

THIS WEEK — January 14-21

SUNDAY	8 & 10:30 AM – Worship 9-9:25 & 10-10:25 AM – SCRIP 9:15 AM – Will Planning Seminar 9:15 AM – Sunday School / Bible Study	1 PM – Adult Volleyball 5:45 PM – Valley Teen Night @ The Core 7 PM – Men’s Basketball
MONDAY	6 PM – Worship	7 PM – Kreuzcher/Kobin Life Group 7 PM – Church Council Meeting
TUESDAY	6 PM – LWMS Meeting in the Atrium	6:30 PM – Board of Stewardship 7 PM – Fenske/Peter Life Group
WEDNESDAY	9 AM – Adult Bible Study 4:15 PM – PSI	6 PM – Will Planning Seminar 6:30 PM – Adult Choir
THURSDAY	8 AM – Ehlke Bible Study	6 PM – Family Growing in Christ
FRIDAY	6:30 AM – Men’s Bible Class 8:15 AM – Mornings w/ Mommy	
SATURDAY		5:30 PM – Worship w/ Communion
SUNDAY	8 & 10:30 AM – Worship w/ Communion 9-9:25 & 10-10:25 AM – SCRIP 9:15 AM – Family Growing in Christ 9:15 AM – Sunday School / Bible Study	1 PM – Adult Volleyball 7 PM – Men’s Basketball

OFFERINGS/OTHER INCOME		BUDGET	ACTUAL
Offerings	Week of 1/8/2024	\$31,900	\$55,144
Offerings	Fiscal Year-to-date	\$857,200	\$889,800
Offerings + Other Income	Fiscal Year-to-date	\$1,572,212	\$1,559,791
Forward in Faith 2	Week of 1/8/2024		\$7,189
Forward in Faith 2	Total Campaign to-date		\$2,255,480

USHERS Saturday 5:30 PM – Tom Bartel (Captain) Jacob & John Koch, Steve Wunderlich
Sunday 8 AM – Mark Toll (Captain) Rick Gulbransen, Jim Van Dyke, Justin Slominsky
Sunday 10:30 AM – Tony Hess (Capt) Eric McKown, Derek & Luke Kritzer
Monday 6 PM – John Hoh (Captain) Ken Jaeger, Bruce Thede

GREETERS This Week: (Sun 8AM) – Kehl, OPEN, Kleist
(Sun 8AM) – Enter, Hintz, Daane (Sun 10:30 AM) – Chipman, Kesting, Kesting
Next Week: (Sat) – Greshay, Arnold, OPEN
(Sun 8AM) – Raddatz, Korth, OPEN (Sun 10:30 AM) – Chipman, Fuhrmann, Mielke

COFFEE CAFÉ This Week: (8-10 AM) Nicole & Chase Mignon (10 AM-Noon) OPEN
Next Week: (8-10 AM) Mark & Merri Schroeder (10 AM-Noon) Mike & Louise Kesting

AV TEAM January 13-15: Saturday – Steve Priebe/Brianna Plach; Monday – Aaron Tollefson
Sunday (8 AM) – Evan Pastorek, (10:30 AM) – NEED
January 20-22: Saturday – Brianne Plach; Monday – Ben Haupt
Sunday (8 AM) – Sam/Jillian Nielsen, (10:30 AM) – NEED

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE:

Saturday: 307; Sunday: 8 AM 200, 10:30 AM 210; Monday: 77; Online: 147; Total: 941

ALTAR FLOWERS The cross bouquet is placed to God's glory by the Murphy family in memory of Rita Murphy.

CONVERSATIONS IN THE GOSPEL OF JOHN Join Pastor Gawel at 9:15 AM in the church sanctuary to get a glimpse at some of the intense conversations Jesus had with the lost he came to save. New faces are welcome!

IN SEASON AND OUT OF SEASON is a video-based Bible class designed to help every Mount Olive member confidently share Jesus whenever and wherever God has planted you. Join Pastor Raasch in the Commons at 9:15 AM for this practical study.

A FAMILY GROWING IN CHRIST class gives a basic introduction to what the Bible and Mount Olive teach, along with the chance to study in a smaller group setting. This class also serves as the path to membership at Mount Olive. It is slated to begin Thursday Jan 18th at 6 PM or Sunday Jan 21 at 9:15 am. (Same class, multiples options to attend). Join Pastor Prieue in the lower-level conference room.

