

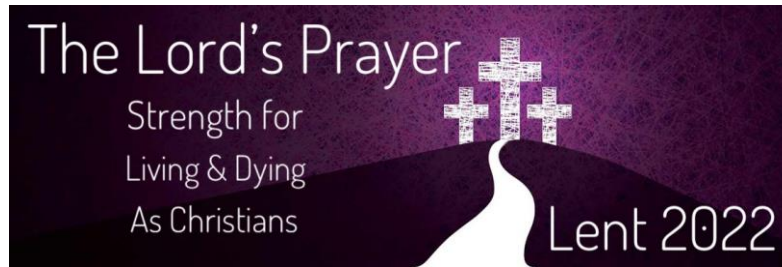


7060 Ponderosa Drive
Parker, CO 80138

Mission News From SPIRIT OF HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH Wednesday, April 6, 2022

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.



SOUP SUPPER, WEDNESDAY @ 6:00 PM
LENTEN WORSHIP, WEDNESDAY @ 7:00 PM
EASTER CHOIR REHEARSAL, WEDNESDAY @ 8:00 PM

Soup's on! Come and join us for a refreshing time of fellowship as we enjoy our final Lenten soup supper before worship. If possible, please bring a soup or a dessert to share. If that's not possible, please come anyway. We always have plenty for everyone!

Tonight, Pastor Wendy will conclude our series on "The Lord's Prayer: Strength for Living and Dying as Christians". Our text will be John 17, Jesus' high priestly prayer. We will be focused on the "conclusion of the conclusion" of the Lord's Prayer: "Amen".



THIS SUNDAY AT SPIRIT OF HOPE: PALM SUNDAY

This Sunday is Palm Sunday, the first day of Holy Week. Our text will be John 12:12-27 which highlights Jesus' final entry into Jerusalem. We will praise our Lord with the raising of palm branches. Sunday School

begins at 11:00 am. Our children will be learning more about Palm Sunday with Pastor Wendy. Our adults will continue their study on the Lord's Prayer as a source of strength in times of suffering which will be led by Ken Carpenter.

CHRISTIAN SEDER

MAUNDY THURSDAY, APRIL 14, 2022, 5:30 PM

This year, in lieu of a traditional Maundy Thursday service, we will be participating in a Christian Seder. The Jewish Passover Seder is the meal that Jesus and His disciples shared on the night in which He was betrayed, which we recognize as Maundy Thursday. The Christian Seder is largely the same with the very notable exception that we recognize Jesus as the fulfillment of all that God has promised and we will give Him thanks and praise in a unique way on this special evening.



Our Christian Seder will take place at Spirit of Hope on Thursday, April 14th at 5:30 pm. In order to prepare for this event, we do need everyone who is planning to attend to RSVP as soon as possible (**and no later than April 10th**). We are also asking everyone to bring a Kosher dish and/or special Seder ingredients to share. Please note that while we will be focused on the Messianic Haggadah, **an entire and bountiful dinner will be served!** Click on this link to RSVP and to sign up to bring the item(s) of your choice: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F49AEA72AA6FBC52-christian>

GOOD FRIDAY TENEBRAE SERVICE FRIDAY, APRIL 15th @ 7:00 PM

Our tradition of holding a Tenebrae Service (Service of Shadows) continues this year at Spirit of Hope. We will remember the passion of our Lord as we listen to the Scriptures and sing Lenten hymns as candles and lights slowly go dim as the service progresses. This is a somber service as we remember the crucifixion of Christ and leave in silence in the shadow of the tomb. Of course, attending this service makes the resurrection celebration all the more powerful, for one cannot truly have Easter without first experiencing the cross on Good Friday.



**EASTER WORSHIP AT SPIRIT OF HOPE
SUNDAY, APRIL 17th @ 9:30 AM**

Invite your family, friends, and neighbors to join us for a traditional resurrection celebration at Spirit of Hope! Worship begins at 9:30 am. Flowers and plants are appreciated (you can take them home with you after worship!) to help make our altar and chancel beautiful! We will enjoy an extended fellowship after worship. Please bring an Easter goodie to share (deviled eggs, fruit, breads, muffins, appetizers, etc.).



