

The Olive Branch

June 5, 2019

Accent on Worship

Cantor David Cherwien

So what's next?

We've pretty much run the Jesus cycle since we started the cycle last December with Advent 1. From the prophecy of Jesus' birth, his birth, baptism, growth and being made known, death, celebrating the resurrection for a week of weeks, then with the disciples, watch as Jesus ascends . . . up and away? Leaving us? ... with ... what?

This weekend we observe Pentecost - the coming of the Spirit. A change in focus from Jesus to . . . to what? What is next for us, for YOU?

I think of Pentecost as both a culmination, and a new beginning. It marks the end of the Easter celebrations, and is one of our major festivals - with Vigil service the evening prior and all. It brings the Jesus cycle to a close, and then opens the door to what follows as if to say, "What do we DO with that Jesus story?"

Empowered by the spirit we become a part of the Trinity - Christ in us, living in the world, perhaps not unlike the pregnant-with-Jesus Mary in the early part of the church year cycle.

Then, these next months we enter into what we call "Ordinary Time," also known as "The Sundays after Pentecost." There are

lessons in how we grow as God's people living in a world full of needs. We learn how to see these needs, how to respond to them, how to love. As those living in the northern hemisphere, once again, this is mirrored in nature around us, as the new life surrounds us with a perfect liturgical "green" as trees once again sprout leaves and plant life comes out of the darkness of the soil.

As Cantor - here's an opportunity to remind us all of an important need. To sing. Some would call it a mere activity - I would call it a human necessity. Babies must sing to get the lungs started outside the womb. Maybe we could think of our assembly song as the singing that activities our lungs to breathe and serve outside the womb of the nave. Science comes out with more and more evidence of the health and wholeness benefits of the act of singing - what that kind of breathing, vibrating, and cooperative vibrating with an assembly can do for our body chemistry and even vascular health.

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Sunday Readings

June 9, 2019

Day of Pentecost

Acts 2:1-21

Psalms 104:24-34, 35b

Romans 8:14-17

John 14:8-17 [25-27]

June 16, 2019

The Holy Trinity

Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31

Psalms 8

Romans 5:1-5

John 16:12-15

Pentecost Reading of Acts 2 in Many Languages

For a number of years, it has been our tradition at Mount Olive to hear a portion of the Pentecost reading from Acts 2:1-21 read simultaneously in various languages. Some of you have either participated in this joint reading in the past, or are knowledgeable enough in a foreign language that you might be willing to participate.

I would like to invite anyone who can read aloud in another language to participate in this corporate reading at the morning liturgy this Sunday, June 9, 2019. Please contact Susan Cherwien via email at susan.cherwien@gmail.com if you would be willing to participate or if you have questions. Instructions will be sent to all participants, so have no fear!

- Susan Cherwien

2019 Graduates – Who Are They?

This Sunday, June 9, the Mount Olive community will recognize the accomplishments of our graduates (both high school and college) and celebrate the next steps of their journey. Our Graduate Recognition will take place following the morning Eucharist. If your Mount Olive graduate graduates this 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.

Please invite them to be here on June 9!

Book Discussion

The Book Discussion Group meets on the second Saturday of each month at 10 am in the West Assembly Area. All readers welcome!

For the June 8 meeting they will read, *A Moveable Feast*, by Ernest Hemingway. For the July 13 meeting, they will read, *The Invention of Wings*, by Sue Monk Kidd.

**Vigil of Pentecost
Saturday, June 8
7:00 p.m.**

Olive Branch Publication Schedule

During the summer months of June, July, and August, *The Olive Branch* is published *every other week*. This is the last weekly issue until after Labor Day.

The next issue will be published on Wed., June 19. **The deadline for information for that issue is Monday, June 17.**

Calendar

Wednesday, June 5

- 10:00 am Staff Meeting
7:00 pm Cantorei BBQ at Cherwien's
8:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous

Friday, June 7

- 5:30 pm Journey to Justice meeting

Saturday, June 8

- 10:00 am Book Discussion group
1:00 pm Funeral visitation
2:00 pm *Funeral Eucharist: Ro Griesse*
7:00 pm *Vigil of Pentecost*

Sunday, June 9 - Day of Pentecost

- 10:00 am *Holy Eucharist*
11:30 am Graduate Recognition
6:45 pm Mount Olive serves Our Saviour's meal

Monday, June 10

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

Tuesday, June 11

- Noon Bible Study
4-6 pm Diaper Depot open
7:00 pm Housing Task Force meeting

Wednesday, June 12

- 10:00 am Staff Meeting
8:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous

Friday, June 14

- 7:00 pm Recovery & Wellness Support group

Saturday, June 15

- 11:00 am Diaper Depot open
Noon Community Meal

Sunday, June 16 - The Holy Trinity

- 10:00 am *Holy Eucharist, with the Sacrament of Holy Baptism*

- 11:30 am Coffee and conversation

Monday, June 17

- 6:30 pm ReconcilingWorks committee meeting
7:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous

Tuesday, June 18

- Noon Bible Study
4-6 pm Diaper Depot open

Wednesday, June 19

- 10:00 am Staff Meeting
8:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous

Sign Up to Serve Summer Coffee Hour!

