

The Voice of Hope



Welcoming, Worshipping, Serving
September 2020

Happy Birthday

May the Lord bless you and protect you.
May the Lord smile on you and be gracious to you.
May the Lord show you his favor and give you his peace.

DRIVE BY BIRTHDAY PARADE!

On Sunday,
August 23rd
after the drive-in
service we drove
by Helen at
Augustana to
wish her a happy
100th
birthday.
(Her birthday
was on
August 24th)



Happy Birthday
Helen Maltby
From all of us at
Hope Lutheran
Church!





Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

“So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today’s trouble is enough for today.”

Matthew 6:34

The words of Jesus in that first sentence has often been a struggle for me. “Don’t worry”--easier said than done. “Tomorrow will bring worries of its own.” --to which I respond: “That much is certain! Guaranteed even.” As for the second sentence: “Today’s trouble is ENOUGH for today.”--Ain’t that the truth?

When we look at the problems confronting our world, it is easy to become overwhelmed--to become so immobilized that we do nothing. That, however, is taking the easy way out--thinking our individual actions are so small compared to the problem (whatever it is) that we regard them as insignificant. But, when we work together on addressing the issues we can have a major impact on the lives of others as well as our whole world.

The naturalist Loren Easley once wrote about looking out his hotel window which faced the ocean. Early one morning he noticed an individual slowly walking along the beach, bending down, picking something up and

throwing it into deeper water. Curious, he went down and asked the man what he was doing. “In a little while there will be others coming here and gathering up the starfish to harvest them for sale to tourists.” Easley looked down the long stretch of beach which was covered with starfish for as far as he could see and said “There are so many, you can’t possibly rescue them all. What difference does it make?” The man reached down, picked up another starfish, threw it back into the sea and said: “It makes a difference to this one.” **It makes a difference to this one!**

Whichever problem we want to address, it is important to remember that we can make a difference. Sometimes our actions will cause trouble and that isn’t always bad. Like John Lewis said:

“Sometimes it is necessary to make trouble, good trouble, necessary trouble in order to bring about change.”

- What kind of difference will you make?
- Where will you choose to make that difference?
- Will it be in regard to climate change or some other aspect of the environment--demonstrating to others that you care for God’s creation?
- Will you make a difference in someone’s life by contributing to the local food shelf or a world hunger program to make a difference globally?

-Will you me a difference by seeking to build relationships with others--especially those who are different from yourself--across different cultures, nationalities, color of one's skin, and political viewpoints?

The words of one of my college religion professors comes back to me quite often these days. If not now--**when?** If not here--**where?** If not me--**who?**

As Joshua spoke to the people of Israel before entering the promised land: "Choose this day who you will serve. As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord." As Christians, we are committed to serving our Lord. Let us go out into the world seeking to make a difference. May He grant us strength and courage for today and hope for tomorrow. After all, we are the people of Hope.

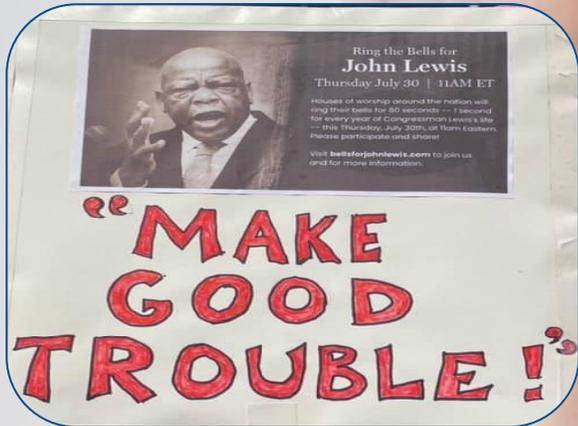
**"O God, you have called your servants to
ventures of which we cannot see the
ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown.
Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing
where we go, but only that your hand is leading us
and your love supporting us;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen."**

Peace be with you my friends.

