

Hope's Newsletter

"To Know Christ and to Make Him Known"

A Message From Pastor

We have been lucky in A pastor I once knew recent years, I guess. We quoted an old Lutheran have not had a significant source as he announced number of deaths and deaths in the funerals. Our list of congregation. It went homebound member has something like this: decreased as some folks died, some moved away, and few new ones were added.

That has begun to change lately. A couple of members have been placed in hospice care - meaning they are not expected to recover. It does not mean their deaths will happen immediately, but that they and their families will begin to plan the next stages of their lives.

Also, with many of you, I grieve the death of Bob Krokker. His determination to enjoy life to the fullest was an example for all of us that being blind does not mean we can't do anything we set our minds to do. That his service was in March, so close to Easter, makes it easier perhaps to connect his death with the promise of the resurrection.

Once again we are reminded that in this world we have no abiding place. Name has died and the arrangements are _____ . May the Lord teach us to number our days that when our last hour shall come, we too may be found faithful and ready servants of Christ. Amen

I am struck by two statements in this announcement. First, I am reminded that my days on earth are numbered - this world is not going to be my place forever. I am destined to be with God one day; sooner or later my body will die. I look forward to the day when I join Jesus in the next world. At the same time, I am not in a hurry for that to happen.

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Address:
9425 N. Citrus Springs Blvd
Citrus Springs Florida 34434

Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 2070
Dunnellon Florida 34430
Phone: 352-489-5511
Fax: 352-489-5222

Church Email:
Hopeevangelical@bellsouth.net

Web Page Address:
www.hopelutheranelca.com

Sunday Sermons
www.hopewards.blogspot.com

Staff:

Pastor Lynn Fonfara
Lmfonfara@bellsouth.net

Church Secretary
Barbara Decker

Music Director/Organist
Susan Collins

Custodian
Kerry Reed

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A message from Pastor (cont.)

And, second, I am reminded that how I live while I am here matters. My faith in Jesus as Lord should be evident to others. People should be able to notice that I believe in Jesus, and in being Jesus for those who may not know him.

May we all live as faithful and ready servants of Jesus Christ, today and for as many tomorrows as we may have.

In HOPE
Pastor Lynn +

Thank you from Pastor Lynn to:

Bill & Pat Kessel for hanging the paraments from the old altar across the back wall so we can enjoy them

The quilters for their dedicated work for homeless and nearly homeless people in our community

Carol Warden for gathering and putting out props and costumes for our weekly Lenten dramas

All those who were willing to act in Lenten dramas

All the soup makers (and eaters) this Lent; the community time is always a joy

Deacon Diane Kahler and company for the corned beef luncheon



Council Officers & Members

President
Kim Williams
Evangelism/Stewardship

Vice President
Harold Skidmore
Endowment

Secretary
Renate Wilms-Rovin
*Acolytes
Family Activities
Greeters & Guest
Greeter
Readers*

Treasurer
Deacon Diane Kahler
*Family Activities
Finance, Personnel*

Financial Secretary
Michel Northsea

Larry Casper

Deacon John Chiappetta
*Citrus County Blessings
Worship & Music
Committee*

Aida Diaz

Casey Gaylarado
*Serving Our Savior Food
Pantry*

Victor Kahler

Sandra Meslow
Memorial Gardens

Richard Regan
Property Committee

Hans Witter

Youth Representative,
Appointed
Anthony Diaz

Martha Circle News

Martha Circle met on March 4 and celebrated Lempi Tervo's birthday early with cake and best wishes.

6 ladies enjoyed social time but their hands were busy finishing the table favors for our Easter Breakfast on April 5. Home-made cards were done for a few special people for St. Patrick's Day and Easter. Operation Christmas Child ministry for 2015 began with the ladies filling bags of hard candy supplied by Terry Lucente.

Our next regular meeting is April 1 at 1:00PM in Luther Hall. Come join us as we prepare for the upcoming events and work on the shoeboxes.

