

The Beacon of Hope

The Newsletter of Hope Lutheran Church

JULY 2020

Pastor's Corner

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Dear brothers and sisters in Christ. Great news! We are now worshipping together in Church again! Come on out! I would love to see you and so would our members. God said (Gen2:18) "It is not good that man should be alone." What does that say, what does He imply about the human creature? You can live alone like a hermit in the wilderness or stay shuttered in your home. Yet is that God's plan A for everybody?

You can worship by yourself, socially distanced enjoying "high technological fellowship" on Sunday with a hot cup of coffee and lounging in your pajamas, watching from your easy chair. However, is that best? What do you lose alone? What do you gain in community? What can believers accomplish together that would never occur in a world of privatized Christianity?

We are now living in a no-handshake, no-touch society and we hear over and over again from the media "We'll get through this together." Do we really think when we get to heaven it will be a simple wave, a nod or an elbow bump for all eternity? Or will it be an eternal hug fest?

I recently read that it has been said somewhere: "You can survive alone, but you need others to flourish." God created us to be together and to love one another. The early disciples were a community of believers. There are still many in the healing process from COVID-19. As communities and regions open up, there will be a season of touch hesitancy, even in church for a while. But it cannot last forever. When we gather for worship, we become unlike any other form of human gathering. We are family. We are brothers and sisters in Christ. We are all connected as parts of the body of Christ. We need to be together.

I have noticed over the years that when a sports team wins, no matter the gender, no matter the sweat, they all embrace in victory. As Christ has won the biggest victory we need to celebrate. We are bound together on the same team. Men hug, women hug, Adults hug kids. Some high five. Others pat shoulders or back. It is all safe. It is all healthy. It is part of being a human being. Even Jesus touched people when he healed them. He could have just said the words to heal them, but he touched them! By the healing power of Jesus, we touch. He heals. Healing will come to our nation. And you will be spiritually healed.

This viral pandemic will pass, and we will return to be the Christian Community God created us to be. Until then it is good to safely meet with and encourage one another while we worship and praise God for all He has done.

God Bless, Pastor John

See you in church!

**HOPE
LUTHERAN
CHURCH
WOMEN**

No news from Hope Lutheran Women

**COMMITTEE
REPORTS**

**HOPE LUTHERAN
CHURCH
COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES**

Wednesday, May 27, 2020

Members Present:

Dean Fries, Tanya Johnson, Deb Tollgaard, Mark Johnsen, LuAnn Heikkila, Bubba Vance, Pastor John Burgess, and Administrator Jeff Kletscher. Absent: Missy Wojtysiak.

Pastor John Burgess opened with prayer.

Meeting was called to order at 7:01 PM by Mark Johnsen.

Approval of Agenda

Motion by Deb Tollgaard, second by Dean Fries to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

Secretaries Report

March Council Minutes - Motion by Bubba Vance, second by Dean Fries to approve minutes as submitted with the change of

removing Rob Benson from the list of those present. Motion carried.

Treasurers Report

Reviewed March and Aprils Financial reports. Motion by Tanya Johnson, second by Deb Tollgaard to approve the Treasurers report as submitted. Motion carried.

Pastors Report

Pastor Burgess provided a verbal report: Has been doing an online service for church, twice a week. Great responses and have reached more this way then with regular church. He states that without Mark, Kathy, Jeanette Johnsen, Sue Coccie, his wife Cindy and Jeff Kletscher these online videos would not be possible. Pastor, his wife Cindy and Grace Autio have been splitting up the congregation and checking in with everyone weekly. Pastor and the other Clergy in Floodwood have discussed how there is a revival in the USA and that the Holy Spirit is at work, due to the amount of people they are reaching with online church.

Administrator's Report

Report was provided in packet, it included a financial report; Endowment Fund Report, and details of rental and youth accounts.

