

The Olive Branch

Loving Christ in Worship, Fellowship, Education and Service

July/August 2024

Glory, Glory! Hallelujah!

The Battle Hymn of the Republic is a hymn that became the semi-official Civil War song of the United States Army during that great civil conflict of our nation. It was written by Mrs. Julia Ward Howe, a poet and dedicated abolitionist, who visited an army camp near Washington D.C. in 1861. She was inspired by the soldiers singing "John Brown's Body" which was a folk tune about an anti-slavery advocate who had been hanged for his efforts to free the slaves. Mrs. Howe felt that the catchy camp tune of this song should have better words along with it, and so she wrote her own lyrics to the same melody. The song expressed her support for Abraham Lincoln, who was elected President of the United States in 1860 and faced fierce opposition from the pro-slavery South.

Deeply anguished at the growing conflict between her fellow Americans, and in a desire to articulate her own feelings about the dreadful division of that time, Julia Ward Howe is said to have written her inspired verses almost without looking at the paper. The "Battle Hymn of the Republic" (a.k.a. "Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory" and "Glory, Glory! Hallelujah!") was first published in the *Atlantic Monthly Magazine* in 1862 as a battle song for the U.S. republic. Before long the entire nation became inspired by her text and united in singing the new words with the old tune.

I have to say, to have implicit trust in God's faithful care and protection is never easy in times of danger or strife. Yet even in the midst of the terrible American Civil War between the United States and the Confederate States, a remarkable Christian woman named Julia Ward Howe proclaimed her confidence in God's triumphant power for the ultimate good of all.

From the first time it was sung unto today, Mrs. Howe's hymn has been acclaimed through the years as one of the finest national hymns of our United States of America. In fact, very early on it was sung as a solo at a large rally attended by President Abraham Lincoln himself. After the audience had responded with thunderous applause,

the President (with tears in his eyes) cried out, "Sing it again!!" So it was sung again. And after more than a hundred years, patriotic Americans still join in singing with one voice, "Glory, glory! Hallelujah! His truth is marching on."

*Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord,
He is trampling out the vintage where the grapes of
wrath are stored;
He hath loosed the fateful lightning of His terrible swift
sword:
His truth is marching on.
Glory, glory! Hallelujah! Glory, glory! Hallelujah!
Glory, glory! Hallelujah! His truth is marching on.*

*I have seen Him in the watchfires of a hundred circling
camps;
they have builded Him an altar in the evening dews and
damps;
I can read His righteous sentence by the dim and flaring
lamps.
His day is marching on.
Glory, glory! Hallelujah! Glory, glory! Hallelujah!
Glory, glory! Hallelujah! His truth is marching on.*

*He has sounded forth the trumpet that shall never call
retreat;
He is sifting out the hearts of men before His judgment
seat.
O be swift, my soul, to answer Him; be jubilant, my feet!
Our God is marching on.
Glory, glory! Hallelujah! Glory, glory! Hallelujah!
Glory, glory! Hallelujah! His truth is marching on.*

*In the beauty of the lilies Christ was born across the sea,
with a glory in His bosom that transfigures you and me.
As He died to make men holy, let us live to make men
free,
while God is marching on.
Glory, glory! Hallelujah! Glory, glory! Hallelujah!
Glory, glory! Hallelujah! His truth is marching on.*

May you all have a very happy Fourth of July and a deeply rejuvenating summertime!!!

Together in Christ,
Pastor Tim

Pam's Pearls of Prayer

Scripture of the Month: Psalm 103:1-4

- ¹ Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and all that is within me,
bless his holy name.
- ² Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and do not forget all his benefits—
- ³ who forgives all your iniquity,
who heals all your diseases,
- ⁴ who redeems your life from the pit,
who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy...

Thought for the Month

As we start the summer, it made sense to me that we should celebrate the blessings which our Lord has showered us with. Even though we sin and often put God in the background of our lives, He is still there with His loving hands to protect us. Let us never forget all that He has done for us and keep Him close to our hearts.

Prayer for the Month

Dear Lord, we know that You are with us no matter what. We often need to be reminded of Your presence when times get tough. Help us to always show You how much we love You! Thank You for all of ways You continue to show us Your Almighty Presence. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen

Mt. Olive Preschool Update

Happy Summer!

We have been working so hard this year and its now time to relax and have fun! Last month we said Goodbye to many of our Pre-K students as they head off for Kindergarten. We know they are going to continue to grow and do amazing things at their new schools and we wish them Good Luck!

