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Sunday Sermons
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Staff:

Pastor Lynn Fonfara
Lmfonfara@bellsouth.net

Church Secretary
Kelly Murphy

Organist
Catherine Bearbower

Music Director
Jason Longtin

Custodian
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Hope's Newsletter

"TO KNOW CHRIST AND MAKE HIM KNOWN"

Volume 38 Issue 11

November 2012

A Message From Pastor

There's a popular song which begins "Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One, give thanks because God's given Jesus Christ, the Son."

How easy it is to give thanks when we start by remembering that everything we have come from God in the first place. It's even easier when we remember that God is the best giver of all time and that the greatest gift is life through Jesus, God's Son.

This year, as you sit at the Thanksgiving table, take time to give thanks for the good things you have, your home, your family, your belongings, your job, your retirement income, your health (you are still breathing, after all). Take time also to thank God for

the love and forgiveness God freely gives to you.

With thanksgiving,
Pastor Lynn

Council Officers & Members

President
Vic Kahler
*Evangelism/Stewardship
Finance Committee
Property Committee*

Vice President
Russ Telfer
Memorial Committee

Secretary
Steve Northsea
*First Saturday
Property Committee*

Treasurer
Deacon Diane Kahler
*Worship & Music
Committee
Chancel Bell/Chimes
Personnel*

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

Aida Diaz
Youth Group

Connie De Tuerk

Vivian Matthews

Deacon Ted Polack
*Citrus County Blessings
Ushers*

Richard Regan
*Endowment
Property Committee*

Helen Van Horn

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

Financial Secretary
Michel Northsea

Did You Ever Wonder.....?



wall. Sanctuary lamps symbolize Christ's living presence in the church, and also follow the ancient Jewish custom of always having a light burning at the altar.

Did you ever wonder about the light hanging from the ceiling? Our church has a sanctuary lamp in which a light burns continuously throughout the week. This one is suspended from the ceiling but they can be mounted on the chancel

Dollars and Sense from the Treasurer's Desk

September 2012

<u>Date</u>	<u>Communion Attendance</u>	<u>Regular Income</u>
September 2	56	3,672.00
September 9	48	1,944.00
September 16	63	2,304.00
September 23	72	2,053.00
September 30	57	1,487.00
Total Inflows:	\$ 12,218.56	
Total Outflows:	\$ 10,459.78	

The full financial statement is posted in Luther Hall.

Martyr Moment

Elizabeth of Thuringia
July 7, 1207-November 17, 1231

Princess of the Kingdom of Hungary, Elizabeth married at age 14 and was widowed at age 20. She then became one of the first newly founded *Third Order of St. Francis*. She relinquished her wealth to the poor and sick. In the Spring of 1226 when floods, famine

and plague wrought havoc in Thuringia she built a hospital of 28 beds and visited the inmates daily to attend to them. Elizabeth became a symbol of Christian charity in Germany and elsewhere after her death at the age of 24.

She was canonized as a saint by Pope Gregory IX in May, 1235.

Annual Christmas Party

Plans have been made by Martha Circle for Hope's Annual Christmas party on December 9 at coffee hour in Luther Hall after Sunday worship.

Please mark your calendar for DECEMBER 9 to attend our Christmas party.

Trinity Institute

The Trinity Institute seminar November 9-11 at Hope is a perfect fit for Hope. The theme this year is Radical Christianity, with a focus on taking what we already believe and do and extending it into the neighborhood. I anticipate that by hearing the presentations and participating in the discussions, we will find new ways of sharing Jesus with others. Even if there are no new insights, please come and receive the pat on the back for ministries well done.

Hope members attend free. Others pay \$25. All are asked to contribute a free will offering for the cost of meals and snacks.

Volunteers are needed for hospitality and meal set up and clean up.

Schedule: Friday 6-9pm; Saturday 8am-5pm (approx.); Sunday 9:30am – 10:45 (as usual)

Esther Circle

Our series of Bible studies “gathered by God” continues with Session 3 on November 15. “Nothing Lost” focuses on two kinds of gathering in John’s account of the feeding of the 5,000: first, the crowds are gathered around Jesus, and secondly, the fragments are gathered up after everyone has eaten their fill. There are also two kinds of fragments: the first kind refers to leftover bread, a sign of God’s abundance, the second refers to people who are Jesus’ own and who recognize Him as the true bread. God is at work in both gatherings and with both kinds of fragments. We are gathered to be

fed with the bread of life, so that none may be lost.

