

May 2011

▶ Volume 37, Issue 5

Hope's Newsletter

"To Know Christ and to Make Him Known"

A Message from Pastor

I've been working on my family history for several months. Three of my four grandparents came from Sweden around 1900. Because they were so happy to be in the US, they applied almost immediately for citizenship. They also learned English rather quickly. By the time I was born, they had worked to become American, and didn't want to talk much about the "Old Country."

As a result, I have had few details to work from as I trace my roots back into Sweden. I was finally able to find a cousin I had never met. Charlotte helped me make some of the missing connections in my family. I now know how I am connected to a couple of other branches of the family tree, and the names of some relatives who remained in Sweden.

We all value our human connections and in most cases are happy to know about our extended family. I know of family reunion gatherings of hundreds

of people. Beyond that family connection, what most delights my new-found cousin and me is our Christian connection. Charlotte's late husband was a pastor, and she is delighted to have another pastor in her life.

Charlotte and I know that we are family beyond our physical relationships, and feel the strong bond of being members of Christ's family, even though we live 3000 miles apart.

In May and June, we take time each year to celebrate our human relationships as we honor our mothers and fathers, and those who are like mothers and fathers among us.

We have another parent as well, in God, our heavenly parent, who cares for us even more than our human mother and father. Let's take time this month and always to give thanks to God for all of our human relationships.

In HOPE,
Pastor Lynn

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Christian Education and VBS Meeting

The Christian Education Meeting for the month of May will meet on Saturday, May 7 at 10 a.m. We will be talking about Vacation Bible School that is planned for June 5 - 8. We still need volunteers to help with VBS. If interested, there is a sign-up sheet in Luther Hall by the Coffee Hour sign-up sheet.

Dollars and Sense from the Treasurer's Desk

	March 2011	
<u>Date</u>	<u>Communion Attendance</u>	<u>Regular Income</u>
March 6	78	4,023.00
March 13	82	1,892.97
March 20	72	1,503.00
March 27	80	<u>1,390.15</u>
Total:		\$ 11,342.02
Total Inflows:	\$ 11,342.02	
Total Outflows:	\$ 10,248.83	

The full financial statement is in Luther Hall.

Council Officers & Members

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Steve Northsea

Evangelism/Stewardship

GPS/Long Range Planning

Vice President

Lee Pitre

Christian Education

Secretary

Vic Kahler

Angel Food

Property Committee

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Ushers

Richard Regan

Angel Food

Property Committee

Russ Telfer

Memorial Committee

Helen Van Horn

Financial Secretary

Michel Northsea

GPS/Long Range Planning

Wednesday Evening Bible Study

From Jesus to Christ, a four-part DVD, traces the evolution of Christianity from its days as just another Jewish denomination to its final break into an entirely new faith, along with the evolution of the historical Jesus into a figure of much greater importance.

The series explores such topics as the journal of Perpetua, an early martyr; the Dead Sea Scrolls; the amazing books found at Nag Hammadi, Egypt, in 1945; the differences between the four Gospels

and how they each reflect their respective eras and locations; Constantine's conversion; Masada and Shimon Bar Kochba; the destruction of the Second Temple; how Christianity developed in the various places it travelled to in the region; and Jesus' true social class.

Join us each Wednesday at 7pm, or just when you can, for viewing and discussion of this interesting topic.

Jacob's Journey

Jacob's Journey Bible Class will be finished for this season on May 9th. We shall resume our classes on the prophets in the fall. I want to thank all the faithful Bible students who have studied with me from Genesis to where we are now in the prophets. We will continue right into the New Testament until we finish the entire Bible. It's been a great journey with many fascinating places along the way to study and explore. I hope you all have a restful and enjoyable summer and come back in November ready to begin our journey again.

Anyone interested in joining the class is welcome. We are more than happy to have new and interested students. We

meet on Mondays in Luther Hall from 1-3 P.M. Bring your Bible, a three-ringed notebook and expect a blessing.

Shalom, Anita O'Donnell

Esther Circle

Evangelism— What does it mean to you? For many of the Christian community it means the “heartbeat” of the church. It is through evangelism that the people of God carry on the mission of Jesus Christ. It is through evangelism that people blossom in their faith journey as they realize they have the power to make an impact on the world. In our May Bible study session, we will discuss the major aspects of evangelism. The lesson entitled “The People of God: Witnessing and Evangelism” is the last of this series

about “The People of God— Unity in the Midst of Diversity.” We will look at how we can spread the good news of Jesus Christ and his salvation.

