



Olive Branch

Mount Olive
Lutheran Church

Volume 46, Issue 9
September 2011

Journey of Discovery

Our Fall Stewardship Campaign at Mount Olive will begin on October 2 and end on *Joy in the Journey* Sunday, October 30, with a luncheon in the Fellowship Hall following the late church service. At this luncheon we will announce the amount of pledges received for the coming year.



We are beginning our annual financial stewardship emphasis with a five week bible study. The bible study will be offered at small group meetings and on Sunday mornings beginning October 2 and ending on *Joy in the Journey* Sunday, October 30. Some of the small groups may begin their bible study before October 2.

Journey of Discovery will take you on a journey of faith and prayer, trusting the Holy Spirit to bless you and your gifts. Get on board and you'll find joy, peace, understanding, and excitement as you grow through His Word in response to God's grace in Christ.

We will be highlighting some of our ongoing ministries at Mount Olive with inserts in the church bulletin for you to read each Sunday. PowerPoint presentations on the different ministries at Mount Olive will be presented during the coffee time (9 – 9:30 AM) starting October 2 and ending on October 30. We hope you will take the time to come to the Fellowship Hall, have some coffee, doughnuts and enjoy the presentations. These presentations will give you an overview of how your gifts have touched many lives.

Please prayerfully consider your offering for the next year. We are setting aside the weekend of October 29/30 as *Joy in the Journey* Day for our congregation to dedicate the pledge cards.

Kindle the Fire

We would like to thank you for your generous support of the *Kindle the Fire* campaign. Because of your *Kindle the Fire* contributions to meet your pledge obligations, we have received \$203,548 to date. This is over 1/2 the amount (\$381,826) pledged last year.

To celebrate our *Kindle the Fire* One Year Anniversary and your generous contributions to date, **you are invited to the *Kindle the Fire* celebration in the Fellowship Hall on September 25 during the coffee time, 9 - 9:30 AM.**

The bus loan has been paid off and we have paid \$184,971 toward the principal balance of our mortgage. Thanks be to God for such a faithful and supportive congregation! We are looking forward to the day we can burn our mortgage. At the pace we are setting, it will be sooner than we think!

As we read the Case Statement again, let us *Rekindle the Fire* and remember our spiritual pledges ... *Mount Olive is nearly a half century old. Where other congregations might be content to maintain and look inward, the members of Mount Olive will not sit idly by. We will kindle the fire of the Gospel by taking up new ministry opportunities in the community and the congregation. However, our \$8,000 monthly debt payment is holding us back. It is suffocating the flame of the Gospel and restricting our ability to capitalize on new opportunities. Together, we can eliminate our debt so the Gospel fire will burn even more brightly among us. Imagine the possibilities!*

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Back to Church

As I write this our family is well on its way to getting our children “back to school.” This week we registered Rebekah for high school (yes, I am feeling a little older now), Kiersten for another year of middle school, Josiah and Paul have each moved up a grade in elementary school and Zack will begin preschool. (that will be four schools – I hope we can keep it all straight).

As our children head off to school they will be reuniting with “old” friends and making new friends. Friendships are so important and we all hope our children make good friendships that will last a long time. The same can be said for our church home. Friendship connections with other believers is very important. I would say it is second only to hearing the Word of God in worship and connecting with Jesus. Without a connection to others in the church, a person will soon fall away from active participation. People need to be loved and cared for to feel they belong. God shares His love through each of us as we make friends in church.

So, how are we doing at Mount Olive with our friendships? Do we have strong friendships or just a lot of acquaintances? Do we slide in and out of church without anything more than a “Hi” to a few people and a hand-shake with the pastor? Or are we building lifelong relationships that will strengthen our faith together? Are we spending time with “old” friends and making new friends at Mount Olive?

From merely looking at the numbers and seeing a leveling off of attendance on Sunday morning I would say we are good at acquaintances but maybe need more work on making and building friendships. There are people that we used to see that are no longer coming on a regular basis. And new members are not coming in large numbers. Strong relationships are not being built or are sliding for a variety of reasons.

