

Newsletter

2021

Mt. Olivet Lutheran Church

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From Pastor Ortiz:

**“O come, O come, Emmanuel and ransom
captive Israel that mourns
in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.”**

The season of Advent is just around the corner, and our church will be celebrating this wonderful season, in preparation for the Nativity of our Lord. The celebration of Advent involves hopeful expectations as we prepared our hearts for the miraculous birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. The time of Advent encourages us to ask some important questions about ourselves, like, for what are we hoping? What does our hope consist of? For Christians, hope is filled with the certainty of knowing that our Lord is actively involved in all that we do, as He becomes our companion.

The fundamental understanding of Advent is one of waiting; it is waiting that our Lord will come to turn us around in hope. We go through life waiting and hoping. Waiting is something the people of God have been doing ever since God first promised a Savior from sin after mans fall. As we read in the bible, in the Old Testament, God’s people waited around 4,000 years for that promise to be fulfilled. That was a long wait indeed. The promise finally reached fulfillment with the birth, death, and resurrection of Jesus, the Messiah, the Son of the living God (Galatians 4:4-5).

Before Jesus left this world and ascended to His throne in heaven, He issued an important promise to us: “I will come again and take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also.” (John 14:3). That was some 2000 years ago. We are still waiting and hoping. That is what Advent is all about. Advent expectation is nourished by having the confidence that the Lord who came to us at Christmas, will come again as He promise. Advent then, is a time of waiting for what is real and completed in joy and peace.

So, we pray: Amen. “Come, Lord Jesus!”

See you in Church,

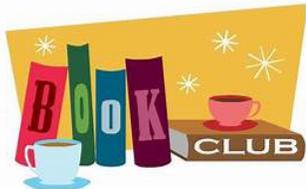
Pastor Eliezer, Interim

HEALING
SERVICE



Time for Healing: The November 7 Worship will include a time for healing where you are invited to come forward and be anointed and prayers will be offered for you. The church embraces the ministry of healing as a important way of bringing the loving care of God to people in their need.

The 2021-2022 Sunday school for November are the 7th and the 21st. Classes be held for 2 year olds through 6th grade. The older two groups will study the New Testament this year through Spark Classroom. The youngest group will learn about the Bible through Frolic Preschool.



Women of the Word - book club is reading *Christy* by Catherine Marshall. They will be meeting Thursday, Nov. 11 at 7pm at the church to discuss the book.

Decorating the Church

After worship on November 21st stay and help us decorate the church for the upcoming Advent and Christmas season. Also if you have any small nativity sets that could be used for the tables in the Fellowship Hall, please bring them in by November 21. Be sure to label them with your name.



ADVENT



Advent Sundays

Each Sunday a family from our church will do the readings and light the candles. Also the Fellowship Time will be a time of enjoying desserts from different countries. Each Sunday will feature a different country.

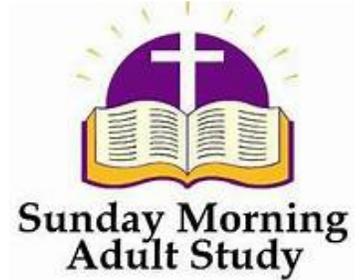
Prayer List

Prayers are powerful and as a church we want to be sure that whenever anyone in our family is hurting we are lifting them up in prayer. So please feel free to contact any of our church council members with any prayer concerns you may have. These may be for yourself or for people you care about, members or not.



SUNDAY MORNING ADULT STUDY

Finishing up the *I Am A Church Member* and then Pastor will begin a 4-week emphasis on learning more about the Latino community and their religious and community needs.



Coffee Fellowship for November, Jill Onnen is for November 7th. No one else has signed up.

Worship Leaders & Greeters - November

November 7: Darek + Carol VanKirk

November 14: The Stetzels

November 21: Marlene Johnson + Sally Radke

November 28: The Reuters

Offerings

As you worship with us I ask that you please remember to continue giving your offerings every week. This is something you can easily do online as well. Click the link on the front page of our website to quickly and easily set up an online giving account. Or you can mail your checks to the church.



THE LAST QUARTER CHALLENGE



The last quarter of the church year begins September 1st. Let's challenge each other the first Sundays of September, October, and November to see how many times we can fill the "Quarter Tube" before the end of the church year on November 30! The need for financial assistance in Perry continues. Any money raised in quarters will go to the Perry Ministerial Association to supplement funds they use to assist families.

Sleep Space Project

Perry Elk's donated \$1000 of blankets and sleeping bags to the Sleep Space Project. They also donated \$4500 for the Sleep Space Project for future needs for the upcoming colder weather.



