



The Olive Branch

Accent on Worship

Pastor Joseph Crippen

Expect it; name it

What would happen if we really expected what the Bible says about the Holy Spirit and looked for signs of that in our lives? From the creation, when the Spirit of God moved over the waters, God's Spirit has been messing around in the creation, doing wonderful things. Scripture says the Spirit of the Triune God is moving in us and in this world constantly, regularly, doing things that amaze, things that give life. Sunday's celebration of Pentecost is just one moment among millions, billions.

We have already seen this in our lives, I'm convinced. Somehow, we hesitate to name it when we sense that God's gracious Spirit is moving in our world or in our lives. But on that day of Pentecost, when the Spirit poured out on the believers and thousands came to faith, someone named what was happening. Someone said, "these people aren't drunk, they're filled with the Spirit." Someone said, "that's not a great wind we hear, that's God at work." Someone said, "this is God coming to us and filling us with life that we might bear God's resurrection life and love to the world." They saw the Spirit alive and named what they saw.

In the naming of God's action and life in the world where we see the Spirit working, God's presence becomes real not only to us but to those we tell. Who knows how many will come to deeper faith because of our witness?

In peace,

SUNDAY READINGS

Sunday, May 23 *Day of Pentecost*

Acts 2:1-21

Psalm 104:24-34, 35b

Romans 8:22-27

John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15

Sunday, May 30 *The Holy Trinity*

Isaiah 6:1-8

Psalm 29

Romans 8:12-17

John 3:1-17

We're still working on many of the details, but the Vestry has decided to move toward **meeting in person for worship starting on June 6.**

A letter from the Vestry is being prepared which will have a lot of the details, and you can expect that soon. Other important communications will follow, so please keep your eyes on your email and regular mail.

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

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Wed., May 19

11 am – Staff meeting

Sat., May 22

9 am – Gardening Day

Sun., May 23

Day of Pentecost

7 am – Worship at a Distance

9 & 11 am – Virtual

Coffee Hour

Tues., May 25

Noon – Bible Study

Wed., May 26

11 am – Staff meeting

CaringBridge Updates

Susan and David Cherwien have established a page on CaringBridge as a way to help keep folks updated regarding Susan's current medical situation. That page can be viewed at <https://www.caringbridge.org/visit/susanpalocherwien>.

Walk for Hope

Mount Olive had 14 people walking for Hope on Sunday. Most walkers did 5K and a few did 10K. Thanks to all who participated in walking!

Many thanks to those who have already donated to Common Hope on Mount Olive's team page. Our goal is to raise \$3,456 which provides an entire year of programming for three Common Hope students. In 2021, this includes homework help through educational coaching, distance learning tools, health care, and more. We are almost at our goal with \$3,026 already donated, we need just \$430 more.

Please consider donating to Common Hope through [Mount Olive's team page](#).



Thanks to Tom!

Thank you to Tom Olsen for keeping the Sanctuary Lamp continually lit and burning during our long hiatus from worship in the sanctuary during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Stewardship News

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.

Bach-Tage Materials Now Available

Thank you for your patience. We're delighted to announce that materials for 2021 Virtual *Bach-Tage* June 5 are now available at <https://www.mountolivechurch.org/music/bach-tage/>. There you will find:

- a score for Cantata 85, *Ich bin ein guter Hirt*, to download and print, and
- a translation of the text to assist you.

Links on the homepage will also guide you to these materials. They are common .pdf files, ready for printing. If you have difficulty with getting the materials from the website, contact the church office to get a copy by mail: welcome@mountolivechurch.org, or (612) 827-5919.

You won't need to rehearse in advance as at previous *Bach-Tage* since we will not actually be performing 🎻, but please spend a little time with them and have them available for my presentation and the performance segments on June 5.

In a couple of weeks, look for another message for the schedule for participating on June 5, so watch for that. If you have questions meantime, contact the church office.

Finally, there is no official registration for this *Bach-Tage*. However, most of our expenses are the same as if we were meeting in person. Many of you have made generous gifts to *Bach-Tage* in the past to help us keep our registration cost minimal. If you are in a position to help financially this year, please send your gift to Mount Olive Lutheran Church *Bach-Tage*, 3045 Chicago Ave., Minneapolis MN 55407

A Note of Thanks

"I have felt wonderfully supported by my brothers and sisters at Mount Olive during my recovery from a recent series of mild strokes.

