

**MOUNT
OLIVET** | LUTHERAN
CHURCH OF
PLYMOUTH

finding our place in God's unfolding story...

Welcome! If you are a guest this morning, please stop by the Welcome Counter to receive a gift. For more information about Mount Olivet, please call 763-559-2775 or visit our website: <http://moply.org>.

THE LITTLE BLESSINGS NURSERY

is open on the garden level and available during the 9:45 a.m. worship service. Also, the Family Worship area at the back of the Worship Center is available for parents with young children.

Age-appropriate worship bulletins

are available for children ages three to 12. Find them on the "Busy Bag Tree" in the Welcome Center, to the left of the main entrance to the Worship Center.

Coffee and doughnuts are being served in the Fireside Room today between services. All are welcome.

FOR PASTORAL CARE

When the office is closed and assistance is needed due to a crisis or emergency, please call Pastor John, Pastor Beth, or Kirsten Kessel, DM at home:

John Strommen, Senior Pastor	763-540-9427
Beth Horsch, Pastor of Faith Formation	763-208-0380
Kirsten Kessel, Diaconal Minister	763-476-6466

COUNSELING SERVICES

Counseling services are available through Peg Roberts, LMFT at Ridgedale Center for Counseling. Call 952-546-5565 to schedule an appointment.

12235 Old Rockford Road
Plymouth, MN 55441
763-559-2775 <http://moply.org>

THIS WEEK

A weekly publication of Mount Olivet Lutheran Church
Week of November 20-26, 2011

*Celebrate
What God
is Up to in the
World...
Through
Us!*

WE BELIEVE GOD IS LOOSE IN THE WORLD RIGHT NOW,
working to bring life and transformation
to his creation!

PLEDGE CARDS WILL BE GATHERED THIS MORNING
during worship. Extra cards are available
at the Welcome Counter.
Thank you!

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

QUILT SUNDAY/WEDNESDAY

The 70+ quilts on display in the Worship Center have been lovingly sewn together by Mount Olivet women who meet twice each month. Most of the quilts will be distributed by Lutheran World Relief to needy people around the world. (Last year over 155,000 quilts went from the LWR warehouse to Burkina Faso, Haiti, India, Niger, Serbia and Thailand.) Others go to Lutheran Social Services for distribution to Camp Noah and other local charities as well as to Adopt-a-Family recipients and the St. Olaf Care Center. Twelve Bible Explorer quilts have already been delivered to Operation Comfort, helping wounded military and their families. Donations of cotton fabric, flat sheets (any size), blankets and embroidery floss are always greatly appreciated and put to good use.

Join the Mount Olivet Brew Crew TODAY

If you are interested in making a personal batch of beer, plan to attend. Meet at 1:00 p.m. at Paul and Gail Nelson's home—call 763-550-1858 for directions. Also, bring a snack to share. For more information, contact Eric Hansen at nodakeric@aol.com or Kevin Miller at Kevin.miller11@comcast.net.

CHECK OUT MO'S WEBSITE!

There is a new format for the calendar—and you can subscribe using iCalendar or Microsoft Outlook to get updates! ALSO, there is a new format for listening to sermons or the entire worship service. Go to the Worship & Music tab, click on Sermons: Audio & PDF, go to LISTEN ONLINE. Sermons and services are organized by date, by speaker as well as chronologically. We continue to work on the directory and expect it to be back up & running in the next two weeks.

Naomi Circle will meet Monday, Nov 21 at 7 p.m. at Judy's Sterud's home for fellowship and study of chapter two of *Images of Christ*. Contact Judy at 763-546-7299 for direction and more information. New members are always welcome!

2012 Offering Envelopes are available in the Welcome Center for pick up. FYI: Those who use Simply Giving are not assigned envelope boxes unless requested. Contact Rindee Erdmann at 763-509-9401 or rerdmann@moply.org.

YOU CAN HELP

Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes

can be dropped off at Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church November 14-21. Beautiful Savior is located at 5005 Northwest Blvd. Drop-off times vary so please contact Kirsten Kessel or the church (763-550-1000).

You are invited to help Bible Explorers in collecting non-perishable food items to fill Breakfast Bags for families who utilize the local Ronald McDonald House. Please consider donating any of the following items: breakfast or granola bars, individual cereal boxes, fruit/applesauce cups, individual packets of raisins or dried fruit, fruit snacks, juice boxes. Items will be collected through Sunday, December 4. Bible Explorers will decorate and pack the Breakfast Bags on Wednesday, December 7 and Sunday, December 11.

