



MISSION NEWS from Spirit of Hope Lutheran Church Tuesday, November 22, 2016

Questions, comments or to unsubscribe contact Pastor Dave Fisher at 303-941-0668 or dave.fisher51@gmail.com. Also visit us on the web at www.spiritofhopelcmc.org.

THIS SUNDAY AT SPIRIT OF HOPE – 1st SUNDAY IN ADVENT

This Sunday, November 27, is the first Sunday in Advent. Advent is the time of preparation for the celebration of Christmas. The Advent season invites us to ponder what it means to prepare for the coming of Christ into our world and lives. During Advent this year, we will engage in some pleasant traditions to help us spiritually prepare for Christmas: the lighting of the Advent wreath, the placing of Chrismons (monograms of Christ) on a Christmas tree, and the singing of Advent and Christmas carols. We will break from our reading through the Acts of the Apostles for some special Advent messages. This coming Sunday we will consider the character for Christmas that is brought from the prophets. The text will come from Jeremiah 33:12-16. Fellowship Time is from 9:00 to 9:30 am. Worship is from 9:30 to 10:30 am. A special adult Sunday School class will begin at 11:00 am (see below).

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES THIS SUNDAY

This Sunday the kids, confirmation and youth classes will continue in recess. The adults are invited to come to a special "Open Forum" with the pastor. Bring any question you want and Pastor Dave will discuss it with you and those present.

THANK YOU FOR OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD!!!

Operation Christmas Child concluded on Sunday with a total of 57 boxes being contributed by members! The total includes those boxes packed by our Sunday School youth on Sunday with supplies donated by the congregation! The shoe box size packages contain basic items and small toys that will be shipped to needy children all

over the world along with a gospel message. A special THANK YOU goes out to Renee and Chrissy Nefe who organized the project this year. We could not have done it without you!

YOUTH NEWS!

Upcoming Youth Group Events

12/9-10 St. Nicholas Weekend (4 pm Friday - Saturday afternoon - exact time TBD)

1/8 Youth Group Night, Poch Home, 6-8 pm

1/22 Youth Group Night, Poch Home, 6-8 pm

St. Nicholas Weekend 12/9 and 12/10

The youth group's annual St. Nicholas Weekend is back! Youth in grades 7 and up are invited to a weekend of Christmas service and Christmas fun! Susan Spancers will once again be opening up her home to serve as headquarters for the weekend! Youth will meet at Mrs. Spancers at 4 pm. We will enjoy an early dinner together and then head up to Aurora to help wrap Christmas presents for refugee families that are working with Lutheran Family Services of the Rockies. We will then return to Mrs. Spancers home for an evening of Christmas fun including our crazy gift exchange, Christmas games, snacks, and a late-night Christmas movie. In the morning, after breakfast, we will head back to Aurora to work with LFS in delivering gifts to the refugees in the Aurora/Denver area. These gifts are likely the only ones these families will receive. We will arrive back in Parker no later than 3 pm, but possibly earlier. Youth are asked to bring a snack or treat to share. Please RSVP by 12/4.

OPEN HOUSE CELEBRATION FOR TIFFANY POCH

The Poch Family would like to invite everyone in our Spirit of Hope family to an open house event at our home on December 4th from 5pm-8pm. We will be celebrating Tiffany's safe return from her 3-month long mission trip to Nicaragua and would also like to thank you for being so supportive of Tiffany and of our family during this time. This is an open house, so drop in whenever it is convenient and stay as little or long as you wish. Appetizers will be served throughout the evening. RSVP's are appreciated, though not required. All are welcome!

HOPEFUL SPIRITS NEWS!
Hopeful Spirits Meeting 11/8/2016

Present: Kandy Parsons, Jean Huebsch, Carol Palin, Andrea Hoyt, and Sara Gutknecht

Our meeting opened with a prayer and devotion.

OLD BUSINESS:

--Craft/Bake sale was a success! No plans yet for the next craft/bake sale, but definitely will have one in 2017.

--Prayer Quilt -- one on standby.

--Church directory -- still working on this.

NEW BUSINESS:

--Refreshments were taken to Pine Lane Elementary school today as an outreach to the school.

Pastor left some information on the table next to the refreshments - "Do you need hope in life? Come find hope with us!" - and times for our worship and fellowship.

--Chrismons - we are not going to be making any more Chrismons this year - next year in July we will look at having a mini workshop making them. This year, the feeling is that we probably have enough. We will see what Pastor wants to do as far as decorating the tree and maybe this could be done during fellowship on November 27th?

