

Hope's Newsletter

"To Know Christ and to Make Him Known"

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A Message From Pastor

I love Paul's letter to the Philippians, because for me it's a letter straight from a pastor's heart to the people, the congregation, that he cares about. He speaks to them with joy and gratitude, with encouragement, and with a challenge for growth.

For the next several months, I plan to write a monthly article on prayer for the newsletter. This month's article will introduce my hope that we will all become more prayerful. It's fair to tell you that I include myself in this challenge.

I will also include some prayers from a wide range of resources and faith communities. When people pray, we all ask for the same thing: God's presence, guidance, forgiveness, and blessing.

In Philippians 4:6, Paul urges the people to pray. *"Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God."* Paul describes four facets of prayer: 1) a general

type of prayer, 2) specific requests, 3) general requests, and 4) thanksgiving. These are not different, isolated types of prayer, but overlapping forms.

When we pray, sometimes we make a specific request to God, especially when the need for God's response is critical: for example, when a loved one is ill or injured.

Other times, the request is more general, for peace in the Middle East, for example. Then, our request is for a broad range of issues, including justice for all parties.

Sometimes, we remember to say thanks to God when a prayer has been answered, or when we have received a special gift. We can also say thanks for the challenging times, because it's then that our connection with God can increase, as we come to depend on Jesus for comfort, healing, protection, or whatever it is we need.

But, sometimes, prayer is

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more general, a simple wish to keep in touch with God. When we are open to God's will for our lives, and to paying attention to God on a regular basis, we keep the lines of communication open. Prayer becomes a regular pattern for us, and we learn that God is present, and listening, all the time.

If you already pray regularly, I hope you will increase your prayer time, or try different forms of prayer. If you are not so regular in prayer, try making a commitment to give God one or two minutes at the beginning and end of each day. Perhaps ask God before you get out of bed to walk with you, and guide you throughout the day. As you pull up the covers and turn out the light, give thanks to God for the blessings the day has held, including any family, friends, or good things that came

YOU TOOK MY PARKING SPACE AT CHURCH

This should wake us up.

One day, a man went to visit a church, He got there early, parked his car and got out. Another car pulled up near the driver got out and said, "I always park there! You took my place!"

The visitor went inside for Sunday School, found an empty seat and sat down a young lady from church approached him and stated, "That's my seat! You took my place!" The visitor was somewhat distressed by this rude welcome, but said nothing.

Dollars and Sense from the Treasure's Desk

The full financial statement from April is on the bulletin board in Luther Hall.

your way.

As fill your calendars with events, I hope that you will also make a note to spend time with God each day. Some of us do well with a system of accountability: noting our prayers in a journal, or even just a note on the day's calendar square or page, that we took time for prayer. I hope you will find something that works for you.

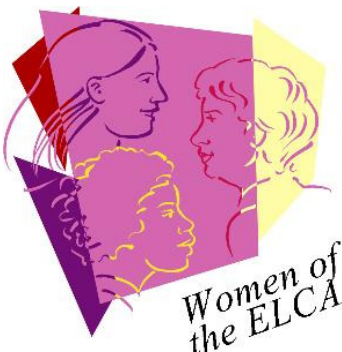
I pray that at Hope we will all become more prayerful, and intentionally increase our dependence on, and trust in, the God who loves us enough to become human.

In love and hope—and prayer,
Pr Lynn

After Sunday School, the visitor went into the sanctuary and sat down. Another member walked up to him and said, "That's where I always sit! You took my place!" the visitor was even more troubled by this treatment, but still he said nothing.

Later as the congregation was praying for Christ to dwell among them, the visitor stood up, and his appearance began to change. Horrible scars became visible on his hands and on his sandaled feet. Someone from the congregation noticed him and called out, "What happened to you?" The visitor replied, as his hat became a crown of thorns, and a tear fell from his eye, "I took your place...."

Hope's Women of the ELCA



Mary Peterson, Yvonne Popke, Janice Pitre and Helga Whitler attended the P i n e l a n d s Conference -Florida - Bahamas Synod/ WELCA on April 17,

2010 at Hope Lutheran Church in The Villages, Florida.

We arrived there at 8:30 A.M. Saturday. We were greeted by five gracious ladies. We received our name tag, and a color coded booklet for seating. The tables were also color coded.

The four of us were separated, so we were able to meet ladies from the other Churches.

