

# The Olive Branch

May 2, 2018



## Accent on Worship

*Anna Scott*

Her name is Joy. She has a calming beauty and a comforting presence. Last week she called me to ask for help with a funeral for her friend whose daughter had unexpectedly passed away. When I spoke with her for the first time she seemed familiar and said she knew Cha. We worked out a way to help with funeral costs and she came in to pick up a check. It was then that she told me she had been to Mount Olive before by the grace of God.

A few months back Joy was in an overwhelming financial position. She had a paycheck and knew exactly how much she needed for regular expenses, but her tabs were expiring in the next few days. As a black woman she did not rely on the "10 day forgiveness" and couldn't afford them at the time. In tears, she was driving on Chicago Ave - not her usual route - when she looked over at Mount Olive and a voice told her to "go on in that church." Obedient, she found her way in through a back door that workers had open and met Cha. I was not in that day, so she told Cha her story and Cha, moved and convinced, asked Pastor Crippen to help her. Just the day before, someone here had handed Pastor an envelope of cash to use to help people. He gave her what she needed and she left the building. A short time later she was back, this time with a receipt for the tabs and tears of relief. Joy says she left the church "with a peace that is hard to understand."

Now this time Joy sat across from me she again thanked the church and leaned forward in her chair and shook her head saying, "This really gives me hope. It gives me hope that there are still some people that will help." I assured her that we are glad we can help too, and that I'm grateful that we could offer her some peace. As she got up to bring her friend the check, she said again how thankful she was for this church saying, "arms were open to me. Arms were open."

## Sunday Readings

**May 6, 2018**  
**Sixth Sunday**  
**of Easter**

Acts 10:44-48  
Psalm 98  
1 John 5:1-6  
John 15:9-17

**May 13, 2018**  
**Seventh Sunday**  
**of Easter**

Acts 1:15-17, 21-26  
Psalm 1  
I John 5:9-13  
John 17:6-19

## Olive Branch Publication Schedule

**Olive Branch publication:** During the summer months of June, July, and August, *The Olive Branch* is published *every other week*. Due to vacation schedules, etc., the last weekly issue until fall will be published on May 23.

## Save The Date!

On Sunday, July 22, there will be a special tour of the Minnesota State Capitol specifically for Mount Olive members.

Led by John Marty and Lora Dundek, the tour will offer special access to Capitol spaces, and information on the history, art, and architecture of this Minnesota gem.

More information will be available in June. For questions, call or email Lora Dundek.

## Attention Mount Olive Worship Assistants

The Servant Schedule for the third quarter of 2018 (July - September) will be published at the beginning of June 2018.

The deadline for submitting requests to me is May 10, 2018. Please email your requests to [peggyrf70@gmail.com](mailto:peggyrf70@gmail.com).

Thanks!

- Peggy Hoeft

## Book Discussion

The Book Discussion Group has moved discussion of their next books, *The Stranger* by Albert Camus, and *The Meursault Investigation* by Kamel Daoud to their May meeting on May 12. For the June 9 meeting, they'll read *The Spire*, by William Golding.

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!

## Thursday Evening Study

"Beloved, God's Chosen?" is the title of the Thursday evening Bible study that began on Apr. 12. Pr. Crippen is leading this 6-week study that hopes to look at Scripture with fresh eyes on the questions of salvation: what is God doing in salvation? What does it mean for us? What does God think about us? What happens at the cross? How and why and when does God forgive our sins? This Bible study meets in the Chapel Lounge from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Thursday evenings, for six weeks, and all are welcome.

As always, there will be a light supper preceding the study each week.

## Calendar

### Wednesday, May 2

- 10:00 am Staff Meeting  
5:30 pm Neighborhood Ministries Committee meeting  
6:00 pm Internship Committee meeting  
7:00 pm Cantorei rehearsal  
8:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous

### Thursday, May 3

- 6:00 pm Bible Study

### Friday, May 4

- 6-12 pm N.A. Social event

### Saturday, May 5

- 9:30 am Spring clean-up  
9:30 am Confirmation  
11:00 am Diaper Depot open  
Noon Community Meal  
1-3 pm Prayer Shawl group meets at Blackeye Roasting Co.

