



MISSION NEWS from Spirit of Hope Lutheran Church Tuesday, September 17, 2019

Questions, comments or to unsubscribe contact Pastor Dave Fisher at 303-941-0668 or pastordave@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, SEPTEMBER 21, AT 303-941-0668.

THE FIRST FALL MIDWEEK ADULT BIBLE STUDY ON THE CATECHISMS BEGINS TOMORROW, WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 7:00 – 8:30 PM

THIS SUNDAY AT SPIRIT OF HOPE – DEDICATION SUNDAY

This coming Sunday, September 22, will be historic in the history of Spirit of Hope Lutheran Church. At 2:00 pm we will dedicate our building to the glory of God at a special worship service (see article below). Before that service, in the morning, we will have our regular schedule of fellowship, worship and intergenerational Sunday School. We will continue with our new sermon series: The Mission, Values and Vision of Spirit of Hope Lutheran Church, revisiting our founding documents from their biblical foundations. This Sunday Pastor Dave will preach on our value of “A Close Personal Walk with God.” The text for this week’s message is what some have called “the Great Commitment.” Micah 6:6-8 forms the basis for our message. Everything starts this Sunday at OUR NEW FACILITY 7060 Ponderosa Drive, Parker, CO 80138. Fellowship officially begins at 9:00 am. Worship begins at 9:30 am. Intergenerational Sunday School begins in the fellowship area at 11:00 am. Also, remember to bring your donations of tomato products for SECOR and reading glasses, small action toys and Christian coloring books for Mean Street Ministry!

TREATS AND SNACKS FOR FELLOWSHIP

We Lutherans like to eat! A lot of great conversations happen when we share food and fellowship together. As such, we are asking for help with food for Sunday mornings. There is a sign-up sheet near the goodies where you can sign up to bring a sweet or savory treat to share. Ideally, we would like to have at least three people/families bring something each week. If you don't want to cook or bake, and you don't have time to shop, you can also place a donation in the jar and help provide goodies that way! See Carol Palin for more information.

SUNDAY SCHOOL THIS WEEK

This week we will be reading and discussing Genesis 37:2-28 and Matthew 5:21-22a. The Bible story is about "Joseph, the Favored Son". Themes include dealing with envy, trusting in the Lord, and forgiveness. All ages are invited to participate in our intergenerational class which provides valuable learning for the youngest in faith to the most seasoned Bible scholar. This class is taught by Pastor Dave and Pastor Wendy.

BUILDING DEDICATION – THIS SUNDAY AT 2:00 O’CLOCK IN THE AFTERNOON, SEPTEMBER 22.

This Sunday, September 22, Spirit of Hope Lutheran Church will dedicate its building to the Glory of God! After intergenerational Sunday School, a catered luncheon provided by Thrivent Financial will be served from 12:00 noon to 1:30 pm. The Dedication worship service will be at 2:00 pm and will feature special music from the choir and praise band. Area LCMC clergy and congregations as well as pastors and churches in the Parker area have been invited to participate. After the service a dessert reception will take place in the fellowship area. Plan now to come for this very special day in the history of Spirit of Hope Lutheran Church.

CHOIR REHEARSAL IS THIS THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 7-8:30 PM

GRAND OPENING/OPEN HOUSE – SUNDAY MORNING, NOVEMBER 3

The morning worship and fellowship of this Sunday will be especially geared to inviting the Parker community to come learn more about us. More details about this event will come soon.

NEW SERMON SERIES “The Mission, Values and Vision of Spirit of Hope Lutheran Church”

As our congregation continues to enter into new ministry opportunities, we return for the next several weeks to our founding documents. Our mission, values, and vision statements will be reflected upon in light of scriptures that support them. The schedule of topics is as follows:

September 15 – The Mission of Spirit of Hope

September 22 – The Value of a Close Personal Walk with God

September 29 – The Value of Living in a Community of Christian Love

October 6 – The Value of Honoring God with Our Lives

October 13 – The Value of Holding a High View of Scripture

October 20 – The Value of Serving God and Others

October 27 – The Value of Sharing God with Others

November 3 – The Vision of Spirit of Hope

Come as we visit again the mission, values and vision that make us who we are at Spirit of Hope.

FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN

On Friday, September 27th, members and friends of Spirit of Hope will be packing meals with Feed My Starving Children. The event takes place from 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm at Parker United Methodist Church, 11805 S Pine Dr (across from McCabe Meadows and just off Parker Rd between Twenty Mile Rd and Hess Rd). Volunteers are asked to wear closed-toed shoes, no jewelry, and be ready to have tons of fun feeding those in need! We have started a wait list for this event. If you are interested, please contact Pastor Wendy.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD IS COMING SOON

Once again Spirit of Hope will participate in Operation Christmas Child sending shoe box size packages with basic items and small toys to needy children all over the world along with a gospel message. Look for more information to come soon!

THE NEXT MEETING OF THE HOPEFUL SPIRITS WILL BE ON WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 9, FROM 1:30 to 3:30 PM

SAVE THE DATE!

HOPEFUL SPIRITS CRAFT AND BAKE SALE ON SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8 IN THE FELLOWSHIP AREA!!!

