



HOPE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Hope Scope

Volume 4, Issue 1

April 2012

Pastor's Pen by Rev. Dr. Candace Adams

Worship is an essential part of a Christian community. At Hope Presbyterian Church, we are intentional about our worship. There is much prayer and thought offered to ensure that our worship brings glory and honor to God.

The theme of each Sunday is selected weeks if not months in advance. The staff carefully considers the needs of the congregation and how those needs fit with the liturgical calendar — church seasons. Each aspect of the service is chosen with these things in mind.

I sense the presence of the Holy Spirit throughout our worship services. The music, sharing of prayer concerns, Scripture readings, etc. have been rich and beautiful. It is my prayer that worship will be a powerful experience for all.

This month there are several special worship services. April 1 is Palm Sunday and we will consider the "Foolishness of Christ." On Thursday, April 5, a Passiontide Service will be held at 7:00 p.m. This service will combine elements of Maundy Thursday and Good Friday. On April 8, Easter, the day will begin at 8:30 a.m. with a praise service led by our 9th grade confirmation students. A breakfast will be served at 9:30 a.m. by the Session. Our 10:00 a.m. worship service will include special music by the adult choir and hand bell choir. The sacrament of communion will be received.

The April 15 worship service will focus on the global needs of children. This service will be different from our standard format. Come prepared to be challenged to care for the least of God's children.

The last Sunday of the month, April 29, we will celebrate the gifts of older adults. This congregation is blessed to have so many older adults. It is fitting that we give thanks to God for our wonderful senior adults.

May God be praised as we gather to worship. May our hearts be filled with joy as we fellowship with God and one another.

April 16-23 I will attend Credo, a Board of Pensions of the Presbyterian Church U.S.A. sponsored continuing education event. The conference is held at a retreat center near Buffalo, New York. The retreat center is situated such that it receives very poor Internet and cell phone reception. The Board of Pensions provides participants with calling cards to communicate with family members. The Board of Pensions covers all expenses except for \$500.00; this includes meals, seminar resources, transportation, and lodging. The Session and I have committed to my full participation in the event, which was a requirement of my admission. I have pledged to stay at the entire conference; the only exception granted is for a family emergency.

If you need emergency pastoral care from April 16-23, please contact Kathy Terpstra at 320-346-4158 (home) or 320-815-8158 (cell). My thoughts and prayers will be with you while I am away.

Session Highlights from March 12, 2012

- Approved the Bible Club participants being transported to Mount Tom on May 2, 2012.
- Approved the 4th - 6th grades holding a fundraiser for the Big Give.
- Barb and Ken West are willing to do the scheduling for a new photo directory. The tentative dates scheduled with Lifetouch are June 12-16, 2012. There is no cost to the church. Those who donate a food item during their photo session will receive \$5 off; for each portrait session, the church will receive a \$1 donation to the Hope Care Pantry and each portrait session receives a free 8 x 10 photo.
- Denied wedding request for non-members on Sunday, July 22nd as the church does not allow non-member weddings on Sundays unless a special need is shown.
- Approved holding a family benefit for Dave, Victoria and Chaz Wohnoutka on Saturday, April 14, from 4:30- 7:30 p.m., with a meal, silent auction and/or raffle and children's activities. Dave and Victoria's places of employment would like to participate in the benefit. AA will be allowed to meet in the River of Hope Youth Center that evening.
- The Insurance Task Force will be meeting with representatives from three agencies on March 15, 2012. A missionary sponsored by Hope Church, Jessica Hasslen, will speak to the Mission Committee and the Alaska mission trip participants on May 14, 2012 at 5:30 p.m.
- Property Committee set April 21 for the Spring Cleanup Day from 8:00 a.m. until finished.
- Approved allowing the Mission Committee to post sign-up sheets to determine an interest in having a disaster relief trip to Minot, North Dakota or Kentucky on April 26-29, 2012 or June 7-10, 2012.

New Church Photo Directory

It has been three years since we had our last directory made. Since then there have been a lot of changes to membership, including many new members. Hope Church has decided to go through Lifetouch again to make a new updated directory. Pictures are scheduled to be taken June 12th-16th. Ken and Barb West are taking the lead scheduling appointments. Once again Lifetouch is offering everyone who gets their picture taken a free 8x10 and a free directory. Also for every family that is photographed Lifetouch will donate \$1.00 to the Care Pantry. If you have any questions, please contact Ken and Barb West (796-5064) or Cathy Plucker.