### Sunday, May 6 - Sixth Sunday of Easter

- 8:00 am *Holy Eucharist*, followed by coffee & conversation  
9:30 am Sunday Church School / Adult Forum  
10:45 am *Holy Eucharist*, followed by coffee & conversation

### Monday, May 7

- 4-7 pm Reception for Bishop Villibus of Nigeria  
7:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous

### Tuesday, May 8

- Noon Bible Study  
4:00 pm Diaper Depot open

## Invitation to Young Performers

The annual Mother's Day recital offered by our younger ones will be on May 13. Any performers are not only welcome, but also encouraged! Music, dance, poetry, theater - whatever they're doing and are willing to share in this program is welcomed. Contact Cantor Cherwien to reserve your place in the program.

## Sunday Adult Forum

### • This Sunday, May 6:

"The Feast of the Ascension," presented by Dwight Penas - The Feast of the Ascension is the de facto feast day of Mount Olive Church, because it was from the Mount of Olives that Jesus "ascended into heaven." Mount Olive is one of the few Protestant churches which continues to observe the feast, which is considered one of the "ecumenical" feasts of the Christian calendar. But what are we to make of this celebration? Up to where did Jesus "ascend"? How are we to balance that affirmation with our knowledge that the Hubble telescope has seen 10-15 billion light years out into space without finding his throne? We will spend some time considering the meaning of the Ascension in the church's history and liturgy.

Dwight Penas is co-convenor of the Adult Forums at Mount Olive and serves on the board of the Center for Catholic and Evangelical Theology.

### • Next Sunday, May 15:

Mother's Day Recital, presented by Mount Olive youth

**The Ascension  
of Our Lord  
Thursday, May 10  
Holy Eucharist  
at 7:00 pm  
All are welcome.**

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## **Transitions Support Group Next Meeting: Saturday, May 12, 2018**

This group will hold its next get together at 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.

## **The Church Cantatas of J. S. Bach**

*April 10 @ 6:30 pm - May 15 @ 8:30 pm*

John Setterlund and Paul Westermeyer, Chaplain and Dean of the Twin Cities Chapter of the American Guild of Organists, will lead six Tuesday night sessions, April 10 through May 15, 6:30-8:30, about Bach Cantatas, at The Lutheran Church of the Resurrection, Victoria and D in Roseville (3115 Victoria St. N., Roseville, MN 55113).

Specific cantatas, Bach's life, faith, theology, the worship of the church where he worked, and Bach today will be discussed. (Bach's Cantata 100 will be part of the Word portion of the 9:00 A. M. Eucharist, just as in Bach's Leipzig, on Sunday, May 13, at The Lutheran Church of the Resurrection. All are welcome.

There is a one-time \$20.00 registration fee which covers all six sessions. Register in the church office with Rachel Wright at [rwright@lcrelca.org](mailto:rwright@lcrelca.org) or 651.484.1292.

## **Are You Missing A Pan, Dish, or Bowl?**

If so, there's a fairly good chance that it is here at church! There are many, many dishes which have been left here recently.

Plan to take a look on Sunday when you are here and retrieve any that may be yours. They are all on a table in the East Assembly Room - we will leave them there for a couple of weeks.



Christ  
is  
Risen!

## News From the Neighborhood

### Spring Clean Up – Take Two!

Clean-up date moved! Come celebrate Earth Day and Anna's Birthday by giving the neighborhood a Spring Spruce-Up. We will meet at Mount Olive THIS Saturday May 5, 9:30-12:00. Working in teams, we'll do some much-needed cleaning up around our building and our streets. Bags, some gloves, and good company will be provided. Afterwards, stick around for the Community Meal at 12:00 if you can.

See you there!

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### Update from Longer Table Lending

Progress is moving right along to launch the no-interest loan program, Longer Table Lending. Our goal is to be up and running in June and we're in a great spot to get there. Recently we were able to:

- Sign a Fiscal Sponsorship Agreement between Mount Olive and LTL- allowing us to function under Mount Olive's non-profit status and officially accept donations : )
- File our Articles of Incorporation with the State of Minnesota, recognizing us as an official entity (we exist!)
- Open a bank account, buy a website domain, begin writing a grant, develop a logo, and much more.

