



The Beacon of Hope

The Newsletter of Hope Lutheran Church APRIL 2015

A Word From Pastor Carl

UNITY AND CONFLICT

Like human families, the people of God become a spiritual family in at least two different ways.

Romans 8:15 says: *“But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. For he is our peace; in his flesh he has made both groups into one and has broken down the dividing wall, that is, the hostility between us.”*

And it is written in Ephesians 2:13, *“For you have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but you have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father, the spirit.”* (Continued on Page 2)

Hope Lutheran Church Women

BIBLE STUDY/BUSINESS MEETING



Session eight of “The Proverbs 31 Woman” is on Wisdom - The Story of Mary of Bethany. Many are familiar with the sisters of Lazarus - Mary and Martha. Martha was busy in the kitchen, getting ready for the visit of Jesus, while Mary was listening to what Jesus had to say. How can busy-ness get in the way of prayer and Bible study? Are there tricks for balancing daily “duties” with time for God’s word? We also discuss the life of Ruth Bell, the wife of Billy Graham, and a Christian writer. We meet on April 14th at 10:00AM at the church. Jan will serve coffee and Jeanette will lead the Bible study. Ginny Larva will attend our meeting and give us some information about the Gideons. All women are invited to attend. (Continued on Page 3)

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COMMITTEE REPORTS

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION & YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRY:

BAPTISMS: Congratulations and God's blessings to Neva Polo who was baptized on March 18, 2015 and to Billie Jo, Alexis, Carter and Kiaja Stokke who will be baptized on April 2, 2015.

FIRST COMMUNION: Savannah Speece, Tamera Lundstrom, Neva Polo and Carter Stokke celebrated their First Communion by assisting with distribution of Holy Communion on Maundy Thursday, April 2, 2015. God's blessings to these youth on their faith journey.

WORSHIP AND MUSIC COMMITTEE: Reminder: The Worship and Music committee welcomes your suggestions for favorite hymns that can be used during Sunday services.

We also welcome anyone who would like to provide special music to contact a member of the Worship and Music committee: Jeanette Johnsen, Nancy Raihala, Liz Thom, Pastor Carl.

OUTREACH COMMITTEE: The Homework Help project is well received by high school students and the community. We are in need of additional tutors to assist elementary students who seem to need 1:1 help in order to stay focused on their work. We are also developing "Rules for Homework Help" so that we can fulfill our mission of assisting with homework and not being used inappropriately as daycare, after school, or baby-sitting service. We are NOT daycare. To become a volunteer tutor, please come on Wednesdays at 3:00 pm for elementary students; 5:00 pm for high school students. Spelling words, reading and math homework are the priority subjects for elementary students. Homework Help will continue until the end of the school year.

Word from Pastor Carl (Continued From Page 1) UNITY AND CONFLICT

Nuclear, extended and church families all experience conflict. Paul wrote a number of his epistles to congregations where discord was taking place.

The church experiences conflicts for a variety of reasons. While Jesus' righteousness makes the believers saints, at the same time we are still sinners. Because the sinful nature remains, many conflicts in the congregation are simply personality disagreements.

Besides interpersonal difficulties, there are varying ideas of which ministries are priorities. There can be divergent opinions about how the church should be staffed. There are different ideas about maintaining the church building. Differences also arise from time to time over matters of biblical interpretation and church teaching.

We tend to think of these disagreements as being only negative. And indeed much of the outcome of church conflict generates a lot of heat but sheds little light. But some positives can come from disagreements in the Body of Christ.

