



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

HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH

tidings

VOLUME 17
ISSUE 2
AUGUST 2018

pastor's letter

from pastor jane

Dear Friends in Christ,

Last week, I was notified that one of my first acts would be a baptism. What a wonderful way to begin ordained ministry! The Taylor Carlson family met with me after work, where we discussed the baptism of Cora Fern. What a joy to hold a tiny baby again! Both parents' faith has been nurtured by Hope's faith community in their youth and it is their desire to provide that same nurturing for their daughter. No greater praise could be offered to the ministry of those who have preceded me, in pastoral care and youth ministry.

It is my desire to water the seeds of faith planted with teaching the Word and with sacrament. As we live out the promises of our baptismal covenant together, it is my prayer for each of you that God will guide me to be the best shepherd I can be to you, in His service. During that time your prayers, guidance, and wisdom are greatly appreciated.

Helpful examples of transition are Biblically described in:

Exodus 16:2, 6-8: Addresses the fact that not everyone may be happy with change.

Nehemiah 2:17: Addresses successful transition despite some resistance.

Numbers 27:18-23: Moses 'passes the baton' to Joshua.

Joshua 1-5: Joshua is faithful to God in leadership passed on by Moses.

Acts 9:3-6, 20, 13:9-10: Saul, the murderous persecutor transitions to Paul, the apostle.

Acts 2:2-4, 14, 38-39: The disciples are changed and sent forth in ministry.

Thank you for the opportunity of serving you, as you seek God's will in finding the best pastor for Hope Lutheran Church. As a trained, certified, and ordained pastor in Interim Ministry, I am called to deal with the dynamic changes that may occur when a beloved pastor, such as Pastor Paul, retires after 25 years of care and service. Your Transition Team has already implemented the self-study tool that was chosen as the best fit for Hope Lutheran. You are fortunate to have a dedicated lay leadership which is a sign of a strong and healthy church family.

On a personal note, it will be difficult for my husband Dr. Steve Ekholm and I to be separated, but we have been doing this now (off and on) for four years while I was a seminary student. We hope to be together from Sunday afternoons to Monday nights or early Tuesday mornings, depending on weather, and barring emergencies in the parish, of course. So, I welcome your visits and opportunities to get to know you all better.

I was told I could bring one of my cats, but I decided against it, in case the next pastor has an allergy to them (it's hard to adequately be rid of cat hair and dander). Consequently, I look forward to your visits. Thank you all for this opportunity to be of service to you. May God richly bless our time together.

In His Service, Pastor Jane Ekholm

august 2018

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
5 INSTALLATION OF PR. JANE 9:30 am Worship/ Rite of Baptism 10:30 am Welcome Potluck Lunch	6	7	8 8:00 pm Council Meeting Devotions & Lunch by the Executive Board	9	10	11
12 HOLY COMMUNION 9:30 am Worship 10:30 am Fellowship	13	14	15	16	17	18
19 9:30 am Worship 10:30 am Fellowship	20	21	22	23	24	25
26 9:30 am Worship 10:30 am Fellowship	27	28	29	30	31	

AUGUST SERVANTS

GROUP 1

Chairpersons: Ilene Sistas / Gloria Osmonson

Servers:	Karyn Bolme	Marge Bolme	Jeff Carlin & Jackie Arnold
	David & Jenifer Dahl	Richard & Keni Evje	Michael & Gina Gensburger
	Judy Halvorson	Chris & Tricia Hove	Ken & Roxann Hove
	Pete & Jennifer Howard	Mary Beth Jallen	BJ & Tammi Jalowiec
	Marian Jenkins	Wayne Larson	Janet Olson
	Tom & Marcy Sedler	Dan & Renae Sistas	Sandy Sultvedt
	Chad & Holly Thorssen	Mike & Tracy Ware	Jerry & Joyce White

ALTAR GUILD: Keri Mireault

COMMUNION SERVERS AUGUST 12: Michelle Solsten / Matt Wickham / Chantel Wickham / Dan Carlin

AUGUST USHERS: Mike Halland / Al Heide / Chris Hove / Bill Malwitz / Jim Offerdahl / Neal Schmidt

HEAD USHERS:

August 5	Rod Olson
August 12	Sid Fjerstad
August 19	Tom Kleinwachter
August 26	Terry Halvorson

ACOLYTES:

Brayden Halland / Nikolai Jalowiec
Macie Hanson / David Larson
Faith Larson / Tegan Larson
Jordan Larson / Ryan Levin

A Note from Pr. Paul & Sheryl

We write from our new home, 874 Tamberwood Trail, Woodbury, MN. 55125. Not really new though, since it was built in the 90's. And it's not really home yet, but a place where we dwell. We are very thankful for this place... about 15 minutes from Laura's and 50 minutes from Rachel's. Kara is five hours closer! God is good! All the time!

We mainly write to say "Thank You!" 'Thank you' for your gifts that quite simply overwhelmed us. 'Thank you' for the parties and receptions. We are very privileged and honored by Hope church and the community. 'Thank you' for all the help in getting us moved. Our neighbors were impressed with the help!

