



**ALL ARE WELCOME**

**SUNDAY WORSHIP & HOLY COMMUNION:**

**In-Person Worship & HC @ 8 & 10 a.m.**

Our worship services will be livestreamed @ Facebook, and YouTube. Facebook stream also found on the home page of our website: [www.mountolive-elca.net](http://www.mountolive-elca.net)

**OFFICE HOURS**

Monday-Thursday 8 a.m. - 2 p.m.  
Church Office: 262-363-8251  
Email: [mto@mountolive-elca.net](mailto:mto@mountolive-elca.net)

**CHURCH STAFF**

**Pastor Steve Bogie**

Office Phone: 262-363-8251  
Cell Phone: 262-409-0743  
Email: [pastorsteve@mountolive-elca.net](mailto:pastorsteve@mountolive-elca.net)

***Administrative Assistant***

Debbie Wagner

***Maintenance***

David Gill

***Housekeeping***

Marie Sackett

***Worship Accompanist/Praise Team Director***

Deanna Kulow [deanna.kulow@mountolive-elca.net](mailto:deanna.kulow@mountolive-elca.net)

***Sunday School Coordinator***

Cindy Dobberke

***AofB Coordinator***

Cindy Dobberke 262-719-5711  
[cindy.dobberke@mountolive-elca.net](mailto:cindy.dobberke@mountolive-elca.net)

***Prayer Chain***

Betty Hinkelman 262-662-0205 or  
Church office 262-363-8251

***Websites***

[www.mountolive-elca.net](http://www.mountolive-elca.net)  
[www.milwaukee-synod.org](http://www.milwaukee-synod.org)  
[www.elca.org](http://www.elca.org)



**MIDNIGHT MAGIC**

On Saturday, December 7<sup>th</sup>, **Midnight Magic** returns to Mount Olive, and we will be hosting various musical and theatrical groups in our sanctuary. Come and see the amazing talent which resides in our community!

- Parade viewing never got better than from the MTO green space! Bring your friends and family!
- Enjoy *FREE* hot chocolate during the parade from under the MTO canopy.
- Warm up by the MTO bonfire! Rest a while!
- Following the parade, take some time to explore faith on the MTO Advent Walk, open until 7:30 p.m.

**Advent Path:** All are invited to walk the Advent Path on **Saturday, December 7<sup>th</sup>, from 3:30-7:30 p.m.** on the corner of Main & Atkinson (MTO's green space). Walk the path; experience five unique stations to celebrate the promises of Advent and the birth of Christ. Interactive activities for the whole family! In case of inclement weather, please refer to our [Facebook.com/mountoliveelca](https://www.facebook.com/mountoliveelca).

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**CHRISTMAS SERVICE/  
OFFICE SCHEDULES**



- **Tuesday, December 24<sup>th</sup>** – Office Closed  
Christmas Eve/Candlelight Services – 10 a.m., 3:30 p.m., and 5:30 p.m.
- **Wednesday, December 25<sup>th</sup>** – Merry Christmas/Office Closed
- **Thursday, December 26<sup>th</sup>** – Office Closed
- **Sunday, December 29<sup>th</sup>** – ONE Worship Service @ 9 a.m.
- **Wednesday, January 1<sup>st</sup>** – Happy New Year/Office Closed

## A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR STEVE

*“Peace I leave with you, my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.”*

**John 14:27 NRSV**

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ:

As we approach Christmas, we can reflect on the life-giving light that has come near through the birth of Jesus Christ. Jesus is the light that shines through the darkness of this world.

When life is filled with anxiety and fear during this time of year, it can help to look to the Christmas story. Bethlehem is a place of mystery and wonder, far removed from the wild world we live in, where angels populate the skies and appear to shepherds in the fields. In this holy scene, we come to know, far from the problems of the world, a mother and father and their firstborn son. Someday, humanity will come to know God’s far-reaching love for all through this first-born son. Can you feel the stress start to lessen? Familiar as it is, the Christmas story provides a brief escape from the real world we face daily, a world that has difficulty finding time for self or God.

As North Americans, we live at a certain speed. Yet, when we do not find time to unwind or disconnect, we can begin to feel unhappy about our pace. Instead of taking the time to find something that gives us self-care, we continue to sacrifice ourselves for the things that can take our time, energy, joy, and peace away.

This holiday season, Jesus invites us to make some room for God. We see this invitation in the Bible. In Matthew’s Gospel, Jesus tells us, “Come to me, all are weary and carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest.” I have used this text on countless occasions. It is a favorite of mine because it speaks to many people on many levels. In this invitation, personally given by Jesus, we are reminded of a way of life that embodies rest, peace, and God.

God may be inviting us to make room for Jesus this Advent season so that we can find rest for our souls. If we take time for Jesus through prayer, worship, and reading scripture, we can find rest from the burdens we face in our lives. Yet, in the midst of this changing world, it is hard to see how taking time for God can give us rest.

Come and see how God can provide rest for your soul. When you feel bogged down by life, you are invited to make space for Jesus. If you do, you can find rest for your burdens because you face them with Jesus by your side.

