



The Beacon of Hope

The Newsletter of Hope Lutheran Church MARCH 2016

A Word From Pastor Carl

LUNAR & SOLAR HOLIDAY ECLIPSES

Much of religion has some connection to the cycles of the sun and moon. In Pagan, Jewish and Christian religions, many holidays are determined by the cycles of the sun or the moon. Not only do the Pagans use the objects of the heavens to determine their festivities, they also view the instruments of the skies as divine beings in themselves.

In contrast to Paganism, we observe the heavens and believe that one true, invisible God created the sun and the other stars and the moon. The celestial objects simply determine when and how we worship our Lord.

The holidays of the Old Testament are based on a lunar calendar. For example, the celebration of Passover is a moveable date each year depending on the phases of the moon. The Christian holidays are even more complex in their calculations because the Old Testament, the New Testament and celestial courses all play into the equation.

. (Continued on Page 3)

Hope Lutheran Church Women

HLCW BIBLE STUDY & MEETING



What do you hope people will remember about your life? When we're young - if we don't accomplish something today, we can do it tomorrow, or next year, or next decade. As we get older - what if we don't have time to do everything we feel we should do? These are some of the questions to be discussed under the theme, "A Reason to Be Here" — lesson number 7 in the "Growing Older and Wiser" series. The biblical reference will be Philippians 1: 18-26, part of a letter written while Paul was in prison, faced with the possibility of death, yet having an optimistic attitude. Susan Coccie will serve coffee and Jeanette Johnsen will lead the Bible study. We meet on March 8th at 10:00 AM, at the church. Again, all women are welcome. Call Grace if you need a ride.

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COMMITTEE REPORTS

**Hope Lutheran Church
Floodwood, MN**

**Minutes of Council Meeting
February 11, 2016**

Present: Pastor Carl Fiskness, David Zieroth, Lonna Hutchinson, Jeff Kletscher, Elvi Tollgaard, Susan Coccie. Absent: Rob Benson, Jennifer Myles, Pat Seredinski.

Introduction of new council person, Elvi Tollgaard.

Meeting was called to order by out-going president Susan Coccie at 7:00 pm. Pastor Fiskness opened with prayer. New council member Elvi Tollgaard was introduced. Pastor Carl then took control of the meeting.

Election of Officers was held, with the following results:

President: David Zieroth, who then took control of the meeting.

Vice President: Rob Benson

Secretary: to be selected at next council meeting

Treasurer: Susan Coccie

AGENDA

MOTION BY TOLLGAARD, SECOND BY HUTCHINSON TO APPROVE THE AGENDA WITH THE ADDITIONS MOTION CARRIED.

REPORTS

Secretary: MOTION BY COCCIE, SECOND BY TOLLGAARD, TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF JANUARY 14 COUNCIL MEETING, AND THE JANUARY 24 ANNUAL MEETING. MOTION CARRIED.

Financial: MOTION BY HUTCHINSON, SECOND BY TOLLGAARD TO APPROVE THE JANUARY FINANCIAL REPORT. MOTION CARRIED.

Pastor: Activities report attached.

Youth & Family: Souper Bowl of Caring raised \$329.41. Confirmation and 1st communion classes being held.

Outreach: Homework Help has been going well, serving around 30 meals per Wednesday,

Communication & Technology: Video of "Drop Kick Me Jesus" is on our Face book page.

Building: Kletscher presented a list of maintenance items that need our attention. Hutchinson is to be on the Building Committee, and be a liaison between that group and the council. John Serdinski to be asked about the static on the microphones.

Befrienders: 31 cards sent in January

HLCW: Teddy Bear Picnic to be held in April, proceeds going to the Campership Fund. Working on the 50th Anniversary celebration, to be held June 12. Suggested that we purchase new communion distribution items. The council ask that the ladies present an exact list of what is needed, and the price, at our next meeting.

Quilters: Ten quilts done in January.

OLD BUSINESS

A. A church membership roster was presented and reviewed.

B. Rob and Jan Benson and Sue Vance have volunteered to count the Sunday morning offering.

C. Hutchinson asked that we consider fund raising activities for the youth.

D. 50th Anniversary – to be held on June 12, 9:30am - fellowship time, 10:30 am – church service, followed by dinner, to be paid for by the council, with the help of the Globe Offering.