Our day started out with registration, breakfast, fellowship and garbled proverbs.

The Lutheran World Relief Health kits were assembled during the conference. We had our Bible Study in the Sanctuary, followed by a business meeting.

Executive Board of Hope ELCA

The executive board of Hope ELCA want to thank the women of the church for a wonderful and fun year. We have worked hard this year and now our May Luncheon brought it to a close. We hope that we have brought you informative programs, devotions and also a good time during the

After a short break, we had a "House-cleaning / Heart cleaning, Devotional skit" in Fellowship Hall.

Five ladies entertained us with their jolly Songs and skit. They compared housework with husbands, and sang some beautiful hymns...

We sat at our color-coded table and our Table Grace was, "Bless the food before us, the friends beside us and the love between us. Amen." the lunch was delicious and we shared conversation.

Small plants were our center pieces. Helga won the plant at her table, being the oldest, and Mary won the plant at her table, since it was her birthday, that day.

There was a fifteen minute comment time and they were also seeking new officers for their Church.

When the meeting was all over, we had Worship Service and Communion in the Sanctuary. Mary Peterson and Janice Pitre were ushers.

year. Thank you for your support and we hope that W/ELCA can continue at another time.

Mary J. Peterson - Co-President

Library News

Hope Evangelical Lutheran Church is fortunate to have many redeeming features so its people can grow spiritually. We have many wonderful people who are loving, friendly, and work in many areas to help others. One feature that is overlooked and underutilized is our Library. The Library is located across from the kitchen in Luther Hall (more accurately across from the restrooms). There are many books given by Pastors Clark, Scherf, and Rodgers that would be great for research. Many of our books are donated from members' bookshelves and some books were purchased new and donated by members as gifts to the Library.

We have books that are in the category of personal introspection, devotion, worship, books of Bible commentaries, as well as various books of the Bible. On hand are CDs of music and audio books, DVDs on a variety of subjects, and VHS tapes. On the lowest shelves, across from the computer, are books for children (labeled Juvenile) and youth. There are also biography and fiction sections.

To find your way around the Library there are four manila folders on the counter to help you find a particular book.

The folders are labeled "Subject", "Author", "Title", and "Accession". The Accession number is merely the number assigned to the book when it was acquired and catalogued. The Dewey Decimal System is used for classification and placement on the shelves. To the right of the closet doors, the books begin in the 200s. To the right of the computer are biographies and Christian fiction. Bibles, books with Dewey numbers higher than 299, and media are on the shelves above the counter.

At this time, a group of books have been selected and pulled out slightly on the shelf. Their Dewey numbers are 236.2 and the "Subject" listed is Death or Grief. There is comfort found in the words of these books for anyone who has recently experienced a death. If you browse through any book, please place it on the return cart whether you check it out or not. This helps to know what may have been of interest to you.

Look for "Library News" in the July newsletter as we highlight another subject.

Thanks to

The Hospitality committee for a fun reception for Mothers' Day

Women of the ELCA for lunch and a fashion show

Danny Liddy, Aida Diaz, Terry Lucente, Ruth Moheit, Lee Pitre, Janice Pitre, Steve Northsea, and Anita O'Donnell for

providing such a variety of educational opportunities for our congregation this year

Thanks to Hope's Stephen Ministers who help so much with their caring ministry, and for taking Holy Communion to our homebound members

From Pastor Lynn



Vacation Bible School (VBS)

At the prompting of our confirmation students, we will have a Vacation Bible School this summer. For three evenings, July 26, 27, 28, from 6-8 pm, we will offer a program for K-4 grads. Our theme this year will be Creation, with the main concept of: Everything God made is good.

Each evening, there will be an opening with music, followed by two workshops, and ending with snacks and closing prayer. The workshops schedule is: Monday, Bible Skills and Games & Cooking; Tuesday,

Drama and Science; and Wednesday, Art and Video (or Computer). This way, not everyone needs to be present every evening.

It will be simpler than in the past, but just as much fun for the children. You can help with your donations of supplies, cash, preparation time and talent, and during the event.

Keep watching bulletins and newsletters for more details. To help in any way, sign up on the sheets in the narthex.