Summertime fun means all things water play, mud play, and popsicles! We have been enjoying all of our fun in the morning sun alongside learning about our fun themes for the month. This month we celebrated our Dads! They are our real super heroes and we wanted them to feel celebrated and loved. Then we learned all about our prehistoric friends the Dinosaurs. We stomped like dinos, roared like dinos and danced like dinos. We learned about Carnivores and Herbivores and we all made our own dino babies. It was so much fun! We are wrapping up June celebrating one of our favorite Authors and illustrators' birthdays. Eric Carle! His stories are so much fun and it is fun to create our artwork with all the colors that he used to make some of our favorite characters, like the The Very Hungry Caterpillar, Brown Bear, Brown Bear, and the Grouchy Ladybug!

We hope you all stay cool this summer and we are looking forward to a whole lot more fun!

Blessings

Mrs. Ashley, Mrs. Amanda, Mrs. Robyn and Ms. Hannah

Annual Church Picnic

SAVE THE DATE: September 15, 2024

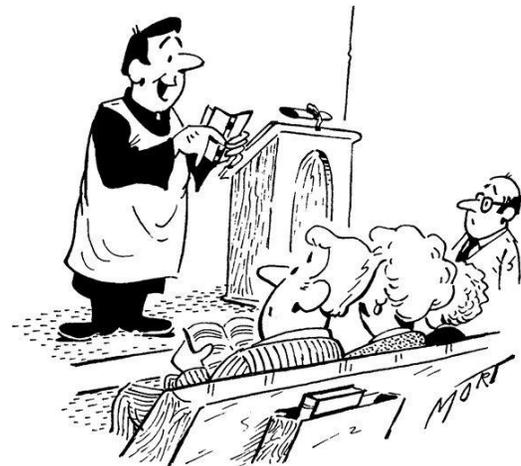
Our annual church picnic is coming up on Sunday, September 15th at noon. Joining us will be the Korean Presbyterian Church (VRIM) and the Armenian Pentecostal Church (CAM) that meet on our property, as well as our MOLC Preschool. Games will be provided for the children and the young at heart! Hope to see you there!



Summer Fellowship Activity

SAVE THE DATE: August 24, 2024

We are in the planning stages of a fellowship activity for August, so save this date! Watch for future information as it becomes available...



"We'll sing the first verse, hum the second, and lip-sync the third."

© 1988 Chip Anderson. More at kateandjohnandcarol.com

Famous Quotes of Billy Graham

A modern-day crusader of the good news of Jesus Christ, evangelist Billy Graham addressed audiences from stadiums (events which he called "Crusades") to the Twitter-sphere, with spiritual counsel from post World War II until his death in 2018. Here are some of his more famous quotes.

1. "When wealth is lost, nothing is lost; when health is lost, something is lost; when character is lost, all is lost."
2. "My home is in Heaven. I'm just traveling through this world."
3. "Courage is contagious. When a brave man takes a stand, the spines of others are often stiffened."
4. "God has given us two hands, one to receive with and the other to give with."
5. "Nothing can bring a real sense of security into the home except true love."
6. "Tears shed for self are tears of weakness, but tears shed for others are a sign of strength."
7. "A child who is allowed to be disrespectful to his parents will not have true respect for anyone."
8. "When granted many years of life, growing old in age is natural, but growing old with grace is a choice."
9. "Racial prejudice, anti-Semitism, or hatred of anyone with different beliefs has no place in the human mind or heart."
10. "The word 'romance,' according to the dictionary, means excitement, adventure, and something extremely real. Romance should last a lifetime."
11. "The great question of our time is, 'Will we be motivated by materialistic philosophy or by spiritual power?'"
12. "I think it is a sin to look at another person as inferior to yourself because of race or because of ethnic background, and I think the greatest thing to do is to pray that God will give you love for them, and I do."
13. "Being a Christian is more than just an instantaneous conversion - it is a daily process whereby you grow to be more and more like Christ."
14. "I've read the last page of the bible. It's all going to turn out alright."
15. "I know that soon my life will be over. I thank God for it, and for all He has given me in this life...But I look forward to Heaven."

US Independence Worship Service

In commemoration of the hard-fought independence of our United States of America (from 1775-1783), and in celebration of the unanimous adoption of the Declaration of Independence on July 4th, 1776, we will feature national hymns and songs from our ELW hymnal at our worship service on Sunday, July 7th, at 9:30 am.

