



Letter of Hope September 2017

House of Hope Lutheran Church
New Hope, MN

Living out God's grace we seek to be neighbors to all.



SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2017

All kids ages 3 to 5th grade are invited to come to
House of Hope Sunday School!

Everyone is invited to learn about our Sunday School program
and join us for ice cream sundaes at our
Sunday School Rally Day
Open House from 10:00- 11:00am.

Congregational Meeting Sunday, September 17, 2017 at 10:15

The purpose of this meeting is to designate the recipient(s) of the \$10,000 of benevolence collected through our capital campaign "Hope Coming Together".



Our last directory was done in 2013 and it's time for a new one!
Picture taking is scheduled for
September 12- 14 from 2- 9pm

We are seeking volunteers to help with the check-in table.
You may register online for your photo shoot.
Check your email for the link or online at hohlhc.org.
If you have questions contact Reuel Persaud at
612-208-3081.

+ *Pastor's Letter* +

Dear Friends of House of Hope,

Well, autumn is coming again and with it a new school year, a new program year, a new season of life. As we turn from the heat of the summer and the freedom of long, sunny days, we have a chance to start again.

Over the last year, we've faced a lot of fear all around us. Fear from political turmoil, from the constant media barrage, from terrifying storms, from life changes for us or for loved ones. Fear seems to have been a constant for us and in our communities.

This summer, at Camp Wapo, our kids learned a verse from Joshua: "Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go." This verse reminds us of the many people throughout the Bible who faced frightening situations- Moses in leading the Israelites out of Egypt, Tamar in facing an upcoming war, Mary in facing an unexpected pregnancy, the disciples in dealing with the death of their beloved Jesus, Paul in learning that he had got it all wrong in his persecutions of Christians, and on and on. The one thing all these people had in common is that God was with them in these scary, overwhelming moments. God was with them- watching over them, caring for them, leading them.

Likewise, God is with us. When things are fearful- when we face something new, when we lose something or someone we love, when we don't know what to do- God is with us, leading us forward.

And, as we sang at Vacation Bible School, if God is with us who can be against us (Romans 8:31)? When we know God is with us, we can let go of our fear. We can work together as a community to support one another. And, we can look outward, to see who in our community is fearful, who in our community needs to know about God's presence with us.

We, at House of Hope, have the ability to show the world what it means to be fearless in sharing God's grace. We can do this by praying for our neighbors. We can show this grace by being present with neighbors facing persecution, like our Muslim and Jewish brothers and sisters have been experiencing. We can demonstrate God's love by continuing to serve around our community, with PRISM and NEAR and Families Moving Forward. We can show God's love by welcoming all who come into our doors and working to make it a safe place for everyone. We can share God's grace by moving out in our community in new ways, by exploring new ideas of how to be church together, of trying new things and working in new ways.

We do not have to be afraid of a new season or a new time. God goes with us wherever we go. God is with us. Let's share God's grace confidently as we remember God is with us.

Blessings on your September,

Pastor Gretchen

"Families Moving Forward"

The Bonfire Ministry congregations will be working together to host 4-5 families at St. James Lutheran Church the week of September 3-10. House of Hope will be providing volunteers the evenings of Tuesday, September 5 and Thursday, September 7. We will be greeting, making and serving the evening meals, visiting with the guest families, and we will also need at least one volunteer to stay at St. James overnight on those days. Please consider helping these families as they transition to finding a new home. If you have questions or would like to sign up to help out contact Erin Paulsen at espaulsen6616@msn.com or 763-670-5828. Thank you!



Jesus and Me
Jesus and Me time for 5th graders!
Wednesday, September 13, 2017
5:00- 6:00pm



Wow, it's September! Where is our summer going?! It's hard to realize that summer is escaping so quickly, but September is here. That means that Sunday School is starting back up, Bible studies are resuming and our musical groups are once again rehearsing so that they can offer their best for our Sunday worship. Everyone is invited to participate in one of our musical groups — ALL ARE WELCOME! The only qualification you need to be part of a group is a desire to make music to the Lord!

As we enter this "new" season we'll be singing a different musical setting of the liturgy to help mark the change of seasons. This setting incorporates hymns that you already know making it easy and meaningful for all as we start a "new year" in the life of House of Hope.