**EASTER EGG HUNT!
EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 17th**

Children are invited to our annual Easter egg hunt after worship on Easter Sunday. Be sure to bring an Easter basket or bag to collect your treats in!

SPRING HAS SPRUNG...AND SO HAVE THE WEEDS!

If you have a few minutes that you can spare, your help with pulling weeds would be greatly appreciated. It would be nice to have the first round of spring weeds gone prior to Easter so that our grounds are welcoming and in tip-top shape. Come morning, noon, or night – any time your schedule allows and help for whatever time you have. Thank you and God bless you!

**NEW MEMBER CLASS
SUNDAY, April 24th @ 12:00 PM**

Are you interested in learning more about Spirit of Hope? Would you like to join Spirit of Hope? Pastor Wendy is having a new members class on Sunday, April 24th after Sunday School. Lunch will be provided! Come learn about our history, our core beliefs and values, and enjoy great conversation! You will receive a copy of our constitution and bylaws and will also have the opportunity to fill out new member paperwork (should you be interested in doing so). We would love to welcome you to the Spirit of Hope family! Please RSVP with Pastor Wendy by Wednesday, April 20th.





SUNDAY, MAY 1ST @ 5:00 PM
A VISIT FROM SIIMON HAAMER
TARTU ACADEMY OF THEOLOGY AND
HOME OF HOPE

Siimon Haamer, from the Tartu Academy of Theology/Home of Hope in Estonia is coming to Spirit of Hope! He will be talking to us about the work our mission partner is doing, especially in light of the situation in Ukraine and eastern Europe. We will have a potluck dinner. RSVPs are not required, but we would like everyone to bring a dish to share, especially as we will be inviting church leaders from neighboring congregations to join us as our guests so that they can learn more about and potentially support the important work our mission partner is doing. This is a wonderful opportunity to learn about and give some much-needed encouragement to one of our international mission partners!

SUNDAY, MAY 15TH
SPIRIT OF HOPE'S 12TH BIRTHDAY!

Spirit of Hope was founded on May 16, 2010. We will be celebrating our 12th birthday on Sunday, May 15th after worship. Details coming soon!

NEW DIRECTORIES ARE ALMOST HERE!

Our new church directories are being sent to the printer this week and should be available soon! We are looking forward to this second edition of our directory. A very special thank you to Renee Nefe who did the bulk of the work taking photos, gathering information, designing the directory and working with the printer. Thank you also to Rachel West for helping to take photos!



rightnow MEDIA

FREE GIFT

FOR SPIRIT OF HOPE'S
FAMILY & FRIENDS

RIGHTNOW MEDIA INVITATION

Spirit of Hope has purchased a subscription to RightNow Media so that you, your loved ones, and friends may have free access to thousands of videos (even kids' videos!) to support you in your walk with the Lord. Just click here for free access!

<https://app.rightnowmedia.org/join/SOH>

COMING UP AT SPIRIT OF HOPE



Wednesday, April 6th

7:00 am Men's Prayer Breakfast
6:00 pm Soup Supper
7:00 pm Worship
8:00 pm Easter Choir

Thursday, April 7th

9:00 am Zumba Gold

Friday, April 8th

9:00 – 11:00 am Coffee with the Pastor at Fika on Mainstreet

Sunday, April 10th

PALM SUNDAY WORSHIP

9:30 am – Worship; 11:00 am Sunday School

Tuesday, April 12th

12:00 – 1:15 pm Digging Deeper Bible Study

2:00 – 4:30 pm Stephen Minister Training

Wednesday, April 13th

7:00 pm Easter Choir

Thursday, April 14th

9:00 am Zumba Gold

5:30 pm **MAUNDY THURSDAY: CHRISTIAN SEDER SUPPER**

Friday, April 15th

GOOD FRIDAY WORSHIP

7:00 pm Tenebrae Service

Sunday, April 17th

EASTER SUNDAY: WORSHIP @ 9:30 am

ZUMBA GOLD HAS MOVED TO THURSDAY MORNINGS!

Zumba Gold now happens on Thursday mornings at 9:00 am in the fellowship hall. Come and join us for a fun and upbeat time that will help us both in body and spirit! The entire class is adaptable which means you can make any modifications necessary...including doing it sitting down! We don't do any jumping – everything is low-impact. Classes are \$3 a session. Each participant will sign a release waiver prior to participating. Thank you to Tanya Diederich, Certified Zumba Gold Instructor, for leading this class.





