

Hope Lutheran Church

November 2023

From the Pastor,

I attended a Nebraska Synod workshop on IDEA. It's about reaching out to members of the church and inviting them to use their talents in the local church and perhaps in the Synod or ELCA. It might be inviting people to consider professional ministry.

When I came home my wife asked me how the workshop went. I had not processed it well yet but I could give an honest answer. "It was not a waste of my time." I believe at this stage in my life that is the best compliment I can give to anyone. It was not a waste of my time. I may not be able to express what I learned or received from my attendance at the meeting but it was worthwhile being there and I did not waste my time. At my age I do not have a lot of time to waste.

A pastor friend at Synod gathering of pastors always asks why do we or our congregations worship. Seems like a silly question to me and he does not like the simple answer, "because my week does not feel right if I fail to attend worship and worship God." The wisdom of my age knows there is more behind that answer. Most people do not want to answer with a long paragraph of reasons, but they could if push came to shove.

I think I now understand children when they say church is boring. It can be if you do not participate in the worship. It can be if you do not enjoy the company of the people worshipping with you. It can be boring if you think you can spend your time better doing something else. Of course, maturity sees that worship is not a waste of time but an important time to be renewed in God's Holy Spirit so one can serve God during the week. It is a time not to focus on self.

Here is to not wasting time with you in worship on Sunday.

Pastor Jim

GO AND BE HONEST: This is the theme for November. This adds to what we are already doing: pray, listen, share your story, serve with neighbor, and ask. the call to be honest with God, ourselves, and our neighbor. To ask honest questions and to answer questions honestly. To be honest is to be authentic. But we must not confuse sharing our opinions, whether asked for or not, with being honest.

Church Seasons: This is the last month in the Church season of Time After Pentecost. While the focus is still on learning to live my life as a child of God there will be two festival Sundays to warm us up for the beginning of the church year.

Church Festival Days: November 1st, All Saints' Day

November 5th, All Saints' Sunday

November 26th, Christ the King

National Holidays: November 5th, Daylight Savings Time ends

November 11th, Veterans Day

November 23rd, Thanksgiving Day

Monthly Schedule: 6th, 7th, 8th Confirmation, November 1st, 8th, 15th, & 29th at 6:00 p.m.

Kids for Christ, November 8th 4:00 p.m. at Grace

Hope Lutheran Bible Study, November 9th at 1:30 p.m.

Grace Cream Chicken Dinner, November 12th at Cook Community Center

Grace Bible Study, November 13th, 1:30

Hope Church Council, November 15th at 8:00 p.m.

Thankoffering Service at Hope & Grace, November 19th

Grace Church Council, November 21st at 7:00 p.m.

Joint Worship: November 12th will be a joint worship with Grace and Hope at 10:00 a.m. at Grace, Cook. Members can then eat creamed chicken at the Cook Community Center being served by the Grace ladies.

Thanksgiving Eve: Grace, Hope and Osage will worship together and give thanks to God Wednesday, November 22nd at 7:00 p.m. at Osage Church.

Thankoffering Service: Hope Lutheran will be observing the annual WELCA sponsored Thankoffering Service November 19th with an offering basket placed in the entry. This was a program originally started by church women using small "mite" boxes in which they placed coins remembering their daily blessings through the year. We now dedicate one Sunday a year to remember the blessings we receive daily throughout the year by placing our offering in the basket. Anyone may contribute an offering to remember the many blessings we receive daily.

Hope Lutheran Church Council Minutes October 11 2023

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

Pastor Helgren opened the meeting with prayer.

THE MINUTES from the September 13th meeting were reviewed and approved

THE TREASURER'S REPORT: by Mark Panko for report September: TOTAL INFLOWS \$2,498.95

TOTAL OUTFLOWS -\$3,967.31

NET TOTAL - \$1,468.36

The treasurer's report was approved.

PASTOR'S REPORT: Pastor led worship service at Good Samaritan September 14th. He also visited with our shut-ins. He will lead worship at Good Samaritan October 12th. October 25th he will lead worship at Linden View.

