

## Changing Directions

by Pastor Paul Moody

On a Sunday in mid-January, the Adventure Club saw the film *Selma*, which tells the story of the 1965 Civil Rights campaign to secure equal voting rights. At the end of the film, we sat in silence, deeply impacted by the powerful story we had just witnessed. One person from our group noted that it felt like Good Friday: heavy and hopeless. Perhaps it revealed parts of our human experience that we'd rather ignore.

Now as I sit here today, at a table in my favorite downtown café, I'm watching the Broadway traffic ebb and flow. It reminds me of the push and pull of our life together as people of faith, both through the years and through the seasons. Life has a way of surprising us, both in good ways and in hard ways, and yet God's Spirit continually goes with us, uncovering the Way of Christ in our world.

As we approach Lent, one of the themes is turning around and changing direction in life. In biblical language, we call that "repentance". Yet, that is oftentimes easier to talk about than to actually live and do every day. But perhaps that's why God's Spirit is our advocate, our guide, and our breathe of life when we need it most. I give thanks for the gift of that Spirit that goes with us always, through each season and change in life.



## Lenten Wednesday Bible Study: God's Questions

The first mid-week Lenten study is February 25. Come for a simple soup supper at 5:45 and engage in study and conversation surrounding Biblical questions with Pastor Susan.

- Genesis 4:6 Why are you angry?
- John 1:38 What are you looking for?
- John 21:15-17 Do you love me?
- John 20:29 Have you believed because you have seen me?
- Mark 4:38 Do you not care that we are perishing?





*The Mount Olive Call Committee for Senior Pastor has been formed and is off and running! The team is made up of: Jim Berg (alternate), Dick DeRemee, Mark Masbruch (chair), Jill Mickelson (secretary), Brad Natzke, Mike Olson, Barb Seide (alternate), and Barb Sorensen.*

We are honored to serve as your Call Committee, and we need and appreciate your prayers. Our first devotion as a group was from Psalm 127 "Unless the Lord builds the house, the builders labor in vain". This truly is a job that cannot be successful without the leading of the Holy Spirit in the calling of our new pastor, and in the hearts of the Call Committee to hear His voice. We are currently in the organization and preparation phase of the call process. We have completed the review and update of our Ministry Site Profile (MSP), approved it, and are in the process of providing it to the Synod website. The Synod will use our MSP to more closely match prospective candidates for call, and the candidates will use the MSP to learn more about Mount Olive and our needs. Our committee is also defining the key set of interview questions that match our needs for a pastor, based on surveys and discussions with you over the past six months.

We look forward to the Holy Spirit's guidance as He calls and provides our next pastor. You, too, can help in this process. Over the next week, you have the opportunity to recommend a pastor who you feel would be a good fit for Mount Olive. Forms are available in the office for you to fill out.

God Bless,  
Mount Olive Call Committee

**Nominations: Names of potential candidates for senior pastor are being received from the congregation. The submission deadline is February 8. If you would like to submit a name of a pastor for consideration, please complete a nomination form, which is available on the front desk in the office.**

# Bishop Steve Delzer's Visit to Mount Olive January 18



## Annual Meeting January 25

The following members were elected to council positions:

**Executive Committee:** Amy Determan, Don Halley, Lori Kuhlman-Leibfried, Greg Heldt, Paul Schaefer

**Full Council:** Dave Mickelson, Becky Lashinski, Eric Klavetter, Mark Schultze, Bob Welsh, Jessi Hafeman, Rachel Kuehl

## A Big Thank You to the

congregation for making our 50th Wedding Anniversary more special by attending our Open House.



**Warren and Nancy Kemplin**

## Lenten Soup Suppers

Soup suppers will be served each Wednesday night during Lent from 5:45-6:45. The first meal will be Ash Wednesday, February 18. Many volunteers are needed each week to bring soup, serve and clean up. Helping with a soup supper is a great opportunity for fellowship while working together; small groups or ministry teams are encouraged to sign up to serve together. The freewill offering for the meals will go to ELCA World Hunger. Please sign up in the gathering area. Contact Nancy Britson with questions at [nancy@molive.org](mailto:nancy@molive.org).

