



# MT. OLIVE LUTHERAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER

August 2024

## What's Inside

- 2 A Message from Pastor Mike
- 3 A Message from Pastor Mike
- 4 August Birthdays
- 4 August Anniversaries
- 4 Treasuring God's Truth, Living Out His Love
- 4 Jolly Ramblers
- 4 Women's Bible Study
- 4 Back to Church Sunday, Scholarship Sunday and Sunday School Begins
- 5 Applying Biblical Teachings
- 5 Bible Studies
- 6 August Calendar
- 7 Scholarship Committee
- 8 Stewardship Message
- 8 Contact Us
- 8 Office Hours
- 8 Who is Serving the Lord Within Mount Olive



**\*SUMMER OFFICE HOURS  
8:00-11:00AM**

**\*August 7 – Elders Meeting  
@6:30M**

**\*August 12-16 - Vacation Bible  
School**

**\*August 14 – Leadership  
Meeting @ 6:30PM**

**\*August 18 – Mite Sunday**

**\*August 18 – WOMO Meeting  
@10**

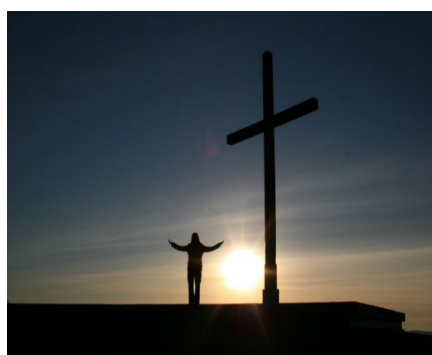
## Community Prayers

Summer and winter and springtime and harvest, Sun, moon, and stars in their courses above. Join with all nature in manifold witness. To Thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love.  
*From Hymn #809, Great Is Thy Faithfulness*



Almighty God, our loving Heavenly Father, we praise You for the blessings You give our nation. In this time of change and uncertainty, lead each of us to be a good citizen, speaking the truth and loving our neighbor. Guide and bless all who lead in all the institutions of our society.

Lord Jesus, help us receive Your healing and reconciliation, and protect our families. Teach us how to give ourselves in loving service to our family members, as You have given Yourself for all. Grant us rest for our bodies, minds, and souls. Help us speak uplifting words and do loving deeds every day.



You are the Way, the Truth, and the Life. Bless all Christians, all churches, and all our efforts to be good witnesses. Open hearts and minds to receive Your Gospel with joy, and increase the population of heaven. Encourage the discouraged, give refreshment to the weary. Hear us in the name of the only Savior, Jesus Christ, our friend, brother, and Lord. Amen

# MT. OLIVE LUTHERAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER

## A Message from Pastor Mike

When we end our online meetings or Bible Studies, we often pray The Lord's Prayer together. Being on Zoom and conference calling means we don't start and finish the phrases together, but it's such a wonderful thing to hear our brothers and sisters praying! It reminded me of this Lord's Prayer Dialogue – maybe you've heard something similar. This can help remind us to think about what we're saying when we pray!

(person)- 'Our Father which art in heaven...'

**(God)---Yes?**

(person) – Don't interrupt me. I'm praying.

**(God)---But you called me.**

(person) – Called you? I didn't call you. I'm praying. "Our Father which art in heaven."

**(God)---There you did it again.**

(person) - Did what?

**(God) Called me. You said, "Our Father which art in heaven." Here I am. What's on your mind?**

(person) - But I didn't mean anything by it. I was, you know, just saying my prayers for the day. I always say the Lord's Prayer. It makes me feel good, kind of like getting a duty done.

**(God)--- All right. Go on.**

(person) – "Hallowed be thy name..."

**(God)---Hold it. What do you mean by that?**

(person) – By what?

**(God)---By "hallowed be thy name"?**

(person) - It means... it means... Good grief, I don't know what it means. How should I know? It's just a part of the prayer. By the way, what does it mean?

**(God)---It means honored, holy, and wonderful.**

(person) - Hey, that makes sense. I never thought about what "hallowed" meant before. "Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven."

**(God)---Do you really mean that?**

(person) - Sure, why not?

**(God)---What are you doing about it?**

(person) - Doing? Nothing, I guess. I just think it would be kind of neat if you got control of everything down here like you have up there.

**(God)---Have I got control of you?**

(person) - Well, I go to church.

