



## + Pastor's Letter +

Dear Friends of House of Hope,

Did you know that the first evangelist, the first person to share her faith and bring others to Christ, was a woman and a foreigner? Did you know that before Israel was ruled by kings, it was governed by judges and that some of them were women? Did you know that, after Jesus, the first person to be raised from the dead was a woman, a seamstress, named Dorcas?

There are many tales in the Bible that we don't know; that we don't often hear. These stories of some of the lesser known women in the Bible- Hannah, Miriam, the Samaritan woman at the well, Deborah, and Dorcas- are stories we're looking at through the season of Lent in our Wednesday worship services. But these five women are only a few stories- there are many more women and men throughout the Bible that don't make it into our weekly worship stories.

As we learn the stories of not only the big-name people in the Bible, but the little-name people or even the no-name people, we find out that everyone has a place in God's story. That means that we, with all our quirks and un-known stories, have an important place in God's story.

These women we learn about show us a variety of ways to serve God and others. Each of them used their own gifts and stories to share God's love. As it says in Romans 12, "We, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members of one another. We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us." With our different gifts, we each serve God in a new way. And all the ways we serve God fit together in the body of Christ.

Our Lenten theme is "Lift Every Voice," and I encourage you in this Lenten time to discover your own voice and to listen for the voices of those around you.

May we be this body of Christ together.  
Blessings on your season of Lent,

Pastor Gretchen

### A Bit of History—HELP . . .

The library is looking for House of Hope cookbooks from "our past". We have two cookbooks at this time: The HOH 40th Anniversary cookbook and the blue Family Favorites. Thank you in advance for adding your cookbooks to this section of our library.

### EVERY MEMBER VISIT

.All Member Visits to begin again after Easter! We still want to meet with every member of House of Hope. Thank you to all of you who have signed up already. We will start calling and taking sign ups again after the busy Lenten season is done. We want to hear your hopes and dreams for House of Hope!

### ADULT FORUM DATES

- March 4 -  
Forum / Diversity  
Vivian Jenkins Nelson
- March 11 -  
Forum / Exodus Lending
- March 18 -  
Forum / Fellowship
- March 25 -  
Forum / Pastries for Palms
- April 1 -  
Easter Festival Worship
- April 8 -  
Forum / Fellowship  
Service Team Sign-Up
- April 15 -  
Forum / Fellowship
- April 22 -  
Forum / Fellowship
- April 29 -  
Forum / Fellowship

# Letter of Hope March 2018

**House of Hope Lutheran Church      New Hope, MN**  
*Living out God's grace we seek to be neighbors to all.*

### It's Time to Sign Up for Camp Wapo . . .

Kids finishing grades 2 and 3 can sign up for a weekend with SEEDS for August 3rd-5th.. Kids finishing grades 4 and up can sign up for the week of August 5th-10th. Sign up before March 15th or space is not guaranteed, talk to Pastor Gretchen with questions!

### Thank You from. . .

"Near", our congregation collected 761 lbs of food and raised \$5,227.00 for 2017. "Northwest Suburban Dinner At your Door" also thanks us for \$1,114.00 raised. "Feed My Starving Children" thanks the congregation for the \$620.00 raised.

### Other Good News. . .

House of Hope Lutheran Church received \$892.00 from Thrivent Financial in chartable outreach funding for 2017.

### Youth and Family Bowling Event . . .

March 18th! Join us for pizza and bowling at New Hope Bowl! Talk to Pastor Gretchen with questions

## Music Director's Notes

It's March and we're in the season of Lent — a season of penitence and self renewal as we journey through the season with Jesus. As we journey with Jesus we encounter some of the most significant events of Jesus' life and are reminded again of how he suffered for our redemption. We need to take care that we don't just think of Lent as that time before Easter. It's important that we regard Lent and Easter as a full journey that renews us for another year!

During this Lenten journey our music groups provide music that helps to tell the stories that accompany our Lenten journey. Sunday, March 4, the Hope Chorale sings *Be Still and Know* by Victor C. Johnson; March 11, the Hope Bells ring *Gift of Love* by Peter I. Tchaikovsky arranged for bells by Raymond Herbek; Sunday, March 18 we will hear Hope Chorale sing *Pilgrims' Hymn* by Stephen Paulus; March 25, Palm Sunday, the Hope Chorale sings *God So Loved the World* by Katherine K. Davis; Maundy Thursday, March 29, the Hope Bells ring *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross* by Jason W. Krug and *Stricken, Smitten and Afflicted* by Ron Mallory. On Good Friday, March 31, the Hope Chorale will sing *St. John Passion* by Erik Meyer and you get to join in!