Conflict can have a way of helping expose genuine dedication. Hearing people talk about a disagreement can yield information on what their objectives or hopes are. Because most conflicts often require reevaluating the steps that led up to the crisis and a more careful evaluation of the matter in contention, congregational strife can help the local church refine its loyalties and objectives. *(Continued on Page 3)*

Word from Pastor Carl (Continued From Page 2) UNITY AND CONFLICT

The spring leadership gathering of Lake Superior LCMC and NALC will take up the matter of congregational discord on Saturday, April 18 at New Life Lutheran Church in Duluth. Pastor Kevin McClure from Roseville, MN is an expert on the topic and will offer insight and strategies for congregations to foster a positive climate, facilitate respectful disagreement when dissension arises and equip leaders in evaluating what can be learned and taken away when disagreements surface. Mark your calendars to attend this event to help our church work towards harmony and healthy discernment.

HLCW News (Continued From Page 1)

The HLCW had a short business meeting before our Bible study on March 10. We planned to have a Teddy Bear Picnic Sunday, April 26th. Naomi Circle will serve the meal. The proceeds will go to the general fund of the church.

We also voted to give \$200.00 to the group going to the Quake Zone in Minneapolis.



A PENNY SAVED IS A PENNY DONATED - to the Floodwood area food shelf. The gallon jug at the back of the church yielded \$82.83, and the change jar present at all women's meetings and Bible studies contained \$36.55 for a grand total of \$119.38. Thank you to all who contributed!!

TEDDY BEAR PICNIC

HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH



Sunday, April 26.....After Church

Proceeds will go to the general fund of the church



March 20: The 2015 Quake Zone attendees from our church. Chaperones Leigha Kuehl, and Pastor Carl Fiskness.



Hope Lutheran Church installation of the Church Council. Left to right: Jen Myles, at large member; David Zieroth, Vice President; Susan Coccie, President; Rob Benson, Treasurer; Lonna Hutchinson, Bubba Vance, and Patricia Seredinski, at large members. Pastor Carl Fiskness officiated the installation. Council members not present Kathy Johnsen, Secretary, and Bryan Hutchinson, at large member.



UNITY and CONFLICT



A seminar to benefit church leaders in building and maintaining a healthy church culture. Learn practical skills to help your church remain a healthy place when disagreements happen.

Presenter: Rev. Kevin McClure

When: 10am - 2pm Saturday April 18, 2015

Where: New Life Lutheran Church
4424 Venture Ave
Duluth, MN 55811

Cost: \$10 for lunch (Subway) and freewill donation for future events and seminars.

RSVP: Pastor Paul Mattson

Email: pauljm@immanuelcrosby.org

Phone: (218-546-6010).



About the seminar from Kevin McClure: I think the best time to teach on Conflict Management (I used the word management instead of resolution because outcomes can not be guaranteed) is when a church is not in conflict. What I share about UNITY constitutes the first part of the seminar and it lays the groundwork for learning conflict skills. The CONFLICT part of the seminar will help those in attendance to distinguish the "fight worth having" from hills that are not worth dying on and will provide a practical process to create a culture of honor in the local church. All in all, the seminar provides tools to help create a healthy church culture where people can learn to disagree without being disagreeable."

About Kevin McClure: "I've been a follower of Christ for 43 years and a pastor for nearly 37. I will celebrate 40 years of marriage to my bride Laura. We have four grown children and three grandchildren. I serve as a church planter, seminary dean, seminar and conference speaker and consultant. I'm currently the Dean of Students at The Master's Institute Seminary (we are housed at First Lutheran in White Bear Lake, MN) and I am the pastor of Family Room Church, a house church that meets in Arden Hills, MN.

This event is presented and sponsored by the Lake Superior Fellowship Group of LCMC/NALC.

**HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH
FLOODWOOD, MN
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
March 17, 2015**

Meeting called to order at 7:03 pm by President Susan Coccie. Pastor Fiskness opened with prayer.

Present: Pastor Carl Fiskness, Bubba Vance, Susan Coccie, David Zieroth, Rob Benson, Pat Seredinski, Jen Myles.

Absent: Bryan Hutchinson, Lonna Hutchinson, Kathy Johnsen.

A motion was made by David Zieroth to approve the agenda. This was seconded by Bubba Vance, voted on, and passed.