During September you will hear these selections during worship. On Sunday, September 10, the Hope Chorale will sing *Kum Ba Yah* by Ed Lojeski; Sunday, September 17, you will hear *Bless the Lord, O My Soul* by Mikail M. Ippolitof-Ivanof sung by the Hope Chorale; September 24, the Hope Bells will ring *O Worship the King* by Sandra Eithun; Sunday, October 1, the Hope Chorale will sing *One Faith, One Hope, One Lord* by Craig Courtney.

George



A body is made up of many parts, and each of them has its own use. That's how it is with us. There are many of us, but we each are part of the body of Christ, as well as part of one another. —Romans 12:4-5

In Romans 12:1, Paul calls on us to offer our bodies and souls to God as a "living sacrifice". This is the way that we worship and serve God. Paul goes beyond our individual sacrifice, however. In verses 4-5 above, Paul makes each of our living sacrifices a part of the corporate sacrifice of the body of Christ. We are each a member of that body and each of us has different gifts to use. Sometimes we believe that our gifts are so small and unimportant, but offered with the gifts of the other members of the body of Christ, amazing things can be accomplished.

In verses 6-8, Paul encourages each of us to use the gifts we have been given generously, diligently and cheerfully. In verses 9-21, Paul describes behaviors that are pleasing to God. If we do our best to conform to these behaviors, in our individual lives and in our corporate life as a part of the body of Christ, we will be worshipping God by

- 1) nurturing our relationship with God,
- 2) loving ourselves as one created by God,
- 3) serving our neighbors and
- 4) caring for creation.

Please think about how you are participating as a "living sacrifice" in the House of Hope community.

JOIN A BIBLE STUDY THIS FALL . . .

There are a number of opportunities for you to choose from—the Men's Wednesday morning group which meets at Country Kitchen at 6:30am, the group which meets at church each Wednesday morning at 10:30 (all are welcome!), the Women's Thursday morning group that meets at church at 9:30am. They would love to have more members attending for Bible study and fellowship. JUST COME!

9th ANNUAL



**Saturday, September 16, 2017
3:00- 8:00pm**

There'll be music, a silent auction, a bounce house for the kids, and enough beer and brats to feed the neighborhood.

We will be auctioning off baskets again this year. And there will be a bake sale. We are requesting any baked goods—it doesn't need to be German themed. Baked goods should be brought up to church on Friday, September 15. Look for sign up sheets in the narthex and sign up if you are willing and able to work the event.

So put the date on your calendar, invite your friends and neighbors and come for the music, the food, and lots of fun!

GIFT BASKETS FOR SILENT AUCTION—

Remember the awesome gift baskets we had last year at Oktoberfest? Let's do it again! We have a variety of baskets just waiting to be filled up. Gift basket ideas are available on the table in front of the youth bulletin board in the narthex. Please bring the completed gift basket to church by September 10 so it can be wrapped and ready for Oktoberfest on September 18. Contact Karen Brehmer at 612-799-7069 or karen.brehmer@comcast.net with questions.

MUSIC PROGRAMS KICK OFF FALL

The Hope Bells and Hope Chorale have already begun rehearsing for the new program year. But it's not too late for you to join! Hope Bells meet on Mondays at 7:00pm in the sanctuary and Hope Chorale meets on Wednesdays at 7:00pm. Come and join us as we *"make a joyful noise to the Lord"*!



**SENIORS
MINISTRY
FELLOWSHIP**

The seniors from House of Hope and First Lutheran Church of Crystal will be going to the Plymouth Playhouse on Wednesday October 11th to see *The Looney Lutherans in Livin' La Vida Lutheran!* - a trio of wacky girls on tour promoting their new cookbook and "lifestyle guide". We will meet at First Lutheran at 11am to carpool. Cost is \$31.00 and includes lunch and the play. Make checks payable to House of Hope. Payment and sign up is due by September 18th.

Committee members: Ruth Modrow, Merry Dorphy, Molly Enfield, Nell Alexander and Loretta Quick

MEN'S



DINNER

SUNDAY, September 17 5:00pm
Cross of Glory Lutheran Church
5929 Brooklyn Blvd, Brooklyn Park
\$10 per person
Watch for sign up table in the narthex at church.

