

# Hope's Newsletter

"To Know Christ and to Make Him Known"

## A Message From Pastor

Signs are everywhere. There are billboards, highway directional signs, signs in front of buildings, church signs with clever sayings. These signs tell us something: what to buy; where to turn; where to shop or where to eat; what to think about.

There are also signs tattooed on arms, backs, shoulders, and faces. Signs like tattoos tell stories about what is important to the wearer of the tattoo.

Christians all wear invisible signs – the sign of the cross made on our foreheads at our baptism. Once a year, we make this sign visible, with ashes. Throughout our lives, we have many opportunities to make the sign visible to others by our words and by our actions.

In Lent, we are invited to make visible the sign of our baptism and of our faith.

Centuries-old traditions encourage us to observe the three disciplines of prayer, fasting and works of love during Lent. We can think about these disciplines as visible signs of our baptism.

**Prayer:** Let's take extra time for prayer and worship this Lent. Perhaps that means more time reading the Bible, or more time listening to God in silence. Perhaps it means attending noon or evening worship on Wednesday. Perhaps it means entering the sanctuary in silence and opening our hearts to God while waiting for worship to begin.

**Fasting:** Let's practice giving up something important, so we know everything we have comes from God.

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Address:  
9425 N. Citrus Springs Blvd  
Citrus Springs Florida 34434

Mailing Address:  
P.O. Box 2070  
Dunnellon Florida 34430  
Phone: 352-489-5511  
Fax: 352-489-5222

Church Email:  
Hopeevangelical@bellsouth.net

Web Page Address:  
www.hopelutheranelca.com

Sunday Sermons  
www.hopewards.blogspot.com

Staff:  
Pastor Lynn Fonfara  
Lmfonfara@bellsouth.net

Church Secretary  
Kelly Murphy

Organist  
Catherine Bearbower

Music Director  
Jason Longtin

Choir Pianist  
Hazel Rienstra

Custodian  
Kerry Reed

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# A Message From Pastor Continued

Perhaps that means giving homebound members and an extra offering during friends, letting them know Lent, as a way of fasting they are still important to us from money. Perhaps it and to God.

means not saying anything negative about anyone, as a way of fasting from judgment. Perhaps it means holy Lent, with prayer, adding something positive fasting, and works of love. to our lives, as a way of fasting from bad habits.

On March 9, as your pastor, I will invite you to observe a baptism visible to others?

Works of love: Let's pay attention to those people who have less than we have. Perhaps that means contributing food and personal care items. How will you devote more of yourself to God this year? What healthy discipline can you adopt to express your devotion to the one who gave his all for us?

Perhaps it means offering rides to those who no longer drive. Perhaps it means spending time with Lenten blessings Pastor Lynn

## Dollars and Sense from the Treasure's Desk

<u>Date</u>	<u>Communion Attendance</u>	<u>Regular Income</u>
January 2	61	3,063.00
January 9	93	2,901.00
January 16	78	1,565.00
January 23	80	1,951.00
January 30	82	<u>1,723.00</u>
Total:		\$ 11,203.00

Total Inflows: \$ 13,177.03

Total Outflows: \$ 11,345.86

The complete 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*

## Robin and the Giant

Larry Whitler will perform a free concert of his own music and some 1940's favorites on Sunday March 13 following worship service in Luther Hall. Larry performs with Robin MacBlane as singing duo Robin and the Giant. They have worked collaboratively and individually as

songwriters, recording artists, and radio personalities and have been entertaining audiences since 1987 in all of those capacities. They're rehearsing to produce a DVD, and need live audiences to enhance the feel of the production.

## Operation Christmas Child

2010 was a good year for us here at Hope as we donated 162 shoeboxes to Samaritan's Purse ministry.

The 2011 campaign has begun and we are already collecting items and money for this wonderful ministry with a goal of 175 boxes. We would like to high-light each month, and focus on certain items that you can donate to help fill these boxes.