**(God)---That isn't what I asked you. What about the way you belittle your peers? You've really got a problem there, you know. And then there's the way you spend your money---all on yourself. And what about the kind of books you read?**

(person) - Stop picking on me! I'm just as good as some of the rest of those people at the church.

**(God)---Excuse me. I thought you were praying for my will to be done. If that is to happen, it will have to start with the ones who are praying for it. Like you, for example.**

(person) - Oh, all right. I guess I do have some hang-ups. Now that you mention it, I could probably name some others.

**(God)---So could I.**

(person) - I haven't thought about it very much until now, but I really would like to cut out some of those things. I would like to, you know, be really free.

**(God)---Good. Now we're getting somewhere. We'll work together, you and I. Some victories can truly be won. I'm proud of you.**

(person) - Look, Lord, I need to finish up here. This is taking a lot longer than it usually does. "Give us this day, our daily bread."

**(God)---You need to cut out the bread. You're overweight as it is.**

(person) - Hey, wait a minute! What is this, "Criticize me day?" Here I was doing my religious duty, and all of a sudden you break in and remind me of all my hang-ups.

**(God)---Praying is a dangerous thing. You could wind up changed, you know. That's what I'm trying to get across to you. You called me, and here I am. It's too late to stop now. Keep praying, I'm interested in the next part of your prayer...(pause). Well, go on.**

(person) - I'm scared to.

**(God)---Scared? Of what?**

(person) - I know what you'll say.

# MT. OLIVE LUTHERAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER

**(God)---Try me and see.**

(person) - "Forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us."

**(God)---What about Sheila?**

(person) - See? I knew it! I knew you would bring her up! Why, Lord, she's told lies about me, spread stories about my family. She never paid back the debt she owes me. I've sworn to get even with her!

**(God)---But your prayer? What about your prayer?**

(person) - I didn't mean it.

**(God)---Well, at least you're admitting it. But it's not much fun carrying that load of bitterness around inside, is it?**

(person) - No. But I'll feel better as soon as I get even. Boy, have I got some plans for that neighbor. She'll wish she had never moved into this neighborhood.

**(God)---You won't feel any better. You'll feel worse. Revenge isn't sweet. Think of how unhappy you already are. But I can change all that.**

(person) - You can? How?

**(God)---Forgive Sheila. Then I'll forgive you. Then the hate and sin will be Sheila's problem and not yours. You will have settled your heart.**

(person) - Oh, you're right. You always are. And more than I want to revenge Sheila, I want to be right with you...

(pause)...(sigh). All right. All right. I forgive her. Help her to find the right road in life, Lord. She's bound to be awfully miserable now that I think about it. Anybody who goes around doing the things she does to others has to be out of it. Someway, somehow, show her the right way.

**(God)---There now! Wonderful! How do you feel?**

(person) - Hmmm. Well, not bad. Not bad at all. In fact, I feel pretty great! You know, I don't think I'll have to go to bed uptight tonight for the first time since I can remember. Maybe I won't be so tired from now on because I'm not getting enough rest.

**(God)---You're not through with your prayer. Go on.**

(person) - Oh, all right. "And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil."

**(God)---Good! Good! I'll do that. Just don't put yourself in a place where you can be tempted.**

(person) - What do you mean by that?

**(God)---Don't turn on the TV when you know the laundry needs to be done and the house needs to be picked up. Also, about the time you spend coffee-ing with your friends, if you can't influence the conversation to positive things, perhaps you should rethink the value of those friendships. Another thing, your neighbors and friends shouldn't be your standard for "keeping up." And please don't use me for an escape hatch.**

(person) - I don't understand the last part.

**(God)---Sure you do. You've done it a lot of times. You get caught in a bad situation. You get into trouble and then you come running to me, "Lord, help me out of this mess, and I promise you I'll never do it again." You remember some of those bargains you tried to make with me?**

(person) - Yes, and I'm ashamed, Lord. I really am.

**(God)---Which bargain are you remembering?**

(person) - Well, there was the night that the children and I were home alone. The wind was blowing so hard I thought the roof would go any minute and tornado warnings were out. I remember praying, "Oh, God, if you spare us, I'll never skip my devotions again."

**(God) --Did you?**

(person) - I'm sorry, Lord, I really am. Up until now I thought that if I just prayed the Lord's Prayer every day, then I could do what I liked. I didn't expect anything to happen like it did.

