



# OLIVE BRANCH

Week of May 8, 2026



## Upcoming Events

### Sunday, May 10th

8:30 am Traditional Worship

Reader: Sandi Overkamp

10:30 am Contemporary Worship

Reader: Lois Schuma

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### Saturday, May 16th

9:30 AM - COFFEE WITH JESUS

Please join us for our next Coffee With Jesus Bible Study. All women are welcome! Bring a Bible and join us as we dig into God's Word and encourage each other in our faith.

### Thursday, May 21st

6:00 PM - MEN4CHRIST MEETING

All men are welcome. Enter through the school doors and you will find us right down the hall, in Chris Covert's room.

### Thursday, May 21st

6:00 PM - LADIES NIGHT OUT

Roots 95, 8705 Chambray Blvd, # 700, in Johnston. Enjoy a night out with delicious food and uplifting conversation. All women are welcome! Feel free to bring a friend - or come and meet a new friend. Call or text Becky at 515-988-5832 to let us know you're coming.

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

## A NOTE FROM THE POWELLS TO THE MTO COMMUNITY

Nadia Powell began her MTO Journey back in the fall of 2011 as a member of Mrs. Brammeier's Kindergarten class. In the spring of 2012, Aaron, Kimberly, Nadia and Morgynne became members at MTO, even though the adults were still serving as the Director of Worship & Music (Mr. Powell) as well as the Director of Christian Education (Mrs. Powell) at our previous church.

After owning a licensed in-home day care for 11 year, Kimberly was invited to be an aide in Mrs. Rains preschool class in the 2014-15 school year, where she stayed on in that role until being asked to be the lead teacher for the 3's in 2021. Since beginning teaching in 1999, Aaron was invited to serve as the MTO Worship & Music director in July of 2015. The following school year, he accepted the music position. With the exponential growth of the school, Mr. Powell was asked to make his music teaching position his full time job in the fall of 2024.

In our time at MTO, the Powells have been tremendously blessed with the opportunity of sharing God's Word in both our classroom. The Gift of the smiling children's faces has been profound to experience. After 20 years of working with the preschool age children and 25 years of teaching music in various capacities, Mr. and Mrs. Powell are saying good-bye to MTO at the end of this 2025-26 school year. We ask our Brothers and Sisters in Christ to bless our next chapters as we both venture into our second act of our careers. It has been a pleasure.

*Sincerely,*

*Aaron & Kim Powell*



## Special Message from Mary Dunlap

After 18 years in education, including 13 wonderful years teaching fourth grade at Mount Olive, I will be retiring from the classroom at the end of this school year. Teaching has been such a meaningful part of my life, and I am incredibly thankful for the students, families, and staff who have made these years so special. I am excited to continue being part of the Mount Olive family next year in a different capacity, with fewer hours and more flexibility in my schedule. With the extra time, my husband and I are looking forward to traveling more. Mount Olive is a great place in so many ways, and I am grateful to remain part of this wonderful community.

