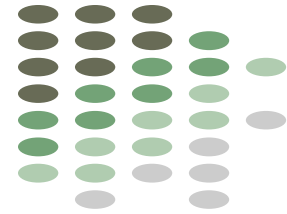


Hope's Newsletter

"To Know Christ and to Make Him Known"



Volume 36 Issue 7

July 2010

A Message From Pastor

In last month's article, I wrote that I hope we can all become more intentionally more prayerful. For the next several months, I will write articles about prayer for you to consider.

There are many forms of prayer. Often, as children we are taught one way to pray by our parents. We begin by memorizing prayers our parents want us to know. I remember praying with my parents, "Now I lay me down to sleep God bless Amen." I learned the Lord's Prayer so long ago, I don't even remember learning it. Some of us may have learned to pray in other languages; for example, I remember the Swedish table grace I learned from my grandmother. What early memories do you have?

Often, our prayers remain these simple remembered treasures, but we may also have learned to pray in other ways. Our prayer lives may be enriched by experimenting with a variety of prayer formats.

Following are four basic types of prayer. The next four months will feature one of the styles in more detail. Which prayer style or styles do you use? Which do you want to know

more about?

Many people use their brains to pray. Words are very important, and this includes the words in prayers and in songs. People in this group enjoy reading devotional prayer booklets and collect Bible study books and commentaries. They also frequently attend Bible studies.

Many other people use their hearts to pray. Feelings are more important than words, and they want to be emotionally involved in prayer. They may enjoy the psalms because they are filled with emotions: joy, lament, anger, and hope. They also prefer to pray in a free style, without preprinted words.

Some people use their bodies to pray. They may dance, sing, create visual artwork, write music, or find some other ways of praying with their bodies. They may find fasting or holding prayer postures helpful to their prayer life. They also usually appreciate meditation or contemplation, quiet times of considering what God might have to say to them.

Many people pray with their actions. While they may rarely sit and pray, they do study Scripture for examples of faith in

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 ning*

action. They gather the prod-
 ucts and create the quilts
 and kits to give to those in
 need. They are advocates,
 challenging others to get in-
 volved in social justice activi-
 ties.

These styles are not an
 all-inclusive list, nor meant to
 imply that one is better than
 another. With this summary
 of a wide range of worship
 and prayer styles, where do

you fit? Is your prayer life alive
 and well, or in need of re-
 freshment? Do you have a
 fixed image of prayer, or do
 you appreciate a variety of
 prayer styles?

Keep reading each
 month for more explanation of
 these prayer styles. In the
 meantime, keep praying!

Blessings
 Pastor Lynn

Rachel's Day Update

Hope's Rachel's Day collection
 for Children's Covenant Home
 in Dunnellon was extremely
 successful. Gifts from the con-
 gregation in May totaled \$472.
 The Women of the ELCA voted
 to donate \$125 from their
 treasury for a gift of \$597.
 Thrivent Financial for Luther-
 ans supplemented an addi-
 tional \$150.

A check for \$747 will be pre-
 sented to Children's Covenant
 Home this month. Thank you
 all for your generosity and sup-
 porting this important ministry.

Over \$500 worth of items
 were delivered to Carver
 Heights Ministries last month.
 One of the older children at

the daycare helped Terry Lu-
 cente, Rich and Mary Wagner
 unload their cars. The director,
 Miss Sarah, was overwhelmed
 with the outpouring of gifts.
 Her assistant, Miss Debbie, was
 sure everything would help
 them get through the summer
 when donations are not coming
 in as often. The center is color-
 ful and cheerful. Learning cen-
 ters are designated for the chil-
 dren to creatively play and learn
 at the same time. The children
 warmed up to us and thanked
 us as they bid us good-bye.

As Rachel mourned for her chil-
 dren, we can do God's work in
 our communities for those who
 need it most. Bless you for your
 gifts.

Dollars and Sense from the Treasure's Desk

The full financial statement for the month of June is on the bulle-
 tin board in Luther Hall.

Council Book Study

When Steeples Cry: Leading Congregations through Loss and Change by Jaco Hamman is the Council focus for much of this year. The book is written for church leaders who wish to help congregations grow in faith and discipleship despite the many changes and losses they face.