E. Kletscher presented information from MN Power, regarding energy efficient lighting measures. (*Continued on Page 3*)

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NEW BUSINESS

- A. Audit Committee: Rae Rosemore and Tim Tollgaard with do the 2015 audit.
- B. Casey Aro – Zieroth will call Casey to confirm his participation during Catfish Days.
- C. Bank Signatures: At our next council meeting council officers will sign the required form from the Northview Bank.
- D. The church received a letter from the City of Floodwood giving notice of a land use meeting to be held on February 23.

GLOBE OFFERING: March – Food Shelf, April - 50th Anniversary

NEXT MEETINGS: March 15, April 21, 7:00 pm

Meeting adjourned at 8:27 pm.

Susan Coccie, Treasurer

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION & YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRY

First Communion Classes

First Communion Classes for youth from 5th grade on up are going well. There are 4 sessions with Liz Thom and a final session with Pastor Carl. Making communion bread is also offered as an experience to help the youth put into practice making unleavened bread and to reinforce the understanding of Bible history and the Last Supper. Classes are held on Wednesdays at 3:00 pm and also Sundays during the 9:30 am church service.

Word from Pastor Carl – LUNAR & SOLAR HOLIDAY ECLIPSES (Continued From Page 1)

The primary holidays that we celebrate in our church year are based on the life of Jesus with the two most prominent being Christ's birth and resurrection. What complicates our celebration even further is that sometimes these festivities are identified by their Christian name but other times, the pagan name is more common.

For example, in the English language, the celebration for Jesus' resurrection is commonly referred to as Easter. The name for Easter comes from *Eostre*, who was a pagan goddess of spring who brought new life. However, in the Scandinavian languages, the word for the celebration of the empty tomb is called "Påsk" or "Påske."

"Påsk/e" refers to the Paschal Lamb. In the Old Testament, the blood of the Paschal lamb was offered to spare the Children of Israel from the death of the firstborn in the last plague upon Egypt. In the New Testament, this title is also applied to Jesus. (1 Corinthians 5:7)

Because the paschal word is used in the Scandinavian languages, there is no linguistic difference of terms. One has to differentiate in referring directly to delivery from the plague in Egypt or Christ's death on the cross as the "Lamb of God". However in English, we have two words--Passover and Easter to provide easy distinction.

The opposite phenomenon exists with Christ's birth. In English, we refer to the birth of the Savior as "Christmas". However, the Scandinavians call the same celebration "Jul". There is no distinction in speech made between referring to the holiday celebrating the birth of our Lord or lighting the Yule log.

Many and various situations have given rise to the preference of one name over the others. Just like Santa Claus, the Easter bunny will always bring competition at this time of year. As children of Christ, in whatever month, we always know the truest "Reason for the Season."

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Featuring Molly Johnsen

Adventure + Caring + Sharing = Molly Johnsen

Most of us know Molly as the supreme softball pitcher for Floodwood High School. However, there's much more to her athleticism than softball and she has transitioned her love of sports and the outdoors into a career helping others. Molly's other passion is travel – she's been in Haiti, Venezuela, Mexico & Costa Rica as well as within our own United States where she especially enjoyed Hawaii, Colorado, Florida and California.

Molly graduated from the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities campus in 2015 with a degree in Psychology. She has had two internships: at the Minnesota Brain Injury Alliance and at Pure Life by Aspiro. Perhaps the most important experience for her future career was volunteering for "Next Step Ministries" at which she did outreach to homeless people in downtown Los Angeles. The mission of Next Step Ministries is to provide opportunities for students to explore their faith, experience God and extend services to those in need, all in the name of Jesus Christ. Those experiences have led her into a career of helping people to discover themselves and their strengths.



Molly is currently working as a field guide for an Adventure Therapy program called Pure Life. Adventure Therapy provides participants with an opportunity to get in touch with nature, try out some new activities and feel some adrenaline, and break the unhealthy patterns of daily life at home. This method of therapy has been gaining popularity primarily in our western States. Molly was able to find an Adventure Therapy program based in Tinamastes, Puntarenas, Costa Rica. The Pure Life program consists of two groups of 5-8 participants who are young adults and who have experienced difficulty that Pure Life calls "failure to launch syndrome". Molly is a field guide who accompanies participants on weekly adventures such as surfing, white water rafting, hiking, sea kayaking, etc.; leads the group through their daily schedule and helps people – through conversation and activity - recognize the behaviors and circumstances that caused them to have difficulty living as an adult. Field guides usually have two intensive weeks working with the groups and then have two weeks off.

