

Highlights

A Monthly Publication of Mt. Olive Lutheran Church – LCMS

August 2023

Notes from the Pastor...

The word, “august,” means inspiring, admirable, or illustrious. It originated as a religious term, as in something reverently authoritative.

The name was taken up and given (partly at his own insistence) to Gaius Octavius, the nephew and adopted son of Julius Caesar. Octavius had consolidated political power and became the first emperor of the Roman empire. The Roman Senate gave him the name in 27 BC, and “Augustus” became a usual way of referring to other emperors in subsequent years.



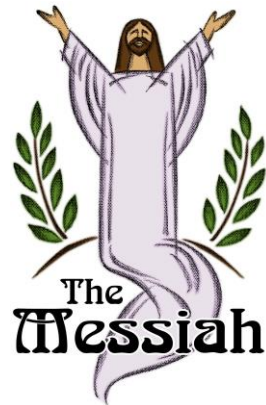
In 8 BC, the month previously called “Sextilis” (sixth month) was renamed “August” in honor of the long ruling emperor who had done so much for the peace and prosperity of the Roman empire. “Pax Romana” is a reference to the worldly peace accomplished in the Roman empire, and sometimes is referred to as “Pax Augustus.” The name, “August,” has now stuck as the name of this month for over 2000 years. Augustus died in 14 AD.

The gospel writer Luke mentions him in connection with the birth of Jesus Christ: **Luke 2:1 (ESV)** ”In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered.” So Augustus and his decree were used by God to arrange and fulfill the promises He had made to send a Savior to be born in Bethlehem. And we also know that the peace and prosperity of the Roman empire established by Augustus affected the spread of the Christian message as it was taken by the apostles, like Paul, throughout the world.

I doubt we think much of all those historical people and events when we refer to the month of August. But what about this month? Is this a good month? Is it impressive? Inspiring? Admirable? Is it just another month in the year?

Maybe we know this month for its good weather, as a common time for taking vacations, as a month in which we can relax, and prepare for the upcoming academic year. But hopefully, even if we are not having the person of Augustus Caesar in this month, we are remembering and holding in our minds the truly most “august” person we know—Jesus Christ.

Jesus is inspiring, admirable, illustrious, and reverently authoritative to us. And what He accomplished was not just earthly peace and prosperity; He brought us truly lasting and Godly peace, eternal peace. He did so by being crucified during the reign of the second emperor of Rome, Augustus’ adopted son, Tiberius Caesar, mentioned by Luke in 3:1.

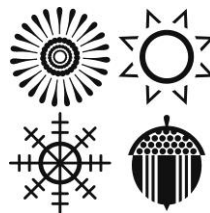


August is indeed a good month, good because of Jesus Christ. Let’s NOT forget Him, whatever activities we engage in during these 31 days. His are the times, His are the seasons.

In Christ our Lord,

Robert C Franck

Pastor Rob Franck



***Board of Elders Meeting
August 20th @ 5:30 pm**

August 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 1 Sam 17:1-19 Acts 26:1-23	2 1 Sam 17:20-47 Acts 26:24—27:8	3 1 Sam 17:48—18:9	4 1 Sam 18:10-30 Acts 27:27-44	5 1 Sam 19:1-24 Acts 28:1-15
6 1 Sam 20:1-23 Acts 28:16-31	7 1 Sam 20:24-42 1 Cor 1:1-25	8 1 Sam 24:1-22 1 Cor 1:26—2:16	9 1 Sam 25:1-22 1 Cor 3:1-23	10 1 Sam 25:23-44 1 Cor 4:1-21	11 1 Sam 26:1-25 1 Cor 5:1-13	12 1 Sam 28:3-25; 29:1—30:31 1 Cor 6:1-20
13 1 Sam 31:1-13 1 Cor 7:1-24	14 1 Sam 1:1-27 1 Cor 7:25-40	15 2 Sam 5:1-25 1 Cor 8:1-19	16 2 Sam 6:1-19 1 Cor 9:1-23	17 2 Sam 7:1-17 1 Cor 9:24—10:22	18 2 Sam 7:18-29 1 Cor 10:23—11:16	19 2 Sam 11:1-27 1 Cor 11:17-34
20 2 Sam 12:1-25;13:1—19:43 1 Cor 12:1-13	21 1 Kings 1:1-4, 15-36 1 Cor 12:14-31	22 1 Kings 2:1-27 1 Cor 14:1—16:24; 13:1-13	23 1 Kings 3:1-15 3:16—4:34 2 Cor 1:1-22	24 1 Kings 5:1-18 6:1—7:50 2 Cor 1:23—2:17	25 1 Kings 7:51—8:21 2 Cor 3:1-18	26 1 Kings 8:22-30, 46-63 2 Cor 4:1-18
27 1 Kings 9:1-9; 10:1-13 2 Cor 5:1-21	28 1 Kings 11:1-26 2 Cor 6:1-18	29 1 Kings 11:42—12:19 2 Cor 7:1-16	30 1 Kings 12:20—13:5, 33-34 2 Cor 8:1-24	31 1 Kings 16:29—17:24 2 Cor 9:1-15		

