



Blessing the Dust ©
Jan L. Richardson.
janrichardson.com

Blessing In The Chaos by Jan Richardson

To all that is chaotic
in you,
let there come silence.
Let there be
a calming
of the clamoring,
a stilling
of the voices that
have laid their claim
on you,
that have made their

home in you,
that go with you
even to the
holy places
but will not
let you rest,
will not let you
hear your life
with wholeness
or feel the grace
that fashioned you.

Let what distracts you
cease.
Let what divides you
cease.
Let there come an end
to what diminishes
and demeans,
and let depart
all that keeps you
in its cage.
Let there be

an opening
into the quiet
that lies beneath
the chaos,
where you find
the peace
you did not think
possible
and see what shimmers
within the storm.

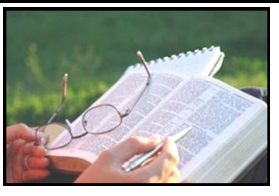
The Mission Site Profile has been submitted and approved by the Synod. The Call Committee has been meeting regularly and working diligently to discuss questions and the interview process, including conducting a practice interview with a local pastor. We are very thankful to Pastor Charles Ortloff from Gloria Dei for serving as our practice interviewee. The Call Committee is in contact with the Synod office and is waiting to receive names.

The Mount Olive Call Committee for Senior Pastor:

Jim Berg (alternate), Dick DeRemee, Mark Masbruch (chair), Jill Mickelson (secretary), Brad Natzke, Mike Olson, Barb Seide (alternate), and Barb Sorensen.

Worship and Study During Lent

Pick up your devotional on the table in the front entry

<p>Wednesdays</p>	<p>† Noontime Recital Series at 12:15 (30 minutes) † Soup supper from 5:45 to 6:45 pm † Bible Study: <i>God's Questions</i> at 6:00 pm † <i>Holden Evening Prayer</i> Worship at 7:00 pm</p>	
<p>Saturdays</p>	<p>† Worship at 5:00 pm using Marty Haugen's <i>Tree of Life</i> liturgy</p>	
<p>Sundays</p>	<p>† Bible study: <i>The Audacity of Faith</i> at 9:30 am with SueAnn Collinge † Worship at 8:00 am and 10:30 am</p>	

Lenten Recitals

You are invited and encouraged to attend a series of recitals during the season of Lent. Recitals begin at 12:15 pm and end around 12:45 pm, allowing people on their lunch hour to enjoy prayerful meditations as we journey through these forty days towards Christ's glorious resurrection. Here are the remaining four soloists; each accompanied by Brock Besse:

- Wednesday, March 4 - Erin Sinnwell, voice
- Wednesday, March 11 - Louis Moreno, cello
- Wednesday, March 18 - Holly Dalager, oboe
- Wednesday, March 25 - Andrea Sivertson, horn



Good Friday Oratorio

The Mount Olive Lutheran Church Adult Choir will be presenting Joseph Martin's "The Weeping Tree" during our Good Friday service on Friday, April 3 at 7 p.m. We will be joined by a small chamber orchestra in the retelling of the events that led to the crucifixion of our Lord, Jesus Christ. Anyone wishing to participate in the choir is encouraged to attend our rehearsals each Wednesday immediately after the Lenten service in the Sanctuary.

From the oratorio, Joseph Martin writes ...

Outside the city wall stands the weeping tree. In silence she lifts her weary arms against the darkened sky. She is a gathering place for the sorrowful and a sanctuary for the grieving. Her shadows are a hiding place for the oppressed and a refuge for the lost. Under her graceful canopy there is comfort and beneath her towering presence there is shelter from the storm.

Long ago, she was planted on a windswept hill where all could see her solitary silhouette and, though fixed in barren soil, her roots grew deep into the hearts of all who drew near to her.

Watered by a thousand tears, her sylvan branches once held a perfect harvest, for heaven had chosen her rugged frame to be the bearer of grace. There in her crooked and twisted arms she cradled Jesus, the Hope of the World. She who was cut and fashioned by hatred and violence became a tree of life for the world.



