



The Olive Branch

July 31, 2019

Accent on Worship *Vicar Bristol Reading*

Sunday Readings

August 4, 2019

**8th Sunday after Pentecost
18C**

Hosea 11:1-11
Psalm 107:1-9, 43
Colossians 3:1-11
Luke 12:13-21

August 11, 2019

**9th Sunday after Pentecost
19C**

Isaiah 1:1, 10-20
Psalm 50:1-8, 22-23
Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16
Luke 12:32-40

In his commentary on the first commandment in the Large Catechism, Martin Luther wrote, "A god is that to which we look for all good and where we resort for help in every time of need; to have a god is simply to trust and believe in one with our whole heart... The confidence and faith of the heart alone make both God and an idol... Whatever your heart clings to and confides in, that is really your God." (LC, I.2-3) Idolatry, Luther emphasized, is more than just worshiping false images or statues. It is a matter of the heart (LC, I.21).

This is why Paul describes greed as "idolatry" in Colossians 3:5; it entails devotion to material wealth rather than to God. That is precisely what happens to the wealthy land owner in Jesus' parable in Luke 12:16-21. He is so successful that he needs to build bigger barns to store his excess crops. Having done so, he feels secure in his savings, sure that he will be set for many years to come. However, all his wealth does him no good when his life is called to account before God. He has invested in the wrong kind of treasure and ended up rich in stuff rather than rich in God. "One's life does not consist in the abundance of possessions," Jesus warns, "For

where your treasure is, there your heart will be also" (Luke 12:15, 34). In other words, that to which your heart clings becomes your god.

But within these tough words of warning, Jesus offers an important promise. "Do not be afraid, little flock," he says, "for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom" (Luke 12:32). We don't need material wealth to be able to afford the treasure of abundant life in God because God joyfully gives it away for free! We don't need to build bigger barns to hoard this treasure because there is and always will be enough for everyone. We can be secure in that inheritance, in this life and the next. All other idols will eventually fail us, but we can trust and confide in the true God who will always be present with us.

Thanks!

Many thanks to all who made the Sunday church picnic a fun event this past weekend- even if the weather didn't cooperate! Gail and Larry did a great job of planning, and then rescuing the food, grills, and other necessities from the rain so that we could enjoy a meal in the Undercroft.

Thanks, too, to all who stepped up to set up, cook, and clean up. Good food and good friends makes for a great event!

Grateful Oliveheads thank you all!!

Attention Mount Olive Worship Assistants!

The Servant Schedule for the 4th quarter of 2019 (October - December) will be published at the beginning of September 2019. The deadline for submitting requests is August 9, 2019. Please email your requests to peggyrf70@gmail.com.

Counters Needed!

We are in need of 2-3 new counters to count Sunday offering on a rotating or substitute basis due to counters retiring or moving onto other ministries. This is great job for those who like quiet work and a feeling of accomplishment. The skills needed are simple cash and check counting, confidentiality, and ability to communicate with your counting partner. That's about it!

If you are interested in counting on a regular basis, please contact Kat Campbell Johnson 763-464-7692.

An Important Word About Your Key Card

Some Mount Olive folks are beginning to have a little trouble with their security (key) cards not working. This is likely caused by the card becoming de-magnetized. One way to be sure YOUR card does not become demagnetized is to keep it away from your credit cards, and keep it away from your cell phone. Both are common culprits with this problem.

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 August 10 meeting they will read *Clock Dance*, by Anne Tyler, and for September 14, *Anil's Ghost* by Michael Ondaatje.

Weeds for Sale, Pick Your Own!

In order to keep our church grounds looking fresh and tidy, it takes work to keep the lawn cut, weeds pulled, and bushes trimmed. This spring our loyal group of volunteers picked up trash, weeded, mulched, and trimmed everything in sight. Now it is summer maintenance time.

Please join us on any of the following dates between 9:30-11:30 am, or feel free to stop by at any time and pull a weed or two.

August 3, 17, 31

BYOT (Bring your own tools.)
Trash bags, water, and snacks provided.

If you have questions reach out to Andrew Andersen, Brenda Bartz, or Carol Martinson.

The Olive Branch

Calendar

Wednesday, July 31

- 1:30 pm Staff Meeting
8:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous

Saturday, August 3

- 9:30 am Grounds Maintenance
11:00 am Diaper Depot open
Noon Community Meal
1-3 pm Prayer Shawl group meets at Blackeye Roasting
1:30 pm Funeral Eucharist: Anna Flatgard

Sunday, August 4 - Sixth Sunday after Pentecost, 18C

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

Monday, August 5

- 7:00 pm LOL Board meeting
7:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous

Tuesday, August 6

- Noon Bible Study
4-6 pm Diaper Depot open
6:00 pm Neighborhood Night Out (parking lot)

Wednesday, August 7

- 10:00 am Staff Meeting
5:30 pm Neighborhood Ministries committee meeting
8:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous

Friday, August 9

- 7:00 pm Recovery & Wellness Support group

Saturday, August 10

- 10:00 am Book Discussion group

Sunday, August 11 - Ninth Sunday after Pentecost, 19C

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

Monday, August 12

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

Tuesday, August 13

- Noon Bible Study
4-6 pm Diaper Depot open

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., August 14.

The deadline for information for that issue is Monday, August 12.

Paris to Pittsburgh

Many have asked. If you didn't get a chance to view *Paris to Pittsburgh* with us a couple of weeks ago, or if you did and now you would like to share this film with others, please know that copies of the film are available in the Missions box in the church office. Leave a note when you take a copy, and return it to the box when you are finished. It is also available on-line from National Geographic at <https://www.nationalgeographic.com/tv/paris-to-pittsburgh/>. We were encouraged by stories of the progress that can be made even without a national commitment.

