



"To Know Christ and
Make Him Known"

Volume 40 Issue 2

February 2014

Hope's Newsletter

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Kelly Murphy

Music Director/Organist
Susan Collins

Custodian
Kerry Reed

A Message From Pastor Lynn

This month we read parts of the Sermon on the Mount as the Gospel texts. We will hear Jesus tell us that God's blessings are for all people; that we should be salt and light in our bland and dark world; that anger, adultery, and divorce have no place in God's kingdom/reign; and that we should love our enemies.

Let's open ourselves to the radical changes Jesus promises us. Let's open our hearts to work to make those changes a reality. Let's give so others may be blessed. Let's be salty and speak up against injustice. Let's shed light in dark places so people have hope. Let's work in our community to develop healthy relationships. Let's be Jesus' people so we become his faithful, loving people.

The kingdom/reign of God is already present among us, if we just look for it. Let's spend the month on a kingdom/reign of God alert

watching for signs of Jesus' presence.

Yet, the kingdom/reign of God is not fully here. Let's do what we are called by God to do, to make the world more ready to receive it.

Let's be Jesus' people right here at Hope, spreading the kingdom/reign of God to those who need a bit of Hope.

In HOPE
Pastor Lynn +

Jacob's Journey

Jacob's Journey is looking at the letters and epistles of St. Paul. Much of what he has written to the many churches which he had visited was a reinforcement of his principle teachings. He was dismayed that some of the churches had strayed from the truth of the original Christian doctrines.

the Lord. These wonderful letters and epistles are the refresher course we all need.

You are all invited to come and be refreshed. We meet on Monday at 1pm in Luther Hall.

Anita O'Donnell

Therefore, we find that in many of his letters, He strongly recommends that they return to the truth they had first learned, for he had received this truth from the Lord Himself. His arguments are strong and his doctrinal teachings are for all of us to read and reread, since they present the deep things of

Dollars And Sense From The Treasurer's Desk

December 2013

<u>Date</u>	<u>Communion Attendance</u>	<u>Regular Offering</u>
December 8	67	2,631.00
December 15	67	1,953.00
December 22	78	2,032.00
December 24	83	765.00
December 29	52	1,651.00

Total Inflows: \$15,143.00

Total Outflows: \$12,145.00

The complete financial statement is in Luther Hall.

Council Officers & Members

President
Vic Kahler
*First Saturday
Property Committee*

Vice President
Russ Telfer
Memorial Committee

Secretary
Steve Northsea
Evangelism/Stewardship

Treasurer
Deacon Diane Kahler
*Chancel Bell/Chimes
Personnel*

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

Aida Diaz

Connie De Tuerk

Casey Gaylarido
Altar Guild

Vivian Matthews

Richard Regan
*Endowment
Property Committee*

Harold Skidmore
Finance

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

Financial Secretary
Michel Northsea

Worship News

The Worship & Music Committee met in January and set the schedule for Lenten worship and other activities. Sunday worship with two services, at 8am and 10am, will continue as usual. The one exception is April 21, Easter Sunday, when we will offer a sunrise service at 7am in the Memorial Garden in place of the 8am service.

There will be evening worship services only for all midweek services, on Ash Wednesday, Maundy (Holy)

Lenten Worship Theme

There will be worship in the evening for Wednesdays of Lent. The theme for Service of Evening Prayer is "This Cup." Mini-dramas of 3-5 minutes depict the last hours of Jesus' earthly life. Although Jesus never speaks or appears, the dramas focus on the events of the final few days and how they affected the eyewitnesses. The weekly themes are: After the supper; Outside the courtyard; In the Praetorium; On the way to Golgotha; and At the Cross.

Thursday, and Good Friday. In addition, there will be soup suppers at 5:30pm and the Service of Evening Prayer at 7pm on the Wednesdays of Lent, March 12, 19, 26, and April 2, and 9. These simple services last about 35 minutes. Rides are always available for folks who do not drive after dark.

Make plans now to join us for these evening worship services as a way to deepen your Lenten journey.

Council Meeting Minutes from December 18, 2013

1. Call to Order/Remarks - Victor Kahler, President

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 (present)
Council Member Aida Diaz (absent)
Council Member Constance DeTuerk-Telfer (present)
Council Member Casey Gaylaro (present)
Council Member Vivian Matthews (present)
Council Member Dick Regan (present)
Council Member Harold Skidmore (present)
Council Member Renate Wilms-Rovin (present)
Pastor Lynn Fonfara (present)

3. Devotions - Council members spoke about their favorite Christmas Carols.

4. Guests - None

5. Adoption of the December 18 Agenda

A. Additions/Corrections - Under old business new web site review. Under new business announcement that YMCA will be no longer using our facilities due to not being able to make a profit.

