

OLIVET LUTHERAN CHURCH

APRIL 5-11, 2020

COVID-19 UPDATE

All activities and in-person worship are postponed until further notice. Although this is the best, most responsible and faithful decision given our world's current condition, it is nonetheless painful. This is especially so, given we cannot gather for Holy Week and Easter Sunday.

While we are unable to gather in-person for worship, live streamed video worship will continue, please join in for this experience. In addition, we invite you to tune in for the Sunday morning radio broadcast at 10 a.m. on WDAY 970 AM.

When we are able to gather once again, it will be an Easter celebration of resurrection and new life. And celebrate we will.

EASTER FLOWERS

Thank you to all who contributed toward purchasing Easter flowers. We will still be purchasing a limited quantity of beautiful flowers to surround the cross on Easter Sunday. We were able to also purchase some lovely artificial palms that we will be able to use this year, as well as in the future. Next week's Emblem will include the "in memory" and "in honor of" dedication list for the Easter flowers that were purchased.

GIVING DURING UNCERTAIN TIMES

Although we are not able to meet in person, we continue to work to fulfill our mission and our benevolence commitments. January and February were strong months for Olivet, but your support during the Lenten season makes up a large part of our annual mission plan. Outlined below is breakdown for three significant income sources, as well as the income that has been received for each of those line items as of March 31, 2020.

Fill the Cup

Budgeted (March & April): \$7,500

Actual (March only): \$769

Lenten / Easter Giving

Budgeted (March & April): \$17,000

Actual (March only): \$3,127

Regular Giving

(includes pledged, unpledged, & plate)

Budgeted (March & April): \$199,000

Actual (March only): \$79,029

As always, we are grateful for the support and financial contributions of our members. Our congregation has a record of coming together at times we need it most. We know that during these uncertain times, it may be easy to overlook or limit your giving. We encourage those who are able to continue to give, to do so. In addition, we pray for relief for those who may be in a situation where their financial future has suddenly changed and are struggling to provide for themselves or their families.

Wondering how you can give during this time? Because we can't pass the offering plate, we will pass on this [link](#) so you can give online. Or, if you prefer to mail in your check, feel free to do so—we are still receiving mail.

WORSHIP SERVICES

Sunday Mornings: 10 a.m.

Live stream on the Olivet website
& on WDAY 970 AM

Wednesday Evenings: 5:45 p.m.

Live stream on the Olivet website

WORSHIP LEADERS

Senior Pastor	Kris Gorden
Pastor	Bill Boelter
Pastor	Tiffany Sundeen
Lay Minister	Grant Vanderford
Deacon	Brenda Bauer
Music	Marlys Herring

CONNECT WITH US

Phone: 701.235.6603

Email: info@Olivet.org

Web: www.Olivet.org

App: download the MyChurch app

or text "Olivet App" to 77977

[Facebook.com/olivetlutheran](https://www.facebook.com/olivetlutheran)

[Instagram.com/olivet_fargo](https://www.instagram.com/olivet_fargo)

PASTOR'S PEN

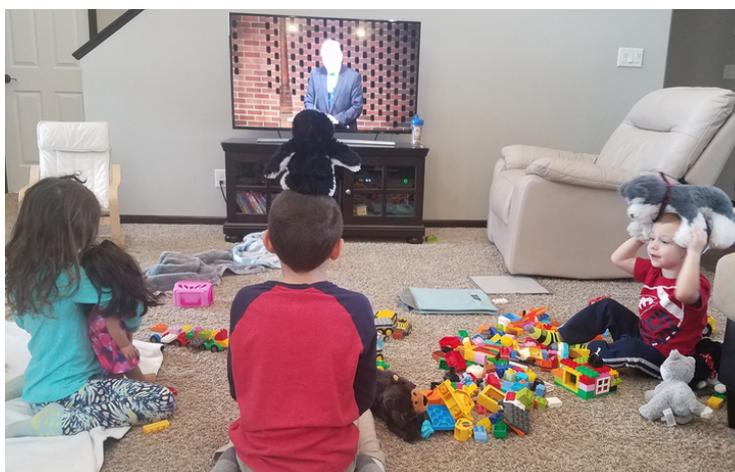
Written by Lay Minister Grant Vanderford

Luke 24:28-32 As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. But they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over." So he went in to stay with them. When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. They said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?"

