



The Olive Branch

July 18, 2018

Accent on Worship

Pastor Joseph Crippen

This Sunday we celebrate the feast day of St. Mary Magdalene, the first apostle, the first preacher, the first

evangelist of Christ. Hers was a patriarchal culture, and we'd expect writings coming from presumably male writers in such a culture to downplay any role women had. But Mary's faithfulness and courage were so central to the story of Jesus' resurrection that she simply could not be overlooked or left out.

Imagine what that says about the early Church. By the end of the first century, as the list of the canon of the New Testament is not yet settled, the role of women as leaders is gradually being reduced. We can see evidence of this in some of the latest letters in the New Testament written at this time. Now, in the writings of Paul we know are authentically his, he treats women and men equally in terms of their leadership and ministry, and cites many women as tremendously important to the church's ministry. But for whatever reasons, the church gradually, by the end of the century, had begun to deny women a role in leadership.

You'd think, then, that perhaps the Gospels would reflect this change. But they don't. They disagree on the number and names of the disciples, women and men, who came to the tomb Sunday morning. Except for Mary Magdalene. The one great witness of the

resurrection that cannot be denied is Mary Magdalene. Everybody knew she was there. Every Gospel says so. Clearly, Mary was known across the early Church, and admired, respected. Whatever selling out the Church did on the role of women, there was no denying Mary's prominence.

This is all because Mary was faithful. She clung to Jesus, who had healed her of demon possession. Jesus was life to her, and even though she saw him die, even though she saw him buried, she couldn't think of anything to do but go to his tomb as soon as the night following Sabbath was over. Because of that, she saw him alive. He spoke to her, called her by name.

Then, she preached. She witnessed. She testified. "I have seen the Lord!" And the Church had hope and life once again. All because she was faithful to the One who loved her and gave her life.

This gives me much hope.

Sunday Readings

July 22, 2018

St. Mary Magdalene

Ruth 1:6-18

Psalm 73:23-28

Acts 13:26-33a

John 20: 1-2, 11-18

July 29, 2018

10th Sunday after

Pentecost

2 Samuel 11:1-15

Psalm 14

Ephesians 3:14-21

John 6:1-21

A Most Sincere Thank You!

I would like to offer my most sincere thanks for the lovely reception given for me at church this past Sunday on the occasion of my retirement as your church librarian. I felt very blessed to have my family there for both the worship service, the wonderful reception and for a delicious dinner out (with more extended family) afterward as well. However, much more is needed, as I wish to mention my heartfelt thanks to former Education board chair, Steve Manuel and his family, and current Education Chair, James Bargmann, for their work arranging for the marvelous cake and other refreshments, for the dozen yellow roses arrangement (gracing the coffee table in my apartment at this moment), and also to Pastor Crippen for his kind words and special prayer, always to the Mount Olive staff for their willing help and dedication, and also for the gracious comments, wonderful notes, handshakes and hugs from so many beautiful friends who make up this extraordinary congregation! Please be assured it has been an honor and privilege to have served you in this specialized ministry but it has also been a very real joy and blessing in my personal life as well. My previous article mentioned those who were so helpful to me in this church library ministry in the more recent years, but once again, my sincere appreciation and gratitude goes to Mabel Jackson, Dan Olson, Melissa Stone, Rod Olson, and Bonnie McLellan.

I shall always remember and treasure this special occasion and your inspiring friendship! "To God be the glory!"

– *Leanna Kloempken*

ALCM Regional Conference Hymn Festival at Mount Olive

The Regional Conference of the Association of Lutheran Church Musicians (ALCM) will be held at Mount Olive on Saturday, July 28. That conference begins with a hymn festival the evening before the conference, **Friday, July 27, at 7:30 pm.**

The hymn festival will feature Mount Olive Cantor David Cherwien at the organ, Keith Hampton playing Gospel piano, and commentary by Paul Westermeyer.

This event is free and open to the public! Come and sing!

2018 Graduates – Who Are They?

As we move through summer in anticipation of the coming fall, the Mount Olive community would like to take time to recognize the accomplishments of our graduates (both high school and college) and celebrate the next steps of their journey. If your Mount Olive graduate graduated this past spring, please email the following information to Cha in the Mount Olive office

(welcome@mountolivechurch.org): Graduate name, the school they graduated from, any special recognitions or honors, and what they are planning to do next, whether that be job, more education, or something else.

More details about our graduate recognition, including date, will be published in the next couple weeks.

Olive Branch Publication Schedule

During the summer months of June, July, and August, *The Olive Branch* is published *every other week*.

Deadline for information for the August 1 issue is Monday, July 30.