Pastor will be attending the Fall Leadership Gathering October 23rd-25th.

The Hope and Grace Bible Studies are using the same material so we have asked Grace if they would agree to have the Hope ladies join their Bible Study.

Operation IDEA was attended by pastor. He was pleased it was a good meeting and he came away with positive information.

OLD BUSINESS: Mission Fest was held at Grace October 8th. A breakfast was held at 9:00 a.m. and worship at 10:00 a.m. There was a good crowd and we ate before and after service. Earl Richardson gave a presentation for People's City Mission. \$435 00 was donated from Hope. A box of in-kind offerings was given, nine quilts made by the Grace ladies, and nine bags filled with personal care items for the homeless donated by Carolyn Badberg.

The drain in the kitchen was plugged. Dan Blessing from Tecumseh opened the drain.

Dave Antholz spoke with Duane Wilkens and he is still interested in doing the trim work on the church. He had time off due to health concerns.

NEW BUSINESS: The Thanksgiving service will be November 22nd, 7:00 p.m. at Osage. Offering will go to the Osage Food Pantry.

The insurance for pastor has been sent in as well as the insurance for the church.

Sunday School is going well with three children in attendance.

Counting schedule: 10/15/23-Dave L., 10/22/23-Mark., 10/29/23-Sharon., 11/5/23-Mark, comm. asst. Janice, 11/12/23-Dave A.

The next meeting will be November 15th at 8:00 p.m.

We adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

Minutes submitted by Sharon Carman

GO AND...

Spiritual Practice: Praying with Questions

"Remain in me as I remain in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit from itself unless it remain in the vine...if you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it shall happen for you."

Selected words from Jesus in John 15:4,7

Formative Practice:

1. Quiet yourself - body, heart and mind - and be aware (or become more aware) of God's Presence and your own.
2. Interiorly offer a prayer, such as, "Holy Spirit/Breath, guide me into your truth. May I be transformed into Christlikeness today..."
3. Reflect on the above scripture. Listen as though Jesus is speaking this to you slowly and lovingly.
4. Breathe in concert with Jesus through his Holy Spirit/Breath
 - a. breathing in: Holy
 - b. Breathing out: Spirit or Breath
5. Abide. When distracted, come back to "Holy Spirit" or "Holy Breath"
6. When finished: Ask Jesus what he longs for you to know (about yourself, God, your life, calling or whatever comes up for you). If you feel safe and comfortable to do this, let God ask you questions in return...

Hope Lutheran Church-Burr

November 2023

Pastor
Jim Helgren

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

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

Worship & Music
Alberta Block
Sharon Carman
Sheri Moss

Organists
Alberta Block
Sheri Moss
Ruth Neeman

WELCA President
Marilyn Moss

Bulletin/Newsletter
Sharon Carman

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 6:00 p.m. Confirmation	2	3	4
5 10:00 a.m. Holy Communion Worship, Janice comm. asst. **Turn clocks back one hour	6	7	8 4:00 p.m. Kids for Christ, 6:00 p.m. Confirmation,	9 1:30 p.m. Bible Study & General Meeting	10	11 Veterans Day
12 10:00 a.m. Joint Worship at Grace & creamed chicken after at Cook Community Center	13 1:30 p.m. Grace Bible Study	14	15 6:00 p.m. Confirmation 8:00 p.m. Hope Church Council	16	17	18
19 10:00 a.m. Holy Communion Worship, Deb M. comm. Asst. WELCA Thankoffering	20	21 7:00 p.m. Grace Church Council	22 7:00 p.m. Thanksgiving Service at Osage	23 Thanksgiving Day	24	25
26 10:00 a.m. Worship	27	28	29 6:00 p.m. Confirmation	30		

Cemetery
Dave Antholz
Russel Moss
Craig Straube

WELCA Meeting
Bible Study: Sharon
Devotions: Sharon
Hostess: Sharon

Altar Guild
Kim Panko & Nancy Gerking

Visitation
Cathy S.