

THE OLIVE BRANCH

A Monthly Publication of Mt. Olive Lutheran Church

MT. OLIVE LUTHERAN CHURCH

715 2ND ST. NE

WATERTOWN, SD

May 2024

www.mtolivewatertownsd.org

VOLUME 45 NUMBER 5



“Dads! Moms! Jesus!”



On September 6, 1995, Cal Ripken Jr. broke the one baseball record that many believed would never be broken: Lou Gehrig's ironman feat of playing in 2,131 consecutive games. Ripken gives much of the credit for his accomplishments to the example and teaching of his father Cal Ripken Sr. who played minor league baseball and coached and managed for the Orioles.

During the 1996 season Ripken Sr. was inducted into the Orioles Hall of Fame. After he gave his acceptance speech, his son Cal Jr. came to the microphone. In his book, *The Only Way I Know*, Cal Jr. recalled the emotional moment when he wrote:

It was difficult. I wasn't certain I could say what I wanted about my father and what he means to me. So, I told a

little story about my two children, Rachel, six at the time, and Ryan, then three. They'd been bickering for weeks, and I explained how one day I heard Rachel taunt Ryan, "You're just trying to be like Daddy." After a few moments of indecision, I asked Rachel, "What's wrong with trying to be like Dad?" When I finished telling the story, I looked at my father and added, "That's what I've always tried to do."

In our text for today we see that St. Paul praised the Christians at Thessalonica for being "an example to all that believe in Macedonia and Achaia." The People at Thessalonica had been worshippers of idols, but now they were imitators of Christ, role models if you will of what it means to live Christ like lives in the midst of great trial and tribulation.

Without a doubt we too, like the Thessalonians, have been called to be examples of Christ's love to others. Even though we are not intensely persecuted like many of the first Christians we still have been entrusted by God Himself to live our lives in such a way that others will not only want to imitate us but more importantly Christ Jesus.

There is a story in one of the *Chicken Soup for the Soul* books told by a mother in Costa Mesa, California. It was a hectic day in their home, she says, but with 10 children and one on the way, every day was a bit hectic. On this particular day, however, this mother was having trouble doing even routine chores — all because of one of her little boys.

Len, who was three at the time, was on her heels no matter where she went.

Whenever she stopped to do something and turned back around, she would trip over him. Several times, she patiently suggested fun activities to keep Len occupied. "Wouldn't you like to play on the swing set?" she asked again. But he simply smiled an innocent smile and said, "Oh, that's all right, Mommy, I'd rather be in here with you." Then he continued to bounce happily along behind her.

After stepping on his toes for the fifth time, Len's Mom began to lose her patience and insisted that he go outside and play with the other children. When she asked him why he was acting this way, he looked up at her with sweet green eyes and said, "Well, Mommy, in Sunday School my teacher told me to walk in Jesus' footsteps. But I can't see [Jesus], so I'm walking in yours."

And that's what it is all about, isn't it? If you don't think this is true just think about this: if the Christians at Thessalonica two thousand years ago had not been faithful under immense hardship— setting examples of sacrificial love for their neighbors — you and I might not be Christians today.

My friends, at the cross and the tomb Jesus has set the ultimate example of how we are to live out our lives and today He invites us in faith to live in such a way that when others see us they see Him and His dying love for them.

Living for Him!

Pastor Bertell

SUNDAY WORSHIP

Worship
9:00 AM

Sunday School
10:15 AM

Bible Class
10:30 AM

OR ONLINE

Mt. Olive Lutheran
Facebook Page

Or

Mt. Olive Website
mtolivewatertownsd.org





Coming Soon: VBS

Fun and adventure awaits you!
Join us for the Great Jungle Journey from Genesis to Revelation.

When: June 2nd-6th
Time: @ 6 pm—8 pm
Where: Mt. Olive Lutheran Church

Volunteers & Children register @
www.myvbs.org/mtolivechurch

For more information contact
Brittany Luoma, Director
605-520-6637 or luoma.tb@live.com

May LWML Information

The May meeting of Mt. Olive LWML will be held on Thursday, 9, at 1:30 p.m. at the church. The topic will be taken from the new spring *Quarterly* and will be given by Pastor Birtell. The roll call will be to bring treats for the Fire Department. Hostess will be Sue Magedanz. All ladies are invited and encouraged to attend.



Senior Reconciliation

Blake Davis Kate Hulscher
Alexis Goche Ezekiel Sauer
 Dravin Sears

Mt. Olive will recognize our 2024 seniors
Sunday, May 22

Mt. Olive Birthdays

As we continue to remember those members of Mt. Olive with birthdays on the "5's" and those 90 years and older, we find these names on the May calendar.

