



SPIRIT OF HOPE
LUTHERAN CHURCH

7060 E. Ponderosa Drive
Parker, CO 80138

MISSION NEWS from Spirit of Hope Lutheran Church Tuesday, January 5, 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.

ASSOCIATE PASTOR WENDY POCH IS ON CALL FOR PASTORAL EMERGENCIES AND URGENT ISSUES THIS COMING SATURDAY, January 9, 2021, AT 303-841-3553.

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

THIS SUNDAY AT SPIRIT OF HOPE – BAPTISM OF OUR LORD

This coming Sunday, January 10, we will remember the Baptism of our Lord at Spirit of Hope. At Christmas God became one of us in Jesus. At His baptism Jesus identified with us in our struggles against sin and was affirmed as God's Son by the voice of the Father that came from heaven. This Sunday we will also continue reading and preaching through the letter to the Hebrews. Pastor Wendy will preach on Hebrews 5:11-6:3. In these passages the preacher encourages us to move from immaturity to maturity in our faith.

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

You can do that by cutting and pasting this link:

<https://sohworshipjanuary10.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. Intergenerational Sunday School will resume this Sunday (see article below).

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

SUNDAY SCHOOL THIS WEEK

Intergenerational Sunday School resumes this Sunday, January 10th. This Sunday we will be focusing on the theme of “Persistence” as we study the story of Daniel in the lions’ den in Daniel 6:3-10; 13-23. We will also look at 1 Peter 5:6-11 which talks about standing firm against the attacks of the devil. All ages are welcome to join us as we meet in the Fellowship Hall after worship. If you would like to attend Sunday School via Zoom, please contact Pastor Dave or Pastor Wendy by 8:30 am on Sunday morning.

JANUARY EVENTS AT SPIRIT OF HOPE

January 6th – PRAYER – A six-week class about the practice of prayer. This class will start exclusively online using the Zoom platform. Lesson will be about prayer, how we pray and what prayer means and does for the believer. Classes will be from 7:00 to 8:30 pm each Wednesday until Lent begins.

January 11th – OVERCOMING ANXIETY IN THE AGE OF COVID-19

This class will be offered on Monday mornings at 9:00 am. This class will also be offered exclusively online via Zoom. The topic is coping with the stresses and strains of Covid-19 from a faith and biblical perspective.

January 31st – ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Immediately following worship on Sunday, January 31, the annual meeting of Spirit of Hope will be held in the sanctuary and online via Zoom. Reports for the year 2020 and consent or denial of the proposed 2021 general fund budget will be on the agenda. The official notice will be sent this month. The printed reports will be sent at least one week prior to the meeting.

MONDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY: OVERCOMING ANXIETY DURING COVID-19

9:00 AM ON ZOOM FROM Jan. 11th - Feb. 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>. 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.

WEDNESDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY: PRAYER

7:00 - 8:30 PM 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 begin meeting exclusively via Zoom but may move to a hybrid of meeting at the church and/or on Zoom in coming weeks depending on the local COVID-19 situation. To join us on Zoom this Wednesday, please click here on Wednesday night:

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

2021 LCMC THREE DAYS OF PRAYER – STARTS TODAY!!!

Once again, the association that Spirit of Hope belongs to, Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ, is encouraging Three Days of Prayer at the beginning of 2021. Every congregation, member, and pastor of LCMC is invited to join together January 5-7, 2021 for the 9th Annual Three Days of Prayer. The themes for each of the three days are as follows:

Tuesday, January 5: This is a day focused on confession. We have made our lives, our relationships—and even the church—in our own image. We confess that the church belongs to Jesus and not to us. We gather to lay down our pride, our sin and our agenda and ask the Lord of the church for forgiveness, which He gives freely and with mercy.

Wednesday, January 6: This is a day of petition. Pray for your congregation, for the pastors, for the leaders, for those who carry out ministries, for the Sunday school teachers, for the confirmation leaders, for those leading adult Bible studies and for those leading small groups. Pray for those in hospital and nursing home ministries. Pray for all those connected to your church that they might know God's redeeming love for all in Christ.

Thursday, January 7: This is a day for vision. Pray that the Holy Spirit will again move through the hearts and minds of leaders and pastors that God's vision for His church might be revealed and fulfilled. This is a time of prayer for renewal, revival and encouragement. Pray for God's vision.

Please plan now to set aside some time for prayer on each of these three days.

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 Sunday fellowship and communion 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.

AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE ABOUT 2020 GIVING

It will soon be time for End of the Year Financial Statements to go out. If you have changed your email address or moved please make sure that our financial secretary Renee Nefe reneenefe@yahoo.com has your current information so that she can send you your statement. All statements are sent via email unless you do not have an email account.

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 will be sent to the congregation at least one week prior to the date of the annual meeting.

2021 CHURCH BOARD NOMINEES

Nominees have been determined for the 2021 church board. They are Sheri Giles and Steve Gutknecht. The congregation is invited to give any input to the current church board before their next meeting of January 12, 2021.

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

For Kandy Parsons' mother and Spirit of Hope member, Hazel Kjellsen, who is under hospice care at her assisted living residence in Castle Rock

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, Apache Youth Ministries, East European Mission Network, Missionary Carrie, Tartu Academy of Theology

For Spirit of Hope mission allies: Marion Medical Mission, Bethesda Lutheran Ministries, Compassion International, the Institute of Lutheran Theology

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 Zwegardt
1/22 Penny & Violet Garrett
1/25 Gregory West
1/30 Delories Admundson
1/31 Melissa Andrews

QUICK SPIRIT OF HOPE FINANCIAL UPDATE

December Income = \$31,754

General Fund Offerings = \$22,631

Debt Reduction Offerings = \$5,150

Dedicated Offerings = \$3,973*

Other Income = \$0

December expenses = \$28,038**

January Income (to date) = \$8,182

General Fund Offerings = \$7,677

Debt Reduction Offerings = \$400

Dedicated Offerings = \$105

Other Income = \$0

January expenses (to date) = \$786

Checking = \$44,806

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

Loan Interest Escrow Account = \$20,729

Building Money Market = \$15,822

***Includes \$1,800 for Associate Pastor Salary**

****Includes dedicated \$10,000 gift to Tartu Academy of Theology given in November 2020**