



Olive Branch

April 2016 | Volume 51 Issue 4

Mount Olive Lutheran Church, 11500 E. Iliff Avenue, Aurora, CO 80014 mtoliveluth.org 303.755.9123
Worship services are: Saturday, 5 PM; Sunday, 8 and 10:45 AM

Pastor Mike and Sara ... Thank You!

All of us in your Mount Olive church family are grateful to God not just for what you do, but for who you are. For nearly sixteen years as we have watched you, Pastor Mike, grow in ministry, it has been equally rewarding to watch Rebekah, Kiersten, Josiah, Paul and Zach grow into the beautiful Christian family God has created you and Sara to become.

When a person gets married, they marry into a whole family. The same is true of ministry. When you took your vows Pastor Mike, Sara and the kids entered into this ministry together with you. For better and for worse, in times of healthy ministry and not so healthy, God has spoken through you to bring His Gospel of salvation to many, many people here at Mount Olive and beyond. St Paul likes to call it *preaching the Word in season and out of season* (2 Timothy 4.2). In all these years, the faces change (mostly we grew older) but the Word remains the same. And now, Borgstede family, the faces in the pews, around the font and at the altar will all be changed, they will all be new but they won't really be so different after all. As you enter into vows with your new family and proclaim the Good News in a new place, your *Communion of Saints* will grow larger, adding to your church family while leaving none of us behind.

God be with you, Mike and Sara. God bless you, your kids, Jean and Bob and God bless the Word that goes out through your ministry to the blessing of His Kingdom!

With love and gratitude,
Your Mount Olive Family

Thank you
MAY GOD BLESS YOU

Miracle-Gro



I planted, St Paul writes to the church in Corinth, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. He who plants and he who waters are one, and each will receive his wages according to his labor. For we are God's fellow workers (1 Corinthians 3:6, 8-9). In God's garden we expect God to grant the miracle of growth while at the same time, God expects us to share in His labor of love. When you think about it, it's an incredible honor and privilege for us to be coworkers with God!

This year, the corner of God's garden that is Mount Olive Lutheran Church will look a little different. Two formerly separate ministries will be combined under one staff member. DCE Robin Kurth will be leading both Youth and Children and Family Ministries here at Mount Olive. This is where you come in. As we continue to trust God for the growth, He continues to invite you to work in the garden: *For we are God's fellow workers. He who plants and he who waters are one, and each will receive his wages according to his labor* (vs 9, 8). One woman directing two ministries is the necessary reality for Mount Olive's current size. Many volunteers, *becoming one, planting and watering* together in garden ministry has always been necessary, but even more so now that there is more work to do.

God has blessed us with wonderful Youth, Children's and Family ministries. Excellence will continue to be the hallmark of all we do together. The programs will look different, embrace it. The volunteer opportunities are expanding, employ yourself. The children in your life have so much to give and to gain by their faithful, regular commitment to these ministries (nothing less than Christ Himself) empower them to engage. As Robin plants and we water, God's miracle growth of lives changed by the living Savior, Jesus Christ, will produce a harvest worthy of rejoicing forever!

--Pastor Harmon



- 1 Skov, Fred
Klein, Pam
Truett, Kristi
- 2 Harjes, Sy
Ommen, Darlene
Andrie, Craig
Maul, Teri
Neubauer, Gregory
- 4 Johnston, Heather
Obando, Logan
- 5 Ruesch, Kathie
- 6 Rehwalt, Elizabeth
Parker, Teag
- 7 Buchner, Samuel
- 8 Scheffel, Rich
Conley, Martin
- 9 Scheffel, Mary
Johnston, Adam
Mc Kelvey, Brian
Sudan, Thomas
- 10 Bowers, Lori
- 11 Pelepchan, Kathy
Gurrola, Theresa
Dreiling, Jacob
- 12 Jones, Joreen
Scheffel, Nicole
Liss, Kathy
- 13 Neubauer, Sarah
- 15 Kelsey, Linda
Wetherbie, Ryan
Campbell, Declan
- 16 Bacon, Dan
- 17 Warkentin, Zachary
Butler, Reba
Polton, Amelia
- 18 Ellis, Rachel
- 19 Student, Ann
Krueger, Glenn
Latimer, Ronda
Johnston, Joshua
- 21 Olsen, Sandra
Narveson, Marilyn
Samuel, Zereyohannes
- 22 Crane, Hazel
Sonnichsen, Arlene

