

June 2011

▶ Volume 37, Issue 6

Hope's Newsletter

"To Know Christ and to Make Him Known"

A Message from Pastor

In the Easter season of the church year we read from the Acts of the Apostles each week. We learn how the Jesus movement was introduced to the people from Jerusalem to Rome. The passion of the believers was aided by the activity of the Holy Spirit and the church grew by the thousands.

We Lutherans are often passionate about sharing our faith in action with quilting, filling shoeboxes, sharing funds, and so forth.

Many of us don't share our faith because we don't know how to verbalize it. So, here's a little exercise to try. You can try it in the privacy of your own home first, but then try it with your friends.

Think of one or two people who helped you grow spiritually, or nudged you to

step out of your comfort zone. How might it have been God's activity?

Here is a story from my life. Some of this, I learned years later when my parents filled in the parts I hadn't known.

When I was in 4th grade, my teacher told my parents she thought I was having trouble and it might be necessary to have me repeat the grade. I remember a man in the class observing, and figured out later that he was watching me. I also remember that I had learned about fractions already and wanted to do something new, not answer the same kind of problems again. So, to ease my boredom, I was looking around the classroom, to see what else was happening.

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www.hopewards.blogspot.com

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Church Secretary

Kelly Murphy

Organist

Catherine Bearbower

Music Director

Jason Longtin

Choir Pianist

Hazel Rienstra

Custodian

Kerry Reed

A Message From Pastor (Continued)

They – fortunately – decided to let me move on to 5th grade. We moved that summer into a new school district. My new teacher, Mrs Hewes realized I needed more to do, so she gathered together several similar students and invited us to write and perform plays once our work was done. We adapted some of our favorite stories, made costumes, rehearsed, and performed.

When my parents and Mrs Hewes met for the first parent-teacher conference, naturally they asked how I was doing, and if she was having any trouble with me.

“Oh, no,” she said. “I’m having trouble keeping ahead of her.”

Mrs Hewes believed in me and challenged me to do more than I ever thought I could. I have never forgotten her, and what she did for me. I’m sure it was God’s Holy Spirit working in my life through Mrs Hewes that made all the difference.

What is your story? Where was God in the story? With whom can you share your story?

In Hope
Pastor Lynn

Dollars and Sense from the Treasurer's Desk

April 2011

<u>Date</u>	<u>Communion Attendance</u>	<u>Regular Income</u>
April 3	80	4,274.00
April 10	72	2,344.00
April 17	83	1,180.00
April 25	109	2,967.85

Total Inflows: \$ 12,667.88

Total Outflows: \$ 16,328.79

The full financial statement is in Luther Hall.

Council Officers & Members

President

Steve Northsea

Evangelism/Stewardship

GPS/Long Range Planning

Vice President

Lee Pitre

Christian Education

Secretary

Vic Kahler

Angel Food

Property Committee

Treasurer

Diane Kahler

Chancel Bell/Chimes

Service Committee

Worship & Music Committee

John Chiappetta

Carol D'Auria

Connie De Turek

Vivian Matthews

Ted Polack

Ushers

Richard Regan

Angel Food

Property Committee

Russ Telfer

Memorial Committee

Helen Van Horn

Financial Secretary

Michel Northsea

GPS/Long Range Planning

Thrivent Choice Dollars

In the “Good Old Days” everyone knew that Aid Association for Lutherans (AAL) and Lutheran Brotherhood (LB) were financial corporations which gave away some of their profits so congregations and other organizations could do ministry.

We knew how to ask for money, how much money we could ask for, and got good at implementing ministries using those funds. But then AAL and LB merged into Thrivent and it seems like a lot of confusion has arisen. Even more so since the 2008 market crash.

There are fewer dollars available, but they are there for the asking. Our congregation can get Thrivent funds in two ways: through the designation of Thrivent Choice Dollars to Hope; and through Care in Communities funds.

Thrivent Advocate

Hope really needs a person, or two, or three to make sure we know how to access our share of Thrivent funds available for ministry in our name.

An Advocate can be either a benefit member of Thrivent or an Associate member. Benefit members own one or more Thrivent financial products. Associates can join for only \$20/year.

The key responsibility is communication, within the

There are hundreds of organizations looking for these funds – congregations, seminaries, World Hunger Appeal, Lutheran Disaster Relief. Of course, we can put them to good use right here at Hope.

If you are a Thrivent member, and received a letter indicating you have Choice Dollars to designate, please call Thrivent and let them know where you wish the funds to go. Even if you have only \$25 to designate, your \$25 plus my \$25 and a few other \$25s add up to \$ hundreds.

