



"To Know Christ and
Make Him Known"

Volume 38 Issue 2

February 2012

Hope's Newsletter

A Message From Pastor Lynn

We love to celebrate love, so we really enjoy St Valentine's Day. We send gifts (I like chocolate!), and cards, and remember how much we love our loved ones. On Valentine's Day, we even share that love with those we simply like. I remember that as a child in school, whether the person was our best friend or our worst enemy, it was the rule that everyone received a valentine from everyone!

Everyone got a valentine! God's love is like that. Jesus loves to share his love with us. Even those who were Jesus' worst enemies received his love and concern. "Love your enemies." "Pray for those who persecute you." "Forgive them, for they do not know what they are

doing." That's God's kind of love.

In February, we begin the season of Lent. We wear ashes to demonstrate how we are part of creation: "Remember you are dust." We fast to remember how much God gives to us. We make vows to pray more often. We think a little more about giving (alms) to those in need.

In the end, our ash-wearing, our fasting, our prayers, and our giving do nothing to make God love us more. But - our ash-wearing, our fasting, our prayers, and our giving do help us shape a closer connection with the One who loves us enough to die for us.

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Council Officers & Members

President
Steve Northsea
*Evangelism/Stewardship
GPS/Long Range Planning*

Vice President
Lee Pitre

Secretary
*Vic Kahler
Property Committee*

Treasurer
Diane Kahler
*Chancel Chimes
Service Committee
Worship & Music Committee*

Deacon John Chiappetta

Carol D'Auria
Evangelism/Stewardship

Connie De Turek
Music & Worship Committee

Vivian Matthews

Ted Polack
Ushers

Richard Regan
Property Committee

Russ Telfer
Memorial Committee

Helen Van Horn

Financial Secretary
Michel Northsea
GPS/Long Range Planning

Message From Pastor Lynn (Continued)

Let us remember that all are children of God, beloved, and deserving of grace just as much - or as little - as we ourselves deserve it. In this way we also practice giving love, even to our worst

enemies, and with more meaning than a paper valentine.

In love and Hope

Pastor Lynn

A Bit O' Trivia Night

The color green for Ireland stands for: nature, hope, life, or jealousy? The Kiwanis Club of Central Ridge - Crystal River will hold a fun trivia night to raise funds for scholarships. The event is Friday, March 9, 7 pm, at Hope. Entertainment between sets of questions provided by Larry Whitler and Robin

MacBlane. A "Chinese" auction will also be offered. Hope members are invited to attend, as individuals or as a team. Teams, of course, are more fun! See Pastor Lynn for tickets, which cost \$15 and include light refreshments. (Nature or hope, depending on who you ask)

Martha Circle

Martha Circle met on January 4 and the ladies made Valentine Cards for homebound and nursing home residents. They also prepared party favors for the wedding shower that was held on January 15, for Bobby and Laura Whitler.

The next gathering will be on February 1 at 1:00pm in Luther Hall (classroom 3).

Come join us for prayer, crafts and light refreshments.

Lent Worship

The Worship and Music Committee met January 10 and began planning for Lent. For the major holy days, Ash Wednesday, Holy Thursday, and Good Friday, there will be worship at noon and at 7pm. Midweek worship will take place Wednesdays at noon and at 7pm on February 29, March 7, 14, 21, and 28.

The noon midweek worship service will follow the theme: "You shall love the Lord your God." The first week of this series sets the stage with the Shema from Deuteronomy 6:4 and the encounter between Jesus and the scribe in Mark 12. The following weeks center on how we can love the Lord our God with all our hearts, our souls, our minds, and our strength.

The evening midweek worship will be the simplified service of Evening Prayer

Lenten Soup Suppers

There will be soup suppers during Lent beginning at 5:45pm on February 29, March 7, 14, 21, and 28.

