

The Olive Branch

February 12, 2020

Sunday Readings

A publication of Mount Olive Lutheran Church, Minneapolis, Minnesota

February 16, 2020

6th Sunday after Epiphany

Deuteronomy 30:15-20

Psalms 119:1-8

1 Corinthians 3:1-9

Matthew 5:[17-20] 21-37

February 23, 2020

Transfiguration of Our Lord

Exodus 24:12-18

Psalms 2

2 Peter 1:16-21

Matthew 17:1-7

Lent Begins Soon!

Ash Wednesday

February 26, 2020

Holy Eucharist at
Noon and 7:00 pm

All are welcome.

Accent on Worship

Cantor David Cherwien

Cantor's Sabbatical: March 2 - May 31, 2020

My letter of Call as Cantor includes a stipulation: "After each 6 years of service to Mount Olive, a three-month sabbatical leave for the purpose of professional study, renewal, and enrichment" will be granted. In August of 2019 I became eligible for the third of these sabbatical leaves, following 18 years of service. I have chosen a stretch of time to maximize my experiential learning, the Lent and Easter Seasons of 2020. The Vestry has been constantly informed of the plans, and arrangements for an interim Cantor were made one year ago.

What will I be doing? While formal studies are often steeped in research and reading, I've learned of myself that the greatest impact for me comes from experiences themselves. Indeed, my first Sabbatical leave in 2007 took me to New York City for the Triduum where I had life-changing experiences at St. Thomas Episcopal Church, and St. Peter's Lutheran Church Manhattan. Materials from those liturgies have become part of our repertoire at Mount Olive, such as the Reproaches on Good Friday.

This time, in early Lent, I will have experiences in Rome, Italy, with a University Professor of Religious Studies (a good friend of ours) who will lead a small group of us through Rome and its religious history. That trip will be followed by a week at a Navajo Reservation in Arizona made possible by a grant to help notate indigenous Navajo-language (music and text) songs for use in Christian worship by Navajo people. Following that trip I will return to Europe, spending the Triduum in Paris - mostly looking forward to experiencing perhaps more than one "Stations of the Cross" on Good Friday with ample organ

Accent on Worship, *continued from page 1*

improvisation work – a Parisian Roman Catholic tradition. I will mostly be at the church of St. Eustache – which has become my favorite with regard to liturgy and organ playing in past trips.

The weekend following Easter I will travel to Kiev, Ukraine to join with Orthodox liturgies for their Good Friday and Easter, or Pascha, which this year follow one week after ours. I have received very helpful advice from two Ukrainian professors, one at St. Thomas here in the St. Paul, and the other a professor at Valparaiso. They have helped me identify three parishes I can join for these liturgies, and perhaps more. I am very much looking forward to these liturgical experiences –very similar to ours, yet quite different!

The month of May will be a time of rest – with some family visits not normally possible.

I am grateful for this time, and for some financial assistance to accomplish this very ambitious travelling through the Cantor's Development fund. I found my first two sabbaticals very refreshing and invigorating, and wish everyone could have such a gift no matter what one does "for a living." For this granted me, I give thanks to God and to you.

- Cantor David Cherwien

Ushers Needed - Can You Help?

Might you be interested in greeting newcomers and old members alike? Might you enjoy serving in a new capacity? Might you enjoy ushering the members to the Eucharist? Might you be interested in learning the names of members as they come and go? Might you be interested in monitoring the building entrances to ensure security during the services? Might you enjoy carrying the gifts to the altar? If any of these things sound appealing to you, then you might just wish to become a Mount Olive Usher!!

Volunteers are needed! If you can help, please let Brian Jacobs know at 612-251-5942 by text or voice mail, or at brianjac1@aol.com. Currently, there is a need for ushers at both the early and late services as well as special services mid-week at noon and in the evenings. We'd love to welcome you to the usher corps and will be happy to get you trained and ready for the 2nd quarter schedule!

New Members to be Received This Sunday

New members will be received into membership at Mount Olive at the 10:45 liturgy this Sunday, February 16. If you are interested in becoming a member of this faith community, please contact Pr. Crippen or Vicar Reading.

Neighborhood Ministries Partner of the Month: February

Walk-In Counseling Center

See complete information about the Walk-In Counseling Center in the February 5 issue of *The Olive Branch*, posted on the kiosk in the West Assembly Area, or by visiting <https://walkin.org/>.

Thank You, Bakers!

Thank you to the people who baked cupcakes for the reception following the Angelica Cantanti concert: Carol Austermann, Elaine Halbardier, Dan Hellerich, Gail Nielsen, Sandra Pranschke, and Marge Shifflet. Since the choir cancelled due to the winter storm, the cupcakes fed the residents at Our Savior's housing.

