

ow that the time of vacations draws to a close and public school resumes, it is my hope you have returned refreshed and recreated, prepared to engage the world with the good news that Jesus Christ, crucified and resurrected, is ruling today. Not even the gates of hell can withstand this Gospel of Jesus Christ which, through the power of the Spirit, creates the Church. In the midst of a changing culture that is increasingly hostile to the followers of Jesus, our witness to the Lordship of Jesus will become more rejected but also much more necessary. We, as resident aliens, point to and stand for a reality that is beyond the perceivable and that reality speaks to the heart of those who have succumbed to the culture of the self. The call of Jesus for us to lose self and thereby gain true life, which is so contrary to what the world professes, is the exact message necessary to meet the quest of people to become fulfilled. It is not about how much you have amassed to secure your needs, but about living! We have the answer.

he summer hiatus has played hobb with our usual finances and attendance. I encourage you to be faithful in both of these areas in the months ahead. Set the priorities of remaining "faithful to the teaching of the apostles, to the brotherhood, to the breaking of bread and to the prayers" and first fruits giving of the blessings God has given each of us. Into our daily routine of living, God has injected a seventh day for Sabbath, a day of rest and reconnecting to our Father through worship and to our family in intentional time. Remember Jesus words succinctly informing us that what we treasure, that is where our heart will be.

aithBuilders is a unique program here at Hope. In light of our demographics, we offer parents the resources to be better faith builders for their children. I have always been reluctant to preform tasks for which I am unprepared. You may be the same. Parenting children in the faith is a task that most of us are unprepared to execute. FaithBuilders is designed to assist. Watch for FaithBuilder events for parents from birth to high school graduation scheduled during the next nine months. You'll be glad you did.

ally Sunday, 21 August, emphasizes the shaping of lives by regular exposure to the Word of God for children and adults. It is a noble and necessary function of the Church to edify. A heartfelt thanks to those who teach and lead this effort. Feeding the baptismal faith strengthens individuals to be built into the temple of God, his dwelling place on earth! Take advantage of the opportunities of this building process. Parents, this is particularly imperative for you as a model for your children. Yes, they are watching and imitating. Be in the Word with them.



Notes from Pastor Jon

Outreach

"Parking and Popcorn" was a new attempt to reach out and serve those on our campus to watch the July 4th fireworks. Like all first attempts, we learned a lot. We had many positive comments and smiles and "thank you's" from members of the community. A big "thank you" to everyone who helped out in any way ~ from initial idea to clean-up. "Parking and Popcorn" will happen again next year — bigger and better.

Stephen Ministry

Stephen Ministry doesn't happen without trained ministers. Stephen Ministers are shaped and formed through a process of training and learning. We hope to begin the next Stephen Minister training classes in the latter half of January and will continue through June. The deadline for application is November 20th. Interviews will be conducted the following week(s). If you are contemplating becoming a Stephen Minister, we would love to talk to you. Speak to myself or any current Stephen Minister about serving your neighbor through this caring ministry.



His Peace Be With You — Pastor Jon

Confirmation

Another year of catechesis (a Greek word meaning "instruction by word of mouth" — where we get the word "catechism") at Hope begins later this month.

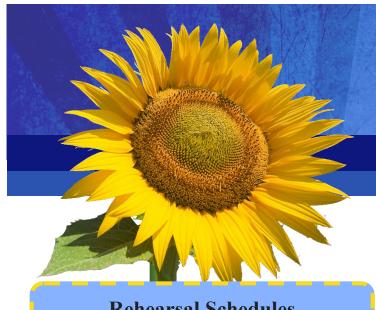
Here are a few important dates:

- Sunday, August 14th: There will be a Parent Meeting for those with a child entering Level 2 or 3 Confirmation. It will be an opportunity to register your child, receive materials, and hear a brief overview of the program and answer questions. The meeting will take place in the Great Room immediately following the 11 o'clock service.
- Faith Builders V: Also, Sunday, August 14th beginning at 5:00 p.m. in the Great Room. This event is for those whose child will begin confirmation this year. We will enjoy a meal together, take care of registration and materials, hear an overview of the program, and participate in worship including a blessing for your child as they begin their confirmation journey.
- Sunday, August 21st: Rally Day. Classes begin.