Mount Olivet Cookbook

Many thanks to everyone who signed up to submit recipes. If you haven't already added yours, please do so TODAY. We need to place the order so we'll have the cookbooks in time for Christmas.

Coats are still needed for the MN Council of Churches Refugee Program

Children's jackets, snowsuits, boots, hats, mittens and scarves as well as adult coats are still needed. Thank you if you have donated already - your continued support is greatly appreciated! Donations can be placed in the bin outside the church office.

PRISM is in desperate need of non-perishable food (pasta, rice, beans, canned meat, soup) to fill the food shelf. They have never been so low on food and the need has never been greater. PLEASE bring in whatever you can to help fill the need. Thanks!

BIBLICAL PREACHING PROJECT

Mount Olivet is one of eleven congregations chosen from across the United States and Canada to participate in a research project led by Luther Seminary and funded by the Lilly Endowment, Inc. The goal of the project is to discover ways to make preaching more engaging and relevant to daily life. Please help this project by going online and completing a survey: find the link on our website (www.moply.org) or scan the QR code here:



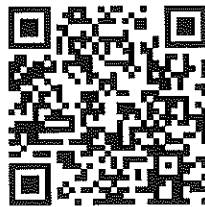
The survey will take about 15 minutes to complete.

GROWTH AND FELLOWSHIP

**High Grounds Coffee House
Friday, December 2
Mick Sterling Presents
At Christmas**



A comedic, dramatic and heart-felt theatrical and musical celebration of the holidays. Written and performed by alumni of The Brave New Workshop, this performance also features a five-piece band led by MN Music Award winner Mick Sterling and an original score written by Brave New Workshop Music Director Peter Guertin. Tickets are \$10 each and are available at the Welcome Counter, at our website (<http://moply.org>) or here: As always, delicious desserts and Fair Trade coffee, tea and cocoa will be served for a free will offering. Profits from the concert will go toward The 30-Days Foundation, a non-profit organization that provides financial grants to people who simply need a helping hand to get back on track. For more information, go to the website: <http://www.the30-daysfoundation.org>.



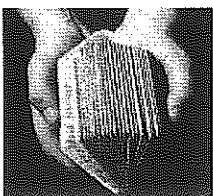
Family Advent Event

Bible Explorers will be learning about and celebrating the Advent season on Wed, Nov 30 at 6:50 p.m. and Sunday, Dec 4 at 9:45 a.m. Parents, plan to attend BE with your children. Don't have children in BE? Stop by and see what our youngest members are up to!

Be sure to stop by the Mount Olivet library and check out the more than 30 new items that have been added. Have you noticed the more than 100 items that have a red sticker on the spine? These books and DVDs have been reviewed for the National Church Library Association by our librarians and contain their review. THANKS for all the wonderful donations!

Sorry for the Inconvenience!

If you have looked for the Picture Directory on our new website, it is not operational yet. We are working on this and will get it up and running ASAP.



**Unfolding the Story
Sunday Education Sessions at 9:45
a.m. in the Conference Room**

TODAY Luther Seminary Professor of Old Testament Richard Nysse returns to discuss Ezra & Nehemiah.

taking questions

wednesdays @ mount olivet

How does Jesus call us to relate to non-Christians?

WHY INTERFAITH DIALOGUE MATTERS

Each month, we will consider a different faith tradition with a guest presenter who practices that faith. Our time will be spent learning more about that particular belief system, dialoging with our guest about points of convergence and divergence in our respective traditions, then making a site visit to a place of worship on the final Wednesday of each month.

Interspersed with our conversations with other faith traditions will be a monthly study of Brian McLaren's book, *A New Kind of Christianity*. This book will help us in our understanding of our own faith tradition as we consider others. This reflection time will be led by Pastor John on the first Wednesday of each month. **Please note the changes in November and December:**

November ATHEISM

- 23 Thanksgiving Eve—no class
- 30 Book study on Part III of *A New Kind of Christianity*, *The God Question*, pages 98-118.

December ISLAM

- 7 Pastor Jane Bucklee-Farley from Trinity
- 14 Pastor Jane and friend Mohamed Mohamud
- 21 Field trip for dinner and visit to mosque

JANUARY HINDUISM

- 4 *A New Kind of Christianity*, Part IV: *The Jesus Question: Who is Jesus and Why is He Important?*, pages 119-136
- 11 & 18 Dr. Ashok Kapoor, Associate Professor of Finance at Augsburg College
- 25 Site visit to a temple

FEBRUARY JUDAISM

- 1 *A New Kind of Christianity*, Part V: *The Gospel Question: What is the Gospel?*, pages 137-157
- 8 & 15 Rabbi Barry Cytron will return
- 22 ASH WEDNESDAY: NO CLASS
- 29 Site visit to a synagogue

MARCH & APRIL TBD

MAY This month will be devoted to completing *A New Kind of Christianity*

These sessions are open to all and a free-will donation will be taken to cover the costs. Sessions meet every Wednesday from 6:50-8:00 p.m. in the Conference Room. Contact Joy Miller at jmiller@moply.org or 763-509-9407 for more information.