Our church attendance seems to follow similar patterns to a school year, so September could also be called, “back to church” month. As our children are renewing relationships and making new ones we should do the same at

Mount Olive. The writer to the Hebrews says it this way, *And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.* (Hebrews 10:24-25) And a few chapters later, *Let brotherly love continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels un-awares.* (Hebrews 13:1-2)

In these few verses we have a renewing of relationships already existing and a building of new ones. That sounds like a good goal for the Fall or “back to church.” Could we each commit to reaching out and renew a relationship with someone (just one person) we know but haven’t kept up the relationship (and maybe even focus on those who have not been to church in awhile)? Could we reach out and build a new relationship with one person who again may be someone not attending Mount Olive (neighbor, co-worker, acquaintance)?

By renewing and building relationships we will make our ministry at Mount Olive much stronger! Relationships and connections are how people are brought to Jesus. I heard it said (sorry, I don’t know the source) that 80-90% of people who join a church came by invitation of someone they knew through a relationship. And I have heard, (again, I can’t remember the source) that 50-60% of people don’t attend a church regularly that they had gone to because they “don’t know anybody.” Well let’s change that by simply being a friend!

- † Reach out to someone who hasn’t been to church in awhile
- † Reach out to someone new who needs to be invited to Mount Olive.

Blessings in the journey,
Pastor Mike

The Olive Branch

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Worship services are

Saturday, 5 PM, Holy Communion
Sunday, 8 and 10:45 AM

Church Staff

Rev. Jeff Shearier, Executive Pastor
Rev. Michael Borgstede, Associate Pastor
Robin Kurth, Director of Child
and Family Ministry
Rebecca Elmshouser, Director of
Music Ministries
Mike Kallas, Operations Manager
Kaye Cairns, Office Manager
JoAnn Stibrich, Director of Early
Childhood Education Center
Larry Kraft, Custodian



Our Mission Statement

God has called us to *reach* out, *care* for and *build* people toward maturity in Christ.

The deadline for the newsletter is the 10th of each month.



Happy Birthday to ...

9/1	Hudson, Anastasia	Meador, Michael	Dalaska, Katie	9/24	Reed, Carol
	Harmston, Kyra	Johnson, Norma	9/16	Bishop, Nancy	Parkinson, Carson
9/2	Vaughn-Porquis, Dorinda	9/9	Dankenbring, Jozef		Krueger, Frederick
	Gee, Devon		Dankenbring, Jacobie	9/17	Feucht, Paul
9/3	Shellenberger, Susan		Kuenker, Emily		Klekamp, Christopher
	Weldon, Darren		Skerjanc, Leonard		Schallhorn, Robert
	Eifler, Theodore		Horton, Adam	9/18	Butenhoff, Kate
	Bachofer, Peyton	9/10	Elmshausen, Rebecca	9/19	Eifler, Greg
9/4	Yamada, Alyssa		Kurz, Lavonne		Grahn, Dorothy
	Wiley, Bob		Storm, Colton		Denke, Linda
9/5	Walter, Ronda		Dankenbring, Jennafer	9/20	Leonard, Dorothy
	Leonhardt, Janelle		Pelepchan, Ruth		Romer, James
	Hopkins, Ashley		Wirth, Betsy		Bott, Christopher
	Potzer, Christine		Deden, LaTisha		Eads, Clinton
	Brandt, Kelcy		Pierce, Bethany		Borgstede, Zachary
	Reisdorff, Cynthia	9/11	Abell, Lauren	9/21	Jost, Kian
9/6	Hudson, Evelyn		Matney, Jeffrey		Brandt, Lee
9/7	Heimbigner, Jerry	9/12	Gerdjikian, Joann		Maly, Nalani
	Kahmeyer, Kathi		Kemp, Gary		Heller, Muriel
	Howard, Michelle		Clough, Christine	9/22	Marschner, Richard
	Borgstede, Josiah	9/13	Krames, Paul		West, Emily
	Olivas-Meffina, Aidan		Montross, Kim		Cateora, Christina
	Dissette, Donna	9/14	Denke, Kristi		Liss, Leonard
9/8	Bond, Joshua	9/15	Smith, Nathan		Stewart, Cameron
	Fischer, Luke		Morton, Louis		Wilks, Casten
			Krohn, Donald	9/23	Kala, Lori

Anniversary Wishes to ...