5/02 Paul Waldron
5/05 Gary Haler
5/09 Ken Passow
5/09 Marsha Kapp
5/25 JoAnn Westerman

Please remember them with a card, phone call and/or prayers on his special day.



Mission Possible—Tim Tebow

Mt. Olive will be providing the opportunity for all of our teens to attend the Mission Possible event. This event will be held on June 21 at 7:00 PM at the Watertown Civic Arena. We hope many of our teens will make plans to attend this event to hear Tim share his message of leading a Mission Possible life!



Picture Directory Update



Another day (Thursday, May 23) has been added to schedule pictures for the directory because Tuesday and Wednesday are full! So please sign up online, visit the Mt. Olive website or call Dorothy Bassingthwaite at 605-882-1372

and she can schedule you. She can also answer any questions or change times if needed. **We still need one more hostess for Tuesday and Thursday.** Thank you for helping with this. The pictures will be taken in the Sunday School area at church. **Please be there at your scheduled time.** You will get a free 8X10 portrait and a new directory for participating. Thank you so much Mt. Olive!



Scan QR code to



Station	City	Freq	Day
KMSD	Milbank	1510 AM	Sunday 7:00 AM

People Of Christ With The Message Of Hope

May 5

"Rejoicing On the Way"

Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. John Nunes

God empowers His people to share the Gospel with those they meet along the way.

(Acts 8:28-39)

May 12

"Unforecastable"

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

It's been said that God's call often comes as a surprise. In Acts 9, we meet three men who found themselves called in ways they could neither forecast nor control.

(Acts 9:31)

May 19

"Waiting, But Not Alone"

Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. Jason Broge

Jesus leaves His followers waiting for Him to return but He promises they will not be left alone.

(Acts 2:1-21)



May Birthdays			
5/1	Melissa DesLauriers Noah Schoenefeld Jamie Pietz	5/14	Dravin Sears Missy List Trevan Schoenefeld
5/2	Glenda Meyer Ezekiel Sauer Donovan Schoenefeld Paul Waldron Connor Hughes	5/15	Kristen Johnson
5/3	Aaron Schoenefeld Kate Hulscher Carl Paulson	5/17	Eileen Kraemer Maxx Sears
5/4	Del Hutchins Oliver Umlauf	5/21	Kevin Meyer Maddox Warne
5/5	Lori Bussard Gary Hahler	5/23	James Meyer
5/7	Jon Brandenburger Taylor Erickson Dana Patten	5/24	Ashlynn Patten
5/9	Marsha Kapp Ken Passow	5/25	Doug Pahl Don Pasch JoAnn Westerman
5/10	Samantha Ochsendorf	5/27	Michael Christians Deanna Kunkel John Paulson
5/12	Blake Davis Dawn LaMee	5/28	Tasha Schanbeck
		5/29	Jeff Glover Mike Glover Sierra Tvinnereim
		5/31	Gloria Kannas



May Anniversaries

5/18/96	Brian & Malissa VanVleet
5/19/12	Trent & Brittany Luoma
5/21/94	Curt & Deanna Kunkel
5/31/80	Ed & Gail Wegner

May & Care Family
"Family of Daniel"

Elders of the Month:
 Doug Jerke & Stephen Heidenreich

- | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Adler, Penny | Kreutner, Gregory |
| Anderson, Carolyn | Kreutner, Joshua |
| Beutler, Carol | Kreutner, Stephanie |
| Brey, Amber | Lau, Jon & Maria |
| Brey, Matt & Roxanne | Linke, Lloyd & Cindy |
| Brey, Nathan | List, Emma |
| Christians, Mike | List, Grace |
| Collins, Ashley | Lunzman, Sarah |
| Collins, Dylan | Luoma, Trent & Brittany |
| Collins, Jeff & Carol | Messerschmitt, Vera |
| Cook, Missy | Montgomery, Judith |
| Erickson, Aaron & Becki | O'Bryan, Brent |
| Erickson, Tatum | Olson, Wilma |
| Falk, Charles & Sharon | Olson, Tom & Endres, Lorie |
| Falk, Matthew | Ploof, Brenda |
| Gregoire, Ashley | Puthoff, Brad & Robin |
| Hahler, Gary | Ramsey, Mark & Linda |
| Hinkelman, Candace | Riedel, Jerry & Karen |
| Iverson, Joel | Rose, Emily |
| Jorden, Alex & Arlene | Rose, Megan |
| Jordan, Jamie & Abigail | Rose, Todd & Sheila |
| Kapp, Marsha | Spies, Aaron |
| Keller, Lisa | Spies, Ryan |
| Kiefer, Adam | Spies, Todd & Denise |
| Kiefer, Nancy | Webb, Linda & Bud |
| Koepke, Barry | White, Ardis |
| Koepke, Candace | |
| Koepke, Marilyn | |
| Kreutner, Roger & Nancy | |