Life is more peaceful when we make room for Jesus in our lives, especially during the craziest times of this holiday season, which is good news on this day.

Peace be with you all!

Steve Bogie, Pastor

*All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: “Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel,” which means, “God is with us.”*

**Matthew 1:22-23 NRSV**

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## TIME WITH THE PASTOR

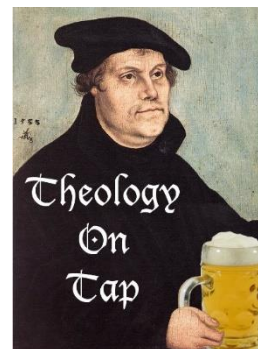
Pastor Steve invites you to get together with him outside of worship for conversation and camaraderie. The meeting could be for coffee, lunch, or a drink at a local spot near the church or in someone’s home.

Pastor Steve looks forward to getting to know the wonderful people at Mount Olive Lutheran Church and hearing their hopes, dreams, and hobbies. Please sign up for a meeting with Debbie in the office.

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## THEOLOGY ON TAP MONDAY, DECEMBER 2<sup>nd</sup>, 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Come and enjoy a beer, glass of wine, or a cocktail as we gather in a casual, safe space to talk about life, our experiences, and the presence of God through it all. Theology on Tap will be a great time to build friendships in a relaxed atmosphere. The atmosphere and an adult beverage will help to talk about anything the Holy Spirit brings to our hearts. Join us on the first Monday of each month at Badger Burger in Mukwonago. Theology on Tap is open to anyone over 21. Relax with friends while discussing your experience of life and God. I hope to see you at Theology on Tap soon. Please let Debbie know if the office if you wish to attend. Peace be with you always, Steve Bogie, Pastor.





Dear Member of Mount Olive Lutheran:

By the time this newsletter is issued, you will have already received the pledge materials for the Fall 2024 Stewardship campaign. Consider this newsletter a gentle reminder to prayerfully consider a pledge toward our 2025 ministry.

Each year in the fall, we reach out to our congregation and ask for pledges to support the ministry for the next year. Like last year, in order that we may reach as many members as possible, we will conduct our request for pledges to the 2025 ministry with a combination of direct mail and announcements during worship. Our 2024 mailing was sent to all members the week of 11/18/2024, and included a letter of instruction, a pledge form and a self-addressed, stamped envelope for members to return their pledge form.

We are truly blessed with a congregation of faithful stewards. In the last three years, member pledges have supported nearly 70% of our annual expense budget. The remainder of our income (non-pledge member donations, loose offerings, and special service income) is very dependent on worship attendance. Consequently, the consistent income from our members who pledge is especially vital to supporting our ministry.

If your faith story has led you to making a pledge in the past, please consider continuing your faith journey with a pledge to our 2025 ministry and consider increasing your pledge in response to God's blessings to you. If you have not pledged in the past, please consider this act of faith for 2025.

**We encourage members to return their pledge forms any time before Sunday, December 15, 2024. You can return the pledge form in the mail using the enclosed envelope. Alternatively, you can also return your pledge form in the offering basket during the offering at any Sunday worship.**

If you participate in the Simply Giving program for your contributions to our ministry, we do count your Simply Giving amount as a pledge. We encourage members who participate in the Simply Giving program to return a pledge card as well, especially if you wish to increase your Simply Giving amount. If you are not using Simply Giving for your contributions to our ministry, I encourage you to consider this method of funding your contributions. It is a convenient way to maintain consistent support of our ministry. Visit the church website ([www.mountolive-elca.net](http://www.mountolive-elca.net)) and select the "Giving" option on the "Home" page, then select Mount Olive Ministries and follow the prompts. You can also call the church office if you need assistance or more information regarding Simply Giving.

Again, thank you for your faithful stewardship, and for considering a pledge to our 2025 ministry.

Dennis Martin  
Finance and Stewardship

## FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT

December 1<sup>st</sup> is the first Sunday of Advent! And do we have a lot going on!

- **10 a.m. worship service** will be an interactive, experiential worship focusing on Advent. Beginning in the Sanctuary and moving into the Fellowship Hall, there will be scripture, activities, table conversation, and holy communion to be shared. Also, each household will be able to decorate and take home an advent log centerpiece and accompanying Advent resources, and *everyone* will have the opportunity to decorate a 2024 Advent ornament for your Christmas tree!
- **11:45 a.m. (or so)** After a little resetting of the Fellowship Hall, **ALL are invited** to the AoB/High School advent service project extravaganza. We will assemble goodie boxes and plates for our homebound and young adult members, tie fleece blankets for our graduating seniors, wrap any donated toys for the Friends of Jesus toy drive and who knows what else we will do. Come along and see!
- **Needed:** for the cookie plates and boxes, plus Midnight Magic musicians (Dec. 7<sup>th</sup>), MTO is looking for donations of cookies (decorated or not, holiday or chocolate chip cookies, it's your choice!)



