



"To Know Christ and
Make Him Known"

Volume 39 Issue 2

February 2013

Hope's Newsletter

A Message From Pastor Lynn

It seems we just get the Christmas tree put away and we begin planning for Ash Wednesday, Lent, and Easter.

Each year on Ash Wednesday, pastors encourage parishioners to live a holy Lent, with a challenge to give alms, pray, and fast. This year, Ash Wednesday is February 13, the day before Valentine's Day. How will those who give up candy for Lent be able to enjoy their chocolate? What will you do this year to honor Jesus' sacrifice for us?

I suggest something simple this year. First, worship more! Make it a point to attend Sunday worship every week, plus Ash Wednesday, Holy Thursday,

and Good Friday worship. These special services at noon and at 7pm help us connect with Jesus' sacrifice in a very tangible way. And make time for mid-week worship in the weeks between Ash Wednesday and Holy Week, at noon or 7pm every Wednesday. These simple worship services refresh us and remind us that Jesus is worthy of our time.

Second, read the Bible every day! Lent begins with Ash Wednesday, and then the temptation of Jesus by ho-satan (the satan) in the wilderness. Jesus responded to the temptations with verses from scripture. To quote them, he had to be very familiar with scripture. (Continued on page 2)

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Kelly Murphy

Organist
Catherine Bearbower

Music Director
Jason Longtin

Custodian
Kerry Reed

Message From Pastor Lynn (Continued)

He read and studied the texts often. He knew them well, and knew what they meant. Familiarity with scriptures happens best when we read the Bible every day.

Here are some suggestions for your daily Bible reading:

If you already do read scripture daily, choose a verse from the day's readings and memorize it. Or choose one verse from Sunday and work all week on memorizing it. At the end of Lent, try to recall all of your memorized verses. Lutheran churches don't emphasize memorization of scripture, but those who do have some memory verses find they come in handy at the oddest moments.

Read the four texts for the following Sunday every day. The texts are listed on the back page of the bulletin. (Attend the Sunday's Coming class on Monday mornings, too.) You will come to worship with a better hearing of the texts as they are read and a better understanding of the sermon.

Use a simple pattern of daily prayer: the Lord's Prayer; the Apostles' Creed;

a psalm and a reading from another book of your choosing; a time of thanksgiving for God's blessings; and a time of asking God for help. Close by asking for God's blessings on your day or your night of rest. You will spend the day or fall asleep knowing you are blessed by your time with God.

Read from a study Bible. Read a small passage from the Bible, and then read all the related notes. Follow the references to the texts mentioned. Reading the Bible in this way will help you make connections between different stories, and see how the Old Testament and New Testament fit together as one long story, one fulfilled promise after another.

These are a few ways of committing yourself to reading scripture each day. I suggest you make one of them - or try several of them - your habit for Lent. Let me know how it goes.

In Hope
Pastor Lynn

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

Lent Worship

Special services at 12 noon and at 7pm will be offered in Lent for Ash Wednesday, Holy Thursday, and Good Friday. On Palm Sunday, the choir will present a cantata. On Easter Sunday, there will be two services, a sunrise service at 7am in the Memorial Garden, and a festival service in the sanctuary at 9:30am.

We will once again have worship on Wednesdays in Lent, at noon and at 7pm. Noon Worship will be a simple version of the "Service of Morning Prayer," with prayer, scripture reading, a song from a CD, and reflection

by Deacons John and Diane and Pastor Lynn.

Worship at 7pm will be the Service of Evening Prayer we have been using for several years. The theme will be "Beneath the Cross of Jesus." Using portions of the hymn text each week, we will reflect together with Pastor Lynn on what it means for us to: stand at the foot of the cross, cling to the rock of our salvation, find our dwelling place in Christ, shed tears of contrition, and abide in the shadow of the cross.

Please make plans to attend worship services this Lent.

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 evening meal. A

sign-up sheet will be posted soon.



