

Hope Lutheran Church

March 2021

From the Pastor,

February 17 was Ash Wednesday. The eighth-grade confirmation class met at 6:00-6:30 p.m. The week before I had highly suggested the youth stay for the Ash Wednesday worship but did not require their attendance. All three students stayed for the worship service.

After class I went about getting ready for the worship. I came down at one point and the three students were hanging out in the basement. Two were talking to each other and one was on his phone not participating in their conversation.

The Grace Lutheran Church female student looked at me with sass in her eyes and said something like they were talking, and we didn't need a pastor tonight because the two of them could lead worship. I am not sure what reaction they were expecting from me, but they were surprised by my reaction. I remarked that it was great that they thought so, and I was looking for volunteers to train to lead worship. (See "Worship Leader").

The third youth immediately looked up from his phone and said, "I'm am not part of this." He explained how challenging it was for him to read or speak in front of people. The Holy Spirit gives all of us different gifts. Public speaking was not his gift, but he did light the candles before church began, utilizing an ability the Holy Spirit did gift him.

I hope my Grace Lutheran Church and Hope Lutheran Church students will strongly consider "replacing me." Let us use Lent, 2021 to do the disciplines of Lent but also focus on discovering or rediscovering the gifts given to us by the Holy Spirit and finding ways to us them.

Pastor Jim

Hope Lutheran Church

March 2021

Worship Leader:

One thing I learned from my experiences with Covid -19 is that neither congregation is prepared to worship on a Sunday that I may not be able to attend at the last minute.

To resolve this issue, I would like to train at least one member of each church to be able to lead worship. Preaching is optional, but I am hoping to find members willing to be available to lead the congregation LBW or WOV liturgy. Please contact me if you would be at least willing to at least consider it. I will help train anyone who is open to at least see if the Holy Spirit has given them worship leader gifts. Some qualities needed are a respect for worship and the liturgy, the ability to speak in front of others, and love of God and the congregation.

Synod Ambassadors:

The Nebraska Synod is attempting to address the more than 1,000 more open calls for full-time pastors in the ELCA.

One way is to seek Synod Ambassadors in each congregation. One role of an ambassador is for connecting people in the congregation to what's going on in the larger church about trainings and events that the Synod or the ELCA offers. Another role is for inviting people in the congregation to discern their vocation or God's call in their lives.

Congregations may have a connector and an inviter, or one person could do both functions. Synod will provide training for Synod Ambassadors. See Pastor Jim for information.

Church Seasons:

We will be in the Church Season of Lent through the entire month of March. The Sunday texts will focus on Jesus' ministry and journey to Jerusalem to carry out the purpose for which he came from heaven to do. We have the

opportunity to focus on our relationship with God and our need to follow Jesus to the cross, the grave, and His resurrection.

March 3-----Midweek Lenten Worship-----Grace Lutheran Church---7:00 p.m.

March 10----Midweek Lenten Worship-----Hope Lutheran Church----7:00 p.m.

March 17----Midweek Lenten Worship-----Grace Lutheran Church---7:00 p.m.

March 24----Midweek Lenten Worship-----Hope Lutheran Church---7:00 p.m.

March 28----Palm Sunday Worship-----Grace Lutheran Church---8:30 a.m.

Hope Lutheran Church—10:00 a.m.

April 1-----Maundy Thursday Worship----Hope Lutheran Church----7:00 p.m.

April 2-----Good Friday Worship-----Grace Lutheran Church---7:00 p.m.

April 4-----Easter Sunrise Worship-----Grace Lutheran Church---6:30 a.m.

Worship-----Grace Lutheran Church---8:30 a.m.

Worship-----Hope Lutheran Church---10:00 a.m.

March 2021

Pastor
Jim Helgren

8:45 Sunday School
10:00 Worship Service
*unless noted otherwise

Parish Ministry Associate
Sharon Carman

Church Council
Chairman: Dave Antholz
Fin. Sec: Janice Beethe
Treas: Mark Panko
Sec: Linda Eisenhauer
Decons: Keith Moss
David Lubben
Russel Moss

Worship & Music
Alberta Block
Sharon Carman
Judy Lubben
Sherri Moss

Organists
Alberta Block
Sheri Moss
Dianne Rienshe
Ruth Neeman

WELCA President
Marilyn Moss

Bulletin/Newsletter
Sharon Carman

Cemetery
Bruce Riensche
Russel Moss
Dave Antholz

WELCA Meeting
Bible Study: Sharon Carman
Devotions: Judy Lubben

Altar Guild
Sharon Carman

Visitation
Nancy Gerking

Hostess
Judy Lubben

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3 Mid-Week Lenten Worship 7:00 p.m..	4	5	6
7 Holy Communion Worship 10:00 a.m.	8	9	10 8th Confirmation 6:00 p.m. Mid-Week Lenten Worship 7:00 p.m. Church Council 8:00 p.m.	11 WELCA Bible Study & General Meeting 1:30 p.m.	12	13
14 Worship 10:00 a.m. Daylight Saving Time Begins	15	16	17 St. Patrick's Day 8th Confirmation 6:00 p.m. Mid-Week Lenten Worship 7:00 p.m.	18	19	20 First Day of Spring
21 Holy Communion Worship 10:00 a.m.	22	23	24 Mid-Week Lenten Worship 7:00 p.m.	25	26	27
28 Palm Sunday Worship 10:00 a.m.	29	30	31 8th Confirmation 6:00 p.m. Mid-Week Lenten Worship 7:00 p.m..			