

WORSHIP

8:00am

Traditional
Communion on 1st, 3rd
& 5th Sundays

10:30am

Contemporary
Communion on 2nd, 4th
& 5th Sundays

9:00am Coffee Hour

9:20am Sunday School

9:30am Bible Studies

CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Jason Zobel

Senior Pastor
jzobel@molc.us

Rev. Mark Baldwin

Director of Family Life
mbaldwin@molc.us

Derek Handley

Office Manager
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Linda Krueger

Music Director
lkrueger@molc.us

Laurel Zobel

Preschool Director
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PRAYER REQUESTS

Laurel Zobel, Barb Koehler
lzobel@molc.us
koehlbs@gmail.com

MEAL TRAIN REQUESTS

Paula Hahn
paulahahn2@gmail.com



Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of every nation, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I will be with you always, to the very end of the age." Matthew 28:18-20

As a new year arrives, I couldn't help but think of the text laid before us from Matthew. The gift given to us on Christmas is the Savior of the world. He has come and conquered sin, death, and the power of the devil with His perfect life, His atoning death, and His victorious resurrection. So much to celebrate as we enter 2019!

Jesus was preparing to ascend into heaven when He spoke the words above to His disciples. These words have been given to every disciple who has called Jesus Lord and Savior. Having received this wonderful gift, Jesus calls us to be His disciples in word and deed. Our first priority is to go and spread His message of salvation to everyone we know and even to those we may not know so well. His message is especially important as we encounter a world and culture that is like the innkeeper in the Christmas gospel, simply having no room for Jesus or His message. We cannot let the fear of offense or the nervousness of our own inadequacies get in the way of our calling as disciples. When those anxieties want to hinder our proclamation, we can remember the promise that Jesus gave to His disciples of long ago and still gives to us today, a promise that He will be with us along the way. No one can take away what Jesus has given to us. I pray that this is comforting to know as we strive to honor Him as His children.

As Christ's disciples, purchased and won by His own blood on the cross, He wants another response from us... our very lives. He not only wants us to believe, but to obey His teachings. It's not easy, and many have given up over the years. Remember again His words "I will be with you always" when the struggles of the day come upon you. The more we cling to Jesus, the more we can tackle the pains and disappointments that come along.

As we enter a new year, my prayer is that you grow closer to the Savior who has redeemed you because of His great love for you. I also pray that your commitment to Jesus will flourish as you place your lives in the loving arms of the Savior. He can be trusted in all things. God's richest blessings to you and yours in 2019!

In His Service,
Pastor Jason

OFFICE

Hours

9:00am-3:00pm Mon-Fri

Contact Us

(608) 238-5656

office@molc.us www.molc.us

For emergencies, call 228-4134 (Pastor's cell).

FEBRUARY VIEW DEADLINE

Monday, January 28th

E-mail articles to Derek Handley at office@molc.us.

If you have some spare time, come help stuff inserts and stick on mailing labels!

Wed, January 30th at 12:00pm

SUNDAY BULLETIN DEADLINE

The Sunday Bulletin deadline for Announcements is always **Wednesday at NOON** for the following Sunday.

Email announcements to Derek at office@molc.us.

JANUARY ANNOUNCEMENTS

COFFEE HOUR HOSTS

January 6: (open)

January 13: (open)

January 20: (open)

January 27: (open)

Sign up at the Coffee Bar!

ALTAR FLOWERS

January 6: (open)

January 13: (open)

January 20: (open)

January 27: (open)

Sign up in the office!

SMALL GROUP BIBLE STUDIES

Small Groups meet all around the Madison area! If you would like to be placed in a group, contact our Director of Family Life Rev. Mark Baldwin at mbaldwin@molc.us or (608) 238-5656.

NEW SMALL GROUP STUDY

Sign up at the Welcome Center to join a group. Current small group leaders are being asked to contact the office with # of books needed and collect payments for their groups. **We especially need leaders, so please sign up if you are willing.** Contact Pastor Mark at mbaldwin@molc.us if you have questions.

BOWL WITH US!