**Worship Times at  
Mount Olive  
8 a.m. and 10 a.m.**

Our services will be livestreamed on our Facebook page, YouTube channel, and found on our webpage with a Facebook link. The livestreamed recordings will also be available for your viewing 24 hours a day, every day of the year.

## COUNCIL CORNER

Greetings,

I am Council member Tim Sperstad. My family consists of my wife, Karen, and our sons Tom and Ben and his wife Lauren. But that's not the family I want to talk about in this message.



The family I want to talk about is my 8 a.m. church family -- the family I worship with, laugh with, celebrate with, grieve with and pray with. I look forward to going to church on Sunday to spend time with them. I'm sure those of you who go to 10 a.m. feel the same way about your church family. I enjoy when we have a joint service and our whole church gets together.

Pastor Steve asked us a question at Theology on Tap about God sightings. When I'm in church on Sunday surrounded by my fellow worshipers, I see God all around me.

See you at church,  
Tim Sperstad  
Council Member

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## EXPLORE MOUNT OLIVE

If you are thinking that you would like to find out more about the ministries or perhaps become a member of Mount Olive, you are invited to our "Explore Mount Olive" session on **Sunday, January 12<sup>th</sup>, at 11:15 a.m.** This will be a very informal time when we will share our story with you, explore our mutual passions as Jesus' disciples, and answer any questions you might have. ***Please note: Attendance to Explore Mount Olive is not mandatory for becoming a member.***

Please contact the church office if you would like to attend.



## ADVENT RESOURCES...

Advent good gifts tree...**ELCA World Hunger Good Gifts Tree is back!** Help fight hunger in the US and in the world by purchasing an **ELCA World Hunger Good Gift** from the tree. Gifts of any shape and size are combined to make a difference in the world. The tree will be available following each worship service through December 24<sup>th</sup>.



October data from the U.S. Department of Agriculture reveals a marked increase in child food insecurity in the U.S. between 2021 and 2022. **Food insecurity affected 3.3 million households with children** at times during 2022, up from 2.3 million in 2021. That's 17 million households that were food insecure at some point last year, **affecting 13 million children.**

Internationally, child malnutrition is alarmingly high. **148 million children experienced stunted growth** and development due to a chronic lack of essential nutrients, and **45 million children suffered from wasting**, the most severe and life-threatening form of malnutrition.

Let's work together until all are fed and all can feed themselves! Please contact Cindy Dobberke for more information on this vital ministry of our church.

Also, **ELCA World Hunger Advent Calendars are available for all to use and pray with as we move through the season of Advent.**

## REFLECT THE LIGHT MINI-RETREAT

January 4, 2025

1-4 p.m. at Mount Olive

Cost \$5.

**RSVP with payment to the MTO office  
by December 29<sup>th</sup>**

As we prepare to enter the season of Epiphany, all are invited for an afternoon of reflection, prayer and meditation.

Bring along a ceramic mug, coffee or tea cup which we will transform into a candle to remind us of how we reflect the Light of Christ throughout the year.





## SERVICE TEAM UPDATE

Looking for ways to serve our community? Join the Mount Olive Service Team. We organize a variety of projects which provide support for our surrounding communities and our own church community. We meet periodically on the first Monday of the month at 5:30 p.m. in the church fellowship hall.

Contact Jean Cruikshank for more information and specific meeting dates.

Looking ahead: In the coming year we will be organizing a collection of toiletry items for neighboring shelters, a shoe collection for Soles for Jesus, and school supplies later this summer.

*"It has no meaning. Love has to be put into action, and that action is service." Mother Teresa*



### Free Pantry/ Kitchen Kupboard Food Pantry

Located in the lower level of Mount Olive, we are grateful for the Kitchen Kupboard Food Pantry and their ministry to those in need in our community. The Kitchen Kupboard is open on select Thursday mornings or by appointment.

Also, *Mount Olive's Little Free Pantry*, is located outside the lower doors of MTO and is available 24 hours a day/7 days a week. The Little Free Pantry is kept stocked by the Kitchen Kupboard Food Pantry team. Please note the items listed below and drop off in the basket marked **Food Pantry**, located in the Narthex: Mac & cheese boxes, potato and noodle boxes, dry goods, cereal, shelf stable milk, granola bars, tuna, canned soups, canned fruits and vegetables, laundry soap, and deodorant.

Thank you for working to fight food insecurity in our community! **\*\* Canned food items with pull tops are especially appreciated!**



## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We are looking for volunteers to serve at the Christmas Eve services. If you are interested, please let me know which position you would like to volunteer for and what your service preference is (10 a .m., 3:30 & 5:30 p.m.).

If you have any questions, please contact the church office at 262-363-8251 or [mto@mountolive-elca.net](mailto:mto@mountolive-elca.net). Many blessings for your service to Mount Olive!



### FRIENDS OF JESUS CHRISTMAS CHILDREN'S GIFT COLLECTION

This year, our Sunday School will again collect gifts for inner city Milwaukee children through a program called Friends of Jesus. They are looking for new gifts costing a minimum of \$15. Please wrap and place them in the Narthex **through Sunday, December 8<sup>th</sup>, at 9 a.m.** Info and name tags are located at the rear of this newsletter.