Three to four soups a night plus some bread make for a wonderful

we have been using lately, with the Readers' Theater drama entitled, *Prayers of the Passion*. The dramas tell the story of the Passion of Jesus from the Last Supper to the evening of Good Friday. They are interesting interpretations of Jesus' last sayings. These dramas require only 2-3 players. See Pastor Lynn to get your script early. Otherwise, the scripts will be handed out at the beginning of worship.

Instead of an Easter Vigil service, there will be two worship services on Easter: a sunrise service at 7am in Hope's Memorial Garden, and "regular" Easter worship at 9:30am. These two worship services will be different in format. A breakfast will be served between the services.



evening meal. A sign-up sheet will be posted soon.

Council Meeting Minutes from December 14th, 2011

Call to Order President Steve Northsea called the meeting to order at 2:30pm. Attendees were Pastor Lynn Fonfara, Helen Van Horn, Dick Regan, Connie Detuerk - Telfer, Russ Telfer, Diane Kahler, John Chiappetta, Ted Polack, Carol D'Auria, Vic Kahler & Vivian Mathews.

Devotions - Vic Kahler gave the opening devotions.

Guest -None

Adoption of December 14, agenda

Additions/Corrections - under new business add (G. Safety concerns) (H. Proposed MSP 2012)

Acceptance - Diane Kahler made a motion to accept seconded by John Chiappetta and it was carried.

5. Report of the November 9, 2011 Secretary's minutes

A. Additions/Corrections - None

B. Approval - Russ Telfer made a motion to accept the minutes seconded by Ted Polack and was carried.

6. Report of the Treasurer

A. Additions or corrections - Diane Kahler mentioned that a donation of \$1000 was made to the Pastor's discretionary fund.

B. Approval -Dick Regan made a motion to accept the treasurer's report seconded by Vivian Mathews and was carried.

7. Report of the Pastor (Includes parish care and Stephen Ministry) (see attached report)

A. The pastor reviewed her written report with us. She mentioned that she enjoys teaching.

8. Reports of the Liaisons/Committees Highlights & Discussions

Christian Service

A. **Evangelism/Stewardship** - (3rd Monday of the month at 10:30 am) Steve Northsea reviewed the report with us. Diane Kahler will talk with Francine to add the "Healing Service" in the papers. A motion was made by Russ Telfer seconded by Vivian Mathews to set a date for Saturday January 14, 2012 at 9am to have a Friendship breakfast open to the community. Diane will check our insurance into having a yoga class in Luther Hall.

B. **First Saturday**- The next first Saturday will be on January 7, 2012.

C. **Family Activities** - None

D. **Christian Education** Confirmation class is on going

E. **Youth Ministry** - " See report "Council was OK with the activities as outlined with their report

F. **Adult Ministry** - no report (Pastor's Bible Class Monday @10:30am and Wednesday @10:30am, Anita's Jacob's Journey Monday @1-3pm, Lee Pire's New Testament Class Sunday @ 8am)

G. **Worship and Music** ((Meets once a qtr.) Next meeting - January 10, 2012 at 6:30pm.

Administration

Property - "see separate report" (Meeting set as needed).

Long Range Planning - no report

Finance (Needs a Chairperson) - No report

Personnel Committee -- "no meeting" Diane Kahler will have the employee evaluations distributed ASAP.

Memorial Committee - No report

Endowment Fund Committee - Dick Regan said they are working on three \$500 dollar Scholarships and will pay for a portable sign.

9. Old Business

A. Kitchen renovation was reviewed by council and Diane Kahler made a motion to pay the invoice holding back \$500 until the pot filler faucet has been added to complete the sink plumbing

Council Meeting Minutes (Continued)

seconded by Helen Van Horn and was carried.

B. Scouts (removal of gear from closets) in progress and there has been quite a bit done.

C. A/C bids were reviewed and Diane Kahler made a motion to accept the Dunnellon Air dual heat pump bid for \$3460 seconded by Lee Pitre and was carried. The vote was 7 for, 3 against, and 2 abstaining. Vic Kahler notified the bidders on the vote by council and Vic was called by Rick Chryst who said that he had revised his bid \$150 lower after I question it. Rick Christ came to my house and I signed the contract for \$3310. He will start the work in January with a \$1655 down payment.

