

## Happenings at Mount Olive!

### Sunday In-Person Worship & HC @ 8 & 9:30 a.m.

**Mount Olive Mid-Year Meeting -- Today, July 13<sup>th</sup>, following both services:** Enjoy an ice cream sundae along with an update at Mount Olive's mid-year gathering of the congregation. Please accept this treat as a "Thank You" for sharing your gifts of time, talent, and possessions, plus an opportunity to check in with your Mount Olive family. Ice cream will be served following each service. Come along and see what amazing things God is doing at Mount Olive!

**Today** at both services, Reagan Fick will share with us her journey from a mission trip she took last spring. We will hear about the life-changing experience Reagan was about to be part of, proclaiming the Good News of Jesus Christ. Reagan was able to feed people with resources, food, grace, love, and the Gospel. Come and hear about Reagan's journey feeding people with good news in a foreign land, with Jesus by her side.

**Plastic Collection:** We have an opportunity to help curb the soft plastic problem. The Trex Corporation uses soft plastic to make composite decking and outdoor furniture. As a project of the Green Space Team and with the blessing of the Church Council, we will be collecting soft plastic...1,000 pounds in one year. At the end of that year, we will receive a free park bench for our green space and prevent 1,000 pounds of plastic from going to a landfill. Please join us as we commit to this project in caring for our common home, Mother Earth. In our first two weeks of the recycle challenge, we collected 54 lbs. of plastic. Keep it coming! Thank you!!!!

**Service Team Update – July Collection:** Once again, we will be collecting new and used **SHOES** for "Soles for Jesus." Soles For Jesus exists to share God's love by distributing shoes to the underserved in sub-Saharan Africa. This valuable gift prevents disease and enables individuals to work safely and attend school. They accept new and used shoes of all types and sizes. Any unusable shoes will be repurposed, and every pair will be put to use. **Shoes may be brought in during the month of July and placed in the boxes in the Narthex.** To help defray the cost of shipping shoes to Africa, we will place a collection jar near the boxes to accept donations of money. The challenge is to collect \$1-\$2 per pair of shoes donated. So go through your closets and bring in your shoes and a dollar.

**MTO Walking Group:** Being active is the key to staying healthy, and walking is one of the easiest and most affordable ways to get moving. Walking is a great way to get exercise into the day and build strong relationships while doing it. There appears to be considerable interest in a Mount Olive walking group. Thus, **starting on Thursday, July 17<sup>th</sup>**, we will meet weekly at 10 a.m. for a one-hour walk. If anyone is interested in Tuesday evenings at 6 p.m., please let Pastor Steve know. All are invited to join us every Thursday, or at your convenience. Hope to see you on July 17<sup>th</sup>! This would be a fun and inclusive group where we can vary the routes if we wish, incorporate social activities, and celebrate our milestones together. Thanks be to God!

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**Green Team Update:** Live music on the green by Charlie Smith - Wednesday, July 30<sup>th</sup>, from 5 to 8 p.m. Happy Times Barbecue food truck will be on site. All are invited!! Bring a lawn chair and your dancing shoes.

**Faith Explorers: Vacation Bible Camp:** Dates: **July 28<sup>th</sup> - August 1<sup>st</sup> from 1:30 – 4:30 p.m.** This is our summer for exploring the love of Christ in an intergenerational setting. We'd love to have your children participate and your help in many areas! Please contact Cindy Dobberke for more information. Registration forms are on the bulletin boards and at our website: [www.mountolive-elca.net](http://www.mountolive-elca.net) under Communications/Forms.

#### **Help Bring Our VBC Journey to Life!**

This year during Vacation Bible Camp, we'll be taking a journey around the tables of the world, discovering how we are all connected through God's gift of bread. As we "visit" different places, we want to bring the cultures of these countries and states to life for our campers!

We will be learning about Afghanistan, Cambodia, Ukraine, and the U.S. states of Colorado and New York. To help make these visits more real and meaningful, we're looking for items that represent the culture and beauty of these places. Do you have anything that might help?

- Fabric, scarves, or tablecloths with traditional patterns
- Decorative items, crafts, or household objects
- Photographs or stories from time spent in these places
- Any cultural artifacts or souvenirs that can help us share the spirit of these regions

If you have something we could borrow or a story you'd like to share, please contact the MTO office or Cindy Dobberke! We'll take good care of any items and return them after VBC.

Thank you for helping us celebrate the beautiful diversity of God's world!

Also, we will be collecting boxes of cereal for distribution for those living with food insecurity as our Vacation Bible Camp offering. You are invited to help us out! Please bring boxes of cereal to MTO no later than Sunday, August 3<sup>rd</sup>!

**Sleep in Heavenly Peace:** Walworth County SHP will be holding build days **on Saturday, July 19<sup>th</sup>**. To volunteer, go to the Walworth County SHP website: [WI-Walworth Co - Sleep in Heavenly Peace](http://WI-Walworth Co - Sleep in Heavenly Peace).

**Little Free Pantry/Kitchen Cupboard Food Pantry Needs:** Located in the lower level of Mount Olive, we are grateful for the Kitchen Cupboard Food Pantry and their ministry to those in need in our community. Also, *Mount Olive's Little Free Pantry* is located outside the lower doors of MTO and is available 24 hours a day/7 day a week. 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! They could use the following items for the outdoors Little Pantry: mac and cheese, canned tuna, canned meat, spaghetti, and canned soup.*