

October 2023

From the Pastor,

I was working on the Tower Echoes/Newsletter September 12th when I looked at the October calendar to find the U.S. holidays. The first one I looked at read October 9th, "Indigenous Peoples Day (Columbus Day)." My desk calendar stated "Columbus Day." The third calendar read "Indigenous Peoples Day." The fourth calendar stated, "Indigenous Peoples Day (Columbus Day)." Oh yeah, and they all agreed it was also "Thanksgiving Day (Canada)."

Older people roll their eyes when they are corrected that October 9th is I.P.D. and not Columbus Day. We hate change. We also don't understand why we just can't celebrate Columbus Day like we always did because migrants (Europeans) coming to North America was a good thing. Yes, good for many of us but at the expense of those already living on the land.

We can not change the past but we can try to understand how the past has negatively affected others and their descendants. We can try to help find ways to help others improve their lives and overcome the wrongs of the past. This is a justice issue. The ELCA has attempted to approach the injustice of the past with apologies and support of minority rights. Micah 6:8b tells us what is expected of the God lover. "Do justice, love kindness and mercy, and walk humbly with your God."

It is hard to change our attitude about things. Perhaps one way to view October 9th is to commemorate Columbus Day, celebrate Indigenous Peoples Day and say "Happy Thanksgiving" to any Canadian friends.

October 31st is Reformation Sunday. This is another day that I had to have my attitude checked. Former Bishop Maas reminded pastors at Theological Conference that we commemorate Reformation Day not celebrate it. We don't celebrate a breach in the Church. That was the last year I celebrated it and now I remember it every year. I do cheat though. I do joke that it is the one day I am a Lutheran. The rest of the year I am a Lutheran Christian.

Pastor Jim

Crop Walk: Crop Walk begins at 2:00 p.m. October 1st at Hope Lutheran Church, Burr and travels the Burr Spur. All are welcome to walk or run. Forms for collecting donations for walkers are in the Narthex.

OLD BUSINESS: A council member has spoken with the Neumiester family and they have begun work on digging a basement for the parsonage to be moved to but no date as to when that will happen.

Keith Moss removed the damaged tree on the north side of the church. Many thanks.

A new humidifier has been purchased and is in use. We will see if we can place it near a drain so it doesn't need to be emptied.

NEW BUSINESS: Scheduled new business was discussed earlier.

Counting schedule: 9/17/23-Dave L., Communion asst. Alberta, 9/24/23-Russel M., 10/1/23-Dave A., communion asst. Jane, 10/8/23-Janice at Grace.

The next meeting will be October 11th at 8:00 p.m.

We adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

Minutes submitted by Sharon Carman

Hope Lutheran WELCA, September 21, 2023

Hope WELCA met on September 21st with four ladies present. Those present were Marilyn, Sharon, Dianne, Alberta and Pastor Jim.

It was noted that in November we will be taking part in the Thankoffering service on November 19th. More plans will be made closer to that date.

Sharon reported that the School Kits and Personal Care Kits are well underway. We need a few items and packing boxes to complete that.

Marilyn is contacting Cathy Steinkuhler regarding our offering for the Biennial Convention at Carol Joy Holling Camp.

Mission Festival will be on October 8th at 10:00 a.m. at Grace. The speaker will be from People's City Mission. Breakfast will be served at 9:00 a.m. Hope is to bring rolls or side dishes.

Having a Christmas Party for the "former secret sister" group was discussed. We will discuss it more next month.

Election of Officers was done by each agreeing to keep their current position.

Meeting closed with The Lord's Prayer and a delicious apple cake was served by Marilyn.

Respectfully submitted,

Alberta Block

MEMBERS PRESENT: Pastor Helgren, Dave Antholz, Janice Beethe, David L., Russel Moss, Mark Panko and Sharon Carman. Keith Moss was not present.

Pastor Helgren opened the meeting with prayer.

THE MINUTES from the August 16th meeting were reviewed and one error was noted. The ELCA Youth Gathering is July 16th-20th, 2024.

