

What's Our Image?

If asked, what would you say the “image” of Mount Olive Lutheran Church is? Now remember that how Mount Olive is seen by our community and surrounding area is based on the relationships that they have with the disciples of Christ at Mount Olive (that's you!) Would you say that they see Mount Olive as a church that only takes care of themselves, concerned only about their own needs, or would you say that they see us as “missional” disciples of Christ?

Now when we talk of the disciples of Christ or churches being “missional” we need to discover the definition of “missional”:

An adjective that describes the way in which we do all of our activities, rather than identifying any one particular activity. To be missional is to align all the activities, programs and functions of the church around the mission of God. As we see in the book of Revelation that the words God gave to John to record, the true Christian Church will always be missional.

“I, Jesus, have sent my angel to give you this testimony for the churches. I am the Root and the Offspring of David, the bright Morning Star. The Spirit and the bride say, ‘Come!’ And let him who hears say, ‘Come!’ Whoever is thirsty, let him come; and whoever wishes, let him take the free gift of the water of life.”

(Revelation 22:16-17)

Christ’s mission is the only legitimate rationale for every activity.

So the answer is not how we are doing an activity in the church. But how God, by the Holy Spirit will enable us to be missional as we serve each other and our community, as Christ gives us that assurance in Mathew 28:18-20: And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, *“All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”*

So, Mount Olive disciples of Christ, because Christ has redeemed us, He now sends us with His mission and ministry, in the image of Christ. We go with the Holy Spirit enabling us in the image of Christ as we disciple amongst our community, region, state, nation and the world. We go into all of our activities in and outside the walls of the building with the mission and vision of the church in mind. We go seeking ways for our people and our various ministries to serve to the glory of God and His people. We go equipped with His mission, and empowered by His Spirit.

Connecting People to Jesus,

Pastor Jon

**The MISSION of
Mount Olive Lutheran Church
is:**

***“Living to Love
People to Christ”***

WELCOME

Compassionate Friends

By Marcy Weight

Members of Compassionate Friends meet monthly to offer Christian love, hope, strength and companionship to:

- ◆ Cope with a recent diagnosis of cancer
- ◆ Meet the daily challenges of a chronic disease or terminal illness
- ◆ Encourage a neighbor, family member or friend suffering from a diagnosis of an acute disease
- ◆ Offer hope to you as a survivor



The next meeting for Compassionate Friends will meet in the Bookstore at Mount Olive on September 10 at 1:00 PM. This support group is open to everyone who has gone through or is going through an illness. Call Marcy at 763.755.6368 for more information.

SUMMER 2018 - "BIBLE HEROES" SERIES: "Incredible Heroes of the Faith"

Theme Verse: *"So may all your enemies perish, O Lord! But may they who love you be like the sun when it rises in its strength."* Judges 5:31

July 8: Jonah

July 15: Esther

July 22: Isaiah

July 29: Woman at the Well



By Pastor Jon Haakana

What Should L.I.F.E. Groups Do Over the Summer?

From an article on SmallGroups.com

For many, summer is all about taking a break - from everything. Kids are off school, teachers aren't working, people are taking vacations, and the church schedule is usually lighter. But summer can be a unique time of growth for our LIFE groups, so don't be too quick to call it quits for three months.

You might consider a different schedule for the summer. You could meet every other week, or you could meet once a month for a social activity. Some groups meet once a month for a study and sharing and meet another time each month for an outreach activity. It doesn't have to be all or nothing.

Whatever you decide, consider these three things for summer:

1. Stay Connected—Even If You Take a Break

You've spent months building up your relationships and getting to know each other. Don't let all that work go to waste! The good news is that even if you do take a break, or if your schedule changes somewhat, you can still stay connected. In fact, a smooth transition into fall requires that you stay connected with one another at some level.

2. Try Something Different

Summer is a natural time to try something new with your LIFE group. Whether you try out a new, less frequent schedule, drop your study during the summer, or take time to tell your stories, you can introduce your group members to new experiences that can help them grow as individuals and as a group.