Thanks to KidPack Volunteers!

You have been vital to the success of KidPack, a program which provides snacks to school children to help prevent weekend hunger. Packing takes place once each month during the school year and will resume in October. More volunteers are always needed!



Mark your Calendars NOW!
37th ANNUAL LUTEFISK & MEATBALL SUPPER
3 November 2017

Donations of **HOMEMADE CRAFTS & ITEMS** needed for CRAFT SALE
 (Start working on them NOW!)

Tickets go on sale Sunday, October 1st at 8:00am at church
NEW THIS YEAR . . . 4 settings: 4:00pm—5:00pm—6:00pm—7:00pm
 Prices remain the same: \$18.00/Adults \$8.00/Children 2-12 years
More information to come in future Sunday bulletins and newsletters

CURSILLO

We would like to get the Cursillo Community at House of Hope active again. If you are interested in attending a Via de Cristo weekend there will be a men's Cursillo weekend September 21-24 at St. Stephen's Lutheran Church, West St. Paul and a women's weekend September 28-Oct. 1 at the same church. If you have questions about Cursillo please call Harold & Marlene Truax, House of Hope church liaison chairpersons, at 763-420-6365.

**BONFIRE GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP—
 BEGINS SEPTEMBER 10th**

The Bonfire Ministry Grief Support Group is open to anyone who is experiencing grief. They meet every Sunday at St. James Lutheran Church, 6700—46th Place N in Crystal, from 3:45-6:00pm.

Each session is "self-contained so you do not have to attend in sequence. The next series begins on Sunday, September 10.

For more information, please contact Bonfire Parish Nurse, Debbie Haney, at 612-408-2049



**Wildfire God's Work Our Hands
 Saturday, September 9**

9:00am—Breakfast at House of Hope
 10:00am—Service Project for All Ages at House of Hope
 (assembling LSS baby refugee kits, refugee kid kits, and LWR baby care kits.)

Sign up in the narthex at church!

Community Health Fair

Sunday, October 15, 2017
 First Lutheran Church of Crystal
 Sponsored by the Bonfire Health & Wellness Committee along with First Lutheran Church of Crystal and Faith Church International.
 Time is yet to be determined.
 Save the date!





CELEBRATING THIS MONTH

BIRTHDAYS

- 9/1 - Jim Bursell
- 9/4 - Naya Gonzalez
- 9/7 - Abby Hansen
- 9/9 - Anderson Bakken
BJ Bjorkman
Sharon Johnson
Kaitlyn Remple
- 9/13 - Shirley Fulmer
Noah Montgomery
- 9/16 - Ashton Persaud
Gil Sundeen
- 9/19 - Gale Friedrich
- 9/20 - Mert Cooper
Paul Hansen
- 9/22 - Harold Truax
- 9/24 - Shawn Follmer
Jean Wild
- 9/26 - Judie Lucchesi
- 9/28 - Swaro Persaud
- 9/29 - Ryan Halupnick

ANNIVERSARIES

- 9/1 - Ezzie & Jean Wild
- 9/3 - Kevin & Lisa Anderson
Richard & Shirley Fulmer
- 9/5 - Bob & Jody Bonsen
- 9/10 - Gil & Mary Sundeen
- 9/11 - Paul & Annette Hansen
- 9/15 - Ken & Marty Gorsky
- 9/16 - Jim & Lynn Bursell
- 9/20 - Joe & Karen Brehmer
- 9/21 - Shawn & Michelle Follmer
- 9/23 - Steve & Colleen Nightengale
- 9/25 - Scott & Michelle Reger
- 9/28 - Arlen & Sharon Johnson

If you have a birthday or anniversary in September and are not on the lists please contact Barb in the church office (763-533-3341).

Our Church Family . . .

