

## FROM THE PASTOR - "Hope"

We often talk about hope as "wishful" thinking. "I hope it rains," or "I hope it doesn't rain." "I hope I get that job or a raise."

Every day we use that small, magical word – hope. It's tough to live, even make it through the day without hope. So, what is hope? Hope is a vision for better days that changes us in the present. There is something better up ahead, around the corner, in sight and it's good. However, that better future isn't just abstract, because it reaches within us and transforms us in the present. For example, if I am hoping to get a good grade in a class, that hope should motivate one to study right now. If a loved one is suffering from pain or illness, perhaps we can be that person's advocate and talk to the doctor or nurse about the pain. There are many references even in the Old Testament that there are better days ahead. Hope in God is never pulled out of thin air. It is based on a particular history with God, a history that gives us glimpses of God's character and provides reasons why we should trust God and place our hope in God. Hope is based on reason, it isn't irrational. It's never pulled out of thin air.

So, the vision for a better future isn't based on wishful thinking or even our faith in that future. Hope is not wrapped up in a season, or a program or in a new job or a bigger house. Hope is wrapped up in a person – Jesus.

Hope is about a promise and a person. It changes us in the present. Once we start down the path of hope, there is no turning back. Some people are afraid to hope. They think it's better not to hope at all. However, hopelessness closes off the human heart, but once we start hoping, it opens the heart to new possibilities and attitudes. Hope changes us. However, hope is a process that doesn't come easily. Paul says suffering produces patience, and patience produces character and character produces hope.

So, Romans 5 describes God's amazing Grace. God gives us hope and grace regardless of our status. God loves us and there really isn't anything we can do about it. God sacrificed for our well-being. As we have been taught and need to be reminded from time to time. Salvation isn't something we earn, but a gift we receive. Will we allow ourselves to receive that gift?

God loves us even before we do anything, before we can even say God. For Paul, Grace is amazing, and far more than we ever deserve, and all we can do is say "yes" and allow into flow from us to others. The experience of grace enables us to have hope to enable us to face the challenges of life, even difficult situations, knowing we are in God's hands, and nothing in life or death can separate us from the love of God.

As channels of Grace, we must see God's grace coming to all people, even politicians, sinners and saints, friends and enemy.

Blessings to you! Pr. Cindy

# Call Committee

This is a list of congregational members that are on the Call Committee. **If you have any questions about the "Call Process" – please do not hesitate to reach out to them.** 

Chairperson – Al Johnson Co-Secretary's – Cindy & Natalie Fiester Members:

- Pastor Cindy
- Betty Goehring
- Hannah Plummer
- Leslie Strottman
- Jeremiah Miller

- Jennifer Ayers
- Nancy Greer,
- Lori Hayes
- Marv Houg

# Phil & Andy's Pantry

In the month of July we will be collecting Personal Hygiene Products!

This will include the following items or any others you think would be useful.

- Bath Soap
- Shampoo
- Deodorant
- Tooth brushes and tooth paste
- Toilet Tissue
- Shaving Cream and razors
- Women's Personal Hygiene items



All donations will be delivered to local missions – they are all so appreciative of our generosity!! If you have questions, please contact Dorothy Medlang.

# Youth News

• VBS: VBS will be July 24-27 from 9 AM-3 PM and July 28th from 9 AM to 12 PM at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church - 153 Cherry Hill Rd NW. We are SO excited to partner with Gloria

Dei and welcome back EWALU counselors to lead our day camp!! There will be lots of singing, crafting, celebrating and learning about God's love! Adult volunteers are needed too! Registration forms are in the orange folder on the bulletin board outside Therese's office. If you could please fill out the form and return it to Hannah as soon as possible, that

Jaca *Lion* Bible School

would be great. We need to know how many kids will be attending and how many EWALU counselors we need. OSLC is sponsoring the registration fee for our kids. If you have questions – please let Hannah know.

## Thank You!!



A huge thank you goes out to Marv Houg! He has faithfully served as our Congregation President these past 6 years. We greatly appreciate the time he has dedicated to our congregation. We will miss him in this leadership position but know he will continue to be an active member! I am honored to have been elected to follow in his footsteps as your next Congregation President. With your support and God's guidance, I am ready to serve our congregation as we share God's love and word.

