

## WORSHIP

**8:00am**

Traditional  
Communion on 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>  
& 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays

**10:30am**

Contemporary  
Communion on 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>  
& 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays

## FELLOWSHIP

**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  
office@molc.us

**Laurel Zobel**

Preschool Director  
lzobel@molc.us

## PRAYER REQUESTS

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



***(Jesus said), "I will drive out demons and heal people today and tomorrow, and on the third day I will reach my goal." Luke 13:32***

Do you set goals? I believe it's important to set goals concerning your lives and those around you. I take some time at the end of each year to put together goals for the upcoming year. One portion deals with my family and what I want to fulfill as a husband and a father. Another portion revolves around my role as a pastor in leading Mount Olive, praying God's guidance as I serve this precious congregation. Yet another includes my relationship within the community in which I live, trying to be a positive role model in being Christ-like to those around me. The last, and definitely not the least, is the goal I place towards my faith life and my personal walk with Jesus. I pray God's mercy and strength as I try to live as He would want me to live according to His will and purpose.

In the text above, we read that Jesus set goals, also. His earthly goal was centered in His love for mankind and following His Father's will. His sole purpose for coming to earth was to die for us and the entire world and to rise again so that we could receive eternal life in His name. He fulfilled His mission at the cross and the empty tomb. Thanks be to God that we have been given new life in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus!

The goal of Christ for us as His followers is to share and live His message. Paul exhorts Timothy in verse five of the first chapter of his first letter to set his goals in love, "which comes from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere heart." Even in a world that was giving in to the culture around him, Paul reminds Timothy to stay true to the faith given him in Jesus Christ. It hasn't changed today. We also live in a world that has "wandered away" (verse six) from the truth. Our world is filled with gray areas that tempt us to believe God's truth in His word has changed or that our spiritual lives aren't that important compared to other areas in our lives. That couldn't be further from the truth and we need to realize this as we set our own personal goals. Yet we need not be dismayed or defeated if our spiritual beliefs, priorities, or goals have been off the mark. Christ has forgiven us our sins and calls us to live in that assurance.

Setting goals for our lives is good. I'm excited for our mission here as God leads us in bringing to us a new Director of Music and for the consideration of starting a Christian Day School. We have other goals to strengthen the current ministries as well. With that said, I believe that it's an exciting time to be at Mount Olive and that God has called us for something special as we seek His guidance in all things. I pray that you are all in prayer as we discern His will as a congregation. There always will be the possibility of aches and pains along the way, but God's got us! We can trust Him to provide and protect us as we move according to His mission!

Humbled and honored to serve with you,  
Pastor Jason

## OFFICE

### Hours

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

### Contact Us

(608) 238-5656

[office@molc.us](mailto:office@molc.us)    [www.molc.us](http://www.molc.us)

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

## DECEMBER VIEW DEADLINE

**Monday, November 23<sup>rd</sup>**

E-mail articles to Derek Handley at [office@molc.us](mailto:office@molc.us).

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

**Wed, November 25<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:office@molc.us).

## NOVEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS

### COFFEE HOUR HOSTS

**November 3:** Property Board

**November 10:** Operation Barnabas

**November 17:** LaRowe family birthdays

**November 24:** MOLC Foundation

*Sign up at the Coffee Bar!*

### ALTAR FLOWERS

**November 3:** Property Board

**November 10:** Duane Neitzel, in honor of all veterans

**November 17:** Stuart & Denise Sliter

**November 24:** Cindy Woodford, in celebration of birthday

*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](mailto:mbaldwin@molc.us) or (608) 238-5656.

### CARD SHOP NEWS

Thanksgiving cards are on display and it is time to think about your Christmas card list as well. We have a good selection of boxed Christmas cards at \$5.00 each. Our everyday and specialty cards remain at 75 cents each. Come see our expanded "Difficult Times" cards section that has been added to send to family and friends when "Get Well" & "Sympathy" cards don't have quite the message you want to send. We also have blank cards for you to write your own message, regardless of the occasion. All profits support the missions at LWML. We're in the Library, next to Nursery.

### DENNY'S MEET-UP

You're invited to join Mount Olive members and friends at Denny's (433 S Gammon Rd) **Wednesday, November 6 at 1pm** for good food and fellowship!