In Molly's off time, she has had the chance to travel to a few beach towns along the Pacific coast and by staying at hostels and going on sight-seeing excursions, she's been able to meet people from all over the world. She said, "Costa Rica seems to be a bucket-list destination for people from many different cultures." The Adventure Therapy teams are a mix of American and Costa Rican field guides so having local friends who know the surrounding area has been most enjoyable in her excursions. Molly is "up for adventure" herself – she likes to explore the area where she lives, is taking yoga, dance and surfing lessons and even has been flying on the trapeze! Her music lives on as she continues to play guitar.

Molly shares her adventures through her pictures on her Facebook page. She has experienced some of the most beautiful wonders on this earth. ...and we feel that she is certainly one of these. Our prayers are for Molly to continue to share her love for God, His passion for His people and to be safe in all her adventures.

*God Has Brought Me
Laughter*

* How does Moses make tea? Hebrews it.

* What do you call a dinosaur with an extensive vocabulary? A thesaurus.

* I used to be a banker, but then I lost interest.

* Don't worry about old age, it doesn't last

* I'm reading a book about anti-gravity. I just can't put it down.

* If God wanted me to touch my toes, he would've put them on my knees.

HLCW MEETING FEBRUARY 9, 2016

President Grace Autio opened the meeting at 10:10 a.m. with a prayer. Nine members were present.

As the January minutes have been published in the recent Hope Beacon, Grace decided it was not necessary to have them read at this time. Treasurer Jeanette Johnsen reported a total of \$87.81 in checking and \$735.80 in savings at the beginning of the period; and after expenses available funds of \$365.47.

Thank you notes were received from Essentia nurse Tricia for donations to Haiti; for donations to the Bethany Crisis Center; for the contribution to WMPL designated for the Ekka missionaries; and from Judy Yund for the contribution to the Bethel Hospital.

Under new business Grace reported that the Communion cover has disappeared, and also the four communion trays are old and rusty and need replacement. The cover is estimated at about \$25.00 and the Trays are about \$7.00 each. It was also noted that the Eternal Candle holder recently was accidentally broken. It was agreed that these items could be purchased out of the memorial fund pending church council action.

Hazel Bailey recently purchased four round and four rectangular tablecloths at a cost of \$70.00. It was moved by Elvi Tollgaard and seconded by Jan Benson that we reimburse Hazel. The expense was unanimously approved. Hazel and LuAnn Heikkila are getting ready for the special Valentine Dinner fundraiser this coming Saturday in the Fellowship Hall.

Lois Hendrickson chair of the 50th Anniversary Celebration of the Trinity/Bethany merger into Hope Lutheran Church of 1966, next June 12, talked about the recent committee meeting and asked for suggestions for the celebration. A picture board and/or a video is being planned, and people with photos of the 'day' are urged to contribute them. She also suggested that at the time, a fellowship hour could be held at 9:30 a.m. Followed by the service at 10:30, followed by a luncheon at noon. The planning is for 150 people, and suggestions are requested by the committee.

The annual Teddy Bear Picnic fund raiser was mentioned, and is usually held the end of April.

The proceeds for this week's Saturday night dinner event will go towards the youth who plan to attend this year's Quake Zone event.

There being no other business, Grace declared the meeting adjourned at 10:35 a.m. The regular Bible Study followed the meeting.

Nancy Raihala, Secretary

QUILTING

The quilters will meet the fourth Tuesday, lunch and join the group. You do not have to know how to sew; we will show you how.