- Ray, Barbara
Fischer, Cynde
Nelson, Tom
Narveson, Andrea
Pelepchan, Nicholas
Gaines, Colton
- 24 Muir, Janice
Osborne, Deborah
Amore, Pat
Andrie, Kathy
Bellis, Colin
Smith, Natalie
- 25 Kerr, George
Goggins, Herman
- 26 Thies, Karen
Keating, Lindsay
- 27 Vande Garde, Bruce
Borgstede, Paul
Thiel, Kiara
- 28 Wallingford, Brenda
Harmon, Christopher
Lehew, Ethan
Lehew, Ford
- 29 Bowers, Andrew
Raimondo, Gage
- 30 Johnson, Pearl
Narveson, Richard



- 1 Fischer, Cynde/Dan
- 6 Kalthoff, Glenn/Jo
- 9 Vaughn-Porquis, Dorinda/William
- 10 Flint, Jim/Zoe
Osborne, Richard/Deborah
- 12 Sande, Roy/Lenore
Schoenhals, Dean/Debbie
Henninger, Donald/Jane
- 15 Bair, Frank/Sandra
Schonack, Russell/Leone
- 16 Rehwalt, Harvey/Elizabeth
- 19 Gerdjikian, Gary/JoAnn

Young at Heart

Wednesday, April 13, 11:30 AM
Potluck lunch in the Fellowship Hall

Guest Speaker: Gary Fuller, Epiphany Lutheran Church
Castle Rock

Topic: How the Orphan Grain Train has helped many poor countries in making quilts, etc. and distributing them across the world.

(He is excited about expanding the growth in the Denver area.)

Newcomers are most welcome!

Hosts: Jean King, Darlene Donner, Ruby Miller

Bring your gently used clothing items that day and Gary will deliver the items to Orphan Grain Train.



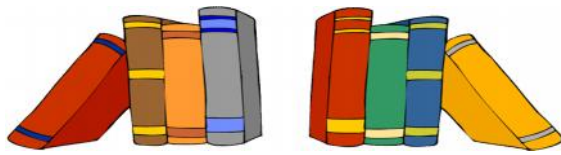
Book Club List for 2016

Date	Book	Author	Leader
April 6	<i>Killing Patton</i>	O'Reilly/Dugard	Joanne Petersen
May 4	<i>The Swan Thieves</i>	Elizabeth Kostova	Kathy Meyer
June 1	<i>The Girl on the Train</i>	Paula Hawkins	Marsha Raebel

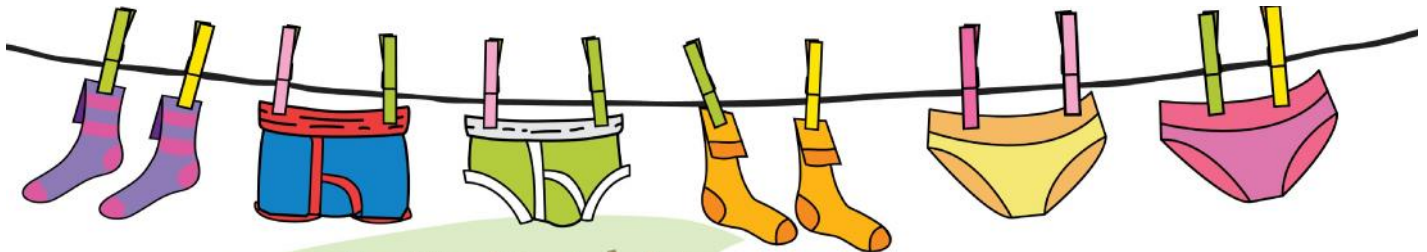
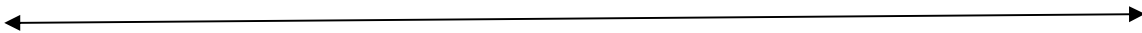


We meet the first Wednesday of the month at 5:45 PM in the Library.

Please note the two books listed in red have been switched.



Book club



UNDIE SUNDAY

Now through
April 10

Mount Olive is collecting

new underwear of all sizes

now through April 10

Place items in bin located under the LWML bulletin board in the hallway to the Fellowship Hall.

Items will be given to Orphan Grain Train, a 501c3 Nonprofit Christian volunteer network that shares personal and material resources with needy people in America and around the world.

Blood Pressure Check

Saturday, April 16

4:30-6:15 PM

Sunday, April 17

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.



