

The Olive Branch

Mount Olive Lutheran Church

May 4, 2022



Sunday Readings

Sunday, May 8
Fourth Sunday of Easter

Acts 9:36-43
Psalm 23
Revelation 7:9-17
John 10:22-30

Sunday, May 15
Fifth Sunday of Easter

Acts 11:1-8
Psalm 148
Revelation 21:1-6
John 13:31-35

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

Accent on Worship

Pastor Joseph Crippen

Showing the tunics and clothes

In the First Reading from Acts next Sunday, Luke tells the story of Simon Peter raising Tabitha (also known by the Greek version of her name, Dorcas) from the dead. It's pretty amazing that Peter can actually raise the dead, like Jesus. He was asked to come "without delay," though she had died already. Not sure what they thought he would or could do. He ends up raising her.

But the beautiful moment is when he arrives: "All the widows stood beside [Peter], weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them." They wanted Peter to know how special she was, how generous and kind she was to all of them. "Here's the evidence of the kind of person she was," they seemed to say.

This suggests the hope that the grace you and I do might be remembered after we're gone. It's likely not going to be things we're aware of doing that people remember, though. Dorcas sounds like my grandmother, a terrific seamstress. She probably made things for people all the time and didn't think it was that big of a deal. But it was to them.

That's the blessing of living as Christ's love in your world. Just be kind. Generous. Loving. Don't worry about your legacy. Dorcas probably didn't. But if you are kind and generous and loving to those you are with, those you meet, you will leave behind all sorts of blessings that they will fondly recall long afterward. It's not likely the things you think are worthy. The love you share with others in God's love is what really makes the difference.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Wed., May 4

10 am – Staff meeting
NO Cantorei rehearsal

Thurs., May 5

7 pm – New Member Gathering
7 pm – Vicar Committee
7 pm – Narcotics Anonymous

Fri., May 6

10 am – Funeral Visitation
11:00 am – Funeral Eucharist
7 pm – Recovery Group

Sat., May 7

1-3 pm – Prayer Shawl group

Sun., May 8

Fourth Sunday of Easter
8 am – Holy Eucharist
10:45 am – Holy Eucharist
(*livestreamed*)

Mon., May 9

7 pm – Vestry meeting

Tues., May 10

Noon – Bible Study

Wed., May 11

10 am – Staff meeting
7:30 pm - Cantorei rehearsal

Global Ministry update: hunger and war call us to action

Many of us are concerned about hunger, malnutrition, and food insecurity in the U.S. and around the world. A mid-April memorandum from our partner Bread for the World warns it could get even worse – and spotlights proposed and existing policies that need continued citizen advocacy.

The **Global Malnutrition Prevention and Treatment Act**, which could improve the lives of tens of millions of women and children around the globe, was passed in the House of Representatives just a few days ago. It's a safe bet that Minnesota's two senators will support the Senate version of the bill – but it never hurts to remind them of our support and thanks.

The **war in Ukraine** is a humanitarian disaster in that country and Europe, but also could lead to the worst global hunger crisis of this century, because Ukraine and Russia have been providing more than a quarter of the world's exported wheat. Bread for the World earlier asked the Biden administration to help provide **international food and other humanitarian aid** to Afghanistan and now is urging the administration to do the same for Ukraine, Ethiopia, Yemen, and some other countries. Bread for the World also is asking its member churches to again support reauthorization of the **Global Food Security Act** and to extend or make permanent the **Child Tax Credit**. The latter significantly reduced the rate of severe food insecurity for children in the United States.

Mount Olive, like many U.S. congregations, has traditionally conducted its [Bread for the World](#) "Offering of Letters" in the fall. But messages to [senators and representatives](#) – whether handwritten letters, emails, or phone calls – can be effective throughout the year.

