



MT. OLIVE LUTHERAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER

April 2024

What's Inside

- 2 April Birthdays
- 2 Coming Up
- 2 Treasuring God's Truth, Living Out His Love
- 2 Joining Jesus on His Mission
- 2 Worship Music
- 2 Sunday Treats
- 2 Recent Funerals
- 3 Applying Biblical Techniques
- 3 Bible Studies
- 4 WOMO News
- 5 Bible Verse Puzzle
- 6 Contact Us
- 6 Office Hours
- 6 Who is Serving the Lord Within Mount Olive



VICTOR'S CROSS — Also called the conqueror's cross, the victor's cross is composed of the Greek cross, recognized by its four equal arms, adorned with Greek letters in each quadrant. The top left letters stand for *Jesus* and the top right letters stand for *Christ* (the horizontal lines above them indicate that they are abbreviations). The four letters across the bottom spell the Greek word for *conqueror*.

A Message from Pastor Mike

Last month I told you about the possibility of a space-sharing arrangement with Westwood Church, and why we decided not to pursue that possibility. However, the leaders of Mt. Olive are still exploring how to better serve our community through sharing the truth and love of Jesus Christ with our neighbors. We have lots of space here that doesn't get used very much – could we connect with someone who is looking for space? For example, many churches operate daycares and preschools, and we are looking into that. That could lead to thousands of opportunities to share Jesus with families in our area.

Or perhaps there is a neighbor looking for a space for their business or a meeting place. In the past we have hosted the Boy Scouts, Weight Watchers, and 12-step groups. Maybe there is some community organization in need of space to meet.

My goal is to get your feedback on ideas like these. Perhaps you have a better suggestion. We realize that there are potential problems, but also potential relationships that God could use to build His kingdom. We are trustees of what God has entrusted to us – this includes the buildings and property here at the corner of Bartlett and Wilshire. But most of all, God has entrusted to us the Gospel of salvation by grace through faith in Jesus Christ – and the responsibility to share His Gospel with the world around us! How can we as a congregation do that more intentionally and effectively? We welcome your prayers and input.

Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Mike

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Amanda Skaret	4/6
Grant Gable	4/7
Leona Shore	4/7
Beverly Beno	4/12
Carol Morrison	4/18
Joan Coddon	4/19
Millie Morrison	4/20
Richard Morrison	4/25



***April 1st** – April Fools’ Day

***April 3rd** – Elders Meeting @ 6:30PM

***April 6th** – New Member Orientation

*** April 7th** – New Member Sunday

***April 10th** – Leadership Meeting @ 6:30PM

***April 15th** – Tax Day

***April 21st** – Mite Sunday

***April 24th** – Administrative Professionals Day

***April 27th** – WOMO Salad Luncheon @ 11AM

Treasuring God’s Truth, Living Out His Love

- Thank you to Don and Sandi Woytcke for providing the emerald palms for Palm Sunday!
- Thank you to Darryl Frederickson for fixing the wood around the swing set playground!
- Thank you to all who contributed to the Easter Garden!
- Thank you to Jim Merchant for exploring ways to make the altar area safer for all!
- Thank you to Brian Podratz for running AV during Lenten Services!

Joining Jesus on His Mission

- When Pastor Mike's mother Barbara was still in her house, she had a wonderful helpful neighbor, Carl. Recently Carl got in touch with my mom to ask if he could help her in any way, and she asked if he would take her to church. So now Carl is attending church once again with her and my mom has a ride most Sundays! You can join Jesus on His mission no matter your age or limitations.

Worship Music

If you play piano or another instrument or would like to provide special music (vocal or instrumental) for a worship service, please talk to Jan Preble or Pastor Mike. Special music can really add to a worship service and your talent(s) would be much appreciated!

Sunday Treats

Please consider making/baking/buying treats and/or donating coffee creamer and juice/milk for Sunday morning fellowship after worship. It seems the same people are providing treats every Sunday and it would be nice if a few new folks would volunteer and give ‘the regulars’ a break. Thank you for giving this prayerful consideration. It is a simple way to contribute to your church family!

Recent Funerals

- Regina Hoffman
- Donna Smith



Applying Biblical Teachings

There is no such thing as a self-made man or woman. In reality, the amount of money and wealth we receive is a blessing from God. According to his divine knowledge and plan, He blesses each of us with money and wealth for our service to Him. We are given great freedom in the use of these blessings.

King Solomon made this observation, "I have seen something else under the sun: The race is not to the swift or the battle to the strong, nor does food come to the wise or wealth to the brilliant or favor to the learned; but time and chance happen to them all" (Eccl. 9:11).

Man cannot devise a logical course or develop a formula that will insure great wealth. Man stands humbled before God, realizing he is fully dependent on God for the blessings he receives.