**Lutheran Women's
Missionary League**

Faith Circle will meet Thursday, April 21, 9:30 AM at the home of Ellie Jones

Glory Circle will meet Saturday, April 16, at the home of Wilna Ashby. Meet at Mount Olive at 1 PM to carpool to Wilna's.

Mercy Circle will meet at Mount Olive on Tuesday, April 5, 9:30 AM.

OPERATING INCOME/EXPENSES FEBRUARY 2016 (FISCAL YEAR JULY 2015-JUNE 2016)

Church Income	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Variance
Regular Offerings	504,517	518,197	(13,680)
Other Income	10,786	9,544	1,242
Total Income	515,303	527,741	(12,438)
Church Expenses			
Personnel/Benefits	326,470	365,374	(38,904)
Programs	69,634	77,959	(8,325)
Administrative	26,825	27,836	(1,011)
Properties	77,974	85,157	(7,183)
Total Expenses	500,903	556,326	(55,423)
Net Church Income	14,400	(28,585)	42,985
ECEC Income			
Tuition	122,578	142,214	(19,636)
Personnel/Benefits	101,529	109,618	(8,089)
Administration	1,741	2,875	(1,134)
Instructional	9,122	22,128	(13,006)
Total Expenses	112,392	134,621	(22,229)
Net ECEC Income	10,186	7,793	2,593

Military Appreciation

Serving and protecting our American interests at home and abroad is a high calling! We praise our men and women who serve in the Armed Forces. Include in your prayers our military who are also members of Mount Olive. Prayer for their safety and give thanks for their service!



- | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| Brian Bechley – US Army | * Brandon Ulmer – US Army |
| Steven Gerdjikian – US Army | Kevin Selander – US Army |
| James Stewart – US Army | * Don Mammano – USAF |
| Shelley Stewart – US Army | * John Otten – US Army |
| CJ Maul – US Army | Austin Norcross – US Army |
| * Matthew Kepler – US Army | Tom Sudan – USAF |
| Travis Geisler – US Army | * Katie Hubbard – US Navy |
| * Alexander York – USAF | Alex Bowers – US Army |
| Ian Johnston – US Navy | John Donner – US Army |
| | Sean DeCarlo—US Navy |
| | Thomas Nygard—US Navy |
- *Friends of Mount Olive

Endowment Fund

Over the past calendar year grants totaling \$5,025 have been awarded to the individuals below. Unfortunately no new grant requests are being considered due to the minimal interest recently accrued on the corpus of the fund.

Please keep the grantees in your prayers.

Rev. Charles Ferry and Family serving the Lord in Southeast Asia. Rev. Ferry, his wife, Cheryl, and their four (almost five) young children are adjusting to their new home in Medan, Indonesia. The City of Medan is in the northern part of the island of Sumatra. Rev. Ferry is working with Lutheran Christians throughout Indonesia.

Vicar Austin Kraft working for the Lord at Grace Fellowship Lutheran Church in Gypsum, CO. While serving as a vicar at Grace Fellowship, Austin is also preparing for ordination as a pastor in the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod by completing studies at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, MO.

Jonathan Jennings and wife, Stephanie, are anticipating Jonathan's vicarage assignment this spring for an unknown Lutheran church (LCMS). Jonathan will be completing his second year of studies at Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, IN.

Tyler Stibrich continues to feel blessed to have the opportunity to be a leader for Damascus Road, a Christian ministry on the campus of the University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ.

See the Endowment Fund bulleting board by the Church Office for -

- Additional information from some of the above
- Mount Olive Endowment Fund brochures



The Mount Olive Endowment Fund (MOEF)

- ⇒ Helps aid students preparing for ministry
- ⇒ Assists in unique outreach ministry opportunities in our community
- ⇒ Reaches out in mission opportunities here and abroad
- ⇒ Supports select unbudgeted projects at Mount Olive



Request forms for a MOEF grant may be obtained in the Church Office or on the church website under the "Connecting" heading. Please include the MOEF in your prayers and with gifts, memorials and wills.

