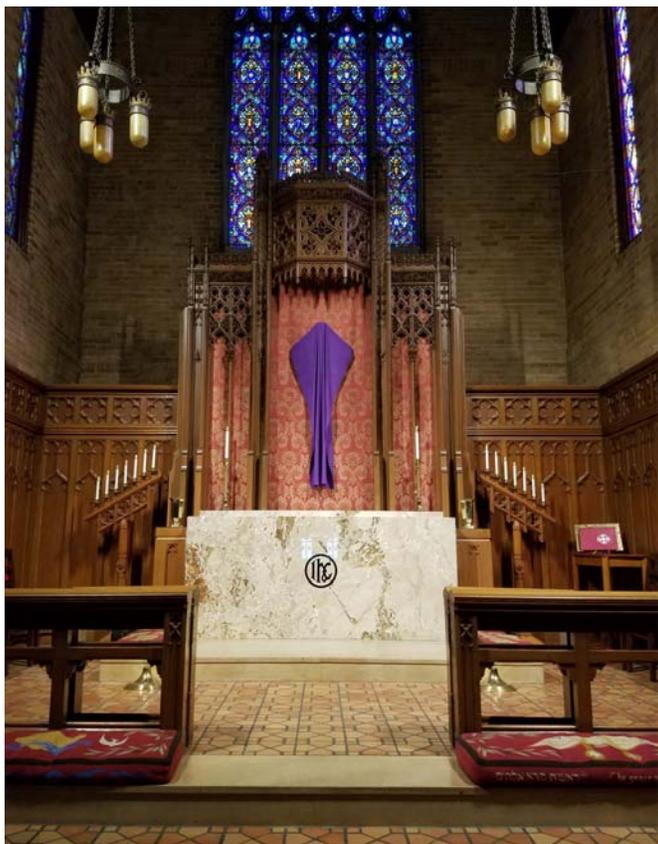
Shelters in Minnesota are generally open from 5:00pm to 7:00am, closing during daytime hours.

Guests may stay for a night, a week, up to 30 days, or

live in transitional housing where they work to make life changes to get to permanent housing solutions. For many though, after breakfast they must hit the streets in some manner, either to a job, a temp agency line, or wherever they can get by long enough without being hustled away.

Mount Olive was asked by the Hennepin County Office to End Homelessness to consider becoming an "extreme weather" site for people to come when the weather is unsafe or unbearable for people who have nowhere else to go. A group has met and decided to answer this call, and will go about the work of creating a space and a system that is hospitable to our neighbors and fulfills our vision of welcoming the presence of God and being the presence of God. In the past many people have come to spend time here, either in the nave to pray, on a couch to sleep, or in the kitchen for a warm meal and conversation. This opportunity will allow us to create a team of people equipped to host, serve, and offer what we can to those that need refuge.

This will take a village, so if this resonates with you and you'd be willing to either make some decisions with a lead team, or be on a list to call and host in a time of need, please contact me. I assure you our carpets will be fine and we will have appropriate boundaries of safety and security for everyone. We are not becoming a drop-in center or an overnight shelter, but we are widening our arms to the ways this building can serve the needs of our community and our worship can open our hearts and love one another better.



Sunday Readings

March 11, 2018

Fourth Sunday in Lent

Numbers 21:4-9

Psalms 107:1-3, 17-22

Ephesians 2:1-10

John 3:14-21

March 18, 2018

Fifth Sunday in Lent

Jeremiah 31:31-34

Psalms 51:1-12

Hebrews 5:5-10

John 12:20-33

Spring Ahead!

Daylight Savings Time begins this weekend.

Don't forget to set your clocks ahead one hour on Saturday night!