A NEW BIBLE READING PLAN for Mount Olive members started on January 8, 2024. Download the YouVersion Bible app to your phone and/or go to <https://bible.com/p/63134450/386a070875474b12111e44326f3d75bf> to join the reading plan called "*The Incredibly Exciting Old Testament.*" We'll cover approximately one chapter a day.



MOUNT OLIVE'S LIFE GROUPS are lay-led small groups which meet at various times throughout the week, at church or in people's homes. They apply the weekly sermon to the lives of participants, with the goal of growing closer to God and one another. After taking a break for Christmas, many groups are starting back up this month. If you would like to join a Life Group, or start your own, please contact Pastor Raasch at 920-840-2078 or pastor.raasch@mountoliveappleton.com.

DO YOU HAVE A WILL? When was the last time you updated it? This **Sunday, January 14 at 9:15 AM** in the Fireside Room, WELS Christian giving counselor Pastor Tom Mielke will give a presentation on how to write or revise a will to reflect your values while providing for your family and the ministries you care about. He will repeat the same presentation at **6 PM on Wednesday, January 17**. Refreshments will be served. All information is provided free of charge.

MOUNT OLIVE WOMEN Our first LWMS meeting is rescheduled for **January 16, at 6:00 PM** in the Atrium. Please join us and learn more about LWMS and WELS missions.

NEW EPIPHANY BANNERS adorn our chancel. The star reminds us of the birth of Jesus while the cross reminds us of why he was born, hence bridging the Christmas season to the Lenten season. Thank you to Deb Rittman, Linda Kruschel, Judy Korth, Pam Kirchner, Jean Flunker, Mike and Louise Kesting for their talents in making them.

2024 CHURCH DIRECTORY We will be publishing the 2024 church directory shortly and would like to have the most up-to-date information. If you have changed your address, phone number or email address in the past year, please include the new information in the friendship register or contact the church office at 920-739-9194. *Thank you!*

CRADLE ROLL is Mount Olive's ministry which provides information, books, and blessings to young mothers and fathers before and after they have a new baby. If you are expecting a child, contact the church office at 920-739-9194 or church.office@mountoliveappleton.com.

POINSETTIA PLANTS If you donated a plant, please pick it up in the atrium. Thank you for your donation to beautify our Christmas services.

MOUNT OLIVE SCHOOL ENROLLMENT OPEN Enrollment is open for all returning school families and Mount Olive Church member families. Secure your seat soon because enrollment will open to all community families in January. Contact Landon Zacharyasz (principal@mountoliveappleton.com) for enrollment questions or information.

VALLEY TEEN NIGHT is tonight, Sunday, January 14th, 2024 at The CORE, 820 W. College Ave, Appleton, WI 54914 from 5:45-8:00 PM. **What to expect:** Teen-led Worship, Bible Talk & Discussion, Yummy Snacks.

Register here: <https://922ministries.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/2052317>

LWMS - HEART FOR MISSIONS BAKE SALE is almost here! We will be offering baked items for sale before and after each church service on **February 3, 4, 5**. Please consider helping out by donating cookies, bars, pies, breads, candy bags, etc. Drop off your items in the Atrium on Friday, February 2, from 8 AM-4:30 PM or Saturday morning from 9-10 AM, so we can price and arrange items for sale. **Please sign up on the sheet in the Atrium** and let us know what you can bring and if you are able to help set-up and price items on Saturday, February 3, from 9 AM – noon or help after the services. Vande Walles candy bars will also be for sale. All donations will be divided between WELS Institutional Ministries and Lighthouse on the Avenue (an after-school program at The CORE).

SPECIAL VOTERS' MEETING will be held on Monday, January 22nd at 7:15 PM to extend a call for a 7th grade teacher to replace Mrs. Joan Mueller who is retiring at the end of the 2023-24 school year. The meeting will be held in the church sanctuary. All are welcome to attend.

COFFEE CAFÉ Please sign up! The January-April 2024 is on our [website](#). If you need a refresher or training, contact Jenni Klemp. Thank you for your continued service!

JANUARY MESSENGER The monthly Messenger went out by email and is on our website. If you would like a printed copy, please pick one up in the narthex.

PRAISE HIM CONCERT We would love to have you join us as we sing Praises to our Lord! Saturday, February 3rd at 1 PM at St. Paul's Lutheran Church (225 E. Harris St., Appleton).