Community Christmas Day Dinner:

Each year about 400 people come together and enjoy a Christmas Meal provided by donations from many organizations in Perry. Mt. Olivet will contribute the salads for this event. More details to follow about this. There is also an opportunity to help with the preparations on the 24th or serve on the 25th.



TITHE.LY

Tithe.ly app.

From Theresa: I am updating the files on the app. I will send out short notes from time to time. It is another way to keep abreast of what is happening at Mt. Olivet. To get the Mt. Olivet app you can download Church App - Tithe.ly from the app store and select our church or just go to the following link; <https://tithely.app.link/mt-olivet-lutheran-church> Make Mt. Olivet a part of your daily routine.

Mt. Olivet Lutheran Church Council Minutes –

October 27, 2021 Council Meeting minutes

Members present: Matt, Meg, Rusty, Paula, Caitlyn, Theresa, Pastor Ortiz, Gene

Joys/Concerns: The Lamms received good news on Ryan's heart murmur. Continued prayers for Sally Radke as she does testing/procedures.

Opening Devotion and Prayer: Pastor offered an opening devotion on being the light and helping those lost in the dark.

Minutes of Previous Meeting: Paula motioned to approve. Rusty seconded.

Special Presentations and Communications: Gene presented on upcoming holiday activities, tasks and important organizational dates.



Treasurer's Report: Meg motioned to approve. Paula seconded.

Mission and Ministry Reports:

Workshop and Fine Arts: The 2022 worship greeter and reader schedule will be in the 2021 annual report.

Faith Formation: We're coming up on the end of the adult study group and will begin a 4-week emphasis on learning more about the Latino community and their religious and community needs. We will begin the children's offering again which will take place during the children's sermon.

Social Concerns/Fellowship: Committees have been formed to assist with social concerns.

Property: Theresa's office roof has stopped leaking; drywall repair can begin. Rusty will work with Scott Stokley to rebuild the step outside of the kitchen. The A/C is broken, so we are looking at bids for repair.

Pastor's Report: Pastor continues to meet with those in the community needing faith and prayer. He is excited for our first Healing Service on November 7 and conversations on Latino/Hispanic ministries.

Old Business: none.

New Business: Council approved the Mt. Olivet Ministry Profile developed by the Call Committee. Meg made the motion, Matt seconded.

Advent and Christmas services are being organized. Four families have been selected to lead candle lightings and readings during Advent. Meg is talking with Linda about the possibility of bringing back the church choir during the holiday season. Donations for poinsettias will be asked for soon with short supplies. Matt is working with Martha to coordinate the Angel Tree.

The council approved to spend up to \$250 on yard signs to be placed around town to advertise our Christmas Eve service (Caitlyn motioned, Meg seconded).

Mt. Olivet was asked to provide salads to feed 400 people for the Perry Community Christmas Dinner held at the Elks on Christmas Day. There is also a need for volunteers for servicing that day and the preparation on the 24th. Theresa to find out more information; Meg to help coordinate recipes and volunteers to accomplish this task.

Important Dates!

November money counters: Nicole and Sally

November 21—After service, please stay to help decorate the church for advent/Christmas. Please bring in nativity scenes to decorate the fellowship hall tables.

December money counters: Caitlyn and Matt

December 5—New Council member vote to take place (4 new members to be elected)

December 19—Children's Christmas Program + Congregational meeting to install new council members

December 24—Christmas Eve Service at 7 p.m.

January 20—Mt. Olivet Annual Meeting

Next Meeting Date and Time: November 17 at 7 p.m.

Closing with the Lord's Prayer

Mt. Olivet Lutheran Church 2021 Church Council

Officers: President: Matt Hardy
Vice-president: Meg Menke
Secretary: Nicole Hayes

Committee Assignments

Worship and Fine Arts

Caitlyn Lamm, 515-238-0741, caitlyn.lamm@gmail.com
Paula Nelson, 515-205-4525, pnelson@prairieinet.net

Property and Long Range Planning

Matt Hardy, 515-341-2630, matthew.hardy@g.perry.k12.ia.us
Rusty Burgett, 515-708-8850, rustyburgett@gmail.com

Social Concerns\Fellowship & Care Committee

Jill Onnen, 515-954-8173, jill.onnen@yahoo.com
Sally Radke, 515-432-2124, salbobradke@gmail.com

Faith Formation

Nicole Hayes, nicole.hayes@g.perry.k12.ia.us, 515-343-6587
Meg Menke, 319-415-4192, megemenke@gmail.com

Pastor Eliezer Ortiz has office hours on Tuesday and Thursday from 9am to 5pm. His email is eliezerdortiz@gmail.com and his cell phone is 786-447-7994.

Theresa Burns, church secretary: 515-975-6102 and email: theresadburns@gmail.com