Esther Circle will meet on Thursday, May 19 at 10:30 a.m. in the church parlor. Copies of the lesson are available in the church office. Please join us for this Bible Study.

Janet Esworthy, Study Leader

Thanks from Martha Circle

Thanks to Lillian Taylor for her generous donation to Martha Circle in memory of her beloved John.

Martha Circle gets no funds from the budget at Hope and relies solely on donations.

Carole Warden

Martha Circle

The ladies of Martha Circle met on April 6 to fill bags of Candy for the Easter Egg Hunt and make Easter Cards to send out with the Easter Crosses that they decorated for our shut-in here at Hope. The crosses were on display in Luther Hall for you to admire!

room 3.....Luther Hall.

Please join us for prayer, crafts, snacks, and a bit of social time. All are welcome. I have “jobs” for you, if you prefer not to do the crafts. We also work on the Shoebox ministry.

Carole Warden

Another “love” box was sent to our troops in Afghanistan. The next gathering will be MAY 4 at 1:00 p.m. in

Operation Christmas Child

Tuesday evening on March 22, 46 people attended the Marion/Citrus County Operation Christmas Child kick-off celebration meeting at First Baptist Church of Inverness.

Lempi Tervo, Ruth Moheit, Terry Lucente, and Carole warden attended and shared their stories of the 2010 shoebox collection at Hope.

Marlene Reuscher, area coordinator, and members of her team showed us the many stops and travel each box makes before reaching the final destination to a child. This wonderful program is a ministry of Samaritan's Purse.

Operation Christmas Child...May

Our shoebox collection for the month of May is:

COMBS and BRUSHES

Please bring your donations and put them on the designated table in Luther Hall!

Thank You

I would like to thank everyone for your kindness and thoughtfulness. All the phone calls, cards, visits, roast beef sandwiches, flower, prayers

A video of Franklin Graham and volunteers from all over the USA was shown delivering the boxes to Haiti and parts of Africa. The delight on these children's faces was priceless!

Over 8 million boxes were delivered this past year. Marion/Citrus County has a goal of 15,000 boxes for this year. Let's do all we can to help. God bless you for your donations and prayers in this special ministry that we support every year.

Carole Warden

We are so blessed to have so many generous people here at HOPE and our collections are growing.

THANK you for all you do for this wonderful ministry!

Carole Warden



and communion while I was in rehab was greatly appreciated.

Ruth Moheit

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

Hans Steen – Woodland Terrace

Karen Summers – Home

Ruby Wagner – Barrington Place

Thank You From Vic Kahler

I would like to thank Hans Witter, Judy Kasco, Steve Kasco, Kelly Murphy, Dick Regan, Tom Knipe, Jim Earl, Carol

Warden, and Steve Northsea, for their help since our last report.

Vic Kahler, Property Committee

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.

Ask Pastor Lynn

Question: I noticed on Palm Sunday that Barabbas had a first name, 'Jesus.' Why have I never heard that before?

I think this has to do with the traditional focus on John as the preferred gospel for Good Friday and Easter. It is the version we remember the most because we hear it every year.

We read the Passion narratives from Matthew, Mark, or Luke each year on Palm/Passion Sunday, but we hear these stories every three years, so they are not as familiar to us. Sometimes, something jumps out at us as different, even if it is very familiar.

Another reason is that some ancient Greek texts include Jesus as part of Barabbas' name, and some don't. As Bible translators wrestle with comparing these texts, they have to make choices. So, some translations use Jesus Barabbas, and some simply use Barabbas.

By the way, Jesus is the Latinized version of Iesous, which is the Greek version of the Hebrew "Yeshua." If we translate from Hebrew directly to

English, we'd say Joshua. I'm sure there were lots of men named Yeshua/Joshua in Israel at the time, just as there are today.

Related question: Why are there four gospels, and why are they different from each other?

Each gospel is written by a particular writer, for a particular audience, and with a particular purpose in mind. By 367, the Church leaders had pretty much decided on what books should be in the Bible. They recognized that there were differences in the stories in Matthew, Mark, Luke and John, but included all four because they were all in general circulation, written during the first century, and all portrayed Jesus as both human and divine at the same time.

The Church leaders excluded gospels that were written after the first century, that did not portray Jesus as both human and divine, and that gave special privileges or special knowledge to a few, like the Gnostic Gospel of Thomas.

Thanks from Vic Kahler

I would like to thank everyone for their prayers and cards while I was recovering from shoulder surgery.