B. Acceptance as amended was moved Pastor, seconded by Diane and passed unanimously.

6. Secretary Report

Report of the Secretary's November 20 Council meeting

A. No Additions/Corrections

B. Acceptance was moved by Russ, seconded by Renate and passed unanimously.

7. Report of the Treasurer

A. Questions/Concerns - Council discussed ongoing losses due to decreased income.

B. Acceptance was moved by Dick seconded by Casey and passed unanimously.

8. Report of the Pastor (see attached report)

A. Questions and Concerns - Pastor discussed with council the importance of welcoming new members.

B. Any items needing Council approval - None

9. Reports of Church Committees by Council Liaisons

A. Christian Service

Evangelism/Stewardship (3rd Monday at 10:30 am)
- Steve reported pledges totaling \$90, 405.00 which is approximately 60% of proposed 2014 budget.

First Saturday - Victor hopes to do in March

Family Activities - Doo Wop concert went well. There will be a luncheon following the annual meeting in January. Dick moved to hold one 9:00 am service with meeting to follow. Casey seconded. Motion failed attaining only two votes. Diane moved to have the meeting following the 10:00 service. Renate seconded, and motion passed with one dissent..

B. Christian Education (3rd Sunday)

Education - Switching confirmation and adult education classrooms is working out well.

Youth Ministry - Youth will not participate in Citrus Springs Christmas Parade or Confirmation camp.

Adult Ministry

C. Christian Worship

Worship and Music (Quarterly) - Next meeting will be January 9th at 5 PM. Diane moved to provide an additional cup for sipping in the intinction services. John seconded, Passed with one abstention.

D. Administration

Property - see report

Long Range Planning - no meeting

Finance - 2014 MSP (see new business)

Personnel - No report

Memorial - No report.

Endowment- It became apparent to the current Endowment Committee that in the past certain procedural matters as dictated by the Church Constitution and the Committee Bylaws had been unintentionally overlooked. No current member of the Endowment Committee has been elected by the congregation at its annual meeting. In an attempt to return the Endowment Committee to compliance with the Church Constitution and the Bylaws of the Endowment Committee, the committee is now asking council to approve, place on the Congregational Meeting Agenda, and recommend approval to the next Congregational Meeting the following slate of members to the committee with the terms included.

One Year Term:

Richard Regan (current member)
(final term)

Steven Northsea (new) (may serve an additional three years after this term expires)

Two Year Term:

Judy Thomason (current member) (may serve an additional three years after this term expires)

Harold Skidmore (current member) (may serve an additional three years after this term expires)

Three Tear Term:

Council Meeting Minutes (Continued)

Aida Diaz (new) (may serve an additional three years after this term expires)

Renate Wilms-Rovin (new) (may serve an additional three years after this term expires)

Under the bylaws, the three new members were elected to fill vacancies on the committee at the December 1, 2013 meeting. These members serve until the congregational meeting election.

Under the bylaws, the committee's recording secretary (a position currently unfilled) shall inform the nominating committee the names of the nominated persons recommended by the committee for election at the annual congregational meeting. Nominations may also be made from the floor. Please consider this the names which would have been reported by the recording secretary.

Council passed the recommendations unanimously.

10. Old Business

A. MSP 2014 - A proposed budget of 148,729.79 including 3% salary increases for all employees with the exception of the music director was presented and approved unanimously

B. Nominating Committee - Still looking for additional nominees.

C. Review of New Website Template - Council came to consensus to continue to develop according to the template presented.

11. New Business

A. Bringing Endowment Committee into compliance with the Church Constitution and the Bylaws of the Endowment Committee (see endowment committee)

B. Agenda Items for 2014 Annual Congregational Meeting will include:

1. Introduction and Welcome - President Victor Kahler
2. Gathering Prayer
3. Appointment of Tellers
4. Approval of the Minutes of the January and September 2013 Minutes as published
5. Annual Financial Report - Deacon Diane Kahler, Treasurer
6. Changes in Constitution Proposed by ELCA
7. Approval of Council Recommended 2014 Ministry Spending Plan
8. Endowment Committee Member Elections
 - a. Recommendations from Council
 - b. Nominations from the floor
 - c. Secret Ballot
9. Council Member Elections
 - a. Recommendations from Nominating

Committee

b. Nominations from the floor

c. Secret Ballot

10. Message from the Pastor - Pastor Lynn

11. Closing Prayer

C. Steve moved, Pastor seconded and it passed unanimously for Hope to gather funds to provide \$715 to purchase a family farm through the ELCA Good Gifts program as a Lenten project.