Sanctuary Flowers for Easter

The sight and smell of the beautiful flowers brightening our sanctuary Easter Sunday is a wonderful reminder of Jesus' resurrection! You may order flowers from March 6-21st. Watch for the order table in the entryway. Please pay for flowers at the time you order; a range of price levels is available. The flowers are yours to take after the 10:30 Easter Sunday service or you may leave your flowers to brighten the sanctuary if you wish.

Lenten Soup Suppers

Soup suppers are served Wednesday nights during Lent from 5:45-6:45. Many volunteers are needed each week to bring soup, serve and clean up. Helping with a soup supper is an great opportunity for fellowship; small groups or ministry teams are encouraged to sign up together. The freewill offering for the meals will go to ELCA World Hunger. Sign up in the front entry. Contact nancy@molive.org with questions.



Lenten Worship Volunteers

Several worship volunteers are still needed for Lent and Holy Week services. Please sign up at the table in the front entry or contact Nancy Britson to volunteer at nancy@molive.org

FRIENDS, FAMILY AND FAITH MINISTRY

LEARNING, GROWTH AND FELLOWSHIP

Palm Sunday Intergenerational Event

March 29 During the Education Hour

This will be a time for friends and families to walk together learning about Palm Sunday and Holy Week with a special visitor, music shared by the youth and adult choirs, and activities! Don't miss this exciting celebration!



High School Youth:

Have you signed up to serve? Check out the green binder in the gathering area.

“What is beneath the surface?” by Sara Hollander

We all enjoy entertainment: getting lost in a book or video game, going to the theatre or a concert, or watching a basketball game on TV. Why is it so easy to fill our time with entertainment? Is it safe? Does it allow us to “go beneath the surface”?

As we continue to walk through Lent, questions come to mind that will not have answers, but asking encourages us to “go beneath the surface”. Asking questions makes us vulnerable, opens a space for others to reflect, ponder, share their story. *Slow down!* Make space and time for questions and *listening!*

Here are some ways to make time for family devotions:

- ◆ Put a box or jar in the middle of a table. Anyone can place a question or thought in the container. Pick a time to sit together and draw a question from the container to reflect on.
- ◆ After enjoying some form of entertainment, reflect on how it relates to your life. What values are expressed? Are they similar to your values? How do those values impact you?
- ◆ Read a story together. Who do you relate to in this story and why?
- ◆ Mark a time each week to draw a picture or write an affirmation note to one another.
- ◆ Create a wheel with various emotions on it. Share a story about a time when you were scared, sad, silly, angry, etc. Was God present?

Regina Mustafa

March 15, 9:30 am
Fellowship Hall

High School youth exploring world religions have invited Regina Mustafa, the founder of the Community Interfaith Dialogue on Islam, to share her life as a Muslim living in Rochester.

She states *“I am a Muslim and I believe in my faith, and I believe that we should all adhere to our religions and encourage each other to practice our own faith because I believe it has such a positive impact on society when we continue to follow our beliefs.”* As a mother, she hopes that her children can feel proud that they're Muslim.

Listen to the children

A 2014 Summer Reflection

from Good Earth Village, by Evan Berg

Each day we had a bible study with a different theme. Monday's theme was connecting to God through nature and through each other. For our bible study Michael Determan and I took our campers to a place called The Shelf. It's a nice flat space that drops off and looks out over the river valley. As an activity, I had the campers go around the space and find items that connected them to God. The campers came back with items they had collected, and shared how they represented God. Most of the responses were "This stick reminds me of God because He made it". I noticed that Brody Vrieze was standing off to the side looking at a tree. I asked him if he'd share what connected him to God. He continued to look at the tree and then explained to everyone that "this tree is God's love because it is the biggest one in the woods and its roots spread to all of the other trees." He then said that God's love for us is enormous and spreads to everyone. He left Michael and me pretty speechless. It was such an amazing thing to realize and we felt pretty proud knowing he came from Mount Olive :) Another week one of the parent chaperones brought up the tree again but in a different way. Underneath the tree are a lot of rocks. He noticed, however, that the tree was able to go around the rocks to reach the surface. He said that this is a lot like God's presence in our lives. We sometimes put up a shield resisting God and those around us. However, God knows how to get around the rocks of our lives and nourish us; God's love always prevails. So thank you Brody for showing me a new way of looking at the things around us.