One of our study objectives is to hear the promise inherent in Jesus’ words. “that nothing may be lost” and consider what it means for all who are gathered by God. We are to “come and see” according to Jesus.

Please join us on Thursday, November 15 at 10:30am in the church parlor. Copies of the lesson are available in the church office as usual.

Janet Esworthy

Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Ministry

October 19 was a special day for Operation Christmas Child shoebox ministry here at Hope. The morning started early in Luther Hall with Terry Lucente and Carole Warden setting up the tables laden with items to be used to fill the shoeboxes by the 8 ladies who came in the afternoon.



Thank you, ladies for making the work quicker and easier this year.

We still have a few items left, so we will be finishing our total in the next couple of weeks.

THANKS to everyone who has contributed in any way towards our goal of 100 boxes this year.

Hazel Rienstra, Ruth Moheit, Lempi Tervo, Helen Van Horn, Casey Gaylardo, Lillian Taylor, Kerry Reed, Kelly Murphy, and Carole Warden filled 84 boxes in just over 2 hours. What a blessing!

The shoeboxes will be blessed by Pastor Lynn at our Sunday service on November 11.

Carole Warden

Martha Circle

Martha Circle gathered on October 3 in Luther Hall and worked on Thanksgiving crafts and cards.

They planned the rest of their activities for 2012 which include filling the Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes on October 19, and gifts for special people to be made or wrapped as well as a Christmas Party during coffee hour on December 9.

The seven ladies enjoyed celebrating

Thanks:

To Vic Kahler and Steve Northsea for making sure the connection would work for our Trinity Institute. It was not easy, considering some systems weren't working properly to begin with, and the tinkering made things worse before they got better!

Jacob's Journey

Jacob's Journey will be starting shortly after Thanksgiving. We will be studying the continuation of the Gospels which is the next book, the book of Acts. Everyone is invited to join the class on Mondays from 1-3 P.M. I am looking forward to seeing all those who are expecting a blessing from the book of Acts for there are many lessons in that book which teach us about the beginning of our church history and the beginning of the great apostle, Paul. The rest of

Ruth Moheit's special birthday with a cake brought by the Birthday gal herself!

No Martha Circle meeting in November! We will gather on December 5 at 1:00pm in Luther Hall's classroom 3 for our last meeting of 2012.

Please join us. Light refreshments and plenty of conversation for all!

Carole Warden

the New Testament are the letters to the young churches which establishes the principles and theology of the N.T. churches to our day. Wonderful lessons which should be read and re-read by all in the church who love the Lord. Please consider setting aside some time each Monday to study with us. Thanks You, Anita O'Donnell

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.

Thinking About Connections

Pastor Lynn recently attended a conference that included some ways to help us think about the many dimensions of our relationships. Keynote speaker Margaret Marcuson asked a series of questions.

- 1) What gifts do you have and how do you share them?
- 2) What are you called to do?
- 3) What connections do you want to make?
- 4) As a result of considering the first questions, what do you intend to do?

Here's how Pastor Lynn answered:

1) I have patience, a concern for others, and passionate faith in

Jesus, and share them at home and in my congregation. 2) I am called to share the love of Jesus in as many ways as I can, with as many people as I can. 3) I want to connect better with people in the immediate community. 4) I will make a variety of signs to tape to my computer as I drink iced tea at the Cowboy Café.

Please take a few minutes and answer these questions for yourself. If you can, do this with someone else and share your answers after each question.

Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes

Helen Van Horn shared with the ladies at Martha Circle a clipping from the Charlotte, North Carolina Observer newspaper that was sent to her daughter, Betty, and I would like to share parts of this article with your.

