

Elder Enlightenment

First of all, many thanks to the members and friends of Mt Olive for their patience during our Pastoral Vacancy. We continue to be blessed by our visiting Pastors and our Elders who lead our Worship Services in the absence of an Ordained Pastor.

However, starting in July, Mt Olive will be contracting with Pastor Toby Joeckel who will serve Mt Olive as a part-time, full-service Pastor who will lead Worship Services on the First and Third Sundays (with Communion). He will also do some visitation, have a few Office hours and provide other services as mutually agreed upon by the Elders and Pastor Joeckel. This schedule will continue indefinitely except for a few breaks to accommodate Pastor Joeckel's schedule. The Elders will continue to lead the Worship Services when Pastor Joeckel (or his substitute) are not available.

In the meantime, we ask you to pray for the LCMS who is currently conducting an election for the President of the Synod. This election is an important step in determining the direction of the future of the LCMS.

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Mt. Olive Lutheran Church
7809 Tieton Drive
Yakima, WA 98908



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JULY **NEWSLETTER 2026**



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From President Becca Mailand

During these times of transition, it's tempting to look back to our past at the good ol' days. We try to figure out how to go back to that time, forgetting that in those moments there were struggles and frustrations too. It's also tempting to worry about the future and fret about who or what tomorrow brings. We try to control or manipulate what happens next. God warns us about worrying, through metaphors, analogies, and direct examples in the Bible. The Israelites wanting to return to the "good old days" of slavery in Egypt... the birds of the air & flowers of the field are not as loved as we are, yet lack nothing... even Jonah worried so much it led him to disobey and be swallowed up.

So if we shouldn't look backwards and we're not supposed to look forwards, where do we look??

"Let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith." Hebrews 12:2

"Seek first God's kingdom and his righteousness." Matthew 6:33

"Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God." Philippians 4:6

It sounds so simple: Don't worry! Let Jesus lead! But it's not easy to let go of our past or our future. As we move through this transition time, we need to remind ourselves daily, through prayer and Bible study, that God has already written our future. He knows our next pastor. He knows our next ministries. He knows. And it might feel like we're wandering for awhile... but we do not wander alone! We walk in confidence that God is with us leading the way.



DATES TO REMEMBER

Elder meeting

July 12th at 7:15am

Camp Hope

Saturday, July 25th at 3pm

Elder Enlightenment message cont.

The LCMS will also be conducting its Triennial Convention in July in Phoenix (hot!!!) where the newly elected President will be leading the delegates in some important business that will also help determine the future direction of the LCMS.

Also continue your prayers for the Call Committee and the President of the Northwest District who will be eventually providing us with a list of potential Pastors for our consideration.

In other words, PRAY, PRAY, PRAY for the issues noted above.

In His service, Gary Treece

Peace Lutheran Items

If you requested something from Peace Lutheran, please come pick it up to be stored properly. Items are in the triple classroom behind the Fellowship Hall southside.

Additionally, please do not put anything near the operable walls. Walls cannot be opened for activities and events.