9/1	Mercado, Julie & Hector	9/19	Ashby, Michael & Wilna
9/2	Boettcher, Darold & Verna	9/22	Bachofer, Delray & Marie
	Huyghebaert, James & Linda		Brooks, Jeff & Jennifer
9/3	Schonack, Mark & Rebekah		Huebschmann, Matt & Amy
	Yotter, Tim & Jennifer		Minter, Jim & Renee
9/4	Dreiling, Lara & Jeremy	9/23	Guigli, Denice & John
	Shearier, Jeffrey & Anne	9/24	Tae, Kari & Jeanie
9/5	Bacon, Dan & Lorraine	9/26	Coverly, Jeff & Kathy
	Obando, Mindy & Arnold		Denke, Dan & Linda
	Schilling, Joshua & Joanna		Hanson, Richard & Christy
9/12	Jones, Jeff & Kimberly	9/27	Kurz, Edward & Lavonne
9/14	Amore, Pat & Nancy		Sauerbreit, Steve & Amy
9/15	Narveson, Richard & Marilyn	9/28	Leonard, Karl & Dorothy
	Wishmier, Jack & Leona	9/29	Stark, Barbara & Vincent

Coming January 2012



The Jesus I thought I knew

Mount Olive's
Spiritual Growth Campaign

**Who was Jesus?
Who is Jesus?**

Find out more in January!



Blood Pressure Check

Saturday, September 17
4:30-6:15 PM

Sunday, September 18
9-11 AM
(In the Church Office)



Before and after each worship service we provide an opportunity for you to have your blood pressure checked by a nurse. It is quick and simple and a great way to monitor your health.

Helping Hands Care Packages

Human Care Ministry continues the "Helping Hands Care Package" to help families in need of short term assistance with food. The items listed below are being stocked. This is in addition to our efforts and support of Aurora Interchurch. Please look for these items on sale or when shopping in bulk and donate items monthly as you are able to support this ministry for those in need. For questions, please contact Pastor Borgstede, 303.755.9123.

- Peanut butter
- Cereal – small boxes
- Easy prepare meals like Mac and Cheese or Ramen Noodles
- Can soup with pop-top lids
- Can vegetables and fruit with pop top lids
- Granola bars or similar packaged snacks
- Water bottles
- Small single can/box juices
- Crackers
- Also small toiletries like toothbrush, toothpaste, hand sanitizer, and/or deodorant

Benevolence Fund

One goal of the Human Care Team is to provide minimal assistance to those in need. We provide a small food pantry to assist those who come in to us for assistance. This has worked well and thank you for your donations for this pantry. If you know someone in need of a few groceries let us know.

We can also provide assistance to our members in need through our Benevolence Fund. It is a designated fund, meaning the money put in this fund remains there year after year until we use it. It doesn't come from our regular budget, but is "filled" by generous donations from members of Mount Olive. If you would like to donate to the designated fund, you can mail the Church Office your donation, or place your donation in the offering plate, indicating that it is for the Benevolence Fund.

Thank you for your support and if you are in need of assistance, please feel free to contact Pastor Borgstede, 303.755.9123.

Senior Transportation

We provide transportation for those who have no other means to get to church and are able to get onto our bus (not wheelchair accessible) within a 2-3 mile radius from Mount Olive. There is a simple form to fill out and no cost for this bus service. Please contact Pastor Borgstede (303.755.9123) for more information or to get a form.



Dates are:
September 11 and 25
October 9 and 23
November 13 and 27
December 11

Aurora Interchurch

September donations —

Toilet paper/paper towels/facial tissue

Brown grocery bags are needed every month.



Reach Out
To Those in Need

You don't need to give every month. We ask that you give when you can, what you can. Thank you for all you do for others.