UPDATES FROM THE MISSION FIELD!

After nearly 36 hours of flying, Tiffany Poch has arrived safely in Malawi early Sunday morning (our time) with the other members of Marion Medical Mission's Team #1. Monday was spent training, preparing equipment and receiving their assignments for the week (which countries and villages each team member will be installing wells for). Today some team members will deploy to villages, going two by two just as the early disciples did. Each pair has a team of locally trained workers that they will support and drive to each village. If there are no roads, they hike in all the pipes and gear needed for the wells. Others will be traveling to countries outside of Malawi and will begin the well installation process tomorrow. Tiffany was scheduled to serve in central Malawi, but just learned that she will be returning to Tanzania instead! This was an unexpected blessing and she is very excited to return and continue building relationships with those she worked with last year. We do have an active Facebook Group with over 100 members who are praying for Spirit of Hope's missionaries to Africa this fall. If you'd like to join the group to see prayer requests, updates, and photos, look for the group "Spirit of Hope's Marion Medical Team - 2019". We will also post a brief update in our newsletter each week from now through October so that you can receive updates from both Team #1 and Team #2 (on which Pastor Dave and Wayne Schultz will be serving) and also so that you can follow Tiffany as she spends an additional week serving the Kuwala Girl's School in Malawi.

IS GOD CALLING YOU TO SERVE AS A SHORT-TERM MISSIONARY IN 2020?

Our mission partner, East European Missions Network (EEMN) has now opened registrations for mission trips to eastern Europe during the summer of 2020. In years past, Spirit of Hope has sent people to serve the Tartu Academy of Theology (another one of our mission partners!) through EEMN in Estonia for their English Language Camps. You can learn more about the trips (including other countries that you can serve in) by clicking here: <https://www.eemn.org/2020-short-term-missions/>. Please know that Spirit of Hope is able to help provide some financial assistance to those who feel called to serve. So, please do not let finances keep you from sharing the love of Jesus with those who need to know His love! If you'd like more information, please contact Pastor Dave or Pastor Wendy.

OUR MISSION AND THE MINISTRY OF HOSPITALITY

By Pastor Dave

Sunday's sermon was on the mission statement of Spirit of Hope: *Using the Bible as our foundation we will honor God by growing in faith and love, sharing Jesus and giving generously.* One of the ways that we can accomplish that mission is by intentionally practicing and promoting a climate of hospitality. As we continue to get settled into our new surroundings and experience more guests coming on Sunday mornings than we have experienced in long time, here are some tips and pointers to help us foster a climate of hospitality.

- Watch for people who are new to you. Greet and introduce yourself and thank them for coming to visit us. Be yourself but don't overwhelm them.
- Ask them the basic questions we all use when getting to know someone.
- Answer any questions they have about Spirit of Hope as best as you can. If you don't know the answer to a question, let them know you will find out, and then follow up.
- As you meet and reconnect with your friends, introduce guests to other people. Try not to stand in a circle with your backs to guests. This unintentionally can give a signal to guests that they're not welcome.
- Respect a guest's desire for privacy. This can especially happen if a guest is seated alone in the sanctuary. They may want some solitude to pray, meditate and get ready for worship. If after greeting a guest you sense they may want to be undisturbed, tell them how nice it was to meet them and offer to help them if they have need before excusing yourself.

Hospitality can be a tricky thing. What works for some people sometimes doesn't work for others. Yet being intention about being welcoming does ultimately foster that climate of hospitality that we all appreciate.

CREATING CHRISMONS ON OCTOBER 12TH AND NOVEMBER 9TH

What are Chrismons, you ask? Chrismons are special white and gold Christmas ornaments that tell the story of Jesus, including His promise from both the Old Testament and the New Testament.

Chrismons are also a very special and unique part of our Lutheran heritage! Now that we are in our new church building, we will have a much larger Christmas tree in our sanctuary. As such, we need to make a lot more Chrismons! The Hopeful Spirits will be organizing two Saturday mornings, one on October 12th and another on November 9th where we will gather to make Chrismons from 9 am - 12:00 noon. This event is not just for ladies and no skills are required! All are welcome and many willing hands are needed. Instructions will be provided. Come and join us for a fun morning of fellowship as we prepare to make our first Advent in our new sanctuary extra special and create beautiful ornaments that will be a part of our congregation's history for generations to come. Please contact Sara Gutknecht for more information.

ONE NEED FOR THE NEW CHURCH BUILDING

Currently there is still a need for some temporary free-standing shelving for the sacristy. Please contact Pastor Dave if you have these items and can give or loan them to the church. Thank you.

AN OPPORTUNITY TO HELP AN SOH MEMBER

Spirit of Hope member, Cathy Morano, is planning to move to the Trinidad, CO area in the next two months. She is in need of help with packing the items she will be taking with her into packing boxes. Please contact Pastor Dave or Pastor Wendy for more information if you can help Cathy with this need. Thank you.

