

THE OLIVE PRESS

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SUMMER READING CHALLENGE: LET'S READ TOGETHER!

This summer, we're inviting all our kids — and the whole congregation — to join in a **Summer Reading Challenge and Book Club!** Children of all ages are encouraged to dive into great books, including the greatest book of all: the Bible!

Reading strengthens the mind, builds imagination, and opens hearts to new ideas — especially when we fill our minds with God's truth. This challenge is a fun way for kids to grow as readers *and* as followers of Jesus.

Our kids will be diving into amazing stories, growing strong minds, and most importantly, discovering the life-changing wisdom found in God's Word. **There will be prizes** for the kids who read the most books and pages, plus special encouragement all summer long! We'll also have **book club gatherings** where kids can share what they're reading and enjoy fellowship with one another. It's going to be a blast! But this challenge isn't just for the kids!

The Bible isn't just for children — it's a wellspring of wisdom, hope, and strength for every generation. Whether you're 5 or 95, there's always more to discover in God's story.

We'd love for the whole congregation to be part of it! Here's how you can get involved:

- Pray for and encourage our young readers.
- Donate prizes or sponsor a reader.
- Share your favorite books — especially your favorite Bible verses!
- Set your own summer reading goal and let God's Word refresh your spirit.

Imagine what God can do when a church family grows in wisdom and joy together.

Let's make this a summer filled with **stories, Scripture, and smiles!**

Stay tuned for kickoff details — and start stacking your books!



Know Your Elders: Series Introduction

by Chief Elder Bill Dahlgren

The next four months in the Olive Press we will be introducing our elders. The May issue will feature Chief Elder **Bill Dahlgren**. The June issue will feature **Joe Stuart**. The July issue will feature **Case Dahlen**. The August issue will feature **John Gragg**.

First, I would like to let you know the duties of the Elders according to our constitution and bylaws:

It shall be the duty of the Board of Elders to watch over the doctrine, life and administration of the offices of the Pastor and any other commission ministers to ensure they are treated with due respect and that the congregation fulfills its responsibilities toward these offices with regard to physical needs in accordance with the Word of God and their respective calls. The Board of Elders shall consist of a minimum of three persons and shall meet at least monthly.

The Board of Elders shall further the ministry of the Pastor by providing him with its counsel in difficult ministerial cases, by assisting him in areas of admonishing negligent and delinquent members, by maintaining order and discipline in the congregation, by assisting with the Christian training of the children and youth, and by visiting the sick.

The Board of Elders is charged with oversight of the Pastor. The Board will consult with the Pastor on spiritual matters, including worship services. It will ensure that the Pastor subscribes unconditionally to the doctrines of the Book of Concord and promises to preach and teach according to those doctrines. It is the duty of the Board to see these vows are kept.

The Board of Elders shall be responsible for administering the procedures involved in the Pastoral Call and for maintaining the orderly continuance of church functions during any pastoral vacancy or pastoral indisposition.

The Board of Elders shall be responsible for defining and implementing the following ministry programs and may appoint and oversee committees for these purposes:

- **Christian Education** - a continuing program which promotes and provides Christian Education opportunities for youth and adults, both members and non-members
- **Stewardship** - a continuing program which seeks out and enlists the time, talents, and treasures of the congregation's members in the Lord's work
- **Evangelism** - a continuing program which provides an active outreach toward unchurch souls in the community at large

ELDER OF THE MONTH

CHIEF ELDER BILL DAHLGREN



William R Dahlgren was born in Swanton, MO on July 23rd, 1933 on a farm. He graduated from Kent State University in Kent, Ohio in 1959. From there, he went to work for Dow Chemical Co. and graduated from their management training program. He met Audrey in Akron, Ohio and was married to her in 1955. They had two children, Jeff and Joy in Akron, Ohio.

Bill and Audrey joined the LCMS church in Akron in 1960. In 1965, they moved to Palos Verdes Peninsula where they joined Mt. Olive Lutheran Church. In 1973, Bill founded Airtech International. At this point, Bill did not have much time to devote to Mt. Olive as he was traveling over 200,000 air miles per year over the next 40 years, going around making sales and building international factories.

The last 20 years, Bill has been grateful to serve as Chief Elder at Mt. Olive and Christ Lutheran. He considers these last years as service to Jesus Christ who guided his entire life. All of her major business decisions began with time devoted to prayer.

Bill has never been as optimistic about Mt. Olive's future as he is today, saying "We have such a wonderful church and preschool all pursuing the Great Commission."



PRESCHOOL ACTIVITIES

Students watch a movie during preschool chapel



PRESCHOOL NEWSLETTER



Jordyn



Montana

April had a few showers and will hopefully bring beautiful May flowers. Our focus for May is gardening, and we are excited to watch our flowers bloom. Our preschool families are signing up their second and third child into our program, which shows we are doing a fabulous job cultivating remarkable children.

Also, we are starting to sell our new Mt. Olive tee shirts and sweatshirts. Please visit David at the preschool office to place your order.