Coffee hosts are needed to serve coffee and refreshments following our summer liturgies. If you are willing to take a turn, please sign up on the chart provided in the East Assembly Room. Summer is a great low-pressure time to serve for the first time - it's easy!

Not sure about all that is involved? Contact Larry Duncan, who will be happy to see that you receive a tutorial.

Climate Justice Legislative Update

Unfortunately, the Minnesota State Legislature wrapped up its session without making a deal to pass 100% clean energy by 2050.

Governor Walz supported it, the House passed it, but the Senate blocked it. **Given the climate crisis we face and the public's demand for action (thanks to YOU!), doing nothing is not an option.** This fight isn't over, and we're continuing to build the movement for clean, equitable energy. We do want to celebrate the amazing work we've done together this session--making 100% a priority for the House and Governor.

- from Minnesota Interfaith Power and Light

Summer ACTS

Adults, Children, Teaming to Serve

Summer ACTS is our own Mount Olive jobs program for young people, ages 11-14. Participants will team up to learn about important issues in our south Minneapolis community, work together on important service projects, and earn some income.

This year's program will take on a different schedule than in past years. This year, Summer ACTS will be a two-week program, June 24 to July 3 with participants working Monday through Thursday, 9:00 am to 1:00 pm, with a special closing celebration on July 5. Participants will have the option to sign up for either week or both weeks.

For young people wanting to participate...

Any young person wanting to participate should complete the sign up form, either online at <https://forms.gle/TnbTorwPdZZmHUkBA> - or pick up a paper form from the kiosk in the west assembly area. Sign up deadline is June 13.

For adults - we need you too...

We need people who would be able to shop for food, people to assist preparing lunches, drivers and, most importantly, adults willing to work alongside young people in their learning and service. If you are interested, please contact Jim Bargmann at 612-827-5919 or neighborhood@mountolivechurch.org.

Why Our Nigerian Partnership is so Important

Recently the Mount Olive Mission Committee hosted a gathering of the ELCA churches in the Minneapolis Area Synod who are all partners with the Lutheran Church of Christ in Nigeria. It was an evening of learning, inspiration and commitment to further work together. In the same week we read an article in *Sojourners* magazine entitled "Christianity's Future Lies in Africa" which stated: "According to the Pew Center, if demography is destiny, then Christianity's future lies in Africa. By 2060, a plurality of Christians - more than four-in-ten - will call sub-Saharan Africa home, up from 26% in 2015. In 1910 there were 2 million Christians in Africa. Today there are 650 million ... The explosive growth of the Church across Africa represents a trend that far too few Christians in the West fully understand and that will likely reshape and over time transform the face of Christianity globally."

The author goes on to state: "Despite my hopefulness, it's important not to gloss over or ignore the significant challenges facing both the African church and continent. The continent has become the epicenter in the fight against extreme poverty and inequality, housing over half of the world's people who are living in the quicksand of extreme poverty. Conflict, corruption, illicit financial flows, gender-based violence, exploitation, the impacts of climate change, among other challenges, have long stunted Africa's growth and suffocated human flourishing. Evangelical churches across Africa continue to be heavily influenced by various forms of the prosperity gospel ... Less than 20 percent of pastors have received seminary training, which poses both a challenge and an opportunity."

Our partnership with Bronnum Seminary will challenge all of us, here and in Nigeria, to grow in faith and understanding. It is an exciting partnership. Stay tuned. You can access the whole Sojourner's article at <https://sojo.net/articles/christianitys-future-lies-africa>.

Accent on Worship, *continued from page 1*

How can you help your neighbor in this need? By letting go and singing when we gather. Nothing empowers participation in this increasingly rare public act than doing so with a group - and feeling like if one were to let go and sing, it would not be a solo. The impact and power of expression through this act is a huge gift - to God, to each other, and to the world.

As the cliché goes, "That's the Spirit!"

- Cantor David Cherwien

How to Welcome Our New Vicar, *continued from page 6*

4. The seminary looks to the pastor to serve as the vicar's supervisor. Invitations for service are always appropriate, but requests for her service on committees, etc. should be cleared through Pastor Crippen.
5. Each vicar is different from any and all others. Do not assume that the vicar will do the same things in the same way as the pastor or former vicars have done. Accept the new vicar as she is. Remember that we are apt to grow the most when we know ourselves to be loved just as we are.
6. Remember that the vicar is an intern who comes as a learner/server. Though doing pastoral functions, she has not yet been ordained to the pastoral office.
7. Defend the freedom of the vicar. Help her to be free to grow, free to feel, free to try new things, and free to fail. Expect her neither to be controversial nor to avoid controversial matters.
8. Support the Vicar Committee, but don't expect them to fulfill the congregation's total responsibilities to the vicar. Work with the committee in whatever ways they request or you deem appropriate.
9. Invite the vicar into your home sometime during the year. Don't wait for her to make the first move toward you.
10. Remember that the vicar is entitled to your understanding, loyalty, and prayers.