“The gift-wrapped shoebox from America contained a few inexpensive trinkets, a stuffed dog, a blue notebook, hair ties, glitter pens, and a tube of toothpaste. But as she opened the box in Uzbekistan, Yuliya Shubina didn’t know it would change her life. Shubina (age 20) told her story to 30 people at Calvary Church in South Charlotte and she encouraged volunteers to continue giving of their time and their presents in hopes of changing the lives of other young people. Shubina is an in-the-flesh representation of the impact the gifts can have on others. At the bottom of her box was a letter from an American girl who

packed the box and encourage her to write. They became pen pals and as the instability of her country increased, her family moved to Russia. An opportunity to become an exchange student opened the door for Shubina to come to America, where she went to a host family in Colorado and she became a Christian. She recently found the girl, who had sent the box over 10 years earlier, and they have become friends and they stay connected through Facebook. She and her friend both pack shoeboxes to be collect in November.”

Our collection end on November 12 for 2012. I will give you an update on our total in the December newsletter.

Carole Warden

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

Helga Whitler—Hampton Manor at
Deerwood, Ocala

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 month of September the following members have designated Hope Evangelical Lutheran Church

as beneficiaries of their Thrivent Choice dollars:

Victor Kahler
Constance DeTuerk-Telfer

Thank you for your generosity!

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

Hope's Trivia

- ⇒ In October 2000, a new phone system was installed, with separate voice mail boxes for pastor and secretary.
- ⇒ A group called New Beginnings formed in 2001 for widowed people. A social and support group, the members attended various events in the area as a group. Especially, they went to eat together.
- ⇒ In the summer of 2001, the decision was made to offer Holy Communion every Sunday. A variety of liturgy formats and methods of serving were tried June – September. The result

was a variety of formats each month, alternating between intinction and communion served at the rail, with dismissal by tables (blessing each group at the rail) or continuous (blessing everyone at the end).

Hope's Council Minutes From September 18, 2012

1. Call to Order/Remarks - Victor Kahler, President - 7 PM

2. Roll Call - Steven Northsea, Secretary

President Victor Kahler (present)
 Vice President Russ Telfer (present)
 Secretary Steven Northsea (present)
 Treasurer Diane Kahler (present)
 Council Member Deacon John Chiappetta

(present)

Council Member Aida Diaz (present)
 Council Member Constance DeTuerk-

Telfer (present)

Council Member Vivian Matthews (absent excused)

Council Member Ted Polack (present)
 Council Member Dick Regan (present)
 Council Member Helen Van Horn (present)
 Council Member Renate Wilms-Rovin

(present)

Pastor Lynn Fonfara (present)

3. Devotions - Steve Northsea

4. Guests - Edith Regan, Member of Hope

5. Adoption of the September 18th Agenda

A. Additions/Corrections

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

6. Report of the Secretary

A. Additions/Corrections

B. Acceptance was moved by Dick, seconded by Constance and passed unanimously.

7. Report of the Treasurer

A. Questions/Concerns

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

8. Report of the Pastor (see attached report)

A. Questions and Concerns

B. Any items needing Council approval -

1. Pastor requested that 2012 Continuing Education funds be transferred to 2013. Steve moved to refer to this request to the finance

committee for the purpose of 2013 Ministry Spending Plan. Russ seconded and passed unanimously.

2. Russ moved, Steve seconded and the council voted unanimously to accept with regret the resignation of Hope Choir accompanist Hazel Reinstra as of October 14.. A retirement party will be held on October 21st during the coffee hour. The personnel committee will begin the replacement search.

9. Reports of Church Committees by Council Liaisons

A. Christian Service

Evangelism/Stewardship (3rd Monday at 10:30 am) - See attached report

The council voted unanimously authorize President Victor Kahler to sign the contract to enter into partnership with the Citrus YMCA to offer classes and activities on a mutually agreed schedule at Hope. Classes being offered starting soon include Stability and Strength, Stability Ball, Pilates, Cardio Circuit and Yoga. There will also be a youth camp in the summer of 2013.

First Saturday - No report

Family Activities - Martin Luther Reformation Dinner will held in October.

