

THE OLIVE BRANCH



A Monthly Publication of Mt. Olive Lutheran Church

MT. OLIVE LUTHERAN CHURCH

715 2ND ST. NE

WATERTOWN, SD

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www.mtolivewatertownsd.org

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"Centered"



But in your hearts set apart
Christ as Lord.
Philippians 3:15

There is a picture hanging crookedly on your living room wall. It bothers you, so you walk to the picture and push up the side that is hanging low. You step back, squint your eyes, and decide now the picture is straight. You leave the room feeling good about getting things to look the way they should.

The next day you walk through the living room and are surprised to see the picture is once again hanging as crookedly as it did yesterday before you straightened it. You conclude you must have failed to get it really level the day before. Again you push up the side that is hanging low, step back, eyeball the picture, and decide this time you have it right.

The next day, to your great frustration, you find the picture is hang-



ing crookedly again. You are sure you had it right the day before. You push it straight and walk away wondering whether it will be crooked again tomorrow.

The next day it is crooked again. What's going on! Then it dawns on you. Perhaps the wire on the back of the picture is not centered on the wall hook. You take hold of the picture, slide it to the left a fraction of an inch, and then level it.

The next day when you return to the living room, you find your picture hanging straight and true the way you left it the day before.

A picture will stay level only if it is centered on the hook. Without that, any corrections are temporary. In the same way, until we center ourselves in Jesus Christ, no matter how hard we try to straighten out our lives, they will eventually fall out of line.

Without a doubt, Christ Jesus our savior and Lord needs to be the center of all that we say and do. He needs to

be the focal point of our lives, so that we might be enabled with His spirit to live our lives for Him and for others. So often however because of the presence of sin in our lives and our tendency to go our own way and do our own thing, our lives get out of balance, and since this is so in your life and mine, in faith we must repent of our crookedness and then in new found faith and forgiveness center our lives on Him, our gracious and most merciful God.

Centered on Jesus with you.

Pastor Bertell



SUNDAY WORSHIP

Worship
9:00 AM

Fellowship
10:00 AM

OR ONLINE

Mt. Olive Lutheran
Facebook Page
Or

Mt. Olive Website
mtolivewatertownsd.org

Choir to Begin In September



The choir will begin to practice in September. Through the years the numbers have become quite a bit smaller and we hope that all members would prayerfully consider joining our fun group. If you love music you are perfect for this group. You do not need to read music, or have been in any choir before. Plans are to resume on Wednesday, September 11, at 6:00 PM. Come and “make a joyful noise.”



Photo Wall—Directory Up-Date

We are hoping to get the new picture directory the middle of September and plan to update the photo wall at church at that time. If you had your picture taken for the directory we will use that picture for the photo wall unless otherwise instructed. **If you were unable to get your picture taken for the directory we encourage you to submit a photo for the wall.** You may submit a hard copy or digital photo. Please list all names in order of those on photo and leave in the big orange envelope on the table in the secretary's office. If you have a digital photo you can send it to Dorothy Bassingthwaite at bassjido@iw.net and include all names in order. We really encourage you to do this and if need be we can take informal pictures after church. Let me know if there is a need for this. This should be a wonderful help to all members to identify our brothers and sisters in Christ! Thank you.



Scan QR code to



August LWML Information

The LWML will meet on Thursday, August 8 at 1:30 pm. The topic lesson will be from the Summer Quarterly. Hostess will be Marilyn Koepke. The role call will be to share your Favorite Bible verse.



The Watertown Banquet

Mt. Olive will again be serving the community Banquet at Grace Lutheran Church. The date for this year is Monday, **September 23.**

Please save the date to help! Sign-up sheets for donations and help will be out mid August. This is always so appreciated! The Evangelism Committee.



Sunday School Theme Shirts

This year the Sunday school will be ordering shirts for the Theme “Focus Forward.” All children grades Pre-School-6th grade will receive a shirt. The t-shirts will be used each time the children sing for services

We ask that you fill out the sign-up sheet on the back table with you child’s name, size and contact information by August 11/18.