Operation Christmas Child

Remember you can donate items or money at any time for our shoebox ministry. A box is located in Luther Hall for your convenience. Thank you Ruth Moheit for your generous donation.

Carole Warden

**MARTHA CIRCLE - APRIL 1
LUTHER HALL AT 1:00PM**

Council Highlights

Council Highlights March 2015

Workdays to continue- clearing the woods are planned.

Taskforce formed to explore enlarging and beautifying the Memorial Garden.

Pinelands Conference meets at HOPE April 25, 9:30 am - 1:00 pm.

VBS material has been chosen. A committee needs to be formed.

A Long Range Planning Committee has been appointed. Members: Larry Casper, John Chiappetta, Aida Diaz, Casey Gaylaro, George Meslow, Kim Williams, Hans Witter.

Seeking 2 voting members to attend Synod Assembly June 18 - 20 in Kissimmee.

Quotable Quotes

"To find a man's true character, play golf with him." P.G. Wodehouse (1881-1975)

"The great secret that all old people share is that...your body changes, but you don't change at all." Doris Lessing

"Do not go where the path may lead, go instead where there is no path and leave a trail." Ralph Waldo Emerson

Jacob's Journey

.JACOB'S JOURNEY, which will end in a few weeks, has been enjoying searching out all the Bible passages which describe events pointing to the times and conditions we need to be aware of as we approach the Second Advent of our Lord. We have been doing this since November to build up a firm foundation for our study of Revelation which will not begin until next fall.

This class has been very exciting for there are an abundant amount of "clues" sprinkled through-out the Scriptures which have given us quite detailed insights as to the when, how, and where of the Lord's Return. The information now learned will help us understand Revelation as we continue to compare the Old Testament with the New - the prophecies revealed with the promises to be fulfilled. It is an exciting study and we hope more of you will join us in the fall as we continued our journey through the Bible until we reach the very end.

Blessings, Anita O'Donnell

Members who are homebound or residing in Care Facilities

Joan Layton—Home
Dorothy Scianna—Crystal Gem
Manor, Crystal River

Karen Summers—Home
Ruby Wagner- Brentwood

Pinelands at Hope

Pinelands Conference Meeting
April 25, 2015

On Saturday, April 25, from 9:30am to about noon, Hope is the host for the semi-annual business meeting of Pinelands Conference. We will provide refreshments at 9:30, and simple worship at 10. There will be a speaker followed by a business meeting. Can we win the prize as having the most members in attendance for the day?

Upcoming Yard Sale

Don't forget when doing your spring cleaning to save some items for your yard sale to be held in July. Funds raised at the yard sale will pay for the shipping of our shoeboxes again this year. Don't throw out those extra tools, garden pots, household items, dishes, and things you no longer use or need- bring them to Luther Hall or to Carole Warden.

But please remember: **NO CLOTHING DONATIONS**- we are not going to sell any clothes.

Thank you!

Carole Warden

Thrivent Choice Dollars

Thrivent, our Lutheran insurance company, has a program in which eligible members can recommend where Thrivent Financial distributes some of its charitable outreach grant dollars among thousands of participating nonprofit organizations and congregations. In the past few months the following members have designated Hope Evangelical Lutheran Church as beneficiaries of their Thrivent Choice dollars:

Victor Kahler

Pastor Lynn

Joan Klotz

Thank you for your generosity!

For more information regarding this program, please see Diane Kahler. 465-4182.

