

## LIVESTREAMING SERVICES ON FACEBOOK (TECH HELP NEEDED)



A few weeks ago we started experimenting with putting our worship services online as they are happening. This practice, called “Livestreaming” is easy to do using the new equipment we recently obtained, but we could improve the “broadcast” greatly if we had some people willing to use a smartphone app we have to “produce” the service online.

If you have an interest in learning how to do this or already know how to do it, your help will be appreciated. Please speak with Pastor Hill if you can help in some way.

By the way, there is no “minimum age” required to serve in this role. If you have the ability, that’s what we need the most.

For those who wish to watch the services online, you need to “friend” Pastor Hill so you can get the notice that we are “going live.” We try to do this with our 11 a.m. service, but since we’re starting out, we’re very flexible.

**HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
46 DARE ROAD  
SELDEN, NY 11784  
631-732-2511  
www,hopeluth.com  
hopelutheran @msn.com

### WEEKEND WORSHIP SERVICES

SATURDAYS AT 5 P.M.

SUNDAYS AT 8, 9:30 AND 11 A.M.

MIDWEEK WEDNESDAY LENTEN SERVICES AT  
12:30 AND 7:30 P.M. START FEBRUARY 14

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
SELDEN, NY 11784  
PERMIT NO. 27



# THE ANCHOR

The newsletter of Hope Lutheran Church Selden, New York

February 2018

## LENT 2018- “THY WILL BE DONE”

This year the season of Lent focuses on a theme that touches the lives of every Christian. The theme, “*Thy Will Be Done*,” which runs through the entire Bible, presents us all with a challenge and a direction for our lives.

The season this year begins on **Ash Wednesday**, February 14, when we will have two services, at 12:30 and 7:30 p.m. That is the pattern of weekly services that will continue throughout Lent using that theme.

Special devotional booklets are being given out at the church, and several members are preparing to present dramatic monologues for each week’s services.

The season of Lent has been observed by the churches of the catholic tradition. Originally, it was a 40-day period used by the Church to teach people who were preparing for the sacrament of Holy Baptism which was celebrated at the Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday. Today it is also observed as a time for self-examination, fasting and prayer as a means for spiritual renewal.

At Hope we encourage all our members to adopt their own personal disciplines including a commitment to worship regularly on weekends and at mid-week services, daily devotions, and making special sacrificial Lenten offerings.

The season culminates with the observance of **Holy Week** beginning on Palm Sunday, March 25th. Holy Week focuses on the events leading up

to the crucifixion and death of our Lord.

The **Thursday of Holy Week** is observed with two services that celebrate the Last Supper of our Lord where he gave his disciples the command (ot *mandatum* to “Love one another as I have loved you.” A special liturgy is used for that day with the confession of sins and individual absolution, and the sacrament of holy communion. It is concluded with the symbolic act of the stripping of the altar, and it ends in silence.

**Good Friday** has many opportunities for us to get personally involved. An All-Day Prayer Vigil begins at 7 a.m. with times for people to sign up to for short periods to “take turns” and coming for prayer and reflection throughout the day.

A Children’s Stations of the Cross Devotional Service is offered at 10 a.m., and at 11 a.m. people gather to carpool to the Shrine of Our Lady of the Island in Eastport where we will gather with people from other churches at noon to walk the Stations of the Cross. Children are welcome to attend this event also.

At 3 p.m. we walk the stations at Hope using a traditional order of prayers and readings, and at 7:30 we have a solemn evening service.

On **Holy Saturday** we gather at sundown to light the new fire and have our traditional candlelight Easter Vigil Service with special scripture readings, and we decorate the sanctuary for Easter services. The service ends with our first Easter Holy Communion celebration.

## VISION OF HOPE *“Is the Season of Lent Necessary?”*

I hate reading articles that ask a question ask I already know what the author will be saying before I read it. Why bother reading it?

But I'm not asking this question so I can provide a defense of the ancient practice of observing Lent. I ask the question because I believe YOU need to answer it for yourself.