From the Church Office...

Hello to all! What a nice summer we are having. Plenty of rain and sunshine. The summer has been nice for outdoor activities! The church is getting busier; August and September are shaping up to be memorable months. Our daughter Kate is getting married to a wonderful guy, Daniel Heckman in August and we are having another Senior Saints Sunday in September! Yay!

The **Woman's Bible Study** is going strong on Thursdays at 10:00am; they would love to have you if you are interested in digging into the bible with some lovely ladies for company! Also, if you haven't seen the **library** recently I highly recommend it. They are always updating the inventory. It is fresh, new and ready to be used! Have a lovely rest of the summer and if you have a chance visit your mailboxes. Some are getting full!!



God Bless you!

Don't forget to...

1. Refresh your mind by reading the "good news" in the Bible.
2. Face the billowy breeze of the Holy Spirit.
3. Swim continually in God's love.
4. Shower yourself with God's beautiful blessings.
5. Drink from the springs of living water that will quench your thirst forever.
6. Splash on all of God's gifts and become a sweet-smelling fragrance.

Your servant in Christ,

Julie

The August schedule is as follows:

- LWML will meet August 13th after the service.
- The Woman's Bible Study will continue to meet every Thursday at 10:00 am.



The next MITES offering will be August 6th Thank you so much for your generous support!

The MITES collected on July 2nd by the LWML totaled \$158.53 with a year-to-day total of \$1,103.68. The MITES that are collected fund mission grants voted on by the district and national LWML. The LWML thanks you!

LWML News

The LWML will be holding a special meeting on Sunday, August 13, following the worship service. Our only focus at this special meeting is assignment of various tasks for the "Celebrating Our Senior Saints" event (to be held on September 24). Even if you have never been to an LWML meeting before but are willing to help at the event, please attend the meeting! See Carol Walczak if you have any questions.



Women's Bible Study

Starting on Thursday, August 10, at 10:00 a.m., we are starting a new study, and ladies, we welcome you to join us! Each week, we will be watching an episode of Season 1 of *The Chosen*, and then discussing it. We meet for about an hour each week. *The Chosen* is based on the true stories of the gospels of Jesus Christ. Some locations and timelines have been combined or condensed. Backstories and some characters or dialogue have been added. However, all biblical and historical content and artistic imagination are designed to support the truth and intention of the Scriptures. If you have any questions, please contact Carol Walczak.

Mt. Olive's Financial Blessings Keep on Coming

Last year in June, the Board of Elders formed a Financial Advisory Committee to seriously look at the financial viability of Mt. Olive Lutheran Church. Financially, things were bleak. From January through June 2022, expenses exceeded income and offerings by \$13,746.17. Because of cost cutting measures and the financial generosity of the members of Mt. Olive, we were able to end 2022 only \$2,101.06 in the red.



The Elders are grateful to announce that through June of this year, we are showing a SURPLUS of \$166.82. This is a turnaround of almost \$14,000.00 as compared to last year at this time. This is the first time since before the pandemic that we have a balanced budget with no outside financial help i.e., PPP funds.