### MARCH:

Washcloths  
Soap

### APRIL:

Toothpaste  
Toothbrushes

### MAY:

Combs  
Brushes

### JUNE:

\$\$\$  
Money for Shipping

### JULY:

Stuffed Animals

### AUGUST:

School Supplies

### SEPTEMBER

Toy/Jewelry

### OCTOBER

Coloring books  
Crayons

Please help in any way that you can throughout this year. There will be a box set up in Luther Hall to accept your donations and receipts. This activity is sponsored by the CITRUS COUNTY CHAPTER of THRIVENT FINANCIAL for LUTHERANS.

Any questions, please don't hesitate to ask Carole Warden.



## Esther Circle

The March Bible Study at Ester Circle will focus on “The People of God: Loving Relationships”. Jesus has said that the greatest commandment is “to love the Lord your God.” The second commandment, “love your neighbor as yourself” is as equally important. What does it mean to love your neighbor as yourself? What does it mean for us as people of God? As we face issues in the church, some of which could divide us, what would it look to put love first and judgment second? In our current church culture, we tend to avoid others who think differently than we do. We don’t understand how others can be so different in their ways of thinking and

## Martha Circle

The ladies of Martha Circle began February gathering with prayer and a reading from Mother Teresa writings.

Next month, Easter gifts will be made for our shut-ins. This month’s focus is on Easter cards and gifts for our soldiers in Afghanistan. The ladies enjoyed making Easter cards

## Thank You

I would like to thank Jim Earl, Tom Knipe, Charlie Meier, Kelly Murphy, and Dick Regan for helping to keep our property in good condition.

living from us. That can get in the way of loving others the way Jesus calls us to love them. Maybe not all the time nor in all our relationships, but it is something we must think about in this session. The love that Jesus calls us to share with the world, needs to start in our church community and groups.

Please join us for this very compelling study on Thursday, March 17 at 10:30 a.m. in the church parlor. Copies of the lesson are available in the church office. See you on March 17.

for our troops and 39 cards were made and will be sent later this month.

The next meeting will be MARCH 2 at 1:00 p.m. Classroom 3 in Luther Hall. Please join us for light refreshments and an easy craft.

*Carole Warden*

Vic Kahler, Property Committee

## Members Who Are Homebound or in 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  
Hans Steen – Woodland Terrace  
Karen Summers – Home  
Ruby Wagner – Barrington Place

## 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

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.

## Thank You



A special thank you to Larry Whitley for his original song, “Grandma's Quilt”. It brought tears to our eyes with its tender lyrics and evoked a flood of fond memories for many of us and for our appreciation of the quilting ladies here at Hope for all the beautiful quilts made for Lutheran World Relief.

Thanks to Terry Lucente for making Valentine boxes for our youth... We LOVE our KIDS!

Thanks to the few ladies still willing to be on the Altar Guild. We do appreciate your work!

*Carole Warden*

## Jacob's Journey

Jacob's Journey has now finished studying the Kings of Israel and Judah and we will now be looking at the very interesting period of the Exile and restoration. The message to us, as well as Jacob and his descendants, is vividly demonstrated in the stories of the kings. When we, as they,

worship God in truth and Spirit, walking in his ways, God blesses us and we have a relationship with Him which leads to happiness and fullness of life. This journey is very interesting and we encourage all to come and hear the great biblical lessons found in Jacob's Journey.

## Piecemakers

The Piecemakers (quilters) are in need of clean cotton or cotton/polyester blend sheets—full, queen or large size.

The quilters meet on the third and fourth Wednesday of the month at 9:30 a.m. in Luther Hall. You're welcome to join us.

## 50's—60's Sock Hop

Blessings in a Backpack fundraiser will be held on March 4 from 6 - 9 p.m. at St. Timothy Lutheran Church in Crystal River. Space is limited for a donation of \$5 per ticket. All proceeds go to help feed children who would otherwise not have food over the weekend. Blessings in a Backpack works with the Citrus County School

District and is linked to children in need.

Call St. Timothy at 352-795-5325 if you would like to purchase a ticket or need more information. This event is sponsored by the Citrus County Chapter of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans.

## March Project for the Military...

The men and women serving with Chaplain Johnson in Afghanistan have requested NEW Easter cards and Mother's Day cards that they can use to send to their families. Supplies are very limited to them where they are serving, so please bring in your donations this month to the designated box

in Luther Hall. Postage stamps are also welcomed!!!