We will be having another bowling outing at Schwoegler's again this Winter just as we did last year. Stay tuned for more details in the bulletins!

CHURCH DIRECTORY 2018

You can expect the hard copies of the new church directory to be available in the New Year. Proofing process has been a little longer than expected. Look for further announcements in the bulletin.

CARD SHOP NEWS

Christmas cards have been put away and it is time to bring out the Valentines. Come and take a look and browse through the rest of our everyday cards as well. Thanks for supporting LWML when you buy our cards. We are in the Library, next to the Nursery.

DENNY'S MEET-UP

You're invited to join Mount Olive members and friends at Denny's (433 S Gammon Rd) **Wednesday, January 9 at 1pm** for good food and fellowship! The Denny's Meet-Up is usually the 1st Wednesday of the month, but since that lies so early in month and still amidst the Holiday season, we are meeting a week later this month.

DOWNLOAD OUR FREE APP!

Connect, Give, Listen, and more! Search for "Mount Olive LC" in the Apple Store or Google Play store.



TODAY'S LIGHT BIBLE STUDY

Have you read God's best seller?

January	Isaiah	Psalms	Proverbs
1	1	12:1-8	1:1-6
2	2-4	2:1-12	1:7-9
3	5-6	19:1-14	1:10-19
4	7-8	20:1-9	1:20-23
5	9-10	18:1-50	1:24-28
7	11-12	21:1-13	1:29-33
8	13-23	22:1-31	2:1-5
9	24-27	29:1-11	2:6-15
10	28-29	31:1-24	2:16-22
11	30-32	28:1-9	3:1-6
12	33-35	52:1-9	3:7-10
14	36-39	35:1-28	3:1-15
15	40-41	43:1-5	3:16-18
16	42-43	53:1-6	3:19-20
17	44-46	68:1-35	3:21-26
18	47-48	50:1-23	3:27-32
19	49	101:1-8	3:33-35
21	50-51	55:1-23	4:1-6
22	52-53	91:1-16	4:7-10
23	54-55	58:1-11	4:11-13
24	56-57	93:1-5	4:14-19
25	58-59	41:1-13	4:20-27
26	60	66:1-20	5:1-6
28	61-62	87:1-7	5:7-14
29	63-64	76:1-12	5:15-23
30	65	77:1-20	6:1-11
31	66	80:1-19	6:12-15

Today's Light Bible Class meets on
Wednesdays at 10am in the Fireplace Room.
Come and join our conversation!

BOOK CLUB

The Mount Olive Book Club is back after a month hiatus! On **Monday, January 14 at 9:30am**, we will discuss the book The Lilac Girls by Martha Hall Kelly. On **February 11**, the book to discuss is Sea Prayer by Kahled Hosseini. The Book Club meets on the 2nd Mon monthly. If you have questions, contact Diane Stumpf at (608) 833-0625 or stumpfcb@aol.com.

BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENING

The Board of Health & Wellness is looking for volunteers to help with blood pressure screenings the 1st Sunday each month after the 8:00 service. If you'd like to sign up to help on a specific date or would be willing to be added to our list of volunteers to fill an open spot throughout 2019, please sign up at the Welcome Center. Thanks!

VOLUNTEER AT AGRACE!

Agrace Hospice Care is holding volunteer orientation sessions on **Monday, January 14 from NOON-4pm** at 5359 Cheryl Pkwy. Volunteers can also help in Agrace's thrift stores, office, kitchen and gardens. A training for these roles will be held **Monday, January 21 from 5-7pm**. Pre-registration is required for both trainings. Call (608) 327-7163 to complete an application and interview.