B. Christian Education (3rd Sunday)

Education -Two students are currently enrolled in Confirmation Class

Youth Ministry - Will do community service 1) on Saturday October 27th serving at the Haunted House to benefit Citrus United Basket; 2) will freshen and re-supply Activity bags used by children during church service, 3) help unload Publix truck for Citrus County Blessings at 9 - 8:30 on the last Saturday of the month. (Continued on page 10)

Council Minutes (Continued from Page 9)

Adult Ministry - Pastor starting new Wednesday class. Anita's class will start after Thanksgiving.

C. Christian Worship

Worship and Music (Quarterly) - The council voted unanimously to implement the Worship and Music Committee's recommendation to implement on a trial basis an "informal" service on the second and fourth Sundays in October and November to determine if the congregation would enjoy a different setting for an eventual second Sunday service time. The "informal" service would include more contemporary music and less pomp and circumstance, but would still retain the devotional aspect of the traditional Lutheran services. The ultimate goal is to determine if Hope could go to a two service format (8 and 11) in order to provide a "kid friendly" time (9:30) for Sunday School. Following the experimentation a congregational meeting and vote will be held to determine the final plan.

D. Administration

Property - See attached report

Long Range Planning - None

Finance - needs meeting. 8 month MSP presented by Victor indicates we are operating below budgeted expenditures.

Personnel - Instituting search for Choir accompanist

Memorial - nothing to report

Endowment - Balance of \$52,405.40. They earned \$13.10 interest. They wish to remind congregation of the purpose

of the endowment committee and what is done with money specifically left to endowment fund. An article will appear in the newsletter and

10. Old Business

A. YMCA Contract - See Evangelism

B. Types and Content of Advertising for Hope - It was moved by Diane, seconded by Aida and the council voted unanimously to place a 1/4 page ad in the special "pink" Breast Cancer awareness edition of the Citrus County Chronicle on October 2nd (October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month.). The ad would promote Hope's 9:30 Sunday service, prayer requests for breast cancer, and a special healing service on October 10th. Portions of the cost will be paid by member contributions in memory of loved ones who have suffered breast cancer.

C. Updated MSP Plan - See Finance

D. Additional Sign for Hope - Council voted unanimously to accept Evangelism Committee's recommendation to explore the possibility of purchasing a digit sign for Hope. Steve will contact Stewart sign company for design and cost figures.

11. New Business

A. Trial period during October and November for alternating formal and informal worship services - see Worship and Music
Steve moved, Renate seconded and council passed unanimously to table when to hold vote by congregation on two services until a later date.

B. Date Change for October Meeting - Diane moved, Steve seconded and council voted unanimously to move the October council meeting from 7 PM on the regularly scheduled third Tuesday, October 16th to 7 PM on October 23rd as the Pastor will not be here on the 16th.

Council Minutes Continued from Page 10)

12. Consent Agenda - None

13. Current Meeting Highlights for Newsletter and Bulletin

1. The council voted unanimously to accept with regret the resignation of Hope Choir accompanist Hazel Reinstra as of October 14.. A retirement party will be held on October 21st during the coffee hour. The personnel committee will begin the replacement search.

2. The council voted unanimously authorize President Victor Kahler to sign the contract to enter into partnership with the Citrus YMCA to offer classes and activities on a mutually agreed schedule at Hope. Classes being offered starting soon include Stability and Strength, Stability Ball, Pilates, Cardio Circuit and Yoga. There will also be a youth camp in the summer of 2013.

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4. The council voted unanimously to place a 1/4 page ad in the special "pink" Breast Cancer awareness edition of the Citrus County Chronicle on October 2nd (October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month.). The

ad would promote Hope's 9:30 Sunday service, prayer requests for breast cancer, and a special healing service on October 10th. Portions of the cost will be paid by member contributions in memory of loved ones who have suffered breast cancer.

5. The council voted unanimously to move the October council meeting from 7 PM on the regularly scheduled third Tuesday, October 16th to 7 PM on October 23rd as the Pastor will not be here on the 16th.

14. Devotions for October 23, 2012 Meeting - Renate

15. Adjournment and Prayer - Dick moved to adjourn and seconded by everyone. 8:48 PM

Highlights from October 23, 2012 Council Meeting

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

A. Appointed Ad Hoc committee formed to investigate Stewart Sign Proposal and discuss location, county approval process and fund raising for new digital sign. Also second bid will be pursued if can find company of comparable quality. Committee members are Vic (chair), Russ and Steve. Additional volunteers needed.