THANK YOU  
Carole Warden

## Worship in Lent

This year, four of the Sunday Gospel readings during Lent come from John, as we read the great stories of people coming to faith through encounters with Jesus. Nicodemus asks how an adult can be born again; the Samaritan woman wants living water; the man born blind must repeat his story over and over; the raising of Lazarus from death calls out faith in Martha and leads to Jesus' death. How are their stories also our stories? What do we learn about Jesus in these stories? As the Samaritan woman says, "Come and see!"

Special midweek services are scheduled for both noon and 7pm: Ash Wednesday on March 9, Maundy Thursday on April 21, Good Friday on April 22. The Easter Vigil will be at 7 p.m. on April 23.

Wednesdays at noon, March 16-April 13, there will be a simple spoken service based on the Service of

Morning Prayer. The theme will be "By Faith" based on passages from Hebrews 11 and 12. We will share briefly about the faith of Noah, Abraham, Moses, the Israelites, and Jesus.

Wednesdays at 7 p.m., March 16-April 13, worship will be the Service of Evening Prayer. The theme will be "The Games People Play." This Lenten series of five sketches cleverly integrates the familiar games we've all played and illustrates how these games can unwittingly become an integral and even detrimental part of our lives. Sign up sheets are in the narthex.

Also, we will once again offer soup suppers at 6 p.m. Please sign up to provide a pot or two of soup. Sign up sheet is in Luther Hall.

Due to the Lenten evening services, there will be no Wednesday evening Bible study.

## Angel Food Distribution

Angel Food was successfully distributed on January 29, 2011. Kim Serrano was the organizer assisted by Dick Reagan, Steve Kasco, and Mark Shapot who did the trucking. The distributors were Joyce Davis, Judy Kasco, Tanner Serrano, Janet Esworthy, Howard Walsh, Pat Kessel, and Vic Kahler. 12 orders were distributed to nine patrons.

We were notified that Nature Coast Ministries can no longer supply Angel Food because the building they were using will not be available to them for distribution. They told us to go to the Knights of Columbus #6954 located on HWY 19 in Homosassa.

Victor Kahler— Council Liaison

## Library News

The season of LENT is coming up beginning with A S H WEDNESDAY ON MARCH 9.



are 3 paperbacks for Holy Week, Proclamation 5 or 3, all for Series A.

A book of a different category, "The Lost Gospel of Judas Iscariot", a new look at betrayer and betrayed. The Gospel of Judas presents a new view of Jesus, his disciples, and one of history's most reviled men. It raises many questions and the author provides illuminating and authoritative answers, in a book that will interest anyone curious about the New Testament, the life of Jesus, and the history of Christianity after his death.

The list of books in the manila folders by Subject does not list Lent as a subject. However, the Dewey Numbers given to our Library Committee do give the subject Lent the Dewey number 242.34. We have a large selection of books in the 242 row which is also where the Devotional books are located.

There are two "Proclamation" books, Series A and Series B. A section of each book is devoted to Interpreting the Text and Responding to the Text. They cover from Advent through Holy Week. The books cover the period 1998 through 2000. There are two paperback books, Dewey Number 220.7 titled "Proclamation Series A. - Lent, Aids for Interpreting the Lessons of the Church Year". There

One more book that is timely is "The Sermon on the Mount" (226.9). The author studies each unit of the Sermon, presenting its rich Law and Gospel truths in Jesus' words.

## Handbells to Begin



The waiting is over—handbell fun will begin Tuesday, March 15 at 2:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary for 1 hour. Remember you do not need to read music to play handbells or chimes

as the notes are color coded. Need more information? Ask Diane Kahler 465-4182.

## Joint Council Retreat

Photos of the joint council retreat at the Lodge of Citrus Hills on February 19. The speaker is Bishop Jim Adams, currently serving as Rector of Shepherd of the Hills Episcopal Church, Lecanto.



## Men's Club

The Men's Club would like to thank Jan De Witt for her inspiring talk about her ministry to feed hungry children.

