



The Olive Branch

September 4, 2019

Accent on Worship *Jim Bargmann*

Sunday Readings

September 8, 2019

**13th Sunday after Pentecost
23C**

Jeremiah 18:1-11
Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18
Philemon 1-21
Luke 14:25-33

September 15, 2019

**14th Sunday after Pentecost
24C**

Jeremiah 4:11-12, 22-28
Psalm 14
1 Timothy 1:12-17
Luke 15:1-10

Many of you reading this may be aware that my ministry background is in administering Christian education and youth ministry programs. Before coming to Mount Olive, I served in these areas at three other congregations. One of these congregations was in Columbia Heights, MN. In that role, I worked with a wonderfully diverse group of young people. We had immigrants from Liberia and Sudan along with young people from north Minneapolis and many of the north suburbs all involved in our youth ministry programs. While I served there, one of our young people committed a pretty serious crime. He was caught and arrested. He was guilty, a fact he admitted. He entered a guilty plea with the court and faced sentencing. As someone who knew this young man well, I was asked to testify on his behalf at the sentencing hearing. Among other things I shared with the court, I stated that this young man needed treatment, not punishment. He was a young man who was good when around others who encouraged him to act in positive ways; he was bad when around those who encouraged negative behavior. He needed guidance and support in building his confidence in who he

was, not punishment for this incident. The judge agreed and sentenced him to detention at a juvenile detention facility that was focused much more on treatment and education than punishment and that was a great thing for this young man. While in detention, he received his high school diploma and was able to obtain some college credits. When he was released, he continued his college studies and worked hard to break with his past.

In many ways, the story of this young man mirrors the story of Onesimus, from this week's epistle reading. Onesimus was a slave. He ran away from his owner, which at the time, was an illegal act, punishable by imprisonment. Somehow, while he himself was imprisoned, Paul has the opportunity to build a relationship with Onesimus, and as Paul says, he became "useful." In fact, the name Onesimus, perhaps in a bit of parental foreshadowing, means "useful." In this letter, Paul pleads for Philemon, Onesimus' owner, to take Onesimus back, "no longer as a slave but more than a slave, a beloved brother."

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Adult Forums for September

See brochures in the Chapel Lounge for detailed information about these forums.

September 8 – “Women Hymn Writers, Past to Present,” presented by Susan Palo Cherwien

September 15 – “Bright Stars of Bethlehem,” presented by Jo Lucas, Bright Star area coordinator

September 22 - TBA

September 29 - ELCA Statement on “Faith, Sexism, and Justice,” presented by Vicar Bristol Reading

Sanctuary Church

At the recent church wide assembly, the ELCA passed a resolution designating itself as a “Sanctuary Church.” What does this mean? Click on the link below to access a Q and A for more information.

https://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/ELCA_SanctuaryDenomination_TalkingPoints.pdf .

Accent on Worship, *continued from page 1*

We certainly will have many opportunities do do the same for others as Paul did for Onesimus. Every day, there are people who walk into our lives who have histories. Histories filled with things they would rather put behind them. And every day, we have the opportunity to offer a new start, to offer forgiveness, to offer reconciliation, and to encourage others to do the same. We have the chance to offer people the ability to be who God has called them to be, to use their God given gifts to be useful again.

- Jim Bargmann

Regular Worship Schedule Resumes This Sunday

Beginning this Sunday, September 8, we will resume our regular schedule of two liturgies each Sunday morning, at 8:00 and 10:45 a.m., with education for children and adults between the services beginning at 9:30.

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 September 14 meeting they will read *Anil's Ghost* by Michael Ondaatje, and for October 12, *Beloved*, by Toni Morrison.

Chancel Dusting and Polishing Day

The Altar Guild is hosting a chancel-cleaning event **this Saturday, September 7**, beginning at 9:00 a.m. until about noon. Come when you can; stay for as long as you like.

Questions? Contact Beth Gaede (bethgaede@comcast.com).