The goal of confirmation at Hope is to prepare the hearts and minds of our young people to speak for themselves the vows made at their baptism and to make confession of the Faith we all share in Christ Jesus. If you have any questions at all about the program and your child's place within it, please contact me.

Community Garden

We will re-till and clean everything up for Fall planting in the first half of September. The date is not certain yet—depending upon the weather and scheduling. Watch for announcements in the bulletin and verbal announcements as well about a date/time to help out.



Rehearsal Schedules Fall 2016

Tuesdays

6:00 p.m. — Hope Woodwinds and Strings (Sanctuary)

7:00 p.m. — Hope Brass (Sanctuary) 8:00 p.m. — Jubilate Bells (Sanctuary)

Wednesdays

5:30 p.m. — Children's Choirs (CFD) Room 100)

6:00 p.m. — Children's Bell and Chime Choirs (CFD Room 101 & Sanctuary)

6:30 p.m. — Celebration Bells (Sanctuary)

7:30 p.m. — Sanctuary Choir (Sanctuary)

Music Ministry Sign-Ups Sunday, August 14th Grand Hallway

Have you ever wanted to join the Music Ministry to serve in worship? Now is your chance! Sing-ups will be held between services in the Grand Hallway on Sunday, August 14th. It will be important to sign up on this Sunday so that we will have your contact information for the rehearsal and service schedules. Rehearsals for ALL adult ensembles will begin the week of August 15th. Children's ensembles will begin Wednesday, September 7th.

Please prayerfully consider joining us in these worship ministries.

Sing and make music in your heart to the Lord!

Stephanie Poyner Director of Music

Music Ministru

Author Tim Elmore, in his book, "12 Huge Mistakes Parents Can Avoid," uses the acronym SCENE to describe five characteristics of the world the current generation of kids are growing up in:

Their World is Full of:	Consequently, They Assume:
S—Speed	Slow is bad.
C—Convenience	Hard is bad.
E—Entertainment	Boring is bad.
N—Nurturing	Risk is bad.
E—Entitlement	Labor is bad

The tricky part is, as Elmore states, "The words on the right-hand column are the ones that grow us into good adults. Unfortunately, the world of speed and convenience today removes the components that we naturally develop as life skills. This is why we need to be more intentional." More intentional with what? Well parenting in general probably but from our faith perspective we have to work much harder at discipling our own children. The formula of bringing them to church, confirmation, Sunday School or Bible studies multiple hours a week — maybe even parochial schools, has been upended by the onslaught of weeknight and weekend activities. We are pressed for time, patience and our own personal spiritual growth. Where do we squeeze in anything more? We are starting the discussion — if you would like to add your voice or perhaps just listen for a bit to the exploration of taking back our families, contact Robin Groeper, rightchist@hotmail.com.

BASIC is back September 7, 2016 7:00 p.m. — 8:30 p.m. — Mark your calendars!





Children's Ministries

Pathways...

One of our Sunday School opening songs that really gets the kids up and moving is based on Proverbs 3:5-6: "Trust in the Lord with all your heart. Lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight." They love to sing it and do the motions. Another place the Bible talks about pathways is Hebrews 12:12-13 — "Therefore, strengthen your feeble arms and week knees. Make level paths for your feet, so that the lame may not be disabled, but rather healed."

One of the best ways we can learn to stay on those straight and level paths is to be in God's Word; to study the Bible. Why not start the school year with those good study habits and make Christian education part of your routine? Rally Day at Hope is a great way to learn how Hope can help as you grow your faith and the faith of your child.