Known Birthdays and Anniversaries for April

Birthdays

- 1 Irene Drew
- 17 Edythe Sorensen
- 20 Steven Haines
- 23 Lyle Kramp
- 28 Lou Diaz
- 29 Ted Polack

Anniversaries

- 19 Bill & Pat Kessel (57)



Martyr Moments

Mikael Agricola c 1510-April 9,
1557

Mikael Agricola was a clergyman who became the de facto founder of literary Finnish and a prominent proponent of the Protestant Reformation in Sweden including, at the time, the Swedish territory of Finland. Agricola was consecrated as the Bishop of Turku (ÅBO) in 1554, without papal approval. As a result, he began a reform of the Finnish Church (then part of the Church of Sweden) along Lutheran lines. He translated the New Testament into Finnish and also produced the prayer book and hymns used in Finland's new Lutheran Church. This work set the rules of orthography that are the basis of modern Finnish spelling. His thorough work is particularly remarkable in that he accomplished it in only 3 years. He died suddenly while returning from a trip during which he negotiated a treaty with the Russians.

Our faith is built on the shoulders of those who have gone before us.

Critic's Corner

Dinner with a Perfect Stranger by
David Gregory

What would you discuss over dinner
Critics Corner

*The Ladies of Covington Send Their
Love* by Joan A. Medicott

These ladies in their early 70's meet in a boarding home-not their choice of living arrangements but by circumstances. One has a driver license but has never driven over 45 miles per hour and never on an interstate. The 2 others seem to be tied to their past and can't see to move beyond. An opportunity presents itself and they decide to leave the boarding home and restore an old farm house in Covington. And the adventure begins. This is a great story about change and the ability to change as we age.

Not in our church library but
available on the Nook.

Church members are encourage to
review a book and submit its review
to the Newsletter.

Critic: Deacon Diane Kahler

Hope's Prayer List

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please pray for:

- ◆ Richard Kiefer, friend of Vic Kahler, who will be undergoing bladder cancer treatment.
 - ◆ Linda Becker who has undergone surgery recently.
 - ◆ The family of Bob Krokker as they mourn his death.
 - ◆ Susan Eytel, sister of Diane Kahler, with serious eye problems.
- ◆ Julie Butler, Bill and Sylvia Hoffmeier's niece, who has stage 2 throat cancer.
 - ◆ June Towner who fell recently.
- ◆ Pray for Matthew, friend of Casey Gaylardo, who has complications from M.S.
- ◆ Peggy and Bob Schade's neighbor, Frances Eddy for healing from lung cancer.
 - ◆ Barbara Beardsley, friend of Edith Regan, who is fighting lung cancer.
- ◆ Nancy Miller's friend Sandy who has just been diagnosed with pancreatic cancer.
 - ◆ Casey Gaylardo for her kidney issues.
- ◆ Linda Becker's friend Felica who has MS & broke her leg, for healing of body and spirit.
- ◆ Kris Brock for her fibromyalgia, overcoming negativity, for upliftment and peace and her dog Smokey who has health issues.
 - ◆ Chas Collins for healing.
 - ◆ Carol D'Auria and family as they mourn the death of her husband, Sebastian.
 - ◆ Joyce Davis for continued healing following a heart attack.
- ◆ Dee Forsyth's friend Lauren and her daughter Jamie who are going through tough times.
 - ◆ Pastor Lynn's daughter-in-law Sarah for healing and wholeness.
 - ◆ Ruth Moheit, who is at Citrus Memorial.
 - ◆ Edith Regan's great nephew, Austin Walters for healing.
 - ◆ Lou and Aida Diaz's cousin, Kevin Centeno, who has been diagnosed with MS.
 - ◆ Casey Gaylardo's sister, Dorothy, who has severe health issues.
 - ◆ An unborn child recently diagnosed with Spina Bifida.
 - ◆ Prayers for Luis Diaz's mother, Juanita Otero, who is nearing death.
 - ◆ George Meslow, who is at Citrus Memorial.