D. Discussion on Deeper Life Church - Diane moved that the executive committee develop guidelines in writing for Deeper Life to use Luther Hall and then meet with the Deeper Life pastor to make sure the guidelines are followed. Vivian seconded and passed unanimously

E. Victor announced that YMCA will be no longer using our facilities due to not being able to make a profit.

12. Consent Agenda approval was moved by Steve, seconded by Diane and passed unanimously

a. Boy Scout Use of Luther Hall for Annual Spaghetti Dinner and Silent Auction. 2 PM - 9 PM on Saturday February 1, 2014.

b. Kerry Reed requests three vacation days off in December for Friday the 20th, Friday the 27th, and Monday the 30th

13. Current Meeting Highlights for Newsletter and Bulletin

1. The Annual Congregation Meeting will be held on January 26, 2014 immediately following the 10:00 am Service with a luncheon following the meeting.

2. The common cup option will be offered through an additional cup in all services using intinction for the sacrament.

3. The Agenda and budget for the annual meeting has been set.

4. Hope will participate in ELCA's family farm fundraiser for the Lenten season in 2014. The congregation will have a goal to raise \$715 to help purchase animals and materials for a farm in an impoverished area of the world.

14. Devotions for the January 15, 2014 Meeting - Each council member will discuss his/her favorite Bible hero.

15. Adjournment and Prayer - Steve moved, Pastor seconded and it passed unanimously to adjourn at 9:10 PM. Closing Prayers were led by Pastor Lynn.

Critic's Corner

Revelation of the Magi by Brent Landau

While the familiar story of the Magi as recorded in the Gospel of Matthew is known by all, there is a little known version that later emerged that claimed to be the eyewitness account of the Wise Men. The ancient manuscript has lain hidden for centuries in the vaults of the Vatican library, but through the determined persistence of Brent Landau, a young scholar, this astonishing discovery has been translated into English for the very first time. This book is an example of how much influence writing outside of the Bible can have on our conceptions of biblical text, people and events. Apocryphal writings can shape our views of biblical stories.

The author, Brent Landau received his

Martyr Moments

**Ansgar, Archbishop of Hamburg
Missionary to Denmark and Sweden
September 8, 801-February 3, 865**

Ansgar was an archbishop of Hamburg-Bremen and designated a missionary to bring Christianity to Northern Europe and was also known as the "Apostle of the North".

The son of a noble family he studied rapidly and believed a vision that his deceased mother was in the company of Saint Mary. Then his life was set as a missionary.

In another vision he was informed that he would meet a prophet, Abbot Adalhard. He did meet Adalhard who

TH.D from Harvard and is an expert in ancient biblical languages and literature. He translated this book into English from the ancient Syriac text.

Critic: Diane Kahler This is an interesting book giving a closer look at the Magi and Jesus and parents. Some parts of the beginning I find hard to believe but the overall conclusions make a lot of sense. Much of what we know about the bible life and times comes from other ancient writers.

This book is not available in our church library but is available from Barnes and Noble and on the Nook.

You are invited to submit a book or movie to this column.

commanded, "Islands, listen to me, pay attention, remotest people" which Ansgar interpreted as God's will that he go to the Scandinavian countries as "most of the country consisted of islands, and also, when I will make you the light of the nations so that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth' was added, since the end of the world in the north was in Swedish territory".

Statues dedicated to Ansgar stand in Hamburg and Copenhagen as well as a stone cross in Birka. A crater on the moon, Ansgarius, has been named for him.

From the Council President's Desk

It has been almost 2 years since I became your council president. I must admit it has been a rewarding experience working with the members of council and the pastor during this time.