Rally Day is just around the corner! August 21st is going to be an exciting Sunday. Rally Day kicks off the new school year and promotion to new grade levels.

Pre-K3 through 5th grade:

The children's CrossTraining (education hour) opening begins in the Sanctuary at **9:30 a.m. each Sunday**. Lynn Hobratschk does a fabulous job leading the children in song and introducing the day's lesson, so they will not want to miss the opening.

We ask that parents accompany their children to the Sanctuary to sign them in. Please also sign your child out at 10:45 a.m. from their classrooms. Classroom locations for each Sunday are listed on the children's ministry board in the grand hallway, as well as in the bulletin each Sunday. Classroom doors are labeled as well.

Together with Jesus:

This class is for parents and children 2 and under *together*, and will meet in CFD Room 117 from 9:45 a.m. — 10:45 a.m. Please also join us for opening in the Sanctuary.

How do I register for CrossTraining and why?

On August 21st, after you sign in your children in the Sanctuary at 9:30 a.m. for CrossTraining (a.k.a. Sunday School) opening, please stop off in the Narthex for registration and information. If you registered for Sunday School last year, you will just need to check to make sure our records are correct and current. If we do not already have your information, please complete a registration form for each child that will attend CrossTraining. Your registration enables us to track attendance, follow-up with you, and send important announcements to you and messages to the children like "Happy Birthday." We do not share your information without your permission.

What else is there to Rally Day?

I'm glad you asked! After the opening, **the children** will spend the hour with their teachers doing team building exercises and getting to know one another. The foundation of their learning experience begins with these relationships.

At 9:45 a.m. in the Great Room, **the adults** will learn more about the opportunities available to them and their children to continue building their faith throughout the coming year.

For questions, please contact Krista Beken, Director of Children's Ministries, 281-482-7943 ext. 116—kbeken@hope-lutheran.org



Ladies Guild doesn't take a break for the heat of summer. The commitment to serve our Lord goes on through these hot days.

Our next business meeting on the 9th, for instance, will give us the opportunity to bring nonperishable food for Christian Helping Hands. The need there also knows no time-off for summer.

An update on what all committees will also be on the agenda. So many of our members work quietly behind the scenes and we need to acknowledge and support these endeavors.

Are you going to be part of the big HopeFest Garage Sale, either with the sorting, selling or cashiering — or clean-up? Still a bit of time to volunteer, or stop by and buy.

Time out for fun is set for August 30th — set aside for Ladies Night Out, our usual way of taking advantage of a 5th Tuesday in any month in which it occurs. This time will it be playing games, eating out, or ?? Expect a decision after our August 9th meeting. Then, we'll look for you to take part of the fun.

"Take it to the Lord in prayer" and include not only friends and family, but also our country. The need is great, the time is now.

A Special Thanks...

It is with a heavy heart that I have resigned my position at Hope as Volunteer Coordinator due to family obligations. I want to extend a special thanks to all who have supported me the last two and a half years. It has meant more to me than you can know. It has been an honor to serve Hope Lutheran as part of our Staff. I do ask for your prayers as I support my family and look for God's guidance.

Together with Christ, Rita Henderson

Quilting Circle

Hope's Quilting Circle is once again in need of twin sheets which are used to back our quilts. Your generous response to last summer's request for sheets enabled us to complete 65 quilts which were sent to anywhere in the world they are needed through Lutheran World Relief.

If you are in Walmart this summer, I ask you to purchase a couple of Mainstay FLAT, 100% cotton TWIN sheets. A colored sheet is preferred. Please place your sheets in the box on top of the LWML rolling cart in the Great Room.

Recipients of LWR quilts use them to shield against the cold and rain, and for warm bedding. Their versatility make quilts useful as simple tents, floor coverings, or a wrap to hold a baby on a mother's back.

Thank you for your generosity.

Pam Bubendorf, Hope's Quilting Circle

Attention all Women!