Esther Circle To Study Prayer During The Summer

Jesus expected his disciples and now expects us to pray. Our individual daily prayer as well as our corporate prayer on Sunday at worship are our connections to God through speaking and especially listening. The three study sessions this summer will focus on three aspects of prayer:

1. to understand the importance of being persistent in prayer.
2. to "wait upon the Lord" as we explore the relationship between prayer and waiting.
3. to understand the power of prayer to change us and perhaps our circumstances too.

Esther Circle will continue through the summer months. The tentative dates are:
Thursdays, JUNE 10 ---- JULY 15 ----- and AUGUST 19. We meet at 10:30 A.M.
in the church parlor.

The first lesson is entitled "Persistence" and is found in LUTHERAN WOMAN TODAY. If you do not subscribe to the magazine, copies of the lesson are available in the church office. SEE YOU ON JUNE 10.

The Piecemakers' Update

Quilting and kit assembly have been keeping the group very busy. Thirty-nine (39) quilts and forty-nine (49) health kits were mailed to the warehouse since February. Nearly \$500 was sent to Lutheran World Relief's Project Comfort via the Women of the ELCA unit. All the funding raised has been utilized for these wonderful projects. On behalf of the recipients, thank you for your generous support.



Join us in September on the 3rd and 4th Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m. in Luther Hall. Most of the women continue to sew tops through the summer and collect sheets for backings to be ready for the fall.

Martha Circle's First Gathering

Martha's Circle will meet on Wednesday, June 2nd at 1 p.m. in the double classrooms (# 4 & 6) in the Sunday School wing. This will conserve A/C and utilize the rooms we have, which will not be used this summer, since Scouts and Sunday school will not be meeting. We will meet on the first Wednesday of each month year-round and more frequently when facing a deadline for shipping.

Martha's Circle welcomes people of all ages who wish to fulfill the ELCA's mission

statement, "God's Work, Our Hands". We are called to be the "hands and feet" of Jesus. With our busy hands, we can knit/crochet prayer shawls, collect items for food pantries, shelters, and Christmas shoe boxes, tie fleece blankets for the homebound and those in care centers, create holiday remembrances for nursing homes, and whatever will bring a smile to someone's face in the Name of Jesus.

Father's Day June 20

Join us after church at the coffee hour June 20th. Celebrate with our fathers as we enjoy fellowship and goodies. See you there.

Family Activities Committee





Summary of Actions

23rd Annual Assembly of
the

Florida-Bahamas Synod ELCA

Apr. 30-May 2, 2010

Pr. T. L. Weitzel, *Communications Associate*

Nearly 700 voting members and guests attended the 23rd Annual Assembly of the Florida-Bahamas Synod ELCA at the Wyndham Orlando Resort in Orlando, Florida. The theme was

“Beyond Words.”

Featured was the kickoff of the Together *in* Mission Capital Campaign with plans to raise over the next three years \$2 million for congregations and leaders of this synod to grow Christ’s Church in our time and place, and \$500,000 to support the growth and mission of the Lutheran Church of Haiti.

Also featured at the assembly was the reception of Jesus Rey de Gloria Lutheran Church, Hialeah, FL as a new congregation of the ELCA. The congregation offered a liturgical dance as a gift to the assembly to the delight of all.

Among the other significant actions, the Assembly:

Heard good news stories in words and video of Together *in* Mission taking hold in parishes in Palm City/Traditions, Naples, Clearwater and other cities and congregations in Florida.

Heard Bishop Benoway remind us in his annual report of the rippling effects of the financial challenges facing congregations and the synod, but also his hopes and dreams for Together *in* Mission and the rippling effect of sharing the Gospel with others.

Heard Pr. Steve Wigdahl state in the Together *in* Mission report that “our deficiency is not money, but imagination.”

Heard the Rev. Stephen Bouman of the ELCA Program Unit of Evangelical Outreach and Congregational Mission speak in two stirring keynote addresses, calling those in attendance to return to “our first love,” the sharing of our faith.

Heard the Rev. Livenson Lauvanus of the Lutheran Church of Haiti express thanks for the synod’s gifts and support, saying “Through you, we are stronger.”

Received \$8,845 in offerings brought to the Assembly for support of the Lutheran Church of Haiti for its work in earthquake recovery in Haiti, in addition to a \$27,000 gift from the Mid-Gulf Conference for Haiti through the TIM Campaign.

Received greetings from the new president of the Florida-George District of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, the Rev. Gregory Walton, who committed to building on the “great relationship” already established between the synod and the district, saying, “Our public witness together is important.”