We have worked on the following projects during this time:

- Worked with Citrus County Blessing to feed school children on week ends
- Worked to help and supply SOS food bank with food
- Started an exercise program with the YMCA
- Took training with the Red Cross to handle emergency shelter here at our church
- Assisted 2 boys to complete their community service
- Supported the Scouts by having them meet at our church
- Voted to change the 9:39am service to 10am
- Started an 8am service for early risers

- Replaced the sticking key boards on the organ

- Repaired the A/C in Luther Hall

- Made major repairs from a severe lightning strike

- Hired a new music person that directs & plays both the piano and organ for our 10am services

I feel that you as a congregation have been very supportive of the council I presided over and want all of you to know how thankful I am.

God's Blessing to all of you!

Victor Kahler

Seniorfest 2014

AN OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN AND BE INSPIRED WITH FELLOW LUTHERANS

Seniorfest Time is here again. The most local place is The Villages, Hope Lutheran Church, 250 Avenida Los Angeles on Tuesday, February 18 from 8am to 3:40pm.

What is Seniorfest? It's a gathering of ALL Lutherans in the area. It's an opportunity to praise Jesus, sing, learn and be with fellow Lutherans.

Key note speaker is Bob Baker. He is the Executive Director of Lutherhaven Ministries in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, one of the largest camp/retreat ministries in the nation. He is a frequent speaker around the nation.

Speaker David Ludwig will speak about "Worship Through Music". David Ludwig is trained in theology and music. He is a composer, pianist, organist, singer and worship leader. He currently serves as Worship and

Arts Director at Redeemer Lutheran Church in Winter Park.

Cost is \$30. Registration forms are available on Kelly's desk. Please register by Feb. 7.

Special Points of Interest:
8:00a—Registration with Coffee and Refreshments
Welcome/Opening Prayer/Announcements
"Worship Through Music" - David Ludwig
"Renewed for a New Time" - Bob Baker
Breakout Session #1
Liturgical Dancers
Lunch
Breakout Session #2
"Renewed for a New Time" - Bob Baker
"Worship Through Music" - David Ludwig
Door Prizes—Wrap-up—Farewell

Don't miss this great opportunity. You will really enjoy the experience.

Martha Circle

Martha Circle will meet in classroom 3 on February 5 at 1:00 p.m. in Luther Hall.

We will be making Valentine cards for shut-ins and planning the fun for the Mardi Gras party at the Shrove Tuesday pancake supper at Hope. in

March.

Please come join us for social time and crafts. Free refreshments courtesy of Kelly.

Any questions, see Carole Warden.

Did You Ever Wonder....?

Did you ever wonder about the history of the song "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"? The words and music was written by Martin Luther, 1483-1546. The English translation was by Frederick H. Hedge, 1805-1890. It is based on Psalm 46:1, *2 God is our refuge and strength, an ever present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea.*

October 31, 1517 is perhaps the most important day in Protestant history. This was the day when Martin Luther, an Augustinian monk and a professor of theology, posted on the doors of the Cathedral of Wittenberg, German, his 95 theses (complaints) against the teachings and practices of the medieval Roman Church. With this even, the 16th century Protestant Reformation was formally born.

Scout Sunday

This year, Scout Sunday is February 2. In order to make it easier for our young friends and their families to follow the worship service, we will have a casual service that day. The order of worship is all printed out, and the music is simpler and more familiar for visitors. Let's give them a warm welcome.

The Protestant Reformation movement was built on three main tenets:

1. The re-establishment of Scriptures.
2. Clarifying the means of salvation.
3. The restoration of congregational singing.

While "A Mighty Fortress" was written and composed by Martin Luther, the date of the hymn cannot be fixed with any exact certainty. It is generally believed to have been written for the Diet of Spires in 1529 when the term "protestant" was first used. The hymn became the great rallying cry of the Reformation.



Hope's Council Highlights—January 15, 2014

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

1. A new website is up and running for Hope Lutheran. The address is hopeelca.com. Please if you are online type hopeelca.com into the address bar (not the search bar) and visit the site. If you have time check out all the links as you can help us make sure they work - also any suggestions for content addition or changes would be welcome. Please send to northsea@usa.net