D. Intruder response - No action due to schedules

10. New Business

A. Time and Talent pledge directory - Diane Kahler made a motion to send the directory to the necessary people and changes will be made by the church secretary seconded by Russ Telfer and carried.

B. Friendship breakfast date - see evangelism discussion

C. Synod Assembly - Diane Kahler made a motion to send Russ Telfer and Connie Detuerk - Telfer to the convention on May 4-6 at the Buena Vista Palace Hotel in Orlando seconded by Ted Polack and was carried. The final confirmation will be made at the congregational meeting on January 29, 2012 by a their vote.

D. Telephone tree - Russ Telfer made a made a motion to reinstate the telephone tree for emergencies seconded by Diane Kahler and was carried.

E. Kings Day Celebration - no action

F. MSP for 2012 - no action

G. Safety concerns - Diane Kahler told of an incident where a man walked into the church cursing about a woman taunting him. Dick Regan will call the Sherriff's office about the incident.

Keep all doors locked when few people are around

Call Russ Telfer, Ted Polack, John Chiappetta, or Dick Regan if there is a problem

Report all incidences to the Sherriff's office

Vic Kahler to look into a camera system

H. Proposed MSP 2012 budget - Steve Northsea passed out a budget proposal with notations for 2012.

11. Consent Agenda

A. The Brownie Scouts are requesting to have a Christmas party on the Saturday before the Citrus Springs Parade. Last year we had a great time decorating our float in your parking lot and celebrating Christmas inside Luther Hall with our Girl Scout families. The date is Sat. Dec. 17th.

B. The Boy Scouts are requesting the use of Luther Hall on February 4th, 2012 for their Spaghetti Dinner

C. Kelly Murphy is requesting vacation time for Tuesday and Wednesday, December 27 & 28.

Steve Northsea agreed to work for her on Tuesday, December 27 and Diane Kahler has agreed to work for her on Wednesday, December 28.

Agenda approved by council.

12. Unfinished Business

A. Defibrillator training - Nancy Miller has not be available to offer training.

13. Other Matters

A. Devotions for January 11, 2011 meeting - John Chiappetta

14. Adjournment Diane Kahler made a motion to adjourn seconded by Vivian Mathews and was carried.

15. Closing Devotions - Meeting closed with a Prayer from Pastor Lynn.

Thrivent Financial For Lutherans - Citrus County Chapter # 30726

The chapter held an Advocate Training session at First Lutheran Church in Inverness on January 10. Ted Polack and Carole Warden attended from Hope.

The first board meeting of the year was also conducted after the training session. Ideas were discussed about the year's projects and estimated funds being received from Thrivent.

Leadership board for 2012 includes Lynn Dively (president) from St. Timothy, Terry Lucente (vice president), Richard Wagner (financial director) from Good Shepherd, and Anita Trout (records director).

Hope plans to have a coffee hour meeting with Hope's Thrivent members

Pinelands Conference Annual Fund Appeal

In Lent, the congregations of the Pinelands Conference run an annual fund appeal for three missions on our territory: Rock of Ages Lutheran Church, Wildwood; Campus Ministry at University Lutheran, Gainesville; and Luther Springs Camp. Envelopes It is in faithfully giving away a portion of what we already have that we are

and prospective member in February or March to discuss the use of our "Choice dollars" for 2012. There will be several "Care Abound in Communities" programs Throughout the year at different churches in our chapter.

On February 3-4 at First Lutheran in Inverness from 8 to 2, there will be a Rummage sale with proceeds going to "Blessings in a Backpack".

On February 11, there will be a "Trash and Treasure Sale" at Faith Lutheran and a yard sale at Good Shepherd Church from 9 to 12.