George

**2018 FLOWER CHART . . .** The flower chart for 2018 is on the 3-sided kiosk on the north end of the narthex. You can sign up to give altar flowers in honor or memory of family, friends, special occasions, etc. Bouquets are \$15

**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.

**THE SPRING PLANT SALE**

**FUNDRAISER IS HERE!** . . .The youth are selling plants from Gertens as a fundraiser for the ELCA Youth Gathering in Houston. Order forms and color brochures are available in the narthex. Order forms and payment are due on March 25 (Palm Sunday). Thank you for your support of the youth! If you have any questions, contact Karen Brehmer at [ka-  
ren.brehmer@comcast.net](mailto:karen.brehmer@comcast.net) or 612-799-7069.

**Butterbraids for Sale! . . .**

Butterbraid pastries are back and the youth are selling them through March 13th! \$13 a piece- perfect for Easter Breakfast! If interested, find a youth member or talk to Pastor Gretchen.

**Holden Village! . . .**

Eighteen people are headed to Holden Village this summer around the week of June 23-30. If you are interested in joining them for all or part of the same week, talk to Pastor Mark or sign up online at [www.holdenvillage.org](http://www.holdenvillage.org).



STEWARDSHIP CORNER

*For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God - not the result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life. Ephesians 2:8- 10*

On March 11, the Second Reading will be Ephesians 2:1-10. Paul starts this Reading by telling the Ephesians (and us) that not so long ago we were living a life of sin. "You let the world, which doesn't know the first thing about living, tell you how to live." *Ephesians 2:2 from "The Message" by Eugene H. Peterson.* But Paul quickly goes on to the good news. Because of God's mercy and his incredible love for us, he took us from the sin-dead life and made us alive in Christ. God did this without any help from us; it's a gift! But we weren't saved for our welfare alone. We were saved to serve others. By serving others, we fulfill the destiny for which we were created. "He creates each of us by Christ Jesus to join him in the work he does, the good work he has gotten us ready to do, work we had better be doing." *Ephesians 2:10 from "The Message".*

God's deliverance from sin sets us free to give our lives to good works, to love God and to love our neighbors. God prepared beforehand good works for each of us. It is our purpose and our calling.

**Easter baskets wanted for N.E.A.R.**

If you have good, used Easter baskets, plastic eggs, grass for the baskets, or small trinkets to include in the basket, such as little chicks, bunnies, etc., parents at N.E.A.R. would love those items to help make their children's Easter a little more special. Place your items on the table in the narthex. They will be delivered March 15. Thank you from the CARE Ministry Team! Please put any donations in the Fellowship Hall.

Any questions contact Carolyn Larson at 612-998-9887

**Kringla Recipe from Ronna Vinge...**

1 cup sour cream            2 3/4 cup flour  
 1 cup sugar                 1/2 tsp. salt  
 1 tsp. baking power        1/2 tsp. vanilla  
 1 tsp. baking soda         1/2 tsp. nutmeg  
 3/4 cup whipping cream

Mix creams, sugar and vanilla. Add dry Ingredients. Mix thoroughly and chill dough. Roll dough into strips about the diameter and length of a pencil on well-floured board. Shape into figure "8" or like a pretzel on lightly-greased cookie sheet. Bake at 400 degrees for 8-10 minutes, or until delicately browned. Store in airtight container.

The little pretzel-shaped cookies are called Kringla. I was first acquainted with Kringla from a friend and neighbor during our seminary years. Judy Berkeland made these, then shared her recipe with me. Some people make them in figure "8" or infinity shape. The first time I made them for Christmas and brought them to Mark's family for our get-together, Mark's dad tasted one and teared up. He shared with me that his mother used to make these at the holidays, which brought back fond memories for him. Thanks for Sharing, Ronna. If anyone has a family favorite recipe please let Roberta Etherington know.

**Lent 2018**  
*"Lift Every Voice"*

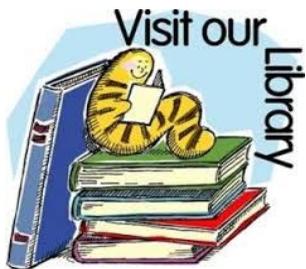
Mar. 7	Soup Supper Worship	6:00 p.m. Youth Serving 7:00 p.m. Samaritan Woman
Mar. 14	Soup Supper Worship	6:00 p.m. G.Zirbes Serving 7:00 p.m. Deborah
Mar. 21	Soup Supper Worship	6:00 p.m. Youth Serving 7:00 p.m. Dorcas

**Holy Week**

Passion Sunday	Mar. 25 9:00 a.m.
Maundy Thursday	Mar. 29 7:00 p.m.
Good Friday	Mar. 30 Noon and 7:00 p.m.
Easter Vigil, Saturday	Mar. 31, 7:00 p.m.
Easter Sunday	April 1, 9:00 a.m. & 10:45 a.m.

**CARE Ministry Team . . .**

A very big THANK-YOU to CARE Ministry Team member, Jean Wild, for sending out birthday and anniversary greetings each month to House of Hope members. Your gift of acknowledging these important milestones in each member's life is very important. God Bless You, Jean.