Calendar

Wednesday, February 12

- 10:00 am Staff meeting
5:30 pm Neighborhood Ministries Comm. meeting
5:30 pm Children's Choir supper
6:00 pm Children's Choir rehearsals
7:00 pm Y2 Confirmation
7:00 pm Cantorei rehearsal
8:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous

Saturday, February 15

- 10:00 am Music & Fine Arts Committee meeting
11:00 am Diaper Depot
Noon Community Meal

Sunday, February 16 - 6th Sunday after Epiphany

- 8:00 am *Holy Eucharist*
9:30 am Sunday Church School / Adult Forum
10:45 am *Holy Eucharist, with Reception of New Members*
12:45 pm Y4 Confirmation

Monday, February 17

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

Tuesday, February 18

- Noon Bible Study
4-8 pm Diaper Depot
7:00 pm Housing Task Force meeting
7:00 pm National Lutheran Choir rehearsal

Wednesday, February 19

- 10:00 am Staff meeting
5:30 pm Children's Choir supper
6:00 pm Children's Choir rehearsals
7:00 pm Y2 Confirmation
7:00 pm Cantorei rehearsal
8:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous

Book Discussion

On March 14, the Book Discussion group will discuss, *Olive Kitteridge* by Elizabeth Strout.

This group meets every second Saturday of the month at 10:00 am. All readers welcome!

Night Songs

University Lutheran Church of Hope, 601 13th Ave. SE, Minneapolis
February 13, 7-8 pm

Gather with us in the darkened sanctuary under stunning projections of the night sky in the rafters. This 60-minute program weaves together music, poetry, and cosmic imagery. This year's program brings in themes of climate justice and human impact on the earth and our surroundings. Featuring music from Hope Choir, a mass choir comprised of local singers and friends, a string quartet from the U, and U of M a cappella group VocalU.

This is a free, family-friendly event. A free-will offering will be collected at the door to benefit Interfaith Power & Light. Seating is provided, but there will also be open space for those who want to bring pillows and blankets to sit/lie on the floor.

Upcoming Adult Forums

February 16: “Affordable Housing and Mount Olive,” presented by Jim Bargmann, Coordinator of Neighborhood Ministries

There is a shortage of affordable housing in the Twin Cities metro area. Mount Olive has established a housing task force to explore how we can make an impact in on the shortage of housing in our area. This forum will look at the housing shortage in the Twin Cities and share the multiple ways Mount Olive and other church bodies are working to make a positive impact in our community in the area of housing accessibility and affordability.

February 23: *To be announced*

A Message on Immigration and Travel Ban from Bishop Eaton

Last Wednesday, Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton shared a pastoral letter with the ELCA in response to the announced expansion of the federal travel ban. As we consider being salt and light in the world, as Jesus has declared we are (last Sunday’s Gospel), this is worthy of our attention. Here is a link to a pdf of Bishop Eaton’s statement.

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

National Lutheran Choir Winter Concert: So Much to Sing About!

We sing because there is so much to sing about, and singing is the deepest way to embody the sacred story we share. We sing hymns of praise, psalms of unity and adoration, laments of sorrow, refrains of joy, and more. Join the National Lutheran Choir and Artistic Director David Cherwien for an eclectic program featuring choral works by Felix Mendelssohn, Ola Gjeilo, and Ralph Vaughan Williams set alongside new arrangements of familiar tunes, including Kenneth Dake’s “Sweet Hour of Prayer.” All will be invited to join in the singing of hymns – one of the great treasures of the church.

THIS Sunday, February 16 @ 4pm
St. Philip the Deacon Lutheran Church
17205 County Road 6, Plymouth, MN 55447

Tickets: Adults and Seniors \$28 | Students and Children FREE | Discounts available for groups of 10 or more. For tickets and more information, please visit NLCA.com or call (612) 722-2301



Construction Begins!!

Construction has begun in Batlagundu on the new Shalom Home for Girls. The girls are SO excited! Funds are still needed to complete the project, but the foundation is being dug. The project is now under \$100,000 that is needed. If you would like to donate to help complete the project, click on the button below and choose Shalom Home in the Designation drop-down box.



These are the girls of Shalom Home who are patiently waiting to move into a larger and more livable space. The current home is not up to the government standards and officials are frequently checking the progress of the move. The new home will have dorm style bedrooms for eight girls with a bath for every room. This will be a huge improvement over current conditions! There will be outdoor space as well, a large gathering room, a library, and study space. May construction go quickly!