A phone call to designate your Thrivent Choice Dollars takes only a couple of minutes and you get to speak to a live person. Please call today. 1-800-847-4836. You can also do this online at Thrivent.com/choicedollars.

congregation, and between the congregation and the Chapter board.

A congregation may have up to 8 Advocates. Currently, Pastor Lynn is the only Thrivent Advocate. If you are able to help, it would be greatly appreciated.

Please contact Pastor Lynn for more information or to offer your assistance.

Operation Christmas Child

The collection for our shoeboxes for the month of June at Hope is.....

MONEY!

A decorated box is located on a table in Luther Hall and cash or checks will be accepted. Please make your checks out to Hope Evangelical Lutheran Church with the notation of "Shoeboxes". Each box we send cost \$7.00 for the shipping and a gospel tract that is included in each box.

You can donate any of the items at any time for these boxes and items can be



placed in the large box in Luther Hall. A list is available if you aren't sure what can be sent. Empty plastic shoeboxes are available if you would like to fill a box. If you have any concerns or questions, don't hesitate to see Carole Warden.

Please help in whatever way that you are able.

Our goal is 150 boxes for 2011....so let's meet and exceed that goal! Thank you!

Carole Warden

Thank You for Your Generosity!

Thank you for your generosity!

Thank you, members of Hope Evangelical Lutheran Church, for your generosity in April for your donations to the Pineland Conference Fund Appeal.

Total contributions: \$220.00 for:

Rock of Ages Church	\$126.67
Luther Springs Camp	34.17
Campus Ministry	34.16
Undesignated funds	25.00

Martha Circle

Martha Circle will NOT meet in June or July. Our next meeting will be August 3 at 1:00 p.m. in Luther Hall in Classroom 3. Please join us as we will



be working on items to sell at the fall craft show!

Carole Warden

Sunday's Altar Flowers

Every Sunday we have fresh flowers on the altar to the glory of God and memory or honor of someone(s).

The cost of each arrangement is \$13. Sign up sheet for altar flowers is by the window in Luther Hall by the coffee counter. Near the chart there are forms to use so Kelly can include your memorial or honorarium in the bulletin. Please allow at least 2 weeks prior to the date for your flowers. Just fill out the information on the sheet and either place it on Kelly's desk or put in the offering plate along with a check.

You have the option of taking the flowers or donating them to the sick and those in care facilities. By doing this you not only honor or memorialize those that you love but you also give the glory to God. Please think about this donation. It will be recorded on your donation record to the church.

The Altar Committee.

Spring 2011 Pinelands Conference Fund Appeal

Dear Friends in ministry,

three: \$145.00 / \$48.33

It is my pleasure to announce that the first checks for the Spring 2011 Pinelands Conference Fund Appeal have been mailed.

Total:
Rock of Ages \$1,283.34
Luther Springs \$341.83
Campus ministry \$145.82

Thanks to the following 6 churches for their participation to date: Ascension, Hope Citrus Springs, St. John, St. Matthew, Gethsemane, & Joy.

If there are any other churches/ individuals that are taking part in the Spring Fund Appeal please let me know. Any donations received after June 1, 2011 will be added to a future appeal.

A total of \$1,771.00 has been received:

Designated: Rock of Ages \$1,235.01
Luther Springs \$ 293.50
Campus Ministry \$ 97.49
Undesignated / divided evenly among the

Your servant,
Jim Young, Secretary/Treasurer of the
Pinelands Conference

Members Who Are Homebound or Residing in Care Facilities

Johanna Barrett – Home

Ginny Cameron – Home

Jeannette Carnie — Life Care,
Lecanto

Sebastian D’Auria – Home

Roy Deck – Hampton Manor West,
Dunnellon

Joan Layton – Home

Joe Rovin – Home

Helen Savinsky – Cedar Creek,
Crystal River

Dorothy Scianna – Crystal Gem
Manor, Crystal River

Karen Summers – Home

Ruby Wagner – Barrington Place

Thank You From Vic Kahler

I would like to thank Hans Witter,
Trevor Barnes, Fred Seeger, Kelly
Murphy, Dick Regan, Jim Earl, Steve

Northsea and the Scouts for 66 hours
of help since our last report.

Vic Kahler, Property Committee

Anniversary Trivia

In 1991, the ushers began wearing red jackets.