Certainly congregations in Florida face the loss of members through death or the move "back north" to be near family. A number of our beloved members have died in recent months. How do we grieve for them? How do we as a congregation help their families grieve as well? We host funeral or memorial services; we pray for their families; we may offer refreshments; we offer grief support groups.

Families that do not hold funerals or memorial services for those who die, who return to life as usual without taking the time to intentionally deal with the loss and the grief and sadness it causes, find they never fully recover, and the grief manifests itself in physical or mental illness.

Congregations face other losses as well. *When Steeples Cry* explores the

diverse nature of congregational losses including numerical, relationship, material, and identity. Even getting a new hymnal is a sort of loss. We no longer know what the numbers of our favorite hymns are; some hymns are missing; some hymns are new and strange looking; and in Lutheran hymnals, the language of the liturgy may also change.

Hope has experienced a lot of change and loss in the last two years, and the council hopes that using and implementing ideas from *When Steeples Cry* will help us identify the losses and patterns of behavior that cause more losses. You are invited to read along with us as we seek to remember the losses and painful times of the last several years, and develop rituals to help us move forward. We believe that this process will help Hope to be the congregation God is calling us to be, in this time and in this place.

If you are interested in reading the book, please contact Steve Northsea.

"PAY IT FOWARD" at 1st Saturday in Dunnellon

I received of a random act of kindness at 1st Saturday.

I saw a "regular" walking toward our booth carrying a clear plastic bag of large red tomatoes. I offered her water and she said she brought her own this time. And when I admired her tomatoes she handed me the largest and said enjoy. I offered to pay but she just smiled and she we had given her water before.

Neat huh?

Sue Hovis

Esther Circle

ESTHER CIRCLE will continue to study prayer at the JULY 15 study session. In the first lesson we focused on being persistent in prayer, In this lesson, we will focus on the relationship between praying and waiting for God to act upon our prayer. God desires that which is in our best interest , even if it is not what we ask for. We will look at what Scripture says about waiting upon God

who hears and answers prayer, but in GOD'S own time. We must learn patience as we pray and wait for an answer.

Once again -- we will meet on THURSDAY, JULY 15 at 10:30 A.M. in the church parlor. Copies of the lesson are available in the church office. It is NEVER too late to become part of our study group. See you on JULY 15.

Martha Circle

The first gathering of Martha Circle was held on June 2nd and attended by Helen Van Horn, Helga Whitler, Lempi Tervo, Ruth Moheit, Terry Lucente, and Carole Warden. The meeting opened with prayer and an explanation of the simple ELCA mission statement - "God's Work, Our Hands".

Operation Christmas Child, the shoe box ministry sponsored by Samaritan's Purse, was the focus for this session. The five essentials (mild soap, toothpaste, comb, toothbrush, and wash cloth) were packed in 62 plastic shoe boxes. This is a wonderful beginning to our goal of 200 in 2010. Many items were bagged including hard candy and stored for another meeting.

Last season, Hope collected 185 shoe boxes for Operation Christmas Child. A collection box is located in Luther Hall for donations. Pick up a shopping list and leave your receipt in the zipper bag attached to the box. Look for details

about an opportunity to raise funds for shipping and Gospel literature in this newsletter.

The Circle concluded with snacks and drinks provided by two participants. Carole set up a lovely table with a shoe box full of toys, hygiene items and a pair of flip flops as the centerpiece along with a framed poem about our blessed hands. Please join us on Wednesday, July 7 at 1 p.m. in classroom # 6 at the end of the Sunday School hallway.

Martha Circle will meet on the first Wednesday of the month year-round to work on outreach projects for our church members, those in the community, and for Lutheran World Relief. We will meet more often when approaching a deadline for packing or transporting. This is YOUR Circle. Your talents, ideas, and resources are welcome. Come see what folks are sharing and see what's new!

Family Members in the Military

We remember & pray for those who protect our liberty by serving in the military.

Joan Klotz's two grandsons:

- Brian Lucas was in Iraq for a year but now stationed in Georgia.
- Kevin Lucas is presently in Afghanistan but is expected home in August after his tour ends.

Vivian Matthews' granddaughter:

- Capt. Kari Matthews is in the U. S. Marine Corps. She is a Weapons Radar Control Officer in a jet known as

a Prowler. She is currently assigned to a squadron in North Carolina. She just returned from 6 months in Afghanistan, prior to that tour, she spent 6 months in Iraq.