## Welcome New Members! January 31 and February 1

New members will be received during worship services on Saturday, January 31 and at the 10:30 am service on Sunday, February 1. Receptions will follow each service. Please plan to attend and warmly welcome our newest members!

# FRIENDS, FAMILY AND FAITH MINISTRY

LEARNING, GROWTH AND FELLOWSHIP

## Welcome to Communion

*First Communion Class - Feb 8*



Do you have a child who is ready to commune? Do you want to learn more about this Holy Sacrament?

Pastor Paul will teach "Welcome to Communion" an introduction to the sacrament in the sanctuary at 11:45 am. Intergenerational, all are welcome!

## Winter Wednesdays

Continue through February 11

Dinner: 5:45 pm

Class: 6:30 - 7:30 pm

- Adult Bible Study with Pastor Susan: *Discovering Joy*
- Confirmation Class
- Intergenerational Class
- F.I.S.H. for grade school youth.



**Feb. 1, 9:15 am**  
Parents of newborns through tots not yet in Sunday School come for conversation and fellowship. Meet in the high school youth room.



## All Hands on Deck!

High School Youth: Grades 9 - 12

## Journey through Lent in Service . . .

Each week during Lent our youth are encouraged and invited to give a helping hand to others in need.

Look for the **GREEN** binder in the gathering area for more information and to sign up!

**Sunday, February 22 2:00—4:00 pm**

*Meadow Lakes Nursing Home*

**Friday, March 6 5:00-7:15 pm**

*Dorothy Day House*

**Tuesday, March 10 6:00-8:00 pm**

*Channel One*

**Sunday, March 15 9:15-10:15 am**

*Assembling Baby Care Kits Mount Olive*

**Monday, March 23 5:30 -7:00 pm**

*Salvation Army*

**Each Wednesday 5:30-6:00 pm**

*Pack John Adams Backpacks Mount Olive*



## Adventure Club

*Friends and Family Friendly Adventure*

This intergenerational group is made up of people drawn to join in an adventure. If interested in being on the email list contact Sara at [sara@molive.org](mailto:sara@molive.org).

**Saturday, Feb 14:** Polar Plunge for Special Olympics, 1 pm, Foster Arends Beach

- Each plunger must raise a minimum of \$75.
- Incentive prizes for raising more than \$75.
- Check out Rochester [WinterFest XIII](#)

**WinterFest promotes wintertime activities for all ages while raising awareness and funds for events sponsored by area nonprofit organizations.**

<http://www.rochesterwinterfest.com/>

- **Are YOU Interested? Contact Terry Krieger or Sara Hollander**

**Sunday, Feb 15: Gospel Music Concert**, 6-8 pm, Christ United Methodist, free will donation  
The music line-up includes Bluegrass by "Cabin Fever", Brass Etc., John Thistle and his band of bagpipers, The Dangerfield string trio and more.

# POLAR PLUNGE

## ELCA Malaria Campaign: Catch the Buzz!

with Mount Olive's 7th and  
8th Grade students



Thank You For helping us  
EXCEED our goal of \$1500!



Save the Date

# Be Our Guest!

March 21 at 6:30 pm

Dinner

Entertainment

Silent Auction

Buy your tickets beginning March 1!  
This is a fundraising event for the youth  
summer trips to the ELCA Youth Gathering in  
Detroit and the Boundary Waters Canoe Area.



A painting party, stroke by stroke instructions, lunch included!

