



Mission News from SPIRIT OF HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH Tuesday, November 23, 2021

Questions, comments, or to unsubscribe, please contact Pastor Wendy Poch at **303-841-3553** or office@spiritofhopelcmc.org.

Visit us on the web at www.spiritofhopelcmc.org.

THIS SUNDAY AT SPIRIT OF HOPE ADVENT: A SEASON OF HOPE @ SPIRIT OF HOPE

This Sunday is both the first Sunday of the new Church year and the first Sunday of Advent! At the beginning of each service in Advent, we will be inviting the kids to come forward for the lighting of the Advent wreath in place of a mid-service children's message. This Sunday, our candle will represent the prophets of old who pointed God's people to the coming of their Savior. Due to the fact that it will be Thanksgiving weekend, we will not be having Sunday School. However, we will have a special fellowship time (see article below!).



KEN & ANNE CARPENTER'S 50th WEDDING ANNIVERSARY



Please join us for cake following the worship service on Sunday as we celebrate the 50th wedding anniversary of Ken and Anne Carpenter. Cards are welcomed but no gifts, please.

THANKSGIVING EVE WORSHIP AND PIE FELLOWSHIP

*****THIS WEDNESDAY @ 7:00 PM*****

Join us for a brief worship service, about 30 minutes long, where we take time away from busy holiday preparations to give thanks to the Lord our God. After worship we will enjoy a brief time of fellowship as we indulge in our favorite pies (or other Thanksgiving desserts). Please bring a dessert to share!



ADVENT @ SPIRIT OF HOPE

In addition to Advent worship on Sunday mornings, here are the details of the upcoming Advent and Christmas Season:

Wednesdays (12/1, 12/8, 12/15, 12/22):

6:00 pm: Fellowship Dinners (*Bring a dish to share*)

12/1: Italian (*Pasta, pizza, anything goes!*)

12/8: Mexican (*Tacos, rice, chili, anything goes!*)

12/15: Potluck from the Past

(Favorite foods from your childhood and/or Lutheran potlucks of days gone by. You guessed it, anything goes!)

12/22: Simple Soups (*You know the drill!*)

7:00 pm: Holden Evening Prayer Worship Service

The message each week will feature the Christmas story creatively told from the vantage points of various people within the Christmas narrative.

Fellowship/Service Events:

12/4 OCC Warehouse Event 10 am – 2:30 pm

12/10 5:30 pm Advent Gingerbread Event

HOLDEN EVENING PRAYER SERVICE WEDNESDAYS DURING ADVENT, 7 PM

As is our tradition here at Spirit of Hope, we will be utilizing the Holden Evening Prayer for our mid-week

Advent services. Written in 1985-1986 while Marty

Haugen was the musician-in-residence at Holden Village, a Lutheran retreat center in Washington State, this lovely setting of vespers follows the traditional form while using contemporary language. Contents include "Service of Light," Evening Hymn-Joyous Light of Heav'nly Glory", "Evening Thanksgiving", "The Annunciation", "The Magnificat", "Litany and Prayers", and "Final Blessing."



CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP DECEMBER 24th, 7:00 PM

Join us for a special service of carols, communion, and candlelight as we worship our newborn King – Jesus Christ who is the Light of the world!

COMING UP THIS WEEK AT SPIRIT OF HOPE

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED THIS WEEK

Pastor Wendy is working from home and also spending some time with family. She is available should you need anything this week.

Tuesday, November 23rd

8:30 – 10:30 am Coffee with the Pastor at Fika on Mainstreet

12:00 – 1:00 pm Digging Deeper Bible Study

7:00 pm Budget Team Meeting

Wednesday, November 24th

7:00 pm Thanksgiving Eve Worship Service and Pie Fellowship

Thursday, November 25th

Happy Thanksgiving!

Sunday, November 28th

9:30 am Worship

11:00 am Fellowship

Tuesday, November 30th

8:30 am – 10:30 am Coffee with the Pastor @ Fika on Mainstreet

12:00 pm – 1:00 pm Digging Deeper with Pastor Wendy

Wednesday, December 1st

7:00 am Men's Prayer Breakfast at Village Inn

4:30 pm Confirmation

6:00 pm Advent Dinner (Italian Night!)