Family Members in the Military

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

Ginny Cameron’s grandson:
Tech Sergeant John Edward Werner

John & Margarita Chiappetta’s son:
Luis Jimenez

Janet Esworthy’s nephew:
Major Marc Orndorff

Joan Klotz’s two grandsons:
Brian Lucas and Kevin Lucas

Vivian Matthews’ granddaughter:
Capt. Kari Matthews

Edith Regan’s daughter:
Storekeeper Chief Phyllis Thomas

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

40th Anniversary Celebrations

Forty years ago, on the day of Pentecost, May 21, 1972, Hope was chartered as a congregation of the Lutheran Church of America. This anniversary is cause for great celebration. How shall we celebrate? How many ways can we use multiples of 40?

Diane Kahler has agreed to temporarily chair a committee. This committee will oversee a large celebration in 2012. It could also oversee and coordinate many smaller events. Four to six people on the committee would mean each person had some but not all the work. Please volunteer your time and talent for this committee.

Summer Worship

Our summer liturgy will be Setting Ten, with those familiar hymn tunes. It's appropriate during the season of Pentecost to shorten the service a bit.

Temperature

Temperature control in the sanctuary is always a concern. Some folks are always too warm, and some are too cool. In the season of air conditioning, you may choose to carry a sweater or light jacket

At the May 11 meeting, Hope's Council voted to permit small groups to plan and carry out events throughout the next year without needing the prior consent of council. If you or your small group has some good ideas, please share them with Diane, and make sure your event is not competing with other events already on the calendar.

As usual, fundraisers for special ministries would need the consent of Hope's council.

In Hope
Pastor Lynn & Diane Kahler

This summer we will omit the Kyrie and Hymn of Praise, moving directly from the Greeting to the Prayer of the Day.

if you are too cool, just as you would for your favorite restaurant. Or, you might try sitting near the front, under all the lights, where it is warmer.

Library News

A book has come into our Library, thanks to Ruth Moheit. The title is "Glimpses of Heaven" (True Stories of Hope and Peace at the End of Life's Journey) by Trudy Harris, RN.

Ruth reports that the book has been passed around and read by at least 20 persons. Three of them have written notes, which I will copy at the end of this article.

The Conclusion of this book says: "Everyone dies. Sooner or later every life that has come into being, whether it is a very long life or a short one, will end. " "In listening closely to the stories, death and the process of dying are taken out of the context of the physical and brought into the context of the spiritual as the soul journeys back to its Creator." Heaven is a real place, who better to remind us of this than a hospice nurse who witnessed glimpses of heaven countless times through the lives and deaths of her patients.

Notes from those who read the book. "This book came at a very special time in my life! Take care of yourself. Thanks, Mary" " Glimpses of Heaven/ Trudy Harris.

-Stories short, meaningful and comforting

-Easy to pick up at anytime and just read one or two and get inspired

-two favorites: Katy p. 122

"Relationships forged during very special times in our lives are never broken"

-William p. 130 "The laughs We shared, the secrets told and held close to the heart, the trust of two good friends sipping a cup of coffee together...How do you put a value on such things - the memory and happy times spent together is a gift I will treasure forever"

Having read this book while my friend was on hospice and dying of brain cancer - gave me solace and hope!

Another note: Glimpses of Heaven. A book everyone especially those who have lost a loved one should read! Easy reading - very serious-heartwarming - sad but uplifting. Enjoyed the diversity especially how you see God is there - through life - death - eternity and because of ones faith he is forgiving for all his people - young - old - sinners etc. I especially feel for those not familiar with Hospice would get so much from these stories. L&TS

My own experience: When my husband was dying, he kept reaching out in the air. We thought perhaps he wanted something, water, food, whatever, but a nurse told us he was seeing people on the other side and reaching for them.

Affirmation of Faith

Jake Penn will affirm his faith on Pentecost Sunday, June 12. Please

come and celebrate this special day with one of our youth.

Vacation Bible School

Hope Lutheran Church & Deeper Life Church working together will present VBS.



It's time to register for VBS.

VBS will be for 4 days this year. It starts on Sunday, June 5 2-4 p.m. and then June 6-8 Monday—Wednesday from 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

The theme is "Faith Into Action: Parable of the Sower"

At ReNew The Green VBS kids will :

- Explore God's Word through Jesus'

Parable of the Sower.

- Learn about God's creation and what we can do to care for it.

- Meet members of our community who are stewards of the environment.

- Make new friends and have a great time!

VBS is for all kids between the ages of 5 and 10. Registration is starting now. For more information, contact Hope Lutheran Church 352-489-5511.

