

our purpose is to glorify God by worshipping, witnessing, teaching, loving and serving our Lord Jesus Christ

HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH tiding pastor's letter from pastor jane

VOLUME 18 ISSUE 3 SEPTEMBER 2019

Dear Brothers & Sisters in Christ,

Thank you so very much for the wonderful Potluck, to send me off/welcome me back. There is nothing like a potluck for great Food, Fun and Fellowship! As a result, I have a great recipe for refrigerator pickles. When Ryan came around with Dilly Bars, I knew we had hit the culinary jackpot!!

In Romans 8:28, St. Paul says "All things work to the good for those who are called according to Christ's purpose." We cling to this verse when all manner of tragedies cross our paths. Today we know and trust that this promise applies to us and to Pastor Chris Schroder and his family. I'm sure the call to decline the call after negotiations and acceptance was a difficult one to make for him. Our prayer is that God will continue to bless his ministry and ours as we move forward with our Mission Statement from Matthew 28:19, the Great commission to "Make Disciples of all nations". I pray that God will continue to bless our ministry together.

Allow me to say thank you to some key people in our church, that you should know are shouldering a great deal of leadership and responsibility that we do not want to take for granted: Our church organists, (often unsung heroes) Mary Hanson, Ruth Olson (3rd Sunday) and Jeanie Stout (funerals) lead us in worship every service, the members of our praise band which will lead worship the last Sunday of each month. Church Office Manager, Sylvia Munter; Custodian of the church, Steve Sovick; Council chair, Joan Dufault & Vice chair Evan Fonder; Trustee chair, Greg Mireault; Deacons chair, Michele Solsten; the Benevolence Committee; the Children, Youth, & Education committee (Angie Rudie jumped right into VBS when Michele Olson broke her ankle); Friday School superintendent, Julie Malmanger, recruiting our amazing Friday school teachers; Sunday School Superintendent, Emily Quam, recruiting our amazing Sunday school teachers as well as the Women of Hope, who support all our ministries. Our Youth Directors, Alyssa and Mike Macy; inspire us and our youth as well. Our Altar Guild prepare the altar weekly with fresh candle oil, paramounts and banners, as well as our Lord's Supper. The ushers and acolytes are always faithful, like cherubim around the tabernacle. Our Befrienders, Sandy Riveland and Mark Schmitz extend the love from our congregation into the community along with your pastor. Last but certainly not least, our choir, directed by Charity Salmonson continues to lift our spirits (we need more singers). Tom Sedler organizes the Fellowship of Christian Athletes breakfast every Thursday morning. Please forgive me if I have forgotten someone. For all these people and for those we recruit, we give prayerful support and thanks to God!

As you can see Hope Lutheran Church has a long-standing tradition of having a well-oiled, administratively efficient, outreach both on the world-wide scale through missions in China, the Philippines, and Estonia, as well as locally and at home. This is done in fulfillment of our mission statement: "The Purpose of Hope Church is to Glorify God by Worshipping, Witnessing, Teaching, Loving, and Serving our Lord Jesus Christ."

SEPTEMBER SERVANTS

GROUP 6 Chairperson: Sylvia Munter						
Servers:	Tina Averill	Roy & Joan Dufault	Judy Dunrud			
	Ruth Goldsmith	Terry & Alisa Halvorson	John & Dorene Hanson			
	Al & Carol Heide	Joyce Kringle	Marty & Michelle Levin			
	Mike & Alyssa Macy	Donna Moy	Jim & Ann Offerdahl			
	David Olson	Wayne & Michelle Olson	Neal & Kathy Schmidt			
	Karen Schultz	Matt & Chantel Wickham	Mark & Nancy Winkler			
	Carol Wold					
ALTAR GUILD: Anita Lucken / Michelle Manecke						
COMMUNION SERVERS September 8: Wayne Olson / Joan Dufault / Carey & Teresa Sannes						
USHERS: Paul Curfman / David Dahl / Marty Levin / Chuck Lucken / Joel Rendahl / Carey Sannes						
HEAD USHERS	/ ACOLYTES:					
September 1	Terry Halvorson	Aaron & Cullen Norland				
September 8	David Skunes	Kyla Pederson / Alexis Bailie				
September 15	Rod Olson	Tucker Quam / Lukas Sannes				
September 22	Sid Fjerstad	Brecken Levin / Hannah Kroening				
September 29	Tom Kleinwachter	Zach Theis / Breanna Larson				