Thank you, Marv, for all you do for our church and thank you all for putting your trust in me. Faithfully, Sue Clapp

### **Readers**

July 2 – Dale Hovden July 9 – Suzanne Schmitt July 16 – Dave Case July 23 – Laurene Case July 30 – Dave Sampson \*\*Readers can pick up their reading in the "Reader" mailbox located between the offices in the back hallway

#### **Assisting Ministers**

July 2 – Nancy Greer July 9 – Jeremiah Miller July 16 – Hannah Plummer July 23 – Nancy Greer July 30 – Jeremiah Miller

#### <u>Ushers</u>

July 2 – Fiester's July 9 – Sue Clapp, Al Johnson July 16 – Dave Sampson, Marv Houg July 23 – Strottman's July 30 – Fiester's

### Prayer for Pastor

July 2 – Therese Plummer July 9 – Ann Larson July 16 – Laurie Strottman July 23 – Natalie Fiester July 30 – Nancy Greer August 6 – Arnold Strottman

### **Acolytes**

July 2 – Lexi Flockhart July 9 – Hailey Clapp July 16 – Natalie Fiester July 23 – Korver Sindelar July 30 – Leslie Strottman

### **Serving Our Congregation**

Cindy McKenzie – Interim Pastor Marv Houg – Congregation President David Sampson – Treasurer Therese Plummer – Parish/Financial Secretary Hannah Plummer – Children & Youth Ministries Director Forrest Green – Music Director Terri Hodge – Bell Choir Director

## **Tithing**

As we approach the midpoint of the year, we find ourselves in a similar situation financially as we were a year ago, with our collections running behind our expenses. At the present time, we

are approx. \$10,000 behind. We hope that everyone has been able to keep up with their pledge for the year and encourage everyone to tithe if possible. If you are not tithing and are able to increase your contribution, it would be very helpful. Therese will be sending out mid-year statement at the end of June.



## **Nominating Committee:**

The nominating committee is pleased to report that all co-chair positions have been filled. A huge thank you to everyone who has volunteered their time and talents. All council members were introduced at the Annual Meeting on June 25<sup>th</sup>.

POSITION	Name	TERM	NOMINATION	TERM
Interim Pastor	Cindy McKenzie			
Youth Director	Hannah Plummer	Hannah Plummer		
President	Marv Houg	June 2020 – June 2023	Sue Clapp	June 2023– June 2026
VP	Laurie Strottman	June 2022 - June 2025		
VP	Sue Clapp	June 2020 – June 2023	Therese Plummer	June 2023-June 2026
Treasurer	Dave Sampson	Appointed		
Secretary	Nancy Trout	June 2021 – June 2024		
Secretary	Nicole Flockhart	June 2022 – June 2025		
Education/Youth	Jason Schmitt	June 2021 – June 2024	Rachael Sindelar	June 2023 -June 2024
	OPEN		Laurie Strottman	June 2023-June 2026
Fellowship	Suzanne Schmitt	June 2021– June 2024		
	Denise Jorgensen	June 2020 – June 2023	Nancy Trout	
Property	Rick Rogness	June 2022 – June 2025		
	Mark Schmitt	June 2022 – June 2023	Mark Schmitt	June 2023-June 2026
Parish/Staff	Marcia Adix	June 2022 – June 2025		
	Dorothy Powers	June 2021 – June 2024		
Stewardship/Social	Dorothy Medlang	June 2020 – June 2023	Dorothy Medlang	
	Arnold Strottman	June 2022 – June 2025		
Evangelism/PR	Sue Clapp	June 2021 – June 2024		
	Therese Plummer	June 2021 – June 2023	Therese Plummer	June 2023- June
				2026

#### **Our Savior's Council**

# **Generous Gifts**

After our June 4<sup>th</sup> service Dorothy Medlang gave a presentation on the many gifts that members of our Savior's have given to not only local causes, but also national and international causes. Members of Our Savior's have been very generous in their gifts and for this we applaud everyone!!





# OSLC is going to have a New Website!!

We have contracted with Informatics (a local digital marketing agency that specializes in web



design) to create our new website. Having a professional website that tells the story of OSLC, our history, who we are, what we do and what we want to be, will be critical as we move through the "Call Process" and attract a new pastor. Sue Clapp, Nancy Trout and Mark Schmitt will be working closely with Informatics to relay information and make sure the "look and feel" is a match for what OSLC stand for. Stay tuned for updates!! So exciting!!!

## Thank you Volunteers

The success of Our Saviors Lutheran Church is in large part due to the countless volunteers who help selfishly with their time and talents. Just look at a typical Sunday, there are greeters, readers, acolytes, ushers, assisting ministers, sound booth, flower details, offering counters, prayer for pastor, fellowship treats, cleaners, coffee makers, and others not mentioned here. Then there are also council members and many teams meeting through the month. Thank you one and all for making this a great community.



There is another volunteer that can usually be found most evenings at church as he plants, weeds, and waters the flower beds during the growing season. Thank you, Don Pliester for sharing your green thumb. Here are some photos showcasing his wonderful handywork.

