



**SPIRIT OF HOPE**  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

7060 Ponderosa Drive  
Parker, CO 80138

## **MISSION NEWS from Spirit of Hope Lutheran Church** **Wednesday, March 24, 2021**

Questions, comments or to unsubscribe contact one of our pastors at **303-841-3553** or [office@spiritofhopelcmc.org](mailto:office@spiritofhopelcmc.org). Also visit us on the web at [www.spiritofhopelcmc.org](http://www.spiritofhopelcmc.org).

# Lent



### **SATURDAY PASTOR ON-CALL**

For the good health and well-being of our pastors and their families, our pastors try to spend a few hours on Saturdays with their families. However, they are still available in the case of a pastoral emergency. This Saturday, March 27<sup>th</sup>, Pastor Wendy is on call at 303-841-3553.

### **LENTEN SERVICE TONIGHT AT 7:00 PM**

Tonight we will continue our Lenten series called “The Hands of Lent”. Pastor Wendy will be preaching on Psalm 143:5-7. We will focus on “Estranged Hands”, hands that feel separated from the Lord yet thirst for him, especially due to unresolved guilt. As always, the Lord’s hands offer forgiveness, healing, and an intimate connection with him. **To make a reservation for sanctuary seating, please click here:** <https://sohlentmarch24.eventbrite.com>

**To worship via our live-stream, please click here:**

[LIVE Lenten Service, March 24, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. - YouTube](#)

## **CHURCH OFFICE HOURS THIS WEEK**

Tuesday – Friday from 9 am – 1 pm.

### **\*\*\*IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT CHURCH OFFICE HOURS\*\*\***

In light of recent events in Boulder, CO this week, and due to an incident requiring us to improve our security measures at the church, the front doors will now remain locked during office hours and when only a small handful of people are in the building. When you arrive at the church during these times, please call the church office at 303-841-3663 and someone will let you in. As always, you are welcome to come and visit the office and our pastors and/or office volunteers are always eager to greet you!

## **THIS SUNDAY AT SPIRIT OF HOPE**

This coming Sunday, March 28<sup>th</sup> is PALM & PASSION SUNDAY, and the beginning of HOLY WEEK. We will begin our service with the blessing of the palms and our children will be invited to parade their palms around the



sanctuary. Pastor Wendy and Pastor Dave will read the passion narrative from the Gospel of Luke. Please join us for this special service as we prepare our hearts for the final stretch of our Lenten journey to the cross. **If you would like to worship with us in the Sanctuary, we ask that you reserve seating by clicking here:** <https://sohworshipmarch28.eventbrite.com>

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!**

## **SUNDAY SCHOOL THIS WEEK**

Immediately after worship on Sunday we will have Intergenerational Sunday School. This Sunday we will be focusing on Pontius Pilate ordering the crucifixion of Jesus. Our texts will be John 19:13-30 and Isaiah 53:7-11. Our theme is on suffering. Please join us as we continue to prepare our hearts for Holy Week and Resurrection Day!

## **EASTER WORSHIP**

This year, Spirit of Hope will have two Easter Sunday worship services on Sunday, April 4<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 am and 10:30 am. **We will begin taking reservations for these services today. Reservation links will be sent in a different email than the one that accompanied this newsletter.** We are asking everyone to reserve seating and to be flexible as we strive to accommodate everyone. If a waitlist gets activated, please consider registering for the other service. Overflow seating is also an option if needed.



### **\*\*\*FLOWERS FOR EASTER WORSHIP\*\*\***

We would like to ask every family attending Easter worship services to consider bringing flowers (lilies, tulips, or anything bright and cheery) to help decorate the altar and chancel (the area around the altar) for Easter worship. You are welcome to take your flowers home with you after worship so that you can enjoy them during your resurrection celebrations!

## **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" – **TONIGHT!!!**  
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!"

### **\$\$ LENTEN OFFERINGS \$\$**

This year, 100% of the offerings given during our Wednesday evening Lenten services will be given to our mission partner, SECORCares. During this pandemic, SECORCares has been serving a population that has grown exponentially. Thank you for supporting those in need in our local community through your Lenten offerings!