### ATTENTION YOUNG ADULTS AND FAMILIES WITH YOUNG ADULTS!

Are you (or does your family have) a young adult starting out in the world, perhaps entering the workforce, or as a student, whether college, tech school, or another path?? If so, please let us know their status and mailing address so that we can send them a treat this holiday season. Please send this info to the Mount Olive office by November 27<sup>th</sup>! Thank you!!



## FAITH EXPLORERS

### Faith Explorers: Sunday School:

- **On Sunday, December 1<sup>st</sup>**, our Sunday School children will remain with their families for a special interactive worship service, as we begin the season of Advent. Plan on attending!
- **Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup>**, please join us for worship at the 10 am service as our youth and Sunday School Faith Explorers present our version of the birth of Jesus. Reception to follow!

**More re: SS...** We are back together this year with 3-year-olds through 5<sup>th</sup> grade faith explorers, using the curriculum for Spark All Kids. Here is our Sunday morning plan for each week:



- 9:45 a.m. Sundays: Gather in the Sanctuary for our opening with music, prayers, lighting of the candles and the birthday church.
- After the SS opening, the children will return to sit with their parents through the opening prayer. At that time, they will head to the lower level for age-appropriate faith exploration.
- The children will be picked up in the lower level following the conclusion of the 10 am worship.

Please contact Cindy Dobberke at [cindy.dobberke@mountolive-elca.net](mailto:cindy.dobberke@mountolive-elca.net) with any questions. If you are interested in joining us for Faith Explorers: SS, please find the Faith Exploration registration form on the Youth bulletin board outside the office or here on the MTO website: <https://mountolive-elca.net/wp-content/uploads/2024/08/2024-25-SS-Parent-Form-082124.pdf>

### Attention families with 3rd, 4th and 5th graders!

**On Saturday, January 18<sup>th</sup>**, from 2-5 p.m., students in 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> grade will have their own mini-retreat at Mount Olive. The retreat's main purpose is to help the students understand how important they are in God's family and how they are called at baptism to be a disciple of Christ. The retreat will include a snack, faith exploration and FUN!

### Presentation of Bibles:

Sunday, October 27<sup>th</sup>, was a busy day at Mount Olive! We had presentations of Bibles by parents remembering their baptismal vows to "place in their child's hands the Holy Scriptures," with Spark story bibles and Spark NRSV bibles presented.





**Affirmation of Baptism Sunday:**

The 27<sup>th</sup> was also Affirmation of Baptism Sunday when four of our young people affirmed the promises made at their baptisms. We celebrate with and welcome Bailey Adcock, Megan Horne, William Horne and Ellie Libeck to adult membership at Mount Olive!



Then it was on to our AoB and High School service project for the month of October.

Thanks to Sheri Dierks and family for sponsoring a Thrivent Action team grant, where we assembled 100 bag lunches for Street Angels ministry to the homeless. Friends are always welcome to explore faith with us!





Thanks to all who planned and attended the All Saints Event on November 3<sup>rd</sup>! It was a beautiful opportunity to share stories of our loved ones and connect with others in our faith community.



### Faith Explorers: AoB:

This year, we will be exploring God's gifts to us through Luther's Small Catechism. AoB is typically for 6<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grade youth and a parent or trusted adult; however, we love to explore faith with any age. Please contact Pastor Steve or Cindy Dobberke for more information.

### *AoB Happenings:*

**Tuesday, December 10<sup>th</sup>, 6:30-8 p.m.** We share a meal together and enter into our faith exploration time, this month focusing on our **third** session of the Ten Commandments. RSVP to Cindy or to the MTO office by Monday morning, December 9<sup>th</sup>.

**Sunday, December 1, 11:45 a.m. -1 p.m.**

**Advent Service Opportunity: Treat boxes for our young adults and Mount Olive elders who are homebound, and more! Bring along two dozen decorated or other type of cookie and join with our AoB families for cookie assembling treat boxes for our homebound members and young adults, fleece blanket tying for our graduating seniors, and gift wrapping for the Friends of Jesus toy drive. . Come along and see!**

### **Advent All Come Together Worship**

**Sunday, December 1<sup>st</sup>, during the 10 a.m. worship service** -- Celebrate worship in a slightly different way. We will begin worship together in the sanctuary and then head to the Fellowship Hall for a variety of faith exploration stations, focusing on the season of Advent. Come along and see!

**Advent Soup and Worship  
Wednesdays, December  
4<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, and 18<sup>th</sup>  
6:30 - 7 p.m.**

As we prepare for the birth of Christ, join Mount Olive for a light soup supper and Advent worship.



Are you a soup maker? Please sign up with the office or on the sign-up sheet across from Pastor Steve's office.

## Faith Explorer: Upcoming High School Events:

**Sunday, December 1<sup>st</sup>, 11:45 a.m. -1 p.m. Advent Service Opportunity.** Do you use Thanksgiving weekend as a time for baking? Bring along two dozen cookies (already decorated, please) as we put together treats for our homebound elders and young adults! This year, we will also join our AoB families for fleece blanket tying for our graduating seniors, and gift wrapping for the Friends of Jesus toy drive. Come along and see!

**Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup>, 10 a.m. worship service** -- this is one of our opportunities to lead worship with the Sunday School faith explorers.

Attention all High School students!!

***An Escape Room outing*** is in the works! Keep an eye on your email for details and come along!!



### **CALLING ALL SHEEPSHEAD FANS**

Get your game on Mondays from 2 to 4 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall at Mount Olive. Tables of five-handed, 10 cents a point. All proceeds (losses) will go to Lutheran Disaster Relief.

Light snacks and drinks will be provided. Questions? Text or call Karen.

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## **TAX PLANNING TIPS**

Here are some tax-wise planning tips to support the Mount Olive ministry!

1. Donate appreciated assets like stocks or bonds. A gift of appreciated assets avoids capital gains tax while also being eligible for a charitable income tax deduction.
2. Traditional IRA Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD). The QCD allows a donor age 70 ½ or older to donate up to \$105,000 in 2024 to one or more charities. While withdrawals from traditional IRAs are taxable income, QCDs are tax-free and can satisfy some or all of the annual Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) for those individuals age 73 or older.
3. If you itemize deductions, consider a cash gift. A cash or check gift to Mount Olive may be deducted up to 60% of adjusted gross income.

Please note that it is important to complete the gift **by December 31<sup>st</sup>** for it to count for the current tax year.

This is not intended to provide legal or tax advice. You should rely on and consult your personal legal and tax advisors.

Mount Olive Finance Team



## GRIEF SUPPORT

Grief can and does enter our lives in a huge variety of ways. You are invited to attend this group for very informal discussions in a safe place and supportive environment. Please feel free to call if you would like further information, login Zoom info, or have any questions: Betty Hinkelman.

The meeting is on the third Thursday of each month beginning at 12:30 p.m. Attendance is at Mount Olive in the Fellowship Hall or on ZOOM, whichever you are comfortable with. **At this time, there is no December meeting scheduled.**



## INVITATION TO PRAY

You are invited to come and pray as we come together for contemplative prayer on the labyrinth. Join me for prayer with Holy Scripture using the ancient method of Lectio Divina, or you may choose to come for Centering Prayer, a prayer practice with silence as we simply rest in God's presence for a twenty-minute period of time. No experience is needed for either of these quiet methods of praying. A simple desire to be with God is all that you need to bring.

I invite you to come at any of these following times for this prayer opportunity (schedule of dates & times below). If you want to participate but need a different time slot or if you have any questions or would like

further explanation, please feel free to call any time. I look forward to praying together. Betty.

### Monthly Schedule of Prayer Opportunities:

#### **Lectio Divina:**

- 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of each month...beginning at 11 a.m.
- **Centering Prayer:** 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of each month...beginning at 11 a.m.

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## WEDNESDAY NIGHT & SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

The Wednesday Night Bible Study are on Wednesday evenings from 6:30 – 7:30 p.m., September thru May in the Fellowship Hall. This year's study will be led by Richard Grosenick, a gifted Bible study teacher whom some of you will remember from adult Sunday School class several years ago. (Dwight will still be there, but Richard is in charge). This year's study will be the New Testament books of Romans and 1<sup>st</sup> John.

All are welcome. It is not necessary to have any prior experience in Bible study. All that is needed is a desire to know more about the Bible, while having good fellowship and a little bit of fun. If interested, contact Dwight Cruikshank.

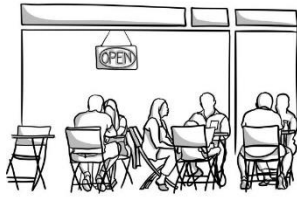
The Sunday Morning Adult Bible Study meets at **9 a.m.** on Sunday mornings and will be studying the Old Testament book of 1<sup>st</sup> Kings this year, with special sessions in December for an Advent study. 1<sup>st</sup> Kings picks up at the end of the golden era of the reign of King David over Israel. The story continues with Solomon, who is able to fulfill his father's dream of building the temple in Jerusalem. But it doesn't stop there. Join us as we discover, or re-discover, the glory, decline, and chaos that surrounds the story of God's chosen people. Join us for a few sessions or many. You may find yourself wanting to hear the rest of the story...

Join us for the education and fellowship. Join us to just listen or to participate in the discussion. Join us for a few sessions or for many sessions. We're looking forward to welcoming you!

Contact Laura Conry with any questions.



## DON'T MUNCH ALONE BUNCH (DMAB)



Come and join us when **Don't Munch Alone Bunch (DMAB)** meets on **Tuesday, December 10<sup>th</sup>, at 11:30 a.m.**, at Sol de Mexico, 507 Main Street, Mukwonago.

DMAB is a fun fellowship activity, inviting all ages to meet, eat, and share together. Bring a friend if you'd like. There's no need to make a reservation because we'll save a place at the table for you at Sol de Mexico.

If you'd like more information, please call Glenna Gunderson. We hope you will join us.