A couple highlights that contributed to this turnaround:

Income

Applicable Offerings – these are up \$9,218 over last year at this time.

Thankyou members of Mt. Olive

Rental Income – this is up \$3,015 over last year at this time. Thankyou Tim Jezierski for your work on this.

Expenses

Mortgage –for the next several years, we will be saving \$586.75 per month because Mt. Olive is now DEBT FREE! Thank you to the anonymous member who paid off our mortgage debt in April.

Bookkeeper – Daugherty Bookkeeping is now only doing our employees payroll. This expense is down \$2,141 over this time last year. Thankyou Heather Meichsner for taking on the responsibility of being our volunteer Treasurer and overseeing our conversion to a new accounting system.

The June financial report is posted in the Upper Room and a copy can be made for you if you would like to look at it closer. The Elders are humbled by the financial generosity of our church members. This includes the many hours of time and talents that so many of you have shared...and especially for your prayers. All of these have contributed to this amazing turnaround. God has truly blessed us here at Mt. Olive.

Look for another update in October. The Elders are hoping that by the end of 2023, we will have a surplus of \$6,000.00 which would allow our day-to-day cash reserves to return to a pre-pandemic amount. This is Mt. Olives last challenge to get us back to pre-Covid times financially.

Celebrating Our
**Senior
 SAINTS**

Very special thanks to the 14 interviewers who have listened, taken notes, and written-up "One Year in My Life" stories from our 20 senior saints. The booklet is now in progress which combines these narratives with photos and will be distributed to everyone attending the September 24th "Celebrating Our Senior Saints" day. We look forward to reading more about the lives of our seniors in the days past and cherishing the days we still have with them.

September 24th is the honoring of our "Senior Saints".

We will be celebrating our 20 individuals during the service and after the service with a pasta dinner. LWML will be hosting "build your own pasta" bar. We may be asking members to bring a side dish to go along with the pasta.

Please mark your calendars and plan to attend.



Painters Needed

Sometime this fall, we would like to paint the outside window trim of the church. It has been several years since this was last done. Please contact Jon Farchmin (218-724-3924) if you would be interested in helping with this project.

Many hands make light work.

In Our Prayers for Healing

*Zechariah Aleman,
 Dagmar Seybold
 Dorothy Thoreson,
 Barb Wedward*



Calendar

Calendar

Food for your body · Food for your soul.

Mt. Olive Food Shelf News:

The Mt. Olive Food Shelf is a much-used resource for many people in this area and it is one of many mission opportunities that Mt. Olive sponsors. Our Thanksgiving Offering goes to it every year. It has grown steadily in number of users over this last year.

Ways to support the Food Shelf:

If you are able to pick up a few extra items when you go to the grocery store, they can be left by the cabinet in the Upper Room. If you prefer not to shop, a check or cash can be put in the offering plate and marked "food shelf."

Items most needed are soup, canned fruit, canned pasta and meat, tuna, peanut butter, jelly/jam, cereal, ramen, rice, mac and cheese, pasta and pasta sauce, canned veggies and juice. Non-food items include deodorant, toothpaste, toothbrushes, shampoo, lotion and soap.

Anything you can give would be much appreciated! Thank you!

2016 total served = 346 (16 Bibles)

2017 total served = 361 (16 Bibles)

2018 total served = 396 (7 Bibles)

2019 total served = 319 (7 Bibles)

2020 total served = 133 (1Bible)

2021 total served = 78 (3 Bibles)

2022 total served = 46 (1 Bible)

Total served thru July= 48 (0 Bibles)



Actual monthly totals are posted on the cabinet door in the Upper Room.



Every Sunday at 9:30 a.m. on KBJR Channel 6, Duluth. MY SAVIOR LIVES NORTHLAND LCMS SERVICE OF WORSHIP for the Duluth region televised by KBJR Channel 6. "MY SAVIOR LIVES NORTHLAND" is a locally produced, regionally recognized TV program with a message for the world. The service includes a 30-minute worship service led by participating pastors of the Minnesota North District of our LCMS. My Savior Lives Northland is broadcast every Sunday at 9:30 a.m. Central time on KBJR Channel 6 NBC and cable and satellite systems carrying these stations.