The Olive Branch

Calendar

Wednesday, July 18

10:00 pm Staff Meeting

8:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous

Saturday, July 21

11am-1pm Diaper Depot open

Noon Community Meal

Sunday, July 22 - St. Mary Magdalene

10:00 am *Holy Eucharist*, followed by coffee & conversation

1:00 pm Mount Olive Tour of State Capitol

Monday, July 23

7:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous

Tuesday, July 24

Noon Bible Study

4:00 pm Diaper Depot open

Wednesday, July 25

10:00 am Staff Meeting

6:00 pm Internship Committee meeting

7:00 PM Men's Choir rehearsal

8:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous

Friday, July 27

7:30 pm ALCM Hymn Festival

Saturday, July 28

10:00 am Book Discussion group

All day ALCM Regional Conference

Sunday, July 29 - 10th Sunday after Pentecost

10:00 am *Holy Eucharist*, followed by coffee & conversation

Monday, July 30

7:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous

Tuesday, July 31

Noon Bible Study

4:00 pm Diaper Depot open

Bargain Box to be Held on August 4

It's already time to plan ahead for the next school year. Please help make sure that all children have clothes and school supplies to make school something to look forward to!

On Saturday, August 4, from 11:00 am - 2:00 pm, at Mount Olive, Bargain Box will sell new clothing at very low prices and give out free gently-used clothing for kids. This makes going back to school fun for kids and much easier for parents!

Can you help?

* Volunteer a few hours on that day;

* Bring donations of new and gently used kids' clothes.

Book Discussion

For the August 11 meeting, the Book Discussion group will read *Hillbilly Elegy* by J.D. Vance, and for September 8, they will read *Purple Hibiscus* by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie.

All readers welcome!

Stewardship Update

2018 Income/Expense YTD

	June	2018 YTD
Income	\$51,253	\$319,733
Expense	\$67,974	\$388,555
	(\$16,721)	(\$68,822)
% Expenses Funded	75%	82%

Would you like to share Communion with your family?

Every Sunday we send out members of Mount Olive to bring communion to those of our community who aren't able to come to worship. It's a great blessing, and an extension of my pastoral ministry and the ministry of the vicar. We also bring communion at times on visits, and we share the grace of seeing our folks who can't get out. But there is deep grace in having fellow members of the community come on that day and share prayer, a reading, and the Eucharist with sisters and brothers.

Tom Graves and Ginny Agresti organize this ministry, and we have recently had several faithful folks decide it was time to take a break. We'd very much like to have three or four more people who would rotate with the others. It usually means once a month you'd take communion to someone.

If you're interested in talking about this, talk to me (or email), or reach out to Ginny and Tom. You'll find it becomes a great joy, and it is a ministry that enriches the life of our congregation.

Peace,
Pr. Crippen

Powderhorn Art Fair Needs Volunteers!

PPNA is recruiting volunteers for the annual Powderhorn Art Fair on August 4-5! They're looking for folks that are able to help out with a few 3 hour shifts.

Booth sitters will relieve artists at their booth so the artist can have the opportunity to eat, use the restroom, and take a break. Depending on the artist, they may be helping with sales. Some volunteers will also be asked to sit at information booths throughout the park as well. All volunteers will receive a t-shirt.

Please email grace@ppna.org for additional information or to sign up.

Summer Choir Opportunities!

- *Men's Choir - Sunday, July 29*
Rehearsals: Wednesday, July 25, 7:00 pm., and Sunday morning at 9:00.
- *Women's Choir - Sunday August 12*
Rehearsals: Saturday, August 11, 10:00-11:00 am, Sunday morning at 9:00.

Anyone interested in singing with either group is welcome! No RSVP required, simply come to the rehearsal.



News From the Neighborhood

New Neighborhood Partner - Ace in the City

There are good people doing good work all around our neighborhood. Ace in the City is one of the organizations that's been up to a lot of good caring for kids and families, especially the Latino community. Their mission is, "Cultivating community through relationships, we are building safe spaces of belonging where all are known, valued, and loved." Through sports, tutoring, mentoring, or just conversations with families, they are building relationships and making sure people feel seen.

The Neighborhood Ministries Committee (NMC) has recognized the opportunity to partner with Ace in its efforts, especially through school supplies. On August 11, Ace hosts a large Back-to-School-Bash in Powderhorn Park with games, food, haircuts, and most importantly, school supplies! Churches and partners help Ace buy high-quality backpacks that can be chosen by each student, then parents are able to "shop" in a store full of highly discounted supplies, making sure that each child has exactly what they need for their school year. Parents pay a small amount for a great bag and the gear their student will use. And it's a fun day full of activity and chances to get to know people in the neighborhood.

To support ACE and help provide school supplies, we invite you to buy a backpack (high-quality, any age range) and bring it to Mount Olive with a \$20 donation for the supplies. We are also looking for folks who like to have fun at the bash on August 11! Sign up for a role or ask a question at: volunteer@aceinthecity.org.

Summer ACTS Recap

Another Summer ACTS session has come and gone and it was awesome! There were 15 youth ages 11-15 that participated this year, along with the help of many mentors from Mount Olive who worked side by side at places like: Mount Olive, the Lyndale Rose Garden, Feed My Starving Children, Powderhorn Parks Neighborhood Association, CES, the Dignity Center, and Andersen Elementary School.

We all practiced our skills in responsibility, eye contact, interpersonal skills, cooking, planning for groups, and being good team members while doing projects at our partner organizations. And it was fun too! Thank you to everyone who supports this ministry and supports the youth of our neighborhood.