**(God)---Go ahead and finish your prayer.**

(person) "For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever." Amen.

**(God)---Do you know what would bring me glory? What would really make me happy?**

(person) - No, but I'd like to know. I want now to please you. I can see what a mess I've made of my life. And I can see how great it would be to really be one of your followers.

**(God)---You just answered the question.**

(person) - I did?

**(God)---Yes. The thing that would bring me glory is to have people like you truly love me. And I see that happening between us. Now that some of these old sins are exposed and out of the way, well, there is no telling what we can do together.**

(person) - Lord, let's see what we can make of me, OK? Amen!



# MT. OLIVE LUTHERAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER

## Treasuring God's Truth, Living Out His Love

- Thank you to Jim, Dave, and Brian for helping to get the education wing a new AC unit!
- Thank you to Jim for contacting Xcel Energy right away when a power line was down on our parking lot!
- Thank you to Linda for purchasing the backpacks and decorating them for VBS!
- Thank you to the WOMO members for collecting items for Dick Bromley for his new place at Haven Homes!



Harriet Gustafson	8/6
Tim Preble	8/9
Matthew Reinitz	8/10
Grayson Wyman	8/10
Jerry Bullock	8/21
Fallon Millican	8/21
Mickey Rude	8/23
Jerry Babb	8/27
Dawn Audette	8/31
Katelynn Babb	8/31

## Jolly Ramblers



The Jolly Ramblers will be here on Sunday, September 8<sup>th</sup>. We will have our service outside (weather permitting). Bring a friend and a lawn chair and enjoy the wonderful polka music! We will have a potluck afterwards. Look for the sign-up sheet in the fellowship hall!



Gene & Jan Hanson	8/1
Joe & Fawn Gage	8/10
Jim & Mary Merchant	8/10
Dick & Helen Halvarson	8/15
Andrew & Sarah Reinitz	8/18
John & Amanda Skaret	8/24

## Women's Bible Study

We will begin Women's Bible Study on Wednesday, September 4<sup>th</sup> at 10:00AM in the fellowship lounge. We would love to have you join us! Please reach out to Sandi Woytcke to let her know if you plan to attend! We will be studying Galatians - "Living by Faith"



## Back to Church Sunday & Sunday School



Back to Church Sunday and Sunday School will begin on Sunday, September 15<sup>th</sup>.



## Applying Biblical Teachings

“All the believers were one in heart and mind. No one claimed that any of his possessions was his own, but they shared everything they had. With great power the apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and much grace was upon them all” (Acts 4:32-33).

In these two verses, Luke gave great praise to the Christian congregation at Jerusalem. These verses exemplify God at work in His church through His believers. He is the great Provider, giving both the tools and knowledge to do the work at hand.

Money was an important God-given tool used for the good of the believers. “There were no needy persons among them. For from time to time those who owned lands or houses sold them, brought the money from the sales and put it at the apostles’ feet, and it was distributed to anyone as he had need” (Acts 4:34-35).

Through the preaching of the apostles, the knowledge that Jesus was the Christ, the Lord and Savior, was revealed. The Holy Spirit filled the hearts of the believers with Christ’s love. His love flowed from their hearts, and they performed great acts of kindness toward their fellow believers, the members of their congregation.

Great grace was upon them, for they had been brought to faith in the risen Lord and Savior. Through the working of the Holy Spirit, they had approval with God and were aware of His mercy. As they gave evidence of their faith by showing love, respect and charity, they received the approval of their fellow men.

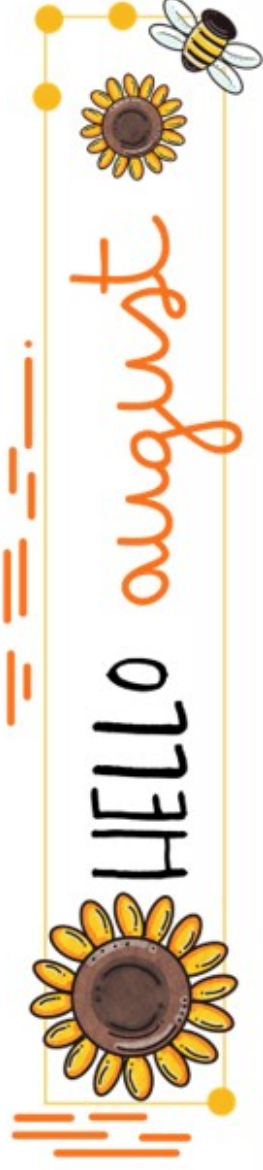
God has provided Mount Olive Lutheran Church with both the tools and the knowledge to do His work. By the power of the Holy Spirit working through the Gospel, Christ’s love flows from our hearts. In this love, we use the tools and knowledge He has given to do His work.



