

HOPE HIGHLIGHTS

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December 2019

From the Pastor:

When I think December I think Christmas schedules. Well, I also think about Jesus, but since Jesus is never as demanding as holiday schedules and events the calendar usually dominates my thoughts during the holiday season. Here are a few things to keep in mind as you plan your December schedule.

Our Christmas Eve services will be held at 5:30 and 7:30pm, and we will gather at 10 am on Christmas morning.

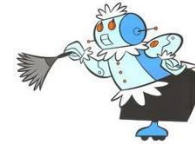
But did you know there is more going on than Christmas services in December? Did you know about our adult Bible study that meets every Wednesday at 12:15 pm in the sanctuary? Well, now you do!

And did you know about our Thursday Night Live worship service at 6 pm every Thursday evening? We will take a break from that service on December 26th so that everyone can get their Christmas traveling finished, but we are on every other Thursday.

Christmas Worship allows us to add yet another opportunity to gather together and praise God to our spiritual schedule. And for that I am extremely

grateful. But I am also grateful for the various other ways that we gather to share the Word and Fellowship. I hope at least one of these opportunities fits your schedule this (and every) month. I look forward to seeing you soon!

Nate



TO ALL GROUPS USING THE FELLOWSHIP HALL

When you use the Fellowship Hall you need to clean up. That means:

Put chairs back, Wipe down tables and vacuum. White tables (in the square) have 4 chairs at each table. Round tables have 6 chairs at each table. All other chairs need to be put away in the middle closet. There is a red vacuum in the Fellowship Hall, by the back/side door that you can use. If you have children at your event and they use the nursery room, please make sure it is cleaned up.

To: Hope Lutheran Congregation;

Three months ago we were challenged with a situation that could have been a major game changer for our congregation. With the prospect of losing our Pastor and not being able to meet our mortgage, we started the Mortgage Reserve fund.

As of Dec. 1 we have 11,204.65 which does not include a recent \$5000.00 donation. The anonymous giver would like to challenge us this Christmas season to see if we can raise another \$5000!

We understand that during this giving season, we have many places asking for our donations, but if we could all give just a little we could match \$5000 by January 15...

We have had two major donations that has really helped our fundraising and we are deeply grateful to those who gave so willingly. Whatever people give is so appreciated! Thank you and Christmas Blessings to you all!

In God's Love,

The Fund Raising Committee

SPIRITED SENIORS

Our Wednesday group, Spirited Seniors meets every Wednesday. A light lunch is served followed by games and cards. If this is something you would like to help out with, please let the office know. (We will not be meeting on



THE 2020 FLOWER CALENDAR HAS BEEN ORDERED AND WILL BE ON THE BULLETIN BOARD IN THE HALLWAY

If you would like to sign up to have flowers for a special occasion, there are lots of spaces available! You can bring them yourself or have Kris order them for you from Pierson's. One bouquet is \$15 and two are \$25. That includes tax and delivery.

December 29, 2019
FREE COMMUNITY SUPPER

5-6:00 pm

Menu:
Stew
Biscuits
Salads
Desserts

We will be playing Bingo with prizes awarded to the winners. There is no charge for the meal, however, a free will offering will be taken. Bingo will be cut down to 15 minutes due to the Trunk or Treat.

Good Food, Good Fellowship

The Free Community Supper is funded by members of Hope Lutheran and a "free will offering". We are feeding from 120-125 average per month. If you'd like to help prepare, serve, set/clean up or assist with Bingo, please contact Donna Fugate at 363.9183. Monetary donations are also accepted.

Treasurer Report Week of November 26 2019

Receipts: (Average weekly required for budget is \$3,508.00)

Actual Receipts: \$2,337.00 (Plate: \$1,907.00, Simply Giving: \$225.00, Women in Action \$50.00, Outreach Committee \$40.00, Thanksgiving \$85.00, Memorial to General Fund: \$30.00)

Expenditures: \$3,242.17

Bills due Next Week: \$4,940.06/Includes Payroll.

Received in Reserve for Monthly Mortgage Payment: \$55.00. (Total in Mortgage Reserve: \$11,204.65)

As of November 26, 2019 after all bills were paid, the balance in the checking account is \$19,486.48.

Which Includes the Reserve Mortgage: \$11,204.65.

DUE TO THE CHRISTMAS SEASON, COUNCIL WILL BE HELD ON MONDAY, DECEMBER 16TH THIS MONTH.



Just a reminder that the 1st weekend of each month is designated to bring non-perishable food for those less fortunate and fill the grocery cart. Food will be taken to a local food bank. The supply is constantly being depleted.



QUILTING – A reminder that we meet the third Tuesday of the month starting at 6:00 PM. All skill levels are welcome and appreciated.



