



ROOTED IN CHRIST & GROWING FORWARD

MTO ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

January 2026

GRATITUDE AND GROWTH

Grace and peace to you from Mount Olive Lutheran School. We are wrapping up the first half of the school year this week and, we wanted to share an update on what God has been doing here and where we are headed next. It has been a year full of growth, hard work, and many reminders of how faithfully God continues to provide for Mount Olive.



THE MODULAR MIRACLE

One of the most memorable moments of the year happened just days before the start of school, when our modular classrooms arrived on campus on August 15th. The timing was tight—really tight—since the first day of school was scheduled for August 26th. Yet, almost immediately, volunteers stepped in. Families, staff, church members, and friends of Mount Olive showed up ready to work. Long days were spent ripping up and reinstalling carpet, wiping down every wall, installing toilets, hanging Smartboards, setting up classrooms, moving furniture, and preparing the space so that it would be ready in time. Many people doubted we could possibly finish before the first bell rang, but we did—and around here, we've come to call it the "Modular Miracle." Because of that collective effort, our 3rd and 4th graders walked into fully prepared classrooms on the very first day of school. Most of them had no idea how close it all was or how many hands had helped make that moment possible. It was a powerful reminder that Mount Olive has always been, and continues to be, a place where people step up for one another.



Rooted in Faith, Growing in Knowledge, Shaping Tomorrow

FUTURE PLANNING

The modular classrooms have served us well this year, providing much-needed space while also reminding us that growth brings opportunity and responsibility. Throughout the year, planning has continued for our upcoming expansion, which includes a permanent addition designed to support both current needs and future growth. This expansion will add ten permanent classrooms, allowing us to continue offering small class sizes while welcoming additional students. It will also include a full-sized gym, which will serve daily physical education classes, chapel services, school-wide gatherings, athletic events, and community activities. Every part of this expansion has been thoughtfully planned with students in mind, not just for today, but for years to come. While the footprint of the school will change, our mission remains the same: ***Rooted in Christ, Growing in Knowledge, Shaping Tomorrow.***



STAYING ACCOUNTABLE & GROWING STRONGER

In addition to growth and planning, Mount Olive will undergo its regularly scheduled accreditation review this spring, part of our five-year accreditation cycle. Our staff and school board have been working steadily to prepare for this process, reviewing curriculum, instructional practices, policies, and school operations. While accreditation requires detailed documentation and reflection, it also provides a valuable opportunity to step back, evaluate our work, and celebrate the strengths of our school community. This process helps us remain accountable, intentional, and focused on continuous growth, all while staying grounded in our Christ-centered mission.



LIFE INSIDE THE CLASSROOMS

Students are learning, forming relationships, serving others, and, most importantly growing in their faith. Wednesday Chapel remains a staple of each week. Teachers walk alongside students, offering encouragement, challenge, and grace. Many of the values you remember from your time at Mount Olive are still present, even as the building and campus continue to grow. God is still the center of everything we do at MTO.

GRATITUDE FOR OUR ALUMNI

We are grateful for the alumni who helped build the foundation on which Mount Olive stands today. Your prayers, encouragement, and continued connection matter. As we look ahead, we do so with gratitude for what has already been done and trust in God's guidance for what is still to come.

Thank you for remaining part of the Mount Olive story.



To stay up to date on the expansion project and learn more about what's ahead, we invite you to visit our website, www.rootedtogrow.org. There you'll find updates, timelines, and ways to support the continued growth and mission of Mount Olive.