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

August 4—"Jesus' Resurrection: God's Public Guarantee"

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Gregory Seltz

Archives August: A crucified Savior, a resurrected, living Lord: the public guarantee of God, at work in the world for you.

(1 Corinthians 15:17-19)

August 11—"God's Peacemakers for a Troubled World"

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Gregory Seltz

Archives August: Don't let anger, disagreement, and stress damage your relationships. Hear how God changes troublemakers into peacemakers.

(Philippians 4:4-13)

August 18—"The Child Glad to Be Born"

Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. Dale A. Meyer

Archives August: The Child Who wanted to be born can make you glad to be alive! That joy for living comes when you hear His story. (Luke 2)

August 25—"When the Monsters Come"

Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. Dale A. Meyer

Archives August: We can never be too vigilant against the devil's attacks but in Christ we can always be confident that the victory is ours.

(Job 40:15-41:34)



August Birthdays			
8/1	Collin Crismon	8/23	Cami Crismon
8/2	Scott Schulz		Wilma Olson
8/4	Steve Magedanz		Barb Waldron
8/5	Nicole Haselhorst		Tom Werner
	Austin Wiesinger	8/24	Bud Webb
8/6	Cindy Linke	8/26	Mason McIntire
8/7	Jessica Stemwedel		Lynn Moyer
8/11	Robert Drevecky	8/28	Lane Jondahl
	Levi Jondahl		Jay Meier
	Samantha Jondahl	8/29	Jonathan Albright
	Maliek Warne		Barb Werner
	Stephanie Kreutner	8/30	Linda Ramsey
8/12	Erik Brandenburger	8/31	Grace Anderson
	Alex Kannas		Jennifer Crismon
	Candy Koepke		Garrett Taecker
	Ruben Schulz		Wyatt Taecker
8/14	Doug Jerke		
	Kim Voegele (Rowan)		
8/15	Roger Merriam		
8/16	Evelyn Pownell		
8/20	Ashley Schoenefeld		
	Masyn Warne		
8/21	Becki Erickson		



August Anniversaries

8/1/92	Everett & Jackie Johnson
8/6/22	Valarie & Nick Seidell
8/8/70	Bud & Linda Web
8/8/98	Craig & Jennifer Crismon
8/13/22	Emily & Travis Schanbeck
8/17/58	Harry & Florence Johnson
8/18/92	Jean & Glen Ragels
8/18/12	Sarah & John Lunzman
8/20/77	Brad & Joleen Meier
8/20/94	Steve & Tracy Meikle
8/22/09	Steven & Melissa Sears
8/24/07	Danielle & Troy Sauer
8/26/95	Jeff & Lori Fox
8/30/03	Philip & Kristina Taecker
8/31/74	Paul & Barbara Waldron





FAITH AND CARE FAMILY CHANGES:

Due to the many changes found with our membership through the directory process, the elders have decided to suspend using the faith and care families for the next few months. It will take some time to go through the many changes. Once these changes have been recorded, the elders will make a decision as to how they would like to proceed with our faith and care families. Everyone should continue to sing up to help with service activities and fellowship. The only change is everyone should feel free to sign up at any time.

DIGITAL MINISTRY

Evangelism is about making spaces for the Holy Spirit to work. The fun and the challenge is then we get to wait on Him for the right person, the right time, the right place to all come together. And it does!

One of those places that Mount Olive intentionally "makes space" is on social media. While the evangelism committee works to create the posts on Facebook, we truly do social media together! You may be the person that the Holy Spirit uses to reach the right person and plant a seed that in the right time will grow. Will you help and become a "digital missionary"? You don't have to share all of our posts but share the ones that are meaningful to you. We've included a few more ways you can help in the picture.

How to support our church on social media for free!



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 AUGUST

Stephen Heidenreich
&
Chris Pownell



Acolyte Calendar



August

8/4 Nora Pownell
8/11 Trevan Schoenefeld
8/18 Elijah Wold
8/25 Levi Jondahl

September

9/1 Alayna Arthur
9/8 Ella Hardin
9/15 Levi Jondahl
9/22 Mackenzie Konrad
9/29 Lydia Stemwedel