2. The Lenten worship plan is as follows:

Wednesday March 5 - Ash
Wednesday - Service at 7:00 pm

Sunday March 9 - First Sunday in Lent - Services at 8:00 am and 10:00 am

Wednesday - March 12 - Lenten Soup Dinner - 5:30 pm Service 7:00 pm

Sunday March 16 - Second Sunday in Lent - Services at 8:00 am and 10:00 am

Wednesday - March 19 - Lenten Soup Dinner - 5:30 pm - Service 7:00 pm

Sunday March 23 - Third Sunday in Lent - Services at 8:00 am and 10:00 am

Wednesday - March 26 - Lenten

Soup Dinner - 5:30 pm - Service 7:00 pm

Sunday March 30 - Fourth Sunday in Lent - Services at 8:00 am and 10:00 am

Wednesday - April 2 - Lenten Soup Dinner - 5:30 pm - Service 7:00 pm

Sunday April 6 - Fifth Sunday in Lent - Services at 8:00 am and 10:00 am

Wednesday - April 9 - Lenten Soup Dinner - 5:30 pm - Service 7:00 pm

Sunday April 13 - Sunday of the Passion/Palm Sunday - Service 10:00 am - Cantata

Thursday April 17 - Maundy Thursday - Seder Dinner 5:00 pm - Foot washing play after dinner - Service at 7:00 pm

Friday April 18 - Good Friday - Taize Style Service at 7:00 pm

Sunday April 20 - Easter Sunday - Services at 7:00 am (Sunrise Service Outside) - Breakfast at 8:00 am and Service at 10:00 am

3. The audit committee was appointed. The members are Renate Wilms-Rovin, Harold Skidmore and Steve Northsea.

Members Who Are Homebound or Residing in Care Facilities

Ginny Cameron—Home

Karen Summers—Home

Sebastian D'Auria—Home

Joan Layton—Home

Dorothy Scianna—Crystal Gem Manor,
Crystal River

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:
Senior 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 at 10am

Communion Assistants and Acolytes

2—Renate Wilms-Rovin/Dee Forsyth
9—Deacon John Chiappetta/Kelly Haines
16—Jackie Dean/Kris Brock
23—Lynn Polack/Emilio Del Valle

Assisting Ministers

2- Deacon John Chiappetta
9-Anthony Diaz
16- Renate Wilms-Rovin
23 -Deacon Diane Kahler

Altar Guild

Margaret DeWalt
Margarita Chiappetta
Casey Gaylardo
Diane Kahler
Marge Maschino

Guest Greeter

Francine Richard

Greeters

Aida Diaz
Kay Schaller

Nursery

2—Janice Pitre
9—Judy Thomason
16—TBA
23—Ann Becwar

Ushers for the Month

Manley Benmark
Russ Telfer

Lay Readers

2—Dick Regan
9—Judy Thomason
16—Deacon John Chiappetta
23—Yvonne Popke



February 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 4p- 6p Boy Scouts Annual Spaghetti Dinner and Auction
2 Communion 8:00a Spoken Worship 9:00a Sunday School CR2 10:00a Worship 11:15a Fellowship 2:00p Deeper Life L,H	3 10:30a Sunday's Coming CR2 1:00p Jacob's Journey 6:30p Boy Scouts	4 7:00p Confirmation	5 10:30a Wisdom Seekers CR2 1:00p Martha Circle CR3 1:00p Art Group	6 6:30p Cub Scouts 7:00p Choir Reh.	7	8
9 Communion 8:00a Spoken Worship 9:00a Sunday School CR2 10:00a Worship 11:15a Fellowship 2:00p Deeper Life L,H	10 10:30a Sunday's Coming CR2 1:00p Jacob's Journey 6:30p Boy Scouts	11 7:00p Confirmation	12 10:30a Wisdom Seekers CR2 1:00p Art Group	13 6:30p Cub Scouts 7:00p Choir Reh.	14	15
16 Communion 8:00a Spoken Worship 9:00a Sunday School CR2 10:00a Worship 11:15a Fellowship 2:00p Deeper Life L,H	17 10:30a Sunday's Coming CR2 10:30a Evangelism/ Stewardship 1:00p Jacob's Journey 6:30p Boy Scouts	18 7:00p Confirmation	19 10:30a Wisdom Seekers CR2 1:00p Art Group 7:00p Council Mtg	20 6:30p Cub Scouts 7:00p Choir Reh.	21	22
23 Communion 8:00a Spoken Worship 9:00a Sunday School CR2 10:00a Worship 11:15a Fellowship 2:00p Deeper Life L,H	24 10:30a Sunday's Coming CR2 1:00p Jacob's Journey 6:30p Boy Scouts	25 7:00p Confirmation	26 10:30a Wisdom Seekers CR2 1:00p Art Group	27 6:30p Cub Scouts 7:00p Choir Reh.	28 7pm-9pm Kiwanis Trivia Night in Luther Hall	