

Hope Lutheran Monthly Newsletter

June 2024

Volume 14 No. 06

Pastor's Message

There are some transitions happening in our church. One of the most celebrated and public transitions coming at this time is Confirmation Sunday (June 2) where we welcome Fisher and Milo Novakovics to receive communion alongside all of us who have been catechized in the faith. They spent time poring over scripture and the Small Catechism to confess what we all believe and to receive the same body and blood as we do. This is a transition, of course, and not an end. They shift from living and celebrating the faith as those who were students hungry for the Lord's Supper into living and celebrating the faith as those who are being further strengthened and encouraged by Christ's forgiveness in this sacred meal. Confirmation does not mark an end to biblical study, nor an end to regularly attending worship, nor taking detailed notes of the sermon. Their study was a vehicle to drive them to do all these things in a greater context of clarity, just as it was for everyone else.

Similarly, Confirmation marks a transition for me from teaching the boys in a regular class to continue teaching the whole congregation... and keeping an eye out for any new opportunities. Christ's grace and instruction are always needed and welcome. Considering my Saturday mornings are now free, this might be a good opportunity to start a men's breakfast in that time slot come September. That has been brought up for discussion a number of times.

Another transition that is underway is the change of people on the Parish Planning Council and the various boards. This was the main subject of our last Congregation Meeting. If you take a gander at the list of those who are in the offices and boards, you'll notice a fair number of empty spaces. One thing for which to be thankful is that there are fewer empty positions after the meeting than before the meeting. (Consider those empty spaces as opportunities to insert yourself into helping the congregation.) At the end of the month, in the service on June 30, we will have an installation of all those who have been accepted at the meeting to officially enter their positions and begin carrying out their duties to the congregation.

Of course, as those who have been called to God's Church, all Christians have responsibilities to the Church, but we can transition from one responsibility to another as time, opportunity, and personal ability move on. Change is constant, ironically enough. However, we also know Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever (Heb 13:8). Whatever transitions we make and new challenges we face, Christ will always be present with us. His love for us will never change and his promise of grace will never fade away. Pray for all those making transitions that Christ be there for them: for the congregation, the boards, Milo and Fisher, and for yourself.

God bless,
Pastor Adam Chandler

Music Notes



As our choir season comes to a close, I am reminded of the wonderful wisdom in Ecclesiastes 3:1-8 (NKJV):

"To everything there is a season, a time for every purpose under heaven. A time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck what is planted; a time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to break down, and a time to build up; a time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance; a time to cast away stones; and a time to gather stones; a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing; a time to gain, and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a time to throw away; a time to tear, and a time to sew; a time to keep silence, and a time to speak; a time to love, and a time to hate; a time of war, and a time of peace."

In 1965, the Byrds released their hit song 'Turn, Turn, Turn', based on this same Bible passage, and by doing so, they too recognized that life has seasons that we cannot ignore, but rather should embrace, and that wise is the person who recognizes there truly is 'a time for everything'.

It is now time for Belle Voci choir and the Chime Choir to rest for a summer break, after a season of offering beautiful music here at Hope Lutheran. To all the musicians, thank you.



The summer break offers a time for solo musicians, within our congregation and from the community around us, to offer meditative recitals for all to enjoy. This series is called *Repose*; 30 minutes of meditative music on Saturday afternoons, dates as advertised. This is a time to pause, to take a break from busyness, and to celebrate simply being alive... Bring a friend. This is a time to reach out to the community around us.

Hope is blessed to have three organists, and for the past two months Richard and Laura have graciously alternated playing each Sunday so that I could have time to focus on the two choirs. Thank you, Laura and Richard. Now is the time for Richard to take a break from playing as he awaits eye surgery. Now is also the time to pray for Richard's health and recovery.

Our worship services are now including one Sunday per month where Linda, Mel, and Ian lead the congregation in the hymn singing. Thank you so much for this. It is time to vary our worship services, and to reach out to more people. It is hoped that the congregation enjoys this change of pace for worship.

