

HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH
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"WORDS OF HOPE FROM HOPE"

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Find us on Facebook: Hope Lutheran Church and www.seesummitsd.com

Follow us on YouTube: Hope's Children



June/July 2023

"It is the mission of Hope Lutheran Church to help people grow in their faith; to be a leader in the community; to serve the needs of all people; and to teach/educate all people.



HOPES HAPPENINGS

Church Projects Update

The new partition between the sanctuary and fellowship hall is due to be installed in June or July. The cost is estimated at \$20,000.

The council has received several bids to replace the exterior siding. The low estimate is \$53,000, but the contractor is not available until late fall or potentially next spring.

Fundraising was kicked off with the Paint & Pour event on April 30th. Watch for opportunities to support the church and projects in the near future.

Campership Reminder

If you have youth going to summer camp, we have funds available to help pay the registration fee.

Campership forms are on the bulletin board or available by email.

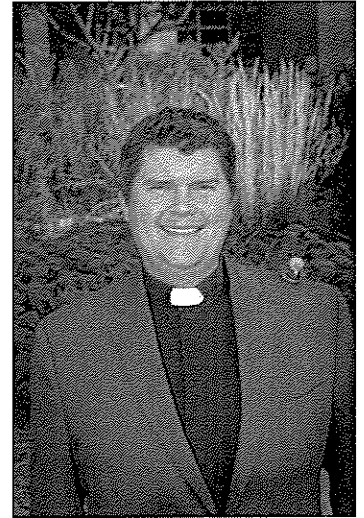
Contact Annelies Seffrood at 605-949-5658 of annelies.seffrood@gmail.com

Congratulations to our Graduating Seniors. They received their quilts from our ladies.



Synod Staff Announcement

After three and a half years as Director for Evangelical Mission and Associate to the Bishop for Stewardship and Outreach, Pastor Jonathan Steiner has submitted his resignation to Bishop Constanze Hagmaier and the South Dakota Synod Council." The last three and a half years have been filled with joy, challenges, and good work as we proclaim the Gospel of Jesus and love and serve our neighbor in response to God's love," said Pastor Jonathan. "It has been a blessing to me to walk with our congregations, our specialized ministries, our staff, and all of God's people here in South Dakota."



"Yet in Ecclesiastes, God tells us that all things have their seasons. For me, the season of ministry here in South Dakota comes to a close, as the Holy Spirit calls me into something new. This does not come from conflict with others around vision or direction, but from my own recognition of where I am, and where I need to be.

"Know that I leave thinking the best of the South Dakota Synod. I go sharing the good things that we have done, and know that God will continue to abundantly provide for us all. I thank God for the time we have had to Journey Together in Christ, and for the bright future of the church here in South Dakota."

"On behalf of the South Dakota Synod and the ELCA I extend my sincere gratitude to Pastor Jonathan Steiner for his faithful service to the work of ministry we do together," said Bishop Constanze Hagmaier. "We wish him and his wife Laura along with their three children Godspeed as they move into a new chapter in their life."

Pastor Jonathan's service to our Synod will conclude at the end of August. If you would like to send any well-wishes to Pastor Jonathan, or have any questions about the transition, please contact the Synod Office.

Isaiah 18:4 "This is what the Lord says to me: "I will remain quiet and will look on from my dwelling place, like shimmering heat in the sunshine, like a cloud of dew in the heat of harvest."



June 2023

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
				1 9:00-noon Quilting Dean Call	2 Office Day- afternoon Synod Assembly June 2-3	3 Funeral at Hope
4 Holy Trinity-white	5	6	7 Office Day- afternoon	8	9 Office Day- afternoon	10
11 2-Pentecost-green	12	13	14	15 9:00-noon Quilting Dean Call	16 Office Day- afternoon Summit City-wide rummage sales	17
18 3-Pentecost-green	19	20	21 Office Day- afternoon	22	23 Office Day- afternoon	24
25 4-Pentecost-green	26	27	28 Office Day- afternoon	29	30 Office Day- afternoon	

Worship begins at 8:30 am. Fellowship to follow. Worship helpers as of printing: June 4-Whempners, June 25-Vicky- Coffee and Reading.



July 2023

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
						1
2 5-pentecost-green Pastor Janet preaching at NeSoDak (no communion)	3	4	5	6 9:00-noon Quilting	7	8
		Pastor Janet gone July 4-8				
9 6-pentecost-green	10	11	12 Summit Office	13	14	15
16 7-pentecost-green	17	18 Conference Pastor's meeting	19	20 9:00-noon Quilting Dean Call	21	22
23 8-pentecost-green	24	25	26	27	28	29
30 9-pentecost-green Baptism at Hope	31 Keith Sharf burial at Summit					

Worship

Worship begins at 8:30 am with Coffee Fellowship to follow. Servant Team for July is Traci Ellingson. Watch for information about VBS on Facebook and in the announcements. ☺

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I read a quote yesterday that said, "Working in a church is saying, "but after this week, things will slow down a bit" over and over until you die".

The quote made me laugh because it is true. I tend to wait for the "after" time. After Lent is over, things will seem lighter, the weather will be better... after Easter is done, the planning and worry for worship will be less and the weather will be better... after Spring Theological Event is over, I will feel more relieved and the snow will all melt...After the snow is gone...after the water dries up...after the funeral is over...after council is done... The list of "after" is never finished. There is always something to wait for, to plan for or to worry your heart over.

Last week, I was helped some with my "after" worry. I was at the Spring Theological event for pastors. I was in charge of the planning committee and of making sure things ran on time. I was worried about food deliveries, speaker logistics, piano players, worship leaders, and anything else I could dream up to worry about. All the worry and the stress made it hard for me to sit down and take in the speaker or worship with the group.

I was standing in the back of our venue for the day, Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer. To the back of their sanctuary sits a large, square baptismal font made of concrete. It had a beautiful waterfall and water pool inside it. A little red headed daughter of one of our conference pastors was standing by the font with me. She eyed the water curiously. I watched as her father whispered to her about it, then touched the water and made the sign of a cross on her forehead. This delighted the little girl! The act made me smile. The little girl shared my smile and after wriggling from her father she stuck a finger into the font and reached for me. I leaned down and in her sweet voice she said, "God bless you!" then she made a cross on my forehead.

I was stopped in my tracks on my journey of the "afters". The thing that mattered in that moment was the blessing from God given by the cutest little girl you will ever meet. Now...this little girl...this moment of blessing mattered.

To my amazement, the next morning as I hustled into the conference with my head full of what needed to happen, I was met by the same little girl. With her grin and a wet finger, she welcomed me into the day with another, "God bless you!" and a cross on my forehead. Her smile warmed my heart all day long.

As we journey into the busy month of May, many of you worry over graduations, confirmations, end of school year events, scheduling summer vacations, finding summer daycare, etc. After this, I can plant my flowers...after this, I can take the time to rest I need... after this, my work schedule should get better...after this, I will have more time with my family... The "Afters" can become our worry and our focus and we can forget to stop and enjoy the beauty God is blessing us with today.

May you today, not *after*, but today take a moment to know how blessed and loved you are by your God. It's the blessing not the "after" that's most important.

Pastor Janet Miller