Spring Cleanup Day is set for Saturday, April 12th from 8:00 a.m. - noon. Come and help Spring clean at church!





Benefit for

Dave, Victoria and Chaz Wohnoutka

Quilt Raffle

Dinner:
Hotdogs/Burgers
Baked Beans
Bars
Chips
Beverage



Silent Auction

**Children's
games with
prizes
&
Face
painting**

Date Saturday, April 14th
Time 4:30 pm-7:30 pm
Location Hope Presbyterian Church
7730 North Shore Drive, Spicer

Needed
2 Grills

Workers
3:00 – 4:30 p.m.
4:30 – 6:00 p.m.
6:00 – done

Signup Sheet in the fellowship Hall.

News from The Link

April 2012

*Creating a community where neighbors share the love of
God through service to each other.*

From the Director

This will be the last Link Newsletter that I will write as Director of The Link. It has been a privilege and pleasure for me to serve The Link and the community in this capacity. However, I am leaving The Link at the end of March in order to serve as Interim CEO at Green Lake Lutheran Ministries in Spicer.

I want you to know how grateful I am to have had this experience. I am so grateful for the new friendships that I have made in this work. I am grateful to be a part of a community that cares enough to help those who are less well off. In addition, I am especially grateful that many in this community care and serve because they take seriously the commandment of Jesus to love our neighbor.

The Link is going strong and will continue to do well even in a time of staff transition. The Link Advisory Board is passionate and committed to seeing the mission of The Link continue. The board is making plans to move forward with hiring a new director and they hope to post the job opening by the end of April.

Plans are already in place for volunteers and some temporary staff to continue with the work of The Link during the director vacancy. You can also still contact Faith Lutheran Church 796-2522 with any questions you have about The Link and its services.

I am glad that I will still be in the community to see how The Link will continue to grow in its work of linking people and building community.

God Bless, Naomi

Furniture And Donations Needed!

Doing a little spring cleaning? We are happy to receive donations of *gently used* furniture, kitchenware, linens, bedding, and appliances.

The New London Link is open Tuesdays from 2pm-6pm and Thursdays 10am-2pm to receive donations.

(We can especially use silverware and pots and pans!)

Don't Forget ...TUESDAY'S TABLE

A Free Community Meal Every Tuesday at 6pm!

Tuesday's Table is a great way to enjoy some fellowship and conversation. Invite a friend! Volunteer to help!

1st Tues @ Our Lady of the Lakes, Spicer

2nd Tues @ Evangelical Covenant, New London

3rd Tues @ Faith Lutheran, Spicer

4th Tues @ Peace Lutheran, New London

5th Tues @ Hope Presbyterian, Spicer

Interested in learning more about poverty and its effects? Check out some of these websites:

A Minnesota Without Poverty

<http://www.mnwithoutpoverty.org/>

Half in Ten

<http://halfinten.org/>

[Office for Social Justice, Catholic Charities](http://www.osjspm.org/)

<http://www.osjspm.org/>

Jobs Now Coalition

<http://www.jobsnowcoalition.org/index.html>

Missions by Cathy Plucker

Disaster Relief Trip to Minot, North Dakota

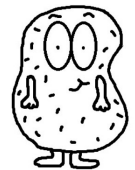
Following the flood in 2011, Minot, North Dakota experienced a critical and uncharacteristically low number of volunteer teams from state, regional and national organizations who were willing to travel to Minot for flood assistance. The consistently cited reason for choosing to bypass Minot was the lack of adequate accommodations for volunteer housing. The end result is that area families with critical need were not served. Many people beyond North Dakota are surprised to learn that FEMA categorized last summer's flood a Level 5 natural disaster, the same rank as the destruction caused by Hurricane Katrina on the Gulf Coast in 2005.

In order to increase the number of volunteers coming to help people, and to maximize the effectiveness of volunteers and volunteer agencies, a unified volunteer center has been established, called Hope Village. Hope Village, located next to Our Savior's Lutheran Church in south Minot, will provide bunk housing. Hope Village will be self-contained, offering showers, dining facilities and a mobile chapel that can be used as a gathering space. Through this partnership, approximately \$3.2 million dollars of volunteer labor will be provided to the city of Minot in the summer of 2012. By May, Minot's restoration will begin with full force and the volunteer agencies serving the people of this great city will be ready to provide their very best to those with need.