Sunday, August 6: Rev. John Bonk – Shepherd of the Lake Lutheran, Two Harbors.

Sunday, August 13: Rev. Kirk Schield – Christ Lutheran; Two Harbors

Sunday, August 20: Rev. Fritz Raedeke, Emeritus

Sunday, August 27: Rev. Mark Peske – St. Matthews, Esko

Please send contributions to:
MSL Northland
c/o Mt. Olive Lutheran Church
2012 East Superior Street
Duluth MN 55812

Notes from Gayle,

My daughter, Rachel and I attended the 40th biannual LWML Convention (Lord of the Nations) in Milwaukee a few weeks ago (June 22-25). Rachel was the young women's representative for Minnesota North District and this was the first convention for both of us. Of course, there was the business side of the convention with elections, committee bustiness, and speakers from the missions that have been supported through mite boxes. So many missions around the world have been supported through mite collections. The LWML will give over 2 million dollars to help spread the gospel around the globe over the next two years through mite box collections.



I was impressed that the 6:30am bible studies were full each morning. I attended one called "Promised Rest" by Michelle Diercks, which is a study based on Psalm 91: "Whoever dwells in the shelter of the Most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty." The second study was "Unshakable," by Donna Snow. "Standing on the rock when life quakes hard." Donna's book goes through the lives of eight remarkable men and women (David, The Virgin Mary, Mary Magdalene, Gideon, John, Paul, Joseph and James) whom God shook to the core and then used to point people to the hope of salvation.

Dr. Gregory Seltz with the Lutheran Center for Religious Liberty spoke about our times, especially noting that we are entering a time of Shadrack, Meschak, Abendigo and Esther. He encouraged us to rise to this occasion and be God's messengers. It struck me when he said that Esther wasn't initially ready, and even though she lived in the palace, if she had remained silent she would not have been saved. He said we are in a cultural war and he cares about whether we engage in it, not whether we win or lose. We are to be who we are in Christ where He has placed us, to jump in even if it is scary. God will protect his people and we are safe in his hands.

Finally, our reelected President Matthew Harrison spoke his thanks to the LWML for all they do around the globe and told us it is our job to proclaim Christ, it is not our job to save America. He

encouraged us to not lose heart, to teach our daughters to be women of God and our boys to be men of God. Personally, I never have felt burdened to save America but something hurt my heart deeply when we were at the convention. On one of the evenings my daughter and I along with many from the convention went on a mile walk for missions along the river which was near the convention center. At one point when we were about to cross the street there came a parade of 100 or more adults riding their bikes through the city without any clothes. I'm not sure what their message was but I cried when I got back to our hotel. I thought come quickly Lord Jesus because I don't want my children and grandchildren living in this America. It reminded me especially this July 4th to be vigilant in praying for our country and that God would continue to hold back the evil.

Rachel and I were both thankful to have attended the convention. I (Rachel) was willing to go to the LWML convention with my mom, but when someone mentioned being a YWR, I was very hesitant because I don't like being out of my comfort zone. I was truly blown away at the conference and so thankful I was able to go. I got to meet and connect with so many amazing women and throughout the week I was amazed at all the ways we were able to encourage each other. During one of the bible studies, they read 1 Corinthians 1:4 "He comforts us in our troubles so that we can comfort others when they are troubled". I got to experience this over breakfast one morning at the conference. A foster mom and I just started crying together over our shared experience of loss and grief that we've gone through with foster care. It was such an encouragement and that verse that was read the day before had come to life for me. Gayle Franck



Thank you to everyone who is still donating items for us to take to the Ft. Wayne Seminary. On our way to Valparaiso University we will be able to take a van full of items for them. Thank you all for your generosity!

Mission Sunday is August 20th



Our Mission:

To create a community of support for all adoptive and foster children and families, and inspire and empower the Church to do the same. We are a Foster Care Nonprofit.

Our standard is the Bible- we believe it is the complete, inspired Word of God and sufficient to guide all decisions with unity around the gospel of grace as the basis for our ministry.

