

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

HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH

tidings

SEPTEMBER 2020

pastor's letter from Pastor Jane

Dear Brothers & Sisters in Christ,

How well you have done at praying to keep our church vital and active, and ministering to each other and our community in spite of pandemic. I pray for you more than usual, because when I do not see you or hear from you, I can only hope and pray that you are well and safe.

Your church staff and leadership are working hard to be sure we are fulfilling **our mission statement** to "*Glorify God by worshipping, witnessing, teaching, loving and serving.*" Our partnership with the school has increased ability to fulfill our *teaching* mission to our children by allowing students flex time on Friday as is "normal" at the usual 8:30 AM time.

The change is **transportation must be provided** by parents as the buses cannot keep social distancing with the numbers of children that attend Release Time. Because we have always had a very large outreach to non-members, and our capacity is restricted; we ask **members to please let us know** if they are unable to provide transportation (drop-off & pick-up) so their children may attend. If we have room, we will invite **non-members** who are on our list. This is the tentative **Education Plan**, subject to change as the need (or better ideas) arise.

Friday School Teachers are needed for **in person teaching** for grades 1-5, who are not at risk, are willing to teach with social distancing, no singing, and masks worn.

Grades 1-5, 8:30 AM in person Friday School with 5 students per grade allowed.

Grade 6 may be added after **Communion Camp** on Oct. 4 from 10:30 AM-12:30PM.

Grade 7 Confirmation, in person teaching by Kathy Carlson, an overview of the Bible in preparation for confirmation catechism will be 9:30 Friday morning.

Grade 8 Confirmation will Zoom on school laptops at 8:30 AM with Pastor Jane. Attendance is critical!

Grade 9 Confirmation will Zoom on school laptops at 9:30 AM with Pastor Jane. Attendance is critical!

Grade 10 will meet in Person Wednesdays at 6-7 PM to complete Confirmation that was cut off last spring. Supper will be provided.

Michelle Levin will have **Youth group Wednesdays from 7-8 PM for grades 7-12**. Come ready to have some fun and fellowship.

It is **our hope** that we will provide moral teaching and guidance to all our member students and others who want this instruction time which is allowed in MN Statute. Thank you to all who make this mission possible.

A **special thanks to the School Administrators** for their partnership with the churches in providing this support for our students, especially with the flex time and the use of the student laptops which allows interactive online classes by ZOOM.

Our **Men's Guided discussion group** will meet after church 4 Sundays in October at 10:30. Tom Kleinwachter will lead. Each session will begin with affirmation of the discussion rules to keep respectful dialogue, the choice of articles to review, the Bible verses that are applicable. The goal is to become better informed, to reflect more deeply and to discuss respectfully, perhaps to agree, or "to agree to disagree."

Thursday **morning Bible Study** continues on “the Cost of Discipleship at 10:00 AM. A weekly Bible study will be pre-recorded and placed online starting in September, as requested.

Please keep all teachers, students, medical personnel and peace officers in your prayers.

For families wanting more resources for **home-schooling** try jenn@practicalfamily.org via m.convertkit.com with **Jennifer Logan Bryant (my cousin.)** She has a Home Care expert, **Trisha Childers**, has put together an amazing series for you called **Back to School Made Simple**. She says “whether you homeschool or send your kids to school, these simple steps will help you to handle this next season of 2020 with ease.” Take advantage of this **FREE** email series that will come straight to your inbox, and help you breathe easier in the days before school starts up again. If anyone else has resources to share, please send them to the church for the next newsletter.

Rally Sunday is September 13 at the 9:30 service kicking off another year of Sunday School to be held following worship services. If you cannot get off work to transport children to Friday School, Sunday School is always a great idea. Be united as a family as you worship together. As a family, receive holy communion & blessings at God’s altar on the second Sunday of the month. This is a great way to identify with each other, be recognized in your community as a family unit and to pass on the Faith for Generations yet to come.

I remember coming home from college and being amazed at the changes in our family and home during my absence. But one thing that did not change was worshipping together, communing together and feeling the identification as a family unit in our church. These habits and rituals are a rich **heritage and a stabilizing moral compass** in young lives. Give your children this advantage. As Christians, we do not measure wealth in terms of dollars and cents, but in the “abundant life.”

Faithful heritage is great wealth,

Pastor Jane

5 MORE VIRTUES

TO PRAY FOR OUR KIDS

6. Love for God’s Word:

“May our children grow to find your Word more precious than much pure gold and sweeter than honey from the comb.”

Psalm 19:10

7. Justice:

“God, help our children to love justice as You do and to act justly in all they do.”

Psalm 11:7 & Micah 6:8

8. Mercy:

“May our children always be merciful, just as their heavenly Father is merciful.” Luke 6:36

9. Respect:

(for self, others, & authority)

“Father grant that our children may show proper respect to everyone, as your Word commands.” 1 Peter 2:17

10. Biblical self-esteem:

“Help our children develop a strong self-esteem that is rooted in the realization that they are God’s workmanship, created in Christ Jesus.” Ephesians 2:10

SEPTEMBER SERVANTS

ALTAR GUILD: Michelle Manecke & Jolene Schmitz

COMMUNION SERVERS September 13: Dean Vikan Tim Manecke Kim Kleinwachter Bonnie Albright

USHERS: Paul Curfman David Dahl Marty Levin Chuck Lucken Joel Rendahl Carey Sannes

HEAD USHERS / ACOLYTES:

September 6 Terry Halvorson Dawson Bailie & Vanessa Johnson

September 13 Rod Olson Elizabeth Barrineau & Breanna Larson

September 20 David Skunes Will Christen & Piper Larson

September 27 Sid Fjerstad Justin Gubrud & Brynlea Mahlen



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.