Thank you for your encouragement so far, and we're excited to share the journey with you. There will be a presentation at the Congregational Meeting on April 29 for more information. We are looking for an administrator (2-4 hours a week by appointment), board members, skills in marketing and accounting, and of course financial support. If you are able and interested in offering your time, talents, or treasures to this project, please contact Anna 612-827-5919, or by email to [neighborhood@mountolivechurch.org](mailto:neighborhood@mountolivechurch.org), or speak with the LTL team: Carol Martinson, Karen Mohrlant, Neil Hering, Thomas Fenner, Tom Graves, and Ginny Agresti.

**The MAYDAY PARADE is around the corner - literally!  
On Sunday, May 6, the parade leaves Little Earth at Noon.  
Tree of Life Ceremony in Powderhorn Park starts at 3:00 p.m.  
Community workshops are in full swing! Drop by Heart of the Beast  
Theater on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays to contribute  
to creating the parade. Make a donation to help make  
the Parade and Festival happen.**

## Twelfth Annual Bach Tage

Just before Easter, the Postal Service delivered your brochure describing the Twelfth Annual Bach Tage at Mount Olive Lutheran Church, Minneapolis, June 2-3, 2018.

- Perhaps it's on your desk in a stack of "things to get around to."
- Heaven forbid, you threw it away! But, even so all is not lost. Extra brochures are available at church.
- If you still have the brochure, send in the registration promptly.
- If you have lost the brochure, you can view and print out a copy at the Mount Olive website, read about the performers, and get a registration form, all at Mount Olive's website: [www.mountolivechurch.org](http://www.mountolivechurch.org). Follow the links on the home page.
- We will mail music to registrants in the next few days, so please register as soon as possible.

We hope you will be with us at BachTage, June 2 and 3.  
Further information can be obtained by calling Mount Olive Lutheran Church at (612) 827-5919.

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## Property Committee News

Our new geothermal system is working well. The coldest month in our heating year was January, colder than last year by about 9% in terms of heating needs. Comparing January 2017 on the old boilers to January 2018 on our new geothermal system shows some great results.

If we still had the old system, we would have used 4,521 therms of natural gas. Instead, we only used 2,271 therms, so we cut our gas consumption almost in half. (Remember, we still heat the parish house with gas.) That's 26.4 tons of carbon dioxide that did not go up our chimney and into the atmosphere that month!

Instead of burning that 2,250 therms of gas to produce the 225 million BTUs of heat we needed, we used about 9,600 kWh of electricity (= 32.7 million BTUs) to pump 192 million BTUs of heat out of the ground under our parking lot and into the church.

Are we saving money? Yes. Again in January, the gas bill was almost \$1,500 less than we would have expected on the old system. Our electric bill was about \$1,100 higher (electricity is more expensive per BTU than gas). That's a net savings of about \$400 for January.

We are still adjusting the system and have no experience yet on the air conditioning side so we will have a better picture as time goes on, but for now, this is all good news. Our utility bills are lower and we have substantially reduced our carbon footprint!

# 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](http://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.*

## **Summer Worship Time Changes to Ten**

The Vestry has approved the Worship Committee's recommendation to move the summer Sunday Eucharist time to 10:00 a.m. for this year. The summer schedule runs from Memorial Day weekend, Sunday, May 27, through Labor Day weekend, Sunday, Sept. 2. This change is part of a broader conversation about our Sunday Eucharist times. With geothermal air conditioning in the nave, one of the reasons for a single summer liturgy, high heat later in the morning, is changed. But we also have heard from some of our older members that the 9:30 a.m. time is a little too early for them to be able to get here, so this temporary change seemed wise.

This spring, Worship Committee had a long discussion about whether we might keep our two service schedule for the whole year, or if there were other reasons for one liturgy during the summer, and what would be a good time for that single liturgy. The committee is working on a way to get a sense of what the congregation feels about the question, so watch for opportunities for feedback. In the meantime, all are welcome to reach Rob Ruff, director of the Worship Committee, at [worship@mountolivechurch.org](mailto:worship@mountolivechurch.org), with any thoughts.