Now's the time to spend time telling your personal stories, trying out the spiritual disciplines (**prayer, Scripture reading, media fast, etc.**), or planning a fun retreat for your group. You can also plan fun barbeques, sporting events, and more outside. It's also a great time to involve the kids in your meetings or activities, if you don't already. Try doing a craft together, make a chalk mural on the sidewalk, or spend time at a local park. Plus, the warmer weather opens up lots of opportunities to engage your community. See what service projects you might be able to participate in (**You could come and weed garden and flower beds at church**), or walk around and get to know your neighbors. Attend community events as a group with the intention of getting to know the people in your city.

3. Assess Your Group (For Leaders)

Summer provides the perfect time to take a hard look at your group and assess. Where are you at? Where do you want to be? What changes can you make for the fall?

Consider what God has done in and through your LIFE group this year and celebrate! But also take a look at what might be holding you back from experiencing more growth. Assess your leadership and have group members assess their group experience. Is your group accomplishing its mission, or have you strayed from it?

Have a great summer!!



WELCOME

The Dilettante

By Matt Bradley

I enjoy working on crossword puzzles. It is not often that I answer every clue in the crossword puzzle. Sometimes, when I can no longer answer any of the clues, I pursue gaining knowledge by looking up information on the clues and words I am not familiar with for the puzzle. Some may think this is cheating, but I look at it as an attempt to be better prepared and more knowledgeable for the next puzzle. Recently, I came across a single word clue in puzzle: **dilettante**. I looked up the meaning and the word has resonated since. A **dilettante** is someone who develops or cultivates an interest in an area without real commitment or knowledge.

I have been a huge music fan for most of my life. I've been playing a bass guitar for nearly 30 years. However, it's all self-taught skill. Never have I taken a lesson, never have I applied myself to become better at that craft. It's all a very surface level approach to playing bass. I have not committed the effort to develop whatever raw skill I may have into any sort of expertise. So, you could say that I'm a dilettante when it comes to playing the bass.

You might say being a dilettante is a little like being a jack-of-all-trades, and a master of none. Sure, I can play the bass guitar, but where is my expertise? Have I short-changed God's plan for this gift by being such a dilettante?

If we consider how God has individually blessed each of us with unique gifts and talents, what does good stewardship of these gifts and talents look like? Does it look more like someone who is applying themselves to passionate use of these gifts and talents in a few specific areas, or does it look like a jack of all trades and master of none?

Is it possible that we find ourselves guilty of being the dilettante when it comes to our Christian walk? Do we have a bit too much of the dilettante in us in the way that we pursue a relationship with God?

- We may occasionally show up at church for worship.
- We may occasionally say a prayer when we need something.
- We may occasionally crack open the Bible or do a devotion.

But are we intentionally, or unintentionally, staying on the surface level and avoiding any real commitment towards pursuing God?

When I think about this I'm reminded of a scene from the movie, "**War Room**", where a pivotal character in the movie intentionally gives a house guest a lukewarm cup of coffee. The house guest, not surprisingly, wishes to spit out the lukewarm coffee. Nobody likes a lukewarm cup of coffee. God's word in Revelation speaks the same about those of us Christians who are lukewarm. ¹⁵ *I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot. I wish you were either one or the other!* ¹⁶ *So, because you are lukewarm—neither hot nor cold—I am about to spit you out of my mouth.*

Revelation 3:15-16

In effect, if we are being the dilettante when it comes to our relationship with God, when it comes to growing in our faith, when it comes to our stewardship, when it comes to our prayer life... what should we expect God's reaction to us to be? We all want God to open his arms wide and welcome us in to his kingdom, not to be spat out.

We can become complacent, even stagnant in the walk through our time in this life. Perhaps, you are new to this term, as was I, and now see some aspect of your faith life where The Dilettante needs to die so you can begin making the most of the way that God has uniquely crafted you. Perhaps you've known this term, but never equated it to yourself in terms of your spiritual life.

We are all in need of being aware what our gifts are, or how those gifts can be used in Kingdom service. If we know the answers to both of those and are still just playing the dilettante...well, what would you cling to if God spits you out?

WELCOME

The Word

By Pastor Randy Stroming

Do we trust in God through the storms of life? Storms of life may blow about us. We may be challenged and even overwhelmed by the storms just like the disciples in Mark 4:35-41.

