



OLIVE BRANCH

Week of November 14, 2025



Upcoming Events

Saturday, November 15

9:30 am - Coffee With Jesus

Please join us for our next Coffee With Jesus Bible Study. Bring a Bible and join us as we dig into God's Word and encourage each other in our faith. Please enter through the school doors and you will find us right down the hall.

Sunday, November 16

8:30 am Traditional Worship

Reader: Sandi Overkamp

Usher: Paul Brown

10:30 am Contemporary Worship

Reader: Donna Fulton

Usher: Ken Disher

Thursday, Nov 20th

LADIES NIGHT OUT

6:00 pm - Cracker Barrel Old Country Store

11701 University Ave, Clive. All women are welcome! Feel free to bring a friend - or come and meet a new friend. Please call or text Becky at 515-988-5832 to let us know you're coming.

Wednesday, Nov 26th

NO GROWZONE TWS WEEK

Wednesday, Nov 26th through Friday, November 28th

NO SCHOOL - Thanksgiving Break!

If you have an announcement for the Olive Branch please submit to the office (school.office@molcs.org) by NOON ON WEDNESDAYS!

EMERGENCY FOOD DRIVE FOR AGAPE

This month we are collecting food items for the Agape Pregnancy Resource Center. They are in immediate need of the following items:

- 16 oz. boxes of Pasta
- 32 oz. Pasta Sauce
- Canned Chicken
- Peanut Butter
- Canned Fruit
- Canned Vegetables
- Canned Soups
- Mac and Cheese
- Powdered Milk
- Ritz Crackers



Please bring items by **Wednesday, Nov. 19th** and place in the basket in the church gathering area. Sponsored by the Adult Ministry Team.

Thanksgiving Shopping

Remember to use your Raise Right Gift Cards

Amazon

Walmart

Target

Hy-Vee

Fareway

Purchase your cards
in the office and earn
your rebate



November 19, 2025

Session 1, Week 6

GROWZONE

Schedule

5:45 - 6:15 Worship (Sanctuary)

6:15 - 6:45 Dinner (Lunch Room)

6:45 - 7:30 Groups (Classrooms)



Dinner: Pancakes, Sausage, Eggs, Fresh Fruit, Muffin
Cost: \$5/person, children under 10 FREE



GROWZONE

Session 1 Adult
Group Descriptions

Men's Group: Where Have All the Good Men Gone?

An introspective look at social pressures and societal influences affecting today's men.

Parents Group: Scattering the Seed

From the moment of Christ's ascension, followers of Jesus have been given one key mission: make disciples. However, in the twenty-first century, this mission often gets lost amid hectic calendars, the clutter of well-meaning ministry programs, and a bevy of congregational priorities. Join Pastor Kevin Freeman as he explores how Christians can revive disciple-making in the modern church and orient themselves toward the mission Christ has called them to by returning to the simple process of sowing the seed of God's Word.

Adults Group: The Book of Philippians

What Does Lasting Joy Look Like?

Throughout our lives, we are sure to experience highs and lows. So, how do we remain content with whatever life throws our way? In the Book of Philippians, pastor and author Joby Martin will demonstrate that being with Jesus and belonging to His church fuels our joy and contentment in any situation. Join Joby in this eight-session series and learn the secret to lasting joy.

HOLIDAY RESOURCES

Resources for any families who may be in need of extra help this holiday season



Thanksgiving Baskets

New Hope Church in Urbandale is accepting nominations for families who they can bless with a Thanksgiving basket. Nominations are due by November 17th.

If you are in need, you can email the school.office@molcs.org email address and we will make a nomination for you or you can fill out a nomination form on New Hope Assembly Urbandale's website.

Charlie's Free Market

Charlies free market is a event open to anyone and everyone. The goal is to put a smile on every child's face. Striving to ease the pressure of Christmas giving, a totally free event for the community. There will be a new toy area, stocking stuffers and gently used area, all for free.

Saturday, December 6

10:00 am - 12:00 pm

Faith Lutheran Church - 602 S. 14th Street, Adel



The St. Mark Neighborhood Fridge is a ministry of St. Mark Lutheran Church. We are dedicated to rescuing usable food from local sources and making it available to those in need.

The church is located at 1115 Grand Avenue, West Des Moines. The Neighborhood Fridge is in the adjacent Discipleship Center at 1105 Grand Avenue.

CONTACT US!

Email: fridge.stmarkwdm@gmail.com

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/fridge.stmarkwdm>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/fridge.stmarkwdm/>

Phone: (515) 635-4962 (can be texted)

Address: 1105 Grand, West Des Moines, Iowa 50265
in the St. Mark Discipleship Center building



The Mount Olive Lutheran School Board plays a pivotal role in the governance and leadership of the school, ensuring that its mission and vision align with the values of Christian education. The board is dedicated to nurturing the spiritual growth of students and faculty through the teachings of Scripture.

Key Responsibilities

- Developing a Strategic Plan
- Policy Development and Approval
- Approving an Annual Budget
- Reviewing Staff Salary and Benefits
- Setting Tuition and Other School Fees
- Overseeing Financial Accountability
- Considering and Recommending Teacher Candidates
- Assuring Annual Performance Reviews
- Maintaining Accreditation
- Promoting the School

Current Serving Members

Carol Brown - Chair
Lawrence Prunty
Jeff Rains
Christine Ryerson
Julia Tegtmeier
Wendy Walker
Cory Emily*, Principal
Garret Kasper*, Pastor
Heidi Rains*, Preschool Director
Tona Speltz*, Assistant Principal
Ken Discher*, Church President
(*ex-officio - non-voting members)

How often does the school board meet?

The school board meets typically once a month. Special meetings may be needed for urgent issues. Communications are shared electronically as needed. The meetings are not open to the public but we will be sharing the meeting minutes in a shared folder.

Are there any openings on the School Board?

YES! We are looking to fill the Parent-at-Large position, effective January 2026. The term will be 2 years. The position will be a voting member.

How do I apply for the position?

Please reach out to the office for an application. Complete the form by December 5th. The board will evaluate all applications and make a decision by the end of December 2025. The new position will go into effect in January 2026.