**March 1, Noon-2:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall**

This event is a fundraiser to help our youth travel this summer to the Boundary Waters Canoe Area and ELCA Youth Gathering in Detroit. The cost is \$35 which results in a \$10 contribution to the youth trips. Please direct any questions to Sara Hollander ([sara@molive.org](mailto:sara@molive.org)) or Kris Guy ([krguy@rochester.k12.mn.us](mailto:krguy@rochester.k12.mn.us)).

# ADULTS

LEARNING, GROWTH AND FELLOWSHIP



## Sunday Morning Forum @ 9:30 am

The Sunday Forum takes place from 9:30-10:15, usually in the Fellowship Hall. Everyone is welcome to grab a cup of coffee and join the group.

Feb 1 The Mormons Next Door

Feb 8 Emmanuel Baptist Church, The Church Next Door

Feb 15 Old Order Amish: In the World, But Not of the World

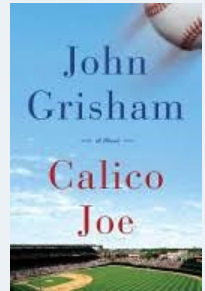
Feb 22 Lenten Study

## Monday Book Group

February 9  
at 6:30 pm

You are invited to a discussion about *Calico Joe* by John

Grisham. All are welcome. Meet in the Mount Olive library.



Questions? Contact [nancy@molive.org](mailto:nancy@molive.org) or 288-1580 x 210



## Ripe Olives

Friday, February 13 at noon

Meet at the Gramercy Cooperative Complex for lunch and social time. Sign up is required, see the sign up sheet in the gathering area for details.

## Pub(lic) Theology

On Monday evenings at the Tap House in Downtown Rochester, all are invited to Pub(lic) Theology, led by Pastor Paul Moody.

Pastor Paul emails the group weekly about the upcoming topic. Please email [paul@molive.org](mailto:paul@molive.org) to be added to the distribution list.

**Come for food and catching up at 5:30. Discussion begins at 6:00.**

## Prayer Shawl Ministry

Tuesday, February 10  
9:00 am



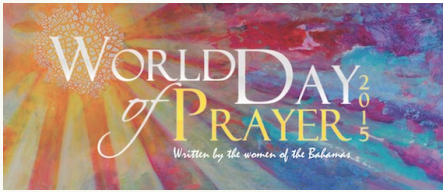
All knitters and crocheters are invited. Yarn, treats, guidance, wisdom, support, and humor are shared! Gather in the front conference room.

## Mount Olive Quilters Thursdays, 9 am

You are invited each week to enjoy quilting and fellowship.

**Altar Flowers:** You may sign up to brighten the sanctuary with flowers. Place orders for birthdays, anniversaries, baptismal birthdays, births, or in memory of a loved one. Sign up in the gathering area, fill out an envelope and include payment.





St. Luke's Episcopal Church  
1884 22nd Street NW

10 am coffee, treats and fellowship  
10:45 am Worship Service  
This year's theme is "Radical Love"  
and is based on John 13:1-17. The  
worship service is planned by the wom-  
en of the Bahamas.

Contact Dorothy Ostrom, 288-2297

Mount Olive Women of  
the ELCA would like to  
thank the congregation  
for their generous  
support at the  
Congregational Meeting.



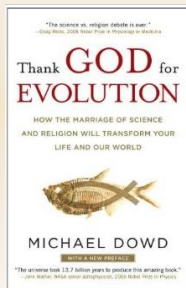
The funds collected will be used for quilts, LWR  
kits, Triennial Gathering scholarships and other  
ministries in the community and around the world.  
We also want to thank the many hands that made  
salads, bars, or helped in the kitchen. Mount Olive  
is filled with people who are generous with their time  
and finances. Also, many thanks are extended to  
Nancy Britson for her leadership in organizing this  
event. She is instrumental in making this event run  
smoothly.

This month we are collecting supplies for Lutheran  
World Relief Baby Care Kits. Some of the items  
needed are diapers, diaper pins, baby socks, cotton  
t-shirts (no onesies), and dark hand towels. Jolene  
Baker will be available between services with a  
complete list of items needed. In March the  
congregation will help in assembling the kits.