Bread for the World, started in 1974, is a collective Christian voice urging our nation's leaders to end hunger at home and abroad. **Mount Olive's supported started:** ca. 1995. **Our annual support:** \$1,000 **For perspective:** Our Global Ministry gifts to 11 organizations in 2021 totaled: \$30,224

Bach-Tage 2022: June 4-5, 2022

We're Back!

After two years of COVID, Bach-Tage at Mount Olive Minneapolis returns by popular demand. A magnificent Bach cantata, #78, *Jesu, der du meine Seele* and a lovely setting of *Magnificat* by Johann Pachelbel will be studied and rehearsed over the two days with conductor Kathy Romey. The Bach-Tage Orchestra and vocal soloists will join conference participants in performing this music at Evening Prayer on Sunday, June 5. On Saturday, June 4, another program titled "Trios!" will be performed by baroque flutist David Ross, soprano Heather Cogswell, Violinist Marc Levine, harpsichordist Tami Morse, cellist Charles Asch, and organist David Cherwien.

Bach-Tage Registration Open

Early registration is encouraged! Please complete [this registration form](#) and return it to Mount Olive office. Registration may be limited to make sure that health safety protocols are followed.

COVID vaccination required! With the number of COVID cases declining, the prospects for a successful gathering are very good. Bach-Tage leaders will be following the latest health updates and keeping everyone informed throughout this spring. For the safety of all, evidence of up-to-date vaccinations is required.

Singers from Mount Olive may register for free.

[Click here to download the music file for Bach Cantata #78](#)
[Click here to download the file for the Pachelbel Magnificat](#)

Please contact the church office to have these materials mailed to you.

Extra brochures for Bach Tage are available at church.

Book Discussion

The Book Discussion group meets on the second Saturday of each month at 10 am at church. All readers are welcome! On May 14, they will discuss *The Moon and Sixpence*, by W. Somerset Maugham. On June 11, they will discuss *Little Fires Everywhere*, by Celeste Ng. On July 9, they will discuss *The Unseen*, by Roy Jacobsen.

Attention Mount Olive Servants!

The Servant Schedule for the third quarter of 2022 (July - September) will be published at the beginning of June 2022. The deadline for requests is May 13, 2022.

Please email your requests to peggyrf70@gmail.com.

Learning English

Several mentors have been assisting the men in the Afghan family with job applications. There are numerous challenges for them in finding a job. While their English is improving, it is not yet adequate for many jobs. Since they are enrolled in English classes, the time they have available for paid work could be limited as well, though now a job is the primary need, and on-line English classes are possible. While both men have now received Social Security cards, which will make job applications less burdensome, English proficiency remains the biggest hurdle. All the adults in the family have at least some college education – one of them has a 4-year degree. The mother in the family is a trained midwife, and is interested in working as a doula (a birth assistant) as soon as her English skills permit. She will be applying for training for doula positions at local hospitals.



All the adults continue to progress well in their English language classes. Recent exam results move them all up one level in their classes. One of them is now on Level 5 at the learning center, and two of them are on Level 4. They are reading *The Wizard of Oz* - and not the unabridged version, either! Mentor Susan Snow has also been volunteering at the English Language Center.

While all the mentors have helped with the employment efforts, special thanks goes to David Engen, Adam Krueger, Jerry Duncan, and Claudia Beck.

Rest in Peace

Our sister in Christ, Evelyn Royce, died on Saturday April 23.

A funeral Eucharist will be celebrated at Mount Olive **this Friday, May 6, at 11:00 a.m.** Visitation will precede the funeral, beginning at 10:00 a.m.

The funeral will be livestreamed at: https://youtu.be/U_5DdTvaWoM

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

News from a Missionary in Hong Kong

Carol Halter, a Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod missionary in Hong Kong and friend of Mount Olive member Eunice Hafemeister, has been on our prayer list for some time. Here Eunice shares excerpts from Carol’s recent newsletter from Hong Kong, which continues to experience unrest:

Carol is using Zoom for prayer meetings, evangelism, and monitoring the editing of her forthcoming book on practical evangelism. On public holidays she shares God’s word with the people on the streets near Abundant Life Lutheran Church. Carol knows many Filipina maids on local streets and often provides them with clothing and shoes to send to their families in the Philippines. When COVID-19 flare-ups in Hong Kong prevent in-person gatherings she turns to email to continue sharing the gospel.