The cards, messages, emails have been uplifting. The Pastor's calls were encouraging. And to the group of Olivites who gathered out front of our house to wish us well and to sing Easter hymns: Effusive thanks -- not just from Kathy and me, but from our neighbors as well, who were not only thrilled by the music, but impressed by the caring gesture! Thank you, Lora Dundek, for your work organizing that. (The only problem was that it made me miss the weekly fellowship of my Mount Olive brothers and sisters even more. And I rejoice that our exile is soon over!)

I'm not able to thank you all personally but know that I have been deeply touched and I am grateful for your support."

- Dwight Penas

Did You Know?

Our Saviour's Housing will re-open on May 24 after being closed for over a year?

This homeless ministry continued, offsite to safer facilities during the pandemic, but now . . . Our Saviour's Housing has been remodeled providing a safe home for guests and volunteers?

Before COVID, Mount Olive committed to provide a monthly dinner for the residents.

CAN WE HELP AGAIN?

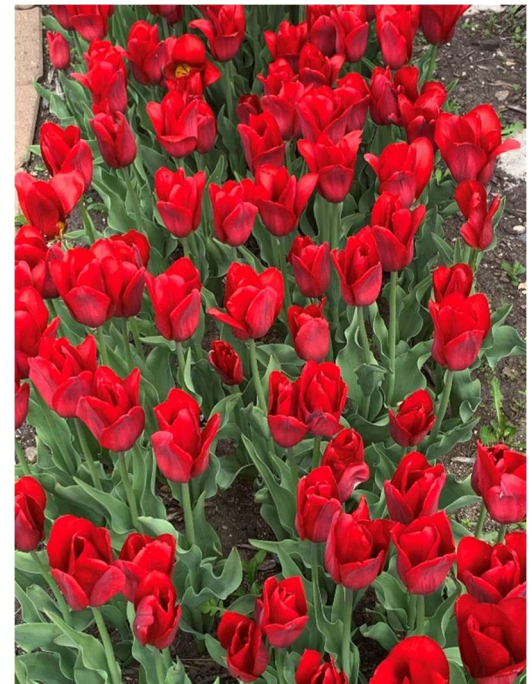
The dinner ministry has been re-visioned to make it easier for volunteers and safe for all. Is this a way you, your friends, or your family can bring Christ's love to the men and women at Our Saviour's Housing?

Looking for teams to prepare and/or pack and distribute ONE of those meals in the next 12 months. If your answer to the question above is "yes," or even "maybe," please text or email me to get more information.

Call or text: 763-639-7702; Email: ech914@comcast.net

- Elaine Halbardier

Tulip Watch



Weeds or Dusting – Your Choice!

There are two opportunities to help at church **this Saturday, May 22.**

- Bi-weekly garden crew from 9:00 to 11:00 am;
- Cleaning of the Nave, 9:30 am to 2:00 pm. (Lunch provided)

As we get ready to return to in-person worship, the Nave needs a little dusting and polishing – well, actually, a LOT of dusting and polishing! If possible, we would like to have a crew of 15 people.

If you can help, please contact Andrew Andersen, 763-607-1689, andrewstpaul@gmail.com, or Carol Martinson, 612-708-9849, property@mountolivechurch.org.



Building Our Home

The series highlighting some of the specific properties that will be funded in part by the Building Our Home initiative continues this week. It is hoped that this will make the work more concrete (literally and figuratively).

Please note, a glossary of some basic terms will be included at the end of this section for each week of this series since there are some terms used in the property descriptions that may not be familiar to all readers. This section will repeat each week.

Kimball Court is an existing property in the Midway area of Saint Paul. Our partner, Beacon Interfaith, will be expanding this property to add an additional 26 units of supportive housing for individuals with histories of long-term homelessness. After the expansion, Kimball Court will provide 98 units of housing for those making at or under 30% AMI with on-site supportive services. This type of housing is the most effective at moving people out of the shelter system and into homes of their own - and vitally needed in the Twin Cities and beyond.