Please consider going on this Disaster Relief Trip. There is an information table in the fellowship hall with a packet that you can take home. If you are interested in traveling to Minot, we will have a meeting on April 10th at 7:00 pm.

Jack Anderson Alaska Mission Trip Potato Bar Fundraiser

A Potato Bar Fundraiser will take place on Sunday, April 22nd. Come and enjoy a potato with all the fixings, fruit and dessert. A free will donation will be taken to cover some of the cost of food while we are in Alaska. Bring your neighbors to church for this wonderful meal.



One Great Hour of Sharing

Hope Presbyterian Church has joined other Presbyterians and millions of other Christians through One Great Hour of Sharing. All of us have shared God's love with people experiencing need. Our gifts support ministries of disaster response, refugee assistance and resettlement, and community development that help people find safe refuge, start new lives, and work together to strengthen their families and communities.

Members at Hope Presbyterian Church continue to show their concern for those less privileged by contributing generously to various local, national, and international mission projects. We recognize the hope that we have in Christ by responding with our gifts to help our brothers and sisters around the world.

One Great Hour of Sharing is divided into three different programs. The Presbyterian Hunger Program receives 36 percent of undesignated gifts. Both the Self-Development of People and the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance each receives 32 percent of the offering.

You can make your contribution to One Great Hour of Sharing on Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday. Offering envelopes are available in the pew. Please put your contribution in the offering plate.

Youth Ministries by Cathy Plucker

The youth group just finished a two part "Passion of the Christ" movie series during TAG on Wednesday night. The youth were silent the first night as they watched Jesus' journey to the Cross. The brutality that He endured was too much for some of the youth to watch. We discussed that every time He was knocked to the ground He got up and kept walking, for us. They were told to pay attention to the crowd and the reaction they had towards Jesus. The second night was focused on the Cross. What does the Cross mean to us? It was another hard segment to watch, Jesus suffering on the Cross, for us. We talked about the words we hear during Communion and what they mean to us, Jesus' body broken for us and Jesus' blood poured out for us.

Pop Can Trailer

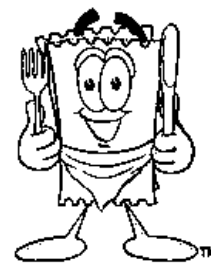
If you haven't noticed the pop can trailer is out. It is already almost full! The money that is raised from the cans that are brought in is used for youth ministries. The youth thank you for your can contributions.

Youth Silent Auction

Going once, going twice, sold to YOU. The youth silent auction is on May 11th during the meatball supper, but the preview day begins on April 29th. We hope for another successful silent auction again this year, so we are asking everyone to think of something they could donate. Some of the donations that have been turned in so far are: 3 pies, stamping basket, quilt, and bird feeders. I am eagerly awaiting more donations. Money received from the auction will be used for youth missions. Please contact Cathy as soon as possible so she can begin to get bid sheets ready.

Buy Your Meatball Tickets!

The meatball supper tickets will be available on April 11th. You can purchase your tickets in the fellowship hall at the designated table. Adult tickets are \$8.00 and children's tickets are \$4.00. You will receive the same delicious meal of meatballs, potatoes and gravy, vegetable, coleslaw, home-baked bread, bars and beverage. Please support the children and youth as they make their plans to attend Presbyterian Clearwater Forest this summer.



Graduation Information



If you would like your Graduation Open House information in the May Hope Scope, please get the information to Sandy by April 17th. Cathy will be getting a graduation form for you to fill out with needed information and then you can include a wallet size graduation picture of yourself. Graduation Sunday will be on June 3rd during the early service in the outdoor chapel.

Youth Ministries continued

“Casting Crowns/Matthew West” Concert

On Saturday, April 21st, 14 youth and 3 chaperones will go to a concert at the Xcel Center. We will leave church at 3:00 pm. Youth should bring along money for dinner and for anything they would like to purchase at the concert. We have been listening to some of “Casting Crown's” songs during youth group on Wednesday nights.



Upcoming Dates and Events for the Youth

April 11th - A Christian counselor will be speaking to the youth, answering questions that they may have about different topics.

April 18th - Xtreme tour at the high school. Youth should meet at the high school at 7:15 pm. Parents need to pick them up at the high school at 9:00 pm.

April 21st - “Casting Crowns” Concert.

April 25th - Service project and dinner at Marlene Johnson's home.