--Advent starts on November 27th. Hopeful Spirits will be doing a Reverse Advent Basket - each day of advent, a food item will be put in a basket. This basket will then be delivered to Secor. We will give Pastor our baskets and he will deliver them to Secor. Secor will be closed on 12/23, 12/24, 12/25, and 12/26. Watch the newsletter for a delivery date to Pastor.

--In January, the Hopeful Spirits will begin discussing "A Lineage of Grace" by Francine Rivers. This is a Bible based discussion of 5 women in the Bible.

--After our business meeting, we spent the rest of our time packing Blessing Bags. Thanks to Kandy for obtaining \$250.00 from Thrivent for this purpose. Also thanks again for the donations we received. Kandy and Sara went shopping Tuesday morning and spent all but \$4.00! We went to the Dollar Store and Wal-Mart - most helpful was the tax exempt form, which saved us about \$19.00 in taxes. We packed 63 blessing bags and will be bringing them to church on Sunday 11/13 - members can take bags and put them in their cars to give out to the homeless whenever the opportunity arises. We were pleased with our bags -- each bag has a bottle of water, either a hat or gloves, pair of socks, deodorant, wet wipes, Kleenex, toothpaste, toothbrush, soap; granola bar, cookie pack, goldfish; and raisins. Some bags also had jerky, shampoo, lotion, and combs. We will be looking forward to feedback from everyone as they pass out these bags.

--Next meeting December 13th. We are going to do something a little different since it is the holiday season. Bring a spouse, friend, or other, or come alone, and we will have time to socialize. We will have a Christmas based devotion and prayer. Also bring either an appetizer or a dessert that is a family tradition -- maybe something that comes from your ancestral background.

Have a Happy Thanksgiving!!

CHURCH BOARD NEWS

At the meeting of November 9, the church board recognized the proposed incoming board members for 2017. Current board members Wayne Schultz, Brad Hoyt and Wendy Poch are scheduled to off the board. Board members Susan Spancers, Steve Gutknecht and Tim Lehnerz have one year remaining on their terms. Spirit of Hope member John Parsons has been nominated to come onto the board. Board members Wayne Schultz and Brad Hoyt have agreed to renew their terms on the board with an option to step down after the completion of the building project. As a point of information Wendy Poch will continue to attend board meetings as part of her student pastor requirements with ILT. She will have voice but no vote and be required to make periodic reports to the board as a part of her internship.

From now until the annual meeting of the congregation in late January or early February (the date has not yet been set) members of the congregation are welcome to submit input to the board as a whole or any individual board members regarding the proposed incoming board members.

BUILDING PROJECT UPDATE

Last week's compaction test for the building pad passed! This week we expect the rebar preparation along with some flooring conduit to be installed. The concrete pour of the floor should happen next week. Electrical wiring and installation of the parking lot poles and lights is being scheduled. All documentation to initiate the installation of permanent electrical power to the site has been received and will be submitted this week. The building team, pastor, contractor, and architect have been continuing to work to finalize drawings for resubmission to the fire department. Thank you for continuing to pray and support the building project.

Prayer Requests - If you have a prayer request for the prayer chain please contact Pastor Dave at 303-941-0668 or dave.fisher51@gmail.com

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:

Prayers for God's healing and the unity of our nation to happen in the aftermath of last week's election results. Please pray for President Obama and President-elect Trump as they work together to peacefully transfer political power over the next two months

Prayers for safety for Tiffany Poch and those she serves and serves with as they begin to conclude three months of mission work in Nicaragua. Pray especially for safety as a tropical storm that could become a hurricane, Otto, is headed for Nicaragua

Prayers for renewed healing and strength from cancer for Sue Schultz as she continues this current round of stronger chemotherapy

For healing for Dane Zwegardt as he continues treatment for lung cancer

For our church as we seek God's guidance and providence as we continue the building project

For Spirit of Hope mission partners: Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ, Southeast Community Outreach, Apache Youth Ministries, East European Mission Network, Tartu Academy of Theology

For special prayers of providence for the Tartu Academy of Theology in Estonia to meet their current funding shortfall

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

All of our military fighting for our freedoms

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

November Birthdays

11/4 Victoria Fisher
11/6 Jackie Dillon
11/8 Betty Zwegardt
11/11 Holly Shobe
11/14 Courtney Giles
11/16 Bud Blazier
11/22 Tim Reinicke

November Anniversaries

11/13 Paul & Brenda Reinicke
11/27 Bud & Shelly Blazier
11/30 Chuck & Wendy West
11/30 Alan & Holly Shobe

QUICK SPIRIT OF HOPE FINANCIAL UPDATE

November income (to date) = **\$12,705**

November expenses (to date) = **\$7,250**

Checking = **\$26,742**

Money Market (Reserves) = **\$22,203**

Building Fund = **\$126,917**