The current Endowment Fund Committee includes—Don Berlinski (chairperson), Duane Asmus, Orville Geisler, Gary Johnson, Kevin Meador and Brian Pelepchan



Child and Family Ministry

Dates to Remember

April

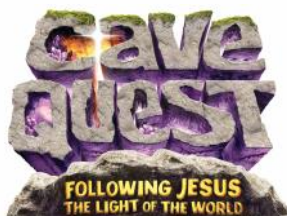
- 3 – Parenting First Graders, 9:30 AM
Faith Legacy Towel and Basin Class
- 6 – April Praise Party, 5:45 PM
- 10 – Parenting First Graders, 9:30 AM
Faith Legacy Towel and Basin Class
- 13 – Praise and Play/Kid's Music, 5:45 PM
- 17 – Parenting First Graders, 9:30 AM
Faith Legacy Towel and Basin Class
- 20 – Praise and Play/Kid's Music, 5:45 PM
- 24 – First Grade Blessing, 10:45 AM
Faith Legacy Towel and Basin
- 24 – VBS Kick-off Party, 4:00 PM

May

- 1 – Last Week of The Story
- 4 – May Praise Party, 5:45 PM
- 11 – Last Day of Praise and Play/
Kid's Music, 5:45 PM
- 22 – Last Day of Sunday School
- 29 – No Sunday School

June

- 3 – Expedition Norway Begins, 9:30 AM
- 3 – Sunday School Fun Day, 11:30 AM
- 20-24 – VBS



Vacation Bible School

June 20-24, 2016
8:45 AM-Noon

Children age 3* through grade 5 are invited for a week of stories, games, crafts, snacks, music and more! Children will experience bible adventures and learn how Jesus gives us hope, courage, direction, love, and power.

Registration opens April 24, 2016. Registration will be available online. Simply visit our church website (mtoliveluth.org) and click on the VBS Logo. Vacation Bible School is free for all children. Registration will close June 15, 2016. **There will be no registrations accepted after June 15.**

*All children must be 3 years old by January 1, 2016, easily separated from parents, and potty trained.



Youth and adult volunteers are needed in all areas. E-mail rkurth@mtoliveluth.org to sign up!

VBS Kick-off Party

Sunday April 24, 4:00 PM

VBS Registration Opens!

Sneak Peek at VBS Fun!

VBS T-shirts, DVDs, and CD's Available!



Our children are invited on an expedition to Norway this summer at Summer Sunday School. Watch for more information and fun details!

Summer Sunday School Begins June 3!

Youth and Family Ministry

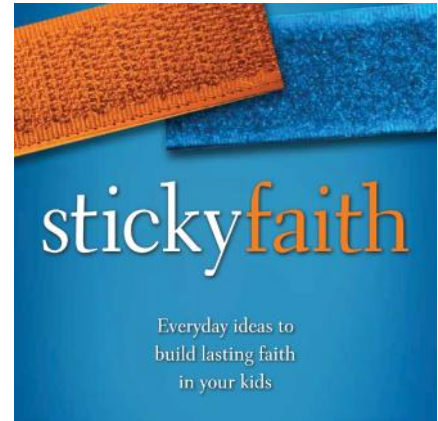
SCHEDULE

March

27 6:00 AM Easter Breakfast

April

3	9:30 AM 6:00 PM	The Story (Confirmation and High School) IMPACT
6	7:00 PM	Confirmation – Fellowship Hall
10	9:30 AM 6:00 PM	The Story (Confirmation and High School) IMPACT
13	7:00 PM	Confirmation – Fellowship Hall
17	9:30 AM 6:00 PM	The Story (Confirmation and High School) NYG Meeting
20	7:00 PM	Confirmation Review (8th Grade Only)
24	9:30 AM 6:00 PM	The Story (Confirmation and High School) IMPACT



DCE Intern Becky will be leading a book study for parents on the book, *Sticky Faith: Everyday Ideas to Build Lasting Faith in Your Kids*. This will be a four week study beginning on April 10. We will be meeting in the Library on Sunday mornings at 9:30 AM. Please sign up at the ARK so we can get you a book and a study guide prior to our first meeting time.



Mark your calendars for
**CONFIRMATION
SUNDAY
May 15
10:45 AM Service**

Register For:

The **10th Annual Golf Tournament**

to be held at Murphy Creek Golf Course on

June 4, 2016!

Proceeds will help fund youth activities, primarily the National Youth Gathering in July 2016.

www.golf.mtoliveluth.org

Wanderers

On **Friday, April 22**, the Wanderers depart Mount Olive at 9:30 AM to sample the original Highlands neighborhood in northwest Denver before it disappears in the rush of all the “new-builds”. Denver Screen Printing and Embroidery at 3333 Mariposa will explain how that picture got on your favorite t-shirt on a brief tour, and then we’ll go to lunch at Highland Tavern, 3400 Navajo. Cost is \$3 in addition to lunch. After lunch we’ll proceed to 35th and Kalamath for a slow drive-by viewing of *Neighborhood Epic*, a series of tile mosaics on the I-25 sound barrier wall installed in 1993 as part of Denver’s Public Art Program.