### Faith Seeking Understanding (FSU) Book Group

This book group seeks to read a  
variety of non-fiction religious books  
and view video clips that challenge a  
maturing faith. The group meets the  
first Tuesday of every month at 6:30  
pm in the library.

**February 3:** *Thank  
God for Evolution:  
How the Marriage of  
Science and Religion  
Will Transform your  
Life and Our World*  
by Michael Dowd



**March 3:** Video Clip Discussion:  
*Mindfulness and Living Our Faith in  
the Now!*

Questions?  
Contact nancy@molive.org or 288-1580 x 210

### Worship & Cookie Volunteer Schedules

The February-April volunteer schedules have  
been sent out. Check the following web links to  
view the most recent schedules.

**Worship:** [tinyurl.com/lmjbljr](http://tinyurl.com/lmjbljr)

**Cookie Fellowship:** [tinyurl.com/m5v4ulr](http://tinyurl.com/m5v4ulr)

More volunteers are always needed. Simply fill  
out the on-line form on the Mount Olive web site:  
[tinyurl.com/mtuwqkd](http://tinyurl.com/mtuwqkd). Your volunteer time and  
talents are greatly appreciated!

## SERVICE AND SOCIAL OUTREACH MINISTRY (SSOM)

### Hosting Week February 1-8

Mount Olive will be hosting IHN the week of February 1-8. Please remember to be respectful of their space at the church. Guest rooms will be indicated and signs will be up in the back hallways.



Mount Olive has agreed to add an additional week to our hosting schedule. IHN had four weeks needing a host church for 2015. Here is Mount Olive's 2015 hosting schedule:

- February 1-8
- April 12-19
- June 14-28 (NEW!)
- August 23-30
- November 22-29

#### Training Sessions:

Tuesday, February 17, 6:30 pm at Our Savior's Lutheran Church

Please contact Erin Sinnwell with any questions at [etracy515@hotmail.com](mailto:etracy515@hotmail.com) or 507-990-6079

### Lutheran World Relief Baby Care Kit

- **Collection begins February 22**
- **Assembling & Blessing March 15**

A Baby Care Kit from LWR is like a promise. It says to that baby and family, *Your needs will not be neglected by this world. You matter to us.* It provides encouragement by welcoming these little ones into an international community that cares.



Baby Care Kits are distributed as part of emergency and relief efforts, to be sure, but they are also given out as part of LWR health initiatives to encourage women to seek prenatal care.

#### Items needed for the Baby Care Kit:

- Two lightweight cotton t-shirts
- Two long- or short-sleeved gowns or sleepers (without feet)
- Two receiving blankets, medium-weight cotton or flannel
- Four cloth diapers
- One jacket, sweater or sweatshirt with a hood, or include a baby cap
- Two pairs of socks
- One hand towel, dark color recommended
- Two bath-size bars (4 to 5 oz.) of gentle soap, in original wrapping
- Two diaper pins or large safety pins

**Help us reach a goal of sending 100 kits!**



## Channel One Regional Food Bank

The food bank at Channel One is a year-round ministry at Mount Olive. There will be a special Lenten collection which begins on Ash Wednesday. During Lent last year, Mount Olive collected food items and monetary donations totaling more than over 425 bags of groceries (one bag = \$10).

There are blue barrels in the front entry for non-perishable items. Please put your bag on the table next to the barrels so they can be counted before being sent off to Channel One. Special Lenten offering envelopes are available if you would like to donate financially toward this and other Lenten ministry goals.

Please use the chart below to guide your contribution selections. If you have questions, please email Erin Sinnwell at [etracy515@hotmail.com](mailto:etracy515@hotmail.com).