Have you registered for summer camp? Pick up a Good Earth Village brochure in the gathering area or check out their website: www.goodearthvillage.org

Adventure Club

March 14

Roller Derby Game

Med City vs. M.A.D. (Mankato)

Tickets are \$10 in advance,

\$12.50 at the door.

Mayo Civic Center at 6:30pm

"MedCity Mafia" is a roller derby team in Rochester. Their goal is to support the community and to teach people about an awesome sport they love. Prepare to be entertained!"

An Evening Out!

March 21 at 6:30 pm

Italian Themed Dinner

Entertainment • Silent Auction

Why?

- Support our youth as they raise funds to assist in funding their travels to the ELCA Youth Gathering or the BWCA where they will experience God in a new way!
- You may just want time out with others to enjoy community!
- You will enjoy a good meal!

How?

- Buy a ticket for \$15
- Sponsor a table for \$100?
- Make a donation
- Bid on items at the silent auction.

Silent Auction

Baskets and items have been donated by youth and various businesses. Bidding will begin the evening of March 21 and end at noon on March 22.

ADULTS

LEARNING, GROWTH AND FELLOWSHIP

Sunday Morning
Lenten Bible Study:
*The Audacity of
Faith*



Meet at 9:30 am in the library. Bring your coffee or tea and delve into the Gospel reading for the week with SueAnn Collinge.

Monday Book Group March 9 at 6:30 pm



You are invited to a discussion about *The Aviator's Wife* by Melanie Benjamin. All are welcome. Meet in the Mount Olive library.

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

Mount Olive Quilters Thursdays, 9 am

You are invited each week to enjoy quilting and fellowship.

Ripe Olives

Friday, March 13
at 9:00 am



Come to a pot luck breakfast Friday, March 13 at 9:00 am. Eric and Carol Fosdick will share slides taken on a trip to England.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Tuesday, March 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.

beer, conversation and God.

Pub(lic) Theology

See what's trending.

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

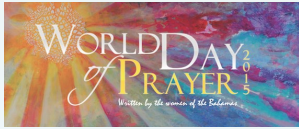
Pastor Paul emails the group weekly about the upcoming topic. Please email paul@molive.org to be included to the distribution list.

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



Rochesterpublictheology.wordpress.com

Upcoming Events:



March 7 at St. Luke's Episcopal Church
(1884 22nd Street NW)

- 10 am coffee, treats and fellowship
- 10:45 am Worship

The theme is "Radical Love" and is based on John 13:1-17. The worship service is planned by the women of the Bahamas.

Contact Dorothy Ostrom, 288-2297 with questions.

"Faith Like A Tea Pot"

In April the Zumbro River Conference Spring Event will be held at Trinity Lutheran Church in Hayfield. The theme is "Faith Like A Tea Pot" The cost is \$12 and includes supper.

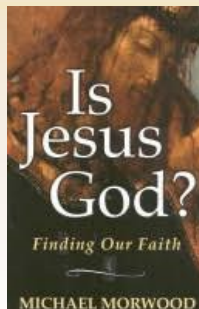
Check out the Mount Olive Women bulletin board for more information. These events foster connection with women from other congregations and fellowship with one another! Please plan to attend.

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.

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

April 7: *Is Jesus God?* by Michael Morwood: *This book is an invitation to challenge your notions of how and why Jesus is to be thought of as divine.*



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

Do You Have a "Heart" for Caring?

Informal Meeting Sunday, March 1 at 11:45 am

Spiritual Companions are a group of Mount Olive members who assist the pastors with the caring ministry of the congregation. A care group is in the process of starting again. If you have suggestions or would like to walk with members during transitions or challenges they are experiencing, please come to this March 1 informal meeting. If you have questions, please contact SherrieBelle Brinkworth at 507-289-7778 or nanabelle.mn@gmail.com.

Stop by the Fair Trade Coffee

display in the gathering area to check out the varieties of ground and whole bean coffee and tea available for purchase. You can also sign up to sponsor the coffee served during fellowship time on an upcoming Sunday. For \$15 you can help offset the cost and mark an occasion (birthday, anniversary, or the memory of a loved one).