### AUCTION HELP

We are in need of someone to head up the Auction. There are plenty who will help you and guide you along the way. Please consider this opportunity to help our church family. Maybe you AND a friend could do it! Interested members, please contact Gary at [gstrohm@strohmballweg.com](mailto:gstrohm@strohmballweg.com) or Cindi Troia ASAP at (608) 444-1999.

### BOOK CLUB

On **Monday, November 11 at 9:30am**, the Mount Olive Book Club will discuss The Little French Bistro by Nina George. The Book Club meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Mon monthly at 9:30am in the Fireplace Room. If you have questions, contact Diane Stumpf at (608) 833-0625 or [stump-fcb@aol.com](mailto:stump-fcb@aol.com). The Book Club will NOT meet in December.

### ORDER CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS!

Order forms are available at the entrance or Welcome Center. Please turn in your forms **by Sunday, November 10<sup>th</sup>**. Don't miss a chance to honor someone or something and help beautify our altar this Christmas!

### SUN, DEC 15 / CHRISTMAS PARTY

The Christmas Party this year will take place on **Sunday, December 15 following worship**. There will be **ONE service at 9am** (annual Advent Choral Festival) **with Bible Study to precede at 8am**. JOIN US on this special Sunday of worship, music, and merriment!

### DOWNLOAD OUR FREE APP!

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



### LET US KNOW IF YOU'RE IN HOSPITAL!

Just a friendly reminder to let us know if you are hospitalized. The hospitals no longer let us know on their own accord like they used to.

## TODAY'S LIGHT BIBLE STUDY

2 Peter 3:18 "But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To Him be the glory both now and to the day of eternity. Amen."

November	Hebrews	Psalm	Proverbs
1	1	110	26:24-26
2	2	8	26:27
4	3	95	26:28
5	4	19	27:1-2
6	5	1	27:3
7	6	65	27:4-6
8	7	134	27:7-9
9	8	68	27:10
11	9	118	27:11
12	10	40	27:12
13	11	66	27:13-14
14	12	32	27:15-16
15	13	139	27:17-20
	<b>James</b>		
16	1	7	27:21-22
18	2	34	27:23-27
19	3	111	28:1
20	4	131	28:2
21	5	78	28:3-5
	<b>1 Peter</b>		
22	1	116	28:6-7
23	2	9	28:8-11
25	3	113	28:12-14
26	4	145	28:15-16
27	5	79	28:17-18
	<b>2 Peter</b>		
28	1	143	28:19-20
29	2	119:89-96	28:21-22
30	3	72	28:23-24

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

## CARE NET BANQUET

Celebrate Life at Care Net's annual Fundraising Banquet! Join us **Thursday, November 14 from 7-9pm** at the Monona Terrace. Keynote speaker Scott Klusendorf will equip guests with talking points to "make a gracious and persuasive case for life." To make a reservation, contact Carol White at (608) 445-9144 or [carolindawhite44@gmail.com](mailto:carolindawhite44@gmail.com). Mount Olive raised \$1,078.71 for Care Net this year! On behalf of the Board of Christian Outreach, we would like to thank you so much for your generous donations!

## ADVENT BY CANDLELIGHT

This year's Advent By Candlelight will be held on **Friday, December 6<sup>th</sup>**. The doors will open at 6:00pm and appetizers will be served starting at 6:15pm, followed by our program at 7:00pm.

This event is for all of the women of the congregation and their guests. There will be a table in the Narthex where you can sign up to either be a table hostess or an attendee. If you plan to be a hostess, you are welcome to come set up your table Thursday, December 5<sup>th</sup> anytime between 5-9pm or Friday, December 6<sup>th</sup> between 9am-3pm.

We hope to see you there to enjoy some fellowship and time to reflect on the true meaning of the Christmas season.

## SPECIAL VOTER'S MEETING

There will be a special voters meeting on **Sunday, November 10<sup>th</sup>** following the late service to approve starting a Lutheran school at Mount Olive, **and we hope that all voting members can attend.** We sent out one last survey via mail, and we thank you in advance for your feedback. You are also welcome to send feedback and questions to the School Planning Committee at [schoolcommittee@molc.us](mailto:schoolcommittee@molc.us) - or call us at (608) 238-5656.

