



May 1<sup>st</sup> , 2015

## Call for Local Mission Proposals

Hope's Evangelism and Mission committee is seeking help in finding a local project(s) for mission work. If anyone has knowledge of a needed project (paint a home, clean a lot, etc.) that could involve various members of our congregation from old to young, please contact Pastor Tom, Dr. Mike, Marc Fenske or any member of the E/M committee. Funds are available to help with cost of supplies for such a project.



**In Honor of Military  
Appreciation Month,  
Hope Lutheran  
is partnering with  
Faith Comes by Hearing May 17-31**

In the month of May, we will be highlighting a special giving opportunity that will benefit our men and women in uniform. For your gift of \$25 a member of the armed forces can receive a dramatic audio presentation of God's Holy Word.

The "Military BibleStick" is a small MP3-like player that is loaded with the whole of New Testament and select Psalms. To date, more than 500,000 BibleSticks have been distributed through Military Chaplains, but the requests for more keep coming in at the rate of 2,000 per week.

This form of the audio Bible, which comes complete with headphones, is a way in which our armed forces can be strengthened by God's Word, no matter where they are deployed and serving.

A display will be set up at the church in later May. Checks can be made to: **Hope Lutheran**, with "BibleStick" in the memo line.

4<sup>th</sup> Annual

## Youth Pie Auction

Mother's Day - May 10<sup>th</sup>.



This has now become a tradition for Hope Lutheran! During the Fellowship Hour, our very own Lutheran Auctioneer, Steve Sprecher will preside over the sale of some of the best pies made this side of the Mississippi! All proceeds will support the summer camping ministry of our Middle and High School students.



Join us in the land down-under for our Family Vacation Bible School – June 12-13 at Lake Byron Bible Camp. On this Aussie adventure, kids explore God's monumental love and discover what it means to have an unshakable faith.

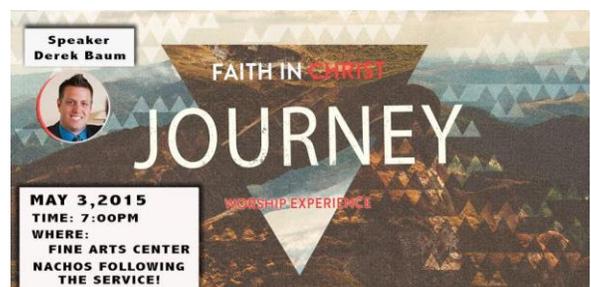
The Education Committee meets this next week to put the final plans to our two-day event. So, be looking for more details real soon, but you can be sure of the following:

- Gather with a meal on Friday evening
- Each Family gets its own room in the family lodge
- Great Camp setting and activities
- End by 5:00 pm on Saturday.



## Coborn's Receipts

Please bring Coborn's Receipts for **February, March and April** to the church no later than **Sunday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>**. The Women of Hope receive the proceeds from these receipts.





Mike and Mary Fuchs, Bill and I attended the LCMC Annual Meeting. The theme was “Hope for the Long Haul – Theology, Church and Mission”. The verse for the day was Romans 5:5: “*and hope does not disappoint us, because God’s love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.*”

The day began with worship and music. Pastor Becky Hand, one of the first graduates of Institute of Lutheran Technology (ILT) in Brookings, provided the message, instilling *hope* in our ongoing ministries.

Pastor Steve Lien, LCMC Coordinator of Pastoral Ministry spoke on his role in the LCMC and his *hopes* for continued ministry development. Despite the lean organizational structure (6 paid staff working from their homes) LCMC is now in 40 states and 11 counties. Missions account for a large percentage of the LCMC budget.

The average age of Pastors in the United States is 62.7. Only one in four clergy remain in ministry until retirement age. Support for the 900 LCMC rostered pastors is essential, as are opportunities for our spiritual leaders to receive training and renew their spirits. LCMC pastoral candidates are carefully screened before being added to the roster. LCMC is working closely with traditional seminaries such as Luther and online universities such as ILT to ensure seminarians receive a sound theological base and are prepared to minister and provide *hope*.