As I write this it is raining and transitioning to sleet and snow outside right now. And it is April... And I want to say to the "spring" that was just here earlier this week, "Stay with us! We need you!" And yet, here we sit, once again, the earth covered in white.

I also ache for physical and in-person connection with others during this pandemic crisis, and I know you do too. We are distanced for our health, to save lives, to flatten the curve, and this is a good thing. This is the best way to love our neighbor in this time. The cry of our heart has shifted from the Emmaus "stay with us" to "stay at home" in our own time. And Jesus is present in both. Jesus promises to be present with us in bread and wine (around our kitchen tables instead of the rail at Olivet), in mutual conversations and consolation (over Zoom, GoToMeeting, YouTubeLive, or the phone rather than around the tables in the Fellowship Hall with Sandy's Donuts), in God's Word being proclaimed (through speakers and headphones), and in our love for one another (that manifests as social distancing in these times).

The promise of Easter, the good news of the crucifixion and the resurrection, is that God is in it with us, and that nothing can separate us from God's love in Christ Jesus. May you know the reality of resurrection and the hope of new life that is coming. God promises.



We love getting pics of you worshiping with us!

YOUTH MISSION TRIP

With the state of uncertainty currently surrounding travel and summer planning, we have decided to cancel the summer service trip for our high school students. We are hopeful that we will be able to offer another opportunity for our high school students to gather and serve a community in need yet this year.

STAYING CONNECTED

During this time of social-distance, it is important that we stay connected as an Olivet family. The good news is that technology gives us the opportunity to connect in other ways. Worship with us Sundays and Wednesdays online, gather in virtual groups to participate in a Bible study or fellowship time, tune in every morning for a daily devotion. You'll find more information on the ways we're working to stay connected in this newsletter, on olivet.org and through our Facebook page and group. Our office phone line is also being answered each day between 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. We look forward to connecting you with.



COFFEE & FELLOWSHIP

It's not a secret how much we love to start our day here at Olivet with coffee, conversation, and a good donut! Join us [online](#) following worship Sunday mornings as we gather virtually to connect for fellowship.



SCRIPTURE BIBLE STUDY

Join Pastor Bill at 10:30 a.m. on Thursday mornings for scripture bible study. You can call in to listen (1-224-501-3412 Access code: 495-564-213) or join in [online](#).



WORSHIP

Join us for worship Sunday mornings at 10 a.m. by visiting olivet.org/worshiponline or tune in at WDAY 970 AM. We will also be continuing to [worship](#) using the Holden Evening Prayer on Wednesday evenings at 5:45 p.m.



DAILY DEVOTION

Each day, one of the pastors will be sharing a short message related to the Wondrous Love Lenten devotional. Catch it live in the [Olivet Lutheran Church Facebook Group](#) each morning between 10-10:30 a.m. or call in to our daily devotion line (241-0041), which is back by popular demand!

WE INVITE YOU TO JOIN US (VIRTUALLY) FOR HOLY WEEK

PALM SUNDAY (April 5)

10 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion
(live-stream and WDAY 970 AM)

11 a.m. Coffee & Fellowship (Go-To Meeting)

WEDNESDAY (April 8)

12:30 p.m. Prayer Around the Cross (Go-To Meeting)

MAUNDY THURSDAY (April 9)

5:45 p.m. Worship with Holy Communion (live-stream)

GOOD FRIDAY (April 10)

5:45 p.m. Tenebrae Service "Seven Last Words of Christ"
(live-stream)

EASTER SUNDAY (April 12)

10 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion
(live-stream and WDAY 970 AM)

11 a.m. Coffee & Fellowship (Go-To Meeting)

For additional details about any of the worship opportunities
above, visit olivet.org