Don't miss your chance to get away for a weekend and be treated to delicious meals, a beautiful outdoor retreat center, Bible study, quiet time, connections with women of faith, and "Joy for the Journey" speaker Tammy Whitehurst who will leave us laughing, crying, and giving praise to our Heavenly Father. We only have 80 spaces left for this retreat weekend of February 17-19, 2017.

We will have a Registration window open from August 22nd — November 10th, so, take a look at your calendar, invite a friend, commit to blocking out some time and come find our registration table. The all-inclusive cost for the weekend is \$215, with scholarships available.

Please make this appointment for yourself and be prepared to find your Joy!!

Stephen Ministry

Even Stephen Ministers have summer "classes" when guest speakers tell you of the latest information and resources available on many social and medical issues. Listening to those who take advantage of God's help provided at Hope, Stephen Ministers are able to draw on such information. All is done to better serve our fellow members, family and friends.

Thankfully, we can offer privacy, non-judgment and confidentiality — all of which are very important both to care givers and care receivers. Once Pastor Jon has received your request, only the assigned care giver knows what is shared.

Your call is awaited; your prayers are requested.

Hope's Quilting Circle News

Batting for our Lutheran World Relief quilts has arrived. Backing sheets, crochet thread, and needles have been purchased. Volunteers have generously pieced many quilt tops. Now all we need is volunteers to join us in the Great Room, 2nd floor of the Center for Faith Development on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of the month at 9:00 a.m. to layer our quilts, tie the layers together, and bind the edges.

Our first meeting is Monday, September 12th. We will begin with a light brunch and a chance to catch up with our summer activities. We invite all ladies of Hope to join us. If you can thread needles (using a needle threader, of course) and tie knots, we welcome you to join our ministry. Last spring we sent 65 quilts to Lutheran World Relief to be shipped wherever they are needed in the world. We also presented Hope's 12 High School Graduates with special quilts.

Come join these dedicated women for fellowship doing what makes them happy, giving of their time to help someone else. Questions?? Contact Pam Bubendorf at 281-331-3656.

Fall Dates:

September 12, 26
October 10, 24
November 14, 28
December 12—quilt and Christmas luncheon





Thrivent Action Teams

Thrivent Financial is a financial services organization that helps Christians be wise with money and live generously. One way we do this is through programs like "Thrivent Action Teams." These Action Teams make it easy for Thrivent members to bring a volunteer team together around a cause they care about. The team can make an impact on the places they live, work and worship by organizing a: Fundraiser, Educational Event, or Service Project. Thrivent provides each Thrivent Action Team resources to help make their project a success, including \$250.00 in seed money. Go to Thrivent.com/Actionteam to learn more and apply.

Jessica Leach and Jerry Roth will be available Sunday, August 14th during coffee hour to assist you with information about Action Teams.

2016 Hopefest Garage Sale 2 Day Event!!! Friday, August 12th & Saturday, August 13th 8:00 a.m. — 2:00 p.m.

It's not too late to clean out your closets, house, garage, etc.!!! We need your donations to make this event a success, so bring us your clothing, household and kitchen items, furniture, toys, baby items/furniture, etc. We will accept all types of donations that are clean and in functional condition; however, we cannot accept any computers/monitors/printers or mattresses.

We still need volunteers to help sort, price and make this event a success. Sign-up sheets are in the Narthex just waiting for your name, email address and phone number — please take just one minute to stop by and sign up. Or you can call Debbie McFadden at 281-732-0449 or email her at mcfadden@uhcl.edu.

We will start taking donations on Saturday, July 30th. Please DO NOT drop off items earlier as we have no place to store them until July 30th. Drop off hours are as follows:

Monday—Friday: 9:00 a.m. — 2:00 p.m.
Monday—Thursday: 5:00 p.m. — 7:00 p.m.
Saturday & Sunday: 9:00 a.m. — 2:00 p.m.