Pastor Julie Smith, who led Hope in worship for several weeks when we first began, presented the LCMC Board of Trustees Report. The Board of Trustees is responsible for “safeguarding the DNA of LCMC” by reviewing ways to receive new congregations, planning the annual gathering and providing support to clergy and congregations. In the future they are focusing on developing outdoor

(camp) and campus ministries. We *hope* for good opportunities to come for our youth!

The Augustana District is a “nongeographic district” now representing congregations from several states. It provides support to our local churches and pastors. Pastor Janine Rew-Werling of the Augustana District Board of Theology and Ministry spoke on the “care and keeping” of our pastors and leaders. Pastor Paul Knudson and Dr. Arndt Braaten of the LCMC Board of World Mission spoke on the *hope* provided by various mission projects and the “church planting” that LCMC is involved in, as well as the need to call and equip our youth. We truly are Lutheran Congregations in MISSION for Christ. Tyler Nielsen, a young seminarian, shared how involvement in mission projects has shaped her life – and given her *hope*.

The Augustana District (AD) business meeting included approval of the budget and elections for the District Council and Board of Theology and Ministry. Pastor Randy Freund is the half-time Service Coordinator for the Augustana District. Like the national organization, the District Budget provides a high percentage to mission. AD utilizes mostly volunteer labor.

We had the opportunity to tour Christ the King in Hutchinson where the meeting was held. What a lovely facility! The day also provided the opportunity to network with members of other LCMC churches and share our *hope* for our individual congregations. .

Often heard during the day: “*faith puts us on the road – hope keeps us there*” and “*no start – no hope*”. Within the Augustana District, we indeed have “*hope* for the long haul”!

I strongly encourage attendance at future AD events. Additional information can also be found at the Augustana District web site: <https://augustanadistrict.org/> **Kathy Chase**

***Feel called to join Hope Lutheran?***

**New members will be received on  
Sunday May 10<sup>th</sup>.**

If you are interested in becoming a member of Hope Lutheran Church, please talk to Pastor Tom. There are transfer forms available at the Welcome Center.

## Greetings from the Hope Lutheran Church Council

Spring has arrived! We had a glorious Easter Celebration and meaningful Holy Week services. The Lenten services and suppers were well attended. The weekly dramas, music and Pastor Tom's sermons provided food for thought. Thank you to all who participated in the dramas, provided music, prepared for the extra communion and worship services and served the meals.

Last week Mike and Mary Fuchs, Kathy and I attended the Augustana District of the LCMC annual meeting in Hutchinson, Minnesota. It was an inspirational and informative day. See more in Kathy's report.

The council continues to look at the future for Hope Lutheran Church, including developing a timeline for action on the future building project. Plans are being made Family Vacation Bible School, youth trips and summer worship services. Don't be afraid to get involved in one of the committees or by assisting in worship services.

In the meantime, we need to be DISCIPLES. A disciple is "someone who knows what they believe and is willing to share it". As a congregation, we voted to join the LCMC – ***Lutheran Congregations in MISSION for Christ***. Our main MISSION is to tell the good news of Jesus Christ and Hope Lutheran Church. Bring a friend, neighbor or relative to church. Studies show that many unchurched people are just waiting to be invited. Several of us are here at Hope because someone invited us. We will welcome several families as new members to Hope on May 10<sup>th</sup>.

Enjoy the change in seasons and summer family time. See you in church! **Bill Chase**

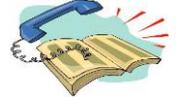


### Are you still looking for a Bible?

This past winter we made copies of the Large Print Pew Bibles available for sale at the discounted case price. There have been some inquiries about making another order. The cost is \$14, so, if you are interested, please call the church or email to [pastortlc@gmail.com](mailto:pastortlc@gmail.com) with your interest.

Also, if you have a friend that needs a Bible, the Evangelism and Missions committee has a gift Bible you can offer to them. Please see Pastor Tom if this is an unmet need.

## CHURCH DIRECTORY UPDATE



You will soon receive a request for updated information for our church records and directory. Now that we have Church Management Software, we are ready to establish a more complete record system.