THIS WEEK AT MOUNT OLIVET

PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER

Use the white pew card or call the church office (763-559-2775) to let us know of concerns you would like on the Prayer List. Confidential concerns will never appear on this list.

PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING:

- The family and friends of Paul Houghtelin, who passed away November 12. Paul was a longtime friend of Mount Olivet. A group of MO men were his helpers and friends for many years. Give thanks for Paul and pray for comfort and peace for all who cared for him.
- Wendy Wiczek's father, Roger Scott, as he begins chemo treatments. Pray for the right treatment and comfort and peace for Roger and family.
- Tiger Luchsinger, recovering at home from surgery and getting ready to start chemo treatments.
- Shari Kreye's brother, Steve, who has lymphoma. He has had a stem cell transplant but a PET scan showed the cancer is still present. He is starting a new treatment, but looking for alternatives. Pray for knowledge, patience and strength.
- Tim Ward's sister, Nancy Thompson. Pray for continued healing for Nancy and their nephew, Kevin Brass. Also, pray for strength and peace for the entire family.
- Holly Carlson and family grieving the death of her brother Jeff Gerdy, who lost his battle with cancer. Pray for relief, comfort and peace.
- Sue Mixdorf, who has been diagnosed with triple negative breast cancer - a very aggressive form with limited treatment options. Pray for God's miracle of healing for Sue and strength, peace and care for Sue, her family and friends.
- God's healing presence, comfort and peace for Merv Hanson, brother-in-law of Marlene Hill.
- Stephanie Madson, as she continues her treatment for Hodgkins lymphoma.
- Ron Dickmeyer, recuperating from a bone marrow transplant. Pray for continued healing and strength.

PRAY FOR MOUNT OLIVET MEMBERS IN CARE CENTERS:

Don Elstad Janet Ontko

PRAY FOR THOSE IN THE MILITARY:

- Joseph Rodriguez, Mitch & Rose Wadman's nephew, on his second tour in Afghanistan.
- Logan Tyler, John & Nancy Darnall's nephew, serving in Afghanistan.
- Neil G. Broman, USMC, stationed in CA.
- Jason Schmid, in Special Forces training.

CALENDAR

SUNDAY, November 20 CELEBRATION & QUILT SUNDAY
8:30, 9:45, 11:00 a.m. Worship (WC)

Nursery care is available for children ages birth to two years during the 9:45 a.m. worship service.

9:45 a.m. Bible Explorers
9:45 a.m. Adult Education
11:00 a.m. Christmas Play Rehearsal (CM150)
1:00 p.m. Brew Crew (off-site)
4:00 p.m. Advent Concert Rehearsal
6:00 p.m. *The Deck* (Youth Room)

MONDAY, November 21

6:45 a.m. Men's Bible Study (265)
5:00 p.m. Girl Scout Training (265)
5:00 p.m. Girl Scout Event (CM140)
6:45 p.m. 4H (FH)
7:00 p.m. Reading Circle (Fireside)
7:00 p.m. Naomi Circle (off-site)

TUESDAY, November 22

7:00 p.m. LWR Quilters (265)

WEDNESDAY, November 23

7:00 p.m. Thanksgiving Eve Worship (WC)
8:00 p.m. Pie & Fellowship (Fireside)

THURSDAY, November 24 THANKSGIVING DAY

Church Building Closed: Staff Holiday

FRIDAY, November 25

9:00 a.m. Wedding Rehearsal (WC)
5:00 p.m. Wedding (WC)

SATURDAY, November 26

7:45 a.m. Men's Bible Study (283)

SUNDAY, November 27 ADVENT I

8:30, 9:45, 11:00 a.m. Worship & Communion (WC)
Nursery care is available for children ages birth to two years during the 9:45 a.m. worship service.
9:45 a.m. NO Bible Explorers
9:45 a.m. NO Adult Education
11:00 a.m. Christmas Play Rehearsal (CM150)
4:00 p.m. Advent Concert Rehearsal (Music, WC)
6:00 p.m. NO *The Deck*