The Olive Branch

Calendar

Wednesday, September 4

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

Saturday, September 7

- 9:00 am Chancel cleaning
11:00 am Diaper Depot open
Noon Community Meal
1-3 pm Prayer Shawl group meets at Blackeye Roasting

Sunday, September 8 - Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost, 23C

- 8:00 am Holy Eucharist
9:30 am Sunday Church School / Adult Forum
10:45 am Holy Eucharist
6:45 pm Mount Olive serves Our Saviour's meal

Monday, September 9

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

Tuesday, September 10

- Noon Bible Study
4-6 pm Diaper Depot open

Krisis of Faith? Thursday Bible Study Begins Sept. 21

John's Gospel has perplexing questions about judgment and grace. Sometimes it seems as if God's grace in Christ is for all; other times it seems to have an exclusive turn. The Greek word *krisis* means "judgment," and that word and related forms occurs throughout John. In the first Thursday Bible study series of this year Pr. Crippen will lead an exploration of what judgment and grace means in John.

The study begins on Thursday, Sept. 19, and will end on Oct. 24. Meeting in the Chapel Lounge from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., there will be our usual light supper when we begin. If anyone wishes to provide the first meal, please let Pr. Crippen know.

All are welcome to this study opportunity!

Mount Olive Music and Fine Arts New Series

The 2019-20 series has been set and once again includes quite a variety of musical/artistic experiences - something for everyone!

Mount Olive offers these events to the greater community free of charge and you are invited to be a part of that effort through your financial support.

A committee representative will be in the Narthex to receive pledges and donations on September 22 and 29 before and after the morning Eucharist.

Mount Olive Cantorei Wants YOU!

Cantorei rehearsals begin this year on Wednesday, September 4 (TODAY!), with an overview and brief rehearsal, followed by a dessert potluck. Bring a dessert to share!

Interested in singing in Cantorei this year? Come on along - all are welcome.

- Cantor David Cherwien

Every Church A Peace Church - Twin Cities

The next regular bimonthly potluck supper meeting will be on Monday, September 16, 6:30 p.m., at St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church, 4537 3rd Ave. S., Minneapolis.

The topic for this program is "The Underlying Cause of the Iranian/US Conflict: Facts and Fictions," presented by Nasrin Jewell, professor emeritus at St. Catherine University. She has taught and written about issues related to women, the world economic order, poverty and unequal distribution of income, transnational corporations, and the Middle East.

Program description: Iran has a well-understood geopolitical and economic importance for the U.S., the Middle East, and the world. Nasrin will discuss the historical reasons behind the mistrust, and the current situation from the point of view of the Iranians, including her own first hand observations from her visits to Iran. She will also discuss how the U.S. government's actions, based on false irrational and dangerous propaganda, are having devastating impacts on Iran.

An Update and Thanks

Dear family in Christ, thank you so much for your prayers and concern over the past few weeks as news of Mary's cancer diagnosis has spread. We've been letting people know and hoping the news got around, and it has, a little. But some of you aren't on social media (nor am I), and may not have caught on to it in other ways, either. So I thought a brief report might be helpful.

Here it is. Mary has non-Hodgkin lymphoma, the follicular type. It's stage 2, and we're very hopeful for remission. However, it does have a tendency to recur, so this will be a long journey. She started her first of a planned six cycles of chemo - and immunotherapy last Friday. That could be shorter or longer, depending on how the cancer reacts. She did better than expected in dealing with the treatment days, and has had some side-effects, but so far not as bad as they could be. (Says the person who didn't have chemicals sent through his veins!)

Your prayers and support are already happening, and we covet that going forward. Thank you all for your kindness and grace!

In peace, Pr. Crippen

Holy Cross Day

Saturday,

September 14

Holy Eucharist

at 7:00 pm

All are welcome.

Longer Table Lending Seeks Administrator

Longer Table Lending is hiring for its Administrator position.

Check out details on the Mount Olive website. More information to come. Spread the word!

Olive Branch Publication

With this issue, *The Olive Branch* returns to weekly publication. If you have information to be published, please note that the deadline is on Mondays. *The Olive Branch* is generally published on Wednesday mornings, and is always available for viewing on the church website.