B. Four council seats will be open. Nominating committee appointed. Members are Renate (chair) and Diane. Additional volunteers needed.

C. Vic will head a committee of volunteers to inventory the Sunday School materials stored in classrooms of Luther Hall so that council can determine what materials will be stored and what will be sold, given away or otherwise discarded so that rooms can be better utilized. Additional volunteers needed.

D. The church will be decorated for Christmas on Saturday December 1st so it will be in full regalia for December 4th Christians United in Christ Meeting - Volunteers needed.

"Yesterday is history, tomorrow is a mystery, today is a gift of God, which is why we call it the present."

Known Birthdays And Anniversaries For November

Birthdays

2 Charles Collins
11 Ginny Cameron
16 Bill Kessel
17 Patricia Kessel
18 Helga Whitler
24 Jackie Dean
29 Carol D'Auria

Anniversaries

23 Steve & Michel Northsea 29



Those Who Will Assist in Worship for November

Communion Assistants and Acolytes

4 - Dee Forsyth/Deacon John Chiappetta
 11 - Anita O'Donnell/Brenna Towne
 18 - Casey Gaylaro/Renate Wilms-Rovin
 21 - Lynn Polack/Anita O'Donnell
 (Thanksgiving Eve)
 25 - Steven Penn/Deacon John Chiappetta

Assisting Ministers

Deacon John Chiappetta
 Anothy Diaz
 Diane Kahler
 Steve Northsea
 Steve Penn
 Ted Polack
 Renate Wilms-Rovin

Altar Guild

Margarita Chiappetta
 Margaret DeWalt
 Casey Gaylaro
 Diane Kahler

Guest Greeter

Lempi Tervo

Greeters

Ann & David Becwar

Nursery

4 - Janice Pitre
 11 - Judy Thomason-Kasco
 18 - Sue Hovis
 25 - Ann Becwar

Ushers for the Month

Russ Telfer
 Dick Regan

Lay Readers

4 - Yvonne Popke
 11 - Steve Penn
 18 - Dee Frosyth
 21 - Anita O'Donnell
 (Thanksgiving Eve)
 25 - Carole Warden



November 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 6:30p Cub Scouts 7:00p NO Choir Reh	2	3
4 Communion 8:00a Confirmation 9:30a Worship 10:45a Fellowship 2:00p Deeper Life L.H.	5 10:30a Sunday's Coming CRI 6:30p Boy Scouts	6 6:30p Girl Scouts	7 10:30a Bible Study Library 1:00p NO Martha Circle 1:00p Art Group 6:00p Youth Group	8 6:30p Cub Scouts 7:00p Choir Reh	9 6:00—9:00p Institute Seminar	10 8:00a—5:00p Trinity Institute Educational Seminar
11 Communion 8:00a Confirmation 9:30a Worship 10:45a Fellowship 2:00p Deeper Life L.H.	12 10:30a Sunday's Coming CRI 6:30p Boy Scouts	13	14 10:30a Bible Study Library 1:00p Art Group	15 6:30p Cub Scouts 7:00p Choir Reh	16	17
18 Communion 8:00a Confirmation 9:30a Worship 10:45a Fellowship 2:00p Deeper Life L.H.	19 10:30a Sunday's Coming CRI 10:30a Evangelism/ Stewardship 6:30p Boy Scouts	20 6:30p Girl Scouts 7:00p Council Meeting	21 10:30a Piecemakers 1:00p Art Group 7:00p Thanksgiving Eve Service	22 Thanksgiving Office Closed	23 Office Closed	24
25 Communion 8:00a Confirmation 9:30a Worship 10:45a Fellowship 2:00p Deeper Life L.H.	26 10:30a Sunday's Coming CRI 6:30p Boy Scouts	27	28 10:30a Bible Study Library 10:30a Piecemakers 1:00p Art Group	29 6:30p Cub Scouts 7:00p Choir Reh	30	