



SPIRIT OF HOPE
LUTHERAN CHURCH

7060 Ponderosa Drive
Parker, CO 80138

MISSION NEWS from Spirit of Hope Lutheran Church Tuesday, January 19, 2021

Questions, comments or to unsubscribe contact one of our pastors at 303-841-3553 or office@spiritofhopelcmc.org. Also visit us on the web at www.spiritofhopelcmc.org.

SENIOR PASTOR DAVID FISHER IS ON CALL FOR PASTORAL EMERGENCIES AND URGENT ISSUES THIS COMING SATURDAY, JANUARY 23, 2021, AT 303-841-3553.

**THE CHURCH OFFICE IS NOW OPEN!
CHURCH OFFICE HOURS**

Office hours are Monday – Thursday from 9 am – 1 pm.

**THIS SUNDAY AT SPIRIT OF HOPE
SANCTITY OF LIFE SUNDAY**

This coming Sunday, January 24th, is “Sanctity of Life Sunday” (see article below). A representative from our new mission partner, Alternatives Pregnancy Center, will be leading our mission moment, joining us for worship, and will be leading our Sunday School hour. This Sunday, we will also receive Holy Communion! Pastor Dave will preach on Hebrews 6:13-19 in which we are reminded that God’s promise of salvation is the anchor for our soul!

IN PERSON ATTENDANCE REQUIRES EVERYONE WHO WANTS TO COME TO MAKE A RESERVATION.

You can do that by cutting and pasting this link:

<https://sohworshipjanuary24.eventbrite.com> into your browser. The YouTube live-stream link and worship bulletin for those who wish to join us online will be sent later this week. Sunday School for all ages will follow the service.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED PATIENCE AND COOPERATION WITH HEALTH GUIDELINES AND PRACTICES!

**SANCTITY OF LIFE SUNDAY
THIS SUNDAY - JANUARY 24, 2021**

Lutherans across America will be celebrating “Sanctity of Life Sunday” this Sunday, January 24th (many other denominations also celebrate this on either the third or fourth Sunday of January). At Spirit of Hope we strongly believe that all life is a precious gift from God and as such, is beautiful, valuable, and worth protecting. This includes the unborn, the elderly, those with disabilities and those who are terminally ill. This coming Sunday, our congregation will be participating in Sanctity of Life Sunday by introducing you to one of our new mission partners: Alternatives Pregnancy Center (scroll further down to see article). A representative from Alternative Pregnancy Center will also lead our Sunday School hour. As the year progresses, we will be sharing opportunities of how you might be able to become involved in protecting and supporting life in all its stages.

**SPECIAL SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR ALL AGES
ALTERNATIVES PREGNANCY CENTER**

This Sunday, a representative from Alternatives Pregnancy Center will be leading our Sunday School hour. We encourage you to attend and learn more about our new mission partner, the work that they do, and how we can be more involved! Due to the sensitive nature of this topic, children and adults will have separate classes this week. This class may meet in the Fellowship Hall or Sanctuary, depending on attendance numbers so that everyone can have room to spread out. If you would like to attend Sunday School via Zoom, please contact Pastor Dave or Pastor Wendy by 8:30 am on Sunday morning.

HOPEFUL SPIRITS MEETS TODAY AT 1:30 PM!

All ladies who are members or friends of Spirit of Hope are invited to join us on Zoom this afternoon at 1:30 pm. We will have a time of fellowship, prayer, and will continue our study of Martin Luther’s “A Simple Way to Pray”. We would love to have you join us even if you’ve never attended before! Here is the Zoom link for all who wish

to attend:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86947711195?pwd=TIhqb2svekxjcTZSVFNFOXlzaVMydz09> Passcode: 423596

HOLY COMMUNION

Now that Douglas County has returned to Code Orange on the Colorado COVID Dial, we are resuming Holy Communion on the 2nd & 4th (and 5th Sundays when there is one) Sundays of each month. We will still be working within our COVID protocols which means we will be using pre-packed communion sets. Those worshipping with us online are encouraged to have bread and wine/grape juice ready so that you may receive the Lord's Supper with your brothers and sisters in real time.