Pastor Larry

**“There will be no peace without justice”
(ML King) and
“Black Lives Matter”**

signs stood alongside our group as we joined religious congregations all over the US ringing bells to honor the life of **Congressman John Lewis**. Lewis’s life was a witness to justice, fairness and non-violence.



Black Lives Matter in Moose Lake? **Yes**. No more **AND** no less than all our lives.

The basic premise of the Bible is Imago Dei---we are **ALL** created in the image of God. Galatians 3:28 says:

"There is no longer Jew or Gentile, slave or free, male or female. For you are all one in Christ Jesus."

The Declaration of Independence affirms:

"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their creator with certain inalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness."

But what about the violence? There are violent extremes in **both** black and white groups...Antifa, Klu Klux Klan, white supremacists. But they represent only a tiny

fraction of the groups.

Violence is not justified, nor helpful. But there is a clear right and need for peaceful protest to the ongoing affronts of injustice. Blacks have suffered and continue to suffer repeated slurs, unfounded stop and frisk, and so much more. More importantly, they are too often the victims of the violence.

Black Lives matter? Yes, no more **AND** no less than all our lives.

God help us to live as healers and allies for more just communities.

Mary Nelson



YOUTH — WENDY HJELMBERG



Golf Fundraiser for Hope Lutheran Youth



Great times had by all! Thank you all for helping make this a success and a great outing!



NOTHING IS THE SAME AT THIS TIME

As we come to September the heading for this article is so true. Nothing is like it was last year. There is really nothing to write as we start the Fall activities for the Women of Hope. The Fall Festival [Bazaar] will not be held this year because of Covid19 and the decision has been made that we will not have St. Lucia. We were down for hosting the Fall Gathering for the Kettle River Conference of the Women of the ELCA and that has been cancelled.

WOMEN'S CIRCLE BIBLE STUDY

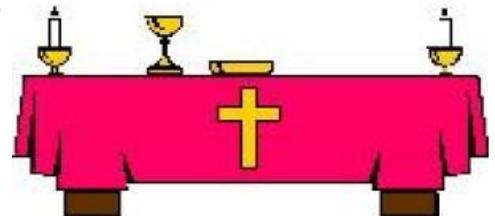
It is time for the Women's Circle Bible Study to start and at this time please note that no dates or times have been scheduled for these to begin again. Circle members will be notified if their circle will be meeting and so watch for more information concerning this.

NO MEETING FOR THE WOMEN OF HOPE

There is no need for a meeting as we have no business currently that needs our attention. We all look forward to coming together again sometime in the future and for right now we will continue to wear our masks and stay safe in and wherever we go. Prayers surround us and our country as we go through this pandemic that is before us.

The church office will notify the Altar Guild if they will be needed.

No communion bread needs to be made and the elements will not be set up at this time.



Time is like a river.

You cannot touch the same water twice, because the flow that has passed will never pass again. Enjoy every moment in life.

Basic
Instructions
Before
Leaving
Earth



I give my mother complete credit for my musical contribution. She always served and sold eggs to pay for my piano lessons. She insisted I keep going despite my objections. This ended up being the greatest inheritance I could ever have received. I never became an outstanding musician, but I was able to share my talent with many people.

One of the things I have always loved about our church is how they reach out to so many people.

Gene loved our church and was always eager to support it. It still brings a smile to my face when I think of how he enjoyed writing checks to Hope.

Hope Church is still one of the most important parts of my life and I am looking forward to the time when our church can worship together again.

When I was asked to share some of the memories of my faith journey, I thought immediately of the last 72 years I have lived in Moose Lake. I was a part of Bethlehem Church and then on to Hope Church. I have always loved Moose lake; our church has been the best and most important part of those years. Our church has been instrumental in strengthening my faith through years of marriage and raising three children.

Elaine Zwickey

The Endowment Committee

The Endowment Committee will meet on August 20 for the first time since COVID-19 shut down most businesses and severely limited our social gatherings. Despite the shutdown and the initial decline of the stock market, the economy has made a rebound, and the Endowment Funds have seen a corresponding gain in value since March.