Committee Reports

Christian Education and Youth – Minneapolis Quake event was in March, Tanya Johnson chaperoned 4 of our youth and they had a wonderful time. We are not sure if Camp Patmos will be happening this year due to COVID-19. Local Fairs are canceled, so there will be no Feed Sack demonstration/fund raiser. Flower basket sales went well. There was an issue with the plants from the Feed Mill, although

Maria Manner did take \$5 off each basket. VBS has been rescheduled for July 27-31.

Outreach Committee – No report.

Building Committee – Tree removal at parsonage, LuAnn will talk with her neighbor Greg Schiminski about removing it. Jeff will ask David Zieroth. Shrubs removal at south end of parking lot should be removed, no rush.

Quilting – They have begun working on quilts, and they have been making masks to donate as well. Quilts are being accepted by the Salvation Army. Jeanette will run them down there.

Old Business

- a. Employee Evaluation and Salary review – On hold due to COVID-19. Dean and Bubba on Committee.
- b. Rental Update – Motion by Mark Johnsen, second by Bubba Vance to offer the garage to the Lamping's. They would have to move garage by a specified date. Jeff Kletscher will contact them. Motion carried.

Once garage situation is figured out Jeff will reach out to Johnston Trucking and Excavation to verify the demolition bid. Then a Congregational meeting can be held for final approval.

- c. 2019 Audit – Tim Tollgaard and Kathy Johnsen will assist with this when it is safe.

New Business

- a. Re-opening, Discussions and Plan Design – Jeff

reported that he had purchased: pre-filled communion cups, touch less thermometer, sanitizer, and 3 automatic dispensers. Discussed that until the CDC states that the numbers for the COVID-19 is in decline for two weeks, the Council would not be reopening church. Discussed the safety measures the church would put in place for when they do reopen church. Current list of safety measures will be included in the June newsletter.

Globe Offering: Will be suspended at this time.

Next Meeting – Wednesday, June 10, at 7 PM in the Church Basement. (Main topic: Discuss Re-Opening)

Pastor Burgess closed with prayer.

Meeting adjourned at 8:27 PM.

JULY BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Alexis Hutchinson
- 6 Bryan Hutchinson
- 7 Jeanette Johnsen
Tim Tollgaard
Jayden Laine
- 9 Jennifer Heine
- 10 Brea Wallaker
- 14 Deana Fries
- 15 Megan Aho

- 17 Nicole (David) Shafer
- 20 Jodi Fiskness
- 22 Tara Belter
- 23 Barbara Bernsdorf
Debra Hyry
- 24 Violet Peterson
- 30 Willie Moe

JULY ANNIVERSARIES

- 1 Danielle & Tim White
- 2 Bryan & Tracy
Hutchinson ('05)
- 10 Sue & Bubba Vance
- 14 Ethel & Jim Pensak
- 28 John & Cindy Burgess
- 31 Rae & Don Rosemore

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Dinah Tveit
Madison Kuehl
- 5 Grant Lundstrom
- 8 Joey (Joseph) Bennett
- 10 Sue Vance
Mary Rauvola
- 12 Dave Bolstad
- 14 Owen Seredinski
- 16 Bonnie Hall
David Shafer
Nicholas Johnson

- 17 Linda Christianson
Bob Hosking
- 24 Tricia Love
Charles Shafer
- 26 Lilly Manner
- 27 Jessica Hutton
- 28 Cherie Suonvieri
Summer Johnson

AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

- 8 Jack & Willie Moe ('58)
- 14 Dave & Ann Bolstad
- 17 Mary & Dale Rauvola
- 27 Carlene & Sulo Jatkola



Community VBS has been cancelled. -- Pastors made a decision to cancel VBS for this summer.

PRODUCE DISTRIBUTION



Jeff has made arrangements with AEOA for 2 more produce distributions in the Church parking lot. Dates are Thursday, July 9 and Thursday, August 20, tentative time is 2:00 PM on each day. Volunteers are needed to help at each event – contact Jeff at 218-348-3334 to volunteer. Watch Facebook for additional information.