Victor Kahler

Library News

The Library News has covered many subjects since its beginning last October. This month we are going to look at the people in the Bible beginning with Paul.

If there is a typical Christian anywhere in the New Testament it is the apostle Paul. All his letters had a practical purpose for a specific situation. The one letter that presents the Christian faith as Paul understood it is the Letter to the Romans - "The Gospel According to St. Paul". We have several books of Paul's Gospel, Dewey No. 227.1, title Paul's Gospel, The Gospel According to Paul, The Letter to the Romans, and Romans, Hard Sayings of Paul.

Matthew: Structure, Christology, Kingdom. Follow Me: Discipleship According to Saint Matthew. The church today must know what discipleship means if she is to be the church.

Your Hope Library has many books of authors writing explanations of the various biblical writers of the early times of the church.

To name a few of the books: The Miracle of Mark, The World of St. John, The Gospel of Luke. We even have The Lost Gospel of Judas Iscariot. All of these books are in the classification of

225, 226, 227. We also have Women in the Bible, 267.8. Just pick a disciple and see what you can find.

On the lighter side there are a number of fiction books. The Big Fisherman, Two from Galilee, Eve, Rebecca, He Began with Eve. The fiction novel "Eve" is a beautifully written excursion into Eve's mind that probes, questions, and examines the world she has been thrust into by her disobedience. In "He Began with Eve" the author, Joyce Landorf, examines how five great women of God might have approached life, its traumas and joys, and how biblical truth fits into the whirl of modern living. "The Samaritan Woman" by Eileen Berger, is the story of Susanna who met Jesus at Jacob's well, a startling encounter that changed her life. A novel named "Esther" by Gini Andrews is based on the Old Testament book of Esther, who risks all to reveal her secret, a secret that could mean death. Another novel "Rebekah" is a tale of passion, intrigue, jealousy, and love--an extraordinary account of one of the Bible's outstanding women. This one by Margaret Phillips. (Remember in the fiction section, the books are shelved by the first three letters of the author's last name).

(Continued on next page)

Library News (Continued)

In the multi media items we have the DVD “The Life of Apostle Peter”, three videos “Great People of the Bible and how they lived” (Abraham, Joseph, Jacob, and Issac), “The Life of Apostle Paul”, and “Paul the Emissary”. “Another video that deals with Paul is the 3 volumes of Acts. Unfortunately Vol. Two is missing.”

There are many, many books in the Children’s section. Most of the books

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!

have the name of the Biblical person in the title. There are also a few in the Youth section. The legal size folders on the counter are to help anyone who needs it to find a book. They are labeled Sorted by Title, Sorted by Subject, Sorted by Author, Sorted by Accession No.

Enjoy a summer of reading.

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.

The Lutheran School of Theology

The Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago (LSTC) is Pastor Lynn's seminary. Read what a Japanese student is doing in this article from the E.pistle newsletter.

One thousand cranes

Every day after worship, Miho Yasukawa is outside the Augustana Chapel doors inviting members of the LSTC community to write prayers for Japan on the back of small squares of colored paper and to fold them into origami cranes. She is creating a string of one thousand cranes to send to her native Japan.

Cranes are one of the mystical creatures in Japan, said to live 1,000 years. Tradition says that folding 1,000 paper cranes will make a person's wish come true. In Japan, 1,000 cranes are given as wedding and baby gifts with wishes for long life and happiness. In western countries, they are sometimes given to cancer patients or laid on a grave as a symbol of hope and peace.

Through the story of Sadako Sasaki, the origami cranes became a symbol of world peace. Sadako folded 1,000 cranes, trying to stop her death from leukemia caused by the atomic bombing of Hiroshima during World War II.

Miho Yasukawa began the M.Div. program this year, returning the LSTC after earning a Master of Arts in Biblical Studies in 2006. She will be sending the one thousand or more cranes from LSTC to the Japan Evangelical Lutheran Church.

In these symbols of peace, healing, good fortune, and good wishes we at LSTC draw close to the people of Japan, praying as we fold the small squares of paper, reminded of how we are connected, one to another, around the world.

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

Thanks from Pastor Lynn

Thanks to the countless folks who helped with Lent, Holy Week, and Easter services and meals. It wouldn't have been the same.

Thanks to Carole Warden and Aida Diaz for the wonderful Easter Egg Hunt.