SONGS OF HOPE & REDEMPTION Bring your family and friends **Saturday, January 20 at 4 PM**, to Riverview Lutheran School Activity Center (gym door 13 - 136 W Seymour St, Appleton) as we enjoy the talent of Mr. Stephen Bautista and Miss Emma Nolte. Click here, <https://signup.com/go/JvutYKX> to sign up, however reservations are NOT required.

2024 OSHKOSH MEN OF HIS WORD CONFERENCE We are excited to announce this year's conference – **Built to Serve, Galatians 5:13** on Saturday February 17, 2023 from 7:15 AM – 3:30 PM at Best Western Premier Waterfront Hotel and Convention Center (1 N. Main Street in Oshkosh, WI). Registration is OPEN at www.menofhisword.org.

PATHWAYS TO CHRIST WOMENS RETREAT *Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. Hebrews 13:8* This is the theme passage for the 2024 Pathways to Christ Women's Retreat held in Oshkosh, WI on March 1-3, 2024. Registration for 2024 Pathways to Christ Retreat is now open! Please go to our website <https://pathwaystochrist.org/> for more information about speakers, topics, accommodations, and more!

GRIEFSHARE SUPPORT GROUP is a safe, welcoming place where people understand the difficult emotions of grief. In this 13-week group, you'll discover what to expect in the days ahead and what's "normal" in grief. Since there are no orderly stages of grief, you'll learn helpful ways to cope with grief and gain solid support along the way.

Griefshare Journey at St. Luke (705 E. Greenfield Drive, Little Chute) February 10, 2024 through April 27, 2024 from 10 AM-Noon. Register <https://www.griefshare.org/groups/177227>.

Loss of a Spouse at St. Luke (705 E. Greenfield Drive, Little Chute) on January 27, 2024 from 10 AM-Noon. Register <https://www.griefshare.org/loss/events/7834>.

Griefshare Journey at The CORE (820 W. College Ave., Appleton) February 12, 2024 through May 13, 2024 from 6:30-8:30 PM. Register <https://www.griefshare.org/groups/179804>.

SEEKING MUSICIANS! Swamp Strings is a local band composed of WELS members from across the Valley. We currently get together once a week for a couple of hours to learn and rehearse the music. Every month, we play at two nursing homes, and perform at church services upon request. We are hoping to expand our ministry and are seeking musicians proficient in one or more of the following instruments: Accordion, Banjo, Bass (upright or electric), Dobro, Guitar, Harmonica, Mandolin, Penny whistles/flute, Piano, Percussion, Violin, Vocals. If you are interested in joining the band or would like any more information, please contact John Gomoll at John.gomoll@eternal-love.org or (940)231-3647.

MOUNT OLIVE PIZZA FUNDRAISER This year's fundraiser will help students from Mount Olive defray their \$350 per person registration fee for the International WELS Youth Rally in Colorado June 25-28. This year's attendees are Melita Ehlke, Natalie and Alyssa Vanderhoof, Hannah Schabo, Kelsey Schmidt, Jillian Nielsen, Evan Pastorek and Keaton Enter.

There are two ways you can help:

- 1) You can order pizzas by January 29th. Envelope order forms and a lock box are in the atrium. Fill out the form and place payment inside and seal the envelope. Place this envelope in the designated locked box. If you would like the specific proceeds of your order to benefit a particular student, please indicate that on the envelope. You will need to pick up the pizzas on February 17th between 1-2 PM in the gym entrance. If you are not able to pick up, you need to find someone who can do that for you.
- 2) You can help make pizzas. Join us Feb 17th in the Commons from 8-noon to help. Bring a hat if you prefer that over a hairnet. We request that all volunteers be 7th grade and older and volunteer hours will be given if requested. You can sign up here <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10CoE4AAFA929A5FBC34-46149834-pizza>.

We appreciate your generosity and gifts of time. Thank you!

FVL NEWS

- **Do you enjoy baking?** Consider making and donating homemade desserts (pies, cakes, tortes, candy) for Musicfest on February 4. Event proceeds benefit the FVL Music Program. Go to fvlhs.org/musicfest for details and to sign up.
- Families can **enroll for Semester 2** at FVL. Contact the Admissions Office at <http://www.admissions@fvlhs.org> or 920-560-5105 for details.
- **Semester Break is Monday, 1/15** – NO SCHOOL, School & SCRIP Offices closed.