Heard Synod Vice President Cheryl Stuart state in her report that “the synod is alive and well and engaged,” and challenged attendees to “go and tell the story” and “give witness to God’s grace in the world.”

Passed a \$3,123,269 ministry spending plan for fiscal year ending Jan. 31, 2011 and a ministry spending plan of \$3,192,200 for fiscal year ending Jan. 31, 2012 that includes a commitment of 51.5% sharing of congregational giving with the ELCA churchwide organization.

Passed a resolution calling members and congregations to generous and sacrificial support of the synod and Together *in* Mission.

Defeated a resolution calling for congregational referendums on future ELCA social statements.

Received as information a resolution from the synod council commending the ELCA church council for its leadership and urging it to stay the course in regard to the 2009 Churchwide Assembly actions.

Elected to attend the 2011 ELCA Churchwide Assembly: Laurel Marc-Charles, Keith Ullman, Dwayne Tyson, Phyllis Fludd White, Pr. Tom Slater, Pr. Keith Spencer, JoAnn Young, Pr. Marcia Cox, Charlie Kron, Sue Ann Williams, Earl Alton, SueAnn Collinge, Pr. Pamela Smith, Cassandra Lenz, Pr. Lorrie Davison.

Elected to Synod Council: Roger Suarez, Steve Beumer, Pr. Charles (Rusty) May, Pat Zangmeister, Margaret Dumlach.

Elected to Consultation Committee: Pr. Teresa Foster, Pr. John Stirewalt, Earl Alton, Bruce Anderson.

Elected to Discipline Committee: Pr. Ida Iverson, Pr. Steve Kaufman, Sue Ann Collinge, Pat Zangmeister.

**See pictures from the 2010 Synod Assembly at:
www.fbsynod.com.**

Angel Food

April 24, 2010 Angel Food Distribution Report

On Saturday April 24, 2010 volunteer truckers Dick Regan, Jim Earl, and Marc Shapot met at Luther Hall at 8:00am as Vic Kahler was setting up for distribution. The truckers left to pick up the food and Vic completed the set up.

At 9:00am Kim Serrano and Tanner Serrano arrived and prepared for the distribution with Vic. By 10:00am Janet Esworthy, Howard Walsh, Steve & Judy Kasco, Joyce Davis, and Carol Shapot were ready for the distribution.

Around 10:30am we received a call from trucker Jim Earl saying that the distribution truck was going to be late. People were already coming for their food and we told them that the truck was delayed and took their phone numbers. To make a long story short the truck was

stopped by the DOT and delayed for 4 ½ hours. We all waited and the customers were very understanding and we had some interesting conversations with them. The truckers finally arrived at 1:45pm and the food was distributed by 2:15pm. We cleaned up and secured the building around 2:30pm.

Since I (Vic Kahler) will be away for the next Angel Food Distribution Kim Serrano will be the coordinator in my absence. Kim did the coordinating today as a dry run for the May distribution.

I want to thank our volunteers for the dedication, patience and time that they gave up to make the Angel Food Ministry successful here at Hope Evangelical Lutheran Church.

Victor Kahler

Known Birthdays and Anniversaries

Birthdays

- 3 Doris Behrens
Brian Forsyth
- 4 Russ Telfer
- 7 Jim Earl
- 10 Joey Serrano
- 11 Cherie Earl
- 13 Jayne Carlberg
Janice Manning
Lynn Polack
- 15 Jenny Hooper
- 19 Kylie Forsyth
- 26 Bud Engle
Dotte Leibrock
- 28 Claudette Bechdolt



Anniversaries

- 1 LeRoy & Irene Drew (64)
- 3 Dewey & Helena Breisch (59)
- 7 Bill & Jackie Dean (51)
Lee & Janice Pitre (47)
- 8 Tom & Suzanne (Knipe) Scott (8)
- 9 Lyle & Carol Kramp (54)
- 11 Jack & Dawn Rodgers (53)
- 12 Stan & Nancy Miller (43)
- 16 Jim & Margo Berger(48)
Charles & Marlene Collins (54)
- 17 Jim & Cherie Earl (49)
- 19 Sonny & Nancy Finck (14)
- 20 Raul & Virginia Johnson (67)
- 23 Robert & Evelyn Krokker (20)
- 24 Pete & Mary Peterson (48)
- 28 Mike & Lynn Fonfara (7)