SERVING AND SUPPORTING THE HOMELESS AND THOSE IN NEED AT SPIRIT OF HOPE

Now that we have a building, we are capable not only of reaching out to our community in the name of Christ, but we also have the opportunity to bless and serve those who walk through our doors. This includes those who are homeless or are struggling in various ways. As a church family, we have much to offer...namely Jesus! But we also have the ability to help with practical needs in many cases. That said, we must be careful not to enable choices that are not Biblical. We must also ensure that we keep everyone safe. As such, Pastor Dave and Pastor Wendy have asked that all church members minister to our homeless visitors within the following parameters:

1) Please do not give out money. While this is an immediate need for many people, and it is very tempting to give, we have chosen to work very closely with SECOR, our mission partner, who is far better equipped to help visitors who are in need financially. In fact, we give a portion of our weekly offering to SECOR specifically for this purpose...to help those in need! SECOR has the ability to disperse that money, to help people pay bills, receive free food, find health care support and can help with finding shelter, jobs, etc.

2) Please do give them a Blessing Bag! In October, the Hopeful Spirits will be creating several dozen Blessing Bags which will be kept in the kitchen (and if anyone still has a few from last year, please feel free to bring them in to church this week!). Should someone visit who needs one, please give them one! These Blessing Bags will have water, snacks, toiletries, hats, gloves, etc. The bags will also include a brochure about SECOR, a brochure about Spirit of Hope, and Pastor Dave's and Pastor Wendy's business cards in the case the visitor would like additional spiritual support or counseling.

3) Please do offer to pray with them. If you feel comfortable doing so, it is always helpful to be a good listener. While we cannot solve all the issues one is facing, we can respect each person, listen to each person, and lift up their concerns before the throne of our heavenly Father.

4) Invite them to join us for worship and/or Bible study. No matter what someone is facing, the Lord is calling them to Him. This is why we exist as a church. Let us be welcoming and encourage everyone who walks through our doors to encounter the risen Christ!

OFFICE HOURS NOW IN EFFECT

The church office is now open from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm, Mondays through Thursdays. To start, either Pastor Dave or Pastor Wendy will be at the church office on those days during those hours. There may occasionally be some times when either pastor needs to be away briefly. A "will return" clock sign will be posted when that happens.

NEED FOR OCCASIONAL VOLUNTEER RECEPTIONISTS

As we set up and get used to office hours there is a need for volunteer receptionists for those days when neither pastor can be

present due to unavoidable meetings or appointments. There will be a particular need during October when Pastor Dave is away on a mission trip. Volunteers will be trained and oriented. Please see Pastor Dave or Pastor Wendy if you feel called to help.

NOMINATIONS OPEN FOR 3 BOARD MEMBERS FOR 2020

According to the by-laws of Spirit of Hope Lutheran Church “(B1.01) There shall be six lay members of the Church Board, who shall be selected by unanimous decision of the Church Board. Eligible members may volunteer or (with their consent) be nominated by any confirmed member no later than three months prior to the annual meeting.” What this means is that any confirmed member of the congregation may volunteer themselves or nominate another confirmed member (with that member’s consent) to serve on the board. Our current church board is scheduled to replace three of its six members in January 2020. Susan Spancers, Steve Gutknecht and Gary Flora are scheduled to go off the board while John Parsons, Bill Byers and Pam Malone are scheduled to remain on the board for one more year. Church Board terms are normally two years in length. If you would like to be considered for the board or nominate someone for consideration, please contact any board member, Pastor Wendy or Pastor Dave in writing (letter or e-mail) between now and October 31. After October 31 those nominated will go through the vetting process described in the by-laws before being selected by the board before the next annual meeting.

Prayer Requests - If you have a prayer request for the prayer team please contact Pastor Dave Fisher at 303-941-0668 or pastordave@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 thanksgiving for the birth of a new grandson to Sara and Steve Gutknecht

For healing for Sheri Giles who is dealing with fluid buildup since her back surgery of earlier this year. Please pray for the condition to dissipate

Thanksgiving to God for the completion of the building project

For healing for Cathy Morano’s friend in Chicago, Traci, who is being treated for breast cancer and also, for Traci’s father who continues to deal with foot and stress issues

Thanksgiving for the Tartu Academy of Theology in Estonia as they prepare to move into their new facility in November and continue fundraise to make loan payments

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, Southeast Community Outreach, Mean Street Ministry, Apache Youth Ministries, East European Mission Network, Missionary Carrie, Tartu Academy of Theology

For Spirit of Hope mission allies: Marion Medical Missions, 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)

September Birthdays

9/5 Dylan Poch
9/8 David Giles
9/11 Shelly Blazier
9/12 John Malone
9/13 Carol Byers
9/14 Gary Flora
9/18 Ben Potthoff
9/19 Sarah West

September Anniversaries

9/10 Steve & Nancy Howland
9/13 Bill & Carol Byers

QUICK SPIRIT OF HOPE FINANCIAL UPDATE

September income (to date) = **\$16,113**

September expenses (to date) = **\$4,091**

Checking = **\$30,296**

Money Market = **\$29,181 (Reserves = \$10,400 Dedicated = \$18,781)**

Building Fund = **\$11,154**

Building Loan Interest Escrow* = **\$2,534**

***New account to reserve funds for member loan repayments**