Last day for your donations is Sunday, August 7th at 2:00 p.m.



Financial Mews

	ANNUAL PLAN	Y-T-D PLAN	Y-T-D ACTUAL	% OF PLAN
Operating Receipts	\$1,040,751.00	\$251,186.57	\$211,612.02	84.24%
Early Childhood Tithe	\$45,000.00	\$9,000.00	\$9,000.00	100.00%
Total Receipts	\$1,085,751.00	\$260,186.57	\$220,612.02	84.79%
Outreach	\$74,318.00	\$18,237.51	\$18,057.00	99.01%
Education	\$8,850.00	\$2,087.50	\$1,191.20	57.06%
Children	\$2,300.00	\$339.61	\$202.87	59.74%
Youth	\$13,200.00	\$3,152.26	\$1,794.77	56.94%
Music	\$6,000.00	\$1,290.66	\$506.57	39.25%
Assimilation	\$800.00	\$125.00	\$74.93	59.94%
Misc. Ministries	\$10,100.00	\$1,843.52	\$1,521.44	82.53%
Personnel	\$637,528.00	\$167,750.49	\$162,802.57	97.05%
Finance	\$55,555.00	\$13,888.74	\$13,616.83	98.04%
Facilities	\$227,400.00	\$52,849.82	\$36,125.14	68.35%
Office & Worship	\$40,700.00	\$9,390.74	\$7,398.32	78.78%
Omnibus	\$9,000.00	\$1,558.36	\$404.00	25.92%
Total Expenditures	\$1,085,751.00	\$272,514.21	\$243,695.66	89.42%
Income Less Expenses		(\$12,327.64)	(\$23,083.64)	

Debt: \$1,306,723.81

Fiscal Year (04/01/16 - 03/31/17) As of June 2016

Brown, Sarah	8/1	Mustain, Matthew	8/18
Riewe, Mildred	8/1	Furtado, Mark	8/19
Schkade, Jinx	8/1	Groeper, Kevin	8/19
Lott, Julanne	8/2	Krause, Rachel	8/19
Hatchett, Lou	8/3	Wiley, Kyle	8/19
Petersen, Jon	8/3	Jackowski, Edward	8/21
King, Jamie	8/4	Petersen, Carissa	8/21
Chauvin, Donna	8/5	Stanford Sr., Franklin	8/21
Fournier, Ray	8/5	Anderson, Tom	8/23
Kroesen, Jennifer	8/7	Bubendorf, Pam	8/23
Rouse, Mike	8/7	Freestone, Jennifer	8/23
Lemire, Loranne	8/8	Patterson, Mason	8/24
Anderson, Pat	8/9	Henry, Dylan	8/25
Chauvin, Sarah	8/9	Kerch, Jason	8/25
Hovorka, Melissa	8/9	Schneider, Spencer	8/25
Robinson, Eddie	8/9	Wilson, Michele	8/25
Rouse, Sallie	8/9	Knighton, Barbara	8/26
Stiles, Larry	8/9	Rhodes, Audra	8/26
Sweeley, Erinn	8/9	Steakley, Matthew	8/26
Plumpton, Katherine	8/10	Aman, Autumn	8/27
Brown, Bruce	8/11	Carter, Cindy	8/27
Mittendorf, Violet	8/11	Norris, Jayme	8/27
Chauvin, Meagan	8/12	Groeper, Andrew	8/28
Horak, Craig	8/12	Groeper, Emily	8/28
Mustain, Rose	8/12	Hall, Craig	8/28
Dippel, Jennifer	8/14	Jackowski, Dolores	8/28
Henry, Sydnie	8/14	Jensen, Daniel	8/28
Johnson, Kathy	8/14	Sweeley, Samuel	8/28
Kroesen, Jessica	8/14	Blankenship, Sarah	8/29
Meester, Gary	8/14	Chauvin, Nova	8/29
Peterson, Toria	8/14	Durling, Kaci	8/29
Todd, John	8/14	Gailey, Maya	8/29
Brown, Dalton	8/15	Glebe, David	8/29
Gruener, Jacob	8/15	Kueck, John	8/29
Williams, Brook	8/15	Sharkey, Madison	8/29
Zimmerman, Kathy	8/15	MacRill, Austin	8/30
Cox, Matthew	8/16	White, Thomas	8/30
Ramming, Claudia	8/16	Annis, Kara	8/31
Meester, Helen	8/18	Lewis, Cristen	8/31

Gary & Annette Berg	8/1
Gilbert & Pam Bubendorf	8/3
Matthew & Jennifer Steakley	8/4
Steve & Joyce Schrader	8/5
Mike & Debbie Schkade	8/8
Harold & Carolyn Benson	8/9
Jeff & Laurie Ellis	8/14
Donnie & Billie Kleiber	8/14
Michael & Rachel Van Chau	8/14
Philip & Betty Johnson	8/15
Craig & Jessica Horak	8/27
James & Corrine Schleider	8/29
Terry & Leslie Engle	8/30
Raul & Pat Cruz	8/31



Birthdays and Anniversaries

This Month at 4 lope

	MONDAY 8/1/2016		TUESDAY 8/2/2016		WEDNESDAY 8/8/2016		THRSDAY 8/4/2016		FRIOAY 8/5/2016		SATURDAY 8/6/2016	
100	(g	9:00 AM 9:00 AM 10:00 AM			GARAGI Small Group (Erickson)	ESALESET-UP 10:00 AM Smal	GARAGESALESET-UP & COLLECTION 10:00 AM Small Group (Fings) Small Group (Women's)	7:00 PM 1	HURT Snall Group (Fetersen)	10:00 AM 6:30 PM		
Ī	Small Group (Fluning) 8/8/2016	7:30 PM	8/9/2016		8/10/2016		8/11/2016	I	8/12/2016	TA DECADA	8/13/2016	
и.	Staff Meeting Stephen Ministry	7:00 PM	Lades Guild	7:00 PM		Smal	Small Group (Women's)	9:30 AM 7:00 PM				
2:00 PM	8/15/2016		8/16/2016		8/17/2016		8/18/2016		8/19/2016		8/20/2016	
8:00 AM 9:45 AM 9:45 AM 9:45 AM 9:45 AM 9:45 AM 9:45 AM 9:45 AM 9:45 AM 9:45 AM 12:30 PM E:00 PM	Hender son) Huning) Si22/2016				Newsle ther Deadline Small Group (Erickson) Geletration Bells Sarctuary Choir Sarctuary Bells		Volleyball Hopeftes Meeting Small Group (Women's) Small Group (Women's) TT Meet & Greet		Small Group (Petersen) Small Scoup (Setersen)	W4.00.9	8/27/2016	
8:00 AM 9:45 AM	Staff Meeting Volleyball Stephen Ministry	900 AM 4:00 PM 7:00 PM	TT Teacher Orientation 9 Theye Woodwards Theye Brass Tritlate Bells SAMMONTE	8 00 5 AM 6 00 5 PM 7 10 0 FM 8 00 FM	Celetration Bells Sanctuary Choir Saratvane	680 pM 171 M 171 M 173 PM Board Smid	TT Maet & Greet Board of Direstors' Meeting Small Group (Women's)	5:00 PM 7:00 PM 7:00 PM				
8:00 AM 39:45 AM 30:45 AM 30:4	Staff Meeting PreStrool / MDO Volleyhall	9:00 AM 9:30 AM 4:00 PM	2	8:00 PM 8:00 PM 8:00 PM	PreSchool / MDO Geletr ation Bells Sarctuary Choir	9:30 AM 6:30 PM 7:30 PM			Aug	-ugust 20	2016	



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Jonathan E. Petering, Associate Pastor