Council Minutes from February 18, 2015

**Hope Evangelical Church
Church Council
February 18, 2015 - 8:13 p.m. (after Ash Wednesday
Service)
Minutes**

Call to order/remarks- Steve Northsea, President

Roll Call - President Steve Northsea (present)
Vice President Harold Skidmore (present)
Secretary Renate Wilms-Rovin (present)
Treasurer Deacon Diane Kahler (present)
Council Member Larry Casper (present)
Council Member Deacon John Chiappetta (present)
Council Member Aida Diaz (present)
Council Member Casey Gaylaro (present)
Council Member Victor Kahler (present)
Council Member Sandra Medlow (present)
Council Member Dick Regan (present)
Council Member Kim Williams (present)
Council Member Hans Witter (present)
Pastor Lynn Fonfara (present)

Pastor Lynn offered opening prayer.

4. Election of Executive Committee.
Kim Williams, President. John moved, Aida seconded, approved unanimously
Harold Skidmore, Vice President. Diane moved, Renate seconded, approved unanimously.
Renate Wilms-Rovin, Secretary. Kim moved, Dick seconded, approved unanimously.
Deacon Diane Kahler, Treasurer. Sandra moved, Casey seconded, approved unanimously.
Anthony Diaz has been appointed as non-voting member for the youth group.
Nominated and elected Michel Northsea, Financial Secretary. Diane moved, Renate seconded, approved unanimously
5. Adoption of the February 18, Agenda (abbreviated)
Additions/Corrections (noted on the agenda)
Addition to New Business
B. Accepted as amended; M- Dick, S- Sandra, passed unanimously
7. Secretary Report
Report of January 20, 2015 Council Meeting
A. Additions/Corrections
Approved as corrected; M- Pastor Lynn, S- Casey, passed unanimously
8. Report of the Treasurer
A. Questions/Concerns
B. Accepted; M-Dick, S- Renate, passed unanimously
10. Reports of Church Committees canceled for this meeting.

11. Old Business
 - A. Vic updated council on Roof bids. The contract was given to AAA roofing for a flat fee of \$9000.00
Kim asked for more details; Steve was wondering why we suddenly went with flat roof again.
 - B. Finalization on work day. Vic has a contractor that will haul away piles of debris (fallen and cut down trees) on the west side of our property for \$250 on February 24. He thinks that he can negotiate additional hauling away of debris for a reasonable price. After some discussion, it was agreed that we would wait for what action will take place on the 24th (Vic will notify council members via e-mail) and finalize plans for the workday on March 7 on March 1st after service.

12. New Business
 - A. Kim had discussion with Pastor Lynn and both agree to offer a VBS again this summer. More details to follow.
 - B. Pastor Lynn gave some background on a shredding truck that could be shared with another church. It could be stationed on the parking lot and will be offered to the members of Hope and to the community. The event may be combined with a speaker about identity theft. Council was open to the idea and is waiting for further details (cost/date/logistics) on the project.
 - C. Installation of council members will take place this coming Sunday, February 22.

13. Consent Agenda
 1. Usage of Luther Hall on May 9, 2015 from 8:00 am to 1:00pm for a training workshop by District 28 of Alcoholics Anonymous. Approved by council.
 14. Current Meeting Highlights for Newsletter and Bulletin

Council Highlights February 2015

- Council members to be installed February 22, 2015
- Several roof bids have been received. A contract will be signed with AAA Roofing who was the most favorable.
- HOPE is planning to have a VBS again this summer. Research is done to have a Shredder truck on Hope's premises in April or May. It would allow members of the church as well as the community to shred outdated but confidential papers. Plans are, to combine this with a speaker on Identity Theft.

16. Adjournment at 9:25 PM and Prayer. M- Dick, S- Casey, passed unanimously

Respectfully submitted,
Renate Wilms-Rovin

Property Report



Hope Lutheran Church Property Report March, 18 2015

I would like to thank Renate Wilms-Rovin, Hans Witter, Harold Skidmore, Dick Regan, Kim Williams, Barbara Decker, Kerry Reed, Diane Kahler, Jim Earl, Dominic Del Valle, Emilio Del Valle, Kelly Haines, and also all the scouts that came out to help on March 7. We recorded (80 hours) since our last report - Not including the scouts time.