For 2020, the Endowment Committee is planning to distribute \$12,850 as follows:

\$5000 to reduce debt for Hope Lutheran Church

\$2000 for the Moose Lake Area Food Shelf

\$1250 for the Bruno Food Shelf

\$2300 for Life House (a shelter for at-risk youth)

\$2300 for Lakes and Pines (heating assistance program)

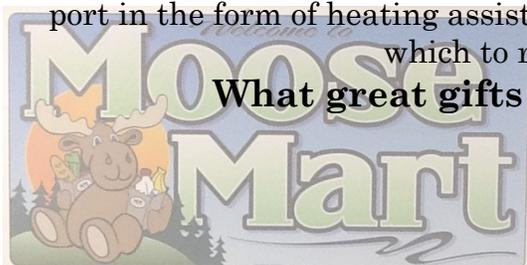
LIFE HOUSE

Duluth



The Endowment funds enable the members of Hope to reach out to the community and provide key aspects of our collective mission- providing needed nutritional assistance to our neighbors in need; provide shelter, safety and counseling assistance to at risk youth; contribute financial support in the form of heating assistance during the cold weather months; and provide a means by which to reduce the debt load for our own church.

What great gifts we are able to provide our community!

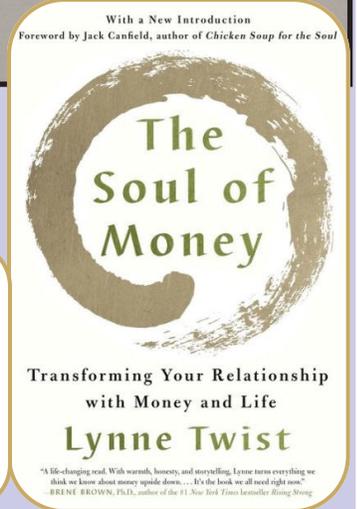




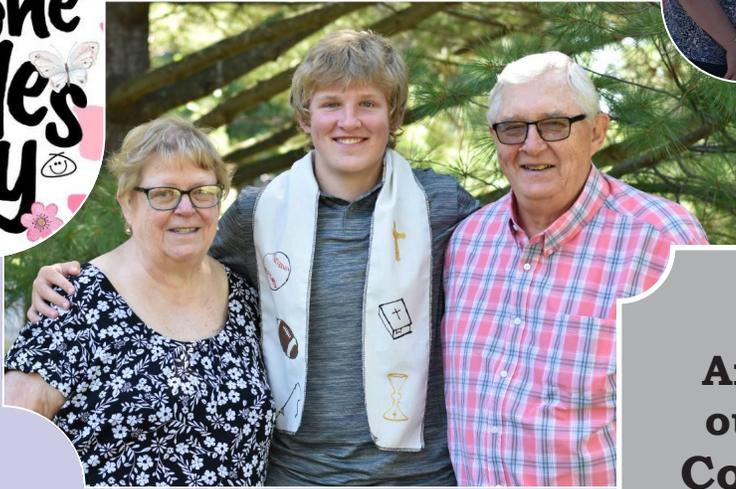
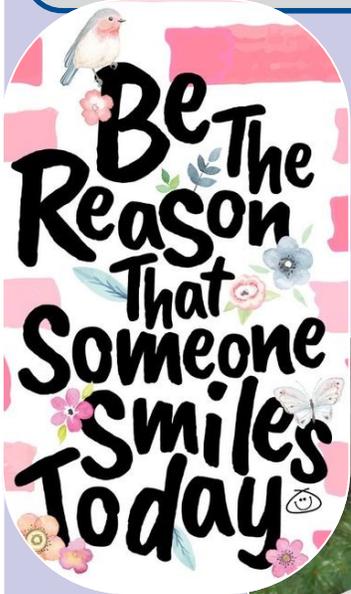
Laying on of Hands
Michaela Belanger
Affirming her Faith

Thanks for the
pa card thing
we are sad we
cant go to church
this year we
remember all
the fun activdise
and we miss
you stay
SAFE

From: Carter,
brecken



“The Soul of Money”
By: Lynne Twist
This is one of the books
Pastor Larry has talked
about in his sermons.