OFFICIAL MEETING NOTICE!

In accordance with Spirit of Hope Lutheran Church By Law B3.01 the church board calls for the annual meeting of the congregation to be held on Sunday, January 31, 2020, following the conclusion of the 9:30 am worship service at the church facility of Spirit of Hope Lutheran Church (7060 Ponderosa Drive, Parker, CO 80138). The purpose of this meeting will be to officially receive an annual report on the mission, ministries and activities of Spirit of Hope Lutheran Church for the year 2020 and approve or deny the proposed general fund budget for 2021. An annual report including the proposed 2021 general fund budget has been sent to the congregation. If you didn't receive yours, please contact Pastor Dave or Pastor Wendy.

NEW MISSION PARTNERS!

The Church Board has unanimously approved a change in mission partners for Spirit of Hope Lutheran Church. Because our founding documents include numerous mentions of the importance of believing in the value of God-given life (the sanctity of life) and the importance of protecting life, the Church Board has approved **Alternatives Pregnancy Center** as one of our new mission partners. You can learn more about Alternatives by clicking here: <https://youhavealternatives.org>. A representative from Alternatives will be worshipping with us this Sunday and will be giving us the opportunity to learn first-hand about the work that they do. More

details can be found in Pastor Wendy's Annual Report which was sent out last week in preparation for our annual meeting.

The Church Board has also unanimously approved the creation of a scholarship program for future LCMC pastors in an MDiv program at the **Institute of Lutheran Theology** (ILT). With this scholarship program, Spirit of Hope will be utilizing dedicated mission funds for the purpose of raising up and equipping theologically sound pastors who will lead LCMC congregations and ensure that mission work continues in the future. A few years ago, LCMC leaders reported that of the 950+ congregations in LCMC, the average age of an LCMC pastor was 56 years old. Today that average is likely closer to 60 years old. Presently there are approximately 20 LCMC seminarians in an accredited MDiv. program. This is a shockingly low number! It is, therefore, essential that churches begin to raise up, support and equip the church leaders of the future if churches, including Spirit of Hope, wish to have appropriately trained pastors in the decades to come. Through the creation of this scholarship program, Spirit of Hope will be able to help ensure that LCMC will have theologically sound pastors in the future. More information about ILT can be found here: www.ilt.edu. Additional information will be available in the coming weeks.

WEDNESDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY: PRAYER, 7:00 - 8:30 PM
CLASS WILL BE IN-PERSON IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL
AND ALSO ON ZOOM

"God has designed prayer as a means of intimate and joyous fellowship between God and humankind" (O.Hallesby on Prayer). But how are we supposed to pray? How do we start? How do we go deeper in prayer and deeper into our relationship with God? You are invited to a six-week class on prayer that will be taught by Pastor Dave and Pastor Wendy (on alternating weeks) where we will discuss these topics and more. All are welcome whether you have never prayed before or have a vibrant prayer life. This class will now meet in the Fellowship Hall. To join us on Zoom this Wednesday, please click here on Wednesday evening:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84896778939?pwd=ZWNIUmhjTmY4UjByQjRhTFlybEE1Zz09> Passcode: 825177

PAPER REDUCTION AT WORSHIP SERVICES

Beginning in February, we will be moving toward using less paper in our worship services. You will still have the option of having a paper bulletin should you desire one. But we would like to encourage those comfortable utilizing the screens during worship to do so in order to help the church save money on extensive printing costs. As such, beginning in February, rather than placing bulletins in your seats, they will be available by request from the usher.

DOUGLAS COUNTY COLORADO COVID UPDATE

As of January 4, 2021, Douglas County is now in CODE ORANGE (High Risk) on the Colorado COVID Dial. For Spirit of Hope, this means that outdoor Sunday fellowship (weather permitting) and communion (2nd & 4th Sundays) may return to our schedule. **PLEASE WATCH EMAIL AND FUTURE NEWSLETTERS FOR ADJUSTMENTS TO OUR PRACTICES!** Masks are still required at all times while in the building except for worship leaders actively leading worship or while taking communion during worship. Keeping of a six-foot distance between household units is still in effect. Our pastors and church board continue to monitor the situation and may make further adjustments as deemed necessary.

MONDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY:

“OVERCOMING ANXIETY DURING COVID-19”

9:00 AM ON ZOOM: MONDAYS THROUGH FEBRUARY 1st

Anxiety can feel like a constricting snake slowly tightening around us until it is difficult to breathe. COVID-19 has increased regular anxiety for many of us and our loved ones. In this class we will receive comfort and words of wisdom from God's Word, encouragement in how to overcome anxiety in these troubling days, and explore ways we can remain faithful to God during stressful times like these. This four-session series features videos by Pastor Jonathan Pokluda via RightNow Media and study/discussion sessions facilitated by Pastor Wendy. Sessions will address: "Anxiety About the Uncontrollable"; "Anxiety About the Economy"; "Anxiety About Isolation"; and "Anxiety When the Church Can't Meet". All sessions will take place exclusively on Zoom. If you would like to join us, please click here on Monday morning:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83534833157?pwd=Um94Q1NMbFFvcFcvb3E4TEt5dkRndz09> Passcode: 656443. You are welcome to invite and share this link with friends, family, or anyone who is dealing with anxiety or stress during these trying times.

Prayer Requests - If you have a prayer request for the prayer team please contact Pastor Wendy Poch or Pastor Dave Fisher at 303-841-3553 or wendy.poch@spiritofhopelcmc.org. or pastor.dave@spiritofhopelcmc.org.

Jesus said; "Come to me, all of you who are weary and carry heavy burdens, and I will give you rest."

Please include the following people in your prayers:

For Jim and DeDe Elliott as numerous family members, including Jim, are presently battling COVID-19.

For a peaceful transition of power during this inauguration week.

For Kandy and John Parsons as they grieve the loss of Kandy's mother, and Spirit of Hope member, Hazel Kjellsen.

For the Carpenter family as they mourn the loss of Anne's brother, Jay

For the Fisher family as they mourn the passing of Victoria's mother, Anna May Horan, on December 18

For those who are first responders to all emergencies: fire fighters, EMTs and law enforcement

For our nation and Parker community as we deal with the COVID-19 coronavirus situation that the virus will be suppressed, that treatment and the coming vaccine will be effective, that those infected will be healed and that those who have lost loved ones will be comforted,

For states and areas of our nation that have seen increases and spikes in COVID-19 cases for those outbreaks to subside

For our economy and the economies of the world to recover

For our Christian brothers and sisters all over the world who suffer persecution to be comforted and strengthened and for the Lord God to defeat the evil of terrorism done to them

For Spirit of Hope mission partners: Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ, SECORCares, Mean Street Ministry, Alternatives Pregnancy Center, Apache Youth Ministries, Institute of Lutheran Theology, Missionary Carrie, Tartu Academy of Theology

For Spirit of Hope mission allies: Marion Medical Mission, Compassion International, SONetwork, LCMC Disaster Relief Fund

For missionaries around the world as they seek to proclaim the gospel

All of our military fighting for our freedoms

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES (Members and Friends)

January Birthdays

1/4 Andrew West
1/4 Renee Nefe
1/5 Alan Shobe
1/7 Thane Larson
1/8 Tim Lehnerz
1/10 Kasja Larson
1/17 Sara Gutknecht
1/21 Bea Zweggardt
1/22 Penny & Violet Garrett
1/25 Gregory West
1/30 Delories Admundson
1/31 Melissa Andrews

QUICK SPIRIT OF HOPE FINANCIAL UPDATE

*****No update available due to Monday's Martin Luther King Junior Holiday. The next update will be available in the newsletter on 1/26/21.**

January Income (to date) = \$9,988

General Fund Offerings = \$9,082

Debt Reduction Offerings = \$800

Dedicated Offerings = \$106

Other Income = \$0

January expenses (to date) = \$1,357

Checking = \$46,041

Money Market = \$23,221 (Reserves = \$10,438 Dedicated = \$12,783)

Loan Interest Escrow Account = \$23,972

Building Money Market = \$12,579