## A VIEW FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR Gary Strohm

### Thankful!!!

How do you define being "thankful"? Webster's Dictionary defines "thankful" as: conscious of benefit received; expressive of [thanks](#); well pleased

Thanksgiving is a National holiday in the United States, celebrated on the fourth Thursday of November. It originated as a harvest festival. ... The event that Americans commonly call the "First Thanksgiving" was celebrated by the Pilgrims after their first harvest in the New World in October 1621.

Yet, the event has come to mean so much more today, at least to me! The celebration of the holiday always brings to my mind, all of the things in life I am grateful for. For the many blessings God has bestowed on me, a poor and miserable sinner. How can we not be thankful for EVERYTHING God blesses us with? We enter the world, deserving nothing, so gratitude should be the first and most prominent thought we have each morning we awake. I know at this Thanksgiving time, one of my favorite times of year, I always feel joy in reflecting on what makes me "thankful".

My grateful list begins with my relationship with God who has blessed me with:

a beautiful family, a wonderful church family, pastors who care deeply for our congregation, MOLC member volunteers who give of their time so selflessly, MOLC staff who serve us daily in office, music and pre-school functions, Good health, Happiness, Joy, A sense of worth, The sun, Green Bay Packer wins, Talents that I try to put to good use every day ...you get the idea

All culminating in the thanks I have that our Savior sent His only Son to die for us and give us that hope that we will one day see Him face to face.

What are you thankful for?

In Him,  
Gary Strohm

## A VIEW FROM THE TREASURER Greg Rademacher

A few financial highlights from the first nine months of fiscal 2019:

1. Through September 30<sup>th</sup>, envelope and plate offerings were only at 86.6% of budget and were down 7.4% from last year. September was a slight improvement from last month's figures, but with only 3 months remaining it would take a rather dramatic turnaround to significantly change these numbers.
2. Expenses continue to run below budget (at 93.9% of forecast), with no meaningful change from the prior month.
3. The current net loss of \$69,000 will be difficult to turn around completely during the final quarter. However, the fourth quarter is typically a strong period for cash flow, so we do anticipate the net loss figure shrinking by year-end.
4. In order to equal last fiscal year, offering receipts would need to be roughly \$200,000 in the fourth quarter. 2018 receipts during the same period were \$166,000, so it would take roughly a 25% increase over last year's Q4 receipts in order for 2019 giving to equal 2018's.
5. Thankfully, we continue to have sufficient cash reserves to manage monthly cash flow. The checking account balance has declined to the point that I may need to transfer funds over from savings, but we managed to get through August and September without doing so, and are entering what is traditionally a "cash flow positive" time of year. We may be able to leave savings untouched.
6. The mortgage balance dipped below \$820,000 with the past payment. The interest rate on the mortgage did reset to 3.75%, which was only a modest increase over the old rate of 3.50%. The interest rate on our loan is an adjustable rate that resets every five years, so this new rate will remain the same until September 2024 unless we refinance. The minimum payment was recalculated and actually declined by about \$300/month.
7. The Finance Committee is exploring options regarding the mortgage, although switching to a longer-term fixed rate (15 or 30 years) may not be attractive because those rates would be an increase over the 3.75% reset. We will discuss the outlook for interest rates and decide whether paying a marginally higher rate would be prudent in order to lock it in for a longer period.
8. Financial statements through the end of the third quarter are available from the office, or via e-mail if you are interested in receiving a copy. With 2020 budget discussions approaching, we welcome any questions regarding the budget process or specific line items.

We are happy to answer any and all questions! [treasurer@molconline.org](mailto:treasurer@molconline.org) or (608) 279-1870 (Greg's cell). God Bless!

## A VIEW FROM THE BOARD OF OUTREACH

### *Outreach to Veterans*

Please join us throughout the month of November as we share the word of the Lord, as well as our appreciation, to the veterans at the Madison VA.

