



SPIRIT OF HOPE
LUTHERAN CHURCH

7060 E. Ponderosa Drive
Parker, CO 80138

MISSION NEWS from Spirit of Hope Lutheran Church Tuesday, December 1, 2020

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, December 5th AT 303-841-3553.

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

FIRST MIDWEEK ADVENT WORSHIP SERVICE IS TOMORROW!

Our first Wednesday night worship service for this Advent is tomorrow, December 2, at 7:00 pm in the sanctuary at Spirit of Hope. This Advent we will have a series of homilies on Advent: Past, Present and Future. Pastor Dave will deliver the first message tomorrow night on Advent Past. Once again, we will use the pleasant and inspiring Holden Evening Prayer Service by Marty Haugen for our worship. **IN PERSON ATTENDANCE REQUIRES EVERYONE WHO WANTS TO COME TO MAKE A RESERVATION.** The link was sent out on Sunday and is <https://sohadventdec2.eventbrite.com>.

The service will also be live streamed on YouTube. The link for to join online is below. Cut and paste these into your browser to access. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iNuKwtSxWIM&list=UUC3L5-lzeFJpzoO_rdojtsQ&index=8. Attached to the email for this newsletter is also a pdf copy of the Holden Evening Service and the lyrics to the Christmas Carol we will sing after the homily tomorrow night. Plan to make time to worship the Lord, either in person or online at Spirit of Hope Lutheran this Advent season!

THIS SUNDAY AT SPIRIT OF HOPE: 2nd SUNDAY OF ADVENT

This Sunday at Spirit of Hope is the second Sunday of Advent as we mark the Sundays before Christmas. Singing this Sunday will be led by the Spirit of Hope Praise Band and feature Christmas Carols! We will continue our series of Advent messages as Pastor Wendy will be preaching on Luke 1:26-38. The story of the angel Gabriel announcing that Mary will be the mother of Jesus is found in that text. "God is Able" is the theme!

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

You can do that by cutting and pasting this link:

<https://sohworshipdecember6.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. Our intergenerational Sunday School will meet in the fellowship hall after worship.

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

SUNDAY SCHOOL THIS WEEK

In Sunday school this week we will be studying two unique passages from the scriptures: A Vision of the Throne Room of God! Our texts are Isaiah 6:1-12 and Revelation 4:2-8. 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.

NEXT MEN'S PRAYER TIME IS TOMORROW!

The next time for prayer together for Spirit of Hope men will be tomorrow, Wednesday, December 2, at 7:30 am. Men can join in person or via Zoom by using the following link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89735601149?pwd=SlZiMmowM3duZldnMldFYnIJeTVQQT09>. We will continue our time together without food and beverage, but we will fellowship and pray together. See you then!

HOPEFUL SPIRITS U.F.O. NIGHTS HAVE BEEN CANCELED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE. THANK YOU FOR YOUR UNDERSTANDING!

SPIRIT OF HOPE DEBT REDUCTION UPDATE

In August, our congregation began an emphasis for debt reduction for our facility. As a part of that effort, one of our building loan holders graciously offered to match up to \$50,000 in forgiveness of their loan for every dollar given for debt reduction or other loans forgiven. The offer is good until December 15, 2020. As of today, here is where we stand.

Extra gifts given for debt reduction (payment of principal) = \$31,775

Amount of other loans forgiven = \$25,897

Total of cash and loan forgiveness contributions = \$57,672

TOTAL with matching \$50,000 loan forgiveness = \$107,672

PRAISE GOD THIS GOAL HAS BEEN MET FOR THIS YEAR!

Along with an \$11,794 loan forgiveness given before the match offer started \$119,466 has been given or forgiven since July this year to reduce the debt on our building! This is an OUTSTANDING start to eliminate our debt! Thank you, donors and contributors!

CHRISTMAS CHILD SHOEBOX UPDATE

By Renee Nefe

Thank you so much to everyone who donated supplies for our shoebox packing party. Our goal this year was to beat last year's 104 shoeboxes...