“Check Out”....the church library for a variety of “good reads” perfect for a cold winter evening!

**NEW: BUT THAT IS NOT ME**

Former HOH member, Rich Hoeg, has contributed his bird photography to this beautiful picture book, for young children, written by Dr. Susan Larson Kidd. Harry Woodpecker shares his message " I should drum out my rhythm on the trunk of a tree and be ever so happy just to be me"! Each page encourages a choral response of early readers.

This book will be available for check out. Also, we have copies that may

be purchased. Thank you...any questions..call me at #763-537-0222. Connie Stensaas.



**Bonfire Grief Support . . .**

A new session of the Bonfire Grief Support will begin meeting in January. The group meets at St. James Lutheran Church in Crystal each Sunday at 3:45pm beginning on January 7th and finishing up on March 18th. Each session is self-contained so you can attend as many or as few as you wish. Dates and topics are listed below—

- Mar. 4—Lessons of Grief (Pt. 1 & 2)
- Mar. 11—Heaven
- Mar. 18—What Do I Live For Now?

Talk to Debbie Haney, Bonfire Parish Nurse if you have questions or are interested in attending the support group.

**Food Shelf News . . .**

The holiday food and gift collections are over but the need for non-perishable food items for the NEAR & PRISM food shelves is never-ending. Please continue to help us feed the hungry in our midst.

Donations can be brought to the Care Ministry Corner in Fellowship Hall.

Thank you for your continued generosity.

“I was hungry and you gave me something to eat.”

Matthew 25:35



**CELEBRATING THIS MONTH**

**BIRTHDAYS**

- 3/1 - Addison Zirbes
- 3/2 - Daisy Haney
- 3/6 - Dorothy Carpenter
- 3/6 - Erin Paulsen
- 3/8 - Thomas McGrath
- 3/8 - Deborah Mans
- 3/9 - Theodora Haney
- 3/15 - Phyllis Snustad
- 3/17 - Patricia Remple
- 3/20 - Ashley Anderson
- 3/20 - George Zirbes
- 3/21 - Jill Jensen
- 3/22 - Jean Johansen
- 3/22 - Barbara Drenth
- 3/22 - Ruth Haapala
- 3/24 - Landen Kukachka
- 3/25 - Karen Brehmer
- 3/26 - Celeste Gonzalez
- 3/26 - Lincoln Henderson
- 3/27 - Glorian Anderson
- 3/30 - Virginia Hansing
- 3/30 - Thomas Hahn

**ANNIVERSARIES**

- 3/10— Betty & Orv Johnson

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

**The deadline for the April issue of the Letter of Hope is March 20th.**

***Our Church Family . . .***

Baptism: Asher James Wallenfelt was Feb.18,2018



**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 #6 - March 11, 2018
- Service Team #7 - April 8, 2018
- Service Team #1 - May 13, 2018
- Service Team #3 - June 10, 2018
- Service Team #5 - July 8, 2018

Your Service Team Task Force

**SERVICE TEAM NEWS . . .**

## SERVICE TEAM #6 - APRIL 2018

Team #6 will be responsible for April 2018. It will meet on Sunday, March 11, 2018, after the worship service (10:00 AM) to volunteer for the month's tasks. Please come to the meeting and sign up for as many tasks as you can. SUPPORT YOUR TEAMMATES BY ATTENDING THE MEETING.

The members of Team #6 are:

TEAM #6

Muriel Armstrong  
 Tom & Becky Broeckel  
 George & Linda Brooke  
 Jim & Lynn Bursell  
 Carol Darg  
 Gale Friedrich  
 Richard & Shirley Fulmer  
 Luis & Jennifer Gonzalez  
 Burt & Eunice Gran  
 Mark & Jill Jensen & Carter  
 Pat Kukachka  
 Kim Larson & Annika  
 Gene & Linda Moen  
 Bill Morrill  
 Barbara Nelson  
 Erin Paulsen  
 Loretta Quick  
 Stan & Connie Stensaas  
 John & Martha Thompson & Kristi & Breanna  
 Joe & Debbie Trombley  
 Glen & Karen Vetter & Eric  
 Tim Wold & Leida Cobos & Ian & Sofia  
 George Zirbes &  
 Peggy Anderson & Arrianna & Addison

House of Hope Staff

Pastor Mark Vinge  
[mvinge@hohlc.org](mailto:mvinge@hohlc.org)  
 Pastor Gretchen Rode  
[grode@hohlc.org](mailto:grode@hohlc.org)  
 Deacon George Brooke  
[gbrooke@hohlc.org](mailto:gbrooke@hohlc.org)

[office@hohlc.org](mailto:office@hohlc.org)  
 Debbie Haney, Bonfire Parish Nurse  
 612-408-2049

Sunday Schedule

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.*



**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](http://www.hohlc.org)

[www.facebook.com/houseofhopemn](https://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.