### MEAT, FISH AND PROTEIN

Canned tuna, ham, or chicken, peanut butter, canned/dried beans

### FRUITS AND VEGETABLES

Canned fruits and vegetables, fresh produce

### COMPLETE MEALS

Boxed meals, hearty soups

### GRAINS

Rice, pasta

### COOKING BASICS

Flour, sugar, oil

### SPECIAL DIETARY FOODS

Gluten-free, low-sugar, low-sodium

### PERSONAL CARE PRODUCTS

Shampoo, deodorant, soap, toothpaste, diapers, toilet paper, feminine hygiene products

**Thank you for supporting this important ministry.**

*A note from Lori Kuhlmann-Leibfried:*

**Many thanks** to all who graciously donated to the 2014 Tree of Thanksgiving, sponsored by our Women of the ELCA! May our Savior's love envelop all of you, like the cozy, warm quilts, mittens, gloves, scarfs, hats and clothing have that were donated to the people at the Pine Ridge Retreat Center! There was a very gracious and generous response that included so many needed items!

*A note from Pastor Karen at the Pine Ridge Retreat Center:*

Hi

Thanks so much for all the items you sent. We keep you all in our prayers, thankful for your continuing support of our ministry at Pine Ridge and thankful for the wonderful gifts of warmth, warmth of the material but also the warmth of generous heart and hands. Many thanks.

Blessings, Pastor Karen

## A Very Special Thank You ...

to the individuals who helped plan, design and construct the risers for the sanctuary. Many hours went into the planning and construction of these custom built risers. They will serve the church through the Glory of God for years to come.

### Design & Construction Team

Jim Berg, Curt Britson, Steve Determan, Don Halley, Keith Hanson, Warren Kemplin, Brad Natzke, Bob Nelson, Gene Ostrom, Paul Schaefer, Mark Schoer, Al Trautman, and Richard Willis

# Welcome to Lent

**Ash Wednesday,  
February 18**

† Worship with Imposition of Ashes, Noon, 5:00, and 7:00 pm  
† Soup supper from 5:45 to 6:45

**Wednesdays  
beginning  
February 25**

† Noontime Recital Series  
12:15 - 12:45 pm  
† Soup supper  
5:45 to 6:45 pm  
† Bible Study: *God's Questions*  
for all ages 6:00 pm