7:00 pm Holden Evening Prayer Service

ADVENT EVENT!

GINGERBREAD HOUSE MAKING

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 10th, 5:30 pm

Join us for this intergenerational event! We will enjoy a simple **dinner of appetizers** (please bring an appetizer to share) and make gingerbread houses while listening to Christmas music and having a blast. We are asking everyone to bring a second gingerbread kit (or more kits if you are so inclined) that can be wrapped (we will have a wrapping station) and then donated to **Pine Lane Elementary School**. Every year, Pine Lane has a Christmas Market where kids in need can “shop” for gifts for their families. We would like to provide those families with a gingerbread kit to take home so that they can make some beautiful memories together over Christmas break. We would like to donate 50 gingerbread kits. So, donations of



gingerbread kids are much appreciated even if you are unable to attend this event.

DECEMBER SUNDAY SCHOOL

On December 5th the Adult Sunday School class will begin a two week look at one of our core beliefs, **“Preserving Life”**. We will first review the history of the various ways in which lives are taken and then look specifically at the lives lost through abortion since Roe v. Wade. In week two we will look at the current abortion cases being heard by the Supreme Court and discuss possible outcomes and implications. Then, in a change of pace on December 19th we will investigate various theories regarding **when Christ was born** and learn why we celebrate His birthday on December 25th. Our Elementary Sunday School will be focusing on the birth of Jesus.



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD UPCOMING SERVICE EVENTS

Saturday, December 4th

Adults and teens ages 13+ are invited to serve on Team SoH at our local OCC processing center (located on the western edge of Parker) from 10 am – 2 pm. There are jobs for everyone! Jobs for those

who need to sit include preparing stickers/labels. Jobs for those who can stand include inspecting shoe boxes (we need at least 4-6 people on our team for this position). And, if you are able to do some heavy lifting, we need you too as we need someone who can help lift boxes that have been stuffed with shoe boxes so they can be loaded onto trucks for shipping. This is a great family event – even for families with adult children and grandchildren. **Please contact Pastor Wendy by November 28th if you can help with this service event.**

LUTHERAN MILITARY VETERANS AND FAMILY MINISTRIES

In honor of our Veterans, the Church Board has authorized a special donation in the amount of \$1,000 to a ministry to Lutheran Military Veteran and Families Ministries. This ministry offers free Christian counseling to all veterans, contractors and their families at no charge. They also help provide service dogs to veterans with PTSD, help with issues that often arise for veterans and their families around the holidays, and also bring

awareness to Lutheran congregations about the needs of these families who have given so much to the rest of us. To learn more about this special ministry, please visit their website at <https://lmvfm.org/>.

SECRET SISTERS for 2022!
ATTENTION ALL LADIES!!

If you would like to participate in our Secret Sisters Prayer Program for 2022, please fill out a new registration form and place it in the basket on the table near the main entrance by 11/28.



STEPHEN MINISTRY

*****APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE IN DECEMBER**

*****TRAINING BEGINS EARLY 2022!**

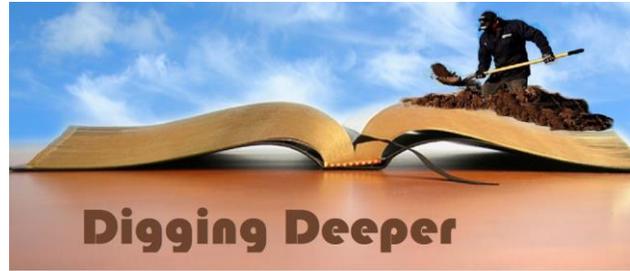
Are you interested in training to become a Stephen Minister? Here's how the process works:

- 1) Pray about becoming a Stephen Minister.
- 2) When applications become available, contact Kandy Parsons or Pastor Wendy for an application.
- 3) Turn in application.
- 4) Kandy & Pastor Wendy will sit down with you to interview you and share more about the ministry.
- 5) Those selected to train as Stephen Ministers will be contacted and invited to begin training together as a cohort. There are approximately 20 training sessions, each lasting about 2.5 hours.
- 6) Upon successful completion of the training process, Stephen Ministers will be commissioned at Spirit of Hope and their time as a Stephen Minister will begin.
- 7) Twice a month Stephen Ministers will attend Supervision Groups where they will receive continuing education as well as personal ministry support all while maintaining the strictest confidentiality. This allows Stephen Ministers to be strengthened and be supported at all times, which not only blesses them in their ministry and in their personal walk with God, but will also bless the person(s) they are caring for.