Vacation Bible School

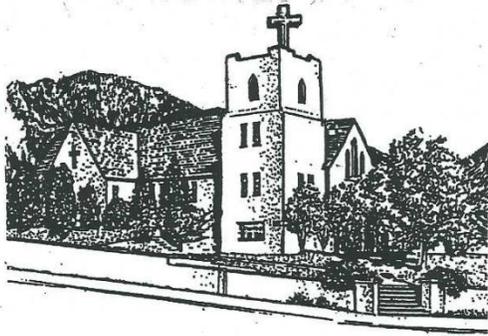
We will be hosting our 2024 Vacation Bible School (VBS) for K-6th grade over the week of August 5th-9th, 9am to 3pm daily. It will be packed full of fun, spiritual growth, and memories that will last a lifetime. Joyful music, worship and games will introduce the "Moving Mountains" theme centered on Psalm 121. Age-based Bible studies will help VBS participants grow in their understanding of God and community. Lessons learned and friends made will reach way beyond this one great week of day-camp at Mt. Olive Lutheran Church! It's \$20 for the entire week for one child, or \$15 each for two or more children. Call 818-248-4253 or email office@molc.org to register by 08/02/24.

Moving Mountains		Summer 2024		
Week at a Glance				
Day 1 Daily Theme	Day 2 Daily Theme	Day 3 Daily Theme	Day 4 Daily Theme	Day 5 Daily Theme
Believe	Be You	Step by Step	Be Kind	Move Mountains
Theme Verse	Theme Verse	Theme Verse	Theme Verse	Theme Verse
John 14:1	Psalm 139:13-14	James 1:12	Colossians 3:12	Micah 6:8
I lift my eyes to the mountains, where does my help come from? My help comes from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and Earth				



**FROM: MT. OLIVE LUTHERAN CHURCH
3561 FOOTHILL BLVD.
LA CRESCENTA, CA 91214**

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



TO:

DATED MATERIAL – DO NOT HOLD

BIRTHDAYS IN JULY

2 – Susan Luna 17 – Jim Tagawa
4 – Courtney Bitz 23 – Todd Kubela
7 – Ron Tallakson 25 – Grace Singleton
11 – Jonah Kubela

ANNIVERSARIES IN JULY

1 – Jan & Keith Cody No. 46

MEETINGS & EVENTS FOR JULY

7 – Worship Service with National Hymns 9:30 am
8 – Threads of Hope 9:00 am
20 – Breakfast Bible Study at Panera 8:30 am

BIRTHDAYS IN AUGUST

14 – Angela Zelaya 30 – Amber Kurtz

ANNIVERSARIES IN AUGUST

19 – Linda & Larry DeBoer No. 52

MEETINGS & EVENTS FOR AUGUST

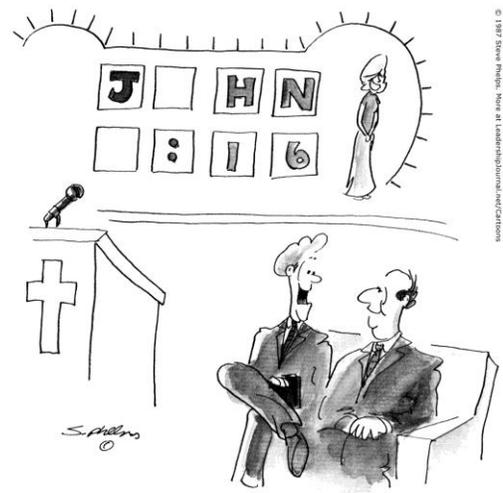
5 – VBS Week (Mon. – Fri.) 9:00 am
10 – VdC Team Meeting 8:30 am
12 – Threads of Hope 9:00 am
17 – Breakfast Bible Study at Panera 8:30 am
24 – Summer Fellowship Activity TBD

UPCOMING EVENTS FOR SEPTEMBER

8 – MOLC at the Dodgers 12 noon
15 – Church Picnic 12 noon
26 – Via de Cristo Weekend (Thurs. – Sun.)

Dodger Baseball Game

Each year we look forward to attending a Dodger baseball game. Mark your calendars for September 8th. It is a day game with the Cleveland Guardians. The game starts at 1:10 pm. If you wish to carpool, we will be leaving from the church at 12 noon. Talk to Justin Tagawa for details. Come and join us for fun, fellowship and baseball!!



"It has increased our attendance 300 percent."

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