SERVICE AND SOCIAL OUTREACH MINISTRY (SSOM)

Lutheran World Relief Baby Care Kit

- **Collection of needed items is in progress**
- **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!

nursery volunteers needed

Mount Olive offers a supervised nursery for infants through 4 years of age during many of its services. Our policies and insurance coverage require that we have two, non-related adults present – one of whom must have a background check completed and on file. In order to be in compliance, we need more volunteers to help with this effort or we will not be able to offer this service as often as we would like. If you are interested in helping, please let a staff member know or fill out a Volunteer Form available in the office or on-line at www.molive.org.

Dorothy Day Hospitality House Volunteers Needed

Volunteers are needed to prepare and serve dinner to guests on April 3, May 1, and June 5.

Sign up in the gathering area or contact Kim Ignatius with questions at :

- 271-6087
- 281-4083
- ignatius.kimberlie@charter.net



Lenten Collection Has Begun

At Mount Olive we support the Bishop's "Initiative to End Food Insecurity". Our annual collection for The Channel One Food Shelf begins Ash Wednesday and ends on Easter Sunday. This drive provides much needed food and supplies for families in our area. Mount Olive has strongly supported the effort with one grocery bag or a \$10 donation from each of our church families. There will be tables in the church entry for you to place your grocery bag and envelopes available for monetary donations. Please place your bag **ON** the table so it can be counted then placed in the blue barrels. Please make sure that all items are non-perishable and that they are not close to expiring. The following is a list of suggestions from Channel One on their most needed items:

Canned Meats and Peanut Butter	Special dietary need items such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gluten free • Low sodium • Low sugar 	Personal Care Items: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shampoo • Deodorant • Soap • Toothpaste • Diapers • Toilet paper • Feminine hygiene products
Canned Fruits and Vegetables		
Soups and Boxed Meals		
Rice and Pasta		
Flour, sugar, oil		

If you have any questions, please contact:

- Erin Sinnwell at etracy515@hotmail.com
- Pam Hansen at praehansen@gmail.com

Thank you for supporting this important ministry.

Do you have a young adult that you would like to send a care package to before college finals week?



Please provide the student's name and mailing address so they can receive a care package from Mount Olive.

Please email the information to Sara Hollander at sara@molive.org.






Lenten Wednesday Bible Study: God's Questions

Come for a simple soup supper at 5:45 and engage in study and conversation surrounding Biblical questions with Pastor Susan and Pastor Paul.

- | | |
|-----------------------|---|
| Feb 25: Genesis 4:6 | Why are you angry? |
| Mar 4: John 1:38 | What are you looking for? |
| Mar 11: Mark 4:38 | Do you not care that we are perishing? |
| Mar 18: John 20:29 | Have you believed because you have seen me? |
| Mar 25: John 21:15-17 | Do you love me? |