Ginny Cameron's grandson:

- Sergeant Eddie Werner is in the Air force. He is presently in Afghanistan.

Please let the church office know of others we can add to this list.

Project Comfort

The Auction for the Piecemakers raised funds to complete quilts and kits plus mail them via the USPS to the warehouse in Maryland. Enough funds were raised to cover the cost of shipping the materials overseas, too. Many churches make quilts and kits, but do not send funding to Lutheran World Relief through Project Comfort. Hope has consistently sent funds, but currently our inventory is on hold in Luther Hall. The warehouse is need of health kits and quilts as disasters deplete their resources. We have no funding for quilt batting this fall.

Below is this year's funding sent for Project Comfort not including the US mailing costs. As you can see, this is an expensive ministry, but vital for so many.

Qty	Item	Cost per item	Subtotal
75	Quilts	\$2.25	168.75
119	Health Kits	\$2.65 (incl. toothpaste)	315.35
7	Sewing Kits	\$1.00	7.00
8	Layettes	\$1.30	10.40
66 bars	Soap	\$11.60 per 18 lb. box	<u>17.00</u>
			\$518.50

Library News



The general assignment for the congregation for this year was to Pray more. It is also the subject of one of the women's circles. The Hope Library has many books with the subject Prayer. The Dewey Decimal No. for this subject is 242.

A few books on the shelves will be mentioned here. There are two of the Chicken Soup books, one "For the Woman's Soul" and one "For the Christian Family". "For the Woman's Soul" is 101 stories to open the hearts and rekindle the spirit of women. There are also appropriate and cute cartoons, for instance, a little girl asks her Mother, who is surrounded by dishes to be washed and surrounded by four small chil-

dren and a dog, "You used to WORK before you married didn't you Mommy?" and another question "Was there an older generation when you were younger?"

There is another very small book with big pictures and a few words, "A Gardner's Love". Jesus said, "I am the true vine and my Father is the Gardner," John 15:1. This biblical truth taught by Jesus in a simple easy-to-read story. In another book "Living Cameos," God is the master sculptor who lovingly and purposefully chisels, carves, and polishes every one of us, shaping us to be his precious jewels.

In case you can't decide which of the many prayer books to select, close your eyes and let your fingers be guided to decide.

Thrivent Financial Congregational Advocate

Do you have your pulse on the needs of this congregation? Are you aware of ministries at Hope that could use funding to continue or get "off-the-ground"?

If you are a Thrivent member, at least 16 years old, and have a good rapport with our pastor, council, committee chairs and are willing to work with our financial representative, Kelli Hope, please contact Darlene Hedin at (352) 637-5482.

Darlene is the Director of Congregational Advocates for six Lutheran

churches in Citrus County and serves on the Chapter Leadership Board.

Training will be provided and on-line access is a plus. Hope can have up to four advocates, but one person needs to have on-line access to receive communications.

As an advocate, you will be invited to attend monthly meetings to learn about chapter activities (Crop Drops, Educational Events, Workshops, Training Events, etc.).

Vacation Bible School (VBS)

Our youth have made great strides in planning for a simple and fun VBS at Hope Monday through Wednesday, July 26-28, from 6-8pm. With the theme of Creation as told in Genesis 1 and 2, participants will learn that everything God makes is good, that God continues to create, and we are also creators and caretakers.



The youth can't do it by themselves, though, and look forward to seeing more adult names on the sign-up board. Won't you check out the sign up sheets and find a place for your interests at

VBS this year? Questions? Contact Pastor Lynn. Registration? Contact the church office.

Christians United in Christ Reunion

Christians United in Christ Reunion will meet at Hope on December 7 at 7:30. A worship gathering of people from many area congregations, we celebrate what unites us, not what makes us different. As the host congregation, we will need

greeters and ushers, and refreshments in Luther Hall. Maybe the choir will sing. Yes, it's 5 months off, but please mark your calendars and plan to attend and help wherever you can.

Angel Food

The Angel Food distribution for May 24, 2010 was successfully coordinated by Kim Serrano.

The volunteers were Dick & Edith Regan, Russ Telfer, Carol and Mark Shapot, Steve and Judy Kasco, Vic Kahler, Joyce Davis, and Tanner Serrano.

The next Angel Food Distribution will be on Saturday June 26, 2010 from 10am to 11:30am at Luther Hall.