Council Meeting Minutes from December 18th, 2012

1. Call to Order/Remarks - Victor Kahler, President 7:00 PM
2. Roll Call - Steven Northsea, Secretary
 - President Victor Kahler (present)
 - Vice President Russ Telfer (present)
 - Secretary Steven Northsea (present)
 - Treasurer Deacon Diane Kahler (present)
 - Council Member Deacon John Chiappetta (not present)
 - Council Member Aida Diaz (present)
 - Council Member Constance DeTuerk-Telfer (present)
 - Council Member Vivian Matthews (not present)
 - Council Member Deacon Ted Polack (present)
 - Council Member Dick Regan (present)
 - Council Member Helen Van Horn (not present)
 - Council Member Renate Wilms-Rovin (not present)
 - Pastor Lynn Fonfara (present)
3. Devotions - Deacon Diane Kahler
4. Guests - None
5. Adoption of the December 18th Agenda
 - A. Additions/Corrections (none)
 - B. Acceptance moved by Diane seconded by Ted and passed unanimously.
6. Report of the Secretary
 - A. Additions/Corrections (none)
 - B. Acceptance moved by Diane seconded by Russ and passed unanimously.
7. Report of the Treasurer
 - A. Questions/Concerns (none)
 - B. Acceptance moved by Steve seconded by Dick and passed unanimously.
8. Report of the Pastor (see attached report)
 - A. Questions and Concerns (none)
 - B. Any items needing Council approval - Added request for Kiwanis to use Luther Hall April 19 to consent agenda
9. Reports of Church Committees by Council Liaisons
 - A. Christian Service
 - Evangelism/Stewardship (3rd Monday at 10:30 am) (No Report)
 - First Saturday (No Report)
 - Family Activities - Turkey luncheon will be held January 27th following the annual congregational meeting.
 - B. Christian Education (3rd Sunday)
 - Education - Confirmation class continues. Two youth will affirm their faith on May 19th.
 - Youth Ministry - Youth did well in Citrus Springs Christmas Parade on December 16th. Pictures were placed on the church's Facebook page. During Christmas break the youth will visit Luther Springs Camp or go bowling. In January they will visit the car activity center and play laser tag. The youth will collect peanut butter and jelly in plastic containers for the Backpack Blessings program. They would like all members to bring contributions to

Council Meeting Minutes (Continued)

"Souper" Bowl Sunday." Checks will also be accepted and the youth will purchase the correctly packaged peanut butter and jelly in plastic jars.

Adult Ministry - Pastor's classes are meeting on Monday and Wednesday at 10:30 AM. Anita's class will be meeting at 1:00 PM on Mondays.

C. Christian Worship

Worship and Music (Quarterly) - An alternate service will be held on January 27th before the meeting to vote whether the alternate services will continue and in what form. The next meeting will be January 8th at 6:30 PM. Bell practice will begin in January.

D. Administration

Property - see attached report

Long Range Planning (No Report)

Finance (No Report)

Personnel - Have not met, but are working on employee evaluations.

Memorial - (No Report)

Endowment - Committee recommended purchasing a frame for the picture "Hope in a Storm" painted by Larry Whitler. Recommendation was unanimously approved.

10. Old Business

A. Updated MSP Plan (Not available until December financials are in)

B. Nomination Committee Report (No Report)

C. Presentation of 2013 Budget/MSP will be done at January meeting

11. New Business - None

12. Consent Agenda passed unanimously on motion by Steve and second by Pastor.

A. God's Global Barnyard campaign for World Hunger Appeal in January, culminating with the Souper- Bowl campaign on Feb 3

B. In Lent (February 13 – March 31), the Pinelands Conference Fund Appeal for Rock of Ages Church, Luther Springs Camp, and Campus Ministries in Gainesville

C. Worldwide Candle Lighting for self help for people who have lost a child. It is held on the 2nd Sunday in December 2013 at 7 p.m.

D. Approve request for Kiwanis to use Luther Hall for a trivia night fund raiser on April 19th at 7:30 PM.

13. Current Meeting Highlights for Newsletter and Bulletin

A. The Youth Group will be collecting Peanut Butter and Jelly in plastic containers for the Blessings Backpack program as their "Souper" Bowl Campaign culminating on February 3rd this year. If you cannot find peanut butter or jelly in plastic containers the Youth will accept checks or cash and will then purchase the items.

B. God's Global Barnyard campaign for World Hunger Appeal will also occur in January this year, culminating with the Souper-Bowl campaign on Feb 3.

C. Larry Whitler's painting "Hope in a Storm" will be framed by the endowment committee and hung in a the Narthex. Look for an announcement of when the hanging dedication will occur.

D. The Annual Meeting will be held January 27th following the service. A turkey luncheon will be held following the meeting. Turkey will be provided and congregation members will bring the side dishes. A signup sheet is located in the Narthex

14. Devotions for January 15, 2013 Meeting - Russ Telfer

15. Adjournment and Prayer - Dick moved, Diane seconded and passed unanimously to adjourn at 8:40 PM. Pastor led closing prayer and Lord's Prayer

Healing Services in 2013

Healing services are an important part of the ministry at Hope. It's a time for quiet reflection on the need for healing we all need. We may be suffering with physical illness, mental challenges, emotional upsets, relationship stresses, or just a feeling of a need for prayer. We may need to pray for a loved one who is in need of healing.