Please support these events!!!

really blessed by God. and information inserts will be in the bulletins or pews in March for those who choose to participate.

Pastor Lynn's Classes

Pastor Lynn teaches two classes. In 'good news' of Jesus Christ?" This 8-Monday morning's Sunday's Coming class session study takes a different participants are better prepared to approach to Mark than the Women of listen the sermon, and their thoughts the ELCA study and would make an often help shape the message. We interesting opportunity for further usually study the Gospel reading, and discovery and discussion. Please join us occasionally one of the other texts. whenever you can at either or both studies.

At the Wednesday Morning Bible Study we use the Together in Faith series books to study one book of the Bible at a time. The class has just finished studying 1 Peter. Our next book is the Gospel of Mark, which asks and answers the question, "What's so good about the

Dollars And Sense From The Treasurer's Desk

<u>Date</u>	<u>Communion</u>	<u>Regular</u>
	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Income</u>
December 4	Intinction	3,861.00
December 11	Intinction	2,112.00
December 18	Intinction	2,046.00
December 24	Intinction	174.00
December 25	Intinction	712.00

Total Inflows: \$11,512.86

Total Outflows: \$17,604.61

* December used Intinction- No communion count available.

The complete financial statement is in Luther Hall.

History Trivia

- ◇ The now familiar procession of crèche figures at the beginning of Advent worship began in December 1987.
- ◇ The nativity set was given by Darleen Raabe's intermediate Sunday School class in 1974. Darleen bought the greenware, three students in the class cleaned it, then Darleen had it fired. The children painted it and it was fired the second time. *(I think this is about the large colorful nativity set that was in the narthex in Advent 2011)*
- ◇ In June 1988 there was an Anniversary Dinner party honoring Pastor Clark for 25 years of ordained ministry and Pastor Varner for 45 years of ordained ministry. The 183 guests who attended enjoyed a magician, a dance band, and Larry Otte as MC. Larry Otte also "roasted" Pastor Clark with one funny story after another. Pastor Morrod was also honored for his 35 years in ordained ministry.
- ◇ In 1988, the congregation was busy considering plans to enlarge the church building. The addition of the classroom wing and the renovation of Luther Hall was completed in 1988, and work began on the sanctuary and office building soon afterwards.
- ◇ Even with these building projects, the council took a vacation for the months of June, July, and August, with the provision to call special meetings as needed.
- ◇ The first adventure of the Pairs-n-Spares Travelers was to view the Lipizzaner Stallions perform. The next event was a three-night cruise leaving from St. Petersburg. Then there was a shopping trip to an outlet mall. In 1990 some of the folks went to Germany for the Oberammergau Passion Play.
- ◇ In 1989 the third annual country fair raised over \$4000, which was used to put a kitchenette in the new "family room," which we now call the parlor.

Council Retreat

There will be a joint council retreat Saturday, February 4, 9am-12 at Shepherd of the Hills, 2540 W Norvell Bryant (Hwy 486), Lecanto. The congregational councils from Hope, Good Shepherd, and St Timothy will meet for a workshop on mission and vision and planning. The church hall will

be open at 8:30am for coffee and light refreshments. This retreat is for council members and others who are interested in helping Hope grow into the future.

Esther Circle

Each one of us faces some "tough questions" at various times in our lives. HOW DO WE FIND THE ANSWERS TO THOSE QUESTIONS? It probably depends on what type of individual you are. But as Christians, we often turn to prayer and ask God to use his wisdom to guide us in the way we should go. That's a good thing, but not a new thing. Jesus as God in human form faced some tough questions just like we do. And he also posed some tough questions to those he encountered and was questioned by those who encountered him. We will see in this session how he responded to the questions asked of him and what questions he posed to others.

the scriptures says about marriage, divorce, children, power, prestige, and sacrificial living, all tough questions for many. We will study the 10th chapter of Mark. Here we find out what it means to be a disciple of Jesus. It stands at the heart of the exchanges between Jesus and the people who came to see and hear him.