Births—

- Angelo Jay Gonzalez, June 30th; parents are Luis & Jennifer Luke Gonzalez
- Mari Elise Crusinberry, July 26th; parents are Kelsey & Michael Crusinberry; grandparents are Deb & Bob Mans

Baptisms—

Nellie Pamela Hokr, infant daughter of Kevin & Amber Hokr on August 27th

Funerals—

Cecelia (Ceci) Wold, daughter of Tim Wold & Leida Cobos on August 10th



There comes a time when one must take a position that is neither safe, nor politic, nor popular, but he must take it because his conscience tells him it is right....
Martin Luther

The deadline for the October issue of the *Letter of Hope* is September 20th.

SERVICE TEAM NEWS . . . Team #5 will be responsible for October 2017. They will meet on Sunday, September 10, 2017, to volunteer for the month's tasks. **SUPPORT YOUR TEAMMATES BY ATTENDING THE MEETING.** (Many hands make light work.) The members of Team #5 are:

- | | |
|---|--|
| Kenneth & Tanis Agar | Ben & Kris Allen |
| Christine Beck | Bob & Jody Bensen |
| Len & Pat Carlson | Tim & Shannon Dahl
& Delaney & Reggie |
| Ken & Lois Erickson | Shawn & Michelle Follmer
& Adam |
| Andy & Wendy Fretag
& Zachary & Emma | Nate & Lori Gove |
| Tom & Debbie Haney | John & Theresa Henderson |
| Marlene Holmquist | |
| Eleanor Hunsberger | Lisa Loehrs
& Taylor & Neriah |
| Tom & Lynne McGrath | David Nelson |
| Floyd Olson | Ashton & Swaro Persaud |
| Daniel Persaud | Reuel Persaud |
| Mark Pilon | Mike & Robyn Quam |
| Karen Schaupp | Mandy Scott |
| Phyllis Snustad | Barbara Sorkilmo |
| Kay Strating | Sara Utt |
| Nancy Walker | Randy & Rose Wangen |
| Marian Wesley | Bunny Zeisel |

SERVICE TEAMS CALENDAR— Please mark your calendars with the date for your next opportunity to sign up for your service team month. We encourage you to support your team by signing up for as many tasks as you can. We appreciate all your help.

- Service Team #5 - September 10, 2017
 - Service Team #6 - October 8, 2017
 - Service Team #7 - November 12, 2017
 - Service Team #1 - December 10, 2017
 - Service Team #3 - January 14, 2018
- Your Service Team Task Force



House of Hope Staff

- Pastor Mark Vinge
mvinge@hohlc.org
- Pastor Gretchen Rode
grode@hohlc.org
- Deacon George Brooke
gbrooke@hohlc.org
- Barb Suckerman
office@hohlc.org
- Debbie Haney, Bonfire Parish Nurse
612-408-2049

Sunday Schedule

- FREE Breakfast—8:00am
- Worship—9:00am
- Sunday School—10:00am
- Adult Forum/Coffee—10:00am
- Christ's Kingdom Assemblies
Ministries—11:00am

Weekly Bible Studies—

- Wednesday:
 - Men's Bible Study—6:30am
at Country Kitchen
 - Bible Study—10:30am
at church
 - CKAM Bible Study—7:00pm
at church
- Thursday:
 - Women's Bible Study—9:30am

Mission Statement

Living out God's grace we seek to be neighbors to all.

PARISH NURSE HOURS

Thursdays—11am-1pm
 3rd Sunday—9:00am-12 noon
 Debbie's direct phone number is 612-408-2049
 or call her at the church 763-533-3341 and leave a voice mail.



House of Hope Lutheran Church
4800 Boone Avenue North
New Hope, MN 55428

HOUSE OF HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH

A Reconciling Congregation

4800 Boone Avenue North New Hope, MN 55428
Phone: (763) 533-3341 FAX: (763) 531-9006
www.hohlc.org
www.facebook.com/houseofhopemn

House of Hope Lutheran Church is a *Reconciling in Christ* community. All are welcome to worship, to hear the Good News, to receive the sacraments, and to participate fully in fellowship and service. God loves us unconditionally and we endeavor to be a place where that same hospitality is extended to everyone. Following Christ we seek justice and reconciliation among all peoples. We welcome everyone, without exception and regardless of sex, race, national origin, sexual orientation, gender identity, physical and mental ability, age, or station in life, faith or creed. Each person is a unique creation of God and, through Grace, is a child of God. We invite you to come and worship with us.