

Hope Lutheran Church

April 2022

From the Pastor,

It is still the season of Lent as I write this and you are reading this column. We are still on our Lenten journey walking with Jesus to the cross. Good Friday is our destination. Death and hopelessness is the only thing the disciples can see and feel on Friday of Holy Week. The death of Jesus on the cross means the Romans are still in charge and all the Apostles and disciples' hopes, dreams, and expectations are dead. Where is God in all this? The God Jesus called Father is deafeningly silent.

"Where is God in this?" was the question we discussed at the March 16th Midweek Lenten service. 2020 became a hopeless, lost year. 2021 was becoming more hopeful but the hope was riding a rollercoaster. 2022 allows us to begin moving forward. But forward towards where and what? That was the theme of the Wednesday service, "Who Are We Now as God's People in 2022." We are asking a similar question the Apostles asked after their hopeless Friday and Saturday turned into a confused hope with the discovery of the empty tomb, "Who are we as God's people now that Jesus is raised from the dead?"

A war in Eastern Europe is adding stress to an already covid stressed world and economy. All the problems caused by countries closed down by covid are compounded by two countries at war that are affecting the global economy. Hunger issues will get worse. Inflation will possibly sky rocket. Where is God in all this? Keep asking the question. It is called prayer. Keep putting yourself and the world in God's hands. We must try not to be part of the evil trying to destroy God's creation which includes people. Hopelessness may sneak into our lives as it did as covid made life difficult in our country.

April 17th the answer to the disciples' question of, "Where is God in all of this" pops up or out of the tomb. God was there the whole time. God was also crying but no one heard. God said be patient but no one heard but no one was really listening because all we could hear was our own complaining. That is normal. But the cross and empty tomb shouts God is in charge and we are not. The Kingdom of God does extend to earth but so often sinful humans fight against it. But the resurrection of Jesus conquers our sin, our death as separation from God, and the power of the devil over us.

Alleluia! Christ Is Risen!

Church Seasons: Lent continues through April 16th. The Time of Easter begins April 17th with the Resurrection of Our Lord.

Festival Days: April 10th Palm Sunday

April 14th Holy (Maundy) Thursday

April 15th Good Friday

April 16th Vigil of Easter

April 17th The Resurrection of Our Lord

April 25th St. Mark, Evangelist

U.S. Holidays: April 15th Tax Day

April 17th Easter

April 22nd: Earth Day

April 27th Administrative Professionals Day

Jewish Holiday: April 15th Passover Begins

Lenten Schedule: Midweek Lenten Worship at Grace April 6th at 7:00 p.m.

Holy Week Schedule: Palm Sunday April 10th at 8:30 a.m. Grace, 10:00 a.m. Hope

Maundy Thursday Worship at Grace April 14th, at 7:00 p.m.

Good Friday Worship at Hope April 15th, at 7:00 p.m.

The Resurrection of Our Lord: Sunrise Service at Grace 6:30 a.m. Luther League sponsors

breakfast at 7:00 a.m.

Worship at Grace at 8:30 a.m.

Worship at Hope 10:00 a.m.

Monthly Schedule: Baptism at Hope April 3rd, 10:00 a.m.

First Communion Class at Grace April 5th, & 12th, at 4:00 p.m.

Confirmation April 6th, 13th, 20th, at 4:00 p.m. 8th grade only

Bible Study at Grace April 11th at 1:30 p.m.

Hope Church Council April April 13th at 8:00 p.m.

Maundy Thursday at Grace April 14th at 7:00 p.m.
First Communion for 4th & 5th graders of Grace Maundy Thursday April 14th at 7:00 p.m.
Good Friday at Hope April 15th at 7:00 p.m.
Sunrise Worship at Grace April 17th at 6:30 a.m.
Luther League sponsors breakfast at Grace April 17th at 7:00 a.m.
Easter Worship at Grace April 17th 8:30 a.m.
Easter Worship at Hope April 17th 10:00 a.m.
Grace Church Council April 19th 7:00 p.m.
Bible Study at Hope April 21st at 1:30 p.m.
Rite of Confirmation at Grace April 24th at 8:30 a.m.
Rite of Confirmation at Hope April 24th at 10:00 a.m.
Pastor leads Worship at Linden View April 27th at 2:00 p.m.

Hope Lutheran Church Council Minutes

March 16, 2022

MEMBERS PRESENT: Pastor Jim Helgren, Dave Antholz, Janice Beethe, David Lubben, Keith Moss, Russell Moss, Mark Panko and Sharon Carman

Pastor Helgren opened the meeting with prayer.

THE MINUTES from the March 16th meeting were reviewed and approved.

THE TREASURER'S REPORT by Mark Panko for March reports: **TOTAL INFLOWS \$2,459.06**

TOTAL OUTFLOWS -\$3,751.14

NET TOTAL -\$1,292.08

After discussion we decided to renew several CD's for nine months.

Mark will send in registration for Alberta Block and Sharon Carman to the Synod Assembly in June.

PASTOR'S REPORT: April 3rd will be baptisms for Mackenzie and Makayla Sell. Greg, Vanessa and Mason will be brought in as members of Hope Lutheran Church.

After discussion we decided to do a healing service on Good Friday.

Pastor has ordered palms for Palm Sunday from the Added Touch.

Pastor will do a memorial service for Lyle Carman March 18th at Grace.

Pastor is recommending Harley Lubben to be Confirmed April 24th. Jane Antholz will pick up a gift for her.

OLD BUSINESS: Kelly Bridgemon has been hired to grind the stumps at the cost of \$450.00. We will do the cleanup. Dave Antholz will be there when Kelly does the work and David Lubben will see to the clean up. David Lubben will also let Gregg Sell know when this is happening.