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Second Sunday in Lent 8:00a Worship & Coffee Fellowship 9:15a Little Leapers 9:15a Youth Education Hour 9:00a High School Breakfast Club 9:30a Bible Study - <i>The Audacity of Faith</i> 10:30a Worship & Coffee Fellowship 11:45a Care Group 12:00a "Sunshine & Roses" Youth Fundraiser	2 5:30p Public Theology, Tap House 6:30p Cub Scout Troop Meeting	3 9:15a Staff Meeting 6:30p Service and Social Outreach Team Meeting 6:30p Faith Seeking Understanding 6:30p Cub Scout Den 8 7:30p Glory Bells Rehearsal 8:00p Volleyball	4 12:15p Lenten Recital 5:30p Fill backpacks for JA Students 5:45p Lenten Soup Supper 6:00p Lenten Bible Study 7:00p <i>Holden Evening Prayer</i> Worship 7:30p Adult Choir Rehearsal 8:45p Brass Ensemble Rehearsal	5 9:00a Mount Olive Quilters 6:00p Cub Scout Dens 4, 5, 6 6:30p Cub Scout Den 7 7:00p 'In the Process' Al-Anon	6 6:00p Serve at Dorothy Day House 6:30p Cub Scout Den 1	7 World Day of Prayer 8:30a Men's Discipleship Group 9:00a Altar Guild Setup 5:00p Worship (Marty Haugen's <i>Tree of Life</i> liturgy)
8 Third Sunday in Lent 8:00a Worship & Coffee Fellowship 9:15a Youth Education Hour 9:30a Bible Study - <i>The Audacity of Faith</i> 10:30a Worship & Coffee Fellowship 	9 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	10 9:00a Prayer Shawl Ministry 9:15a Staff Meeting 6:30p Executive Council Meeting 6:30p Cub Scout Den 8 7:15p Volleyball 7:30p Glory Bells	11 12:15p Lenten Recital 5:30p Fill backpacks for JA Students 5:45p Lenten Soup Supper 6:00p Lenten Bible Study 7:00p <i>Holden Evening Prayer</i> Worship 7:30p Adult Choir Rehearsal 8:45p Brass Ensemble Rehearsal	12 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 3 7:00p 'In the Process' Al-Anon	13 9:00a Ripe Olives	14 8:30a Men's Discipleship Group 9:00a Habitat for Humanity Work Day 9:00a Altar Guild Setup 12:00p Adventure Club - Roller Derby, Civic Center 5:00p Worship (Marty Haugen's <i>Tree of Life</i> liturgy)
15 Fourth Sunday in Lent 8:00a Worship & Coffee Fellowship 9:15a Youth Education Hour 9:30a Bible Study - <i>The Audacity of Faith</i> 9:30a Intergenerational Forum 10:30a Worship & Coffee Fellowship 12:30a Mayo Clinic Chamber Symphony	16 5:30p Public Theology, Tap House 6:30p Boy Scout Troop Meeting	17 9:15a Staff Meeting 6:00p Youth Ministry Team 6:00p Children's Ministry Team 6:30p WomenHeart support group 7:30p Glory Bells 	18 12:15p Lenten Recital 5:30p Fill backpacks for JA Students 5:45p Lenten Soup Supper 6:00p Lenten Bible Study 6:30p Anna Circle 7:00p <i>Holden Evening Prayer</i> Worship 7:30p Adult Choir Rehearsal 8:45p Brass Ensemble Rehearsal	19 9:00a Mount Olive Quilters 11:00a Children, Youth and Family Ministry Gathering 7:00p 'In the Process' Al-Anon	20 9:30a Mary Circle	21 8:30a Men's Discipleship Group 9:00a Altar Guild Meeting & Setup 10:00a District 41 Al-Anon Meeting 5:00p Worship (Marty Haugen's <i>Tree of Life</i> liturgy) 6:30p 'An Evening Out' Meal/Silent Auction Youth Fundraiser
22 Fifth Sunday in Lent 8:00a Worship & Coffee Fellowship 8:00a Silent Auction - Youth Fundraiser 9:15a Youth Education Hour 9:30a Bible Study - <i>The Audacity of Faith</i> 9:30a Communion Learning Event 10:30a Worship & Coffee Fellowship	23 5:30p Public Theology, Tap House 6:30p Boy Scout Troop Meeting	24 9:00a Ruth Circle 9:00a Zumbro River Conference 1:00p Naomi Circle 7:30p Glory Bells	25 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 <i>Holden Evening Prayer</i> Worship 7:30p Adult Choir Rehearsal 8:45p Brass Ensemble Rehearsal	26 9:00a Mount Olive Quilters 6:30p Rachel Circle 7:00p 'In the Process' Al-Anon	27	28 8:30a Men's Discipleship Group 9:00a Altar Guild Setup 5:00p Worship (Marty Haugen's <i>Tree of Life</i> liturgy)
29 Palm Sunday 8:00a Worship & Coffee Fellowship 9:15a Intergenerational Event 10:30a Worship & Coffee Fellowship	30 5:30p Public Theology, Tap House 6:30p Boy Scout Troop Meeting	31 9:30a Retired Pastor's Luncheon 9:15a Staff Meeting 7:30p Glory Bells	 M a r c h 2 0 1 5 