

The Olive Branch



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SUNDAY READINGS

Sunday, October 4

Exodus 20:1-4, 7-8, 12-20
 Psalm 19
 Philippians 3:4b-14
 Matthew 21:33-46

Sunday, October 11

Exodus 32:1-14
 Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23
 Philippians 4:1-9
 Matthew 22:1-14

At this time, all worship services and activities are being conducted online, not by gathering, in the interests of the health of our members, our neighborhood, and the world around us.

Accent on Worship

Pastor Joseph Crippen

Blessing the Animals, Drive-through

For many years, Mount Olive has celebrated the feast day of St. Francis of Assisi (Oct. 4) with a liturgy giving thanks for and blessing the animals and creatures God has made. This year we can't do a corporate liturgy in the nave as we're accustomed to, obviously. But we can definitely bless God's creatures in our care.

Recently we moved the celebration of the day to the nearest Sunday. This year, Sunday happens to be the day itself, October 4. From 3:00 p.m. until 4:00 p.m., all are invited to drive through the south parking lot with any animals they wish to have blessed. People will remain in their cars, unless it's necessary to access the animal that way.

The important thing for a safe and effective drive-through is that all approach Mount Olive from from 10th Avenue (coming from the East, not from Chicago Ave.), and then turn on 32nd Street. Turn right, North, into the alley that goes alongside the south parking lot from 32nd Street and approach the south parking lot through the alley. Someone will be at the alley entrance to direct you. Please do not try to approach from Chicago, or 31st St. We don't want to block those city streets with a line of cars. Cars will then exit onto Chicago Avenue from the parking lot, with someone to help watch traffic.

Come, and let us pray God's blessings on these animals that bring us a vision of God's own love – unmerited joy and grace!

*In the presence
of God.
Being the presence
of God.*

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Wed., Sept 30

10 am – Staff meeting
5 pm – Y2 Confirmation
5:30 pm – Children's Choir
6:30 pm – Y3 Confirmation

Thur., Oct. 1

9:30 am – Time in the Nave
6 pm – Thursday Bible Study

Sun., Oct. 4

7 am – Worship at a Distance
9 am – Virtual Coffee Hour

Tues., Oct. 6

Noon – Bible Study
2:30 pm – Time in the Nave

Wed., Oct. 7

10 am – Staff meeting
5 pm – Y2 Confirmation
5:30 pm – Children's Choir
6:30 pm – Y3 Confirmation

Music and Fine Arts Event: Livestreamed on YouTube

Mount Olive Music and Fine Arts: Pandemic-tide Edition!

Sunday October 25, 4:00 pm: Organ Recital, livestream on the Mount Olive YouTube Channel: Catheryn Rodland, Organist (St Olaf College), playing the 55-rank Schlicker Organ at Mount Olive Lutheran Church.

Mount Olive's Music and Fine Arts series will still happen! No, we cannot gather here to hear/see it live yet, but you can see and hear it from your home through Mount Olive's YouTube Channel. The program will include:

Praeludium in F Fanny Mendelssohn Hensel
Settings of *Ein Fest Burg* - various composers
Bach Prelude and Fugue in Eb (St. Anne)
Mendelssohn *Sonata III* (all)
Two Spiritual Settings by Adolphus Hailstork, *Deep River, Great Day*
Scherzo and Finale of Vierne's *Sixth Symphony for Organ 6*

Mark your calendars, create your at-home reception for yourself to sit down and enjoy during the program!

Watch for additional program offerings in February and April - whether live, or livestream, They're on!

February 7, 2021: Lumina (women's ensemble)

April 18, 2021: OK Factor



Singers of the Cantorei record the anthem and Psalm for Sunday September 27. We yearn for the day when the Nave can once again be full on the main level, and the full choir back together in the rear balcony!

Stewardship Reminder

Thank you everyone for your compassion and commitment to Mount Olive. We want to make the process of supporting our church financially easy and convenient for everyone. If you are okay with the delay in the deposit posting to your account, please feel free to continue sending your offering via US mail. If you would like, we have alternative methods for giving that you may want to consider:

- **Bill Pay:** You can set up a regular offering through your bank by calling and talking to someone or by logging in online. You tell your bank how much to send, how often and they will electronically transfer the amount. This service is most often free of charge and already used by many at Mount Olive.

- **Electronic Funds Transfer:** Set up a regular deduction from your bank account through the church's existing account with Vanco Services. Contact the church office to set this up and a form will be mailed or emailed to you. Complete the form and send it back to the church office either by US mail or via email.

- **Mount Olive Website:** You can donate by credit card through the church website. Visit our site www.mountolivechurch.org, go the very bottom of the home page and a "Donate" link is on the left. This method is good for one-time donations rather than recurring donations as the fees charged to Mount Olive per transaction are higher than the other two methods.

