



The Beacon of Hope

The Newsletter of Hope Lutheran Church

October 2013

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A Word From Pastor Carl

CHANGE: GOOD AND BAD

Since many of you frequently share with me what is on your hearts both informally or through a home visit, I decided here to divulge a little bit of the same through this venue.

Besides the responsibilities of the office of pastor, I have had a number of other matters that have required my attention. First of all, Jodi and I have announced our engagement and plans for marriage. The discussion and planning of the details has consumed a fair amount of time already. I would definitely describe this as being a good change.

However, there are at least two other situations that have also consumed a fair amount of my attention as of late. Time and space do not allow me to elaborate on the second issue (the near completion of the ReClaim Hymnal) but I will share some reflections below on the first.

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BIBLE STUDY

The second women's Bible study in the "Family Matters" series will be held on Monday, October 28th at 10AM. The title is "There's a Little Bit of Deception in All of Us"- facing our own deceptive streaks. Genesis 12:10-20 tells of Abraham claiming Sarah is his sister, rather than his wife. Acts 5:1-11 speaks of Ananias and Sapphira falsely claiming donation of the entire proceeds of a sale to the community of faith. The study ends with discussion of our own times of deception within our personal and church families. Carolyn Hosking will be the study leader and the Rebecca circle will serve coffee. *(Continued Page 3)*



We would like e-mail addresses of our young people who are away from home, so we can send the Beacon to them. You can send them to Marion via the church e-mail address listed on the address page of the Beacon. *(Continued Page 4)*

Word From Pastor Carl
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For the last four years, my parents have been going back and forth between attending the LCMC churches at St. Cloud and Alexandria, which were both an hour's drive. Two years ago, my mother was elected to serve on the Augustana District of the LCMC Women's Board. And after decades of substituting for other pastors on Sunday morning, my dad was finally ordained. One year ago, he was called by the Augustana District to continue filling in for pastors but now in a more official capacity.

On Maundy Thursday, my dad suffered a stroke. The rest of my family figured that this would be the end of his ability to preach and lead worship. However, he has undergone some therapies and has improved his speech and the volume of his voice. It is sometimes difficult for him to recall names and he sometimes mixes up words that are similar in idea (such as "rain" and "snow"). But because he can read his sermon and knows the order of service well enough, he is still able to lead the service.

While he is doing a little better, this new paradigm of health, and their inability to participate at the LCMC church throughout the week, brought them to the conclusion that they shouldn't continue to drive an hour on Sunday in the winter. At the beginning of August, they decided that they should move. Within the span of only two weeks, they placed their house, where I grew

up, on the market, sold it and bought a new place in Osakis, 10 miles east of Alexandria.

Why Osakis? This is where my dad grew up. A good number of his cousins and more of our extended relatives still live there and he has maintained relationships well with these folks over the years.

If they had to move somewhere, I am relieved that they decided to move to Osakis. I have many fond memories of spending time in that place with my grandparents. In fact, there are three generations of my family buried there. As well, my mother's family originally comes from Eagle Bend, MN which is not all that far away from Osakis and there are three generations of that side buried at Eagle Bend, too. I also remember spending good times in Eagle Bend as a child. And so, it is a homecoming of sorts for them to return to that area, even though my dad lived at New London since 1968 and my mom since 1974.

While I agree that they needed to do something different, I have to admit that I have struggled and grieved a fair amount about their move. Especially since I have lived up in the Northland for the past six years, I have not been able to make the trip back there very much and usually not for a significant amount of time. While I have not actually lived in New London since the summer of 1999, I still have a few significant contacts and friends there and Jodi's parents live in that same general area. But when my mom and dad told me that they were

moving, I knew that it was the end of an era. Things will be forever different. Their move has made the chasm between my life there and the present feel even more removed. I will miss even more hearing what people are doing, seeing old neighbors and knowing better the inside perspective of new developments. And it will certainly feel strange to drive by that house and not be able to walk in.

I lament that I haven't been allowed the time to process and get used to the idea. In the short time that I could, I have done my best to enjoy the time there as I could. In the last month, I made two trips back home. The first time was to help with my parent's garage sale and the second occasion was helping prepare for their auction.

I understand intellectually how blessed I am to have had a good experience there as a youth. I also appreciate that as of today, I still have both of my parents on this earth. But there is a part of this move that feels rather unsettling. It has only been 16 years since I graduated high school but so much has changed. My home congregation, where my ordination service was held only six years ago, is no longer a part of my family's connection. The grocery store where I worked is closed. And now someone else lives in the house where I grew up and my parents live in a different town.