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### THE KNOTTY KNITTERS...

Are a group that invites anyone interested to join them in the church library on Friday mornings from 10 a.m. to 12 noon to knit prayer shawls and such, share stories, and have goodies. **All are welcome...no experience necessary.**

If you have questions, please call Betty Hinkelman or Inge Adams.

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### LADIES BOOK CLUB

Mount Olive's Ladies Book Club **will NOT meet in October.** They will meet next on **Tuesday, December 10<sup>th</sup>, at 2 p.m., @ Mount Olive.** They will be discussing "Killers of the Flower Moon" by David Grahn.

All are welcome...even if you haven't read the book! If you have any questions, please contact Diane Dickey or the church office at 262-363-8251.



## GATHER FAITH EXPLORATION GROUP

### "In God's Garden: What fig trees teach us about Advent"

By Hannah Hawkinson

**Tuesday, December 17<sup>th</sup>, 9:30 a.m.**  
Mount Olive Narthex

This Advent, we'll learn from some surprising teachers: fig trees. Astonishingly vibrant, fig trees have a zest for life. Their roots have even been known to bust through plumbing and climb walls like ivy! Yet fig trees also have a dormant period—a time when they do not grow or bear fruit. But this period of waiting and rest isn't a time of waiting around. It's a time of pruning and fertilizing and watering; a time to prepare for the fruitful season ahead.

As we prepare the way of the Lord in this season, we are in our own dormant period of waiting and anticipation. Still, Jesus calls us to "keep awake" and to prepare ourselves for God's coming.

Join us to explore what fig trees can teach us about waiting and preparing for God's coming!

(Zoom link also available.) Join on the **THIRD** Tuesdays of each month at 9:30 am for our conversation and faith exploration using Gather magazine- a publication of the Women of the ELCA. Copies of the magazine and devotional will be available for all. (**Note change of Tuesdays!**)

## ELCA World Hunger

The Hunger Jar appreciates the jingling of our change! Starting for a new goal in 2024, our donation is now at -- **\$338.56**.



If you are collecting your change at home for ELCA World Hunger during our time of online worship, please consider sending in a check or bringing the funds into Mount Olive so that they can be deposited. We will send them out into the world as a witness to our faithfulness during this critical time.

### MONTHLY FINANCIAL STATUS from the Bookkeeper

	October 2024 Actual	October 2024 Plan
General Income	\$222,411	\$215,183
General Expenses	(181,693)	(233,241)
Surplus/(Deficit)	40,718	(18,058)
General Fund Cash Balance	43,942	

### OFFERING/DONATION UPDATE

You can also share your financial gifts by:

- Mailing your offering to the office:  
Mount Olive Lutheran Church  
211 Main Street  
Mukwonago, WI 53149
- Donating via our webpage: Make a one-time or recurring donation. Any recurring donation will require you to register if you don't already have a Simply Giving account. Contact Debbie in the office if you need any help with the webpage...262-363-8251.

Thank you for your ongoing support to the ministries of Mount Olive.

Dennis Martin  
Treasurer  
Finance and Stewardship Team

# Ways to Give To Mount Olive

## In Person

Place checks or cash in an offering envelope and drop in the offering plate as it goes by.

## Text

Text 262-290-4066 with dollar amount (for example: 10) to set up a one-time or recurring donation.

## Giving App

Download the 'Give Plus Church' app to set up a one-time or recurring donation.



## Online

Visit <https://mountolive-elca.net/donate/> or scan the QR Code below to set up a one time or recurring donation.



At Mount Olive, we are committed to giving back to God for all he has given us so that we can help others locally and around the world.

**Find yourself without cash,  
please use the above QR code to give online.**

## VARIOUS TEAM/GROUP UPDATES

<b>Group Meeting</b>	<b>Time and Frequency</b>	<b>Contact person</b>
<i>Wednesday Text Study</i>	9:30 a.m. every Wednesday @ Mount Olive & via Zoom	<b>Church Office</b> <a href="mailto:mto@mountolive-elca.net">mto@mountolive-elca.net</a>
<i>Knotty Knitters</i>	10 a.m. every Friday	<b>Inge Adams</b> <b>Betty Hinkelman</b>
<i>Gather Faith Exploration Group: Meeting in person &amp; via Zoom</i>	9:30 - 11 a.m. on second Tuesday of each month	<b>Cindy Dobberke</b> <a href="mailto:Cindy.dobberke@mountolive-elca.net">Cindy.dobberke@mountolive-elca.net</a>
<i>Sunday Morning Adult Bible Study</i>	Sundays @ 9 a.m.	<b>Laura Conry</b>
<i>Wednesday Evening Bible Study</i>	Wednesday evenings @ 6:30 p.m.	<b>Dwight Cruikshank</b>
<i>Don't Munch Alone Bunch</i>	11:30 a.m. on second Tuesday of each month	<b>Glenna and Bruce Gunderson</b>
<i>Lectio Divina: Meeting in person &amp; via Zoom</i>	11 a.m. on Mondays – <b>December 2<sup>nd</sup> &amp; 16<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Betty Hinkelman</b>
<i>Centering Prayer: Meeting in person &amp; via Zoom</i>	11 a.m. on Monday – <b>December 9<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Betty Hinkelman</b>
<i>Grief Support: Meeting in person &amp; via Zoom</i>	Meeting time varies, please contact Betty or see page 11	<b>Betty Hinkelman</b>
<i>Service Team</i>	Sharing info and ideas via email	<b>Jean Cruikshank</b>
<i>Food Pantry Donations</i>	Donations can be made directly to pantry as follows: <b>December 12<sup>th</sup> &amp; 26<sup>th</sup> -- 9:30-11:30 a.m.</b> ; contact Carole Hahl @ 262-662-3953	<b>Church Office</b> <a href="mailto:mto@mountolive-elca.net">mto@mountolive-elca.net</a>
<i>Aluminum Can Donations</i>	Please continue to collect aluminum cans for our HS students to support their annual youth accompaniment trips; your donations can be dropped off at a future date!	<b>Church Office</b> <a href="mailto:mto@mountolive-elca.net">mto@mountolive-elca.net</a>