As a follower of Jesus Christ and a member of our congregation, do YOU think it is necessary for you to observe is kind of season that calls for self-examination, the confession of sins, and spiritual renewal?

I remember how it used to be during the season of Lent because as a boy I went to the mid-week services at my church with my dad. I remember how I laid down on the metal chairs and looked across the street at the lights on the carpet store

that flashed from color to color. I don't recall the theme of Lent or anything else, but I felt like I was in the right place.

When you think of Lent, what memories do you have? More importantly, perhaps, what memories will your children or grandchildren have?

I'm amazed when teens who are preparing for Confirmation have no idea of what Lent, Holy Week, or even Easter is all about. Some have never been at worship during these holiest days in our Christian calendar, and, I suspect, their parents may not have been around much either, even as adult members of the church.

However, what is more important than being at church is the fact that the spiritual identity of God's people is often very poorly defined and lacks any depth. This season can help change that, but you are the one who must decide it's necessary.

## THE HOPE RENEWED DRIVE IS WORKING

The Hope Renewed Drive we started in November is bearing fruit in many ways. Thanks to your giving, we have been able to renew the lighting in our church parking lot, add new lighting to the hallway and rest rooms, and provide the much-needed repairs to the roof of the sanctuary. It is also giving impetus to a proposal to change over the lighting in the rest of the church building to a more efficient and much less expensive method of lighting.

We want to provide a new sign for the church that will be visible from the street, and we have some ideas about what that would look like depending on the funds that come in for the Hope Renewed Fund.

The Council is grateful for all the support already given, and they hope that the rest of the funds needed will come in by the end of February so we can know what we can do.



If you made a pledge or if you haven't given yet, your gifts are welcome. The grant we received from our synod has already been used, and all of the gifts made to the Capital Improvements Fund are being added to these projects. Nearly \$14,000 has already been given in addition to the \$8,000 grant from the synod. Thank you.

## WOMEN OF HOPE SOCK DRIVE

The women of Hope are collecting NEW, UNUSED SOCKS for all ages for the month of February. Please put socks in wash basket in Narthex.



## ROARING 20'S

### DINNER

The Youth attending the ELCA Youth Gathering 2018 are hosting a "Roaring 20's Dinner" on Saturday, March 10th from 7—9 pm Cost is \$10 per person

## BIG BROTHERS CLOTHING BIN

In Hope's parking lot there is a bin for clothes for Big Brothers. Hope receives payment for the use of our parking lot by the weight of items in the bin. Please help support hope by bringing in your used clothes, items etc.



## FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PREPARATION CLASSES

Each spring Pastor Hill invites children who wish to receive Holy Communion to come for a few classes to help them learn what the sacrament is all about. These classes are often on Saturday afternoons, and they meet for about 90 minutes. A parent or a grandparent needs to come also.

Since there is no "minimum age" for receiving the sacrament and the only "requirement" is that they be baptized members of the church, the instruction is adapted to the children who actually attend. Also, the children and their families choose when they will officially "celebrate" the sacrament at a worship service.

Parents should talk with their children about this, and if they want to come for classes, please sign up or email Pastor Hill at rohill@optonline.net. We will begin February 17th if possible.

## ACOLYTE TRAINING FOR HOPE'S CHILDREN

Hope's Worship Team recently started asking children to serve as part of our worship service leadership team. Under the guidance of Lisa Spinazzola, we have several children who are assisting in worship during our services on Saturday evenings and on Sundays at 9:30.

The only "requirement" for serving is that the children be receiving communion since they are part of the worship leadership team.

We would like children serve at our 8 and 11 a.m. services also if parents are able to bring them to those services.

Lisa provides training and sets the schedule. She will be getting the servers together for some fun activities from time to time as well. Contact her at lcs828@outlook.com or call her at 631-872-9936.

## The Season of Lent—Wednesdays 12:30 & 7:30 pm

LENT—A time when we journey with each other to the cross and then on to the resurrection of Jesus.