ESTHER CIRCLE will meet on Thursday, February 23, 2012 at 10:30 A.M. in the church parlor. NOTE that this is the 4th Thursday, not the usual 3rd Thursday of the month. Copies of the lesson are available in the church office. Please join us . All are welcome.

In this session entitled " Tough Questions", we will see what Jesus in

Martha Circle Information

Martha Circle is a gathering of women devoted to help others through love of working with their hands and hearts. They meet on the first Wednesday of every month in Luther Hall (room 3) at 1:00pm.

They sponsor "Operation Christmas Child" with a collection of items as well as filling those shoe-boxes and making sure they are sent on their way to hurting and needy children through the Samaritan's Purse ministry.

They make gifts for our homebound members of Hope and also "care packages" are sent to troops serving in

Afghanistan.

In October, they held a craft show and donated all the money received for shipping of the shoeboxes.

In 2011, Martha Circle also hosted the Christmas party for the whole congregation on Sunday, December 4.

This Circle receives no funds from Hope....although donations are always welcome.

If you would like more information about this gathering, please contact Carole Warden.

Heartfelt Thanks

Words can not express my gratitude for your attendance at Joe's beautiful memorial service, for your cards, and your verbal expressions of support. They meant the world to me.

Most special thanks to Pastor Lynn for putting this outstanding memorial service together and treating the Christian and the Jewish faith with equal sensitivity. So many people complimented her.

Carol Warden and Dee Forsythe put a beautiful and delicious lunch together that exceeded all expectations. Many of you brought desserts. In the background, Kelly Murphy did innumerable things that made the set-up prior to the service worry free.

I thank you all from the bottom of my heart.

Renate Wilms-Rovin

Friendship Breakfast - January 14, 2012

We had our first Friendship breakfast on Saturday at 9am in Luther Hall. The menu was pancakes, sausage, applesauce, juice and coffee. We had 42 people including the help at the breakfast. Everyone seemed to enjoy themselves and the food. We were hoping that some of our neighbors would come to the "Free" breakfast but it did not happen so we will try it again in March around St. Patrick's Day.

I would like to thank Jim & Sue Hovis, Dick Regan, Carol D'Auria, Bobby & Laura Whitler, Russ Telfer, Lempi Tervo & Bill Messer.

I will be looking volunteers to plan and work at the next breakfast:

- Food preparers
- Table setup crew
- Coffee & beverage servers
- A greeter
- Clean up crew
- A planning committee

The volunteers will be the only ones allowed in the kitchen and we will have coffee and beverages ready for those who arrive early. The greeter will ask them to be seated while waiting.

Respectively submitted - Vic Kahler

Souper Bowl Sunday - February 5

The Youth Group is asking you to support their food drive for the hungry in our community. Please start thinking about donations to our cause now by taking advantage of, buy one get one, specials and using coupons. Last year

you donated an amazing 142 items. We delivered them to the Family Resource Center. We are excited to help others in our church work. Thanks for your support.

Members Who Are Homebound or Residing in Care Facilities

Johanna Barrett - Home

Ginny Cameron - Home

Jeannette Carnie- Life Care, Lecanto

Sebastian D'Auria - Home

Roy Deck - Hampton Manor West,
Dunnellon

Joan Layton - Home

Dorothy Scianna - Crystal Gem Manor
Crystal River

Karen Summers - Home

Ruby Wagner - Barrington Place

Family Members in the Military

We remember & pray for those who protect our liberty by serving in the military.

- Ginny Cameron's grandson:
Tech Sergeant John Edward
Werner
- John & Margarita Chiappetta's son:
Luis Jimenez
- Janet Esworthys nephew:
Major Marc Orndorff

- Joan Klotz's two grandsons:
Brian Lucas and Kevin Lucas
- Vivian Matthews' granddaughter:
Capt. Kari Matthews
- Edith and Richard Regan's daughter:
Storekeeper Chief Phyllis Thomas

Please let the church office know of others we can add to this list.