## JOIN US FOR BIBLE STUDY

- ❖ **Tuesday’s 7:00 AM -**  
Men’s Bible Study
- ❖ **Wednesday’s 10:00 AM (September – May) -** Ladies’ Bible Study
- ❖ **1st Wednesday of the month 1:00 PM - @**  
Lake Minnetonka Shores
- ❖ **Thursday’s 9:00 AM -**  
Adult Bible Class
- ❖ **Friday’s 3:00 PM -**  
Harrison Bay Bible Class

*God is good!*



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
*Summer Office Hours 8-11AM	*Please consider donating school supplies for LWR School bags. Items needed are posted in the Narthex. *Please consider donating funds for VBS items needed.			*Happy Anniversary -Gene & Jan Hanson		
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	*Happy Birthday -Harriet Gustafson		-Elders Meeting @ 6:30PM		*Happy Birthday -Tim Preble	*Happy Birthday -Matthew Reinitz -Grayson Wyman *Happy Anniversary -Joe & Fawn Gage -Jim & Mary Merchant
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	-Vacation Bible School 9-11:30AM		-Leadership Meeting @ 6:30PM	*Happy Anniversary -Dick & Helen Halvarson		
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
-Mite Sunday -WOMO Meeting @10 *Happy Anniversary -Andrew & Sarah Reinitz			*Happy Birthday -Jerry Bullock -Fallon Millican		*Happy Birthday -Mickey Rude	*Happy Anniversary -John & Amanda Skaret
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
	*Happy Birthday -Jerry Babb					*Happy Birthday -Dawn Audette -Katelynn Babb



# Scholarship Committee

We are reinstating our Scholarship Committee! We would love for YOU to join us! The Scholarship Policy shall be administered by the Scholarship Committee comprised of at least three members of the church of at least 1 year or more appointed by the Board of Directors. Please reach out to Arlee if you would be interested!



MOUNT OLIVE



LUTHERAN CHURCH

5218 Bartlett Blvd  
Mound, MN 55364  
[www.mountlivelcms.org](http://www.mountlivelcms.org)

First Std  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
City, ST  
Permit # 000

Money is a tool that is to be used for the benefit of the believers. "There were no needy persons among them. For from time to time those who owned lands or houses sold them, brought the money from the sales and put it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to anyone as he had need" (Acts 4:34-35).

## MT. OLIVE LUTHERAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER

### Contact Us

Pastor Mike Michalk –  
952.388.3858

[Pastor@mountlivelcms.org](mailto:Pastor@mountlivelcms.org)

Church office (Lindsey) –  
952.472.2756

[Admin@mountlivelcms.org](mailto:Admin@mountlivelcms.org)

Website - [www.mountlivelcms.org](http://www.mountlivelcms.org)

### Office Hours

Monday -Thursday 8:00 – 11:00  
Pastor's Hours: Tuesday &  
Saturday 9:00 – 11:00 or by  
appointment

### Leadership Team

**President:** David Miller

**Vice President:** George Betts

**Recording Secretary:** Lindsey Eccles

**Treasurer:** Vacant

**Elders:** Arlee Mueller & Nate Betts

**Trustees:** Jim Merchant & Darryl Frederickson

**Directors:** Linda Verkennes, Harriet Gustafson and Michael Peterson

### Committees

**Education:** Arlee Mueller, Andrew Reinitz, Becca Boser, and Dawn Audette

**Finance - Secretary:** Shelley Frederickson, **Thank You Cards:** Rita Kaiser

**Outreach:** Vacant

**WeCAN Fellowship Representative:** Becca Boser

**Women of Mount Olive - President:** Jan Preble, **Secretary:** Lindsey Eccles, **Treasurer:** Claudia Bullock

**Worship:** Sandi Woytcke and Jan Preble