On that day, when evening had come, he said to them, "Let us go across to the other side." And leaving the crowd, they took him with them in the boat, just as he was. And other boats were with him. And a great windstorm arose, and the waves were breaking into the boat, so that the boat was already filling. But he was in the stern, asleep on the cushion. And they woke him and said to him, "Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?" And he awoke and rebuked the wind and said to the sea, "Peace! Be still!" And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm. He said to them, "Why are you so afraid? Have you still no faith?" And they were filled with great fear and said to one another, "Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?"



I have been fishing in some storms while in a boat. I remember a few times that I thought we were going to swamp the boat. In fact one time it did while fishing on Gull Lake. This time I had a fish on the line and was not paying attention to the boat or the waves and the boat swamped.

I remember a time when I was fishing on Lake of the Woods with my dad. The weather was rough that day and the waves were splashing the boat. As we were trolling the shore line a big boat came past us and nearly swamped us. It scared me as I looked to my dad for comfort. He said calmly "we are ok". "See the shore line? We are close and you have your life jacket on so you will be ok."

The storms of life that come at us are not these exterior storms that pose the greatest danger. The greatest danger that exists is the storms that are within us. The furious storm outside may be overwhelming but what is going on inside can pose the greater danger in our lives. The terrible corruption that exists within us that overwhelm us that we cannot save ourselves from is sin, the devil and the world around us. But just like my dad told me to keep my eyes on the shoreline and remember the life vest that I had on, we need to keep our eyes on Jesus our Savior. We need to walk by faith and trust in the one who calms storms by His Word with Peace - *be still*. We need to remember that Jesus is our Savior who defeated sin death and the devil and the evil sin that is within us to give us His Peace and forgiveness and Hope.

God gives us His promise to those who trust in the Lord Jesus and His will for their lives. When we become discouraged, the Holy Spirit in our soul rises up and wraps the comforting arms of Heavenly love and protection around us and reminds that we belong to Him. He points us to Jesus. He encourages by the Word us to keep on living In Jesus. He inspires us to press forward for the glory of the Lord. And He points us to Jesus. He leads us to the cross. To see our sin and then Guides us to His Word and Supper. He reminds us that we are His in baptism. He leads us to call on the name of Jesus and receive His PEACE. He has given us all we need today. "We are OK - see the cross and Jesus is our life vest." Hear Jesus Words for peace of heart, *Peace I leave with you My Peace I give ...* I invite you in the name of Jesus to cast your cares upon Him.

Word Ministry Focus - Life +

By Pastor Randy Stroming

SUMMER BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITY

Sunday Mornings 10:35 – 11:05 AM through July 29

“The Life You’ve Always Wanted”

by John Ortberg, led by Pastor Jon

If you have ever been frustrated with the state of your spiritual life...If you’ve ever wondered why spiritual growth seems to go so slowly... If you’ve wondered if real change is possible...If you’ve ever felt confused or stuck in your spiritual life – you’re my kind of person. I have struggled with all of those things, and yes, I’m a pastor. But I have also discovered that it is possible to live the life I’ve always wanted to live. The Gospel insists the transformation of our hearts and lives is possible. It’s never easy, but it’s possible. It takes discipline; spiritual discipline.

I want to invite you to join me for six weeks as we look at what Scripture says about living life Jesus’ way. We will look at some spiritual disciplines for ordinary people like you and me: Spiritual Transformation; Slowing Down and Celebrating; Praying and Confessing; Meditating on Scripture and Seeking Guidance; Practicing Servanthood, Finding Freedom; and Going the Distance with a Well-Ordered Heart. I hope you can join us!

† † † † † † †

Tuesday Women’s Bible Study at 10:30 AM will be meeting on specific dates in July and August in the Conference room talking about Psalms. We will be doing self contained studies each time, so feel free to join us for one, a couple, or all of the lessons! Our July meetings will be on Tuesday, July 10 (Psalm 51) and Tuesday, July 24 (Psalm TBD). We’d love for you to join us for prayer, fellowship and the study of God’s Word. Contact Karen Albu at 763.432.7652 or Chris Schomburg at Chrisschomburg@gmail.com with your questions.

Wednesday Morning Men’s Bible Study meets at 6:00 AM in the Coffee Shop. Contact Jeff Paschke at 763.427.5539.

Wednesday Morning Women’s Bible Study meets at 6:00 AM in the Meeting Room by the Coffee Shop. We are studying Armor of God from Ephesians 6 . Anyone interested in joining, please call or email Paulette Lenz at 763.576.0933 or mp.lenz@gmail.com.