Carol tells about Mia, a woman who lives on the streets. At first she refused to talk, but she became friendlier after Carol brought her water and face masks. Mia says she’s not yet ready to talk to God herself, but she wants Carol to continue to pray for her, whether in person or by phone.

Then there’s Mrs. Chan. Although Carol has been praying for her for years, and the two enjoy meals and conversations, Mrs. Chan persists in not wanting to believe in Jesus because she doesn’t want to turn her back on a god called Guan Yin.

Carol writes: “Do pray for these two ladies and the many people here in Hong Kong who need to know our Lord Jesus Christ.”

Tuesday Noon Bible Study Link

The Tuesday Noon Bible Study is meeting in person, in the West Lounge. For those who are unable to come in person, we will continue to hold the meeting over Zoom as well.

The link for the Tuesday noon Bible study will be the same every week.

To join from your computer, tablet, or smartphone, [click here](#).

**Ascension
Of Our Lord
Thursday, May 26
Holy Eucharist at
7:00 p.m.**

All are welcome.

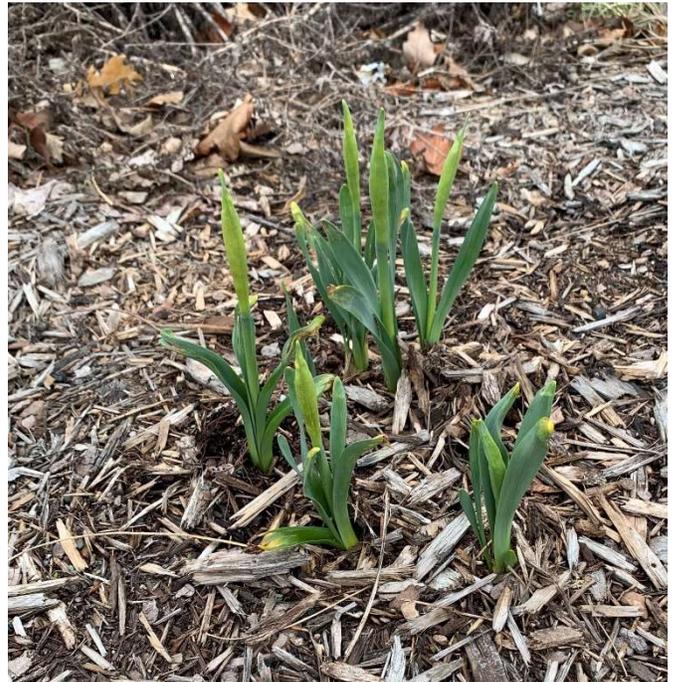
It's That Time of Year – Tulip Watch and Garden Clean Up

As we finally enter spring, it is time to start watching 500 red tulips and dozens of daffodils come up in our gardens at church. The bulbs were planted last year by a very loyal and hard-working group of garden volunteers.

And the time has come for garden volunteers to once again take on the tasks that keep our grounds looking so beautiful. This involves clean up, tree and brush trimming, and mulching of beds. The first clean-up day will be **Saturday, May 14, 9:00 am**. Beyond this date there will be work days scheduled on a regular basis to weed, trim, and enjoy the beauty of the gardens and the pollinators that they support.

If you would like to join in the fun, please contact Carol Martinson at 612-708-9849, or by email to property@mountolivechurch.org.

All are welcome!