South Pacific at Candlelight Dinner Playhouse, Johnstown, CO.

Depart Mount Olive at 10:30 AM and return approximately 5 PM. Cost is \$70 and is payable to Mount Olive Lutheran Church by April 18 ... includes dinner with dessert, tax and tip; show tickets and transportation (chartered bus if we have 40 or more ... carpool and church bus if less than 40).



**Sign up at the ARK
for all Wanderer tours!**

Concordia Jr./Sr. High School Band, Western Omaha, Nebraska to play during our Saturday and Sunday services on April 2/3

Concordia Jr./Sr. High School, located in Western Omaha, Nebraska, was established in 2001 and has since grown to over 450 students in grades 6-12.

The music program at CHS includes classes for band, choir, strings and guitar but also has options for students like handbells, jazz band, drumline, music technology, Show Choir and Contemporary A Capella Choir. The school’s talented musicians in the Praise Band assist in leading chapel every week and about 75 students are involved in performing a large musical theater production every spring.

The Sr. High Band at CHS includes 50 instrumentalists. They regularly earn superior ratings at contests and four years ago took a trip to visit Lutheran schools in Hong Kong. Two years ago they were chosen to perform at the NE Music Educator’s Association Conference at the University of NE, Lincoln. They are touring in early April to Denver and surrounding areas.



Church Staff

Rev. Robert Harmon, Senior Pastor
Robin Kurth, Director of Child and Family Ministry
Becky Schutt, Director of Christian Education Intern
Kim Montross, Director of Music
Mike Kallas, Director of Finance and Operations
Kaye Cairns, Office Manager
JoAnn Stibrich, Director of the ECEC
Greg Karampelas, Building Custodian



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



Web: mtoliveluth.org



Facebook: **Mount Olive Lutheran Church, Aurora, CO**



Blog: mtoliveluth.blogspot.com

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

God's Servants

April 3
2nd Sunday of Easter

April 10
3rd Sunday of Easter

April 17
4th Sunday of Easter

April 24
5th Sunday of Easter

Elders

8:00 Stan McKinster
10:45 Ed Kilgore

Communion Assistant

8:00 Kim Montross
10:45 Steve Tappe

Ushers

8:00 Larry Bargmann, Joe Stibrich, Brian Pelepchan, Terry Dunn, Steve Polson
10:45 Frank Candelaria, Aaron Kirkeide, Keith Einspahr, Rosalie Einspahr

Greeters**Saturday**

Pat Wallingford

Tammy Dixon

Darlene Ommen

Sy Harjes

8:00

Monty Schrandt/Geri Adams
Marilyn Eisenach

Pat/Nancy Amore
Devonne Domineck

Darold/Verna Boettcher
Don/Elaine Berlinski

John/Joanne Petersen
Sylvia Zwingelberg

10:45

Lois Gottberg

Peggy Carstens

Diane Van Stone

Hosts**8:00**

Jane Fields

Joanne Petersen

Edwina Heiser

Jane Dunn

10:45

Claudia Humbargar

Doris Kilgore

JoAnn Stibrich

Stan Humbargar

Welcome Center**8:00**

Virginia Engleman

John Petersen

Tom Fields

Jane Fields

10:45

Wanda Johnson

Gary Johnson

Ed Kilgore

Doris Kilgore

Organists/Pianists

Eickmann/Buckingham

Elmshouser/Buckingham

Diane Asmus

Marsha Raebel

Lay Readers**8:00**

Wendy Bleeke

Heather Cammack

Diane Asmus

10:45

Dorinda Vaughn-Porquis

Joe McCoy

Sandra Sall

Janet Buckingham

Altar Care

Susan Shellenberger

Diane Van Stone

Jane Dunn

Sandra Sall

Michele McKinster

Zoe Flint

Geri Adams

Nancy McWhirter

Jane Dunn

Lori Bowers

Kathy Bodemann

Acolytes**8:00****10:45****Assist Pews**

Jo Natomeli

Devonne Domineck

Darlene Ommen

Bulletin Helpers

Fabozzi/Kalthoff

Bud/Lucille McGee

Fabozzi/Kalthoff

Eisenach/Donner/Heiser