Work Ministry Focus - Stewardship

By Jon Holtz



Have you seen members of the congregation wearing these shirts? Do you wonder why? How did they get them and what is the purpose?

The members wearing these shirts are VERY important to Mount Olive because they are our re-formed safety team! The Safety Team exists to aid, assist, watch, and direct people for the well being of our congregation. They will be alert and watching for weather, medical emergencies, suspicious persons and issues with church property.

Over the years at Mount Olive different approaches have been made to this team. The new focus is a joint effort between staff and this team. The people with green shirts are the “captains” and the staff provide additional members who will report to the captain at various events. At this time we cannot staff every event but are looking to grow the team to be able to address the majority of events here at Mount Olive.

If you would like to join the team there is an application process, background check, and training required. It is pretty painless and you can complete the training at your convenience with your personal technology devices.

So I encourage you to THANK the people stepping forward who are willing to assist Mt Olive in its safety procedures. If you have questions, please contact Jon Holtz at jonholtz@mtolive-anoka.

Blessings!



P.S. As you plan to enjoy your cabin, cottage this summer, a vacation, or if you ever forget your checkbook or envelopes no worries, GIVE+ is here to help.

Give + 5 Tools for Giving (located in the pew)

1. Give+ Mobile App
2. Give+ Text by texting 763.324.9754
3. Give+ Online through our webpage: www.mtolive-anoka.org/onlinegiving.html
4. Give+ at the Welcome Desk
5. Give+ Simply Giving (as it has been available all this time)

RUMMAGE SALE!

Benefits

Mount Olive Local & Global Missions

*Gather your extra items to donate!

*Drop off items at Mount Olive

through July 22

No Electronics, Exercise Equipment
or Baby Equipment

*Volunteer to help! *Tell your friends!

Friday, July 28

9:00 AM—6:00 PM

Saturday, July 29

9:00 AM—1:00 PM

River Oaks of Anoka &
Mount Olive Church

5:30 PM—7:30 PM

in the Mount Olive Parking Lot



Bring Non-Perishable Food Items
(canned or boxed) for Mount
Olive Manna Market
& School Supplies for
Franklin Elementary.
(For every item you bring,
you get a ticket for the drawing!!)

TUESDAY
AUGUST 7

- Bingo
- Fun Outdoor Games
- Inflatable Bouncer
- Pulled Pork on a Bun
- Hamburgers
- Root Beer Keg
- Live Music-Dancing
- Anoka Police Dept
- Anoka Fire Dept
- And much more...

Witness Ministry Focus - WOMO

By Jan Block



LWML ONLINE: National website is www.lwml.org. Many of you use your email, text and other tech items on a daily basis. Check on the www.mnslwml.org and see all the many things that come up. There are items for ministries, events and resources.



This is for the MN South District. Also, check our LWML table on the way to Cana Hall. It has several items for your use. There are Quarterlies, mite boxes and calendars that can be used to help fill your mite boxes. Encourage children to use them also.



SAVE THE DATE

The Red Cross Bloodmobile will be at Mount Olive on Monday, September 24

Annual Fall Lunch

Artisan 
Craft Fair

Saturday, October 13, 2018

at Mount Olive Lutheran Church

9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Mark your Calendars!!

WITNESSES

A HUGE thank you to everyone who donated to, prayed for, or helped at our VBS this year. It was a big success with over 140 kids in attendance from age 4-grade 4. Much fun was had by all, and each of those kids heard about Jesus and His great love for them. They each got to take home a CD of songs that have a Gospel message to share with their families. Please continue to pray that those families would continue to grow in faith and knowledge of our Savior.