**JP Mesojedec
Affirmed his faith at
our drive-in service.
Congratulations JP!**

Prayer

Prayer Concerns

Marie Paulson
 Doris Koivisto
 Anne Koski- Shelly Schaffer's Mom
 Ardella Pingeon
 Pam Dragseth -friend of Carma Coon
 Braxton Battaglia -granddaughter of Dave & Judy Paulson
 Louise Halverson
 Vincent Sanges - father of Jill Juntunen
 Family of Lori Zeug
 Richard Bohm - brother of Carol Rentz
 Carol Liupakka
 Steve Storebo - son of Rolly & Imy Johnson
 Ken Dahlberg
 David Fahland - friend of Ron & Cindy Zuk
 Jerry Langworthy - friend of Stones
 Linda Huhta- Holmstrom's Niece
 Roy Evgen

Military Service

Brian Erola	Joey Whited
Robert Dedrowski	Jeremy Hill
Daniel Conley	Jeremy Johnson
Anthony Mandt	Scott Eckman
Jason Johnson	Gage Mohelsky
Mike Tolerico	Maddie Shatz
John Kachinske	Danny Whited
Alexis Babcock	

I am
 God's Child.
 Lavished in
LOVE.
 Gifted with
GRACE.
 Showered with
MERCY.
 Overflowing with
HOPE.



H.S.

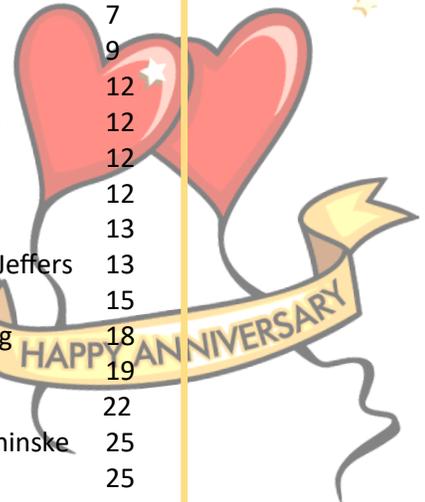
Besides those named on this page, please remember those not named suffering from chronic pain, or any other physical or mental issues. Especially remember those from our church family in assisted living or nursing homes, though not listed above unless health conditions deteriorate. They are: Lyle Almquist, Jan Ecklund, Carol Carlson, Helen Maltby, Annette Dahlmeier, Ardella Pingeon, Andi Carlson, Mary Lu Carlson, Irene McTaggart and Punky and Bette Weske. Pray for those that are homebound: Gordy Paulson. There are also many who prefer not to be listed individually, but have requested private prayers.

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS



Elizabeth Anderson	2	Joseph Ring	18
Thomas Deering	2	J.P. Mesojedec	19
Jamie Benzie	3	Janette Muller	19
Randy Hjelmberg	3	Andrew Olson	20
Aubreigh Rodenberg	4	Elliott Johnson	21
Frances Stewart	5	Barbara Peck	21
Ione Johnson	5	Chloe Gamst	22
Judy Krumrie	5	Lisa Riihiluoma	22
Greg Carlson	6	Deborah Ohlgren	23
Morgan Rose	8	Jeffrey Hansen	24
Alan Overland	9	Helen Jacobson	24
Bob Paulson	9	Hunter Klund	24
Mike Kenney	11	Ryan Barrett	25
Nolan Davidson	13	Frieda Evgen	25
Isaac Gran	14	Wayne Olson	25
Julie Rose	15	Avery Graftaas	26
Cole Gobel	16	David Paulson	26
Michael Jeffers	17	Taylor Mattison	27
Sylvia Ketchum	17	Livi Smith	27
Erin Nordstrom	17	Chris Wasche	27
Ron Werner	17	Wendy Cisar	28