**“One of You Will Betray Me”
(John 13:21)**

I am reading through a devotional book this year called “To Live with Christ” by Bo Giertz (English translation by Bror Erickson, published by Concordia Publishing House in 2008). Pastor Giertz was a Lutheran Bishop of the Lutheran Church in Sweden and I have become a fan of his work. I would like to share the devotional I read this morning with you as it is most appropriate as we prepare to enter Holy Week.

“One of You will Betray Me” (John 13:21).

“How was it possible? One of those the Lord had chosen? One who had walked with Him and seen His divinity and power with his own eyes? If this could happen, then anything could happen to any one of them.

“The disciples understood this. They didn’t profess their innocence. They knew that if their Master said it, it was so. They were confronted with the unfathomable mystery of evil. No one could be sure of himself in this case. Everyone had to stand the test. They were willing to do it. They began taking turns asking: ‘Lord, is it I’ (Matthew 26:22).

“This is the first question a disciple asks when he hears talk of betrayal, even in the inner circle. He asks his Master this question. He knows that only one thing is certain – the only one way to salvation is to hold on firmly to the Lord.

“But Peter wanted to know more. He whispered to John, who was closest to Jesus at the table. Then Jesus did something even more profound. He broke a piece of the soft unleavened bread and folded it, as was the custom, and dipped it into a pot to pick up a piece of meat. Then He held it out to Judas. It was a sign of respect. The host would do this when he wanted to honor a guest. Judas must have understood the meaning of this. Jesus was offering him forgiveness, friendship, and fellowship. Everything would be as it was before. But Judas decided to go his own evil way. He took the bread, but he didn’t take the outstretched hand. Judas looked away from Jesus and rejected His last offer of forgiveness and

reconciliation. John says that Satan entered Judas in that moment. Judas forfeited his last opportunity for reconciliation. Jesus knew this, but didn't draw attention to it. He said only, 'What you are going to do, do quickly' (John 13:27). He said it so naturally that the others thought He has just asked Judas to buy something for the festival or to give something to the poor from their little community purse.

"So, Judas left. The door opened for just a moment. 'And it was night,' John says (13:30). He is alluding to something more. Judas went out into the darkness, the outermost darkness that is eternally separated from God. "This can happen even to those who are very close to Jesus. They can turn down His last offer. They can harden their hearts to His final attempt to win back what is about to be lost.

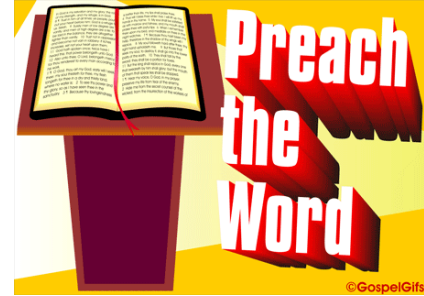
"This event teaches us what it means to receive Holy Communion in an unworthy manner. The Bible doesn't speak about worthy and unworthy communicants. None of us is worthy enough to receive Christ and His gifts, but we can receive them in an unworthy manner. That means to do what Judas did: to sit with Him at His Table with a firm conviction in your heart not to obey Him, to go your own way – at least on some particular point. That's when a person goes to Communion in unbelief and defiance or possibly in total indifference. To receive it in the right way means doing what the other disciples did. They wanted to follow Jesus. They trusted Him. There was a lot they didn't understand, but they knew the truth was in Him. They had their share of infidelities. They would fail in all their good intentions that very same evening. But they knew He was right, and they could go to Him for help. Christ instituted His Supper for people like them."

So, my prayer for all of us here at Spirit of Hope is that we would put our trust and faith in our Lord Jesus. When we mess things up, and we will not only do this, but we will do this frequently, I pray we will each turn to Christ alone for help. Others may judge us, but He will forgive us. I pray that you will hear his voice calling to you, urging you, to place your life, including all that you are and all that you have, into His nail-scarred hands knowing that He will lead you and guide you into the beautiful future He has prepared for you.

*Your Sister in Christ,
Pastor Wendy*

A COURSE ON LAY PREACHING

Are you interested in preaching the occasional sermon? Does the idea intrigue you? Perhaps you'd be willing to help on occasion (like when Pastor Wendy is on vacation) but don't really know where to start? Pastor Wendy is developing a lay preaching class designed to help you serve the church in this unique way.