Healing services include prayer, scripture reading, brief homily, anointing for healing, Holy Communion,

Seder Meal

Last year, Hope offered a Seder meal on Holy Thursday before worship, and it was very well attended. Join us again this year on March 28 for this worship and meal. Details will be announced later.

Pinelands Conference Fund Appeal

Each year in Lent, the congregations of Pinelands Conference do a fund appeal for ministries in our conference. You are invited to give an offering for any or all of the three ministries this year: Rock of Ages Church in Wildwood (the mission congregation), Luther Springs Camp, and University Lutheran Campus

and one or two verses of familiar hymns.

Healing services will be offered at 2:30pm on January 30, April 17, September 11, and November 6. Note that the dates after January 30 are tentative and may change.

You are invited to attend these services, and come as you are. As always, this is a good opportunity to bring a friend.

Ministries in Gainesville. Envelopes and more details are available in the narthex and occasionally in your bulletin during Lent. The ministries you help are so very grateful for your gifts. Thank you.

Martyr Moments

Rasmus Jenson
Commemorated February 20
First Lutheran Cleric in Canada

Rasmus Jenson was the chaplain aboard an expedition to the New World commissioned by King Christian IV of Denmark and Norway in 1619. The expedition was made up of 2 small Danish ships with 64 sailors who were Danes, Norwegians, Swedes and Germans. The ships were searching for the Northwest Passage. It was a disastrous winter. Cold, famine and scurvy destroyed most of the men

leaving only the captain and 2 sailors to survive and reach Bergen, Norway in September 1620. Rasmus Jenson did not survive the trip. Following the death of Jenson the majority of Danish Lutheran missionary activity was concentrated in India and the Danish West Indies, especially St. Thomas.

Dollars And Sense From The Treasurer's Desk

December 2012

<u>Date</u>	<u>Communion Attendance</u>	<u>Regular Offering</u>
December 2	59	4,090.00
December 9	62	2,252.00
December 16	72	2,469.00
December 23	48	1,223.00
December 24	80	842.00
December 30	44	979.00

Total Inflows: \$13,622.00

Total Outflows: \$11,458.90

The complete financial statement is in Luther Hall.

Seniorfest 2013

AN OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN AND BE INSPIRED WITH FELLOW LUTHERANS

Seniorfest Time is here again. The most local place is Trinity Lutheran Church in Summerfield (Leesburg) on Thursday, February 22.

What is Seniorfest? It's a gathering of ALL Lutherans in the area. There are 6 places for Seniorfest but the closest is Trinity Lutheran Church in Summerfield (Leesburg). It's an opportunity to praise Jesus, sing, learn and be with fellow Lutherans.

Speakers are Dr. Mary Manz Simon, an intergenerational expert with a keen interest in religious, social and cultural trends in America. Against this background, Dr. Simon's presentation will focus on leaving a legacy to those who follow us...as we continue "on our way rejoicing" AND Rev Richard M

Martha Circle

Martha Circle will meet on February 6 at 1:00 p.m. in Luther Hall...classroom 3. Please join us for an hour or two of fellowship and crafts. Light

Koehneke, a distinguished Bible teacher and church musician, a pianist and composer, who will lead us in music and bible study in "Music With a Message".

Cost is \$30 (\$35 after Feb. 1) Sign up sheets are available either in the Narthex or on Kelly's desk.

Special Points of Interest

8:30-3:30 program

Lunch and snacks included

Variety of Exhibits

Breakout sessions include: Healing service, health topics, planning for later years, dance, tai chi & self-defense, laughter, reverse mortgages, gardening and more.

Victor and Diane Kahler and pastor have gone to most all of the Seniorfest opportunities and will again be going. Carpooling is available with them. Don't miss this opportunity. You will really enjoy the experience.

refreshments will be served. We will be making table decorations and cards for the upcoming holidays.

Carole Warden

Did You Ever Wonder.....?

Did you ever wonder what a Nave was? The main body of liturgical space is called the nave. Derived from the Latin word NAVIS, which means ship, the nave symbolized the church sailing in the ocean of time. The nave is the place of congregational gathering to worship. Pews or chairs in the nave usually provide certain helps for the congregation, including the worship

book, communion registration cards, pastors' information cards and pencils.

Equally important in the nave are the aisles. Not only do they allow the congregation to enter and be seated in the nave, but aisles are the location of various processions and provide worshipers access to the Holy Communion.