March 22, starting at 9:00 - 3:00. Bring a bag have to know how to sew; we will show you how

PRAYER REQUESTS
Sunday, January 24, 2016

For those who are ill or hurting

Dinah Tveit	Millie Samuelson	Warren Johnson	Michael Mancuso
Theresa Fisher	Ethel Pensak	Jack Moe	Danette Johnson
Brody Wilton	Joy Cich	Violet Johnson	Tye & Missy Grangruth
Tim Myles	Margaret McDermeit	Bette Copp	Lois Hendrickson

For those in the military and their families

Michael Thom
John Seredinski Jr.
David Shafer
Damien Autio

For places where wars and conflict take place

Syria and Iraq Christians and missionaries threatened by the advances of ISIS
Israel and Palestine
Persecuted church around the world

For our missions and world missionaries

Ekka family & other missionaries commissioned with the World Mission Prayer League
Operation Mobilization and AIDS Link International
Vision Petrozavodsk
Judy Yund and Bethel Hospital

Save the Date! Celebrate with us!



50 Years of Hope!

Sunday June 12, 2016
9:30 Fellowship
10:30 Service
Meal to follow

50th Anniversary Celebration
Everyone is welcome!

Hope Lutheran Church
Floodwood, MN

THANK YOU

LuAnn Heikkila, Hazel Bailey, Cory Suonvieri, and Leigha Kuehl for organizing, supervising, and preparing the meal for the February 13 youth fund raiser, and to those who supported this event.

Hazel Bailey and LuAnn Heikkila for organizing the youth's Souper Bowl skit, and to those who donated to this cause.

**MARCH
BIRTHDAYS**

- 1 Tammy Peterson
- 6 Ruth Shultz
- 7 Scott Peterson
- 8 Robert Dahl
Brooke Hughes Johnson
- 10 Amelia Aho
- 11 Carlene Jatkola
Ross Tollgaard
- 12 Alexis Stokke
- 13 Steve Hall
- 15 Nathan Seredinski
Michael Thom
- 17 Patricia Seredinski
- 19 Amber Schoenrock
(Fries)
Bode Hutchinson
- 18 Floyd Ahlgren
- 21 Kaleb Holmes
- 23 Burt Suonvieri
- 26 Evan Suonvieri
- 30 Adam Schminski

**MARCH
ANNIVERSARIES**

- 15 Susan & Dick Coccie
(’01)
- 31 LuAnn & Terry Heikkila

**APRIL
BIRTHDAYS**

- 2 Tracy Zieroth
Courtney Romanek
- 4 Pat Manee
- 5 Tad Farrell
- 7 Lilyana Johnson
- 8 Alaynah Mattila
- 9 David Zieroth
Imijyn Thompson
- 10 Sylvia (Shafer)
Romosz
Hunter Rauvola
- 13 Tracy Hutchinson
- 14 Neva Polo
- 15 Ethel Pensak
Ed Hutton
Jazmine Johnson
- 6 Caleb Fries
Lane Grady
David Shafer
- 17 Maija Rauvola Hunt
- 18 Roy Autio
Sierra Farrell
- 21 Marion Shafer
Jeff Romosz (Sylvia
Shafer)
- 22 Tabitha Tollgaard
Quinn Kuehl
- 24 Hannah Zieroth
- 25 Brooklyn Grovenburg
- 30 Faith Romanek

**HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH
GIVING**

General Checking Account

Sunday Offering

January 24	\$ 755.00
January 31	\$ 694.00
February 7	\$2004.75
February 14	\$2043.00

Other Giving

World Mission Prayer League	\$ 295.00
Souper Bowl of Caring (for Lifehouse)	\$ 333.41
Youth	\$ 123.20
Youth Valentines Meal	\$ 575.00

MEMORIALS

In Memory of Romana Dalbacka
from John & Pat Seredinski \$ 25.00
(Savings)

In Memory of Gladys Martilla
from John & Pat Seredinski \$ 25.00
(Savings)

**APRIL
ANNIVERSARIES**

- 30 Bonnie & Steve Hall





VALENTINE DINNER

Thanks to all who participated



*Formal Dinner Fund Raiser
Hope Lutheran Church Youth*

February 13th from 5:00 – 7:00 P.M.