June Faith & Care Family
"Family of Elijah"

Elders of the Month:
 Chris Pownell & Dennis Anderson

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Anderson, Andy & Grace | Miester, Stacy |
| Anderson, Cheryl | Miller, Larry & Julie |
| Bassingthwaite, James | Neugebauer, Kathy |
| Bassingthwaite, Jason | Paulson, John |
| Bassingthwaite, Jim & Dorothy | Paulson, Trudy |
| Clark, Dean & Dorette | Patten, Ashlynn |
| Clark, Jacob | Patten, Dana |
| Dahl, Tessa | Patten, Sandy |
| Drevecky, Ashley | Peterson, Sarah |
| Drevecky, Charles | Phillips, Nicole & Kyle Warne |
| Drevecky, Ted | Pietz, Eldon & Linda |
| Hinkelman, Cody & Dani | Pietz, Jamey |
| Hoverstadt, Rosemary | Schamber, Neil & Tammy |
| Jondahl, Andrew & Samantha | Schamber, Colton |
| Jondahl, Lane | Schamber, Emery |
| Killion, Kathy | Schanbeck, Emily & Travis |
| Killion, Ryan | Schanbeck, Tasha |
| Krantz, Toshua | Schultz, Rick & Wendy |
| Krantz, Jolene | Schulz, Ruben |
| Krantz, Jordan | Schultz, Scott |
| Kruse, Fern | Schultz, Thomas |
| Kunkel, Deanna & Kurt | Schwere, Kendra |
| Kunkel, Kaitlyn | Sikkink, Kylee |
| Lehna, Bryce | Snover, Margaret |
| Lehna, Melissa | Strohschein, Kim |
| Lehna Beau | Surzshyn, Kathi |
| Lehna Bret | Swenson, Janis |
| Lindgren, Linda | Wegner, Ed & Gail |
| McElhany, Ashley | Wegner, Landon |
| McElhany, Daniel | Werner, Tom & Barb |
| McElhany, Tim & Roxanne | Whiting, Mason |
| Meikle, Lauren | Whiting, Charlie |
| Meikle, Lindsey | Whiting, Jacklynn |
| Meikle, Steve & Tracy | |

Each family unit at Mt. Olive is assigned to a "Faith and Care" family. These groups give our members the opportunity to put their faith into action, and to care for one another. Family assignments and sign up sheets are posted on the bulletin board.

SUNDAY SERVICES: Everyone is encouraged to help with the regular tasks of the church on Sunday. These tasks include ushers, acolytes, readers, greeters, and also servers during fellowship time.

FELLOWSHIP: People have the opportunity to get to know each other better by working together, and planning together. Each Faith and Care family should gather early in the month before their turn is up, to organize and schedule.

This gathering could be a pot-luck just for that group, or some other event that gives everyone a chance for worthwhile fellowship.

CARE: There is a wide variety of people in each group. There are some who will not be able to be directly involved in group activities, because of health reasons. Or perhaps they have responsibilities at home or work and are not able to get away. We hope the Faith and Care group will be in touch with everyone in the group at least once during the month they serve. If there is a special need that exists, perhaps someone in the group can help.



ELDERS Contact Information

- Pastor Brad Birtell - 402-276-1188
 Dennis Anderson - 886-3178
 Neil Schamber - 237-3834
 Doug Jerke - 880-7007
 Brent O'Bryan - (712) 261-0316
 Chris Pownell - 354-0489
 Stephen Heidenreich—
 (970) 333-8155



**ELDERS OF THE
 MONTH
 MAY**

Doug Jerke
 &
 Stephen Heidenreich

ACOLYTES



Acolyte Calendar

ACOLYTES



May		June	
5/5	MacKenzie Konrad	6/2	Trevan Schoenefeld
5/12	Lydia Stemwedel	6/9	Eli Wold
5/19	Alayna Arthur	6/16	Levi Jondahl
5/26	Nora Pownell	6/23	MacKenzie Konrad
		6/30	Lydia Stemwedel