A Note of Clarification

During this time when we are not together for worship, offerings which arrive in the church office by mail are being counted **on a monthly basis** (not weekly).

Please keep this in mind as you balance your checkbooks. It might take up to 3 weeks for your check to clear the bank.

Semi-Annual Meeting

The October semi-annual Congregation Meeting for 2020 will be held virtually during the morning of **Sunday, October 25**. The primary agenda item will be discussion of Mount Olive's 2021 budget.

Additional information, including specific agenda, budget materials, and instructions for accessing the meeting online will be sent out closer to the time of the meeting. Please plan to attend to hear and join in the discussion. It will be good to "see" everyone online!

Thursday Bible Study Continues

"How Can I Keep From Grieving"

In the first Thursday Bible study series of this year Vicar Bonneville is leading a conversation about how we experience and witness to grief happening all around us. Throughout the Bible, we hear narratives of individuals and communities who are grieving or have experienced grief.

How do we connect with these narratives? What do these narratives tell us about our own grief and our collective grief? How is God communicating to us and with us? How are we communicating with God? Although individual story sharing may be an aspect of our conversation, this study is intended to look deeply at grief as a communal emotion and experience. Pastoral care is always available for continued conversation and support.

The study continues through Oct. 29, meeting through GoToMeeting from 6:00 - 7:30PM. Come as you are.

Thursday Night Bible Study link:

By computer/tablet: <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/342516141>

By phone: 1 877 309 2073 Access Code for phone: 342-516-141.

Neighborhood Ministry Update

Jim Bargmann

Thursday Supplies Distribution

Beginning on October 8 (yes, a Thursday!) we will launch a new way to provide some of the most needed items to our community - laundry soap, cleaning supplies, and personal care items.

The volunteer sign up and donation list at Target will have been updated to reflect this change. Yes, we still need you!

Volunteers Needed

We can always use more volunteers help set up, assist our neighbors in getting what they need, and clean up. The more we have, the lighter the work for all. To sign up, visit: <https://tinyurl.com/y5yx7j6a>

Donations Needed

If you are able to donate cleaning supplies or personal care items, there are two ways you can do so.

1. Buy whatever you would like to donate and bring it to Mount Olive between 8:00 - 9:00 am on Thursdays.
2. Order items from Target that will then be shipped directly to Mount Olive. We have set up a Target wish list with items commonly needed or requested by our neighbors. If you wish to donate some of these items, simply click on this link and order the items you wish to donate.

To order: <http://tgt.gifts/MountOliveLutheranGroceries>

Advocacy Work

In an important time for governmental policy and leadership, the Mount Olive Neighborhood Committee is renewing its advocacy work on behalf of issues that align with our work in our community including but certainly not limited to racial justice, criminal justice reform, housing, and food security.

Kathy Kruger is currently working on multiple advocacy issues related to housing with our neighborhood ministry partner, Align MPLS. If you are interested in joining her, the team meets once a month. Contact Kathy (kathleenkruger13@yahoo.com) for more information.

Prayer Times (for individuals) in the Nave

These have been hard times for many, and in our congregation, missing coming into church, the silence, the peace, with the windows and carvings and the beauty that has led us deeper into God's presence, has been a huge absence. We can't worship together in our nave yet, but during this time the nave will be opened at set times for a limited number of people to come and pray, meditate, contemplate.

On Tuesdays and Thursdays, the nave will be opened for personal prayer time. There is a limit of 10 people permitted in there at a time, and a host in the narthex will welcome and guide all through the COVID plan Mount Olive has established.

Please enter through the north and south narthex doors only (main doors facing Chicago are being repaired), and, except for use of the bathrooms, please stay out of the rest of the building, to ensure safety of all. Everyone who comes will be asked to answer a list of health questions – the usual that you may have encountered in other places. All are required to say that you haven't had a recent fever, cough, shortness of breath, loss of smell, etc., and sign in. (If mobility prevents you from entering via the narthex, please contact the church office and you'll be able to come through the north door and the elevator. All COVID protocols still apply.)

All are required to wear masks securely covering both the mouth and the nose, and keep at least 10 feet apart from anyone else in the nave.

Times and availability of the nave can be adjusted as need seems to arise.

Healthy hosts are needed to sit in the narthex for these times and ensure that those who come follow Mount Olive's COVID plan. If you'd be willing to host, please contact Tom Olsen, who is going to be keeping a schedule.

Book Discussion Group

The Mount Olive Book Discussion group will meet virtually on the second Saturday of each month until we can meet again in person.

The October book (October 10, 10 am) will be *Arrowsmith*, by Sinclair Lewis, and the November 14 book is *A Separate Peace*, by John Knowles.