Known Birthdays

February Birthdays

- 1 Margaret DeWalt
- 3 Kevin Towne
- 5 Harold Skidmore
- 6 Pastor Lynn Fonfara
Beth Penn
- 8 Manley Benmark



- 10 Clayton Stetson
- 14 Edith Regan
- 16 Constance DeTuerk-Telfer
- 23 Joan Klotz

Those Assisting in Worship for February

Communion Assistants and Acolytes

5—Renate Wilms-Rovin/Brenna Towne
12—Anita O'Donnell/Dee Forsyth
19—Deacon John Chiappetta/Anthony Diaz
26—Steven Penn/Jacob Penn

Altar Guild

Margaret DeWalt
Margarita Chiappetta
Casey Gaylaro
Diane Kahler

Nursery

5—TBA
12—Judy Thomason-Kasco
19—Sue Hovis
26—TBA

Lay Readers

5—Joyce Davis
12—Steve Northsea
19—Barbara Stetson
22—noon Anita O'Donnell
7pm Deacon John Chiappetta
26—Janet Esworthy

Ushers for the Month

David & Ann Becwar

Assisting Ministers

Deacon John Chiappetta
Anthony Diaz
Diane Kahler
Steve Northsea
Ted Polack
Ryan Towne
Renate Wilms-Rovin

Guest Greeter

Joan Klotz

Greeters

Francine Richard
Helen Van Horn



February 2012

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

<p>5 Communion 8:00a Adult Bible Study 8:00a Confirmation 8:30a Sunday School 9:30a Worship 10:45a Fellowship 2:00p Deeper Life L.H.</p>	<p>6 10:30a Bible Study CRI 1:00p Jacob's Journey 6:30p Boy Scouts</p>	<p>7 6:00p Girl Scouts</p>	<p>8 10:30a Bible Study CRI 1:00p Art Group 2:30p Council Mtg</p>	<p>9 6:30p Cub Scouts 7:00p Choir Reh.</p>	<p>10 6:30p Cub Scouts 7:00p Choir Reh.</p>	<p>11</p>
<p>12 Communion 8:00a Adult Bible Study 8:00a Confirmation 8:30a Sunday School 9:30a Fellowship 10:45a Fellowship 2:00p Deeper Life</p>	<p>13 10:30a NO Bible Study 1:00p Jacob's Journey 6:30p Boy Scouts</p>	<p>14 6:00p Brownies</p>	<p>15 9:30a Piecemakers 10:30a Bible Study CRI 1:00p Art Group</p>	<p>16 6:30p Cub Scouts 7:00p Choir Reh.</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p>
<p>19 Communion 8:00a Adult Bible Study 8:00a Confirmation 8:30a Sunday School 9:30a Worship 10:45a Fellowship 2:00p Deeper Life L.H.</p>	<p>20 10:30a Bible Study CRI 10:30 Evangelism Mtg 1:00p Jacob's Journey 6:30p Boy Scouts</p>	<p>21 2:00p Healing Service 6:00p Girl Scouts</p>	<p>22 9:30a Piecemakers 10:30a Bible Study CRI 1:00p Art Group 12:00p Ash Wednesday Worship 7:00p Ash Wednesday Worship</p>	<p>23 10:30a Esther Circle 6:30p Cub Scouts 7:00p Choir Reh.</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p>
<p>26 Communion 8:00a Adult Bible Study 8:00a Confirmation 8:30a Sunday School 9:30a Fellowship 10:45a Fellowship 2:00p Deeper Life L.H.</p>	<p>27 10:30a Bible Study CRI 1:00p Jacob's Journey 6:30p Boy Scouts</p>	<p>28 6:00p Brownies</p>	<p>29 10:30a Bible Study CRI 1:00p Art Group 12:00p Mid Week Worship 5:45p Soup Supper 7:00p Mid Week Wor- ship</p>			