Oktoberfest is Coming

Sunday, October 2
Mount Olive Lutheran Church
Starting at 4:30 PM

Food
Music
F U N
Steve Rock Band

Prayer Chain

The Prayer Chain (sponsored by the LWML) has gone to email. You will receive a prayer request on your computer. We ask that you pray for the noted person or situation and that's it! **We do need people to pray.** To join the prayer chain, call the Church Office or write to Wilna at WJA959@msn.com with your name and email address.

Please consider joining this ministry.

Stephen Ministry

Ministering to those who are experiencing ...

Loneliness	Loss of a loved one
Retirement changes	Unemployment
Discouragement	Childbirth
Hospitalization	Separation/divorce
Terminal illness	Being shut-in

Are you in need of ...

Someone who cares?
Someone who supports?
Someone who listens?
Someone who shares?

If so, contact the Church Office, 303.755.9123,
and talk with Pastor Borgstede or Kaye Cairns.

HE
cares for you

Early Childhood Education Center

Happy September and it's the start of school! The "joyful" rumble of children and teachers can be heard throughout the classrooms. We are playing, singing, learning, praying, praising, laughing and enjoying being at school and with one another. Even though there were a few tears (by parents, too) on the first days of school, we are becoming pros at saying good-bye and joining in with the activities at school. We are off to a great beginning and will learn so much this year, especially about Jesus!



September will bring out our bears for Teddy Bear day. We will eat like bears, go on a Teddy Bear Picnic and learn all about bears. The children are working on their first homework assignment and then will share with their friends. They are putting together a "ME" poster all about their family, themselves and summer activities. This is a great way for all of us to get better acquainted.

We will celebrate God's love for us in chapel with Pastor Shearier this month. For many of our children this will be their first time in a church and we are thankful to have this opportunity.

As we begin another year we are very excited to be in this place and to be able to work, love and pray for His children everyday.

Think Scrip ... Think EC&C



Mount Olive Youth Ministry

Youth Website

Check out mtoliveyouth.com for more information about upcoming events, pictures from recent events and registration forms for retreats and trips. Have an idea for the website? Email youth@mtoliveluth.org with your idea.



Sign up for Weekly Email Youth Updates ...

Sign up at the youth website for weekly email updates. You 'll stay informed about important student ministry news.

... or Sign Up for Text Message Updates ... or Both!

Click on the " Text Message " link on the youth website for text message updates. And don' t worry, we 'll keep your number safe!



Upcoming Events

Jr High JOURNEY—Bible study for middle school students (Grades 6-8) meets every Sunday in Room 2, 9:30-10:30 AM.

Sr High REEL TIME—Bible study for high school students (Grades 9-12+) meets every Sunday in Room 10, 9:30-10:30 AM.

September 7—H2H Learning Event—7-8:30 PM

September 11—High School Youth Parents Meeting—10:45 – 11:45 AM

September 11—High School IMPACT—6-8 PM

September 14—H2H Fellowship Event—7-8:30 PM

September 21—H2H Learning Event—7-8:30 PM

September 23-25—High School FALL RETREAT

September 28—H2H Learning Event—7-8:30 PM

September 30-October 1—unPaved Conference

October 5—NO H2H Event

October 9—High School IMPACT—6-8 PM

October 12—H2H Service Event—7-8:30 PM



Child and Family Ministry



September 11, 9:30 AM

We are rounding up all children, age 2 through grade 5 (2 year olds must be accompanied by an adult) to kick-off the Sunday School year on September 11. Registration will begin at 9 AM in the Fellowship Hall. Children will then begin the year in their individual classrooms getting to know one another and beginning to study God's Word. Parents should pick children up in their new classrooms at 10:30 AM. Maps will be available at registration.

Sacred Heart House

Saturday, September 3,

5:00-8:00 PM

Contact Robin if your family would like to serve dinner at the homeless shelter. We serve the first Saturday of every month.

Children's Choirs

Begins September 14

Wednesdays, 5:30 PM

Watch the bulletin and newsletter for more details on children's vocal choirs and bell choirs.