Victor Kahler Council liaison

Thanks to:

The Hospitality Committee: Sue Hovis, Carole Warden, Vivian Matthews, and Michel Northsea for planning and carrying out interesting events like the Mother's Day and Father's Day celebrations

Vic Kahler and all who work to keep our lawn mowed and shrubs trimmed

Janet Esworthy and Howard Walsh, and Jim and Sue Hovis who help Kelly every week to get the worship booklets ready for use on Sunday

The members of Martha Circle for preparing shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child, and other hands-on projects

Women of the ELCA at Hope for coordinating the in-gathering of supplies for Carver Ministries

Christmas in July

No – it is not too early to be thinking about Christmas – shoe boxes, that is!

We are kicking off our 2010 campaign with a fun auction on Saturday, July 17 at 3 p.m. in Luther Hall. Delicious Christmas treats, beverages, and decorations will set the mood. Bring your auction item (new or nearly new) gift wrapped (think Christmas paper) or in a brown paper bag. These items are fun to uncover since everyone wants to see what you won! Treasures abound, too. There will be one bag with a value of \$75 and you could get it a lot cheaper! Come join the fun and help raise the \$\$\$ to ship 200 shoe boxes to children receiving the treasure of Jesus' love.

A Christmas tree with envelopes for a \$7 donation or more will be on display through July. Please make your check out to "Hope Evangelical Lutheran Church". You are welcome to write your offering envelope number so the gift is reflected on your church statement. We plan to order labels for the shoe boxes on-line with a bar code to find out which country they were delivered. Last year 185 shoe boxes were shipped to India from Hope.

Known Birthdays and Anniversaries for July

Birthdays

2	Casey Gaylardo
3	Elizabeth Wertz
7	Judy Thomason-Kasco
14	Len Kowalsky
	Helen Savinsky
15	Anthony Diaz
18	Diane Kahler
	Marge Maschino
19	Monika Seeger
23	Dewey Breisch



24	Barbara Baker-Stetson
25	Anita O'Donnell
	Fred Seeger
28	George Larson
29	Edna Zent
31	Joan Layton

Anniversaries

17	Dave & Judy Howe (30)
19	Don & Wanda Copple (30)

Those Who Will Assist in Worship for July

Communion Assistants and Acolytes

4 - Doris Boeson/Dee Forsyth
 11 - Jackie Dean/Mary Peterson
 18 - Lynn Polack/Renate Wilms-Rovin
 25 - Casey Gaylarado/Anthony Diaz

Assisting Ministers

Diane Kahler
 Steve Northsea
 Ted Polack
 Ryan Towne
 Renate Wilms-Rovin

Altar Guild

Diane Kahler
 Margaret DeWalt

Guest Greeter

Janice Pitre

Greeters

Joan Klotz
 Francine Richard

Nursery

4 - Janice Pitre
 11 - Judy Thomason
 18 - Sue Hovis
 25 - Dawn Rodgers

Ushers for the Month

Janice Pitre
 Dick Reagan

Lay Readers

4 - Monica Seeger
 11 - Dick Reagan
 18 - Carole Warden
 25 - Lee Pitre



Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

July 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4 Fourth of July Communion 8:15 Adult Bible Study 9:30 Worship 10:45 Fellowship	5 Office Closed 8:30 Men's Club Mtg	6	7 1:00 Art Group 1:00 Martha Circle L.H. Room #6 6:00 Youth Group	8	9	10
11 Communion 8:15 Adult Bible Study 9:30 Worship 10:45 Fellowship 11:00 Ex-Com 11:15 Christian Ed. Classroom #1	12 6:30 Boy Scouts	13	14 1:00 Art Group 2:00 Healing Service 2:45 Council Mtg	15 10:30 Esther Circle	16	17 3:00 Christmas in July Luther Hall
18 Communion 8:15 Adult Bible Study 9:30 Worship 10:45 Fellowship	19 10:00 Worship & Music Committee Mtg 10:30 Evangelism	20	21 1:00 Art Group	22	23	24
25 Communion 8:15 Adult Bible Study 9:30 Worship 10:45 Fellowship	26 6:00 - 8:00 VBS	27 1:00 Caregiver Support & Info Series at St. Timothy 6:00 - 8:00 VBS	28 1:00 Art Group 6:00 - 8:00 VBS	29	30	31