This lay preaching class will walk you through the basics of how to craft a faithful sermon, including how to identify both law and gospel in each passage, how to interpret Scripture according to Lutheran orthodoxy, and tips for public proclamation. To prepare for this course, participants will read a book about lay preaching. Then, over several sessions, participants will have the opportunity to practice interpretation, writing and preaching with Pastor Wendy and/or other participants.

The course will be designed to work with participants' schedules. If you would enjoy learning some preaching basics (which include skills that will help you become more comfortable in your everyday witness), or if you are willing to let God lead you outside of your comfort zone so that you can provide pulpit supply on occasion at Spirit of Hope, please contact Pastor Wendy. If there is interest, there may also be opportunities to preach for small groups in a local assisted living facility...bringing the gospel to those who have a difficult time getting to a church.



BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

SUNDAYS @ 11:00 AM

REFLECTIONS ON THE LORD'S PRAYER

This study appropriate for anyone who simply wants to spend time going deeper into this special prayer that was given to us by our Lord Jesus himself. Join Ken Curtis, via RightNow Media, on this journey into the world of The

Lord's Prayer *from original locations in Israel* that were important in the life of Jesus. *The Lord's Prayer is not just a way of praying. It's a way*

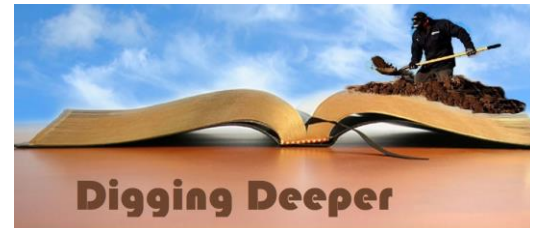
of "seeing." When the prayer is grasped and uttered from the heart, it can -- and will --change us. We realize how we are not alone, no matter how difficult or seemingly hopeless our situation. Even in our pain, there can come a joy and a feeling of rightness about our world. Our own Ken Carpenter will lead this study and will include notes of his own and writings from Martin Luther at various points throughout the course.

SUNDAYS @ 11:00 AM: CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

Elementary aged students have their own Sunday School class where they learn more about the sermon pericope of the day in fun and creative ways! If the sermon topic is not youth-friendly, the kids will learn about worship elements and/or topics such as prayer, service, how to study God's Word, etc. (and all at age-appropriate levels!).

DIGGING DEEPER WITH PASTOR WENDY THE GOSPEL OF JOHN TUESDAYS 12:00 – 1:15 pm

Join Pastor Wendy as we dig deeper into the Gospel of John. You are welcome to bring a lunch! No homework and no prep.



WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY: THE GREAT DIVORCE

RESUMING APRIL 20th @ 7:00 PM!

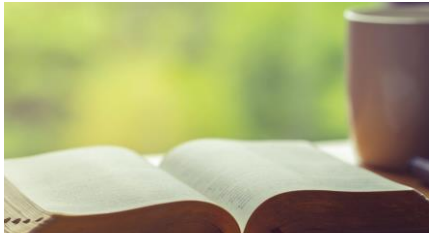
Our study on The Great Divorce by C.S. Lewis will resume on Wednesday, April 20th

(right after Easter!). If you weren't able to join us prior to Lent, come and join us now! Each chapter is essentially a stand-alone unit filled with the issues we often have in both giving and receiving God's grace. Lewis' allegory describes a fictional trip between "the outskirts of hell" and the "outskirts of heaven". The characters are fascinating...as are the issues that keep so many of them from the free and ample invitation to join God in his heavenly kingdom. We listen to each chapter together as a class before discussing what both the book and God's Word has to say on each topic. Come and join us!

CONFIRMATION RESUMES ON WEDNESDAY, APRIL 20th

Junior high school students will resume meeting for confirmation classes on Wednesday, April 20th @4:30 pm. We will spend the next five weeks

finishing our series on the Lord's Prayer before taking a break for the summer.



PASTOR WENDY'S SABBATH DAY

Mondays are Pastor Wendy's Sabbath Day. She will usually try to begin her Sabbath time on Sunday evenings. In the case of a pastoral emergency during that time, please contact John Parsons, our Church President.