Kid's Club

Wednesday, September 7,

5:30 PM

All children, age 3-grade 5 are invited to participate in Kid's Club this fall. Children will gather by age group and grow in faith and friendship, while studying God's Word, making crafts, playing games, and eating treats. Weather permitting, children will play outside. Kid's Club meets the first Wednesday of every month, from 5:30-6:50 PM.

My First Bible Class



September 18, 25, and

October 2, 9:30 AM

All parents of 2nd graders are invited to learn how to help your children grow in God's Word. The My First Bible Class is a step in the Faith Legacy Series. On September 18 parents and children will meet separately. Parents will meet in Room 8 for a parenting presentation, as children begin to explore the bible in their Sunday School class. **Second graders will receive their bibles in worship on Sunday, September 25, at the 8:00 AM worship service.**

Sunday School Information



- ★ Sunday School is for all children age 3 - grade 5.
- ★ A Parents and Two's class is offered for two year olds. They must be accompanied by a parent or special adult.
- ★ A registration form must be filled out for each child.
- ★ A mission offering is gathered each week for our mission friends.
- ★ Children may be dropped off in their classroom at 9:30 and picked up in their classroom at 10:30 each Sunday.
- ★ Children under grade two must be picked up by an adult.
- ★ Visitors and guests are always welcome at Sunday School!

Three Old Church Tour

Saturday, September 17,

10:00 AM

All three year olds (and four year olds who have not attended the tour yet) are invited on a special tour of Mount Olive. We will peek into the Sacristy and other special places. We will also learn about the different parts of the church service through the eyes of a child and create worship bags. Please R.S.V.P. for this special morning. Contact Robin at 303.755.9123 or rkurth@mtoliveluth.org.

Preschool Praise & Play

Begins September 14

Wednesdays, 5:30 PM

All preschool children are invited to praise God through story, song, and play every Wednesday (except the first Wednesday of each month) from 5:30-6:50 PM. Preschool Praise and Play meets in the ECEC.

We are called by God to:



reach out to children,
care for children and
build children toward maturity in Christ.

It is the goal of the Child and Family Ministry Team to accomplish this mission by equipping and encouraging parents to be active teachers and intentional examples of faith in their children's lives, as they share Jesus' love.

Young at Heart (55+)

Join us

Wednesday, September 14, 11:30 AM in the Fellowship Hall for a potluck.

Pastor Shearier will share pictures and highlights about their trip to Africa.



Thank You from Bethesda

Three hand-written thank you notes have been received from Bethesda Lutheran Communities in appreciation for the paper towels they have received from Mount Olive.

“Thank you so very kindly for you ongoing donations of paper towels. We appreciate all that you do!”

*Chad Wietrick
Area Director*

“Thanks for all you do for Bethesda!!”

Resa Thomas

“The Good Shepherd Auxiliary greatly appreciates all the paper products your members at Mount Olive donate to Bethesda Lutheran Communities.”

Donna Steele

Thank You Mount Olive



Our many thanks to all for your moral support and prayers during the time in which my son, John Elliott, was in ICU. He has since been released from the hospital and is improving each day, but it will be a long

recovery. We believe through the power of prayer he has made it through. Thank you so much.

Betty and Orville Geisler

Take a Fresh Look at Your Finances

September is a time of change. Vacation ends and kids return to school, making it an ideal time to examine your finances.

Experts recommend reviewing your finances at least once a year. Here's how:

1. **Identify your goals.** What are your short-and long-term financial goals? Have you made progress toward them this past year? If not, where have you fallen short? Have your goals changed? If so, write down your new goals.
2. **Evaluate life changes.** Events such as getting married, having a baby or getting a new job can have a big impact on your finances. Plan ahead to make the transition smoother.
3. **Protect your assets.** Review your health, auto and life insurance to ensure you have adequate coverage. And don't forget long-term disability insurance, which protects your most valuable asset—your earning ability and long-term care insurance—providing choice and protecting accumulated assets.
4. **Evaluate your investments.** Calculate the return on each of your stocks, bonds and mutual funds. Are you satisfied with their performance? Are your assets diversified? Are you taking an appropriate amount of risk based on your age and financial circumstances?
5. **Review your retirement plans.** Are you contributing the maximum to your employer's 401(k) plan or an IRA? If not, start today.
6. **Prepare for the unexpected.** Review your will and your medical directives. Do these documents still reflect your desires? If not, now's an ideal time to update them. Do you have enough in an emergency, rainy day, savings account?