**Saturdays**

† Worship at 5 pm

**Sunday  
Mornings**

† Lectionary based Bible study at 9:30 am  
† Worship at 8 and 10:30 am

# February 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b> 8:00a Worship & Coffee Fellowship 9:15a Little Leapers 9:15a Youth Education Hour 9:30a Adult Forum 10:30a Worship & Coffee Fellowship 11:30a New Member Reception	<b>2</b> 5:30p Public Theology, Tap House 6:30p Cub Scout Troop Meeting	<b>3</b> 9:15a Staff Meeting 6:30p Service and Social Outreach Team Meeting 6:30p Faith Seeking Understanding 6:30p Volleyball 6:30p Cub Scout Den 8 7:00p Call Committee 7:30p Glory Bells Rehearsal	<b>4</b> 5:30p Fill backpacks for JA Students 5:45p Dinner 6:30p Strength Finder Class 6:30p Adult Bible Study 6:30p Confirmation Classes 7:30p Adult Choir Rehearsal 8:45p Brass Ensemble Rehearsal	<b>5</b> 9:00a Mount Olive Quilters 6:00p Cub Scout Dens 4, 5, 6 6:30p Cub Scout Den 7 7:00p 'In the Process' AI-Anon	<b>6</b> 6:00p Serve at Dorothy Day House 6:30p Cub Scout Den 1	<b>7</b> 8:30a Men's Discipleship Group 9:00a Altar Guild Setup 5:00p Worship
<span style="font-family: monospace; font-size: 1.2em; letter-spacing: 0.5em;">l n t e r f a i t h   H o s p i t a l i t y   N e t w o r k   H o s t   W e e k</span>						
<b>8</b> 8:00a Worship & Coffee Fellowship 9:15a Youth Education Hour 9:30a Adult Forum 10:30a Worship & Coffee Fellowship 11:45a Welcome to Communion Class 11:45a Full Council Meal and Meeting 2:00p Zumbro River Conference Assembly 	<b>9</b> 4:00p Widowed Person Set-up 5:30p Public Theology, Tap House 6:00p Widowed Persons 6:30p Monday Book Club 6:30p Lydia Circle 6:30p Boy Scout Den 9 6:30p Boy Scout Troup Meeting	<b>10</b> 9:00a Prayer Shawl Ministry 9:15a Staff Meeting 6:30p Cub Scout Den 8 7:15p Volleyball 7:30p Glory Bells	<b>11</b> 5:30p Fill backpacks for JA Students 5:45p Dinner 6:30p Strength Finder Class 6:30p Adult Bible Study 6:30p Confirmation Classes 7:30p Adult Choir Rehearsal 8:45p Brass Ensemble Rehearsal	<b>12</b> 9:00a Mount Olive Quilters 9:00a Rochester Area Keyboard Club 5:30p Facility & Grounds Ministry Team 6:00p Cub Scout Dens 4, 5, 6 6:30p Cub Scout Den 7 7:00p 'In the Process' AI-Anon	<b>13</b> 12:00p Ripe Olives at Gramercy	<b>14</b> 8:30a Men's Discipleship Group 9:00a Habitat for Humanity Work Day 9:00a Altar Guild Setup 1:00p Polar Plunge 5:00p Worship
<b>15</b> 8:00a Worship & Coffee Fellowship 9:15a Youth Education Hour 9:30a Adult Forum 10:30a Worship & Coffee Fellowship 6:00p Adventure Club - Gospel Concert	<b>16</b> 5:30p Public Theology, Tap House 6:30p Boy Scout Troup Meeting	<b>17</b> 9:15a Staff Meeting 6:00p Youth Ministry Team 6:30p WomenHeart support group 7:00p Children's Ministry Team 7:30p Glory Bells 8:00p Volleyball	<b>18 Ash Wednesday</b> 12:00p Ash Wednesday Service 5:00p Ash Wednesday Service 5:30p Fill Backpacks for John Adams Students 5:45p Lenten Soup Supper 6:30p Anna Circle 7:00p Ash Wednesday Service 7:30p Adult Choir Rehearsal 8:45p Brass Ensemble Rehearsal	<b>19</b> 9:00a Mount Olive Quilters 5:30p Cub Scout Blue and Gold Banquet 7:00p 'In the Process' AI-Anon	<b>20</b> 6:30 Cub Scout Movie Night	<b>21</b> 8:00a Boy Scout Council Training Session 8:30a Men's Discipleship Group 9:00a Altar Guild Meeting & Setup 5:00p Worship
<b>22</b> 8:00a Worship & Coffee Fellowship 9:15a Youth Education Hour 9:30a Adult Forum 10:30a Worship & Coffee Fellowship	<b>23</b> 5:30p Public Theology, Tap House 6:30p Boy Scout Troop Meeting	<b>24</b> 9:00a Ruth Circle 9:00a Zumbro River Conference 1:00p Naomi Circle 7:30p Glory Bells 8:00p Volleyball	<b>25</b> 9:15a Staff Meeting 12:15p Lenten Recital 5:30p Fill backpacks for JA Students 5:45p Lenten Soup Supper 6:00p Lenten Bible Study 7:00p Holden Evening Prayer Worship 7:30p Adult Choir Rehearsal 8:45p Brass Ensemble Rehearsal	<b>26</b> 9:00a Mount Olive Quilters 6:30p Rachel Circle 7:00p 'In the Process' AI-Anon	<b>27</b> 9:30p Mary Circle	<b>28</b> 8:30a Men's Discipleship Group 9:00a Altar Guild Setup 5:00p Worship