Angel Food Distribution

March 28, 2011 Angel Food Distribution

Nine orders were picked up at the Knights of Columbus in Homosassa and distributed by Dick Regan, Pat Kessel, Joyce Davis, and Vic Kahler.

Thanks to Hans Witter for the gift of the large wooden cross which now hangs behind the altar. Dedicated on Good Friday, it is an awesome gift to God and Hope.

Thank you volunteers!

Victor Kahler - Council liaison

Known Birthdays and Anniversaries for May

Birthdays

5 Richard Warden
8 Sebastian D'Auria
10 Stan Miller
Hazel Rienstra
11 Aida Diaz
Dawn Rodgers
24 Kelly Murphy
29 Lillian Taylor



Anniversaries

2 David & Alice Doyle (58)
Harold & Kay Schaller (14)
5 Harold & Jane Skidmore (32)
Richard & Carole Warden (41)
7 Ted & Lynn Polack (18)
8 Jim & Sue Hovis (46)
11 Fred & Monika Seeger (43)
23 Brian & Dee Forsyth (24)

Those Who Will Assist in Worship for May

Communion Assistants and Acolytes

- 1 - Anita O'Donnell/Brian Whitler
- 8 - Renate Wilms-Rovin/Casey Gaylarido
- 15 - Dee Forsyth/John Chiappetta
- 22 - Lynn Polack/Anthony Diaz
- 29 - Steven Penn/Jacob Penn

Altar Guild

- Margarita Chiappetta
- Margaret DeWalt
- Diane Kahler

Nursery

- 1 - Janice Pitre
- 8 - Judy Thomason-Kasco
- 15 - Sue Hovis
- 22 - Ann Becwar
- 29 - (TBA)

Lay Readers

Sunday Services

- 1 - Steve Northsea
- 8 - Jackie Dean
- 15 - Dick Regan
- 22 - Monica Seeger
- 29 - Barbara Stetson

Ushers for the Month

- David Doyle
- Jim Hovis

Assisting Ministers

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

Guest Greeter

- Francine Richards

Greeters

- Lempi Tervo
- Casey Gaylarido
- (Anita O'Donnell on May 8)



BRING A FRIEND TO CHURCH!

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Communion 8:00 Adult Bible Study 9:30 Worship 10:45 Fellowship 11:15 Youth Sunday School 2:00 Deeper Life in LH	2 1:00 Jacob's Journey 6:30 Boy Scouts	3 2:30 Bells/Chimes 6:00 Girl Scouts	4 1:00 Art Group 1:00 Martha Circle 2:00 Healing Service 7:00 Bible Study 7:30 Bible Study Deeper Life	5 6:30 Cub Scouts 7:00 Choir Reh.	6	7 10:00 Christian Ed / VBS Meeting
8 Communion 8:00 Adult Bible Study 9:30 Worship 10:45 Fellowship 11:00 Ex-Com Mtg 11:15 Youth Sunday School 2:00 Deeper Life in LH	9 1:00 Jacob's Journey 6:30 Boy Scouts	10 2:30 Bells/Chimes 6:00 Girl Scouts 6:30 Daisies	11 1:00 Art Group 2:30 Council Mtg 7:00 Bible Study 7:30 Bible Study Deeper Life	12 6:30 Cub Scouts 7:00 Choir Reh.	13	14
15 Communion 8:00 Adult Bible Study 9:30 Worship 10:45 Fellowship 11:15 Youth Sunday School 2:00 Deeper Life in LH	16 10:30 Evangelism 6:30 Boy Scouts	17 2:30 Bells/Chimes 6:00 Girl Scouts	18 9:30 Piecemakers 1:00 Art Group 7:00 Bible Study 7:30 Bible Study Deeper Life	19 10:30 Esther Circle 6:30 Cub Scouts 7:00 Choir Reh.	20	21
22 Communion 8:00 Adult Bible Study 9:30 Worship 10:45 Fellowship 11:15 Youth Sunday School 2:00 Deeper Life in LH	23 6:30 Boy Scouts	24 2:30 Bells/Chimes 6:00 Girl Scouts 6:30 Daisies	25 9:30 Piecemakers 1:00 Art Group 7:00 Bible Study 7:30 Bible Study Deeper Life	26 6:30 Cub Scouts 7:00 Choir Reh.	27	28
29 Communion 8:00 Adult Bible Study 9:30 Worship 10:45 Fellowship 2:00 Deeper Life in LH	30 Memorial Day Office Closed	31 2:30 Bells/Chimes	<h1 style="color: blue;">May 2011</h1>			