A special thank you to mentors: Joe Kane, Carol Martinson, George Ferguson, Gail Nielson, Gretchen Campbell-Johnson, Carol Austermann, John Crippen, Eunice Hafemeister, Elaine Halbardier, Margaret Bostelmann, Erika Thurston, and Vicar Jessica. We could not do this without you!

(See back of calendar insert for a few photos!)

Point: Perhaps You've Wondered, But Weren't Sure You Should Ask?

Why, pray, have weeds taken over the center island of the new parking lot?

Very good question!

Does it help to know they were planted intentionally, and are regularly watered to make sure they grow quickly?

Probably not. Try this: In designing the new lot, the committee decided to plant the bed in the middle with a "pollinator-friendly" seed mix in order to woo bees, attract butterflies, birds, and other such helpful species by providing them a source of food and water. This is another aspect of Mount Olive's emphasis on being better stewards of God's creation.

The center island terminates in a "rain garden" along Chicago Ave. which collects most of the rainwater run-off from the lot and allows the water to return to the soil. Pretty cool, huh? Also, the planting beds along the edges of the lot are watered by "drip irrigation" so the plants get a drink but little water is wasted. The center island is sprinkled - pollinators like wet soil, but any excess water collects in the rain garden.



Counter-Point: Weed-Pullers Needed. Urgent!!!

Not all weeds are intentional, and even pollinators don't give a fig about them. These weeds are becoming a blight in the beds along the edges of the parking lot. A few good women and men are needed now, willing to take **20-30 minutes** perhaps once every two weeks to care for a small section of these beds.

Could this be you? Skill level is, admittedly, low; faithfulness requirement, however, is high. In this case, "the more the merrier" is the absolute truth. The more who volunteer, the smaller the sections! Please send your enthusiastic "yes" to property@mountolivechurch.org.

Key In On This . . . Getting In at Mount Olive

Getting into the building, that is. The Parish House Door and the two entry doors from the alley now have electronic locks.

If you currently have a key to the doors, you may trade that key for a card (the size of a credit card) which will open any of the doors. The price of the card is your old key, which you may turn in to Cha at the office.

The advantage of the card is that it does not have to be taken out to open the door. Simply hold your wallet or purse up to the reader, and it will read your card within and unlock the door. If you carry your wallet in a hip pocket...and are quite agile...you can even present the appropriate hip to the reader and, *voila*, you're in.

Why is this important? Of course, electronic entrance is more convenient. Plus, when a traditional key is lost, the locks must be re-keyed, and new keys issued to everyone. It's very expensive. Should, heaven forbid, you ever lose your card, all that is needed is deleting that card or fob in the system and issuing a new one.

Stop at the church office with your old key as soon as possible to check out your new card.

Mount Olive Lutheran Church

3045 Chicago Avenue
Minneapolis, MN 55407

*A congregation of the Evangelical
Lutheran Church in America*

Summer Sunday Eucharist: 10 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.*

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August 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			<p>1 10 am – Staff meeting</p> <p>Noon – Congregational Life committee meeting</p> <p>5:30 pm – Neighborhood Ministries Comm.</p> <p>8 pm – N.A.</p>	2	3 6pm – N.A. First Friday	4 11 am – Bargain Box 11 am – Diaper Depot Noon – Community Meal 1 pm – Prayer Shawl group
<p>5 FOOD COLLECTION 10:00 am – Eucharist 11:00 am - Coffee & Conversation</p> <p>1 pm – Neighborhood Ministries picnic</p>	6 7 pm – Evangelism Committee 7 pm – N.A.	7 Noon – Bible Study 4-6 pm – Diaper Depot 7pm – Missions Committee	8 10 am – Staff meeting 8 pm – N.A.	9	10 7pm – Recovery & Wellness Support Group	11 10 am – Book Discussion Group 10 am – Women’s Choir rehearsal
<p>12 10:00 am – Eucharist 11:00 am - Coffee & Conversation</p> <p>11:00 am – Adult Education: “After the Flood”</p> <p>6:45 pm – Mount Olive serves Our Saviour’s Meal</p>	13 7 pm – Vestry meeting 7 pm – N.A.	14 Noon – Bible Study 4-6 pm – Diaper Depot	<p>15 – Mary, Mother of Our Lord</p> <p>10 am – Staff meeting</p> <p>7 pm – Holy Eucharist</p> <p>8 pm – N.A.</p>	16	17	18 11 am – Diaper Depot Noon – Community Meal
<p>19 10:00 am – Eucharist 11:00 am - Coffee & Conversation</p> <p>11:45 am – Book Study Discussion</p>	20 6:30 pm – Reconciling Works Comm. meeting 7 pm – N.A.	21 Noon – Bible Study 4-6 pm – Diaper Depot	22 10 am – Staff meeting 8 pm – N.A.	23	24 7pm – Recovery & Wellness Support Group	25
<p>26 10:00 am – Eucharist 11:00 am - Coffee & Conversation</p>	27 7 pm – Worship Committee 7 pm – N.A.	28 Noon – Bible Study 4-6 pm – Diaper Depot	29 10 am – Staff meeting 8 pm – N.A.	30	31	

Scenes from Summer ACTS