For help in reviewing your finances, contact Robert (Bob) Apmann, CPA, FIC with Thrivent Financial for Lutherans, at 303.690.8924 or Robert.apmann@thrivent.com today or visit thrivent.com.

 **Thrivent Financial for Lutherans®**
Let's thrive!



Cookie Cans for College Students – 2011/12 School Year

This year our cookie cans will be sent out on these Saturdays: **2011** - October 1, November 5, December 3, and **2012**— February 4, March 3 and April 7. On these days a coffee can filled with home-baked cookies, hot cocoa or cider mix and seasonal goodies will be mailed or delivered to each college student. Parents or students of Mount Olive submit student names and addresses each year to receive the cookie can.

If you or your child would like to receive a can, **especially the new June 2011 graduates, please submit the name and address to Kathy Pelepchan, 303.693.4161 OR email to kpelepchan@msn.com. Names need to be submitted by September 24 for the October 1 mailing.**

We are asking that each family submitting a name help with the project for at least one of the months in which the cans are mailed. It takes about 2-1/2 dozen cookies for each can, so your help is needed and greatly appreciated. If you just love to bake, we would also welcome and appreciate your contribution, too!

Ways to be involved:

- Bake cookies, wrap them in packs of two with cling wrap or in a snack-size baggie and bring them to church for packing.
- Donate cocoa, cider mix, seasonal candy, granola bars, popcorn, pretzels, cheese crackers, nuts, raisins and other dried fruits, trail mix, rice cakes, Crystal Lite, cider, hot chocolate, ice tea and other drink packets, etc.
- Donate for mailing costs. There is a coffee can on the Narthex table.
- Come and help pack. It takes less than an hour and we have a great time working together and catching up on what our college kids are doing.

Several 'thank you' notes and emails were received from students last year letting us know how much they enjoyed the cans of goodies and how it "gave them a nice break" from their studies to enjoy a "taste of home".

Sign up sheets will be placed on the Narthex table each month. We hope to have around 30 cans this year and at 2-1/2 dozen cookies per can we will need about 75 dozen cookies each month. If you have 2 lb or 3lb coffee cans with lids, drop them off in the Church Office please! Students living at home can have their cookie can hand delivered but postage for the 'at school' group runs between \$6.50-\$8.00 depending on the size of the can. Monetary donations are accepted at any time and are **greatly appreciated**. They can be given to the Church Office or placed in the cookie can on the Narthex table.



Thank you so much for all your support and help!

Reformation Event at Mount Olive

Sunday, October 30

Come enjoy an evening learning about our Lutheran heritage. First, Pastor Boettcher will give a presentation on his recent trip to Germany where he was involved with the Wittenberg English Ministry. This will be followed by a showing of the 2003 "Luther" movie starring Joseph Fiennes. Food items will be available for purchase. Look for more information and a sign-up sheet soon.

LWML



LWML Kickoff
 hosted by Charity Circle
 Tuesday, September 6
 6:30-7:30 PM

Come enjoy fun and fellowship and meet the newest members of LWML, the Charity Circle!

If you are not already a member of LWML, come see what it's all about! Women of confirmation age and above are welcome!

A Love Offering of any size soccer balls will be taken for Lutheran Family Services.

Childcare will be provided.

LWML offers small group Bible studies at our **Circle Meetings** each month. They are available on different days and times and meeting places to fit into many of your schedules. The following circles are meeting in September. Questions? Contact Gilda Kaczmarek at 303.693.5519.

Circle Meetings

Charity Circle—Each Wednesday, 9:30 AM at Mount Olive.