LENT 2022 at SPIRIT OF HOPE

Wednesday, April 6th: Soup Supper @ 6:00 pm, Worship @ 7:00
Sunday, April 10th: PALM SUNDAY WORSHIP @ 9:30 am
Thursday, April 14th: MAUNDY THURSDAY SEDER @ 5:30 pm
Friday, April 15th: GOOD FRIDAY TENEBRAE @ 7:00 PM
Sunday, April 17th: RESURRECTION CELEBRATION 9:30 am

APRIL BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES



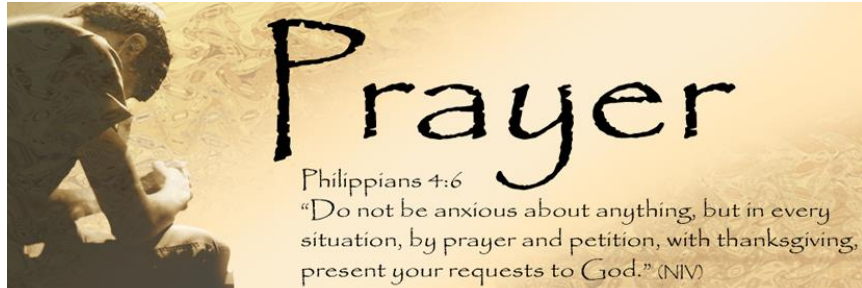
April Birthdays

4/3 Tracey Ramirez
4/6 Madden Howland
4/6 Marie Winkelman
4/8 Wendy West
4/11 Douglas Kleven
4/13 Brenda Reinicke
4/15 Chrissy Nefe
4/17 Julie Case
4/21 Bill Byers

April Anniversaries

4/20 Harry and Lucette Kottcamp





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."



A PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

By Pastor Wendy

Lord Jesus, we would like to think that we would be different than the crowd that shouted sweet hosannas and rejoiced in your presence only to shout out demands for you to be crucified only a few short days later. But if we think this, we are in denial. Lord, you know the deepest truths about us, truths we don't want to admit. And yet you seem to love us all the more deeply; so deeply, in fact, that you CHOSE to be nailed to the cross so that the depth of your love would be revealed to us, the infinite nature of your forgiveness would cleanse us, and so that eternal hope and joy could be forever ours. As we come into Holy Week, help us to shout those loud hosannas to you, our one and only true King. And when we stand at the foot of the cross on Good Friday, move our hearts to know the depth of your love as you gaze down upon us, your precious children. And when that blessed Easter morning arrives, let us rejoice with an exuberance that will awaken the world as we boldly proclaim, "I have seen the Lord!". We pray this in your name: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God now and forever. Amen.

Please include the following people and situations in your prayers:

For the Tartu Academy of Theology/Home of Hope and SONetwork as they serve Ukrainian refugees and share the love and comfort of the Gospel.

For Kandy, John, Susan, DeDe, and Lyle as they train to become Stephen Ministers and for Kandy as she is also leading this important ministry.
For Patricia who is preparing for cervical fusion surgery.
For Tracey who is recovering from knee replacement surgery.
For the situation in Ukraine.
For a loved one who is dealing with severe anxiety and depression.
For Brad, who is recovering from a car accident that caused numerous and significant injuries.
For Stephanie who is recovering from radiation treatments.
For Rebecca who is undergoing radiation.
For Sara as she recovers from cancer treatments.
For Janie as she continues to recover from pancreatic surgery.
For those who are first responders to all emergencies: fire fighters, paramedics, 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. We also pray for missionaries around the world.
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, Lutheran Military Veterans and Families Ministries, 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.
All of our military fighting for our freedoms.

QUICK SPIRIT OF HOPE FINANCIAL UPDATE

April Income (to date) = \$6,387

General Fund Offerings = \$5,450

Debt Reduction Offerings = \$540

Dedicated Offerings = \$397*

Other Income = \$0

April Expenses = \$141

Checking Accounts Balance = \$28,902

Debt Reduction Account Balance = \$22,171

Money Market Account Balance = \$127,358

*Includes Wednesday evening offerings during Lent. 100% of these offerings will go to help victims of the Marshall Fire.