### **ALTERNATIVES PREGNANCY CENTER**

Our new mission partner, Alternatives Pregnancy Center, has lots of volunteer opportunities, many with no experience required. Everything from office help (stuffing envelopes, preparing mailings, etc.) to running errands and making deliveries, and even helping to sort the "mom and baby closet" (organizing donations that come in so that they are accessible to those in need). There are a number of other ways that you can help as well. If you think the Lord may be calling you to help, please click here for more information (or talk with Pastor Wendy):

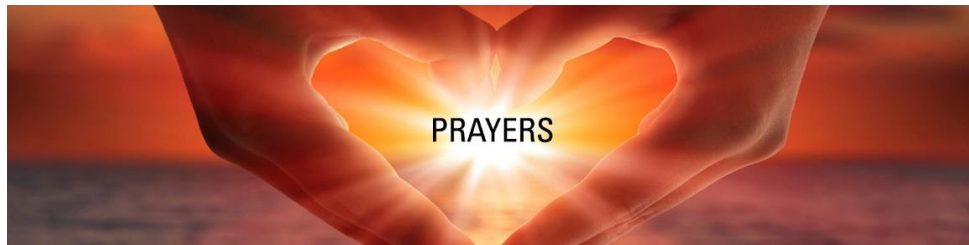
[Volunteer with Alternatives Pregnancy Center \(youhavealternatives.org\)](http://youhavealternatives.org)

### **SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE**

Spirit of Hope is in the process of setting up a scholarship committee that will help to create the specific process for awarding scholarships to pastoral candidates at the Institute of Lutheran Theology. Once that process is in place and has been approved by the Church Board, this committee will interact with pastoral candidates and make recipient recommendations to the Church Board. If you would like more information about this committee and/or are interested in serving, please contact Carol Palin (the Church Board/Scholarship Committee Liaison) or Pastor Wendy.

## **DOUGLAS COUNTY COLORADO COVID UPDATE**

Douglas County is currently in Level Yellow on the Colorado COVID Dial. For Spirit of Hope, this means that outdoor Sunday fellowship (weather permitting) and communion (2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays) may return to our schedule. Masks are still required at all times while in the building except for worship leaders actively leading worship, while taking communion during worship, or at the discretion of a class/meeting instructor. 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](mailto:wendy.poch@spiritofhopelcmc.org). or [pastor.dave@spiritofhopelcmc.org](mailto: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 and situations in your prayers:**

Please join us in praying for the Boulder community and for all those who have been affected by this week's tragedy.

Loving Lord, Your Word tells us that You are close to the brokenhearted and that you save those who are crushed in spirit (Psalm 34:18). This week, many in the Boulder community are brokenhearted and crushed. We are all brokenhearted. We pray for the families and friends of those who lost loved ones today, for our law enforcement officers who lost one of their own, and for those who were in the store as well as the first responders as they begin to process what has happened. We pray this through the name of Jesus Christ, who knows all too well the depths of human suffering and grief but who also has the power to heal, to bring justice, to bring peace, and to raise us up out of darkness. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

We continue to pray for...

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 vaccines will be effective, that those infected will be healed and that those who have lost loved ones will be comforted,

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)**

### **March Birthdays**

- 3/2 Cindy Garrett
- 3/8 Margie Flora
- 3/9 Susan Spancers
- 3/17 Ramie Larson
- 3/17 Ben Reinicke
- 3/18 Sherry Helmeke Clark
- 3/20 Lavonne Zwegardt
- 3/24 DeDe Elliott
- 3/25 James West
- 3/25 Rachel West
- 3/30 Cathy Morano

### **March Anniversaries**

- 3/6 David & Sheri Giles
- 3/7 Douglas & Carolyn Kleven
- 3/31 John & Kandy Parsons



## **QUICK SPIRIT OF HOPE FINANCIAL UPDATE**

**March Income (to date) = \$44,102\*\***

**General Fund Offerings = \$16,220\*\*\*\***

**Debt Reduction Offerings = \$3,800**

**Dedicated Offerings = \$22,969\*\***

**Other Income = \$1,113\***

**March Expenses (to date) = \$18,157\*\*\***

**Checking = \$59,866**

**Money Market = \$27,591 (Reserves and Dedicated Funds)**

**Loan Interest Escrow Account = \$13,508**

**Building Money Market = \$15,622**

**\*Includes Thrivent Grant Funds and Amazon Smile Funds**

**\*\*Includes receipt of a \$20,000 donation to**

**Tartu Academy of Theology's Home of Hope.**

**\*\*\*Includes approximately 1/2 of our quarterly benevolence checks.**