2019 PASSIONATE BELIEVERS CONFERENCE

On **Saturday, January 26**, find out why you are "Joy:fully Lutheran". The theme of the conference is "Joy:fully Lutheran - Rejoice/Pray/Give Thanks". The keynote presenter is Rev. Dr. Matthew C. Harrison, President of the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod, and the conference takes place at Divine Redeemer Lutheran Church (N48 W31385 Hill St, Hartland, WI). *The Bible is brimming with joy! Despite the myriad challenges of life, the Word of God gives an extensive and fulsome cause for joy, and by grace actually renders the Christian joyous. As a faithful confession of God's Word, Luther's Small Catechism is also full of consolation and a tremendous cause for joy. The simple and sure clarity of the Bible, and especially the catechism's clear confession of the Bible's basic teachings, is the remedy for hurting and joyless souls.* For additional information, please contact Barb Slak at the District Office, (414) 292-0745 or slak@swd.lcms.org.

“Cast all your anxiety on Him because He cares for you.” 1 Peter 5:7

It’s a new year! And as much as that may be exciting for some, for those who worry and are anxious, a new year can bring in a whole new set of problems. What will the new year bring? Will I be able to accomplish all I have on my “to-do list” for 2019? What if a serious illness affects me or one of my family members? Will I be able to take the vacation I want if I don’t have enough money set aside by a certain date? Will I still like my job? What about the problems I have had in 2018...will they still be lurking in the corners of my mind in this new year? The list is endless...and the more we start to worry, the better we become at it. And you know what...the more anxious we become, the more the devil throws at us and entangles us in the very den of his lies and deceit. So, why exactly are we excited about a new year then if all it does is cause us to worry even more?

We can be excited about a new year because JESUS, our SAVIOR, is right here in our very presence, and has promised that He will care for us and strengthen us in every situation. Think of it this way...

Worry is a lot like marbles rattling around in a shoebox. You can stop the noise by getting rid of the marbles or wrapping soft cotton wadding around them. God does the exact same thing with worry. Sometimes he eliminates the problem, and other times, He surrounds the worries with His presence...like putting soft wadding in your heart.

Two accounts from His word show us what happens we take our worries and cast them to Him. Read the account from Matthew 8:23-27 where Jesus stops the storm for the disciples. A perfect example of how God took care of the problem and removed it.

In Matthew 11:1-6, Jesus doesn’t send an angel army to rescue John but rather reassured and comforted him by letting him know that He was doing exactly what the Messiah does! God gives believers a command in the verse from 1 Peter. He says to cast your cares on Him. “To cast” means to throw away from yourself and not have it return back to you. When we gather our worries and anxieties close to ourselves and we allow them to “rattle in our hearts,” like the marbles, we fail to follow His command.

Thankfully, we have a loving Savior who forgives us and reminds us that when we do hold on to our worries, that He is still in our very presence. We can be assured that no matter the worry, big or small, He is there to comfort and assist us. We will always have His presence and therefore we can rest securely knowing that He will work it out for us! We may not always understand His plan and purpose, but that is not always for us to know... rather He asks us to trust Him. If He proved Himself able to do those things in our Bible accounts, don’t you think He will do the very same for us?

So I would encourage you to put a marble in a box lined with cotton and place it somewhere where you can get to it easily. Shake the box the next time you are tempted to worry or be anxious. Give that worry to Jesus instead and see how He works it out for you! As you embark on a new year that will be filled with unknowns and new problems, take heart! Jesus can and will be at your very side because He loves you and wants you to know that He has and will continue to take your burdens...big or small!

(taken from Laugh & Tickle & Hug & Pray by Julaine Kammrath, Concordia Publishing House, 1997).

- Registration for the fall is now underway this month for church members and current preschool families. You will have priority in registering until February 1st when it will be made available to the public. The registration fee is \$75.00/child and guarantees placement into the program. Please see Laurel for a registration form or for more information. If you know of a family interested for fall, please have them call Laurel at 238-5656, ext. 218 or email her at lzobel@molc.us. They will be put on priority list when registration is open to the public in February.
- We had a wonderful month in December...lots of Advent and Christmas projects. We collected 14 shoeboxes that were delivered to kids in the Madison area who would not have otherwise received a Christmas gift.
- I will be keeping the red basket in the preschool hallway out for anyone who would like to get rid of old, used athletic shoes. These will then be turned into a Nike store. These shoes are then recycled and the materials are used to make the composite for playgrounds across the country.
- Still drinking from cans that have tabs? If so, please turn in these tabs and deposit them into the pink basket on top of the cubbies in the preschool hallway. These tabs are turned into the Ronald McDonald House here in Madison. The proceeds from the tabs assist families with children who are hospitalized at the Children’s Hospital.