WE OFFER FOSTER FAMILY FELLOWSHIP

Join the New Hope Foster Community for a time of education, fellowship and food. Childcare is available. All kids are welcome!

FOSTER MOMS SUPPORT GROUPS

Being a foster mom can be difficult and no one understands that as much as other foster parents. Moms come share your journey with us for a time of pampering, community and peace.

COFFEE & PLAY DATES

Do your kids need to run off some energy and do you need to get some energy? Give us a call to set up a play date time in the New Hope playground or gym.

GOOD NEWS CLUB

Kindergarten – 6th grade students are welcome to attend our weekly Good News Club.

KID'S CLOSET

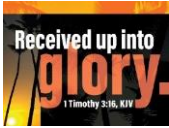
Serves any family associated with the foster care system. Offers clothing, diaper, baby food, blankets, emergency backpacks, toiletries, supplies (car seats, furniture, bottles, etc.)

newhopeforfamilies432@gmail.com 218-522-4505

1028 East 8th Street Duluth, MN 55805

A freewill offering will be taken after the service.

Thank you for supporting this ministry!



Our thoughts and prayers are with Tessa Muench and her family as they grieve the loss of her dad, Doug Pariseau.

Doug had been fighting an aggressive brain tumor for many months and passed away Monday, June 12, 2023.

Tessa was able to spend a couple months in Seattle with her dad. There will be a memorial service next week. We pray that God will give the Pariseau and Muench family strength and grant them comfort in their time of bereavement.

We keep the Thun family in our thoughts and prayers as they grieve the loss of their loved one, **Gary**. He was called to his eternal rest in Christ on June 30, surrounded by his family at the age of 80. May God grant **His** comfort and peace to Shirley and her family.

“I will not cause pain without allowing something new to be born, says the Lord”

isaiah 66:9



We welcomed **Wyatt Daniel Lindsey** into membership at Mt. Olive through the Sacrament of Baptism, Saturday, July 22, 2023. Wyatt was born on May 4, 2023, to Jackie (Reinemann) and Dan Lindsey.

His sponsors are Jenna Reinemann and A J Lindsey. Wyatt is the grandson of Jeff and Julie Reinemann and great-grandson of Pam.

We wish God’s blessings on this family!

CONGRATULATIONS KATE AND DAN HECKMANN!

KATE AND DAN WERE MARRIED IN THE CHURCH SATURDAY, AUGUST 5. THE PARENTS OF THE BRIDE (JULIE AND KEVIN JONES) ARE VERY PROUD AND THRILLED TO HAVE A NEW MEMBER OF THE FAMILY. THE HAPPY COUPLE ARE LIVING AND WORKING IN THE CITIES.



August Anniversaries

- 8/01 - Carol & Rick Walczak, 42 years
 8/06 - Jon & Carol Farchmin, 46 years
 8/10 - Jon and JoAn Bittner, 37 years
 8/11- Ray & Virginia Rodenwald, 67 years
 8/18 - Jeff & Julie Reinemann, 44 years
 8/21 - Allen and Carolyn Abel, 52 years
 8/26 - Seth and Sarah Stepec, 17 years



August Birthdays

- | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| 8/02 - Samantha Gibson | 8/28 - Carolyn Nelson |
| 8/03 - Greta Wodny | 8/29 - Patricia Von Hagel |
| 8/04 - Jacob Franck | 8/31 - Lois Maine |
| Becky Sorenson | |
| 8/05 - Lisa Mertz | |
| 8/07 - Rosemary Lietzan | |
| 8/10 - Diana Miller | |
| 8/11 - Ari Fischer | |
| 8/12 - Jachai Cline | |
| 8/13 - Dave Erven | |
| 8/14 - Shirley Thun | |
| 8/15 - Brittany Houselog | |
| Jake Tanttari | |
| 8/19 - Sue Brockopp | |
| 8/20 - Holly Ann Chambers | |
| 8/22 - JoAnn Spielman | |
| 8/23 - Julie Igo | |
| Alice Meichsner | |
| 8/27 - Carol Weaver | |