Known Birthdays and Anniversaries for June

Birthdays

- 3 Doris Behrens
Brian Forsyth
- 4 Russ Telfer
- 7 Jim Earl
- 10 Joey Serrano
- 11 Cherie Earl
- 13 Lynn Polack
- 19 Kylie Forsyth
- 28 Claudette Bechdolt
Wendy Whitler



Anniversaries

- 1 LeRoy & Irene Drew (65)
- 7 Bill & Jackie Dean (52)
Lee & Janice Pitre (48)
- 9 Lyle & Carol Kramp (55)
- 11 Jack & Dawn Rodgers (54)
- 12 Stan & Nancy Miller (45)
- 16 Charles & Marlene Collins (55)
- 17 Jim & Cherie Earl (50)
- 19 Sonny & Nancy Finck (15)
- 28 Mike & Lynn Fonfara (8)

VBS Staffing

It is that time of year to start thinking about Vacation Bible School. VBS starts June 5-8. We are looking for volunteers. Here is a list of staffing that we will need to fill. A sign up sheet is posted in the Luther Hall.

Staffing

VBS Director: D. Wilker

Gather/Send Leaders: Pastors

Shepherds: guide small group of children through activities, encouraging and

VBS Collected or Borrowed Items

This is a list of items Hope needs for VBS this year. Vacation Bible School starts June 5-8, 2011.

Materials List

To Be Collected and/or Borrowed

Tomato paste cans, baby food jars, or other cylinders about 2" in diameter

Old greeting cards

Packets of Seeds (one or two per child; and/or leftover seeds)

Leftover pieces of old board games

Large seeds like pumpkin or navy beans to use for game pieces

Clean ice cream or yogurt containers with lids or tote bags

Newspaper to cover tables during projects

Cut up old boxes for poster board

Props: farmer's straw hat, home gardener's visor, clipboard, gracer's apron, trucker's hat, empty fruit baskets (farmers' market)

Cereal and other cardboard boxes cut up

4 cardboard shoe boxes

Sand

building relationships

Activity Site Leaders: 2 each day

Snacks Leader

Music Leader

Games Leader (2 is best)

We also need at least one person available each day who is Red Cross Certified in First Aid.

Registrar:

Compost

Aluminum cans

1 Clothesline and bag of clothespins

Paper grocery bags

20-30 feet strong rope

Hula Hoop

Kiddy Pool

Globe

Lots of office or lined paper that can be recycled and used for projects

Clean light colored socks for projects

2X4 foot or larger piece of pegboard

Bailing wire

Clean yogurt or small margarine containers with lids

Recycled buttons, beads, or bolts

1 glass bottle with narrow neck

Small fans (battery charged if possible)

3 five-gal. buckets

Parachute or tarp

Soft Ball that can be marked up

Shallow pans or old lids

Old magazines

Those Who Will Assist in Worship for May

Communion Assistants and Acolytes

5 - Dee Forsyth/Brian Whitler
12 - Lynn Polack/Casey Gaylardo
19 - Renate Wilms-Rovin/Anthony Diaz
26 - Steven Penn/Jacob Penn

Altar Guild

Margarita Chiappetta
Margaret DeWalt
Diane Kahler

Nursery

5 - Janice Pitre
12 - Judy Thomason-Kasco
19 - Sue Hovis
26 - Ann Becwar

Lay Readers

5 - Diane Kahler
12 - Ted Polack
19 - Renate Wilms-Rovin
26 - Lee Pitre

Ushers for the Month

David & Ann Becwar

Assisting Ministers

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

Guest Greeter

Helen Van Horn

Greeters

Sue & Jim Hovis



June 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 1:00 Art Group 6:00 Youth Group	2	3	4
5 Communion 8:00 Adult Bible Study 9:30 Worship 10:45 Fellowship 11:00 Ex-Com Mtg 2:00 Deeper Life in L.H. 2:00 - 4:00 VBS	6 10:00 - Noon VBS	7 10:00 - Noon VBS	8 10:00 - Noon VBS 1:00 Art Group 2:30 Council Mtg	9	10	11
12 Communion 8:00 Adult Bible Study 9:30 Worship "Affirmation of Faith" 10:45 Fellowship 2:00 Deeper Life in L.H.	13	14	15 1:00 Art Group	16	17	18
19 Happy Father's Day Communion 8:00 Christian Ed. Mtg 9:30 Worship 10:45 Fellowship 2:00 Deeper Life in L.H.	20 10:30 Evangelism	21	22 1:00 Art Group	23	24	25
26 Communion 8:00 Bible Study 9:30 Worship 10:45 Fellowship 2:00 Deeper Life in L.H.	27	28	29 1:00 Art Group	30		