- 1) We will be distributing Christmas cards to the VA in December and we need your help! We have a table set up for you to take as many cards as you like to write a special Christmas message to a veteran.
- 2) We are collecting items for the inpatient veterans to help them through their stay. Suggested items: Magazines, Books, Playing Cards, Crossword Puzzles/Word Searches, Pens & Notepads and Brand New Socks/Warm Clothing. There is a bin located near the Welcome Center for donations. Please have all cards and donations returned **by Sunday, December 1<sup>st</sup>**.

Thank you so much!

Laura DiRosario, Julie Nelson & Barb Koehler

**“God is our Refuge and Strength, a very present help in trouble.” -Psalm 46:1**

As I think about the upcoming Thanksgiving holiday, I am reminded of God’s goodness and overwhelming love for all of us. This past summer I had the opportunity to attend the National Youth Gathering in Minneapolis with our church. It was a mountain-top, spiritually uplifting, and life-changing experience. Intermingled in some quiet moments of meditating on God’s Word since that event, I am reminded of the overall theme of the Gathering which was... **REAL.PRESENT. GOD.**

Now I know that this article is meant to give you a snapshot into what is going on in the preschool, but I felt the Spirit leading me to reflect on the message I heard back in July. And for that matter, these biblical principles can lead to some very foundational doctrines that we share with the young children in our midst.

As I searched for the basic definitions of these 3 words, I gained even more insight into the verse from Psalm 46—**God is our Refuge and Strength, a very present help in trouble.**

**REAL... not imitation or artificial, but genuine**  
**PRESENT...existing or occurring now; fully focused on or involved in what one is doing or experiencing**  
**GOD...the Creator and Ruler of the universe; the source of all authority and the Supreme Being who is to be worshiped and glorified**

Our God is REAL. He is not a man-made idol or fancy dream. Before the creation of the universe, He was. He sent His Son, Jesus, to be real and in the flesh. He knows what we are experiencing, because He himself lived a life on this earth.

Our God is PRESENT. He was present in the waters of our Baptism and is present each time we partake of His body and blood in the Lord’s Supper. He is present in His Word and in the lives of His people who are united with Him in His church.

Our God is GOD. He is the Creator of our World and the Author of Life. Because He is God, He was able to conquer death, sin and the grave. We have power in Christ’s forgiveness and the free gift of salvation because He bestowed that to us. He

is our GOD who walks with us each day as we rejoice in the good days and as He carries us when we are in the valley.

When we sing, “A Mighty Fortress is our God,” we are actually singing the words from this Psalm which Martin Luther penned so long ago. No matter the circumstance we are facing, the emotions that are running through our bodies, or the decisions we must encounter, God is REAL, God is PRESENT, and He is GOD. We can stand in His grace and forgiveness, being assured that the Kingdom is ours. So let us call on Him in thanksgiving for these precious gifts. Whatever our age, whether we are a preschooler or we are in our “golden years,” let us draw near to Him knowing that He is REAL and PRESENT in our lives.

May we have a blessed Thanksgiving as we take time to read this Psalm and the verses that follow.

In His service,  
Laurel

- Thanks to all of you who supported the preschool in our recent Butter braid fundraiser. We were blessed by your donations and appreciate being able to purchase a new library cart, cones for our parking lot and some new trikes for the gym.
- It’s not too early to put our preschool Christmas program on your calendar for December. On Wednesday, December 18<sup>th</sup> at noon, the preschoolers will be presenting some songs and fingerplays to the congregation as part of the Advent service. Please join us as we prepare for the birthday of our King!
- Any soda tabs or tops from other beverages may be turned into the pink basket on the cubbies in the preschool hallway. These are donated to the Ronald McDonald House here in Madison to assist families who have children in the hospital.
- As part of our December compassion project, the preschoolers will be collecting items that can be donated to local nursing homes. Stay tuned for a list of things that we would like to drop off to a local facility in time for Christmas.



**Praise, Prayer & Pie**

**Tuesday, November 26 at 8pm** (following 7pm Thanksgiving Service). Look for a sign-up in the coming weeks at the Welcome Center to bring a pie.

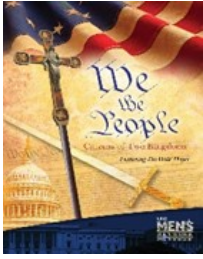
**Advent By Candlelight**

**Friday, December 6, 6-9pm.** Look for table sign-ups in the Narthex the month of November!

**Christmas Party**

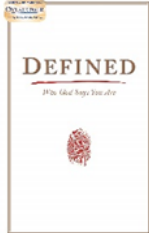
**Sunday, December 15** following church service at 9am. Details and sign-up coming soon.