A concern was voiced about the length of time the dumpster has been sitting on the street across from the church making it harder to find parking. Janice Beethe will go to the village board meeting to voice our concerns.

Ten days of the February electric bill will be assessed to the Abbnik family and then they will pay all of the bills as long as they remain.

Gutters on the parsonage and church need to be cleaned out. Council decided to wait for a rainy day to do this.

Osage Church will be doing Vacation Bible School July 11th-15th. Jane Antholz applied for and received a \$1,000 grant for VBS in 2019 but we have not had VBS for the past two years.

The furnace room has some old paint that needs to be removed. The Johnson County Barn in Tecumseh is accepting household waste April 2nd 11:-12:30. Keith Moss volunteered to see that it got there. There are also some old shelves that need to be removed.

Sharon Carman mentioned finding a number of old red and brown hymnals while cleaning the Sunday School closet. It was decided we should clean them and offer them to the congregation and then give the remaining ones to Good Will.

We assigned the counting schedule: 3/20-Dave Antholz, 3/27- Russell Moss, 4/3-Dave Lubben, and 4/10-Mark Panko.

The next meeting will be April 13th at 8:00 p.m.

We adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

Minutes submitted by Sharon Carman

Hope Lutheran WELCA March 17, 2022

The March meeting of Hope WELCA was held on March 17th with six ladies and pastor present.

The meeting was called to order by President Marilyn. The minutes of the January meeting were read and approved.

The Treasurer's report was read by Marilyn showing a balance of \$479.55.

There was nothing new to report from mission Education, Community or Outreach.

Marilyn reported that she had delivered a nice amount of groceries to the Food Pantry.

Marilyn and Alberta attended the world Day of Prayer Service at Osage. It was an interesting zoom visit with a family member of the Osage pastor who heads up a boarding school in Haiti.

Marilyn will buy Easter lilies the palm have already been ordered.

Holy Week services: Maundy Thursday at Grace

Good Friday at Hope

The Spring Gathering will be on May 21st at the Lutheran Student Center on UNL campus. Sharon is on the planning committee for that event. We are asked to donate kitchen items which will be given to Bridges of Hope. The registration fee is \$20.00 which includes lunch by Table Grace.

April Bible Study will be on April 21st instead of the week before which falls on Maundy Thursday.

There being no further business, we closed with the Lord's Prayer and enjoyed lunch served by Judy.

Respectfully submitted,

Alberta Block

Welcome to Holton Scott Watermeier! He was born March 2, 2022 to Scott and Lorna Watermeier. His big sister is Addison and grandmother Janice Watermeier Beethe. Welcome to the world little one and may God bless all of you.

Ladies, your Southeast Nebraska Spring Gathering is going to be held on May 21st at the Lutheran Center on the University of Nebraska campus. (Exact address and parking information will follow at a later date.) This year we are concentrating on being able to do all things through God who strengthens. We will be hearing some personal testimonies. Because one of the testimonies is from a lady who is a past prison resident our in-kind offering will be for prison ministry Bridges for Hope has shared that they could use kitchen items, the everyday things we all use, *dishcloths, dish towels, spatulas, paring knives, potato peelers, can openers, measuring spoons, and/or cups, dish soap, scratchers, rubber scrapers, and whatever else you might feel useful. (Gently used items would be welcome too.)* They suggested that we put these items in a tote to make kitchen kits and then the totes can be used for carrying laundry, storage etc. All of us can participate in the in-kind offering. We will have a couple of totes in the back of the church starting in April. If you want to participate in this ministry it would be much appreciated.

Help carry each other's burdens. In this way you will follow Christ's teachings.

Galatians 6:2

Now, suppose a person has enough to live on and notices another believer in need. How can God's love be in that person if he doesn't bother to help the other believer?

I John 3:17

Pastor
Jim Helgren

9:00 Sunday School
10:00 Worship Service
*unless noted otherwise

Parish Ministry Associate
Sharon Carman, Ret.

Church Council
Chairman: Dave Antholz
Fin. Sec: Janice Beethe
Treas: Mark Panko
Sec: Sharon Carman
Deacons: David Lubben
Keith Moss
Russel Moss

Worship & Music
Alberta Block

Sharon Carman
Judy Lubben
Sheri Moss

Organists
Alberta Block
Sheri Moss
Dianne Riensche
Ruth Neeman

WELCA President
Marilyn Moss

Bulletin/Newsletter
Sharon Carman

Cemetery
Bruce Riensche
Russel Moss
Dave Antholz

Hope Lutheran Church-Burr

April 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 10:00 a.m. Holy Communion Worship & Baptism	4	5	6 4:00-5:00 p.m. Confirmation 7:00 p.m. Lenten Service @ Grace	7	8	9
10 10:00 a.m. Worship Palm Sunday	11	12	13 4:00-5:00 p.m. Confirmation 8:00 Church Council	14 7:00 Maundy Thursday Service at Grace	15 7:00 p.m. Good Friday Service at Hope	16
17 10:00 a.m. Holy Communion Worship Easter Sunday	18	19	20 4:00-5:00 p.m. Confirmation	21 Bible Study 1:30 p.m.	22 Earth Day	23
24 10:00 a.m. Worship Rite of Confirmation	25	26	27 Pastor leads worship Linden View 2:00 p.m.	28	29	30



WELCA Meeting
Bible Study: Alberta Block
Devotions: Sharon Carman
Hostess: Sharon Carman

Altar Guild
Marilyn Moss

Visitation
Marilyn Moss