God’s peace and comfort be with you as you continue to trust Him in all things. Let go and let God take care of your worries and anxieties....He is the one who has the capability of working things out according to His plan and purpose! Happy 2019 from all of us at preschool!

In His love and service,
Laurel



“After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi (Wise Men) from the east came to Jerusalem and asked: ‘Where is the One who has been born king of the Jews? We saw His star in the east and have come to worship Him.’” Matthew 2:1-2



The period in the church year that begins with January 6th and extends to Ash Wednesday is known as Epiphany.

Epiphany marks the time that the Christ Child was revealed to the wise men in His first appearance to the Gentiles as the Light of the whole world. It is generally believed by Bible scholars that these wise men from the East arrive approximately two years after the birth of Jesus. The earnestness of their search, their worship and gifts, and their desire to return home to share their spiritual experience with others have much to teach us. During the season of Epiphany, we stress a renewed commitment to evangelism and a worldwide concern for missions.

Epiphany is a strong reminder to all of us that God doesn't just desire our worship of Him, but also our willingness to share His message with others both at home and abroad. The Gospel of Good News needs to be heard beyond the walls of our church buildings.

May we be challenged in this New Year of 2019 to share God's love by word and deed with those He brings into our lives each day. Begin this Season of Light with the following prayer from the hymn – “As With Gladness Men of Old”.

“So, most gracious Lord, may we Evermore be led to Thee.”

In Service to our Epiphany King,
Pastor Mark

A Recap of the December Voters Meeting

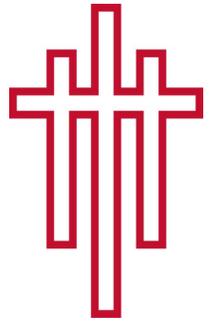
Thirty-seven Voting members attended the December 16, 2018 Voters meeting to hear and discuss many different matters important to our congregation.

The Agenda included a State of the Parish from Pastor Jason, a Treasurer's report from Greg Rademacher, and Committee Reports from the Audit Committee, the MOLC/Calvary Joint Board, and the Exploratory Committee about the start of their work to vet the many questions about the possibility of a school at Mt. Olive. Reports from the various Boards as well as Music Ministry and Family Life Ministry were distributed in advance and the various Directors introduced their respective Boards and then addressed any questions the group had for them. Pastor Dan also gave a report from Calvary and discussed the recent acceptance of his call to be pastor at Calvary starting January 1, 2019.

New Business was focused primarily on the proposed budget drafted by PPC over the previous few months. There were a couple changes via motions, but the largest was to remove the income item for the District subsidy for Pastor Dan since he accepted the call at Calvary. An equal amount was removed from the expense side of the income statement. Following those motions, the 2019 Budget was approved. The meeting adjourned after approximately an hour and thirty minutes, so pretty efficient for a meeting with a budget to approve. Praise God – we are ready to roll for 2019!

Let's go out and do His work!

In Him,
Gary Strohm



Friday Community Meals

Friday night Community Meals at Calvary are a time of food and fellowship with the students of Calvary and the members of the State Street Community. A home-cooked meal is planned and prepared biweekly by students of the congregation, serving roughly 15 individuals per meal. Past meals have included: soup and sandwiches, lasagna, and breakfast for dinner. During this time of fellowship, students have been able to connect with many members of the community, eating alongside the attendees. Jesus often ate with his disciples and those of the community, knowing the effect that spending time with people, especially in the presence of food, had on their hearts. Through these community meals, not only is a hot meal being provided, but the love of Jesus is further demonstrated at Calvary.

Jenna Rosinski
Calvary/UW student

Thank you everyone for all the clothing & supplies that have been donated to our homeless outreach. The students will be doing a service project soon, handing out clothing and supplies to the homeless in the State Street area. A most blessed and Merry Christmas from Calvary Lutheran Chapel!

