



SPIRIT OF HOPE
LUTHERAN CHURCH

7060 E. Ponderosa Drive
Parker, CO 80138

MISSION NEWS from Spirit of Hope Lutheran Church Tuesday, December 22, 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.

SENIOR PASTOR DAVE FISHER IS ON CALL FOR PASTORAL EMERGENCIES AND URGENT ISSUES THIS COMING SATURDAY, December 26th AT 303-841-3553.

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP AT SPIRIT OF HOPE CAROLS AND CANDLELIGHT

We will be having two services on Christmas Eve. Pastor Wendy will officiate at the 5:00 pm service and Pastor Dave will officiate at the 7:00 pm service. Both services will also be live streamed. **The 7:00 pm service is full. If you would like to join us for worship at 5:00 pm, please cut and paste the following link into your browser:** <https://christmaseve5pm.eventbrite.com>

As part of our ministry to our community, we are asking that every member of Spirit of Hope register for worship in advance. Because Douglas County is in COVID Level Red, and limited to 50 people in the pews, don't want to have to tell someone who would like to visit Spirit of Hope that "there is no room in the inn!". Thank you for being as flexible as possible (perhaps being willing to attend the other service, be willing to sit in the overflow seating area, etc.). **Please contact Pastor Wendy if you have any questions about attending worship on Christmas Eve.**

THIS SUNDAY AT SPIRIT OF HOPE

Join us to worship our newborn King this first Sunday after Christmas! Pastor Dave will be preaching from Galatians 3:23-25 and 4:4-7 in which God shows us that because of the gift of Christmas, we are no longer slaves but are free in Christ!

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

You can do that by cutting and pasting this link:

<https://sohworshipdecember27.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 be in recess until January 10th.

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

SUNDAY SCHOOL THIS WEEK

Sunday School is in recess until January 10th.

COMING IN JANUARY TO SPIRIT OF HOPE

January 6th – PRAYER – A six-week class about the practice of prayer

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

January 31st – ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

PINE LANE ELEMENTARY: MEALS FOR THOSE IN NEED THANK YOU

Last week, the food that was donated for Pine Lane Elementary families in need was distributed to those 50 families.

THANK YOU TO ALL WHO WERE ABLE TO HELP IN THIS VERY SUCCESSFUL PROJECT!

SPIRIT OF HOPE DEBT REDUCTION UPDATE

In August of this year Spirit of Hope Lutheran Church had a special emphasis and effort to begin to be intentional about reducing the debt on the facility. The response to that effort was outstanding! The extra cash contributions we collected allowed us last week to send out an early principal payment to our loan holders. This has reduced our debt in the following way. The starting balance on our loans was \$1,481,494. Cash contributions and loan forgiveness has allowed us to pay down the debt in 2020 as of December 6 by \$152,321. This leaves a balance on the facility debt of \$1,329,173. Any remaining

dedicated debt reduction giving in 2020, after December 6, will be added to the regularly scheduled payment by January 15, 2021. **THANK YOU ALL** for your continued generosity! Thank you to those of you who were able to make the loans in the first place. Thank you to those of you who were able to do loan forgiveness this year. Thank you to all of you able to make extra contributions to reduce our debt so that greater ministry can happen here at Spirit of Hope Lutheran Church! **AGAIN, 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.

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!

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 Jean Huebsch and her daughters as they continue to grieve the death of our brother Jack.

Thanksgiving for continued healing for Chris and Pat Schmidt.

For our nation to return to calm this Christmas season

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 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)

December Birthdays

12/16 Chloe Lehnerz
12/20 Herb Potthoff
12/21 Delmer Zwegardt
12/28 Joseph Ravitts

December Anniversaries

12/14 Marvin & Polly Gates
12/18 Justin & Crystal Trawny

QUICK SPIRIT OF HOPE FINANCIAL UPDATE

December Income = \$15,426

General Fund Offerings = \$12,095

Debt Reduction Offerings = \$1,400

Dedicated Offerings = \$1,931*

Other Income = \$0

December expenses = \$20,243**

Checking = \$37,729

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

Loan Interest Escrow Account = \$35,431

Building Money Market = \$16,334

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

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