India Visit

Our U.S. Board of Directors President, Kate Teece, visited India in November with her husband, Scott, and a contingent from Mount Olive Lutheran Church-Minnesota. Here is their visit to Mabel's Day Care Center.



A Look Back...

Here is a final shot of Christmas in India program with all the Day Care/After School Centers in Kodaikanal coming together for their joint celebration. This is done at the Kodaikanal International School gymnasium.





Introducing Our Interim Cantor ...

Cantor David Cherwien will be on sabbatical from March 2 – May 31, 2020. During that time, Chad Fothergill will serve as Mount Olive’s Interim Cantor.

Chad Fothergill received degrees in organ performance from Gustavus Adolphus College and the University of Iowa where he studied with David Fiene and Delbert Disselhorst. He is a doctoral candidate in musicology at Temple University, Philadelphia, where his dissertation research examines the role of the Lutheran cantor from the Reformation through the time of J. S. Bach.

He is editor of the Association of Lutheran Church Musicians (ALCM) journal, *CrossAccent*, serves on the advisory council for the Institute of Liturgical Studies, and has contributed – as both writer and composer – to several Lutheran worship resources including *Sundays and Seasons*, *Living Lutheran*, *Reformation 500 Sourcebook*, *Augsburg Chorale Book*, *Music Sourcebook for Life Passages*, and the Prelude Music Planner blog. At the invitation of Augsburg Fortress, he is presently writing *Sing with all the People of God: A Handbook for Church Musicians*. Recent commissions include choral and orchestral hymn settings for Gustavus Adolphus College (2018) and Duke University Chapel (2019).

Chad has served on faculties at Gustavus Adolphus College (2009–12), the University of Delaware (2013–15), and the Lutheran Summer Music Academy and Festival (2018–), teaching courses in music history, music theory, organ, and church music. As cantor, he has served congregations throughout the midwest and mid-Atlantic in full-time, part-time, interim, and supply capacities, and has presented solo recitals, lecture-recitals, hymn festivals, keynotes, workshops, and papers at gatherings of, among others, the: American Guild of Organists; ALCM; Evangelical Lutheran Church in America; Haydn Society of North America; National Worship Conference of the Evangelical Lutheran and Anglican Churches of Canada; North American Conference on Nineteenth-Century Music; Society for Christian Scholarship in Music; and the Vi Messerli Memorial Lectures in Church Music.

He currently resides in Birmingham, Alabama.



MOUNT OLIVE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Musical, Liturgical, Welcoming

3045 Chicago Ave. S.
Minneapolis, MN 55407-1595

612/827-5919, fax 612/827-4557
www.mountolivechurch.org

Joseph Crippen, *Pastor*
David Cherwien, *Cantor*

11 February 2020

Dear Mount Olive Members,

Thank you all for being a light shining in the darkness allowing others to see hope!

Together, our sharing of our time, talent and treasure has made a tremendous impact within our community. Through our service and commitment to being a welcoming and hospitable church, we throw open the doors, inviting all those around us to be part of our family and to know Jesus' grace. We would like to recognize your generosity and graciousness and say how grateful we are to be part of the Mount Olive Family. Thank you!

We ended 2019 in a strong financial position. After paying all expenses and accounting for our 12% tithe, we have an approximate surplus of \$6,300. We saw a 13% increase in giving. What reasons to celebrate!

Additionally, we would like to say a heartfelt thank you to all who so graciously practiced your sexton skills at the end of the year. We are so grateful for your time and energy as you pitched in to care for the Mount Olive facilities and worship spaces. Your commitment in service to us all also gave James time to recover from his accident. A special thanks to Andrew Andersen, Carol Martinson, Steve Manuel, Larry Duncan, Rachel Muerett, Donn McLellan, Mark Kausch, JoEllen Kloehn, Margaret Gohman, John Crippen, Mark Pipkorn, Paul Nixdorf, Elaine Halbardier, Bob Lee, Jim Johnson, Judy Johnson, and Walt Hinck.

Jesus has called us to follow. We answer his call in many ways here at Mount Olive as well as beyond our doors. Thank you for your prayers, intentionality and thoughtfulness as we continue to share and steward the resources with which we are so abundantly blessed.

With Gratitude,

Gretchen Campbell-Johnson
President

Doug Parish
Treasurer

Consuelo Gutierrez-Crosby
Director of Stewardship

Mount Olive Lutheran Church

3045 Chicago Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55407

*A congregation of the Evangelical
Lutheran Church in America*

Sunday Eucharist:

8:00 & 10:45 am

Contact Us

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Web: www.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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