Work Completed

- Vacuumed leaves
- Weeded and watered flower beds
- Trimmed the palms on palm island
- Signed contract with AAA roofing
- Installed a bulletin board for Barb
- Completed the mower maintenance
- In process of getting bids to remove lightning wires before roof repair starts and to reinstall after the roof repairs have been made.
- Had contractor Hammock remove all the debris piles
- Had a woods cleanup with the scouts
- For safety we had contractor Robert Davis cut down a large dead pine tree, climb and remove 3 dead

branches from another live pine, climb a large sick oak with a hanging dead branch and it cut down, and he also removed the debris pile.

- Mr. Max has completed the paint job on Luther Hall and the Sunday School and he did a very nice job.

Future work

- Complete the stone work at the memorial pond
 - Roof repairs
- Luther Hall Ceiling replacement

Victor Kahler, Property Chairman

Holy Week Schedule

Sunday, March 29- Palm Sunday Cantata
10:00AM Service only

Thursday, April 2- Maundy Thursday
5:00PM Seder Meal
7:00PM Worship

Friday, April 3- Good Friday
7:00PM Worship

Saturday, April 4
10:00AM Easter Egg Hunt

Sunday, April 5
7:00AM Easter Sunrise Service
8:00AM Breakfast
10:00AM Easter Worship



Thank you to Hope Quilters!

It is so nice to have this group meeting again. You have been missed!

Ruth Moheit
Yvonne Popke
Wilma Becker
Judy Howe
June Towner
Hazel Rienstra
Aida Diaz
Julia Southard
Lempi Tervo
Carol D'Auria
Vivian Matthews
Linda Becker
Pat Kessel

The group meets monthly to sew, sandwich, and tie quilts. The quilts then go home with a member who binds the quilt.

Caregivers Support Group

Caregivers Support Group meets at 1:00pm on the 4th Tuesday of every month at St. Timothy Lutheran Church in Crystal River. This group is open to the community, whether you are a current, past, or future caregiver or a current, past or future care receiver. Come for the knowledge, support, and interactive programs.

In January you may have seen the 14 beautiful quilts that were placed all around the church for Pastor Lynn to bless.

Then the quilts were taken to Citrus County Resource Center where they were accepted by Ginger West to be distributed to families without electricity or who are homeless. So needed during the cold weeks of winter!

We are privileged to forward Hope's Mission statement and commitment to local community involvement.

Thank you to the church for your support and to the women who do this important work ...a five foot THANK YOU for your caring hearts!

Blessings to those it will cover and keep warm!

Linda Becker and Pat Kessel

For additional information, please call Deacon Charlotte Downing @ 422-7044 or Gail Sirak @ 634-2021.

See you there!

Those Who Will Assist in Worship for April at 10 am

Communion Assistants and Acolytes

2- Anita O'Donnell/ Casey Gaylaro
3- Renate Wilms-Rovin
5- Deacon John Chiappetta/Dominic Del Valle
12- Renate Wilms- Rovin/Kris Brock
19- Judy Howe/Kelly Haines
26- Dee Forsyth/Emilio Del Valle

Altar Guild

Margarita Chiappetta
Margaret DeWalt
Casey Gaylaro
Diane Kahler
Vivian Matthews

Nursery

Please see an usher for assistance

Lay Readers

2- Jackie Dean
3- Renate Wilms-Rovin
5- Nettie Haines or Rhonda Del Valle
12- Yvonne Popke
19- Dominic Del Valle
26- Steve Northsea

Assisting Ministers

2- Deacon John Chiappetta
3- Diane Kahler
5- Steve Northsea
12- Rhonda Del Valle
19- Kelly Haines
26- Deacon John Chiappetta

Guest Greeter

Alice Doyle

Greeters

Julia Southard
Charlene Hicklin

Ushers for the Month

David Doyle
Dick Regan



**BRING A FRIEND
TO CHURCH!**

