



SPIRIT OF HOPE
LUTHERAN CHURCH

7060 Ponderosa Drive
Parker, CO 80138

MISSION NEWS from Spirit of Hope Lutheran Church Wednesday, February 10, 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.

LEAD PASTOR WENDY POCH IS ON CALL FOR PASTORAL EMERGENCIES AND URGENT ISSUES THIS COMING SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2021, AT 303-841-3553.

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS THIS WEEK

Tuesday – Friday from 9 am – 1 pm.

THIS SUNDAY AT SPIRIT OF HOPE

This coming Sunday, February 14th is Transfiguration Sunday (see the brief article below on what Transfiguration is really all about!). Pastor Wendy will be preaching on Hebrews 8:1-13 which highlights Jeremiah 31:31-34. These two sections of Scripture reveal the promise and the fulfillment of the new and unbreakable covenant between God and His people. We will be partaking in the Lord's Supper this Sunday. Sunday School will immediately follow worship.

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

You can do that by cutting and pasting this link:

<https://sohworshipfebruary.14eventbrite.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.

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

WHAT IS TRANSFIGURATION SUNDAY ALL ABOUT?

This Sunday is Transfiguration Sunday. We will read Mark 9:2-9 at the beginning of the service and remember when Jesus was transfigured to reveal his glory and when Peter, James, and John heard the voice of God (which is also spoken directly to us through the Word of God) saying “This is My Son, whom I love, listen to him”. It is an invitation to recognize that Jesus Christ is our Lord, that He is God and we are not; and it is an invitation to follow Him. Where are we to follow Him? To the cross. Immediately after the mountain top experience in which Jesus was transfigured, Jesus heads down to Jerusalem and calls all those who love him to follow Him there. We, too, are called to follow Jesus down the mountain and to the cross. We are called to be crucified with Christ and then raised to new life in Christ. As such, in the Church, Transfiguration Sunday is the bridge between Epiphany and Lent, the bridge between our celebrating the coming of the Son of God and the recognizing of why the Son of God actually came to us. It is the Sunday in which we prepare to embark on our Lenten journey to the cross, and ultimately to our celebration of resurrection.

SUNDAY SCHOOL THIS WEEK

Immediately after worship we will have intergenerational Sunday School in which we learn about Jesus calling Matthew, the tax collector to come and follow Him. In this lesson, we will also focus on Jesus calling us to follow Him. Our texts are Matthew 9:9-13 and Romans 5:1-11. ***Please note that once you are seated at your table, you may remove your mask. But we ask you to keep masks on at all times while speaking or moving.**

BIBLE STUDY TONIGHT!

Tonight at 7:00 pm we will be concluding our 6-week class on prayer. All are welcome whether you have never prayed before or have a vibrant prayer life. Class meets in the Fellowship Hall. ***Please note that once you are seated at your table, you may remove your mask. But we ask you to keep masks on at all times while speaking or moving.** To join us on Zoom this Wednesday, please click here on Wednesday evening:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84896778939?pwd=ZWNlUmhjTmY4UjByQjRhTFlybEE1Zz09> Passcode: 825177

LENT AT SPIRIT OF HOPE

This year our Lenten theme is called “The Hands of Lent”. In this era of separation due to COVID, in which we are not even allowed to shake hands, give hugs, or even touch each other, it is appropriate for us to focus on both our hands and the hands of God. We are unable to do our traditional hymn sing due to COVID, but we will have a full service that will include 3-4 Lenten hymns (and a few other favorites!) each week. Wednesday evening and Holy Week services begin at 7 pm. Here is our Lenten schedule:

- 2/17/21** **Ash Wednesday: “Dirty Hands”**
(Includes the distribution of ashes and Holy Communion)
- 2/24/21** **“Seeking Hands”**
- 3/3/21** **“Hurting Hands”**
- 3/10/21** **“Nervous Hands”**
- 3/17/21** **“Angry Hands”**
- 3/24/21** **“Estranged Hands”**
- 4/1/21** **Maundy Thursday: “Serving Hands” (Communion)**
- 4/2/21** **Good Friday: “Into Thy Hands” (Tenebrae Service)**
- 4/4/21** **Easter Sunday: “Living Hands!”**

THANK YOU!!!

I (Pastor Wendy) would like to thank each and every one of you for the tremendous outpouring of love and support that you have shared with me, not only as I transitioned into becoming the Lead Pastor of our congregation, but also throughout the entire journey that we have been on together for many years now! Your sweet cards, notes of encouragement, gifts, and most importantly, your prayers, will always be cherished and treasured. I am very blessed to be able to serve you, my brothers and sisters, as we head into the future that God is preparing for us. I would especially like to thank Pastor Dave for all the love, support, encouragement (and patience!) he has shared with me over these many years as he mentored me and prepared me to serve in this capacity. It goes without saying that I, and that Spirit of Hope as a whole, would not be here without his faithful, wise and compassionate leadership. Thank you, all of you. I look forward to all that God has in store for us as we step out in faith together to do His kingdom work! To God be the glory!

ANNUAL MEETING RECAP

On Sunday, January 31, 2020, following the conclusion of the 9:30 am worship service Spirit of Hope Lutheran Church held its annual meeting. The meeting was presided over by congregational President John Parsons. The business of the meeting consisted of officially receiving an annual report on the mission, ministries and activities of Spirit of Hope Lutheran Church for the year 2020 and approving or denying the proposed general fund budget for 2021. The minutes of the previous annual meeting of January 26, 2020 and a special congregational meeting of June 28, 2020 were passed. The proposed balanced budget for 2021 was also approved. The congregation further approved amendments to the constitution and bylaws of the congregation related to the process of calling future pastors to the congregation. Appreciation was given to outgoing board members Bill Byers and Pam Malone and the 2021 board was officially introduced. Thanks were also extended to tech team members Byron Irish, Dave Giles and Steve Selby for facilitating online participation of members.