Sunday Adult Forum

This Sunday, March 11: "To Hear With the Ears of the Heart: Celebrating the Liturgy of God's Word," presented by Fr. Jan Michael Joncas

Rev. Jan Michael Joncas is University Artist-in-Residence in the Center for Catholic Studies at University of St. Thomas, St. Paul. He has graduate degrees from the Pontifical Liturgical Institute in Rome and from Notre Dame. He writes and lectures on the conciliar documents of Vatican II, including on the *Pray Tell* blog, and has written many fine hymns used across the Church in the United States and Canada.

Next Sunday, March 18: "To Hear With the Ears of the Heart: Celebrating the Liturgy of God's Word," part 2, presented by Fr. Jan Michael Joncas

Transitions Support Group to Meet Saturday, March 10, 2018

The Transitions Support Group will hold its next get together on Saturday, March 10, from 11:00 – noon, in the Library at Mount Olive. Please note day and time change.

For more information, please contact Cathy Bosworth 612-708-1144, marcat8447@yahoo.com or Heather Halen 612-822-0953, hjoyhalen@hotmail.com.

Paschal Garden

Volunteers will be on hand on Sundays, March 11, 18, and 25 before, between, and following the liturgies to receive your donations to purchase Easter flowers for this year's Paschal Garden.

Lenten Devotional Booklet Available

The Grain of Wheat: A Lenten Journey for 2018, the Year of Mark, by Susan Palo Cherwien, is a Lenten devotional guide which is available for use this Lenten season. Hard copies of the booklet are available at church, near the coat room. It is also available as a daily blog online at www.grainofwheat2018.blogspot.com.

Book Discussion

For their March 10 meeting, the Discussion Group will read *Tender at the Bone*, by Ruth Reichl. On April 14, two books: *The Stranger* by Albert Camus and *The Meursault Investigation* by Kamel Daoud.

The Book Discussion Group meets on the second Saturday of each month at 10:00 a.m. in the West Assembly area.

All readers welcome!

Calendar

Wednesday, March 7

- 9:00 am Staff Meeting
Noon *Midweek Lenten Eucharist*
1:00 pm Soup Luncheon
5:00 pm Neighborhood Ministries Committee meeting
5:30 pm Children's Choir supper
6:00 pm Children's Choir rehearsal / Soup Supper
7:00 pm *Midweek Lenten Vespers*
7:30 pm Cantorei rehearsal
8:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous

Thursday, March 8

- 7:00 pm Loan meeting

Saturday, February March 10

- 9:30 am Confirmation
10:00 am Book Discussion group
11:00 am Transitions Support Group

Sunday, March 11 - Fourth Sunday in Lent

- 8:00 am** *Holy Eucharist*, followed by coffee and fellowship
9:30 am Sunday Church School / Adult Forum
10:45 am *Holy Eucharist*, followed by coffee and fellowship
6:45 pm Mount Olive serves Our Saviour's meal

Monday, March 12

- 7:00 pm Vestry meeting
7:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous

Tuesday, March 13

- Noon Bible Study
4:00 pm Diaper Depot open
7:00 pm National Lutheran Choir rehearsal

Norwegian Women's Choir Concert

Saturday, March 24, 4:00 pm

The Women's Choral Society of the University of Oslo (Norway) will present a concert at Mount Olive on Saturday, March 24, at 4:00 pm.

This choir is the official women's choir at the University of Oslo, and was founded in 1895. It is the oldest academic women's choir in the world. Their repertoire includes Norwegian folk music in new as well as traditional arrangements, and newly-written music, with great harmonies and exciting dissonances. All are invited!

Wednesdays in Lent

- ✘ **Holy Eucharist at Noon, followed by soup luncheon**

- ✘ **Evening Prayer at 7 pm, preceded by soup supper at 6 pm.**

Adult Forum on YouTube

The video of the first of two Adult Forum presentations by Prof. Earl Schwartz (Feb. 25) can be found here:

<https://youtu.be/DqHLS-uvnrU>.

Easter Carry-In Brunch

There will be a Carry-In (potluck) Brunch on Easter morning, April 1, beginning at 9:30 a.m.

Bring a favorite brunch item to share between the liturgies.

