



## MISSION NEWS from Spirit of Hope Lutheran Church Tuesday, September 24, 2019

Questions, comments or to unsubscribe contact Pastor Dave Fisher at 303-941-0668 or [pastordave@spiritofhopelcmc.org](mailto:pastordave@spiritofhopelcmc.org) Also visit us on the web at [www.spiritofhopelcmc.org](http://www.spiritofhopelcmc.org).

**SENIOR PASTOR DAVE FISHER IS ON CALL FOR PASTORAL EMERGENCIES AND URGENT ISSUES THIS COMING SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, AT 303-941-0668.**

### **NEW CHURCH PHONE NUMBER**

Spirit of Hope now has a new phone number, 303-841-3553. We encourage you to put this number into your contacts and use it to contact the church office and/or pastors. When no one is in the office, the call will be forwarded to the pastor who is on call so that you don't need to remember which pastor is on call! This is also the number to share with friends, family, or neighbors who might like to speak with a pastor or learn more about Spirit of Hope.

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

This coming Sunday, September 29, we will have our regular schedule of fellowship, worship and intergenerational Sunday School. We continue with our 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 "Living in a Community of Christian Love." The text for this week's message is the very familiar, but sometimes misunderstood passage from St. Paul on love: 1 Corinthians 13:1-13. Everything starts this Sunday at our newly dedicated 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, THIS IS THE LAST SUNDAY THIS MONTH 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 Sunday we will be studying Exodus 3:1-15 and Mark 12:26-27a, "Moses and the Burning Bush". Themes for this text include the notion of "calling", that God is relational, and God as "I AM WHO I AM". Pastor Dave will be teaching the class this week. All ages are welcome and encouraged to attend so that we may bless one another as we grow together in God's Word.

### **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. The sermon at worship that day will focus on sharing who we are and what we hope to accomplish as a church in the Parker community. Sunday School will be postponed that day as we will host a "Mission and Ministry Fair" in our fellowship area. Everyone in the congregation will be encouraged to meet, greet and converse with guests that day. Further details are coming soon.

### **NEW MEMBERSHIP CLASS ON SUNDAY, OCTOBER 27TH!**

This class is for those interested in learning more about Spirit of Hope and/or who are considering making Spirit of Hope their new church home. Class runs from 12:15-1:15 (immediately following Sunday School). Lunch will be provided! Please contact Pastor Wendy to RSVP or if you'd like more information.

[wendy.poch@spiritofhopelcmc.org](mailto:wendy.poch@spiritofhopelcmc.org)

<mailto:wendy.poch@spiritofhopelcmc.org>

## **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 yet to be covered is as follows:

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 forms who we are at Spirit of Hope.

## **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!!!**

## **UPDATE FROM THE MISSION FIELD!**

Tiffany and her partner, Patti, and their local MMM team are installing about 13 wells a day on average. They are in a much more rural location in Tanzania than Tiffany was in last year. So, conditions are, obviously, pretty rough. Yet, all is well and going according to God's good and gracious will! Tiffany and Patti are seeking prayers for the following: Tiffany's health (Tiffany still has a very bad cold, is congested, and fighting fatigue...but would you believe that God paired her up with Patti...who is a pharmacist and knows quite a lot about helping people to feel better!). Please also pray that this team

would find access to a working shower of some sort, that their 4 wheel drive would keep working (the road conditions, when there are roads, are even more intense this year than last year!), and for energy and safety for all of the MMM teams serving right now in Tanzania, Malawi, and Zambia. Thank you for praying for MMM, the teams, and the people who are receiving fresh water in the name of God!

## **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.

## **LCMC ANNUAL GATHERING BEGINS THIS SUNDAY!**

This coming Sunday, September 29, the 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Gathering of Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ will begin in Omaha, Nebraska. The gathering, which is more like a family reunion than a convention, runs from the evening of September 29 to the afternoon of October 2. Associate Pastor Wendy Poch will attend this year's gathering and represent Spirit of Hope during the brief business meetings of the gathering. Please pray for her and the other delegates, speakers, presenters, and visitors. LCMC is an international association of Lutheran Churches consisting of 950 congregations worldwide. To find out more visit [www.lcmc.net](http://www.lcmc.net).

## **OUR MISSION AND THE MINISTRY OF HOSPITALITY**

**By Pastor Dave**

The mission statement of Spirit of Hope is: *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 intentional 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.

### **THANKS TO THOSE FOR CLEANING HELP LAST SATURDAY**

Thank you to all who were able to come last Saturday and help clean the facility and get it set up for Sunday's morning activities and the afternoon dedication: Tom Clausen, Marie and Carl Winkelman, Bill Byers, Renee and Tom Nefe, Joseph Ravitts, Hope Bradshaw, Tracey Ramirez, Marvin Gates and John Parsons.

### **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. Please know that the pastors are also available via text, email, phone call or appointment outside of office hours.**

#### **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](mailto: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) = **\$24,083**

September expenses (to date) = **\$4,903**

Checking = **\$37,455**

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

Building Fund = **\$41,154**

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

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