This year we focus with the **Lenten Journey: Thy Will Be Done.** Each week there are monologues based on Biblical figures: Moses, Nathan, Mary, Paul & Lydia

**February 21—God's Will & My Inadequacy**

**February 28—God's Will and My Dreams**

**March 7—God's Will and My Identity**

**March 14—God's Will and My Worldview**

**March 21—God's Will and My Response**

### EASTER PLANTS

Help to beautify our sanctuary by donating Easter Plants: Lilies, Daffodils, Hyacinths, Tulips, Azaleas and Mums at a cost of \$7.00 each. Plants may be taken home after the 11:15 am Easter Service.

### CONGREGATION COUNCIL MEMBERS 2017-18

Carol Bottstein Pres. (631) 664-2477  
Pauline Castiglione VP (631) 880-7830  
Cheryl Armstrong Sec. (631) 875-6544  
John Stine Treas. (631) 509-4890  
Barbara Bussing (631) 748-9150  
Charles Clark Youth (631) 743-9822  
Christine McCarthy (516) 647-7443  
Henry Schlobohm (631) 447-0536  
Michelle Wells (631) 732-4284

LENTEN

MIDWEEK

SERVICES

12:30 & 7:30 pm

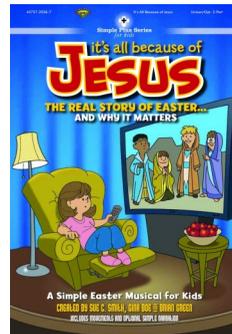
Join us before the evening service for food and fellowship, just a simple meal of soup and salad at 6 pm. Sign up at the church.



### Easter Musical

#### IT'S ALL BECAUSE OF JESUS

Plans are underway for a children's musical for Saturday, April 14th during the 5 pm service. If you can help or your child is interested in being a part please sign up. Rehearsals will begin on Saturday, March 3rd from 4—5 pm All children are invited to be a part!



### PALM SUNDAY

THE SUNDAY OF THE PASSION SATURDAY 5 pm — SUNDAY 8, 9:30 & 11:00 am

On Saturday, March 24 & Sunday March 25, we begin outdoors with the blessing of the palms and procession into the church reminding us of Christ's triumphant entry into the Holy City of Jerusalem. Our Children on Sunday will march around the church. Parents and congregants are welcome to join the procession.



### THE TRIDUUM



**Maunder Thursday Holy Communion is celebrated at 12:30 and 7:30 pm.**

Services include a special hand washing ceremony as we come forward to receive the sacrament of Holy Communion and the order for Confession and Forgiveness, ending with the solemn act of stripping of the altar to prepare for Good Friday.

#### Good Friday All Day Prayer Vigil

We welcome all to come for 20 minute slots to pray and meditate on Jesus dying on the cross for us. Families are welcome to come and read the passion story in the church together. Bibles will be marked for all.

#### 10 am Stations of the Cross especially for children

We observe the Stations of the Cross around the church property with special readings for children and their families. All are welcome.

#### Noon Shrine of our Lady

We observe the Stations of the Cross at the Shrine in Eastport on Eastport-Manor Road. Those who will car pool will leave the church at 11 am or if you prefer, you may meet us at the shrine.

#### 3 pm Hope's Stations of the Cross (Outdoors)

#### 7:30 pm The Service of Adoration of the Cross

#### Holy Saturday 7:30 pm Easter Vigil

Holy Saturday concludes the Triduum as we gather at 7:30 pm for the Easter Vigil. The Service of Light starts outdoors with the Lighting of New Fire and continues into the nave with candles that signify Jesus as the Light of the World. The service goes on with Bible readings that recall the stories of God's mighty acts and an affirmation of baptism. It ends with the first Easter celebration of Holy Communion.

### EASTER SUNDAY

#### THE RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD

Sunday, April 1 Festival Services at 7:30, 9:30 and 11:15 am