Our hearts are full of thanksgiving, but we can never fully express the thanks that we have for you.

We love and miss you!

I suppose the old preacher inside of me will never die, therefore I add just a few more words regarding home. God has always wanted us to have a home, an eternal home. Reading in the first chapter of Genesis, God created a beautiful place starting with "Let there be light!" And there was light. Days two through five He created water, land, vegetation, stars and creatures. On the sixth day, He created human beings to be at home in that place. That home was broken by sin, and we have lived in that world since Adam and Eve.

God's ultimate plan was to have a 'home' for His people. That place is called heaven. Heaven is a place. It is a place prepared by Jesus. It is a prepared place for a prepared people. Jesus said these words in John 14:1-6. It was just before He died on the cross. He said this before the Resurrection. He said "Trust me, I will get you Home."

FAMILY AND YOUTH NEWS

August Birthdays

Aireal Gensburger

Amaya Murphy Kyla Pederson

Kyra Quam Lukas Sannes Kaitlin Striker

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.

Youth Stewardship

Maybe you've heard Jesus' Parable of the Good Samaritan. Jesus told us this story so we would know how He wants us to treat others. There was a man traveling along who was robbed and beaten. He lay by the side of the road, hurt and bleeding. A priest (who is like a pastor) and a Levite (who is a church leader) both saw him but walked by him without stopping to help. Then a stranger, a man called a Samaritan, came along. He stopped, bandaged up the hurt man, put him on his donkey, and took him to an inn where he could be cared for further. He is called the Good Samaritan because he did what Jesus wants us to do. He shared his time, his money, and love.

It's not very likely you'll come across someone who has been beaten and robbed, but it's certain there are times when someone could use your help. Can you think of a time when you helped someone or someone helped you? Did any of the following things ever happen to you?

Your friend forgot his lunch at home
Someone lost his money
Your classmate's pet just died
Your classmate wasn't included in an activity
Your friend hurt your feelings

Jesus wants us to treat others the way we want to be treated, the way He treats us.

Every day God gives you the chance to be a "Good Samaritan." In your prayers ask God to help you see the opportunities to help, even if the person is someone who isn't always kind to you.



Think about it:

1. Ask someone to read Luke 10:25-37 with you and talk about the Good Samaritan.
2. Ask that person to read Matthew 25:34-40 with you also. What does this mean? Who are we to help?

Let's pray: Dear Jesus, sometimes I don't notice when others need help or, if I notice, I don't want to help. Help me to remember that by helping others I'm helping You. Help me love other people the way You love me. Forgive me when I'm not a good "neighbor" and help me do better the next time. In Your name I ask these things. Amen.



JUNE / JULY MEMORIALS

Gifts were given to the Broadcast Fund in memory of Dick Aos, Ardis Dahl, Lois Leikness, Bea Mienert, Marvin Sorgaard and Ruby Wold.

Gifts were given to the Cemetery Fund in memory of John, Aurora, Russel, and Joseph Eastlund, Lois Leikness and Blanch Schroeder.

Gifts were given to the Music/Choir Fund in memory of Bea Mienert.



**Little can become much
when God is in it.**

“Now to Him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us...” (Ephesians 3:20).

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.

Hope Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes 6/13/18 - Recorded by Evan Fonder

Meeting Called to order by Joan Dufault – President
 Present at Meeting: Sylvia M, Michelle O, Bonnie A, Angie R, Michelle S, Sue S, Gloria O, Danny Carlin, Nancy A, Evan F, Joan D, Pastor Paul & Sheryl M
 Devotions by Danny Carlin (Board of Trustees)
 Motion to Approve Agenda by Nancy A, Second by Dan Carlin
 Motion carried unanimously
 Motion to approve secretaries report by Nancy A, Second by Sue S
 Motion carried unanimously
 Benevolence Report by Sheryl M
 Outreach review for both local and national giving. Thank you notes that have been received were reviewed
 President's Report by Joan D.
 Update regarding Pastor Jane, everything is moving forward and she is looking forward to getting started in August.
 Expressed Thank you to various groups that have been providing updates at church service.
 Pastor's Report by Pastor Paul
 This Sunday (6/17) will be a short question & answer between Pastors Paul & Jane for the congregation.
 Information was handed out regarding a speaker that the Ministerium will be bringing in to Mahnomen, Fosston, and Bagley Schools this September.
 Thank you was expressed to Sue S. for working in the office for the week while Sylvia was out.