Upcoming Events

- July 13-16 Jr Youth to Wilderness
- July 15-21 Sr. Youth Servant Event to Milwaukee
- August 11-12 Spoke Folk Homecoming Services

YOUTH

For more information please contact:

Youth & Family Ministry:
Marla Chesser
Events & Senior Youth
763.421.7156 x 117
marla@mtolive-anoka.org

Carol Kietzman
Sunday School & Junior Youth
763.421.7156 x 107
carol@mtolive-anoka.org

July 2018

July 2018							August 2018						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	26	27	28	29	30	31	
29	30	31											

Jul 1 - 7	Jul 8 - 14	Jul 15 - 21	Jul 22 - 28	Jul 29 - Aug 4		
Jul 1 Sunday 8:00am Classic Grace 9:30am Living Praise with Communion 10:35am Summer Bible Study (Meeting Room)	Monday 2	Tuesday 3	Wednesday 4 Church Office Closed in Obs 6:00am NO Men's Bible Study (Coffee Shop) 6:00am NO Women's Bible Study (Bookstore) 5:30pm NO Midweek Meals (Cana Hall-West)	Thursday 5 8:45am Leave for Bethesda (Main Entrance) 5:30pm Praise Team Rehearsal (Worship Centre) 6:00pm Living Praise Rehearsal 7:00pm Narcotics Anonymous (Meeting Room)	Friday 6 Junior Youth Servant Event (Wilderness Fellowship) 11:00am Senior Fellowship (Cana Hall-West)	Saturday 7 4:30pm Living Praise Rehearsal (Worship Centre) 5:30pm Saturday Night Worship
8 8:00am Classic Grace with Communion 9:30am Living Praise 10:35am Summer Bible Study (Meeting Room)	9	10 10:30am Tuesday AM Bible Study (Meeting Room) 3:00pm Trustees Ministry (Mtg. Room)	11 6:00am Men's Bible Study (Coffee Shop) 6:00am Women's Bible Study (Bookstore) 5:30pm Midweek Meals (Cana Hall-West)	12 5:30pm Praise Team Rehearsal (Worship Centre) 6:00pm Living Praise Rehearsal 7:00pm Narcotics Anonymous (Meeting Room)	13	14 4:30pm Living Praise Rehearsal (Worship Centre) 5:30pm Saturday Night Worship with Communion
15 Junior Youth Servant Event (Wilderness Fellowship)	16	17 4:00pm Stephen Ministry Le	18 6:00am Men's Bible Study (C Senior Youth Milwaukee Mission Trip	19 5:30pm Praise Team Rehearsal (Worship Centre) 6:00pm Living Praise Rehearsal 7:00pm Narcotics Anonymous (Meeting Room)	20 2:00pm Manna Market Setu	21 4:30pm Living Praise Rehear
22 8:00am Classic Grace with Communion 9:30am Living Praise 10:35am Summer Bible Study (Meeting Room)	23	24 5:15pm Stephen Ministry (Meeting Room)	25 6:00am Women's Bible Study (Bookstore) 5:30pm Midweek Meals (Cana Hall-West)	26 5:30pm NO Praise Team Rehearsal (Worship Centre) 6:00pm NO Living Praise Rehearsal 7:00pm Narcotics Anonymous (Meeting Room)	27 9:00am Mount Olive Runnimage Sale (Welcome Centre) 11:00am Senior Fellowship (Cana Hall)	28 9:00am Mount Olive Runnimage Sale (Welcome Centre) 4:30pm Living Praise Rehearsal (Worship Centre) 5:30pm Saturday Night Worship 6:45pm 500 Card Club Fellowship (Coffee Shop)
29 8:00am Worship with MN Adult & Teen Challenge Choir 9:30am Worship with MN Adult & Teen Challenge Choir 10:35am Summer Bible Study (Meeting Room)	30 Preschool Summer Camp (Room 109)	31 Spoke Folk Training (Muilt Ro	Aug 1	2	3	4

Mount Olive

700 Western St.
Anoka, MN 55303
Phone: 763.421.3223
Fax: 763.576.9626
Email: mtolive@mtolive-anoka.org
Website: www.mtolive-anoka.org



Saturday Night Service 5:30 PM
(contemporary service)

Sunday Worship Services:

Classic Grace: 8:00 AM
(traditional service)

Living Praise: 9:30 AM
(contemporary service)

NON-PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
ANOKA, MINN
PERMIT 55

Change Service Requested



July 2018

Upcoming Events

July 4: Church Closed in Observance of Independence Day

July 13-16: Junior Youth Wilderness Servant Event

July 15-21: Senior Youth Milwaukee Mission Trip

July 21: Manna Market

July 27-28: Rummage Sale

July 28: 500 Card Club Fellowship

July 29: MN Adult & Teen Challenge Choir (8:00 & 9:30 services)

August 7: National Night Out