Global Climate Strike

September 20, 11:30am - 2:00pm

For the last year young people have been staging school strikes on climate change around the world, including in Minnesota. On Friday September 20, at the request of our youth, people of all ages and around the world will be walking out of our workplaces and homes to demand action on climate change.

The day will begin at St. Paul College at 11:30, with a march to the State Capitol lawn for a rally. To change everything, we need everyone joining together to stop "business as usual" and demand that our leaders take action. This will kick off a week of climate action all over the world. Mount Olive is a Partner congregation with MN Interfaith Power and Light (MNIPL) who is joining many organizations to plan events throughout Minnesota. MNIPL's mission statement is: "Work to build the interfaith climate movement in Minnesota by empowering faith communities across the state to take action that is authentic, effective, and energizing in their context."

Plan to take the day off if you can and invite a friend! You don't want to miss this powerful day!

Visit the Minnesota Interfaith Power & Light website at mnipl.org for more details on the week of action!

New Members to be Received September 15

Mount Olive will receive new members on Sunday, September 15, at the 10:45 liturgy. If you are interested in becoming a member of Mount Olive, please speak to Pr. Crippen or contact the church office.

All Are Invited to Welcome These New Siblings!

Please join our new members for a welcome brunch on Sunday, September 15 after the 10:45 liturgy in the Undercroft. It's a great way to welcome them to life at Mount Olive. Food and beverages provided - you bring the conversation!

News From the Neighborhood

Diaper Depot Help Needed

We are looking to expand our volunteer corps for the Diaper Depot.

We are one of a very few organizations that provide young families with low-cost diapers for their little ones. As word has spread, we have seen a significant increase in the number of families we serve.

With this increase, the number of diapers we need to process on a weekly basis has increased significantly, and the need for more workers is apparent.

There are two ways you can be of service in the Diaper Depot.

First, we are looking for volunteers to pack diapers. Our current volunteers often pack diapers on Tuesdays during the day, either before or after noon Bible study.

Second, we are looking for more people to work the hours the Diaper Depot is open, 4:00 to 6:00 pm on Tuesdays and on the first and third Saturdays (the same weeks as the Community Meal), 11:00 am to 1:00 pm. Volunteers working the Diaper Depot will help our clients by packing up the needed diapers, checking out their purchases, and registering new clients.

For both roles, training would be provided and volunteer will be put on a rotating schedule with other volunteers. Time commitment is flexible - volunteers could serve once a week or once a month or any amount of time in between.

Anyone interested should contact Coordinator of Neighborhood Ministry, Jim Bargmann at neighborhood@mountolivechurch.org.

Powderhorn Porchfest Music Festival: Saturday, September 21

Volunteers Needed!

The Powderhorn Park Neighborhood Association is one of our key partners in Neighborhood Ministry, working with us to advocate for a stronger, safer, more secure neighborhood for all who call this part of South Minneapolis home.

Throughout the year, they plan several major arts events for our community. Powderhorn Porchfest, a "day-long.... family-friendly showcase of amazing local musicians who contribute to the eclectic and welcoming vibe Powderhorn is known for," is one of those events. Over 2,000 people from around the Twin Cities are expected to attend and Powderhorn Park Neighborhood Association is asking Mount Olive members volunteer as Peace Officers. These volunteers will assist with crowd control and monitor access to the festival along the bordering streets.

They are looking for volunteers to cover three-hour shifts on the day of the event, 3:30 pm - 6:30 pm, 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm, and 8:30 pm - 11:30 pm. This last shift will also help with clean up.

Event Details

Date: Saturday, September 21

Time: 4:00 pm - 10:00 pm

Location: 3200 - 3400 blocks along 17th Avenue South

All volunteers will receive a free t-shirt and will enjoy the music when they don't have other responsibilities. Please contact Jim Bargmann, neighborhood@mountolivechurch.org, by September 9 to volunteer.

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.*

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