Help Needed for Twin Cities Pride

Mount Olive will again partner with Minneapolis Downtown churches to hand out welcoming brochures at the Twin Cities Pride festival on Saturday and Sunday, June 22-23, in Loring Park. This is a great opportunity for us to let our LGBTQ brothers and sisters know that we welcome them into this community of faith.

The Downtown churches booth is looking for volunteers to staff the booth in two hour shifts between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. on Saturday, and between noon and 4 p.m. on Sunday. In addition, they are asking for help with set-up beginning at 7:30 a.m. on Saturday, and for take-down at 4 p.m. on Sunday.

If you are available to help, please let the church office, Lora Dundek or Andrew Andersen know.

Thanks!



From Pr. Crippen: Meet our new vicar, Bristol Reading

Bristol Reading (last name pronounced “REDDing”) is our vicar for 2019-2020 and she begins her ministry with us on June 5. This is an earlier-than-usual start for us, but she’s completed all her work and had the summer available, and since we were without a vicar, she was willing to start now.

Bristol comes to us from Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago (LSTC). She needed a placement in the Twin Cities because her husband, Michael, took a job this past year with Target in Enterprise Risk Management, and they’ve already found housing in St. Louis Park. They’re both excited to be living in the Twin Cities.

Bristol grew up in the Midwest, but she has also lived on both coasts of the United States. She has a BA in Theology from Loyola University Chicago and an MA in Ethics and Social Theory from the Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley, CA. She completed her Lutheran requirements at LSTC. Bristol has held a number of interesting jobs, including canoe/kayak guide, recess coach, and environmental science instructor. She spent five years working in parish-based family ministry in the Boston area before entering the candidacy process through the New England Synod of the ELCA. Her vicar year will be the final year of her MDiv program, and she’s excited to get back to full time ministry. Bristol loves to run and cycle, do crosswords, and read wilderness survival stories.

There won’t be a forum to meet the vicar this year. Instead, a reception for her and Michael will be held after liturgy on Sunday, June 23, where people will get a chance to talk to her and welcome her. The Vicar Committee is sponsoring this reception. Members of the committee for Bristol’s year will be commissioned at the liturgy on Pentecost, Sunday, June 9. They include Elaine Halbardier, John Crippen, Linda Holt, Tim Pipkorn, Allen Dundek, and Al Bipes.

How to Welcome Our New Vicar – from the Vicar Committee

With Bristol Reading’s arrival as our Vicar for 2019-20, we are also getting to experience a new seminary in the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago (LSTC). In their packet of materials for congregations, they suggested a list of “helpful hints” for the entire congregation to consider, and we thought it would be helpful to share that here.

1. Please tell the vicar your name, each time you meet her for the first few months. She is meeting a lot of new people, and remembering everyone all at once is hard.
2. Try to get to know the vicar personally as quickly as possible. She needs your friendship right away. The year will pass quickly, and if you wait too long you may miss out on a great relationship.
3. Remember that the vicar has just been through the experience of leaving friends and familiar routines and that she is adjusting to a new and strange situation.

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Mount Olive Lutheran Church

3045 Chicago Avenue
Minneapolis, MN 55407

*A congregation of the Evangelical
Lutheran Church in America*

**Summer Sunday Eucharist:
10:00 a.m.**

Contact Us

Phone: 612-827-5919

On the Web: mountolivechurch.org

Staff

Pastor – *Joseph Crippen*

Cantor – *David Cherwien*

Vicar – *Bristol Reading*

Coordinator of Neighborhood

Ministry – *Jim Bargmann*

Administrative Assistant – *Cha Posz*

Sexton – *James Wilkes*

*Mount Olive is a Reconciling in
Christ congregation.*

Adult Forum on Sunday, July 14, following the 10:00 liturgy and coffee:

“Eucharistic Commitments To Justice and Peace”

In this adult forum, Mount Olive friend, Dr. Samuel Torvend of Pacific Lutheran University, will discuss early Lutheran commitments to economic justice and contemporary commitments to environmental sustainability that flow from the Holy Communion.

Samuel Torvend is Professor of the History of Christianity at Pacific Lutheran University, Tacoma, Washington, and the author of *Luther and the Hungry Poor* (Fortress) and *Still Hungry At the Feast: Eucharistic Justice in the Midst of Affliction* (Liturgical Press).