Victor Kahler also told everyone that the Men's Club will now change over to a "Fellowship" group that would be meeting once a month and everyone is invited for a church social event and

possibly include quest speakers.

The new Fellowship group will sponsor Shrove Pancake Supper on Tuesday, March 8 at 5 P.M. Hope to see everyone there.

## Training Event

Hope does not have Congregational Advocates to represent them to receive the latest information from Thrivent Financial for Lutherans. Advocates are welcome to attend the monthly Chapter Leadership Board meetings to take back information to their congregations. They are able to contact their Financial Representatives to attend events or even a coffee hour at church. They work with the council and the pastor to identify needs within the congregation.

Did you know you could have applied for supplemental funding through Thrivent Financial to assist the families you have adopted? There are funds available through the Chapter's Care Abounds in Communities program to benefit individuals, families in need, and non-profit organizations.

Each congregation may have up to

## Shrove Pancake Supper

The Men's Club has decided to become a "Fellowship" to include all members. We are planning to have a Shrove Pancake Supper on Tuesday March 8, 2011 at 5 p.m. This will be a good way to start the Lenten season. Please mark your calendars and sign up for this event. Anyone who is interested in helping out for this event

four advocates. One or more should have internet access to receive communications. Benefit or associate members age 16 or older are eligible to be advocates.

Anyone interested may attend the training event for Congregational Advocates. You are not obligated to become an advocate, but perhaps after attending the training you may know of someone in the congregation who would. As a team, each person may use their gifts such as promotion, organization, communication and computer skills.

The training event will be held on Saturday, March 19 at 1:30 p.m. at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 439 E Norvell Bryant Hwy (Rt 486), Hernando, across from Citrus Hills Blvd. RSVP: Darlene Hedin, Director of Congregational Advocates, at 352-637-5482.

please call me at 352-207-2952.

Victor Kahler

## Thank You From Pastor Lynn

An enjoyable Annual Congregational Meeting

Hope's Hospitality Committee for a fun Valentine's Day celebration

Everyone for your warm welcome of the Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts

## Undergoing Chemotherapy

If you know any woman currently undergoing chemotherapy, please pass the word to her that there is a cleaning service that provides FREE housecleaning once per month for 4 months while she is in treatment. All she has to do is sign up and have her doctor fax a note confirming the treatment. Cleaning for a Reason will have a participating maid service in her zip code area arrange for the service. This organization serves the entire USA and currently

Your continuing support for the Abigail family and others in our community

**Congratulations** to John Chiappetta who will be installed as a synod deacon on March 6 during worship. We're glad you're here and so willing to serve!

has 547 partners to help these women. It's our job to pass the word and let them know that there are people out there that care. Be a blessing to someone and pass this information along.

More information available at [www.cleaningforareason.org](http://www.cleaningforareason.org).

## Known Birthdays for March

### Birthdays

- 1 Roy Deck
- Steve Kasco
- Marissa Penn
- 3 Ruby Wagner
- 4 Tanner Serrano
- Chad Whitler
- 8 Lempi Tervo
- 10 Ray Olsen
- 17 Paul Popke

This  
Month's  
Birthdays



- 20 Tyler Penn
- Hans Steen
- 22 Thomas Vilaridi
- 27 Janice Pitre
- 31 Leamon Todd

## Those Who Will Assist in Worship for March

### *Communion Assistants and Acolytes*

6 - Renate Wilms-Rovin/John Chiappetta  
9 - TBA  
13 - Casey Gaylaro/Anita O'Donnell  
20 - Steven Penn/Jacob Penn  
27 - Dee Forsyth/Brian Whitler

### *Altar Guild*

Margarita Chiappetta  
Margaret DeWalt  
Diane Kahler

### *Nursery*

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

### *Lay Readers*

6 - Carol Warden  
9 - Maxwell Forsyth  
13 - Renate Wilms-Rovin  
22 - Lee Pitre  
29 - Dawn Rodgers

### *Assisting Ministers*

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

### *Guest Greeter*

Helen Van Horn

### *Greeters*

Aida Diaz  
Kay Schaller

### *Ushers for the Month*

Janet Esworthy  
Manley Benmark