May 2nd - “On Call” concert.

May 9th - Last day of TAG.

May 14th - Youth team meeting at 6:30 pm. We will be discussing summer activities for the youth.



River of Hope Youth Center (ROHYC) by Cathy Plucker

“On Call” Concert at the River of Hope Youth Center

Everyone is invited to come and listen to “On Call” on May 2nd from 7:15-8:15 pm in the youth center. “On Call” is a group of 40 students from the West Central MN area in grades 10-12. Our own Austin Adams is a member of this group so we would love a big group up there to support him and the rest of the group. You are welcome to join us for supper at 6:30 pm.

Children & Families by Cathy Plucker

The year has gone by so fast that we are already thinking about the end of the 2011-2012 year of Bible Club, Children’s Church, WOW and TAG. It has been a fabulous year with nearly perfect attendance for the year on Wednesday nights. It has been such a blessing to see all of the kids attending regularly and I thank the parents, grandparents and other family members for getting them here. It has been such an awesome experience seeing these children and youth grow in their faith with the Lord.

“I pray that my children may grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.” (2 Peter 3:18)

Children & Families continued

Meatball Tickets & Clearwater Camp

The dates have been set for camp this summer, July 29th-August 4th. The meatball supper is approaching soon. Children and youth can pick up their tickets on Wednesday, April 11th. We will also be giving them the Clearwater requirements form that each parent needs to fill out. This form walks you through the steps each family needs to take, from selling tickets to bringing bread or bars to the meatball supper to transportation to and from camp.

We hope to have some new faces attending camp this year. It should be another great year at Clearwater!

Birthday Kits

Thank you to all children and parents who brought in birthday supplies for the kits that were assembled on March 21st. About 170 birthday items were brought in; wow! These kits will be given to low-income families so they are able to celebrate their child's birthday with all the fixings for a birthday party. Michele Okuly's 2nd-3rd class won the challenge and were treated to a Dairy Queen ice-cream cake during class. The other classes were also fantastic and were treated to cupcakes.

VBS Planning Meeting

Yes, it is time to begin the planning of VBS for this summer. The dates for VBS this year are June 18th-20th from 5:30 to 8:30 pm with supper at 6:00 pm.

If you are interested in planning, teaching and spending a few days with the wonderful children of Hope, come to the meeting on April 9th at 6:30 pm. We would love to have a variety of people helping with VBS this year. This is a great opportunity to help if you want to dedicate only a couple of days instead of teaching Wednesday night school for the year. There is a place for you!!

Bible Club Scavenger Hunt



The last day of Bible Club will be on Wednesday, May 2nd, with a fun trip to Mt. Tom. The kids need to ride bus #2 to church. We will have a quick snack and then head to Mt. Tom for a scavenger hunt and supper. We will return to church by 6:15 pm for classes.

**We need people willing to drive on this day. Please give Cathy a call if you are willing to bring a bunch of fabulous kids to Mt. Tom.

5th - 8th Grade Community YMCA Night

On Friday, April 13th from 9 pm - 12 am the YMCA will be rented for the 5th - 8th graders in the NLS area. This event is limited to 100 kids. The cost will be \$5.00 per person for the cost of the YMCA and transportation. Please talk to Cathy by Sunday, April 15th, if you are interested in this event.

Health Ministry by Jan Saulsbury

2012 Walk to Hoonah, Alaska

The Health Ministries Committee is again ready to launch another walking program to improve and maintain our health. On May 1 we will begin our walk to Hoonah, Alaska which is a mission trip our youth are undertaking this year. Our route is a circle from Spicer to Seattle, Vancouver, Juneau, and to Hoonah. We will come home through British Columbia and Alberta to Calgary, continuing home through Montana and North Dakota. Our total miles will be 5,547. It takes the average walker 20 minutes to walk a mile. We hope everyone will consider this walk. It has been proven that walking 20 minutes a day, 4 days a week improves our health.

The sign-up board will be in the fellowship hall and we will start recording our miles on May 1st. You can log in miles at hopewalkers@hotmail.com or write your miles and name on the slip of paper provided on the board. Place your miles in the sneaker provided. We would like the miles reported at least monthly so that we know how far we have traveled.

There is a chart on the board that gives equivalent miles for biking, swimming, gardening, etc. We will keep you posted on your progress. Good Luck!!