Almost all of you have experienced changes like this before. Many of you have made significant moves and have said
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Word From Pastor Carl
(Continued From Page 2)

farewell to people important to you like neighbors and old friends. And on top of that, all of you have undergone changes much more drastic and painful such as the death of family and loved ones.

What a real blessing it is, then, that *“Jesus Christ is the same, yesterday, today, and forever.”* (Hebrews 13:8). I also think of one of the hymns that we sing in times of transition, *Abide with Me*. Its language is old-fashioned but its content is just as true as when it was written more than a century ago. The words to the second verse are:

*“Swift to its close ebbs out life’s
little day;
Earth’s joys grow dim; its glories
pass away;
Change and decay in all around I
see.
O Thou who changest not, abide
with me.*



Thank You

**Susan Coccie and
Donald Tveit**

**for sharing the
flowers from their
gardens for use on
the altar and in
the fellowship hall**

HLCW News
(continued from Page 1)



QUILTING

The next quilting session will be the last Tues. of the month, which is Oct. 29th starting at 9:00 and ending about 3:00. Bring a lunch and have a good day.

**HLCW MEETING MONDAY,
SEPTEMBER 23, 2013**

A meeting of Hope Lutheran Church Women was held Monday, Sept. 23 preceding the monthly Bible study of the new fall season at 10:00 a.m. Seventeen members and guests were present as well as Pastor Carl Fiskness.

President Grace Autio presided at the meeting and the minutes of the April 9th meeting were read and upon motion approved as read.

Jeanette Johnsen distributed copies of her Sept. treasurer's report which showed a balance at the beginning of the period of \$2,384.57; income total of \$799.98 since April including \$429.00 in cookbook sales; expenses of \$1,085.20 including \$200 to the Bethel Foundation in Bolivia and a new vacuum cleaner for the church at a cost of \$530.00. There is a checking balance of \$2,099.35 after expenses and available funds of \$965.01. Upon motion by Lois Hendrickson, seconded by Shirley Johnson the treasurer's report was approved as read.

Correspondence from Linda Christenson, Decorah, Iowa, said that her mom had died. She had been a nursing home resident for many years.

LuAnn Heikkila reported that she had not yet purchased an infant changing table but would do it very soon now that the busy summer was over.

Floor mats for the kitchen have been ordered and should be here this week in time to use during the pie-making session on Friday.

Making new floor pillows for the Sunday School children was discussed and Dinah Tveit said she has enough batting to fill several pillows. Fleece material and pillow forms will be purchased soon and Carole Ahlgren said they could be made by the quilters during one of the quilting sessions.

Jan Benson offered to place a basket out where people can bring contributions of crayons, coloring books and other items for the children to use during church to keep them occupied.

Lois Hendrickson made a motion to spend \$250 on paper products to reimburse the church for items used during the year.

Members were asked to pass the word around that pies will be made on Friday and anyone interested should get their orders in ahead of time. They will be \$7.00 per pie again this year.

A wedding shower for Pastor Carl and fiancée Jodi Swanson is planned for Sunday, October 13 following church services. There will be a pot luck dinner and Mary Circle will be in charge of that. A cake for 100 people will be ordered for the occasion and Shirley Johnson offered to contribute a bucket of ice cream. Bonnie Hall offered to make an appropriate card for everyone to
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HLCW News

(continued from Page 3)

sign. Susan Coccie and Carolyn Hosking are in charge of shower decorations.

It was decided to hold a fall bazaar this year as we have an all new kitchen, on Wednesday, November 13, with serving from 5-7:30 p.m. Rebecca Circle will be in charge of that, and LuAnn's suggestion to serve meatballs, scalloped potatoes, coleslaw and dessert was agreed upon by all. There also will be baked goods available for sale.

Liz Thom has offered to send get-well cards and birthday cards when appropriate. It was moved by Bertha Wain and seconded by Jan that we buy the cards that Liz will use. The vote was approved by all.

There being no other business, President Grace adjourned the meeting at 10:40 a.m.

Nancy Raihala, Secretary

Christian Education & Youth & Family Ministry (continued from Page 1)

ITEMS NEEDED FOR "Busy Bags"



The "Busy Bags" that hang in the nursery for toddlers and preschoolers to use to keep busy in the pews during church are empty. Needed are such things as crayons, coloring books, sticker books, story books suitable for toddlers, and soft toys such as Beanie Babies. There is a small basket in the back of the church to collect donated items. Thanks in advance for any items.