Esther Circle

Ester Circle will meet on Thursday, February 7 at 10:30am in the church parlor. This is not our usual day for Bible Study, so please make special note of this change!

together with "all those who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, they are saints who have been gifted by God in order to fulfill their calling. " So are we!

Our lesson for this month is entitled "Koinonia Calling" and is taken from the WELCA magazine, Gather. What is "Koinonia"? It is the fellowship of Jesus Christ. Our theme verse for February is taken from 1 Corinthians 1:9 and says "God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord." Paul reminds the gathered community in his first letter to the Corinthians that they are called by God into the "Koinonia—fellowship of Jesus Christ."

Janet Esworthy

Citrus County Blessing

There is still a great need to feed those less fortunate children at our two sponsored schools. We are filling backpacks for over 200 kids every week. Please bring in what you can to help supplement the program as the milk and cereal and peanut butter and jelly are extras that they normally don't receive in the weekly food distribution. We like to add these items once a month, so please help when you can. The milk must be the ones that

don't need refrigeration and the peanut butter and jelly must be in plastic jars or containers (no glass). Don't forget to include your receipts. If you have any questions, please see Carole Warden or Kelly.

God bless you for your continued support!

Carole Warden

Thank You

A shout out to all those who donated peanut butter and jelly to the Backpack program for the "Souper Bowl" collection this year! THANK YOU! The response was terrific!

Thanks to Diane Kahler for so many things . . .especially the Congregational dinner planning and cooking on January 27.

Thanks to the dedicated ladies of Piecemakers for their loving work in assembling the quilts all year. Many are warmed by the loving work of these few ladies.

Thanks to Kerry Reed for always keeping our church and Luther Hall clean and setting up tables for our events.

Thanks to Kelly for going above and beyond in her daily work and helping after hours.

A special thanks you to Edith Regan and Casey Gaylaro for Carole Warden on Mondays with the filling of the crates for the backpacks every Monday! It is greatly appreciated!

Hope's Council Highlights—January 15, 2013

The highlights of this month's meeting approved by Council for the current newsletter and bulletin are:

1. Evangelism/Stewardship Committee reported pledges were up 5% over last year.

2. Deacon John Chiappetta is the new chair of the Worship and Music Committee.

3. The Endowment Committee donate \$500 to the Piecemaker Quilting Group for materials to make quilts for the needy of the world.

4. The Hope Youth Group is helping to unload the Citrus Blessings Backpack for Schools truck every month.

5. The Council approved a Ministry Spending Plan (budget) to recommend

to the congregation. The amount budgeted for 2013 is \$158,363.

6. The audit committee for 2013 was appointed.

7. Installation for 2013 Council and officers will be held during the February 24th Sunday service.

8. Please request calendar dates as far in advance as possible as our building usage has gotten quite busy with the various charitable groups we are serving.

Souper Bowl Sunday - February 3 = PB & J

A February tradition at Hope is collecting food on Super Bowl Sunday. The Youth Group is spearheading this endeavor. Our goal is to collect 100 or more plastic jars of jelly and peanut butter for a special

treat to send in the Citrus County Blessings backpacks.

Hope is partnering with other local residents to silence weekend hunger in children. We appreciate your support. Thanks.

Thanks To:

Ushers and those who jump up to help whenever needed.

Those who recruit volunteers and get them scheduled each week, especially Renate and Ted.

Anthony, who does such a great job recording the service so we can take the tapes to those who can't get to church.

Thrivent Financial's Common Bond Vote

From March through April, Thrivent Financial benefit members are being asked to vote on our "Common Bond." A common bond is a connection that the group shares in common, like ethnicity, occupation or religion. Today, our common bond is Lutheran. This spring, benefit members can vote on extending that common bond to all Christians.

As a faith-based organization, we are called to serve more people. Extending the common bond will allow us to help more Christians be wise with money and live generous lives. We hope that by extending our common bond, we can better serve the needs of more Christians.

Thrivent benefit members are owners of Thrivent, and voting on an issue like the common bond helps set the direction for the organization. Voting

strengthens Thrivent, because the more members who vote, the more who have had a say in the organization's future direction.

If you own a life or annuity product with Thrivent, you are a benefit member. Please remember to vote this spring. You can vote by returning your ballot by mail, or by phone to 1-800-THRIVENT, or online at thrivent.com.

Peg Weston

Financial Associate

Thrivent Financial for Lutherans®

Members Who Are Homebound or Residing in Care Facilities

Johanna Barrett—Home
Ginny Cameron—Home
Sebastian D'Auria—Home
Teofilo Diaz—Home
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 Esworthy's nephew:
Major Marc Orndorff

Joan Klotz's two grandsons:
Brian Lucas and Kevin Lucas

Vivian Matthews' granddaughter:
Capt. Kari Matthews

Edith 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
June Towner
- 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

3—Renate Wilms-Rovin/Kris Brock
12—Deacon John Chiappetta/Dee Forsyth
13—Ash Wednesday
Noon Deacon Diane Kahler
7pm Lynn Polack/Deacon John Chiappetta
17—Casey Gaylardo/Anita O'Donnell
24—Steven Penn/Renate Wilms-Rovin

Altar Guild

Margaret DeWalt
Margarita Chiappetta
Casey Gaylardo
Diane Kahler
Marge Maschino

Nursery

3—Janice Pitre
10—Judy Thomason-Kasco
17—Sue Hovis
24—Ann Becwar

Lay Readers

3—Jackie Dean
10—Victor Kahler
13—noon Deacon Diane Kahler
7pm Peggy Schade
17—Brenna Towne
24—Janice Pitre

Assisting Ministers

3- Steve Northsea
10 - Deacon John Chiappetta
17- Steven Penn
24- Anthony Diaz

Guest Greeter

Aida Diaz

Greeters

Rita & Ron Cowan

Ushers for the Month

Russ Telfer
Dick Regan



Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
February 2013						
					1	2
						4p- 6p Boy Scouts Annual Spaghetti Dinner and Auction
3 Communion 8:00a Confirmation 9:30a Worship "Souper Bowl Sunday" 10:45a Fellowship 2:00p Deeper Life L.H.	4 10:30a Sunday's Coming CR1 1:00p Jacob's Journey 6:30p Boy Scouts	5 8:30a Silver Sneakers 9:30a Silver Sneakers 4:30p YMCA (Cardio Circuit) 5:15p YMCA (Pilates)	6 1:00p Art Group 6:00p Youth Group	7 8:30a Silver Sneakers 9:30a Silver Sneakers 10:30a Esther Circle 4:30p YMCA (Cardio) 5:15p YMCA (Pilates) 6:30p Cub Scouts 7:00p Choir Reh	8	9
10 Communion 8:00a Confirmation 9:30a Worship 10:45a Fellowship 2:00p Deeper Life L.H.	11 10:30a Sunday's Coming CR1 1:00p Jacob's 6:30p Boy Scouts	12 8:30a Silver Sneakers 9:30a Silver Sneakers 4:30p YMCA (Cardio Circuit) 5:15p YMCA (Pilates) 5:30p Shrove Pancake Dinner	13 12:00p Ash Wednesday Noon Worship 1:00p Art Group 7:00p Ash Wednesday Evening Worship	14 8:30a Silver Sneakers 9:30a Silver Sneakers 4:30p YMCA (Cardio Circuit) 5:15p YMCA (Pilates) 6:30p Cub Scouts 7:00p Choir Reh	15	16
17 Communion 8:00a Confirmation 9:30a Worship 10:45a Fellowship 2:00p Deeper Life L.H.	18 10:30a Sunday's Coming CR1 1:00p Jacob's 6:30p Boy Scouts	19 8:30a Silver Sneakers 9:30a Silver Sneakers 4:30p YMCA (Cardio Circuit) 5:15p YMCA (Pilates) 7:00p Council Mtg	20 10:30a Piecemakers Noon Service of Morning Prayer 1:00p Art Group 5:45p Soup Supper 7:00p Service of Evening Prayer	21 8:30a Silver Sneakers 9:30a Silver Sneakers 4:30p YMCA (Cardio Circuit) 5:15p YMCA (Pilates) 6:30p Cub Scouts 7:00p Choir Reh	22	23
24 Communion 8:00a Confirmation 9:30a Worship 10:45a Fellowship 2:00p Deeper Life L.H.	25 10:30a Sunday's Coming CR1 1:00p Jacob's 6:30p Boy Scouts	26 8:30a Silver Sneakers 9:30a Silver Sneakers 4:30p YMCA (Cardio Circuit) 5:15p YMCA (Pilates)	27 10:30a Piecemakers Noon Service of Morning Prayer 1:00p Art Group 5:45p Soup Supper 7:00p Service of Evening Prayer	28 8:30a Silver Sneakers 9:30a Silver Sneakers 4:30p YMCA (Cardio Circuit) 5:15p YMCA (Pilates) 6:30p Cub Scouts 7:00p Choir Reh		