Mercy Circle—Tuesday, September 6, 9:30 AM at Mount Olive.

Glory Circle—Thursday, September 8, 7 PM at the home of Wilna Ashby.

Faith Circle—Thursday, September 15, 9:30 AM at the home of Edwina Heiser.

Wanderers

On **Friday, September 16**, visit Rambler Ranch at Elizabeth and see 200 cars ... a vintage kitchen with Kelvinator appliances ... even a replica of a 1920s Sinclair gas station. Owner Terry Gale will explain how it all began with his dad's 1954 Ambassador Custom. Depart Mount Olive at 9 AM and return approximately at 2 PM. Cost of \$15 includes tour and transportation by church van and private cars. Instead of a picnic lunch following the tour, the first 25 persons to sign up will lunch at Nan's Elizabeth Tea Room (\$7-\$9). Additional registrants will lunch at a nearby diner.

On **Saturday, October 1**, the Wanderers will step back in time and see how our ancestors settled the plains with a visit to Burlington, CO. Learn about Eastern Central Colorado roots. Our Longhorn Chuckwagon Tour includes Old Town Museum, catered meal in the Saloon, old town express ride to the Kit Carson County Carousel, and a ride on the carousel. A stop will also be made at the World's Wonder View Tower Museum at Genoa. Enjoy the wide open spaces as we depart at 8 AM and return approximately 6 PM. Cost of \$42 includes transportation, lunch, museums, old town express ride to the Kit Carson County Carousel and a carousel ride. *Please make check payable to Mount Olive Lutheran Church, and place it in the envelope provided, and deliver to the Church Office by September 18.*

Sign up on the Narthex table or contact Phyllis Eifler with questions.



Become a Wanderer by ...

... signing up for any of the tours on the sign-up sheets on the Narthex table. All ages are welcome. It's a fun way to get better acquainted with all that Colorado has to offer and it's a great way to get better acquainted with other Mount Olive members.

Branson Show Extravaganza

You and your friends are invited to join the Grace Wanderers on a Branson Show Extravaganza 7 day, 6 night tour departing Sunday, November 27, 2011. The \$669 per person, double occupancy price includes transportation, lodging, 10 meals and seven Branson shows.

Please call Phyllis Eifler at 303.333.6893 for registration. Pick up detailed information from the Wanderers notebook on the Narthex table.



Elders Corner

Stan McKinster

The last responsibility the *2009 Guide Book and Directory* lists the Elders at Mount Olive responsible for is, "Oversee that Scripturally Sound Doctrine is used in the administration of Word and Sacrament, public worship, and in all stages of Christian education."

Mount Olive is a member of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod that holds to the inerrant Word of God as taught and explained through our Lutheran Confessions that are contained in the Book of Concord. This means we will receive preaching and teaching that makes us solidly Lutheran Christians. Everything we do in mission and ministry will point to Jesus Christ the God-Man, His virgin birth, His perfect lived sinless life, His death on the cross, full atonement for our sins, His physical bodily resurrection from the grave, and His glorious ascension into heaven. These are some of the reasons we profess one of our three Creed's during a worship service.

We also consider ourselves a "Sacramental" church regarding Holy Baptism and Holy Communion as properly taught from the Word of God. All of this flows down from the entire staff and leaders and those who teach our Sunday School classes as well.

Please feel free to contact me any time during the year if you have any question regarding this last responsibility for which the Elders at Mount Olive are to assist.

... so that your faith would not rest on the wisdom of men, but on the power of God (1 Corinthians 2:5).

Connecting with Mount Olive

Have you been visiting Mount Olive for a while and want to get more involved? Have you been curious about the things we do at Mount Olive and why? Are you wondering what it means to be a "member" of Mount Olive?

Getting involved in a church beyond Sunday morning is important for everyone's spiritual growth and in connecting with other people. To help we are offering a half day seminar detailing the ministry of Mount Olive, what we stand for and believe, and how people can get involved in our ministry. We will also answer the question, "What does it mean to be a member?"

This seminar is open to everyone either just seeking answers to questions or those who want to make Mount Olive their church home.