## A VIEW FROM THE FAMILY LIFE DIRECTOR Rev. Mark Baldwin



**Men @ Work** – Mount Olive’s men’s ministry meets the first Monday of each month (**Nov 4**) at **6:30pm** in the Fireplace Room. All men of MOLC are encouraged to attend this fellowship of men who spend time in God’s Word, Fellowship, and Prayer. We Our new video-based Bible Study – “We the People: Citizens of Two Kingdoms” is produced by the Men’s Network of Lutheran Hour Ministries. It’s hosted by Dr. Dale Meyer, President of Concordia Seminary in St. Louis. Throughout the video and discussion, touch questions are raised that will help us better understand the demanding balance between Church and State.

**Females in Faith** is a Bible Study for the ladies of our congregation and friends. They meet the **2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays** of each month studying God’s Word and praying together. They start at **6:30pm** and are currently involved in a study entitled: “Discerning the Voice of God: How to Recognize When God Speaks”. In November, Females In Faith will only meet on **Tuesday, November 12<sup>th</sup>**.



One of the best ways to get to know and grow together as members of our family at MOLC is to be involved in a **Small Group**. Small Groups offer the opportunity to study and discuss God’s Word in a relaxed atmosphere, build relationships with one another, and pray together. Small Groups, usually number about eight to ten members, may meet at homes, local restaurants, or at church. The materials for the study will be provided for you and I am always available to assist you in planning and implementing a Small Group. Our current church-wide study is: “Defined: Who God Says You Are.”

Our **Parent Discussion Group** meets during LOGOS (**Wednesdays**) from **6 -6:45pm**. As our children are studying and growing in God’s Word at LOGOS, we’ll spend time in God’s Word, as well as, sharing, discussing, and supporting one another as parents. We meet in the Fireplace Room.



In Christ’s Service,  
Pastor Mark

## A VIEW FROM THE BOARD OF EDUCATION Peggy Rainbow, Director

As we welcome the month of November, blessings and thankfulness come to mind. We on the Board of Education are thankful for our Mount Olive family and the wonderful educational programs and Bible studies we have here for members of all ages. We are especially thankful for our teachers and helpers in our Sunday School and LOGOS programs. We also ask God’s blessings on all who are teaching our youth this year:

**Sunday School:** Superintendent Kristie Kasbohm, teachers Nancy Brandt, Greg Brandt, Jeremy Bluhm, Megan Morgan, Megan Ballweg, Kirin Randall, Jeff Evert, and thanks to Janelle Tonsager for providing library time.

**LOGOS:** Director Megan Morgan, teachers Kristie Kasbohm, Mike Frazier, Laurel Zobel, Pastor Zobel, Kirin Randall, and kitchen chef Doris Smith. Thank you all for your service!

### ***Bible Presentations and First Communion***

3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Bible Presentation will be on **Sunday, November 10**, during early service. Thanks to Janelle Tonsager for teaching the Bible class to parents and kids on the two Sundays prior to presentation.

Toddler Bible Presentation will be on **Sunday, November 17**, during late service. Thanks to Brian and Connie LaRowe for teaching the toddler Bible class to parents and toddlers on the two Sundays prior to presentation.

First Communion will take place in the Spring this year. Stay tuned for more details!

### ***Vacation Bible School***

Looking ahead, we are seeking a director for our Vacation Bible School. If you are interested in serving in this capacity please contact Peggy Rainbow or any member of the Board of Education.

## **Stoughton Chamber Singers**

The Stoughton Chamber Singers, under the direction of John Beutel, will present their annual fall concert, "How Can I Keep From Singing," **on Sunday, November 17 at 2:00pm** at Christ Lutheran Church in Stoughton. Tickets are \$5 at the door.

**THE VIEW** from the Mount

Newsletter of:

Mount Olive Lutheran Church, LCMS

110 N Whitney Way

Madison, WI 53705

**NOVEMBER 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.*