### **ALUMINUM CAN RECYCLING at Mount Olive!!**

Yep, our High School students are still doing it! Want to help? Be sure to save your cans and drop off at the rear door at Mount Olive so that we can send the cans on their way to the recyclers. It's a great way to save the environment AND our help our High School students when they head off on their next big Accompaniment trip!



## PRAYING FOR MEMBERS at Mount Olive Lutheran Church



First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone. I Timothy 2:1

It seems to me that no one is so poor as an individual for whom not a single soul is praying, and has no one who takes him or her personally and persistently to God in prayer. O. Hallesby, Prayer

“Praying for Every Member” is sponsored by Prayer Ministry. By using this monthly newsletter insert, we will pray unceasingly for each other.

12/1	Linda, Casey, & Nicholas Filler
12/2	Donald & Marlene Fitzgerald
12/3	Joe Fitzgerald
12/4	Kevin & Jeri Franz
12/5	Lance, Julie, Allyson, & Lainey Fredrick
12/6	Peter, Linda, & Kelly Gorman
12/7	Gary, Kate, Grace, & Jillian Graczyk
12/8	Robert Grant
12/9	Bill & Kathy Graser
12/10	Mark, Kari, Nathan, Ashley, & Riley Grossklaus
12/11	Michael & Sherryl Gruetzmacher
12/12	Samantha Gruetzmacher
12/13	Bruce & Glenna Gunderson
12/14	Roy Hafemeister
12/15	Helene Hagenmayer
12/16	Diane Hayek
12/17	David & Charlene Hein
12/18	John & Connie Heins
12/19	Elizabeth Hinkelman
12/20	Dennis & Melissa Hodik
12/21	Maija & Matthew Hoh
12/22	Linda Holasek
12/23	Jeffrey, Kay, Megan, & William Horne
12/24	Kirsten Horning
12/25	Lindsey, Madison, & Emma Husted
12/26	Diane Jackson
12/27	David, Tracy, Spencer, & Reece Jahnke
12/28	Roxanne Janisewski
12/29	Mark Janovetz
12/30	Sandra Jay
12/31	Aaron Jellish

## DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS...

Angela Porter	12/1
Lisa Smith	12/1
Corbin Clarey	12/2
Aaron Budd	12/4
Robert Grant	12/6
Jenny Chiello	12/7
Emma Husted	12/7
Jennifer Cotturone	12/8
Mark Kietzmann	12/8
Kevin Franz	12/10
Carter Kronschnabel	12/12
Kasey Bischmann	12/13
Jack LaFreniere	12/14
Mark Bischmann	12/19
Julie Fick	12/21
Tracy Jahnke	12/22
Adeline Leffelman	12/22
Annette Schaenzer	12/22
Christina Altenburg	12/23
Max Kadrach	12/23
Susan Thornton	12/25
Albert Muhlbauer	12/26
Tiffany Lindbloom	12/28
Aaron Lechner	12/29
Wolfgang Schnabl	12/29
Lauren Shuda	12/29
Cindy Dobberke	12/31
Nathan Grossklaus	12/31
Dori Ross	12/31

## DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES...

Scott & Erin Christensen	12/5
Mike & Annette Schaenzer	12/22
Deborah & Thomas Barnes	12/28

<b>COUNCIL CORNER</b>		
<b>Council Member</b>	<b>Phone Number</b>	<b>Email Address</b>
President Mike Zaddack		
Vice President Cheryl Shanovich		
Secretary Linda Burie		
Treasurer Dennis Martin/Finance/Stewardship		
Inge Adams		
Cindy Dobberke		
Tim Sperstad		
Duane Thornton		
Pastor Steve Bogie	262-409-0743	pastorsteve@mountolive-elca.net

Adopted Council minutes are posted on the Council bulletin board for your review. Please feel free to contact any Council member listed above with any new ideas or caring concerns regarding Mount Olive. Please remember all our Council Members in your prayers.