LUTHER AND CHRIST CRUCIFIED

LCMC Regional Gathering of Reformation

October 26 from 10:00 to 3:00

**New Life Lutheran Church
4424 Venture Avenue
Duluth, MN**

**All are welcome to come at 9:30 for
coffee, doughnuts and fellowship.
Orders for Subway sandwiches at
lunch will be taken upon
registration**

RSVP 218 740 3597

Pastor Paul Mattson – Our preacher for the gathering

Pastor Paul Reiff – Luther & the Augsburg Confession

Dr. Arndt Braaten – Luther's Letters of Spiritual Counsel

Pastor Brad Jenson – The Magnificat in Luther and Bach

Pastor Myke Main – Luther and Holy Communion

Pastor Carl Fiskness leads the singing of the Hymns of
Luther

Pastor Stew Carlson – Luther and the Bound Will

Pastor Tony Stoutenburg – Luther's Tower Experience

**Hope Lutheran Church
Floodwood, MN 55736**

**Minutes of regular August Meeting
Tuesday, August 20, 2013, 7:15 PM**

Meeting called to order by President Dean Fries.

Those in attendance include: Dean Fries, Brian Hutchinson, Lonna Hutchinson, Kathy Johnsen, Bubba Vance, Dave Zieroth, Susan Coccie, Pastor Carl Fiskness, LuAnn Heikkila and Marion Shafer. Absent: Rae Rosemore and Carlene Jatkola.

Agenda

Motion by Susan Coccie, second by Dave Zieroth to approve the agenda with additions. Motion approved.

Reports

Secretary – Motion by Bubba Vance, second by Susan Coccie to approve the July 23, 2013 minutes. Motion approved.

Pastor's report – Reviewed Pastor's report. Discussed Monday night Bible study, adult confirmation class but not on a council night; start in September.

President – Went over Financial Report and Balance of Accounts. The Youth expenses are mixed in with other accounts. There is a Youth Account currently not being tracked on our budget. After the audit Dave feels we may need to go to a new church program. There is approximately \$65,000 in the Endowment Fund per Dean Fries. Motion by Kathy Johnsen, second by Bubba Vance to approve the Financial statement. Motion approved.

Youth and Family – Two weeks after school starts Release time starts. Liz is planning and behind the scenes. Jen Myles will co-lead and co-chair. High school release still needs help.

Befrienders – Made calling cards. Liz and Sydney Lough write out cards monthly.

Stewardship – Meeting needs to be set up with Bill Pohl.

Communications and Technology – Website needs input. Website is a good idea.

Building – Directing H2O – Dig a pit, rock, trench, sumps to pit, spoils from pit and landscape. Motion by Dean Fries, second by Bubba Vance to take funds out of the general checking and recover from the endowment fund of \$10,000. Motion approved. This is phase one of rerouting water. Gutters are out from special building committee meeting. Gas meter – 7/29/13 – recorded measurements and tonight (8/20/13) reading – 50 cu. gas used. Was shut off but showed gas used. Is there a fee to use service? Dave Zieroth will check with the gas company.

Old Business

Worship CD's – Jeff Kletscher checked with audio company. We are getting mixer for top of piano. John and Nathan Seredinski fixed wiring that was wrong.

Church office remodel – Rae Rosemore researched copy machines. Getting Xerox from salesman Asp with a catholic discount. Price? John Seredinski has some re-wiring to do. Countertops are in Duluth.

Evaluation of paid positions – Start September 8th. Committee consists of Brian Hutchinson, Rae Rosemore and Susan Coccie.

Loren Lindevig – Coming on Sunday, September 1st service.

Audit – Dave Zieroth and Jeff Kletscher will get together and do audit.

New Business

Sunday School – starts on September 15th with Hazel Bailey.

Advertising the church – Pastor Carl Fiskness decides on advertising and where it goes. Motion by Susan Coccie, second by Dean Fries to have no advertising on church doors, windows unless it's a church function. Motion approved.

Globe offering – Operation Christmas Child – for postage and items for the boxes.

Next meeting – Thursday, September 26, 2013 at 7:15 PM.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

LuAnn Heikkila, Council Secretary

SEPTEMBER GIVING

General Fund: \$6946.75
(includes Sunday Offering,
Refreshment Offering)

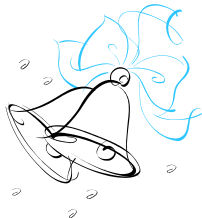
General Savings: \$ 15.00

Operation Christmas Child \$ 26.00

Given to Captive Free \$ 174.00

MEMORIAL & HONOR GIFTS

In Memory of Lloyd & Ann
Warmboe from Warmboe Family
\$25.00



WEDDING SHOWER & POTLUCK

For

**Pastor Carl and
Jodi Swanson**

**Hope Lutheran Church
October 13th
When: After church**

October Birthdays

- 3 Liam Seredinski
Dale Rauvola
- 4 Molly Johnsen
Elvie Tollgaard
LuAnn Heikkila
- 5 Cory Suonvieri
Cody Farrell
- 6 David Jatkola
- 11 Wayne Thom
- 12 Ann Bolstad
- 13 Pastor Owen
Anna Hall
- 16 Ruth Coutermarsh
- 17 Mark Johnsen
- 22 Shannon Johnsen
Jim Hutton
- 24 Bob Andrews
Tamera Lundstrom
- 27 Marissa Johnson