December Birthdays

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- 1 Cassandra Pahl
- 2 Cameron Weitnauer
- 3 Zoey Kaegbein
- 4 Diane Hunt
- 10 Harrison Sieck, Shane Dyson
- 15 Cody Techau
- 16 Lyle Long
- 18 Richard Hartgrave
- 19 Lincoln Burge-Fay, Chris Kaegbein
- 29 Larry Benge, Pam Evans, Bella Christensen
- 30 Judith Torson
- 31 Mary Richeson, Kris Kessell

If your birthday is in December, but you are not listed, please call the church office at 365-3105 or 365-3999. Thanks!

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS FOR December & January

December

- 1st Assistant: Sun.: Harlene Stewart
- 2nd Assistant: Sun.: ?????
- Musicians: Marcey Luxa
- Choir Director: Cody Techau
- Greeters: Sun.: Cindy Koppenhaver
- Ushers: Sun.: Jan Dyson

WE ARE IN NEED OF A 2ND ASSISTANT FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER. PLEASE SIGN UP OR CALL THE OFFICE AT 365-3105.

“Thursday Night Live” Evening Worship at 6:00

Are you looking for a non-traditional service that has all the elements of a traditional one? Thursday night might be just what you were looking for! Live music with **Bröken Hälös** (Pastor Nate, Scott Foizey, Joe Kell, and Cody Techau) play a variety of jazz, blues, pop and country music. There will be a hymn, some prayers, an awesome sermon, communion AND live music.

Simply Giving

Did you know that Hope Lutheran is involved with a program called “Simply Giving”?

Simply Giving is an electronic giving program which allows you make donations on a scheduled, automatic basis. If you are writing checks and preparing envelopes every week, you will especially appreciate electronic giving. It is convenient for you and provided much-needed donation consistency for our church. You can pick your amount, and what day of the month you wish to have it withdrawn from your account – you can even change your options at any time! If you have questions, contact Betty Nelson at 362-0721.

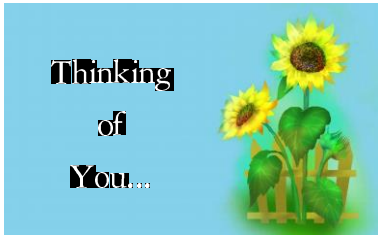
The Quarter Tower

Our youth collect quarters every Sunday to spend on projects to help others. This is a project they pick to do when we get a good amount of quarters. What a great lesson in spreading God’s grace.



WOMEN OF HOPE

The Women of Hope will be meeting on December 7th at 10:00 to put together plates of cookies for our shut-ins. Make sure to bring some cookies to fill the plates. They will also concentrate on putting up the mitten tree. So if you have a stash of mittens, hats, and scarves for the tree, go ahead and bring them.



Elsie Dlouhy
Marion, IA 52302
365-5333
(NEW ADDRESS)

Larry Bengé
Bickford Place
1100 Linden Dr.
Marion, IA 52302

Doug & Judy Torson
2717 Royal Oaks Dr. NW
Swisher, IA 52338
319-857-5300

Evelyn Andrews
5701 Briarwood St. S. W.
Cedar Rapids, IA 52404
363-1998

Brent Pahl
4000 14th Ave. S. E.
Cedar Rapids, IA 52403
363-2557

Pam Evans
6329 Murfield Dr. S. W.
Cedar Rapids, IA 52404
362-0843



Betty Hansen
from
Elsie Patterson (Memorial)
Phill & pam ERvans (Mortgage)
Ben & Marlys Halberg (Mortgage)
Donna Fugate (General)
Wendy & Mark LeVan (Memorial)
Gene & Jana Nassif
Harold Klinsky
Mary & Matt Richeson
Leon and Linda Jones
Dennis & Pat Casner
Scharon Schmidt
Carol Ann & Bing Nishiura

Kathy Barnotes
Hilda & Carl Machula (Memorial)
Cathy Tieskoetter (Memorial)

Bob and Linda Meyer (Memorial)

Carol Kitzmen (Memorial)

Randy & Joyce Skibbe
Bill & Rose Dougherty (Memorial)

Paulette & Dick Boquist
Chuck & Diane Thorton
Dean & Dorothy Teslik
Sheryl VanScoyoc
Bob & Donna Connolly
Cheri Jones

St. Lukes Employee Health
Mary & Jim McDade
Marcey Luxa
Judy & Nick Battiste
William Davis & Kathryn Franzenburg (Mortgage)

Larry Luther
from
Leon & Linda Jones (Memorial)
Elsie Patterson (Memorial)
Cheryl Beachler (Memorial)
Kathryn Franzenburg & William Davis (General)

Jerry Schmidt
Donna Fugate (General)

June Farmer
Donna Fugate (General)



Christmas Worship Schedule

Christmas Eve Worship 5:30 & 7:30
Christmas Day Worship 10:00