(Pr. Janes Letter Continued from Page 1)

Confirmation begins with Friday school on September 13. Confirmation meeting with the Pastor and parents is on Wednesday, September 4, at 6:30, so please bring any questions, concerns and important dates at that time. Sunday School begins with Rally Day on September 8. As **life-long learners** of God's Word, we will have a survey on the type of **adult study**, and the time that works best for you. We seem to be **lacking** is an opportunity specifically for the fellowship of the men of our congregation. I pray the Befrienders and Bible Studies will help with this, or perhaps an early morning Bible study.

As you can see, church is not just a beautiful building; it is people, you and me, who make it work as we pass on the traditions and values that make our community a healthy and special place to live and grow. Let us give thanks for all of God's gifts. Steve and I are thankful we will be spending more time with you, to have fellowship with you, and getting to know you longer.

In His Love,

Pastor Jane

Family / Youth / Education

You're probably a pretty busy person. You're in school most of the day, and then there's homework to be done. Many teens have extracurricular activities that take up a few hours every day, too. On top of that, many of you have jobs after school and/or on weekends. Of course, you want to spend time every day with family and friends, so you may feel a little pressed for time.

So pressed for time, in fact, that time with God is squeezed out. You may say a quick prayer before meals or at exam time, but conversations with God are limited or non-existent. Who has time to read the Bible when you've got texts that need to be read? Maybe you even complain on the weekends that you're too tired to go to church.

Do you think this is the schedule God wants for you? God, Who gave you His first and best, His only Son, wants your first and best as well. For some, that means the first moments of the day. Others are far too sleepy for that to be their best. Everyone, though, needs to carve out specific times of the day that belong exclusively to the Lord.

Look at Jesus, the very Son of God. After feeding the 5000, what did He do? Matthew 14 tells us He shooed the disciples ahead of Him and "went up on a mountainside by Himself to pray." That was at the end of a very busy day! Mark 1:35 tells us, "Very early in the morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house and went off to a solitary place, where He prayed." If Jesus needed to pray, how much more do we! If He could make time during His day, how much more should we!

Jesus also knew His Bible. Remember His visit to the temple when He was 12 years old? His parents found Him there, "*sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. Everyone who heard Him was amazed at His understanding and His answers*" (Luke 2:46-47). We don't know what questions to ask, much less what the answers are without studying God's Word. You need to make time for that too.

Remember: you're God's plan for telling the world – your friends and acquaintances – about His Son, His sacrifice for them, and that He

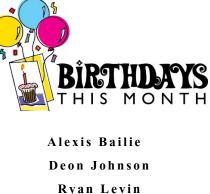
"wants all men to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth" (1 Timothy 2:4).

Think about it:

 For five days keep a time chart of how you spend your time. What can you cut out?
Decide what time of each day you'll set aside for Bible reading/study and prayer.



Let's pray: Dear Father, You have made me what I am and given me everything I have. I know I'm not yet the person You want me to be. Strengthen me to be faithful to Bible study and prayer and help me to



Ryan Levin Noah Mahlen Karly Peterson Marian Riveland

Avery Sannes

If you are a Hope student in grades 7-12 and we missed your birthday, please notify the church office so we can update our list.



PIZZA PARTY/ CONFIRMATION MTG.

A Pizza Party and Confirmation Meeting will be held Wednesday, September 4, at 6:30 pm, in the Fellowship Hall, for Youth in grades 7-9 and their parents regarding acolyting and confirmation requirements.

FELLOWSHIP OF CHRISTIAN ATHLETES



All youth in 7th-12th grades (*you don't need to*

be an athlete) are invited to join us for breakfast and devotions 7:40am-8:10am each Thursday when school is in session. The breakfast is free, although a basket for free-will offering is available.



AUGUST MEMORIALS

Gifts were given to the Audio/Visual Fund in memory of Margaret Kildal, Rose Mireault and Mary Roysland.