Commonly Used Terms and Abbreviations

AMI: Average Median Income; the average amount made by households in a given area; currently, the AMI for the Twin Cities metro area for a family of four is \$103,400 (one earner making \$49.71 per hour). As one example, 30% AMI, often a measure of housing considered to be the most affordable, would be \$31,000 (one earner making \$14.90 per hour), making a three-bedroom apartment affordable at \$806 per month. For comparison, the average rent for a three-bedroom unit in the Twin Cities in 2019 was \$1,624.

Affordable Housing: Defined as housing that can be obtained and maintained for 30% or less of a household's monthly income. By definition, housing costs include all costs related to maintaining a home - utilities, trash disposal, insurance, and the like - not just rent or mortgage.

Supportive Housing: Affordable, long-term, community-based housing with on-site support services such as employment counseling, addiction recovery support, etc. for people with multiple barriers to getting and keeping housing.

The Initiative

Working with three non-profit affordable housing developers, Beacon Interfaith, Aeon, and Alliance Housing, Mount Olive is working to build over 2100 units of affordable and supportive housing with a funding goal of 21.3 million dollars. Through our Neighborhood Ministry leadership, Mount Olive is seeking partnerships with its Twin Cities sister congregations of the Evangelical Church of America, along with other faith communities, organizations, and individuals.



Virtual Coffee Hour

New! For those who found 9 am to be too early for Sunday coffee hour, adults can join at 9 am OR 11 am (or both!) for at least the remainder of April. There will be weekly video calls using Google Meet from 9-10 am AND 11am-12pm, and 9-9:30 for the kids' room.

Use the same link, below, whether you want to join at 9 or at 11. Join by video on a smartphone or computer or join by phone only to participate in the informal conversations. The meeting links and phone numbers are below. If you join with a computer, you don't need to install anything or have an account, but if you'd like to join on a phone or tablet, you will need to install the Google Meet app and log in with a Google account. If you have questions about how to join feel free to call Katie Krueger at 419-344-2727 or email katherinerkrueger@gmail.com.

Coffee & Tea (9-10 a.m. AND 11 a.m. -12 noon)

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

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

Meeting code: snm-zssf-dni

Cupcakes & Cookies - Kids' room (9:00-9:30 a.m.)

<https://meet.google.com/vep-nyof-fzz>

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

Meeting code: vep-nyof-fzz

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.

For June 12, they will read *Our Man in Havana*, by Graham Greene, and for July 10, they will read *The End of the Affair*, also by Graham Greene..

They are using 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://tinyurl.com/y4knn7o3>

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

The link for the Tuesday noon Bible study is 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://tinyurl.com/y4qs46v5>

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://tinyurl.com/y274v5rs>



Mount Olive Lutheran Church

3045 Chicago Avenue
Minneapolis, MN 55407

*A congregation of the Evangelical
Lutheran Church in America*

Contact Us

Phone: 612-827-5919

Fax: 612-827-4557

Web: www.mountolivechurch.org

Church Staff

Pastor – [Joseph Crippen](#)

Cantor – [David Chernien](#)

Vicar – [Andrea Bonneville](#)

Coordinator of Neighborhood

Ministries - [Jim Barymann](#)

Administrative Assistant – [Cha Posz](#)

Sexton – [James Wilkes](#)

National Lutheran Choir Virtual Spring Celebration and Benefit – This Sunday, May 23, 4 pm

The past choral season has been like no other, yet the National Lutheran Choir continued to evolve, sharing music with both local audiences and congregations across the nation through virtual programming.

Just as the world continues to navigate this new reality, so will the NLC as we return to live programming coupled with unique and meaningful virtual content. This innovation is made possible through the generous support of many individuals who, like the NLC, see the choral art as essential in our ever-changing time.

Join us, then, on May 23 for a virtual celebration and benefit to help the NLC come back strong. Learn about exciting plans for the 2021-2022 season, immerse yourself in the music you love, and support NLC's 35-year legacy as a beacon of sacred choral music for all.

“Light Dawns” – This Sunday, May 23 @ 4pm @ www.nlca.com .