**DIGGING DEEPER WITH
PASTOR WENDY**

**TUESDAYS 12:00 – 1:00 pm
LUNCH TIME BIBLE STUDY**

**Join us as we dig deeper into
the text from each Sunday.**



**FROM THE BOOK OF CONCORD
(The Lutheran Confessions):**

THE APOSTLES' CREED: The Second Article

"I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son our Lord, who was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; he descended into hell; on the third day he rose again;

he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come to judge the living and the dead."

FROM THE SMALL CATECHISM

"Jesus Christ has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil, not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death..."

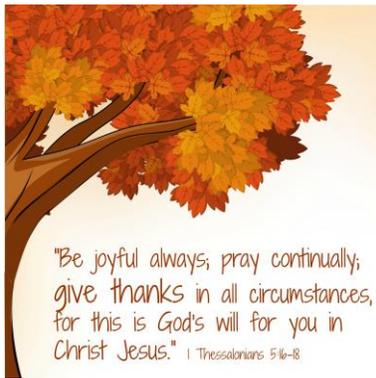
FROM LUTHER'S WRITINGS

"But the devil did not permit man the honor and fortune of being God's child and heir, and he cast him into sin, and through his disobedience caused all of us after the fall to be reckoned as disobedient so that we are neither God's children nor His heirs... So thoroughly have we been corrupted by sin. Then comes Jesus Christ, God's Son, and lifts up the creatures that the devil had destroyed through sin and sets them right again... This is what Scripture teaches: Jesus Christ, God's Son, accomplished this, not with gold or silver (1 Peter 1:18), nor with gun or sword. No, rather, He gave up His own body, and He is true God, conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary, etc." [AE 57:247-248]



Prayer Requests - If you have a prayer request for the prayer team, please contact Pastor Wendy @ 303-841-3553 or wendy.poch@spiritofhopelcmc.org

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



PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

By Pastor Wendy

Gracious God, you are the giver of all good things. And, no matter what our lives are like right now (and admittedly, our lives look very different than what most of us expected them to look like this year), we still have so much to be thankful for. Lord, you give and you take away, yet your blessing remains. Help us to focus on who you are, how deeply you love us, and how

eager you are to provide for all of our needs. Help us to give thanks for who you are first, and what you have given us second. We thank you for being our God. In your triune name, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, we pray. Amen.

Please include the following people and situations in your prayers:

Please pray for...

For all those for whom the holidays will be difficult this year.

For Stephanie who is fighting colon cancer.

Herb and Ben P. who are grieving that the Lord has called Beth home.

Rebecca S. who is fighting breast cancer.

Jerry R., friend of a member of our congregation, who was diagnosed with brain cancer.

Sara G. as she goes through intensive chemotherapy.

Janie S. who is going through intensive chemotherapy.

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

For all of our local, state, and federal leaders that they would hear God's voice and lead with His wisdom.

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, LCMC Disaster Relief, Tartu Academy of Theology, Marion Medical Mission.

For Spirit of Hope mission allies: Compassion International, SONetwork, Operation Christmas Child/Samaritan's Purse, the Institute of Lutheran Theology, Stephen Ministry.

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)

November Birthdays

11/4 Victoria Fisher
11/5 Jordan Andrews
11/6 Jackie Dillon
11/14 Courtney Giles
11/16 Bud Blazier
11/22 Tim Reinicke

November Anniversaries

11/13 Paul & Brenda Reinicke
11/27 Bud & Shelly Blazier
11/27 Anne & Ken Carpenter
11/30 Chuck & Wendy West

QUICK SPIRIT OF HOPE FINANCIAL UPDATE

November Income (to date) = \$14,804

General Fund Offerings = \$12,920

Debt Reduction Offerings = \$1,210

Dedicated Offerings = \$463

Other Income = \$233
November Expenses = \$2,529
Checking Accounts Balance = \$41,257
Debt Reduction Account Balance = \$47,406
Money Market Account Balance = \$104,031