The information received from other churches during the transfer process is often incomplete or appears inaccurate. In addition, several have requested that we include employment information in the next printed directory to help us get to know each other better.

Please complete the forms and return them as soon as possible.

### *May: dates to remember!*

- 1<sup>st</sup>-2<sup>nd</sup> Piano Guild Testing at Hope Lutheran
- 3<sup>rd</sup> 9:30 am Worship w/Holy Communion  
10:30 am Sunday School  
7:00 pm Journey Youth Worship Event at the Fine Arts Center
- 5<sup>th</sup> 9:30 am Global Health Bandage Rolling
- 6<sup>th</sup> 6:00 pm Education Committee Meeting
- 10<sup>th</sup> 9:30 am Worship-New Member Sunday  
Sunday School Kids Sing!  
10:45 am Last Sunday of Sunday School  
Pie Auction
- 13<sup>th</sup> 10:00 am Huron Ministerial  
7:30 pm Worship Committee
- 17<sup>th</sup> 9:30 am Worship w/Holy Communion
- 20<sup>th</sup> 7:00 pm Brenda's Piano Awards Night  
7:30 pm Church Council
- 27<sup>th</sup> 8:00 pm HHS Baccalaureate at the  
Arena (Pastor Tom speaks)
- 31<sup>st</sup> 9:30 am Worship - Honor our HHS  
Graduate: Mark Christenson

***For schedule changes and updates,  
please check the online calendar at  
[www.hopelutheranhurong.com](http://www.hopelutheranhurong.com).***

# Pastor's Ponderings



“Sun’s out! Surf’s up!

Let’s get out of here!”

*What then is Apollos? What is Paul? Servants through whom you came to believe, as the Lord assigned to each. I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth.*

**1 Corinthians 3: 5-7**

Whenever the weather starts getting nice, such as in late spring, it’s harder to stay in the office in the afternoons. I blame that defect of mine on Professor Gutzman who taught Business Math at the University of South Dakota. He was the one who coined the phrase, “Sun’s out! Surf’s up! Let’s get out of here!”

The “G-man”, as we called him, had been given the unenviable slot of teaching us B-school freaks on Monday, Wednesday and Friday afternoons from 3:00-4:00 ish. I say “ish”, because that’s where that turn of a phrase comes in. The old Business School was not air conditioned, and with the sun beating in those West windows, the time and the temperature just didn’t make for the best environment for teaching or learning. The G-man tried, but when half the class was nodding off, and the other half looking at the ceiling tiles, he would slap his book shut, and pronounce that beautiful phrase: “Sun’s out! Surf’s up! Let’s get out of here!”

That phrase popped back into my head this afternoon, as I needed to get this “inspirational” article done. Because, this time of the year we are reminded by the life giving rains and sunshine, of the growth that comes to grass and flowers and trees. Rain is a good thing! And sun is a good thing...unless it’s late afternoon on a Friday, and you have to be in class!

The scripture reading above from Paul’s first letter to the Corinthians is a good text for this time of year. On the secular calendar, summer does not start until the end of June. But on the parental calendar, summer starts when school is out! But, when it comes to the church calendar, we don’t talk about the summer season, but rather, the season of Pentecost, which is the season of Christian growth. And, as the Apostle Paul wrote, “I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth”.

As students of the Word need to look to teachers and preachers, Biblical commentators and devotional writers to help us see where God is in the midst of this world. We all have our favorite authors or proclaimers or mentors, but behind each and every worthwhile book, sermon or spiritual advice is GOD! With the seeds God gives, we can be involved in planting the faith. With the rains God gives, we can be involved in nurturing the faith. But it is God who is behind it all! God is the one who enables our spiritual guides to impart their wisdom. God is the one who works his message through both heart and soul. And thus God alone is the one who gives the spiritual growth.

I challenge you, during this season of Christian Growth, to spend a little extra time in study, worship and prayer, so that your faith may continue to grow into the fullness that God in Christ intends!

“Solo Deo Gloria!  
(To God Alone be the Glory)

*Pastor Tom*

**The June-July-August  
issue of  
Our Daily Bread  
is at the  
Welcome Center.  
Please take one home!**