And we packed 114! YAY! Thank you all so much! We have also received 23 shoeboxes packed by members and 16 build a shoebox online have been done so far for a grand total of 153 shoeboxes. You are all amazing, thank you all so very much.

If you still would like to pack a shoebox or build a shoebox online, there is still time. Just bring your filled shoebox to church and they will get delivered the next day to the processing center. You can still build a box online by clicking here: <https://build-a-shoebox.samaritanspurse.org/goal/view/c381c193-e7f3-45b4-87cd-865bc128a935>

Shoebboxes processed at the Denver Processing Center go to Mexico, Native American Tribes and then to South Africa from Johannesburg. Shoebboxes built online go to countries that are not Christian Friendly and are packed so they can get into those countries. On behalf of the 153 children and their families who are going to get to know Jesus through your gifts, Thank You!

DOUGLAS COUNTY COLORADO COVID UPDATE

As of November 20, 2020, Douglas County is now in CODE RED on the Colorado COVID Dial. For Spirit of Hope, this means that Sunday fellowship and communion have been suspended until further notice. Masks are required at all times while in the building (except for worship leaders actively leading worship) as is the keeping of a six-foot distance between household units. Our pastors and church board are monitoring the situation and may make further adjustments as deemed necessary.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR NOVEMBER MISSION COLLECTION DONATIONS!

November was a five Sunday month. **THANK YOU FOR YOUR ALL YOUR DONATIONS!** We filled the mission ark to overflowing **TWICE** during the month for Operation Christmas Child boxes, tomato and paper products for SECORCares, and Christian coloring books, small action figure toys, reading glasses, scarves, hats and mittens or gloves for Mean Street Ministry. Thank you for your donations!

NEW MEMBER CLASSES

Due to COVID, we are happy to hold new member classes for individual families/households and are happy to schedule them at your convenience. Attending our new member class doesn't mean you have to become a member. But it is a great opportunity to learn about our congregation's history, core beliefs, vision for ministry, and to ask questions about Spirit of Hope, LCMC, or anything else that you've been wondering about! If you would like to schedule a new member class, please contact Pastor Dave or Pastor Wendy. We would be delighted to meet with you!

SCARVES FOR MEAN STREET MINISTRY

The Hopeful Spirits would like to collect scarves (hats and mittens/gloves are also welcome!) to give to Mean Street Ministry. They can be purchased or hand-made. If you would like yarn to knit or crochet scarves with, please see Sara Gutknecht who has plenty to share! Scarves can be placed in the mission ark at any time between now and Christmas.

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 continued healing for Chris and Pat Schmidt.

For healing and comfort for Jack Huebsch from kidney issues

For our nation to return to calm and practice true justice in light of the events of violence and death that have happened this summer and fall

For racial reconciliation to occur in our nation

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 those infected will be healed and that those who have lost loved ones will be comforted, that reopening will continue and go smoothly and that treatment and a vaccine will be developed rapidly

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)

December Birthdays

12/5 Denise Christensen
12/5 Laura Zweygardt
12/11 Carolyn Kleven
12/16 Chloe Lehnerz
12/20 Herb Potthoff
12/21 Delmer Zweygardt
12/28 Joseph Ravitts

December Anniversaries

12/14 Marvin & Polly Gates
12/18 Justin & Crystal Trawny
12/27 Jack & Jean Huebsch

QUICK SPIRIT OF HOPE FINANCIAL UPDATE

November Income = \$31,395

General Fund Offerings = \$15,620

Debt Reduction Offerings = \$3,791

Dedicated Offerings = \$11,874*

Other Income = \$110

November expenses = \$16,856**

Checking = \$46,809

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

Loan Interest Escrow Account = \$46,150

Building Money Market = \$17,198

***Includes a \$10,000 donation to TAT Home of Hope**

****Includes quarterly benevolence distribution.**