News From the Neighborhood

Anna Scott, Coordinator of Neighborhood Outreach and Ministry

Severe Weather Team - can you help?

The Hennepin County Office for Ending Homelessness has asked Mount Olive if we would be willing to create a system to be a place that those experiencing homelessness could come to in the case of severe weather.

Too hot or too cold conditions are dangerous for people to be exposed to, and due to the shelters being closed during the day, they are looking for safe spaces that are open and willing to create space for them. Because of the particular location of Mount Olive and our reputation as a helping church, we would be well suited for this, but need a team to help organize and serve on days of extreme weather. They would set up an area, serve some coffee or lemonade, or set up an activity for people passing the time.

If you think you could be one of those people, please contact Anna S: 612-827-5919 or by email to neighborhood@mountolivechurch.org to learn more. Thank you!



March is Minnesota FoodShare Month!

Help Squash Hunger!

***Donate to the Minnesota FoodShare March Campaign
for Community Emergency Service (CES)***

*Hunger facts: 1 in 10 Minnesotans, or more than 500,000 state residents, are food insecure on a regular basis. Over 3,000,000 visits are made to Minnesota food shelves each year.

Throughout the month of March, Mount Olive will be collecting food, hygiene items, and monetary gifts to help our neighbors who face hunger. Boxes will be out in the main assembly areas from March 5 - March 26. Consider bringing items such as:

FOOD: *Cooking Oil, Flour, Sugar, Beef stew, Chili, Canned meat, Canned fruit, Canned/bagged pasta meals, Canned tomatoes, Coffee in small bags, Jelly, jam, 100% fruit juice*

HYGIENE: *Toothbrush/paste, Bar soap, Shampoo, Conditioner, Deodorant, Shaving cream, Razors, Feminine products, Adult diapers (men's & women's), Toilet paper, laundry soap, Dishwashing soap (small bottles).*

* Please don't give expired items or use this opportunity to clean out your cupboards :)

Can you help bring our collected items to Community Emergency Services? Please contact Anna S. to help haul over our stash and get a tour of CES!

Anna Helgen to Be Ordained March 17

We rejoice at the Church's call to one of our own! Former vicar Anna Helgen has been called as associate pastor to Mount Olivet Lutheran Church in Minneapolis. She invites all at Mount Olive to be with her as she is set apart to this ministry in the Church. Her ordination is scheduled for Saturday, March 17, at 2:00 p.m., at Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd, 4801 France Ave. S., Minneapolis. There will be a light reception following.

Anna also wrote this in her invitation to Mount Olive:

"If you like to sing, I invite you to join the pop-up choir (directed by Ralph Johnson and accompanied by my uncle John Helgen). Rehearsal is from 12:00 - 1:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. A light lunch is provided for choir participants. Please let me know by Saturday, March 10, if you'd like to sing in the choir so I can email you the music ahead of time (and so we have an accurate count for lunch!). My email address is ahelgen@mtolivet.org.

Thank you for your many years of support and encouragement. It will be a special day to share with the great cloud of witnesses!"

- Anna

Minneapolis Institute of Art (Mia) - Free Tour – “Stories of the Faithful,” led by Bill Wilson, Mia Docent - Places Still Available

There are still a few places left for the tour "Stories of the Faithful" at the Minneapolis Institute of Art on Saturday, March 24, at 10:30 am. The 60-minute tour includes works centered on the lives of Jesus and John the Baptist. The maximum number for the tour is 15. The group will lunch at Christos following the tour to continue conversation on the works viewed. The tour and admission to the museum are free, although Mia always welcomes donations. If you wish to attend, please contact Susan Cherwien at susan.cherwien@gmail.com as soon as possible to reserve a place. Please include a contact phone number in your email, and whether you are also interested in lunch. If more than 15 people are interested, Bill has expressed a willingness to schedule a second tour.

Interested in Learning More?