FEBRUARY EVENTS AT SPIRIT OF HOPE

SUNDAY, FEB.7 – INSTALLATION OF LEAD PASTOR WENDY

SUNDAY, FEB.14 – TRANSFIGURATION SUNDAY

TUESDAY, FEB.16 – HOPEFUL SPIRITS 1:30 PM

WEDNESDAY, FEB.17 – MEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST 7AM

WEDNESDAY, FEB.17 – ASH WEDNESDAY WORSHIP 7PM

WEDNESDAY, FEB.24 – MIDWEEK LENTEN WORSHIP 7PM

HOPEFUL SPIRITS

The Hopeful Spirits will be meeting on Tuesday, February 16th at 1:30 pm. We will be concluding our study on Martin Luther's "A Simple Way to Pray". Please stay tuned for meeting details!

HAVING A MARY HEART IN A MARTHA WORLD

In March, Hopeful Spirits will begin a Bible study on "Having a Mary Heart in a Martha World", by Joanna Weaver.

We will be using a Study Guide along with the book. The following review describes the book:

“With candor, humor and passion Joanna Weaver invites us to cultivate a 'Mary heart' that delights in time with God and assigns him top priority. Yet she doesn't discard the service-oriented Martha. Instead, she wisely and practically models how to balance the Mary and Martha qualities in us all.”

Come join us as we learn to balance our Mary and Martha selves...."This book invites us to join in the chorus of daily communion with Christ, despite the pressures that threaten to silence us". You may purchase the book on Amazon here: Having a Mary Heart in a Martha World: Finding Intimacy With God in the Busyness of Life: Weaver, Joanna: 9781578562589: Amazon.com: Books[https://www.amazon.com/Having-Mary-Heart-Martha-World/dp/1578562589/ref=sxsts_sxwds-bia-wc-nc-drs1_0?crd=2L5ZPEWZL9G4P&cv_ct_cx=mary+heart+martha+world&dchild=1&keywords=mary+heart+martha+world&pd_rd_i=1578562589&pd_rd_r=53794795-cdfc-422a-86a2-33bdce74e746&pd_rd_w=uLQWO&pd_rd_wg=dC7UV&pf_rd_p=a64002b9-9c26-4361-b8a1-b0f5a4835670&pf_rd_r=C8ZFDGRQH7XR0S0ZK9N&psc=1&qid=1611160550&srefix=mary+hreat+mart%2Caps%2C202&sr=1-1-38d0a374-3318-4625-ad92-b6761a63ecf6] and the study guide here: Having a Mary Heart in a Martha World Study Guide: Finding Intimacy with God in the Busyness of Life (A 10-session Series for Personal or Group Study): Weaver, Joanna: 9780307731609: Amazon.com: Books[https://www.amazon.com/Having-Heart-Martha-World-Study/dp/030773160X/ref=sr_1_2?crd=2L5ZPEWZL9G4P&dchild=1&keywords=mary+heart+martha+world&qid=1611160587&srefix=mary+hreat+mart%2Caps%2C202&sr=8-2]. Please contact Pastor Wendy if you need assistance of any kind in obtaining the book.

PAPER REDUCTION AT WORSHIP SERVICES BEGINS THIS SUNDAY

We have started moving toward using less paper in our worship services. You will still have the option of having a paper bulletin should you desire one. But we would like to encourage those comfortable utilizing the screens during worship to do so in order to help the church save money on extensive printing costs. As such,

beginning in February, rather than placing bulletins in your seats, they will be available by request from the usher.

DOUGLAS COUNTY COLORADO COVID UPDATE

Douglas County has moved to Level Yellow on the Colorado COVID Dial. For Spirit of Hope, this means that outdoor Sunday fellowship (weather permitting) and communion (2nd & 4th Sundays) may return to our schedule. **It also means that some classes will allow for the removal of masks when seated at a table with only one household unit per table and table spread more than 6 feet apart. This lightening of restrictions may vary from class to class, so please read your class information closely or contact the leader for that program.** 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.

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:

Thanksgiving for Jim and DeDe Elliott as numerous family members who are finishing recovering from COVID-19.

For Kandy and John Parsons as they grieve the loss of Kandy's mother, and Spirit of Hope member, Hazel Kjellsen.

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

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, Alternatives Pregnancy Center, Apache Youth Ministries, Institute of Lutheran Theology, Missionary Carrie, Tartu Academy of Theology

For Spirit of Hope mission allies: Marion Medical Mission, Compassion International, SONetwork, LCMC Disaster Relief Fund

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)

February Birthdays

2/10 Steve Gutknecht

2/12 Tom Nefe

2/13 Beth Potthoff

2/26 Steve Howland

February Anniversaries

2/4 Jordan & Melissa Andrews

2/4 Pat & Chris Schmidt

QUICK SPIRIT OF HOPE FINANCIAL UPDATE

February Income (to date) = \$8,319

General Fund Offerings = \$7,231

Debt Reduction Offerings = \$1,600

Dedicated Offerings = \$106

Other Income = \$1,088*

February Expenses (to date) = \$2,334

Checking = \$36,826

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

Loan Interest Escrow Account = \$8,474

Building Money Market = \$13,806

***Includes Thrivent Grant Funds**