Brief Committee Reports
 Women's report by Evan F.
 (From Kathy Carlson)
 Plans are in place for 6/24 potluck, helping with VBS meals, and meal following Pastor Jane's first service on August 5th.
 Deacon's report by Michelle S.
 Pulpit supply has been arranged for most of July.
 With the exception of July 8th
 Family & youth education report by Angie R
 Prep for VBS the 25th – 27th is underway
 Supper will be provided Monday and Tuesday by Women of Hope.
 Gallon Sized Milk Jugs are still needed
 SS Curriculum being planned. Planning to schedule work night to assemble. Will likely use the free curriculum that Friday School has been using.
 Music & Worship
 Ionne Haugstul will be joining the committee with Sheryl's leaving
 Choir to sing on the 24th with practice prior to the 9:30 service
 Trustees
 Reviewed Treasurers Report – Motion to approve by Evan with Second by Michelle.
 Motion carried unanimously
 Encouraged everyone to support the auto giving as the increased use of that platform has helped to keep more consistent giving even with lower attendance in the summer months.

Old Business:
 Columbarium Report
 Tubes to be installed this week by Danny Carlin and others
 Concrete Slab to be poured the following week weather allowing.
 Columbarium is scheduled to be installed by the end of the month.
 Pricing of Niches has been discussed but still under review
 Working to plan a dedication event as we get closer to installation
 Transition Team
 Plans are in place for short program on 6/24 following regular worship service to celebrate Pastor Paul & Sheryl's time at Hope followed by Potluck Lunch.
 Help will be needed on Sunday July 1st to help with final packing for Pastor Paul & Sheryl, followed by driving down on July 2nd and unpacking. Seeking volunteers along with pickups and/or trailers to help with the move.
 Will be working to coordinate small group feedback sessions this fall prior to formation of call committee.
 Memorial Policy – Tabled
 Closing Prayer by Pastor Paul
 Meeting Adjourned by Joan D.



A New Start

The soloist began to sing a special song during the worship service. It was awful! She had somehow started on the wrong note, terribly out of tune with the accompanist. She abruptly stopped and announced she needed a new start. She then began anew with a beautiful addition to the morning worship. Had she tried to limp through the first try, people would have remembered the off-key solo. Instead, by her second start, the congregation was assisted in their worship of the Lord.

That is the way it is with our lives, too. Our first start in life, our birth, is awful because of sin. We are born with a sin condition that makes it impossible for us to please God no matter how hard we try. We are captive to disobedience of God and His Law, to "doing it our way" and the passions of sin. But unlike the soloist we cannot even recognize we are out of tune with God.

Then it is God Who comes to us by His Word to show us our sin. It is He Who offers us grace and forgiveness through faith in Jesus Christ. It is He Who by His Holy Spirit gives us that new start through Baptism. Through Baptism, we are united to Christ. Because Christ died for our sins, we are baptized into the death of sin with Him, that we may be raised to new life with Him.

The Apostle Paul tells us, *"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold the new has come."* (2 Corinthians 5:17). God has redeemed and restored us into new people who live under the Lordship of Christ. We are given new hearts and a new nature. Through faith that God gives us, we live in Christ and for Him, and through faith, we serve Christ by serving others.

Now our lives can be pleasing to God, like the soloist's second start. Not because of our work, but because of the power of God's gracious gift to us, Holy Baptism.



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 much-needed 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:

- ⇒ Name and Address
- ⇒ Date of First Donation
- ⇒ Frequency of Donation (Weekly, Monthly, etc.)
- ⇒ 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

1 Luke 15	9 John 3	17 John 15	25 Acts 7
2 Luke 16	10 John 4	18 John 16	26 Worship
3 Luke 18	11 John 6	19 Worship	27 Acts 8
4 Luke 19	12 Worship	20 John 17	28 Acts 9
5 Worship	13 John 8	21 John 20	29 Acts 10
6 Luke 20	14 John 10	22 John 21	30 Acts 13
7 Luke 24	15 John 13	23 Acts 1	31 Acts 14
8 John 1	16 John 14	24 Acts 2	

“We are not cisterns made for hoarding; we are channels made for giving.” (Billy Graham)

Jesus said, “It is more blessed to give than to receive” (Acts 20:35).



Witnesses for Christ

The story is told of a young man who had been out of work for some time. Jobs were scarce, but he was at last offered a job for the summer in a logging camp up north. His parents were somewhat concerned about the reaction of the rest of the crew when they found out the young man was a Christian. If the image of a lumberjack was true, they were sure his life would be quite unbearable. Upon his return home in the fall, his mother immediately inquired as to what had taken place when the word got out that he was a Christian, to which he replied, “They didn’t find out!”

Most of us don’t find ourselves in logging camps, but do those around us, wherever we are, know we are Christians? Are they aware that we are God’s children? Does what come out of our mouths ever leave any doubt as to who is in control of our lives? Jesus said, “*But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be My witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth*” (Acts 1:8). We are called to witness so we need to answer the question if we will be a good witness or a poor one. When Jesus’ disciples were told to stop preaching the Good News, they said, “*For we cannot but speak of what we have seen and heard*” (Acts 4:20).

So, how about us? God blessed us with minds and mouths to speak. Through the power of the Holy Spirit, God will give us the words and the courage to use them. Let’s be aware of the opportunities He places before us and make sure that the whole world hears the Good News. Make up your mind, right now, to become a joy-filled witness of God’s love and forgiveness for all people.