THE TREASURER'S REPORT: by Mark Panko for August reports:	TOTAL INFLOWS	\$18,089.31
	TOTAL OUTFLOWS	-\$9,563.23
	NET TOTAL	\$8,526.08

The treasurer's report was approved.

PASTOR'S REPORT: Hope confirmation students are Jacob Rumery and Kael Fricke. Kael will upon completing his confirmation be confirmed as a member of Grace Lutheran Church.

September 2nd Pastor Helgren did a committal service for Leta Steinkuhler.

Kids for Christ has resumed with an invitation to senior citizens of the Cook area to join in for a supper with the youth. The idea is to create an atmosphere so they can share their stories and have an intergenerational experience. Three seniors joined the meal.

October 1st will be the resumption of Sunday School classes with Nancy Gerking, Vanessa Sell teaching and Sharon Carman leading music.

Crop Walk is October 1st. More details to follow.

Pastor will be attending an IDEA meeting on "Being an Inviter" at Carol Joy Holling Camp. Others are welcome to attend. Let pastor know if you are interested.

The Professional Leadership Conference (formerly known as Theological Conference) will be in October.

Mission Fest is October 8th at Grace Lutheran breakfast at 9:00 a.m. church at 10:00 a.m. Grace will provide the warm foods and Hope will provide rolls, fruits etc. The offering will go to People's City Mission.

Preston Rumery plans to attend the ELCA Youth Gathering July 2024 in New Orleans. He will attend as a youth from Luther Memorial and Pastor Helgren will not attend. A motion was made and passed to give Preston \$1,200 for his registration and expenses.

A question about visiting shut-ins was brought up. Dee Stoner had been hospitalized. Pastor was not made aware of this. He does visit her. Also a concern about Carol Speth was mentioned. Pastor stated that he had spoken to her on the phone.

Mission Fest: Mission Fest is October 8th at Grace Lutheran Church at 10:00 a.m. People City Mission is the highlighted mission this year. Breakfast will be served beginning at 9:00 a.m. Grace will provide the main course and Hope members the sides.

GO AND: October's theme is GO AND ASK. Each month we will add to our challenge to grow as Christians and serve others. We do not stop doing one month's theme, we just add on another challenge. So we pray, listen, share our story, serve with neighbor, and now we ask questions.

Church Seasons: Still in the church season of Time After Pentecost. We are still being challenged to live our lives for Christ. Have you found that focusing on a different challenge each month helpful in your faith journey this year?

Church Festival Days: October 18th, Luke, Evangelist

October 23rd, James of Jerusalem, martyr, died around 62

October 28th, Simon and Jude, Apostles

October 31st, Reformation Day

National Holidays: October 9th, Indigenous Peoples Day, (Columbus Day)

October 21st, Sweetest Day

October 31st, Halloween

Hope Lutheran Church-Burr

October 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Pastor Jim Helgren	2	3	4 6:00 p.m. Confirmation	5	6	7
9:00 Sunday School						
10:00 Worship Service *unless noted otherwise						
	8	9 Indigenous Peoples Day (Columbus Day)	10	11 4:00 p.m. Kids for Christ, 6:00 p.m. Confirmation, 8:00 Church Council	12 1:30 p.m. Bible Study	13 14
Church Council Chairman: Dave Antholz Fin. Sec. Janice Beethe Treas. Mark Panko Sec. Sharon Carman Decons.: Keith Moss David Lubben Russel Moss						
Worship & Music Alberta Block Sharon Carman Sherri Moss	15	16 Boss's Day	17	18 6:00 p.m. Confirmation	19	20
	22 10:00 a.m. Worship	23	24	25 4:00 p.m. Kids for Christ, 6:00 p.m. Confirmation	26	27
WELCA President Marilyn Moss	29 10:00 a.m. Worship	30	31 Halloween, Reformation Day			
Bulletin/Newsletter Sharon Carman						

Cemetery	WELCA Meeting	Bible Study: Alberta	Altar Guild	Visitation
Dave Antholz Russel Moss		Janice Beethe		Nancy Gerkink
Craig Straube				