A VIEW FROM THE TREASURER Greg Rademacher

Through November 30th, 2018 plate and envelope offerings were \$456,813, which equates to 95.1% of budget. Comparisons to 2017 are skewed due to the large estate gift received last year, but receipts are slightly ahead (about 2%) if the impact of that gift is backed out. Total expenses are tracking below budget at 95.1% of anticipated costs, even with prepaying some missions in November rather than December. Board directors have done a wonderful job managing expenses, even through the bi-annual leadership change. Their efforts are greatly appreciated!

The year-to-date ordinary loss through November 30th is \$34,061 and is within \$1,000 of the anticipated deficit at this point of the year; as always, December offerings will be key to reaching our budgetary goals. The overall net loss is slightly smaller at \$30,416 due to the gain on the insurance settlement from the kitchen flooding. This includes a \$15,000 assignment to the Asset Management fund that was approved at the Voter's Meeting in June.

Liquidity remains a non-issue, as checking and savings balances combined exceeded \$140,000. December and January can be higher expense months, but monthly cash flow is stable.

Our mortgage balance recently dipped below \$850,000. We hold an adjustable-rate mortgage, with the next interest rate reset occurring in September 2019. Interest rates have risen since the previous interest rate lock, so we do anticipate higher mortgage costs going forward. We will be examining our options, including the potential to re-finance, as the reset date approaches.

Updated financial statements are available quarterly from the church office, and the annual report from 2018 should be available by the end of January. Giving statement updates (as of September 30th) were sent out, and the 2018 annual statements will be mailed by January 31st. We have noticed a slight uptick in "alternative giving methods" such as appreciated securities, charitable IRA rollovers and gifts from donor-advised funds as a result of the new tax law. However, it has not been to the extent that it has caused problems with overall cash flow or a shifting of contributions from one tax year to another.

If you have any questions in the meantime, please contact Greg Rademacher at treasurer@molconline.org or 279-1870. God Bless!

December was a festive and busy month for the educational groups at Mount Olive. In early December goody packages were mailed out to our youth in college or military service, with best wishes for a blessed Christmas from our Sunday School and Logos students and the Board of Education. Our Sunday School students were busy practicing for their Christmas program, ***What Child Is This?***, during Sunday School in December, with the program being held during late service on December 16. Our Logos students went on their annual caroling outing to Oakwood Village on December 19th. This is a wonderful time for the kids to see the impact they can make and the smiles they can bring to the residents' faces as they carol throughout the various dining halls during dinner, handing out Christmas cards to the residents and spreading Christmas cheer.

As we begin a new year our LOGOS students will begin practicing for their musical, to be held in February. Board of Education members will begin planning for Vacation Bible School, and although it may seem early to begin thinking of VBS that takes place in sunny and warm June, we always need to get an early start on it. Kristie Kasbohm has graciously accepted the position of Director for VBS, but this will be her last year in the position, so we are seeking a co-director who can work with Kristie in 2019 and take over as director in 2020. The Board of Education asks all members to consider serving in this role to help keep our vibrant VBS program going strong. Maybe a New Year's resolution?! If you are interested please contact Kristie Kasbohm or Peggy Rainbow.

Finally, as we look forward to a new year, I looked at our LCMS website and found this quote regarding education:

The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod believes education should address the whole person - body, mind and spirit - beginning in early childhood and through higher education.

We have many educational opportunities at Mount Olive for all ages, including our Preschool, our Sunday School, Logos, adult Bible study, and home Bible study groups. The Board of Education invites all members of every age to become involved in education through the Word!

THE VIEW from the Mount

Newsletter of:

Mount Olive Lutheran Church, LCMS

110 N Whitney Way

Madison, WI 53705

JANUARY 2019

Address Service Requested

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

*At Mount Olive, we come to know Jesus Christ in God's Word and Sacraments;
praising God, strengthening our individual lives, supporting fellow Christians,
and sharing God's love wherever we go.*