This does not mean, however, that we sit idly by praying and studying the Bible, waiting for God's blessings to miraculously appear. The Apostle Paul stated clearly, ". . . If a man will not work, he shall not eat" (2 Thes. 3:10). In his letter to Titus, he expanded this thought: "Our people must learn to devote themselves to doing what is good, in order that they may provide for daily necessities and not live unproductive lives" (Titus. 3:14).

How should each of us react to our financial state? As Christians, we are led to the realization that God's infinite wisdom far surpasses our limited perspective. In Christ, we accept with a thankful spirit what God has entrusted to us. Through the work of the Holy Spirit, we honor God by our living and by our giving.

". . . remember the Lord your God, for it is he who gives you the ability to produce wealth. . ." (Deut. 8:18).



JOIN US FOR BIBLE STUDY

- ❖ **7:00 AM Tuesday's -**
Men's Bible Study
- ❖ **10:00 AM**
Wednesday's -
Ladies' Bible Study
- ❖ **1:00 PM 1st**
Wednesday of the
month - @ Lake
Minnetonka Shores
- ❖ **9:00 AM Thursday's -**
Adult Bible Class
- ❖ **2:00 PM Friday's -**
Harrison Bay Bible
Class



God is good!

WOMEN OF MOUNT OLIVE NEWS

Salad Luncheon, Saturday, April 27, 2024 11 AM – 2 PM

All adult women affiliated with Mount Olive are welcome to attend. Please bring a salad of your choosing to share with the group. Watch for a sign up sheet in the narthex. You're welcome to invite a guest or two as well.

With salads, the possibilities are nearly endless so feel free to bring what you wish! Pasta salad, green salad, fruit salad, tuna salad, chicken salad, gelatin salad, vegetable salad and others will provide a nice variety. Plan to bring your favorite to share.

WOMO members will provide beverages and desserts. There will also be a few "door prizes" given away.

Because we've all enjoyed playing a game in the past, we plan to once again play "the dice game" and ask that all women attending bring a wrapped gift item(s) of nominal value (\$2 - \$10) for a bit of additional fun and "stealing".

We plan to feast on salads first, play our game and wrap up by enjoying dessert. Plan to join with other women for an afternoon of fellowship and fun.

Meetings

At our first quarter meeting on February 18 decisions were made about contributions to charitable causes and we voted to support the following organizations:

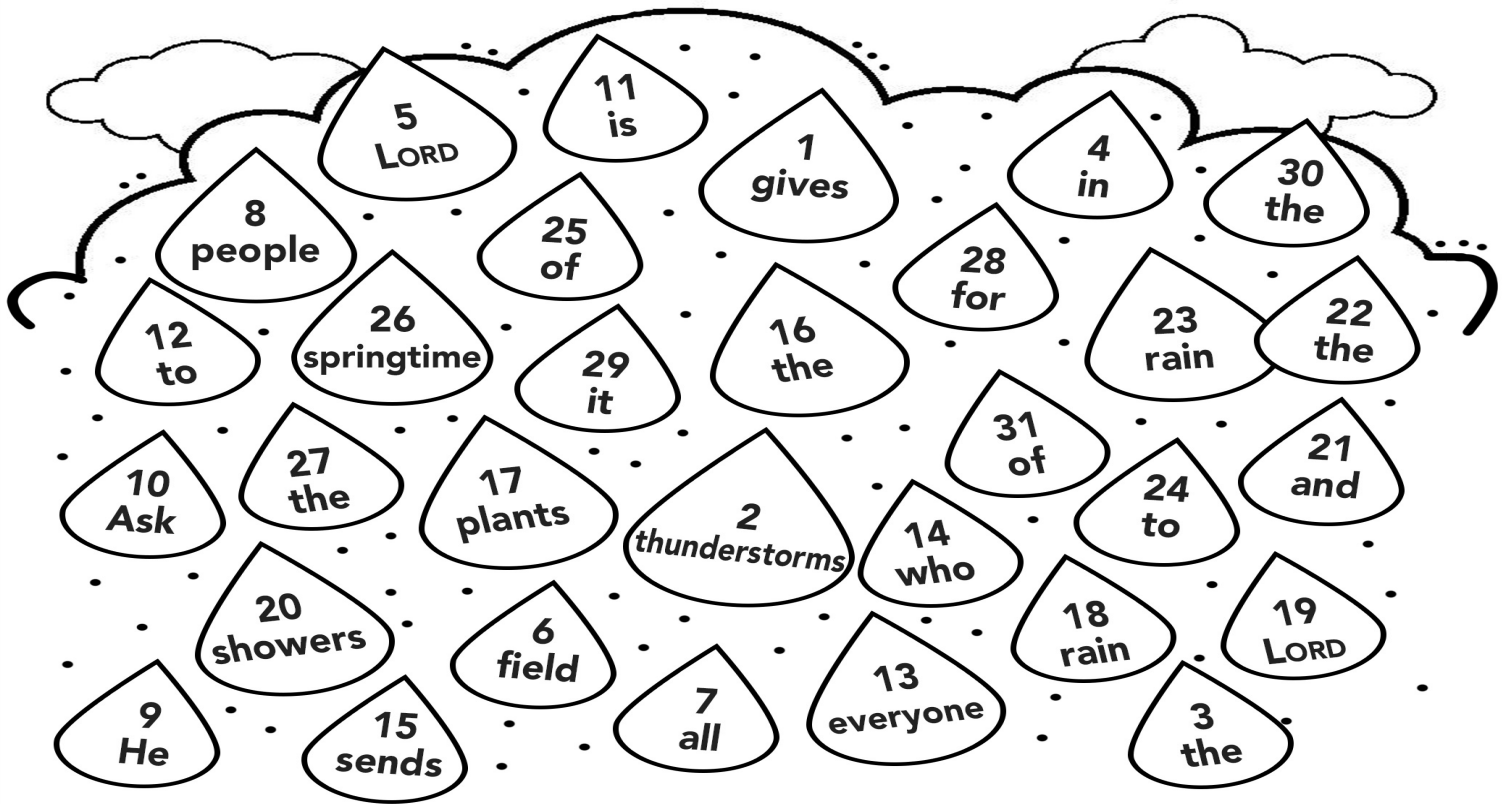
- \$212 to LWML Mites
- \$300 to Westonka Food Shelf
- \$200 to WeCAN (Western Communities Action Network)
- \$100 to WeCAB
- \$100 to The Gillespie Center restricted for use to support The Gillespie Singers