The Parable of the Sower

Find the 39 bold words from Matthew 13:1-9 (ESV)

S R T E A S D D A M L G S B D
A D A A D C E E I B M E F O E
D R E R S R H H R U O A T R H
S E I E E O T H S U C U R S C
B B P H S S W A U O H O G T T R
N E T T S D P N I N A V B O O
L I S I H S J D L T K G E O C
W L X I U W G R H T A O B D S
D T E S D R S E L B A R A P Z
Y E E F O E R D S N R O H T Y
A J K U T E G F R E W O S G T
E M N O D P R O D U C E D N R
S D O P H M A L R O C K Y O I
G R E A T C I D G O O D K L H
R A E H S U N P F B A H W A T

That same day, **Jesus** went out of the house and **sat beside the sea**. And **great crowds gathered about him**, so that he got into a **boat** and sat down. And the whole crowd **stood** on the **beach**. And he told them many things in **parables**, saying: "A **sower** went out to sow. And as he sowed, some **seeds fell along the path**, and the **birds** came and **devoured** them. Other seeds fell on **rocky ground**, where they did not have much soil, and immediately they sprang up, since they had no **depth** of soil, but when the **sun** rose they were **scorched**. And since they had no **root**, they **withered** away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and the **thorns** grew up and **choked** them. Other seeds fell on **good soil** and **produced grain**, some a **hundredfold**, some **sixty**, some **thirty**. He who has **ears**, **let him hear**."

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Rest for Your Souls

Find the 38 bold words from Matthew 11:25-30 (ESV)

N H T O H U N F A T H E R D S
E E H V I N D D E L A E V E R U
D A G E D D N Q R Y W C S S O
A R I R D E I C L D L I E Z I
L T L H E R F I R A L S L K C
E M O C N S T T R H O I N L A
J E S U S T T E P O E O H N R
H V H O L A D H H E W A E C G
E I V E N N Z C A S C D V N V
A G E D E D N A H N R X R E S
R O B A L I Y Y P U K A E M N
T O I D T N O V B H E T A K E
H E R S N G W H A L O W L Y K
B O E P E W I S E S L U O S
L R D A G E K O Y U H E A S Y

At that time **Jesus** declared, "I thank you, **Father**, **Lord** of **heaven** and **earth**, that you have **hidden** these things from the **wise** and **understanding** and **revealed** them to **little children**; yes, **Father**, for such was your **gracious will**. All things have been **handed over** to me by my **Father**, and no one **knows** the **Son** **except** the **Father**, and no one knows the **Father** except the **Son** and anyone to whom the **Son chooses** to reveal him. **Come** to me, all who **labor** and are **heavy laden**, and I will **give you rest**. **Take my yoke** upon you, and **learn** from me, for I am **gentle** and **lowly in heart**, and you will **find rest** for your **souls**. For my **yoke** is **easy**, and my **burden** is **light**."

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The Parable of the Weeds Explained

Find the 45 bold words from Matthew 13:36-43 (ESV)

G E N I H S K N R D L R O W W
N V E Q L F I I G F E T N T R
I I J E I A G D N N A G F F E Z
H L G R L H N I D G I T A E H
S N E P T U S S E P D P H W L
A S X E S F D C W Z E O E E A
N E O D D I W I O R L H M E R
G U O N F E O P S I H A A D W
S O T I S R R L V Y I R N S N
G H E A R Y C E P Q M V T R I
Z L D N E S D S H O L E T A S
D E R E W S N A N T E S N E W
P A R A B L E E C T A T O E O
E C A N R U F C H Y I G T E N S
B U R N E D T H R O W S E E D

Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples came to him, saying, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field." He answered, "The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man. The field is the world, and the good seed is the sons of the kingdom. The weeds are the sons of the evil one, and the enemy who sowed them is the devil. The harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. Just as the weeds are gathered and burned with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will gather out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all law-breakers, and throw them into the fiery furnace. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears, let him hear.