Gifts were given to the Broadcast Fund in memory of the Tom Buttrey, Ruth Davidson, Yvonne Ekholm, Del Hemmingson, Irma Hemmingson, Margaret Kildal, Rose Mireault, Scott Nelson and Clinton & Frances Solberg.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR SPIRITUAL ENRICHMENT

All Women are invited to the LCMC Women of the Word **Annual Gathering** at Peace Lutheran in Nevis, MN on September 21. Speakers include Sarah Carlson and Augustana District Assistant Coordinator Pastor Linda Nicklason.

Men's weekend 4-day retreat in Cloquet, MN at Our Savior's Church October 10-13, and Women's weekend 4-day retreat October 17-20 at the same location.

Lutheran Via De Cristio, is a weekend designed for baptized believers, looking for more in their walk of faith. Bring a sleeping bag, clothing, swimsuit, wipes for sponge baths (no showers until the last day). Good food, fun and fellowship. If you are averse to sleeping on a mattress on the floor, please bring your own cot, or whatever you need to be comfortable sleeping in the church.

Brandsvold Cemetery Records

The entire Brandsvold records book has been scanned and transcribed/translated, and is available through Minnesota Reflections web site (in connection with the Minnesota Digital Library)! The link is: http:// cdm16022.contentdm.oclc.org/cdm/search/ collection/p16022coll61 Spread the word!

Broadcast/Telecast Ministry

Our worship service is broadcast on KKCQ FM and telecast on local channel 7 and Garden Valley channel 31 every Sunday at 9:30 am.

McIntosh Senior Living Center is asking for donations of stuffed animals to be used for bingo prizes. For those who receive them it is quite a treasure. Donations may be dropped off in the church office.

Fosston DAC is collecting candles of all types: tapers, votives, jars, and even crayons to make fire starters. Donations may be dropped off at the church office.

H.E.L.P. is Here!

Our Health Equipment Lending Project room has a selection of home health equipment. If you are in need of a loan of this kind of equipment, please call the church office. The intent is that this ministry would be the hands and feet of Jesus to anyone in need of this kind of assistance. We are currently in need of donations of wheel chairs, walkers, canes with prongs, shower chairs, raised toilet seats, and commodes. Donations of all types of home health equipment are welcome.

Hope Hankies

Do you know someone who is in need of healing of mind, body or spirit? A Hope Hankie is a reminder that you are never alone, that God is always with you and that your friends are aware of your needs and are praying for you. Hope Hankies are available in the church office, or you can call Marge Bolme at 435-1825. Although there is no charge for the Hope Hankie, donations are welcome.

8/14/19-Hope Lutheran Church Council - Meeting Minutes – Recorded by Tracy Ware

Present: Joan Dufault, Greg Mireault, Pastor Jane Ekholm, Sylvia Munter, Tracy Ware, Michelle Solsten, Wayne & Michelle Olson, Nancy Andree, Tom Sedler, Evan Fonder, Sue Skunes and Matt Wickham.

Call to order: Meeting Called to order by Joan Dufault – President

Devotions – a message from "Grace for the Moment" by Max Lucado led by Sue S. **Agenda Review** - Motion to approve by Tom; Second by Sue S, Approved Unanimously **Secretary Reports** - Motion to approve both reports by Greg; Second by Michelle S, Approved Unanimously

Women of Hope – No report Benevolence Report – Pastor Jane reports giving to several local benefits this month as well as a local child with health concerns and the backpack program.

Pastor's Report – Pastor Jane submitted a written report. Also mentions the music scholarship.

President's Report -

Joan reports that the Befriender's Program is now in place with two people having been trained. She asked the Deacons to research how we can keep this program going into the future. The new pastor and another leader still need to complete training. Joan asked the Trustees to review the wedding and funeral policies. They currently request only an "honorarium" as compensation, which needs to be updated.

We are still in the "Call Process", The offer that was extended has not been accepted yet.

Brief Committee Reports Deacons – Michelle S. reports that pulpit supply is full through August but will need to find options for September. Please let her know if you have anyone in mind that would be interested in speaking one Sunday.

Family/Youth/Education –

Michelle O. reports that VBS was a success! She thanked everyone involved for all the help.