Ernest & Janette Muller	1
Steve & Beth Blondo	2
Marvin & Verna Schuerman	2
Thomas & Judy Skelton	2
Paul & Tracy Belanger	4
Alan & Connie Overland	4
LeRoy & Frieda Evgen	7
Jason & Melanie Bexell	9
Paul & Helen Jacobson	12
Elliott & Gloria Johnson	12
James & Betty Lehet	12
Rick & Pamela Nelson	12
Keith & Mary Carlson	13
Jose & Jessica Mendez Jeffers	13
Ken & Dawn Schatz	15
Thomas & Janet Deering	18
Paul & Lisa Riihiluoma	19
Tim & Kim Davidson	22
Lawrence & Renee Kachinske	25
James & Becky Olson	25
Ross & Madeline Stewart	28



From the Office

Hi everyone! Steph here, I know I send out emails to everyone periodically, but I thought I would write to you here as well! Every month I put the newsletter together with the help and contributions from many people from both the staff and the congregation; Pastor Larry's message, Wendy's (and now Sara's!) youth, Barb Lang for the Women of Hope, and I'm working on getting more faith stories from all of you! It is your newsletter after all! I love hearing about how the holy spirit works with all the different people of our congregation. I use it every day here at work as well, just something as little as looking for the right picture or quote... they just pop out when it's the right one (we shall see which one pops out for this little article).

I see it at work every day in the office; For example: One day there was a woman who came into the office at her wits end looking for help. She had lost her job and had just found a new one, but.... it did not start until the end of the week. She had also lost her housing a few weeks earlier and had been living in her car. She was sick with the flu (before COVID) and came into the office initially looking for some food. I had just started here so I wasn't sure what to do, Wendy talked with her and got her a place to stay for the week, we gave her some of the food from our pantry and sent her to the food shelf here in town. It felt so good to do something that life changing for someone. We all prayed together; and before she left, we were all in tears. **The Holy Spirit led her here to us.** We did not give her much as far as monetary value goes, but she left knowing where to go and that there were people and God here to help and support her.

**This church pulls you in.
It just feels "right".**

There are so many things that happen in the office, from the right people happening to be here at the right time for the right people (Pastor Jan and I in the office **on a Saturday!**, and someone calling for a pastor at the nursing home); to picking up and going out to someone in our Hope family with a prayer shawl to pray with them and support them (Pastor Larry, Wendy and I going to Shelley Shaffer's and praying for their son Anthony with Lyme's who was down at the children's hospital in the cities).

**The Holy Spirit gives us
little nudges that lead us
in the right direction, along
with big shoves to
"Do Something!"
Its all here (and everywhere)
all the time.**

The Holy Spirit led me here too! I had just told Jason that I felt like I wanted to give something more to the church. The next day I received an email from Wendy asking if I would be interested in teaching preschool on Wednesdays. I took this as a "nudge" and said yes. When I came in to pick up supplies for the class Wendy mentioned that Hope was looking for a secretary and I should work here! I had just quit my job in Duluth a few months earlier and wasn't sure what I was going to do with my time once the boys went back to school. I talked it over with Jason and agreed that it would be a great place. I put together my resume (I hadn't done that for years, working at Zale's for 15 years) and the council approved me! Now I'm part of a wonderful church doing and watching the Spirit's work. Thank-you all for having me here in this place, I truly couldn't ask for anything better.

Stephanie Rhodes

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Worship Schedule

- *Sundays 9:00 am
- * Sundays 10:30 am Drive-in

www.hopeofmooselake.com
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218-485-4673



Evangelical Lutheran
Church of America

September 2020

**Youth programming
starts
October first!**



**Wendy is emailing
with more
information.**

Practice the pause.
Pause before judging.
Pause before assuming.
Pause before accusing.
Pause whenever you're
about to react harshly,
and you'll avoid doing
and saying things you
will later regret.

-Lori Deschene