Reminder

*Please mark your calendar for the next WOMO meeting to be held immediately following worship on **Sunday, May 19.**

Puzzle!

Complete a Bible verse about spring by writing the word from each raindrop on the correct numbered line below.



_____ 10 _____ 16 _____ 5 _____ 28 _____ 18

_____ 4 _____ 22 _____ 26 _____ ;

_____ 29 _____ 11 _____ 3 _____ 19 _____ 14 _____ 15

_____ 27 _____ 2

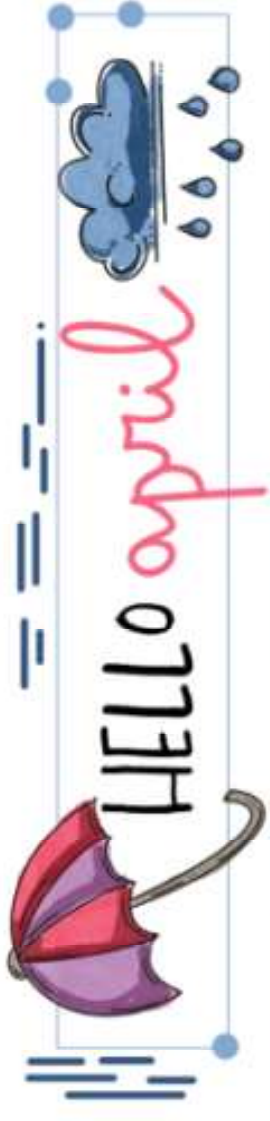
_____ 9 _____ 1 _____ 20 _____ 31 _____ 23

_____ 12 _____ 7 _____ 8 _____ 21 _____ 17 _____ 25

_____ 30 _____ 6 _____ 24 _____ 13

Zechariah 10:1, NIV

Answer: Ask the LORD for rain in the springtime; it is the LORD who sends the thunderstorms. He gives showers of rain to all people, and plants of the field to everyone. Zechariah 10:1, NIV



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 -April Fools' Day	2 -Elders Meeting @ 6:30PM	3	4	5	6 -New Member Orientation *Happy Birthday -Amanda Skaret
7 -New Member Sunday *Happy Birthday -Grant Gable -Leona Shore	8	9 -Leadership Meeting @ 6:30PM	10	11 *Happy Birthday -Beverly Beno	12	13
14	15 -Tax Day	16	17 *Happy Birthday -Carol Morrison	18	19 *Happy Birthday -Joan Coddon	20 *Happy Birthday -Millie Morrison
21 -Mite Sunday	22 Earth Day	23	24 Administrative Professionals Day	25 *Happy Birthday -Richard Morrison	26	27 -WOMO Salad Luncheon @ 11AM
28	29	30				

PRAYER JOURNAL

[Philippians 4:6]

verse
for
today:

today is...

1 2 3 4 5 6 7
8 9 10 11 12 13 14
15 16 17 18 19 20 21
22 23 24 25 26 27 28
29 30 31

month

year

today i am grateful for

answered
prayers:

prayer requests:

Seven horizontal dotted lines for writing prayer requests, each starting with a yellow semi-circle on the left.

praise reports

my mood
for the day:

my personal prayer requests:

Two horizontal dotted lines for writing personal prayer requests.



MOUNT OLIVE



LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Office Hours

Monday -Thursday 9:00 - Noon
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 - Envelopes: Vacant, **Secretary:** Shelley Frederickson, **Thank**

You Cards: Rita Kaiser, **Vanco:** Vacant

Outreach: Vacant

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

Worship: Sandi Woytcke and Jan Preble