Hope Lutheran church lower level

Choice of entrée
 Chicken Kiev
 Shrimp

*Everyone is invited:
Individuals, Groups, Couples*

*Reservations are required
\$15.00 per person/ 25.00 a couple
all proceeds/tips go into the Youth Fund*

Contacts:
 Hope Lutheran Office 476-2259 or Hopefldwd7@gmail.com
 LuAnn Heikkila 476-2065 or heikkilafamily@yahoo.com
 any Hope Lutheran Youth,
 or drop RSVP in the box at back of church



March 2016 HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH PLANNER

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
28 9:30 Worship & Sun.Sch. 10:45 Fellowship	29 USHER TEAM: Jeff Kletscher & Dean Fries – Team 5	1	2 Release Time: 11:30-Elem. 12:20-HS 2:30-7:00 Homework Help 3:00 First Communion Class 6:30 Ecumenical Choir practice @ Hope 7:00 Lenten service 7:45 Confirmation mentoring	3 9-10:30 AM Ruby's Pantry @ Arrowhead Town Hall 1-3 PM Pastor's Office Hours	4	5
6 9:30 Worship & Sun.Sch. Installation of Church Council Members 9:30 First Communion Training 10:30 Confirmation Mentoring 10:45 Fellowship	7 USHER TEAM: Burt Suonvieri & Bubba Vance – Team 6	8 10:00-HLCW meeting and Bible Study 10:00 LCMC & NALC Lake Superior pastors' meeting at New Life in Duluth	9 9-11 AM FW Food Shelf at FST Release Time: 11:30-Elem. 12:20-HS 2:30-7:00 Homework Help 3:00 First Communion Training 6:30 Ecumenical Choir practice @ Hope 7:00 Lenten service 7:45 Confirmation mentoring	10 1-3 PM Pastor's Office Hours	11 10:00 Bible Study at Riverview Manor	12
13 9:30 Worship & Sun.Sch. 9:30 First Communion Training 10:30 Confirmation Mentoring 10:45 Fellowship <i>Daylight Savings Time</i>	14 USHER TEAM: Bob Hosking & Dale Rauvola – Team 7	15 7:00 Church Council	16 <i>St. Urho's Day</i> Release Time: 11:30-Elem. 12:20-HS 2:30-7:00 Homework Help 3:00 First Communion alternative Make up day 6:30 Ecumenical Choir practice @ Hope 7:00 Lenten service 7:45 Confirmation mentoring	17 9:30 Worship and Music Committee 12:30 Floodwood Bus. & Comm. Partnership 2:00-4:00 PM Pastor's Office Hours <i>St. Patrick's Day</i>	18	19
20 <i>Palm Sunday</i> 9:30 Worship & Sun.Sch. 10:30 Confirmation Mentoring 10:45 Fellowship <i>Spring Begins</i>	21 USHER TEAM: Rob Benson & Bubba Vance – Team 1	22 9-3 HLCW Quilting	23 9-11 AM FW Food Shelf at FST Last day of Release Time: 11:30-Elem. 12:20-HS 2:30-7:00 Homework Help No Wednesday service or Confirmation mentoring	24 No Pastor's Office Hours 6:30 Ecumenical Choir practice @ Hope 7:00 Maundy Thursday service <i>First Communion for students</i> Beacon news items due <i>Purim</i>	25 No pastor's office hour 7:00 Good Friday service @ the Fair Building <i>Ecumenical choir sings</i>	26
27 8:00 Easter Breakfast 9:30 Resurrection of Our Lord service <i>Sunday School kids sing</i>	28 USHER TEAM: Mark Johnsen & Dave Zieroth – Team 2 <i>Easter Monday</i>	29	30 2:30-7:00 Homework Help	31 No Pastor's Office Hours	Notes: April 1- Leave for Quake/Zone April 3- Pastor Gone Return home from Quake/Zone 2nd Sunday in Easter	



Easter Sunday Breakfast

March 27

8:00 AM

Hope Lutheran Church

HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH

WEB SITE

Hope Lutheran Church now has its
very own web site. Visit us at:

www.hopelutheranfloodwood.org

Also visit us on FACEBOOK:

Hope Lutheran Church,
Floodwood, MN

*The Beacon of Hope is published each month
for members and friends of Hope Lutheran
Church, Floodwood, Minnesota. News items
should be given to Ann Bolstad (476-2130,
cell 343-0943 or send to draseal@aol.com)
by the 24th of the month.*

Hope Lutheran Church
401 Highway 73
P.O. Box 288
Floodwood, MN 55736
(218) 476-2259
Hopefldwd7@gmail.com

Carl Fiskness, Pastor

Sunday School & Worship 9:30 a.m.

Hope Lutheran Church
P.O. Box 288
Floodwood, MN 55736