News From the Neighborhood

National Night Out

National Night Out is an annual community-building campaign that promotes police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie, sponsored by the National Association of Town Watch.

Mount Olive will host a National Night Out celebration for our block and neighborhood on August 6, from 6:00 to 8:00 pm. This event is one of the ways Mount Olive seeks to be a welcoming presence in our neighborhood and share the gifts God has given us in terms of our physical property and talents. Any are welcome to join us for food, games, a visit with area police and fire personnel, and more. Of course, if you have a National Night Out event in the neighborhood in which you live, we encourage you to attend there. But if you either live in the Mount Olive neighborhood or have no event of your own to attend, please join us!

Back to School Backpack Drive

Again this year, Mount Olive is partnering with Ace in the City to support our neighborhood kids by collecting donations of new backpacks, coupled with a \$20 donation to cover the cost of school supplies. Backpack donations can be brought to church and left in the large, clear tote on the coatroom shelf. Monetary donations can be placed in the offering plate (clearly designated for "Backpack Drive"), or brought/mailed to the church office. Ace in the City will sell the backpacks and school supplies at greatly discounted rates to families in need at their Back2School Bash on August 24.

Backpacks and monetary donations will be received through Sunday, August 11. Since our Christmas registry at Target was so successful, we've set up a backpack registry to make for easy shopping and donation. You may go to www.target.gifts/backpacks, order what you like, and it will be shipped directly to Mount Olive.

We also welcome monetary donations, as ACE in the City can purchase backpacks at negotiated prices. Either way, it's a great chance to assist families bear the cost of starting school.

Save the Date--Offering of Letters

We will end the summer by taking action! On September 1, Labor Day weekend Sunday, we will once again gather to urge our legislators to accelerate progress toward ending hunger by increasing funding for global child nutrition programs. "Better Nutrition, Better Tomorrow" is a national advocacy effort, and Bread for the World is our partner. Together we have made a difference in reducing world hunger.

Let's keep our effort strong! Stay tuned for more details.

Mark Your Calendars! Men's Choir, Women's Choir

Each summer we select one Sunday to form these two groups which can highlight the unique sounds of three to four part Tenors and Bases and/or Sopranos and Altos. There will be one rehearsal for each, with music for these unique voicings. (Some of written for the special occasion!)

Summer Men's Choir: Sunday, August 11

One rehearsal on Sunday, August 11, 8:45 am, sing in the 10:00 am Eucharist.

Summer Women's Choir: Sunday, August 18

One rehearsal on Sunday, August 18, 8:45 am, sing in the 10:00 Eucharist.

Great Gift AND, Another Great Opportunity



First, the GIFT: recent additions to our busiest entrance - numerals to identify the building so guests, deliveries, and firefighters can find us easily, and a message board for events, notices, and other helpful information. The message board is equipped with LED lighting for easier reading at night.

These were purchased with *The Mount Olive Foundation* Gift for 2019.

Thank you to the Foundation for providing a place to display all the vital information often taped to the glass!

And the Great Opportunity? Saturday,

August 3 is the next Property Work Day, 9:30-11:00. **THIS ONE IS IMPORTANT.** The previous work day, July 13, was a "wash out," literally. The heavens opened, and rain continued all morning. Now we are one work day behind.

Please help out this Saturday. Help make our outdoors beautiful! Stay for lunch at the Community Meal. Contact Carol Martinson or Andrew Andersen for more information.



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
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GLOBAL MISSION



Karen Anderson with ELCA pastor, Rev. Alvaro Nova, a participant in the 2016 International Training, during a community health action carried out in the open market to educate neighbors about the negative impact sugary soft drinks have on health.

2019 ELCA Global Mission Spotlight: Karen Anderson and EPES (Chile)

As a Lutheran missionary in Chile from 1982–2000, Karen Anderson founded and directed EPES, **Educación Popular en Salud**. EPES has worked to build a sustainable health care organization dedicated to promoting the health, dignity and rights of poor people in Chile and throughout the region through education, empowerment and collective action.

In 2009, she returned as an ELCA missionary to help the EPES staff design, launch and direct EPES' International Training Course on Popular Education in Health which, among other important tasks, explores the role of the church in the struggle for health and human rights. **In the past ten years, the International Training program has had 187 participants from 25 countries, including participants from eleven Lutheran churches from other Latin American countries.** In the past three years, EPES' work has expanded to Africa as participants from Kenya, Uganda, Zimbabwe, Tanzania, Senegal, Madagascar and Ethiopia have participated in the International Training Course. Upon returning home, they have been implementing EPES training model in their local communities.

Your gifts to ELCA Global Mission help more than 225 ELCA missionaries, including Karen Anderson, serve "hand in hand" with companion churches in almost 50 countries.

Adult Forum with Missionary Karen Anderson - August 25

On August 25, Karen Anderson from EPES/Action for Health in the Americas, our mission partner in Chile, will share with us the latest work and progress in Chile. It has been two years since we have had the opportunity to meet with Karen, and your Missions Committee invites everyone to grab their coffee and treats and join in this important partnership update.

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.*

In This Issue:

- **Accent on Worship – Vicar Bristol Reading**
- **National Night Out, August 6, in the Parking Lot**
- **Backpack Drive Continues Through August 11**
- **Counters Needed!**
- **Men's and Women's Ensembles to Sing in August**
- **Paris to Pittsburgh Video Available to View**