Shortly after Easter we will have a gathering of those interested in learning more about a partnership trip in 2019 to India to visit Bethania Kids. Would you like more information? Would you like to learn if this trip is for you? Would you like to understand what financial help is available? Would you like input in picking dates? Would you like to understand how both you and Bethania Kids will be changed by such a trip? If you answer yes to any of these questions, grab a yellow interest sheet on the Bethania table and fill it out. Leave it there, or better yet, leave it in the office to be put in the Missions Committee box. We'll contact you as we set the best meeting time and place.

“Before Bach’s Birthday” Concert

The Twin Cities chapter of the American Guild of Organists (TCAGO) presents its annual “(Before) Bach’s Birthday Bash,” which will take place all day on Saturday, March 17, four days before Johann Sebastian Bach’s actual 333rd Birthday (3/21/1685). Musicians will give free hour-long performances in five venues in Saint Paul, and this year it all starts at Olivet!

Mount Olive member Mark Spitzack will be featured in this concert on Classical MPR at 9 a.m. on Saturday, March 17. Mark will play the Dobson Organ, Opus 4, built by **Mount Olive member Lynn Dobson**.

The concert can also be viewed and heard live at Olivet Congregational Church, 1850 Iglehart Avenue in St. Paul, also at 9 a.m. on March 17.

Save the date! Come to the church, or tune in for the Olivet hour of this annual celebration!

Holy Week at Mount Olive

Sunday, March 25: *Sunday of the Passion*
+ Holy Eucharist, 8 & 10:45 am

Monday, March 26: *Monday in Holy Week*
+ Daily Prayer at Noon, in the side chapel of the nave, near the columbarium

Tuesday, March 27: *Tuesday in Holy Week*
+ Daily Prayer at Noon, in the side chapel of the nave, near the columbarium (followed by Noon Bible Study)

Wednesday, March 28: *Wednesday in Holy Week*
+ Daily Prayer at Noon, in the side chapel of the nave, near the columbarium

Thursday, March 29: *Maundy Thursday*
+ Holy Eucharist, Noon
+ Holy Eucharist, with Washing of Feet, 7:00 pm

Friday, March 30: *Good Friday*
+ Stations of the Cross, Noon
+ Adoration of the Cross, 7 pm

Saturday, March 31: *Holy Saturday*
+ The Easter Vigil, 8:30 pm, followed by a festive reception

Sunday, April 1: *The Resurrection of Our Lord/Easter Day*
+ Festival Holy Eucharist at 8:00 and 10:45 am
+ Easter Carry-in brunch at 9:30 am

Every Church a Peace Church Monthly Potluck

The bi-monthly potluck meeting of Every Church a Peace Church will be held on **Monday, March 19, 6:30 pm** at St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church (4537 3rd Ave., Minneapolis). All are welcome to come for support, networking, delicious food and an outstanding program.

The March program is a presentation by Ms. Leah Jaslow, Donor Services and Engagement Assistant at the American Refugee Committee. Her presentation will be “The Refugee Crisis: Putting Refugees First.”

Mount Olive Lutheran Church

3045 Chicago Avenue
Minneapolis, MN 55407

*A congregation of the Evangelical
Lutheran Church in America*

Sunday Eucharist: 8:00 & 10:45 am

Contact Us

Phone: 612/827-5919

On the Web: mountolivechurch.org

Staff

Pastor – *Joseph Crippen*

Cantor – *David Cherwien*

Vicar – *Jessica Christy*

Coordinator of Neighborhood Outreach
and Ministry – *Anna Scott*

Administrative Assistant – *Cha Posz*

Sexton – *James Wilkes*

*Mount Olive is a Reconciling in Christ
congregation.*

In This Issue:

- **Accent on Worship: Anna Scott**
- **SPRING AHEAD! Daylight Savings Time Starts this Weekend**
- **Minneapolis Institute of Arts Free Tour**
- **March is Minnesota FoodShare Month!**
- **Holy Week Schedule**
- **Travel to India in 2019? Information Inside!**