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The Kingdom of Heaven

Find the 39 bold words from Matthew 13:44-51 (ESV)

G O T S E P A R A T E C L J H
R N N S D V F G N D O D R Y T
A J A E L I Y E N V Y N A A E
N P H S S L D A E I Z E E W E
E A C H H D E R S U P R P A T
V N R D I I E S N O G E M A B
A G E H U D N D W T R Y E D K
E E M H F S E G I X H T E W I
H L R I Y R D N U O F F R E K N
Q S E U S E A R C H E J E D G
V L B T S U O E T H G I R W D
D S O L D A D N T V A L U E O
Q O I J O Y E A Y R E I F A M
D V A E S T G R B E A G E L D
E C A N R U F L T D O O G L H

The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and covered up. Then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls, who, on finding one pearl of great value, went and sold all that he had and bought it. Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and gathered fish of every kind. When it was full, men drew it ashore and sat down and sorted the good into containers but threw away the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the fiery furnace. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Have you understood all these things?

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**HOPE LUTHERAN
CHURCH
GIVING**

General Fund Giving

June 9 \$1895.00

June 21 \$2832.00

Youth

June 9 \$ 10.00

Memorial

In Memory of Marian & Gary
Schwieger from Jeanette
Johnsen \$ 50.00
(Memorial Savings)

Offerings can be mailed to:
Hope Lutheran Church
PO Box 288
Floodwood, MN 55736

Globe Offering

No globe offering for July.

**SPECIAL
CONGREGATIONAL
MEETING**



ON July 19th, following the service, a special Congregational Meeting to take a final vote approving the demolition of the rental house and garage. At the annual meeting in January 2020, the Congregation approved getting out of the rental business. The Congregation also directed to Council to bring forward a final recommendation. The Church Council is recommending demolition of the house and garage to create green space.

**PRAYER REQUESTS
JULY 2020**



For those who are ill or struggling

| | |
|--------------|----------|
| Dinah | Gary |
| Dean S. | Lorraine |
| Frances | Bob |
| Danette | Nick |
| Sadie | Willa |
| Grace W. | Lilly |
| Theresa | Lois |
| Bradley | Phil |
| Coach | Heather |
| Rosie | Liz |
| Gary 'Curly' | |

Those suffering from natural disasters
Spiritual healing and salvation for our family
and friends

For those in the military

David Shafer
Owen Seredinski
Cody Farrell

**For places where wars and conflict take
place**

Syria and Iraqi Christians and missionaries
threatened by ISIS and the refugees.
Those suffering from terrorism.
Israel and Palestine and the peace of
Jerusalem.
Persecuted church around the world.

For our missions and world missionaries

Ekka family & WMPL
Robert & Ulla Suhonen
Vision Petrozavodsk
Judy Yund and Bethel Hospital
Peace*Love*Haiti
Madagascar Mission Project

*For our congregation and Church
Council

*Pastor Julie
*For Pastor Carl, Jodi, and Greta
*Floodwood Police Department
Officers and all law enforcement
officers

***For our world and nation on
dealing with the Covid-19 virus**

July 2020 HOPE LUTHERAN PLANNER

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|--|-----------|-----------|---|-----------|--|
| | 29 USHER TEAM: Don Rosemore & Tim Tollgaard | 30 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 <i>Blessed Independence Day</i>  |
| 5 9:30 Worship & communion | 6 USHER TEAM: John Seredinski & Bryan Hutchinson 8:30-Noon- Pastor's office hours | 7 | 8 | 9 2:00 PM Free Produce Distribution Parking Lot | 10 | 11 |
| 12 9:30 Worship | 13 USHER TEAM: Dean Fries & Jeff Kletscher 8:30-Noon- Pastor's office hours | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| 19 8:00 Church Council 9:30 Worship & communion 10:30 Special Congregation Meeting | 20 USHER TEAM: Dave Zieroth & Mark Johnsen 8:30-Noon- Pastor's office hours | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| 26 9:30 Worship | 27 USHER TEAM: Bob Hosking & Dale Rauvola 8:30-Noon- Pastor's office hours | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | LOOKING AHEAD: Aug 20- Produce distribution |



**CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE
AND FACEBOOK PAGE FOR
INFORMATION AND UPDATES**

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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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED