Pastor's Paragraphs



e walked freely among all the animals he had just named and all was at peace or so it would seem. Yet, a restlessness persisted. The man was still alone. Yahweh provided the animals for company but

there was no "bone of my bone and flesh of my flesh" among them. The answer was a woman. We are created to be gregarious no doubt. Someone walking beside us comforts and assures. Won't it be most beneficial for parents to have that company? I think so. One of the driving forces leading to our FaithBuilders program was just such a benefit, the company of others on the same journey. Gathering parents of the same aged children to learn more about providing a faith foundation and seeing that there are others walking the same path was the initial thrust. What if we added another cohort or two to the process? What if we included some veterans of the faith walk of following Christ for years to assist and encourage? What if groups formed to provide the environment in which our young people flourished in the faith, supported by many and in which parents were not alone? Think on these things! I am.

Several months back a survey was included in the bulletin asking about willingness to participate in a program called Family Promise in which we house, feed and interact with families that are presently homeless. Over the months we have worked a process that points to our being able be a place for those who have no place. I hope that we will soon sign the covenant with Family Promise and remodel our Great Room into bedrooms and dining room for a week each quarter for those who have none. Lorraine Erickson and her small group will be the lead in recruiting volunteers to set up, clean up, meals, fellowship, etc. We have a super facility to accommodate up to sixteen in family units. "There was a man going down from Jerusalem to Jericho and fell among thieves..." You will hear more over the weeks ahead as final plans are made. What a great opportunity to be a blessing to those who desperately need it.

peaking of being a blessing, our brothers and sisters in Louisiana are literally underwater! As Vice President of Area D, I have led groups to New Orleans several times to assist in recovery after hurricane Katerina. It looks as though that group expertise and manpower will be in demand around Baton Rouge. Camp Restore-Baton Rouge is being organized to house and feed volunteers for recovery work in the effected area. If you have a few days, if you have some expertise, if you have a heart for fellow travelers, this might be a opportunity for you to serve. I remember Hope volunteers restoring Pastor Dinger's house in Crystal City in a day! Maybe we can do it again, just a bit further east! Stay tuned as more information becomes available.

he Reverend Doctor Jerry Kieschnick, president emeritus of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod and now serving with the Lutheran Foundation of Texas will be our guest speaker/Bible Class leader on Sunday, 18 September. Please join me in making him welcomed

> srael in April of 2017?? Contact me ASAP for details and booking.

Notes from Pastor Jon

Confirmation

We have just begun another year of instruction in the Faith. Current students have moved up a level and another class is beginning their journey. As of the writing of this article we have 51 students in our program this year. Praise God!

Thank you to all the parents for entrusting the instruction of their child in the Christian Faith to us. A big "thank you" to the instructors for your hard work, dedication, and Christian love for your students.

If for some reason we missed you and you would like to have your child in our program, contact me quickly and we can still bring you student into the program.

Please remember our Confirmation students and their parents in your prayers and offer them words of encouragement as their Christian Faith is nurtured through the study of the Holy Scriptures and the Small Catechism. And please prayer for our Confirmation teachers—that our Lord grant them guidance and wisdom as they teach the Faith.



Community Garden

The fall / winter season of our garden begins in September. I can never plan too far ahead a Saturday workday because of the weather. So I will announce that workday soon by after worship service announcement and by email.



Study Series Group

Another year of study begins on Thursday, September 15th at 9:30 a.m. in the Great Room. Our next topic: the Book of Romans. Paul's Epistle of the Romans is considered his most famous letter and likely his greatest as well. The teaching in the Romans are foundational of the Christian faith. Within the letter, Paul defines and applies many of the common terms we use within Christianity — righteousness, justification, faith, sanctification, law, and Gospel. The letter is a step -by-step quide to why and how our God brings salvation to us through Jesus Christ. And because Romans is so important to the Lutheran *Reformation, it is fitting that we* thoroughly study the book here o the eve of the Reformation's 500th anniversary. If you are available, consider joining!

Stephen Ministry

Stephen Ministers provide one-on-one care for individuals in crisis. Through intentional listening, prayer, and caring, they bring the love of Jesus Christ to bear in the lives of those who are hurting. Does this sound like something you would like to do? If you are interested, contact me and we can talk about it.

This month, the Stephen Ministers are sponsoring a Seminar to be presented by Dr. Holly Teitsma of the Samaritan Counseling Center. Dr. Teitsma's presentation will address recognizing different types of psychological disorders and possible treatments. The seminar will take place on Saturday, September 10, 2016 from 10:00 a.m. — 12:00 noon in Room 104 of the Center for Faith Development. Members of Hope and their friends are welcome to attend. If you are interested in attending, please contact Sandy McHone at <u>sjmchone3@gmail.com</u> or 281-482-4541.



His Peace be With You,

Pastor Jon

My hope is built on nothing less Than Jesus' blood and righteousness; No merit of my own I claim But Wholly lean on Jesus' name. On Christ, the solid rock, I stand; All other ground is sinking sand.

September is one of my favorite months because two of my favorite seasons collide. . .football season and baseball season. These are my favorite sports to watch. Athletes have a lot in common with musicians. We both spend endless hours in rehearsal to prepare for a short amount of time for a game or performance. We both spend our lives working and perfecting our skills. Finally, we are both very passionate about the way we play the game.

As we begin our rehearsal times for Fall, we would like to invite any and all musicians to join us in the balcony. Our rehearsals are times of fun, fellowship, and working towards the goal of leading worship on Sunday mornings. The great thing about music ministry is that you don't have to be a superstar to participate. We welcome those who haven't made music in many years to come back and play with us!

Sing and Make Music in Your Heart to the Lord! Stephanie Poyner Director of Music

Calling all Children! It's time for Children's Choirs and Bells!

- Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m. (begins September 7th)
 - Children's Choirs for PreK4 through 5th Grade
- Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m. (begins September 7th)
 - Kids' Chimes (PreK-2 Grade), and Junior Handbells (3rd—5th Grade)

Come and join us for some ringing and singing!

Music Ministry



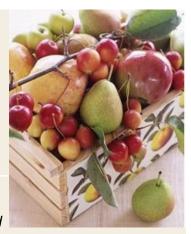
On the calendar

August 28

Senior High Small Group Bible studies begin Sunday mornings we begin to gather at 9:15 a.m., come and join us! September 7 BASIC is back! Youth in grades 9-12 gather Wednesdays, 7:00 p.m.-8:30 p.m. for fellowship and devotions. September 11 BUILD kicks off in the gym! Youth in grades 6-8 come play and gather with your peers before Confirmation classes begin, 9:15 a.m. — 9:40 a.m. September 11 Summer Trip Council meets 12:30 p.m.-1:30 p.m. We're starting the adventure towards mission trips in Summer 2017—where is God

leading? Here we are Lord!

Youth Ministry



What a busy, fun summer we have had! We kicked off our activities in June with VBS and added some fun service project options to the

afternoons for those in grades 6-12. We were able to craft a large bag of pet toys which we delivered to our tour of the Friendswood Animal Shelter learning more about our community and reaching into the community with a message of appreciation. We had a great time modeling alternative denim fashions as we cut and prepped old blue jeans into pieces ready for a shoe party with Sole Hope's efforts to provide shoes in Ethiopia. We began the process of giving some old furniture new life and we shopped and prepared care bags for the Meals on Wheels ministry. In all, more than 25 teens participated in the service projects for that week!

In July, 30 teens and 6 adults joined with more than 22,000 others to attend the National LCMS Youth Gathering in New Orleans. We weathered the hot sultry sidewalks and the cool, excitement of the convention center. Organizer Rev. Mark Kiessling was quoted in *The Reporter*, saying: *"The LCMS Youth Gathering was a celebration of God's gift of grace, faith and life in His Church." "LCMS young people joyfully expressed their thanksgiving to God for His gift of faith and forgiveness. LCMS congregations showed their support and care for young people through prayer, financial support and words and acts of encouragement in preparation for and throughout the event."*

During the Gathering participants:

• Filled more than 900 backpacks with school supplies;



- Built a frame for a Habitat for Humanity home;
- Donated 791 pints of blood, with a significant portion of that going to relief efforts after the police shootings in Baton Rouge, LA;
- Made 1,000 fleece hats for children with cancer; and
- Packaged 500,906 meals with Feeding Children Everywhere.

Hope's youth and adults made up a great travel group living, learning and exploring the faith together. Special thanks to our chaperon group: Kevin Cox, Kirk Dippel, Amanda Gonzales, Craig Hall, and Tina Peterson.

Now as August turns to September we are forming our summer trips for 2017 — mission trips! Where will God lead us next? Watch the bulletin, Facebook page and email for upcoming news on what we are doing next!

Children's Ministries

Cross Training

Our Cross Training classes will be learning more about the Bible and growing their faith this year with Group Publishing's *Hands-On* Bible Curriculum.

The Together with Jesus class through 5th graders will use *Hands-On* to learn about our Bible lessons in a tangible, interactive way. The *Hands-On* Bible Curriculum provides age-appropriate, hands-on colorful, fun gizmos that lead kids straight to the heart of the Bible lesson and make it easier to remember. A take home sheet gives parents the Bible verse discussed in class, suggests Bible readings for the coming week, offers some questions the family can consider during the week, and has some fun activities that tie into the Bible lesson as well.



Welcome to our new volunteers, and welcome back to our faithful Elementary, Together with Jesus, and PreSchool Teachers. We need over 20 volunteers to fill these important positions in Children's Ministry, and we appreciate your commitment to serve and guide the children of Hope.



Faith Builders this Fall

Join us in the Great Room at 5:00 p.m.

- Faith Builders IV, 2nd grade families — Sunday, September 11th
- Faith Builders III, Kindergarten families — Sunday, October 9th
- Faith Builders II, Families of 3 year olds — Sunday, October 16th

As we begin a new school year, I pray that you and your children will lean on God, trust in His faithfulness, and find hope in His word as you make choices and decide which paths to take.

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."

Hebrews 12:12-13: "Therefore, strengthen your feeble arms and weak knees. Make level paths for your feet, so that the lame may not be disabled, but rather healed."

Krista Beken Director of Children's Ministries

SWAT—Students Worshiping All Together

Our third through fifth grade students are invited to SWAT, beginning September 7th. We'll meet each Wednesday night from 6:30 p.m. — 7:30 p.m. in the Great Room.

Doors will open at 6:00 p.m. for a bring your own dinner meal time. Bring a sack lunch or swing by the drive-through on your way to Hope and share a brief meal before we start class. Parents and siblings are welcome to join us during this meal.

SWAT is a great time for our students to develop and practice attitudes of service to others, study the Word of God in different ways, and get to know and develop friendships with each other outside of church. Friends are always welcome.

women of hope...

Calling All Women of Hope. . . You've got to make time for this getaway! The women of Hope are invited to a three-day weekend retreat. February 17-19, 2017 at beautiful Camp Allen in Navasota, Texas just an hour and a half from home. Our theme? Joy for the Journey. Doesn't that sound like fun? And better yet, we will have Tammy Whitehurst (google her) be our featured speaker! She is all about JOY. There is no doubt that this weekend will be filled with laughter. smiles, and out-n-out belly laughing. And besides that, you don't have to

cook a meal or do dishes for a whole weekend! That's enough to make me smile!

We are taking registrations during the month of September and October. After that, registration is closed. You can provide a deposit of \$50. The final cost is \$215.

Please consider treating yourself, with the opportunity to make new friends and bond with those you already know. Act fast! There are only 100 spaces available!



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.

<u>Fall Dates:</u> September 12, 26 October 10, 24 November 14, 28 December 12—quilt and Christmas luncheon

Ladies Guild



Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, September 13, 2016. REMEMBER the new start time of 6:30 p.m. We will have a guest speaker, with devotions led by Karen Newhoff, prayers led by Janet Burtzlaff, and your hostesses for the evening are Janet Burtzlaff and Jinx Schkade.

Remember that Christian Helping Hands still needs those bags and any non-perishable food items you would like to donate. Don't forget your Prayer Sisters, and a surprise for your Secret Pal is always welcome.

One BIG weekend in October!!

Hopefest is Hope's grand party for the congregation and community in the Fall, where "fun with a purpose" best expresses what Hopefest is all about. Always held the first full weekend in October. This year the festivities will be held October 1st and 2nd. There will be activities for all ages.



Saturday, October 1st includes: Craft Fair, Tea Room Bake Sale and the start of the Silent Auction. Sunday, October 2nd begins with our traditional worship service at 8:00 a.m. and the Hopefest Hymnfest at 10:00 a.m. Shortly after worship, the BBQ begins at 11:00 a.m. — 2:00 p.m. or until sold out in the gym. The Great Bake Sale continues through 3:00 p.m. or sold out! There will be Free Children's Games from 11:00 a.m. — 2:00 p.m. outside on the grounds. While the theme of Hopefest is "Fun and Fellowship," our goal is service to others.

Hopefest is the major outreach

event for our church. All monies received from the activities are used to fund local charities and congregational initiatives. Charities that will be supported this year are: The Bridge, The Center for Pregnancy, Mercy Tree and Galveston Urban Ministries along with Hope Lutheran Church in reach programs.

Opportunities for helping with HopeFest abound in all shapes and sizes. There are things with which you can help even if you are time limited. Volunteering can be truly rewarding for both the giver and the recipient. It creates a win/win situation, enriching one's own life while working to benefit others. Hopefest Coordinator: Gail Akins — 281-992-3477 or gaillakins@sbcglobal.net.

Bingo

When's the last time you got to yell "BINGO!" Well, now's your chance.

Bingo will be held on Sunday, October 2nd in the Great Room of the Center for Faith Development. Calling will begin at 12:30 a.m. and last until 2:00 p.m.

You must be 18 years of age to play. (Texas laws apply!) Prizes will be awarded.

B14, I22, N33, G50, O65 BINGO!!!



Smoothie Booth

Once again, the Altar Guild will be hosting a Smoothie Booth at HopeFest on Sunday, October 2nd. Come by and sample our finest selection of delicious, all fresh fruit smoothies — strawberry, strawberry-banana, and pineapple-peach. Look for the return of our homemade Frappuccino (mocha & plain). Looking forward to seeing you all soon!





Free Children's Games

The children can have fun. ..and it's free! All this happening on Sunday, October 2nd. Different booths will be located throughout the grounds of Hope!!

2016 HopeFest Garage Sale

The 2016 HopeFest Garage Sale was a Huge Success, bringing in approximately \$8,300.00!!

To all of our faithful members who have tirelessly worked these past 2 weeks to make our Hopefest garage sale happen, the committee says 'THANK YOU!"

That does not fully express our appreciation for the many hours each of you have spent to pull together the best, most organized garage sale in our area once again! Your dedication to this event makes it a fun place to volunteer. We also support and appreciate our HEROES in uniform who have volunteered security for our safe shopping days.

Debbie McFadden, Gloria Havard and Debbie Schkade, Hopefest Garage Sale co-chairs

Briskets!! Briskets!! We need Briskets!! (\$20.00)

It's that wonderful time of year when we prepare for our HopeFest celebration. We want to thank everyone that defrayed the cost of briskets in years past and hope you will continue to do so. Look for the sign-up poster in the Narthex and indicate how many briskets you would like to *donate*.

To some this may sound really confusing – but it's not – **WE** purchase the briskets – **YOU** supply the funds.

Also, we are in need of volunteers to help serve on HopeFest Sunday. If you would be interested in helping, contact Gloria Havard at 281-485-6367 (or sign up on the sign-up boards). Thank you.

HopeFest Tickets

Tickets will go on sale beginning September 18th. We will be set up between services in the Grand Hallway of the Center for Faith Development.

Hopefest BBQ — Sunday, October 2nd *Prices are:*

•	BBQ Plate Dinner	\$8.00
•	BBQ Stuffed Baked Potato	\$7.00

- BBQ Sandwich / Chips \$6.00
- Baked Potato w/fixings
 \$5.00
- Hotdog / chips \$2.00

HopeFest Craft Fair

Be sure to check out the wonderful and unique crafts at this year's HopeFest Craft Fair.

Some of the old favorites will again be present. There will also be some new vendors with different and exciting merchandise. Get your Christmas presents early.

The Craft Fair runs from 9:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m. on Saturday, October 1st and from 9:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m. on Sunday, October 2nd. You can find all the goodies in the Family Life Center.





Auction

The Silent Auction will be held in the Grand Hallway on Sunday, October 2nd. Since this is the only auction being held this year, any and all donations are greatly appreciated. Put together those baskets (i.e., meal, wine, spa, dessert, wine) and get them to Donna Battenfield as soon as possible.

Want to do a "Gift Card" basket — we'll take it. How about Yard Art. You betcha!! Anything you can think of, we will be happy to display.

The Silent Auction closes at 3:00 p.m. on Sunday afternoon. You do not need to be present to win.

Questions?? Contact Donna Battenfield at 281-992-0454.

Tea Room

The Tea Room will be serving tasty and delicious lunches this year. The menu has been updated.

We are in need of workers in the kitchen area and servers. Please sign up to be a part of the Tea Room staff.

Give Kay Raymond (281-482-9423) or Sallie Rouse (281-554-4878) a call if you have questions.

Wanted:

Hope's willing bakers to make the HopeFest Bake Sale a success. So many delicious and creative treats have come from our congregation in past years and everyone with a sweet tooth is hoping that this year will be no exception...maybe even tastier!!

It is not too soon to put on the thinking cap and Chef's hat and decide what baked goods you can provide. Thanks for being a part of this charitable event.

Questions? Contact Dolores Jackowski at 281-996-0739.

Would you like to make a difference?

The Gulf Coast Regional Center Bloodmobile is coming to Hope during Hopefest on Sunday, October 2nd from 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Before it comes, we need volunteers to sign up to donate. We would love a full roster! On September 11, 18, and 25, there will be a table in the Grand Hallway of the Center for Faith Development with eligibility information and signup sheets. We will be set up between services and after second service. This is truly the gift of life. If you do not sign up, and still would like to donate, please check on that day and see if there is room for more donors.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Rita Henderson a <u>jimandritah@aol.com</u>. (This event is sponsored by Saints in Progress (Small Group Ministry).



Get Ready. . .Get Set. . . Hopefest Volunteers Needed!

The Hopefest Volunteer Sign-up Boards are in the Narthex and jobs are for the taking! We are in need of many volunteers to have a successful Hopefest 2016, October 1-2. So many charities and Hope outreach programs benefit from the proceeds from Hopefest. Check out the boards in the Narthex and see how you can help.

If you have questions, contact the chair listed on the boards.



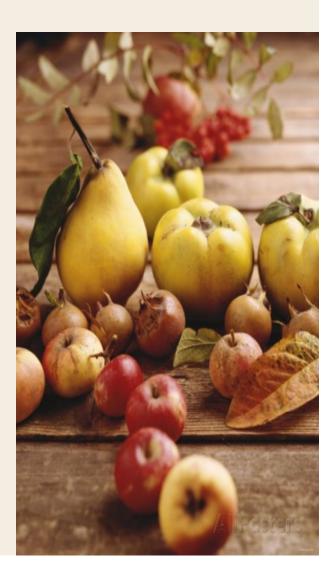
	ANNUAL PLAN	Y-T-D PLAN	Y-T-D ACTUAL	% OF PLAN
Operating Receipts	\$1,040,751.00	\$328,863.43	\$285,242.47	86.74%
Early Childhood Tithe	\$45,000.00	\$12,000.00	\$12,000.00	100.00%
Total Receipts	\$1,085,751.00	\$340,863.43	\$297,242.47	87.20%
Outreach	\$74,318.00	\$24,200.01	\$23,907.00	98.79%
Education	\$8,850.00	\$2,658.33	\$1,702.51	64.04%
Children	\$2,300.00	\$339.61	\$202.87	59.74%
Youth	\$13,200.00	\$3,870.95	\$2,456.85	63.47%
Music	\$6,000.00	\$1,385.66	\$576.59	41.61%
Assimilation	\$800.00	\$125.00	\$74.93	59.94%
Misc. Ministries	\$10,100.00	\$2,168.52	\$1,771.44	81.69%
Personnel	\$637,528.00	\$216,666.85	\$209,569.82	96.72%
Finance	\$55,555.00	\$18,518.32	\$18,141.71	97.97%
Facilities	\$227,400.00	\$79,408.44	\$60,321.77	75.96%
Office & Worship	\$40,700.00	\$12,097.20	\$9,600.20	79.36%
Omnibus	\$9,000.00	\$1,741.67	\$614.96	35.31%
Total Expenditures	\$1,085,751.00	\$363,180.56	\$328,940.65	90.57%
Income Less Expenses		(\$22,317.13)	(\$31,698.18)	

Debt: \$1,303,358.72

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

Aileen Anderson	9/1	Piper Fox	9/17
Norbert Brehm	9/1	Laura Krause	9/17
Ray Buchorn	9/1	Danika Murphy	9/17
Cindy Jorgenson	9/2	Arabella Johnson	9/18
Phu Leimer	9/2	Ray Paulder	9/18
Robin Groeper	9/3	Ivo Dabelic	9/20
Haley Beken	9/4	Marshall Ahrens	9/21
Holly Gottula	9/4	Eddy Hovorka	9/21
Robin Schulz	9/4	Emily Reed	9/21
Laura Wenzel	9/4	Dollye Scruggs	9/21
Estefana Cantu	9/5	Dean Wiley	9/21
Eryn Durling	9/5	Edwin Benson Jr.	9/22
Frank Muniz	9/7	Katherine Kohn	9/22
Brian Chew	9/8	Jack Hobratschk	9/23
Mary Gibson	9/9	Ashley Alff	9/24
Miriam Knighton	9/9	Barb Gahring	9/24
Keaton Ott	9/9	James Johnson	9/24
Grant Blaylock	9/10	Corina Wilson	9/24
Adrianna Hasty	9/11	Jonathan Cox	9/25
Eleanor Korth	9/11	Debbie McFadden	9/26
Hannah Peterson	9/11	Jenna Schnell	9/26
Kelsea Orsak	9/12	Allie Hinga	9/27
Terry Engle	9/13	Rita Henderson	9/28
Susan Hahn	9/13	Hunter Hovorka	9/28
Channing Castleberry	9/14	Karen Walls	9/28
Chyrl Durling	9/14	Muriel Roy	9/29
Jacob Mustain	9/14	Faith Birch	9/30
Shalyn Watson	9/14	Russell Chauvin	9/30
Dwight Potter	9/15	Sally Grosnick	9/30
Ashlyn Sauer	9/15	Karon Johnson	9/30
Griffin Sweeley	9/15	Billie Kleiber	9/30
David Wilson	9/15		

9/17 Steve & Therese Huning 9/11 9/17 **Christopher & Heidi Riggs** 9/11 9/17 Joe & Brianna Centeno Jr. 9/23 9/18 Steven & Michelle Scheer 9/23 John & Yvette Shannon 9/23 9/18 9/20 Marvin & Barbara Knighton Jr. 9/24 9/21 Roy & Joyce Weiland 9/24 9/21 Brian & Erinn Sweeley 9/25 9/21 Ray & Mary Alice Buchorn 9/26 9/21 Chris & Amanda Gonzales 9/27 9/21 Dan & Deborah Medley 9/29 9/22 Kurt & Mary Rathjen 9/30 9/22 Eugene & Laverne Walleck 9/30



Birthdays And Anniversaries

This Month at Alope



HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH 1804 S. Friendswood Dr. P.O. Box 1076 Friendswood, TX 77549

Return Services Requested



Ralph W. Hobratschk, Senior Pastor

Jonathan E. Petering, Associate Pastor