A Native American Prayer

As I think about praying, I remember this prayer in *Chants and Prayers: A Native American Circle of Beauty*, compiled by Stan Padilla. This prayer invites us to remember that God is woven into all parts of our lives. (Pastor Lynn)

SONG OF THE SKY LOOM

Mother Earth, Father Sky,
We are your children.
We bring you the offerings that you love.
We form a blanket of brightness.
May the warp be the white light of morning.
May the weft be the red light of evening.
May the fringes be of the falling rain.
May the border be the arching rainbow.
Weave for us a blanket of brightness,
So that we can walk in the way that the birds sing,
So that we can walk in the green grass.
Mother Earth, Father Sky.



~ *Tewa tribe*

Travel Ministry

I love to travel! It's exciting to see places I've never been before. It's even more fun to experience those places with an eye to the history that occurred there. Walking in Egypt and Israel, experiencing the land and meeting the people who live there today, made the Bible come more alive for me.

From August 29 to September 9, 2011, I invite you to join me as we travel the lands of the Reformation: Germany and Switzerland, where Luther and Melancthon, Calvin and Zwingli lived, taught, preached, wrote, and battled the established Church and sometimes each other.

As we travel we'll have the opportunity to bring alive the dynamics of re-forming the Christian faith 500 years ago. Our days together will begin with prayer, and those who wish to will gather in the evening to review the day together.

Along the way, we'll visit important sites in Lutheran history, including Wittenberg and Augsburg, Erfurt and Eisleben. We'll also spend some time in Bern and Zurich, where Zwingli and Calvin lived. And we'll meet the people of Germany and Switzerland.

Thank You from John and June Elder

Dear Kathleen (?),

Thank you so much for sending us a copy of Hope's May Newsletter. we truly enjoyed reading about the news and activity going on there plus the names of so many involved and dear friends brought back good

Brochures are in the bin outside my office door. You may also find this information online at:

<http://www.eo.travelwithus.com/> Click on "Find a trip"

On the right, fill out the info boxes: Tour is RF11; Departure date is 082911; The next code is L;

Group leader ID is 18868

Please join Pr Mike and me on this travel and learning adventure, and consider bringing along a friend or two. We'd love to share this journey with you.

Blessings,
Pr Lynn

memories of our years at Hope. We are both well, working part time and participating greatly in Lutheran Church of Reconciliation outside of Wilmington.

Love & Peace to All

Those Who Will Assist in Worship for June

Communion Assistants and Acolytes

6 - Lynn Polack/Jackie Dean
13 - Mary Peterson/Dee Forsyth
20 - Casey Gaylarado/Renate Wilms-Rovin
27 - James Hovis/Brenna Towne

Assisting Ministers

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

Altar Guild

Margaret DeWalt
Doris Boeson
Diane Kahler

Guest Greeter

Sue Hovis

Greeters

Lempi Tervo & June Towner

Nursery

6 - Janice Pitre
13 - Judy Thomason
20 - Sue Hovis
27 - Dawn Rodgers

Ushers for the Month

Victor Kahler
Russ Telfer

Lay Readers

6 - Margo Berger
13 - Ted Polack
20 - Maxwell Forsyth
27 - Barbara Stetson



June 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 1:00 Art Group 1:00 Martha Circle (Rms 4 and 6 LH) 2:00 Finding Hope 6:00 Youth Group	3	4	5
6 Communion 8:15 Adult Bible Study 9:30 Worship 10:45 Fellowship 11:00 Executive Board Mtg	7 8:30 Men's Club Mtg 2:00 Finding Hope	8	9 1:00 Art Group 2:30 Council Mtg	10 10:30 Esther Circle	11	12
13 Communion 8:15 Adult Bible Study 9:30 Worship 10:45 Fellowship	14 2:00 Finding Hope	15	16 1:00 Art Group	17	18	19
20 Communion 8:15 Adult Bible Study 9:30 Worship 10:45 Fellowship	21 10:30 Evangelism 2:00 Finding Hope	22 1:00 Caregivers Support and Information Series at St. Timothy	23 1:00 Art Group	24	25	26
27 Communion 8:15 Adult Bible Study 9:30 Worship 10:45 Fellowship	28 2:00 Finding Hope	29	30 1:00 Art Group			