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.



AUGUST MEMORIALS

Gifts were given to the Audio/Visual Fund in memory of Finley Otto Baier, Albert Graftaas, Marie McNiel, Susan McNiel Sina, and Lydia Walstrom.

A gift was given to Hope Youth in memory of Albert Graftaas.

H.E.L.P. is Here!

Our **H**ea**l**th **E**quip**m**ent **L**ending **P**roject 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.

Donations of all types of home health equipment are welcome.



YOUTH NEWS



Birthdays

Deon Johnson

Alexis Bailie

Ryan Levin

Marian Riveland

Noah Mahlen

Avery Sannes

Karly Peterson

If you are a Hope student in grades 7-12 and we missed your birthday, please



A safe, fun place where youth can hang out, play games, build friendships, and learn how to impact their world.

Open to all 7th-12th Graders

Tuesdays & Thursdays

Fall Hours: 4:00-7:00 pm

Masks and social distancing required.



Please keep the following people in your prayers...

Drew Wahlstrom

Paisley Straub

Malia Halvorson

Ilene Sistad

Paul Nelson

Lois Storey

Karen Bolme

Hilma Stadstad

Denise Monson

Trina Rodgers

Angie Olson

Mike Knutson

Elizabeth Barrineau

Tubby Solsten

Christina Anderson

Kate Moore

Christine Johnson

Carol Heide

Christopher Vezner

Paul Curfman

Dean & Joe Lindberg

Tom Sedler

Bob Norland

Richard Miller

Hazel Trogstad

Jody Nelson

Marian Jenkins

Pr. Arlen Hermodson

Janet Olson

Michael Killian

Bill Kuzmaul

Keith Caskey

Oskie & Mary Hanson

Cathy Albright

Wally Olson

Michelle Johnson

Keith Caskey

September Bible Readings

KEY CHAPTERS OF THE BIBLE

1 Esther 5	7 Job 1	13 Sunday Worship	19 Psalm 90	25 Psalm 106
2 Esther 6	8 Job 2	14 Job 42	20 Sunday Worship	26 Psalm 107
3 Esther 7	9 Job 38	15 Psalm 1	21 Psalm 100	27 Sunday Worship
4 Esther 8	10 Job 39	16 Psalm 19	22 Psalm 103	28 Psalm 145
5 Esther 9	11 Job 40	17 Psalm 23	23 Psalm 104	29 Proverbs 1
6 Sunday Worship	12 Job 41	18 Psalm 37	24 Psalm 105	30 Proverbs 2

8/12/2020 – Hope Lutheran Church Council – Meeting Minutes - Recorded by Sarah Manecke

Present: Evan Fonder, Sarah Manecke, Teresa Sannes, Michelle Olson, Dean Vikan, Tim Manecke, Pastor Jane Ekholm, Nancy Andree & Tom Sedler

1. **Call to Order:** Meeting called to order by Evan Fonder – President
2. **Devotions:** Board of Deacons – Dean read “Living on Purpose” – we must serve God in everything we do and make life about Him.
3. **Approval of Agenda:** Motion to approve by Dean, second by Nancy, Approved Unanimously
4. **Approval of Secretary’s Report:** Motion to approve by Nancy, second by Tom, Approved Unanimously
5. **Benevolence Report:** Pastor Jane reports that benevolence received \$1,386 in the month of July. LCMC - \$277; World Mission - \$400; Augustana District - \$69; National Mission - \$300; and Local Outreach (backpack program & emergency fund) - \$340. Emergency fund expenditures for July included 3 gifts of \$100.
6. **Pastor’s Report:** See written report
7. **President’s Report:** Evan asked us to keep the Wahlstrom’s in our prayers with the passing of Lydia. He extended a thank you to those who are continuing to serve & engage in our church during these uncertain times.
8. **Brief Committee Reports**
 - 8.1 **Deacons:** Dean reports they will be meeting at 6:30 before council
 - 8.2 **Family/Youth/Education:** Michelle reports that it appears there will be no Friday School. At this time, Sunday School will be put on hold until we see what happens with the school schedule. They have discussed putting “family” packets together for children and their families to work on at home. The installation of Michelle Levin will now be Rally Sunday in which they would like to do muffins, donuts, juice for breakfast – outdoors if possible.
 - 8.3 **Music & Worship:** Nancy reports that there will be no choir for awhile. We will continue to use recorded music in church and will continue to assist in the selection of songs.
 - 8.4 **Trustees:** Tim reports that financials were down in July, but still good overall. Matt Wickham cleaned up trees; Travis will be providing a bid on window replacement; will get bids for the possible removal of the retaining walls; a new cabinet was installed in the heritage room; A/V room was cleaned and trustees approved purchasing a TV for Fellowship Hall to be used for various services, etc.
 - 8.4.1 Motion to approve the Treasurer’s Report pending audit by Tom, second by Dean, Approved Unanimously
 - 8.5 **Women of Hope:** No report
9. **Old Business:** None
10. **New Business:**
 - 10.1 **Next Meeting** – FULL Council meeting Wednesday, September 9th at 7:30pm; Devotions and Lunch by the Executive Board.
 - 10.2 **Other**
11. **Closed** with the Lord’s Prayer, Meeting Adjourned.