We will use the GoToMeeting platform. Just click on the link below. If you prefer, you may join by phone.

Join the discussion from your computer, tablet or smartphone:
<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/998208989>

You can also dial in using your phone.
 United States (Toll Free): 1 866 899 4679
 United States: +1 (571) 317-3116

Access Code: 998-208-989

Regular link to the Tuesday Noon Bible Study: copy and keep

The link for the Tuesday noon Bible study will be the same every week. Copy this text and print it off or keep it on your desk for easy reference each week.

To join from your computer, tablet or smartphone:

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/179693565>

You can also dial in using your phone:
 United States: +1 (646) 749-3112

Access Code: 179-693-565

New to GoToMeeting? Get the app now and be ready when your first meeting starts:

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/install/179693565>

Our Partners in Chile

If you get updates from ELCA World Hunger, perhaps you noticed that our partners in Chile, EPES and Karen Anderson, were featured for their work during this time of Covid-19. Here is part of that letter:

"When she (Maggie, one of the EPES health promoters) first learned that EPES wanted to run a gardening workshop this spring, she found the idea a bit laughable. Maggie lives in the El Bosque neighborhood, where there are few trees and no green grassy areas...This spring, as the Covid-19 pandemic hit, EPES hosted online workshops on how to start home vegetable gardens, bake sourdough bread and more. At a time of rising unemployment and increasing challenges in accessing food, these workshops gave participants the knowledge needed to start their own gardens and increase their access to healthy food. Two months after these workshops, arugula, chard and spinach were thriving along the 6-foot walkway to the front door of Maggie's house...fresh, nutrient-dense vegetables to eat...That is just one example of how EPES is working to change the food system in Chile...Maggie and the other health promoters are so enthusiastic about their new gardens that, when the lockdown ends, they plan to start community gardens outside a family care clinic, by a neighborhood community center and at other locations in El Bosque."

This is the work that you support through our Missions budget. You can add additional support through your blue missions envelopes.

Rest in Peace

Our brother, Daniel Adams, has died, and we commend him to the eternal love of the Triune God. Dan died this morning, September 28.

A liturgy for the family only will be held at a time to be decided. When the date and time are known, we will inform the congregation and invite all to pray for Dan at that time.

With hope and confidence in Christ's victory over death, we hold Julia and all of the Adams family in our prayers.

*Rest eternal grant him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine on him.
May Dan and all the blessed dead, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.*

Women of Color Need Shelter

A shelter for women of color is hanging in the balance. Your phone call or email can make a really big difference in this happening.

- In 2019, Hennepin County decided that it needed to establish an emergency shelter for women of color and identified an unused facility in the Willard-Hay neighborhood for that purpose, and secured funding for its renovation.
- Some members of the community surrounding the unused facility felt that a youth center was a more appropriate use for the building, and strongly opposed the proposal. This caused Hennepin County to abandon its plans for the facility.
- Remind Hennepin County of its stated commitment to expand its emergency shelter strategy by opening several small-scale culturally specific, 24/7 shelters.
- Women in need of emergency shelter, especially those of color are still being re-victimized by their insecure situations on the streets.

Please consider contacting to the Hennepin County Commissioner representing your area via email or phone about this issue.



Mount Olive Lutheran Church

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Lutheran Church in America*

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Pastor – [Joseph Crippen](#)

Cantor – [David Chernien](#)

Vicar – [Andrea Bonneville](#)

Coordinator of Neighborhood

Ministries - [Jim Barymann](#)

Administrative Assistant – [Cha Posz](#)

Sexton – [James Wilkes](#)

Virtual Coffee Hour

Join fellow Mount Olive friends and members for an hour of physically-distanced socializing! There will be weekly video chat meetings using Google Meet every Sunday from 9-10 am. You can join by video on a smartphone or computer, or you can join by phone to participate in the informal conversations. It has been wonderful to see familiar faces, catch up with each other, and get to know Vicar Bonneville.

There will be four meeting rooms, and you can feel free to move between them to mingle with others as you'd like. The meeting links are below (the names of the snacks are just for fun-- join whichever one you'd like), and more detailed instructions about how to join will come out later this week in a TWIG.

Coffee / Tea * <https://meet.google.com/snm-zssf-dni>

(US) +1 407-545-7381 / PIN: 641 572 935#

Summer Sausage & Cheese* <https://meet.google.com/act-expn-hat>

(US) +1 402-509-7747 / PIN: 151 809 692#

Cupcakes & Cookies * <https://meet.google.com/vep-nyof-fzz>

(US) +1 216-930-8951 / PIN: 766 845 823#

Fruit Tray <https://meet.google.com/fdj-kzbn-qhf>

(US) +1 929-324-2312 / PIN: 990 071 513#

** indicates rooms hosted by those who can offer extra help to participants*