Our monthly Christian curriculum consisted of the stories: *Jesus Dies and Arises, Easter*, and *Peter and the Crippled Man*. Our discovery point explains that God washes away our sins and makes us His children in baptism. He wants us to share the good news about Jesus so others will believe in Him and become His children.

**written by Preschool
Director David Welch**

Illusion, Idolatry, Ignorance

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I never thought about my future until I realized my academic performance in high school could determine where I went to college. Then I started to think about it A LOT. Some would say I thought about it too much, so much that my worries and fears consumed me, and the pressure was almost unbearable. Did you know that the extent to which I worried was self-inflicted, or rather, a selfish way of thinking? Whether or not I worried my life away and whether or not I had a 4.0 GPA, my life after high school would go exactly as planned. I know this because God says in Jeremiah 29:11:

“For I know the plans I have for you” declares the Lord, “Plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.”

So why do we waste so much time feeding the illusion of control? If you feel like you are exempt from this illusion or the fears that stem from them, consider if you have ever thought something like this:

- “If I make enough money, then I will be able to protect my family and friends”
- “If I get this job, then I will be content with my life and work”
- “If [X] wins the election, then we will all be safe and protected”



Have you ever considered that whether or not YOU did anything, you could still have those things that you wished for? That you prayed for? I am not advocating that we sit back and do nothing, patiently awaiting riches and splendor—God still needs you to make a reasonable effort on your part. But God does not want you to spend every moment of your life despairing that your own efforts are not producing the fruit that you expect. Plants do not worry about whether or not they will produce fruit, they simply trust that the sun will rise and the water will come and eventually there will be fruit and flowers to show for it. The plants do not exhaust themselves trying to make the sun come up earlier or the rain fall for longer, because they know they are not in control. *Do you know that?*

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I like to think I do, until something truly uncontrollable happens and it occurs to me that I was never in control. This happens when my plans for the day do a full 180, my car breaks down, I suddenly become sick before an important event, or a loved one unexpectedly becomes ill and passes away. These things prove how futile our efforts are to control life's circumstances, and how much we idolize control over trust in the Lord. I can usually measure this by the level at which I freak out when something doesn't go my way. When a full-scale temper tantrum happens over something small that I thought I could control, I realize that I have been worshipping my own sense of independence and control rather than trusting in God's plan for me. Proverbs 3:5-6 says:

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding, in all your ways acknowledge Him and He will make your paths straight."

In other words, let go of the illusion of control, watch carefully where you idolize control over your life (finances, relationships, health, safety, etc.) and surrender those things to God—trust Him.

In the “If, then” statements I mentioned earlier, try to replace the action with simply surrendering to Him.

1. “If I trust in God, then I know that He will take care of my family and friends”
2. “If I trust in God, then I can follow his plan for my life and my work”
3. “If I trust in God, then we will all be safe and protected no matter who wins the election, **because God is sovereign over all**”

It's funny how something as small as consistently giving your problem to someone else, someone much bigger and more powerful than you, can lighten the load that you are carrying. God wants to relieve you of the fear that you have been living in, you just have to ask Him. We tend to have to do this more than once because we often fall back into our old habits, but He will always help you carry your burdens. He will prove to you His sovereignty while you can finally relax.

“Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.”

Matthew 11:28-30

Women of Mount Olive

or Womo for short...

Are you interested in joining a Women's Fellowship Group?

I am looking to host a meeting once a week where we can come together in community and a mutual desire to grow deeper in our faith.

My desire is to get to know each other better through a shared reading, discussions, and activities.

If this sounds like something you might be interested, **please reach out to mtolive.ecarter@gmail.com** so we can gather interest and find a time that everyone can meet!



Emma Carter



CALENDAR



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
27 9am Confirmation 9am Bible Class 10am Worship	28 9:30am ESL Class	29	30	1 9:30am Preschool Chapel	2	3
4 9am Confirmation 9am Bible Class 10am Worship	5 9:30am ESL Class	6	7	8 9:30am Preschool Chapel	9	10 7pm Youth Group
11 Mother's Day 9am Confirmation 9am Bible Class 10am Worship	12 9:30am ESL Class	13	14	15 9:30am Preschool Chapel 10am Preschool Board 7pm Elders Meeting	16 9:15am Parents Chapel	17
18 9am Confirmation 9am Bible Class 10am Worship	19 9:30am ESL Class	20	21	22 9:30am Preschool Chapel 7pm Council	23	24
25 Memorial Day 9am Confirmation 9am Bible Class 10am Worship	26 9:30am ESL Class	27	28	29 9:30am Preschool Chapel	30	31

Holidays and Observances: 5: Cinco de Mayo, 11: Mother's Day, 26: Memorial Day

*For further calendar updates, please visit
www.mtoliverpv.com

Homemade
GIFTS MADE EASY

MOLC WEBSITE

SCAN ME



COUNCIL CONTACTS

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