

OLIVET LUTHERAN CHURCH

OCTOBER 18-24, 2020

COVID-19 UPDATE

Effective immediately, in-person gatherings are suspended through 10.31.2020.

Worship Opportunities:

Sunday Mornings: 10 a.m. (livestream at olivet.org & on WDAY 970 AM)

Wednesday Evenings: 5:45 p.m. (livestream at olivet.org)

As an additional precaution, we are limiting outside visitors during this timeframe. Please call 701.235.6603 Monday-Thursday 8:30-4:30 & Friday 8:30-noon for access to the church.

Our attendance continues to be a manageable number for our space, but it has regularly exceeded 50 people during Sunday worship. While we are happy to have people worshipping in person with us, we are unsure of how we would limit attendance at our worship services to keep within the recommended occupancy. Due to this limitation, **beginning Sunday, October 18, 2020 and until further notice, we will not be offering in-person worship.** Our 10 a.m. Sunday worship service will be available via radio broadcast on WDAY 970 AM and online at olivet.org and our Wednesday evening 5:45 p.m. worship service will be livestreamed at olivet.org.

In-person activities, including Bible and book studies, are suspended through 10.31.2020. Virtual options are available for many of our ministries, be sure to check our website and Facebook page for details regarding each group. We will continue to re-evaluate in-person activities and resume meeting at Olivet when we feel it is safe to do so.

ALL SAINTS' SUNDAY

Join us for All Saints' **virtual** worship at 10 a.m. on Sunday, November 1. We will be reading the names of our members who have died this past year.

A remembrance tribute will be created with photos of members who had died or had services connected with Olivet in the past year. If your loved one died in this past year and was not a member, you may add them to the board by submitting a photo by October 25. Please include your loved one's full name, date of birth and date of death.

If you would like information on new ways to take part in a grief care program and other local resources, please reach out to Deacon Brenda at BBauer@olivet.org or leave a message at 701.235.6603.

Church ON PURPOSE

What does purpose mean to you? Watch and listen for details on our upcoming "Church on Purpose" stewardship campaign!

VETERANS RECOGNITION

Are you a Veteran who served between 1960 to 1975? Do you have a loved one who presently serves in the military? If so, we want to know. Please inform the church of the Veteran's name, branch of service, rank, and years served.

In November, we will have a recognition of our Veterans of Military Service during worship. In addition, we will remember those who served in the military who died this past year and will have a special tribute for those who served from 1960 to 1975.

WORSHIP SERVICES

Sunday Mornings: 10 a.m.

Live stream on the Olivet website & on WDAY 970 AM

Wednesday Evenings: 5:45 p.m. at olivet.org

WORSHIP LEADERS

Senior Pastor	Kris Gorden
Pastor	Bill Boelter
Pastor	Tiffany Sundeen
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

Instagram.com/olivet_fargo

OFFICE HOURS Monday-Thursday 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Friday 8:30 a.m.-noon

COUNCIL CORNER

Written by Council President, Steve Wood

Greetings Olivet,

Here we are, the third week of October already! While this year has presented its fair share of challenges, I wanted to ensure you that your elected council has been working to come up with new and innovative ways to share the Good News. The full council continues to meet virtually each month and the commissions are also connecting on a regular basis.

Parish Life & Social Outreach has been focused on the Christmas Eve dinner and what that might look like this year. Planning this event in a “normal” year requires many hours of preparation, a significant financial backing, and countless volunteers. This year we are challenged with coming up with a way to reach the 600+ community members that have traditionally participated in the offering, while keeping everyone safe and healthy. The planning group continues to evaluate new ideas and partnerships and is excited to share the final plan with you in the coming weeks.

Lifelong Learning has been working with the youth ministry team to come up with innovative ways to continue to keep our children and youth involved in church while they are not physically present for Sunday/Wednesday school and weekly confirmation. The hybrid model of confirmation we have been using has allowed grade groups to meet both in-person and virtually, providing opportunities for the middle school and high school students to connect with each other and their families over faith based conversations. The Pastors have been recording lessons that are being emailed to the Sunday/Wednesday school students and many of our families have chosen to supplement the Olivet lessons with activities and lessons they are receiving via mail.

Worship & Witness continues to think through ways to meaningfully connect with our congregation members and those in our church community. The commission is focused on the upcoming holiday season and how we best serve our congregation with safety front of mind.

Resource and Development has been focused on the financial needs of the church, specifically discussing three main items: streaming of our worship services and the equipment needed to improve that offering, the 2020 Mission Plan, and 2021 Stewardship.

COVID has moved up Olivet’s long term plan to have video broadcasting. In March during the initial lockdown, we were able to shoestring a setup for a few hundred dollars. Although we are continuing to use our temporary setup from March, it became apparent early on that the setup was not a long term solution as there were more limitations than we had expected. As a result, we took bids and analyzed our needs to determine the a/v equipment that would be required to support our broadcast long term. The project is not just about having a camera, rather having multiple cameras strategically placed throughout the sanctuary, the computer and software to enhance the virtual worship experience, and the proper audio inputs to capture the sound. In addition, we are working to evaluate what needs to be done to building an adequate A/V booth in the balcony and the costs associated with the construction. We are excited about what the expanded quality and functionality of this new equipment will be able to do.

Each year our congregation approves a Mission Plan (budget) which outlines our plan for the year. The 2020 Mission Plan was designed to include special appeals throughout the year, but as we know nothing has gone according to plan during 2020. While these appeals would be a major factor in being able to fulfill our 2020 Mission Plan goals, we did not end up doing those appeals in the spring and summer as it didn’t seem appropriate with so many experiencing uncertainty with income, investments, and expenses. In addition, not having in-person worship services has reduced giving, specifically our offerings that are given in the plate and unpledged giving.

In the next month we will be more formally making these appeals and I ask that you consider joining me in supporting these financial needs.

Thanks to all those that continue to support Olivet and I pray that we all stay safe and sane.