REPORTS

Secretary: A motion was made by Rob Benson that we approve the minutes of the February 17 council meeting. This was seconded by Jen Myles, voted, and passed.

Financial: A motion was by Bubba Vance that we approve the February Financial reports as presented. This was seconded by Jen Myles, voted on, and passed. A copy of the Endowment Fund, for year ending 2014, was also presented.

Pastor: Pastor Carl Fiskness presented his report to the council.

Youth & Family, Education: There will be 6 more baptisms; April 8 will be the last day for Release Time; 2 adults and 9 students will be attending Quake Zone this coming weekend.

Communication & Technology: Nothing new to report.

Building: Now that the snow has cleared, this committee will walk around the parsonage, the rental house, and the church, to see what, in any, maintenance is required.

Befrienders: Nothing to report.

HLCW: Teddy Bear picnic has been scheduled for April 26; the income from this event to be donated to the church General Fund.

Quilters: Have completed 9 mission quilts, and one adult baptism quilt this month.

OLD BUSINESS

A. Attendance Records: We have begun using the attendance books that have been placed in every pew. This information has been entered onto an excel spreadsheet, and will continue to do so.

B. 2014 Audit: Rob Benson and Susan Coccie have been working on this, and will continue to do so. When they are finished, a report will be submitted to the council.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Easter Breakfast: Will be prepared by Leigha Kuehl, LuAnn Heikkila, and Hazel Bailey. Funds raised by this event will be donated to the church Youth Fund.

B. It was reported that the 5 fire extinguishers in the church had an annual inspection; all were re-tagged and approved.

Bryan Hutchinson arrived.

C. On April 18 there will be a Lake Superior LCMC & NALC Leadership gathering in Duluth; all council members were encouraged to attend. This meeting is open to all members of the church.

D. The Good Friday Service will be held at the Downtown Fair Center, sponsored by the Baptist Church.

GLOBE

There will be no globe offering taken during the month of April; we will continue to support events by donating to the soup suppers, and the Easter breakfast.

Pastor Carl Fiskness closed the meeting in prayer.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:38 PM.

NEXT MEETINGS

Thursday, April 23, 7:00 PM, and Thursday, May 21, 7:00 PM

Jen Myles and Pat Seredinski, acting secretaries

**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) Rosmosz
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
- 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

**APRIL
ANNIVERSARIES**

- 30 Bonnie & Steve Hall

**MAY
BIRTHDAYS**

- 9 Alice Shafer
- 10 Gordy Granmoe
- 11 Tasha Belter
- 12 Rob Benson
- 14 Keven Johnson
- 17 Jim Tollgaard
- 19 Joyce Andrews
Jacob Serebinski
- 22 Don Rosemore
- 23 Grace Autio
Ben Rosemore
- 24 LeRoy Samuelson
- 28 Carol Schminski
- 29 Kathy Johnsen
Bob Rahja
- 30 Laverne Hutton

**MAY
ANNIVERSARIES**

- 28 Grace & Roy Autio ('55)

MARCH 2015 GIVING

GENERAL FUND

Sunday Offering & Coffee

\$ 7784.43 (Sunday and
Lent offerings)

Youth

Soup Suppers
\$ 183.00

Movies
\$ 80.00

Quake Zone
\$ 943.00

Homework Help
\$ 100.00

Globe Offering (Food Shelf)

\$ 590.00

Memorials

In Memory of Arnold Tveit and
family from Dinah Tveit
\$ 300.00 (Savings)

In Memory of Jean Mickelson from
Ken & Marilyn Stephen
\$ 10.00 (Savings)

MEMORIAL SERVICE



**IRENE BOLSTAD'S
CELEBRATION OF LIFE
SATURDAY, APRIL 11, 3:00 P.M.
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.*

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Carl Fiskness, Pastor

Sunday School & Worship 9:30 a.m.

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