October Anniversaries

- 1 Liz & Wayne Thom ('66)
- 3 Pat & John Seredinski ('71)
- 8 Bernice & Warren
Johnson

*God Has Brought Me
Laughter*

HOLY HUMOR

During these serious
and troubled times,
people of all faiths
should remember these
four great religious
truths:

1. Muslims do not recognize Jews as God's Chosen People.
2. Jews do not recognize Jesus as the Messiah.
3. Protestants do not recognize the Pope as the leader of the Christian world.
4. Baptists do not recognize each other at the liquor store.

~ October 2013 ~
Hope Lutheran Church Planner

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	Sep. 30 Usher Team: Roy Autio & John Seredinski – Team 4	1	2 No high school or elementary release at Hope 5:30 Youth Supper 6:00 Confirmation makeup session	3 9-10:30 Ruby's Pantry at Arrowhead Town Hall	4 3-5 pm Pastor's Office Hours	5 4:00 p.m. Marriage of Barb Larson & Scott Peterson at Cedar Valley Lutheran church
6 9:30 Worship & Sunday School 10:45 Coffee Fellowship	7 Usher Team: Jeff Kletscher & Dean Fries – Team 5 7:00 p.m. Adult Confirmation	8	9 9-11 am FW Food Shelf at FST 12:15-1:00 HS Release 1:50-3:00 Elem. Release 5:30 Youth Supper 6:00 Confirmation makeup session	10	11 3-5 pm Pastor's Office Hours 10:00 a.m. Bible Study at Riverview Manor	12
13 9:30 Worship & Sunday School 10:45 Potluck & wedding shower for Pastor & Jodi	14 Usher Team: Marion Shafer & Burt Suonvieri & Evan – Team 6 Pastor gone for Conference, SD	15	16 12:15-1:00 HS Release 1:50-3:00 Elem. Release No youth supper or confirmation class	17 9:30 Worship & Music Committee 12:00 FBCP Meeting	18 3-5 pm Pastor's Office Hours	19
20 9:30 Worship & Sunday School Robert & Ulla Suhonen speaking 10:45 Coffee Fellowship	21 Usher Team: Bob Hosking & Dale Rauvola – Team 7 7:00 Bible Study Home Fellowship at parsonage	22 6:45 Building and Grounds Committee 7:15 Church Council	23 9-11 am FW Food Shelf at FST 12:15-1:00 HS Release 1:50-3:00 Elem. Release 5:30 Youth Supper 6:00 Confirmation	24	25 3-5 pm Pastor's Office Hours Marriage Encounter	26 10:00 A.M.-1:00 P.M. Lake Superior LCMC & NALC Fall Congregational Gathering
27 9:30 Worship & Sunday School 10:45 Coffee Fellowship In Duluth Reformation Sunday	28 Usher Team: Rob Benson & Wayne Thom – Team 8 10:00 HLCW Business Meeting & Bible Study	29 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Quilting	30 12:15-1:00 HS Release 1:50-3:00 Elem. Release 5:30 Youth Supper 6:00 Confirmation	31	Notes: <i>October 13-After church-Wedding shower and potluck for Pastor and Jodi</i>	



MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER-THE PERFECT GIFT

Step away from the distractions and hassles of daily life and enjoy some quality time for just the two of you on a Lutheran Marriage Encounter weekend. You'll spend two nights in a comfortable hotel and enjoy five delicious meals from Friday at 8:00 pm to Sunday at 5:00 pm. Four presenting couples, including a Lutheran clergy couple, give a series of presentations followed by questions the two of you discuss in the privacy of your hotel room. There is no counseling and no group sharing. No one tries to change who you are. It's great for couples who already have a good marriage and want to enrich their relationship, but it also does wonders for those marriages that have lost their luster through the years. The next Lutheran Marriage Encounter Weekends in Minnesota are October 25-27 at the Country Inn and Suites in Duluth and November 22-24, at the Crown Plaza in Brooklyn Center. Please register a month in advance. Larry and Coke Guilfoile at 651-257-6960, Pete & Phyllis McMahon at 763-561-1575 or visit <http://www.godlovesmarriage.org>

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
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Floodwood, MN 55736
(218) 476-2259
Hopefldwd7@gmail.com

Carl Fiskness, Pastor

Sunday School & Worship 9:30 a.m.

HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH
401 HIGHWAY 73
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FLOODWOOD, MN 55736