Our next seminar will be Saturday, September 17, from 8:30 AM to 12:00 Noon

Contact Pastor Mike, mrborgs@mtoliveluth.org or 303.755.9123 for more information or to sign-up for the seminar. You can also sign-up on our website at mtoliveluth.org and clicking on "Connecting with Mount Olive Seminar."

Music Ministry

Mount Olive Music Ministry Ensembles

Fall is a great time to begin your involvement in any of Mount Olive's music ensembles. Listed below are the various opportunities and rehearsal times. Most ensembles will begin rehearsal after Labor Day—watch the bulletin news for more information! If you are interested in participating in a group, please contact Rebecca Elmshouser, the ensemble director, or attend a rehearsal!

Bel Canto Handbells

The adult handbell group meets on Monday nights from 6:30-8:00 PM in the Bell Room.
Director: Kim Montross

Brass Ensemble

The Brass Ensemble meets on Wednesday nights from 7:00-8:30 PM in the Sanctuary.
Director: Diane Asmus

Carillon Handbells

The HS—young adults handbell choir meets Sunday mornings from 10:30 AM—12 Noon in the Bell Room.
Director: Kim Montross

Chamber Ensemble

The Chamber Ensemble is comprised of woodwind and string instruments and meets Wednesday nights at 5:30 PM
Director: Christine Krueger

Chancel Choir

The Chancel Choir (HS-Adult) meet Wednesday nights from 7:00-8:30 PM in Skidmore Hall.
Director: Rebecca Elmshouser

Children's Music (Kindergarten-middle school)

The children's music program meets on Wednesday nights from 5:30-6:55 PM and introduces children to singing, handchimes and handbells.





Normal is Broken Be Weird! Imagine Yourself Debt Free!

Financial Peace University is a life-changing class that teaches you the nuts and bolts of getting out of debt and how to make a plan for your future—so you can live and give like never before. Join over a million families in finding out just how rewarding it is to be weird! **Financial Peace University** is a biblically-based, 13-week video-driven study that teaches families to beat debt, build wealth and give like never before.

**Classes Begin Thursday,
September 15 at 6:30pm**

The family kit costs \$93 (about a \$1 a day for the 90 days, 13 week course!) available the first night.

Sign-up at our church website—click on the Financial Peace University logo. mtoliveluth.org.

Income/Expenses July 2011

Income	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Variance
Regular Offerings	512,519	558,441	(45,922)
Other Income	30,443	10,021	20,422
ECEC	74,959	82,825	(7,866)
Total Income	617,921	651,287	(33,366)

Expenses

Personnel/Benefits	355,823	357,740	(1,917)
Programs	82,542	85,699	(3,157)
Administrative	16,495	21,082	(4,587)
Properties	118,137	124,332	(5,448)
ECEC	86,965	92,324	(5,359)
Total Expenses	659,962	681,177	(21,265)

Net Income (42,041) (29,940) (12,101)

KINDLE THE FIRE

Fund Balance January 1, 2011: 16,041

YTD Income: 80,700

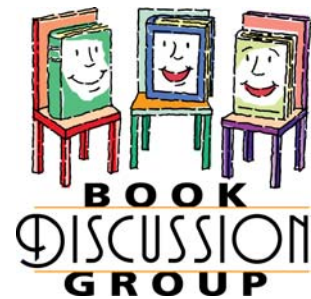
Additional Mortgage Principal: 88,040

Net: 8,701



Book Group

Read By	Book and Author	Leader
September 7	<i>A Reliable Wife</i> by Robert Goolkrick	Cynthia Southern
October 5	<i>The Help</i> by Katherine Sackett	Jennifer Klekamp
November 2	<i>Extraordinary, Ordinary People</i> by Condoleeza Rice	Mary Rindahl
December 7	<i>Same Kind of Different As Me</i> by Hall and Moore	Anne Shearier



Expand your reading list. Stretch yourself ... read something you have never heard of ... then join in on our discussion in **BOOK GROUP**. We meet the first Wednesday of the month at 5:45 PM.