In Our Prayers

Please pray throughout the week for the following persons: Julia Adams; Joe & Elizabeth Beissel; Nancy Flatgard; Leila Froehlich; Beth Hering; Leanna Kloempken; Mary Lee; Carla Manuel; Carolyn Mowery; Rhoda Nelson; George Oelfke; Jerry Ostlund; Russ Pearson; Dwight Penas & Kathy Thurston; John Salveson; Pariann Schenk; Grace Wiechman; James Wilkes; the family of Jake & Dannielle Lerum, relatives of Nancy Anderson; Danna Nelson, Gerry Coleman, friend of Jim Bargmann; Tom McCarr, friend of Keith Bartz; Cassandra Thompson, friend of Al Bostelmann; Sara Brunette, daughter-in-law of CJ Brunette; Arthur Kaemmer, friend of David Bryce; Lela Frazier, sister of Irene Campbell; Mattisyn, friend of Kat Campbell Johnson; Kristin Eklund, Greg Eklund, and Lois Eklund, daughter, son, and daughter-in-law of Harry & Jeanette Eklund; Aimee Engebretson; Joyce Schoenfield, sister of Marilyn Gebauer; Joe & Brenda Patnaude, friends of Tom Graves & Ginny Agresti; Mark Kiefer, cousin of Bjorn Gustafson; David G. Gutierrez, Sr., Chris and David Gutierrez, Jr., father and brothers of Consuelo Gutierrez-Crosby; Carol Halter (missionary in Hong Kong), friend of Eunice Hafemeister; Cat Robinette, friend of Emily Hellerich; Maribeth, friend of Peggy Hoef; Steve Horsfield, friend of Mount Olive; Tami Huisinga, relative of Wes Huisinga; Craig Cunningham, brother-in-law of Brian Jacobs; Marvolyn Refsland and Michael Uthe, cousin and friend of Mary Rose Kaliher; Kevin Lyndsley, former Mount Olive member; Barbara Dahl, sister of Carla Manuel; Dani Olson, Harper Linquist, Steve Camper, relatives and friend of Julie Manuel; Jan McCuen, mother of Matt McCuen; Brad Krider, friend of Rachel Meurett; Martha Johnson, sister of Rhoda Nelson and aunt of Sherry Nelson; Stan & Darlene Nelson, parents of Brad Nelson; Kathleen Austad, sister of Jerry Ostlund; Sue Smith, Steve Swanson, and Mary Peterson friends of Dwight Penas & Kathy Thurston; Vince DeLusia and Chris Hoff, friend and cousin of Cynthia Prosek; Jolie Melana Meshbesh, friend of Robin Rayfield; Leila Jeffers, mother of Lynn and Lisa Ruff; Miranda Alvis, niece of Tim Sneer; Carrie, friend of Paul & Melissa Stone;

David Duran, friend of Kevin Vazquez; Eileen Weiss, relative of John Wall; Andrew Wiechman, son of Grace Wiechman; Julius Underwood, grandson of James Wilkes; Pat Faunce, friend of Eric Zander; Tommie and Susie Hunter, Barbara C. Johnson, friends of Mount Olive.

At the death of: Evelyn Royce; Galen Sommer, cousin of Kathy Thurston.

Prayers for all in the health care system here and around the world who put their lives at risk to care for those infected with COVID 19 and caring for all others who are ill as well.

Our continual prayers are offered for peace: We pray for all the world's governments, leaders, and peoples, especially for those who work overseas toward peace: Solveig & Philip, daughter and son-in-law of Karen Johnson; and Tyson Crosby, relative of the Crosby family.

About our prayer list ...

If you have submitted a name or names to be published on our prayer list, please review the list regularly, to make sure those for whom we are praying are still in need of our prayers.
Contact the church office with any updates.



Mount Olive Lutheran Church

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*A congregation of the Evangelical
Lutheran Church in America*

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Church Staff

Pastor – [Joseph Crippen](#)

Cantor – [David Chernien](#)

Vicar – [Andrea Bonneville](#)

Administrative Assistant – [Cha Posz](#)

Coordinator of Neighborhood

Ministries - [Jim Barymann](#)

Sexton – [Jose Moracho](#)

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