Blessing of the backpacks will be held during the 9:30 service on 8/25/19. Kids are encouraged to bring their backpacks. Rally Sunday will be 9/8/19. The Youth will be serving breakfast following the 9:30 service. Friday School and Sunday School teachers are needed.

Music & Worship – Sue reports readers for this month are secure. We have discontinued the second service on Sundays and have asked the Worship band to lead the 9:30 service and music once a month. Trustees – Greg reports that the finances look ok. The committee approved the bid

to repair/replace the gutters for \$5500.

Wedding and Funeral policies will be reviewed to include compensation. The Auction will be held 9/21/19 with proceeds going to the audio/visual equipment. Cemetery/Columbarium pamphlets are being ordered and will be sent out soon. Motion to approve the Treasurer's Report pending audit by Greg, second by Evan, Motion carried unanimously. Old Business: None New Business:

Next meeting (Full Council) will be held on Wednesday, Sept 11th at 8:00 pm. Devotions and lunch by the board of Trustees. Sunday, August 25: Celebration Potluck for Pastor Jane; Blessing of the backpacks Monday, September 2: Labor Day, office closed Sept 6-11: Sylvia out of the

office.

Sunday, Sept 9: Rally Day Saturday, Sept 21: Hope Church Auction Sale

Joan mentioned that the Attic and Medical Room need to be cleaned out. Greg will take care of the Attic. Evan will see if Chantel will help him with the medical room.

We all thanked Pastor Jane for her service and dedication and over the past year.

Closed with The Lord's Prayer, Meeting Adjourned.



ENJOY THE CONVENIENCE OF ELECTRONIC GIVING

Hope Church wants to remind you that we offer electronic giving as a way to automate your regular weekly offering. Electronic giving offers convenience for individuals and provides muchneeded donation consistency for our congregation. As you contemplate future contributions, please consider electronic giving.

Following is a list of the information that is needed to get started:

- \Rightarrow Name and Address
- \Rightarrow Date of First Donation
- \Rightarrow Frequency of Donation (Weekly, Monthly, etc.)
- \Rightarrow Amount of Donation
- ⇒ Checking or Savings Account Routing and Account Numbers

Donations amounts may be changed or discontinued any time simply by calling the church office.

If you would like to sign up for electronic giving, or want more information, please call the church office at 218-435-6765, or email hopezion@gvtel.com

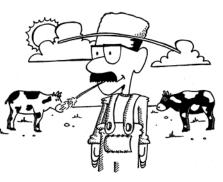
On the Lighter Side

One day a farmer came into the house and greeted his wife with a big smile, saying, "I've got some great news. Our finest cow just gave birth to twin calves, one white and one brown. I've got a notion to give one to the Lord and keep one for ourselves."

The wife, being a very perceptive woman, asked, "Which one are you going to give God—the white one or the brown one?"

Her husband replied, "It won't make any difference because we will raise them together and when they are of marketable age, we'll split the proceeds, half for the Lord and half for us."

Well, sometime later the farmer entered his house, this time with a very sad look. "I've got some bad news," he said. "The Lord's calf just died."



Polk County Social Services is seeking homes to provide foster care to children in need.

If you'd like more information on child foster care, call Polk County Social Services at 218-470-8483.



September BIBLE READINGS

KEY CHAPTERS OF THE BIBLE

1	Sunday Worship	9 Micah 5	17 Zechariah 14	25 Matthew 17
2	Amos 9	10 Micah 7	18 Malachi 3	26 Matthew 21
3	Obadiah	11 Nahum 1	19 Malachi 4	27 Matthew 24
4	Jonah 1	12 Habakkuk 3	20 Matthew 5	28 Matthew 25
5	Jonah 2	13 Zephaniah 3	21 Matthew 6	29 Sunday Worship
6	Jonah 3	14 Haggai 1	22 Sunday Worship	30 Matthew 26
7	Jonah 4	15 Sunday Worship	23 Matthew 7	
8	Sunday Worship	16 Haggai 2	24 Matthew 13	



HOPE CHURCH is having an Auction Sale Fund Raiser to raise money for new Audio/Visual Equipment Saturday, September 21st

Beginning at 11:00 am Lunch will be served by Hope Youth