WANTED: 200-300 people for a Cancer Study

CPS-3 (Cancer Prevention Study-3) The American Cancer Society's Epidemiology Research Program is inviting men and women between the ages of 30 - 65 years who have no personal history of cancer to join this historic research study. The study will be for 20 years. The goal is to help us understand how to prevent cancer and save lives. The Kandiyohi County Relay for Life has been chosen as a site for this study. Relay for Life will be July 20, 2012. If you are interested please contact Darlene Bratberg. There are two websites for more information:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ERS_SulUz7Y&feature=youth.be

http://www.cancer.org/Research/Research_ProgramsFunding/Epidemiology-CancerPreventionStudies/CancerPreventionStudy-3/index

Hope Presbyterian Women (HPW) Highlights by Jonelle Foreman

Thank you to all who came to the March HPW Program. I understand that it was a good time with devotions by Ruth Grom. The speaker did not make it, but coffee and dessert were served with plenty of old fashioned visiting going on. Thanks to the serving group for their preparations.

I would like to thank you all who helped out at the Rummage Sale and Bake Sale, although it is too early to know how it went, I do appreciate all the help that goes into making it happen.

April 2, 7:00 p.m. is the next coordinating meeting. I will be giving devotions. Reminder that our Spring Brunch is May 5th 10:00 a.m.

Clearwater Forest Work Weekend

Spring - May 18, 19, 20

Questions: Contact Harold Foreman at (320) 796-2810



April Volunteer Schedule

Lay Readers

1: Amber Knopps
 8: Derek Dengerud
 15: Derek Dengerud
 22: Nancy Birkeland
 29: Gloria Benson

Children’s Church Teachers

1: Kari Steele; Mariah Adams
 8: Easter/No Class
 15: Alisa Taatjes; Austin Nelson
 22: Kari Steele; Amber Knopps
 29: Becky Jasa; Mariah Adams

Sound Operators

1: Harold Foreman
 8: Pete Bratberg
 15: Dan Fischer
 22: Duane Taatjes
 29: Daryl Taatjes

Acolytes

Taylor Engelke
 Jacob Oie

Coffee Servers

1: Rebecca & Joel Jasa; Barb & Ken West
 8: Jerry & Clara O’Connor; Wayne & Darlene Thompson
 15: Jerry & Karen Bents; Darlene Bratberg
 22: Bob & Wendy Barr; Dale & Kathy Jones
 29: Barry & Sarah Sampson; Bob & Carol Sampson

Easter Communion Servers

Greg Mulder,
 Nancy Birkeland,
 John Williamson,
 Stephanie Bents,
 Sharon Jones



Ushers for the Month of April:

1: Don Grosklags; Corey Swenson; Wade Swenson; Greg Swenson
 8: Lisa Thorson; Corey Swenson; Wade Swenson; Greg Swenson
 15: Don Grosklags; Corey Swenson; Wade Swenson; Greg Swenson
 22: Lisa Thorson; Corey Swenson; Wade Swenson; Greg Swenson
 29: Corey Swenson; Wade Swenson; Greg Swenson; Mark Radabaugh

Nursery Care

A quiet room is available in the Christian Education hallway. If you need assistance, please visit with one of the ushers.

Prayer Requests

Prayer requests for those with Health Concerns, Grieving or Other Concerns will be included in the bulletin for one month. If you or your loved one continues to need prayer, please contact the church office to remain on the list.

New: Mary Dolan

Health Concerns: Betty Miller, Jan Barber, Mike Carlson, Austin Adams, Jerry Harder, Marge Lee (Rick Lee’s mother), Gladys Guitz (of Potter’s House in Guatemala), John Wassenaar, Wally, Amanda & Evelyn Titus, Philip & Maxine Quale, Tenley Thompson, Judith Houdek, Dave Wohnoutka

Other Concerns:

For those dealing with depression

For all those who struggle with addiction

Grieving: The Family of Elsie McLaughlin

Military Serving in Kuwait/Korea: Adam Peterson, Josh Gehrke

Shut-ins/Nursing Home Residents: Elsie Walquist, Val Johanson, Dorothy Jones

Hospice: Lillian Sluka, Dee Anderson

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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Holy Week Schedule

Palm Sunday - 10:00 a.m. Worship

Maundy Thursday - Passiontide Service w/Communion (intinction) - 7:00 p.m.

Easter Praise Service - 8:30 a.m.

Easter Breakfast - 9:30 a.m.

Easter Worship w/Communion - 10:00 a.m.