<b>GET CONNECTED</b>			
ACTS Team	Betty Arntson		
Administrative Assistant	Debbie Wagner	262-363-8251	mto@mountolive-elca.net
Adult Forum (Sunday mornings)	Laura Conry		
Altar Guild	Eva Schindhelm		
Gather Bible Study (monthly)	Cindy Dobberke	262-719-5711	cindy.dobberke@mountolive-elca.com
Bookkeeper	Doug Bue		finances@mountolive-elca.net
Coffee Fellowship	Debbie Wagner	262-363-8251	mto@mountolive-elca.net
AoB Coordinator	Cindy Dobberke	262-719-5711	cindy.dobberke@mountolive-elca.com
Custodial	Debbie Wagner	262-363-8251	mto@mountolive-elca.net
Don't Munch Alone Bunch (DMAB)	Glenna Gunderson		
Financial Secretary	Debbie Wagner	262-363-8251	mto@mountolive-elca.net
Grief Support Group	Betty Hinkelman		
Health & Wellness	Pat Vandehey		
Knotty Knitters	Betty Hinkelman Inge Adams		
Ladies Book Club	Diane Dickey		
Memorials	Angela Porter		
Mt. Menu Coffee	Debbie Wagner	262-363-8251	mto@mountolive-elca.net
Praise Team Director	Deanna Kulow		deanna.kulow@mountolive-elca.net
Prayer Chain	Betty Hinkelman		
Service	Jean Cruikshank		
Sunday School Coordinator	Cindy Dobberke	262-719-5711	cindy.dobberke@mountolive-elca.com
Thrivent Financial for Lutherans Congregational Advocate	Matt & Julie Fick		
Wednesday Night Bible Study	Dwight Cruikshank		

### **THIS WEEK AT MTO**

**Did you know that a weekly email is sent out each Wednesday entitled "This Week at MTO."** Each weekly email contains the following types of info: special messages, Mount Olive's calendar for the coming week, and any other events that are happening at Mount Olive over the next week or so. If you are not currently receiving this email, please let the church office know your email address, and we will add you to the circulation list. Or sign up on our website at: [www.mountolive-elca.net](http://www.mountolive-elca.net). Don't miss out! **PLEASE LET US KNOW...**If you, a family member, or a friend would like to have a visit from the pastor, please notify the church office or Cindy Dobberke. We rely on you to keep us informed so that our ministry with you can continue: 262.363.8251 or [mto@mountolive-elca.net](mailto:mto@mountolive-elca.net).

# DECEMBER 2024

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
<b>1</b> 8am Worship & HC 9am Adult Bible Study 10am Interactive Advent Worship & HC 11:45am AoB Service Opportunity 7:30pm Alanon*	<b>2</b> 9:30am Green Team Meeting 11am Lectio Divina 2pm Sheepshead 6:30pm "Theology on Tap" @ Badger Burger	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> 9:30am Weekly Text Study 5:15pm Choir Rehearsal 6:30pm Advent Worship & Soup Supper 6:30pm Women's AA Mtg	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> 10am Knotty Knitters	<b>7</b> Mukwonago Midnight Magic 3:30-7:30pm Advent Path 4:30-8pm Musical Groups
<b>8</b> 8am Worship & HC 9am Adult Bible Study 9:45am SS Gathering Time 10am Worship & HC 7:30pm Alanon*	<b>9</b> 11am Centering Prayer 2pm Sheepshead 6:30pm Church Council	<b>10</b> 10am Muk Crazy Quilters* 11:30am DMAB Lunch @ Sol de Mexico 2pm Ladies Book Club 6:30pm AoB	<b>11</b> 9:30am Weekly Text Study 5:15pm Choir Rehearsal 6:30pm Advent Worship & Soup Supper 6:30pm Women's AA Mtg	<b>12</b> 9:30am MCC Food Pantry*	<b>13</b> 10am Knotty Knitters	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b> 8am Worship & HC 9am Adult Bible Study 10am Worship & HC/ SS Christmas Program 7:30pm Alanon*	<b>16</b> 11am Lectio Divina 2pm Sheepshead	<b>17</b> 9:30am Gather Faith Exploration Group	<b>18</b> 9:30am Weekly Text Study 5:15pm Choir Rehearsal 6:30pm Advent Worship & Soup Supper 6:30pm Women's AA Mtg	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> 10am Knotty Knitters	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> 8am Worship & HC 10am Worship & HC	<b>23</b>	<b>24 Christmas                      Eve/Office Closed</b> 10am Worship & HC Candlelight 3:30pm Worship & HC Candlelight 5:30pm Worship & HC Candlelight	<b>25 Christmas                      Day/Office                      Closed</b>	<b>26 Office                      Closed</b> 9:30am MCC Food Pantry*	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>29 One Service                      Only</b> 9am Worship & HC 7:30pm Alanon*	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>				

**MOUNT OLIVE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
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[www.mountolive-elca.net](http://www.mountolive-elca.net)

Email: [mto@mountolive-elca.net](mailto:mto@mountolive-elca.net)