Blessings,
Barb



Cups of Blessings

Our Society members will answer the call to serve God’s people by assembling Cups of Blessings. We all have an overabundance of cups in our cupboards; fill one of yours with a tea bag, hot chocolate, soup mix, grocery gift cards, coffee cards, or bus tickets, and place in the basket in the Narthex. We will be collecting these items throughout the months of June and July.



Sewing Groups

The sewers of the Heart Pillows will take a short break after June 20th and will resume in September, the third Thursday of the month.

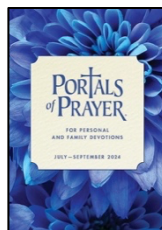


After June 15th, the weekly sewing group will also take a break for the summer, and if there is a continued interest it

will resume in September.

Portals of Prayer

The Portals of Prayer for July-September have been distributed; if you did not receive your copy, let Theodora know.



Theodora will be updating the list of members receiving the Portals of Prayer for ordering purposes. If you would like to continue receiving this devotional booklet or would like to receive it but currently do not, please let Theodora in the church office know. Thank you.

Make a Joyful Noise unto the Lord!

We at Hope have been treated to mostly monthly Reposes, or "Repose: 30 minutes of Meditative Music", for quite some time now. One is always pleasantly surprised by the variety of music and instruments, including voice, and each Repose's theme. The audience is sometimes encouraged to join in in singing the chorus, such as in the song, "I Just called to say 'I love you'" by Stevie Wonder, or repeat a verse, as in the Taizé "Come and Fill Our Hearts" during the May 25th recital.

That afternoon's theme was love. Instruments included voice, ukulele, piano, and chimes. The musical pieces ranged from Taizés to opera to traditional and modern folk songs. Composers included Puccini, Leonard Cohen, and S. Warner, whom we learned wrote, "Jesus Loves Me", as a poem to comfort a child.

Barbara Guidetti, our gifted music director, introduced us to the music and invited us to sing along in a way that set the mood to relax and enjoy these musical offerings. She coaxed the best out of the performers whom we know, by listening, had practised the pieces well, to the glory of God. Twelve people, of a wide age-range, held our ear today. All of this was presented in the sanctuary of our church, a place filled with the peace of God's love. Afterwards, we exited to the foyer and enjoyed tea, homemade desserts, and lively conversation with each other.

Please join us (announcements are in the newsletter and the bulletin) for future "meditative music", sessions of "joyful noise made unto the Lord".

With Thanks and God's blessings to you all,
Louise



Don't Quit

When things go wrong, as they sometimes will,
when the road you're trudging seems all uphill,
when the funds are low, and the debts are high,
and you want to smile, but you have to sigh,
when care is pressing you down a bit –
rest if you must, but don't you quit.

Life is queer with its twists and turns,
as every one of us sometimes learns,
and many a failure turns about,
when he might have won had he stuck it out.
Don't give up though the pace seems slow –
you may succeed with another blow.

Often the goal is nearer than
it seems to a faint and faltering [hu]man,
often the struggler has given up
when he might have captured the victor's cup,
and he learned too late when the night slipped
down,
how close he was to the golden crown.

Success is failure turned inside out –
the silver tint of the clouds of doubt,
and you never can tell how close you are,
it may be near when in it seems afar,
so stick to the fight when you're hardest hit –
it's when things seem worst that you mustn't quit.

Edgar Albert Guest



Newsletter Submissions Wanted!

Please send your articles,
updates, photos, stories,
memories, artwork... any and
every thing to do with Hope
Lutheran (and our faith) to
helcnewsletter@gmail.com Hard
copy submissions can be left in
the designated mailbox right of
the members' mailboxes.

Thank You and God Bless,
Nicole

*God's Blessings to Everyone
with June Birthdays!*

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Pastor Adam Chandler

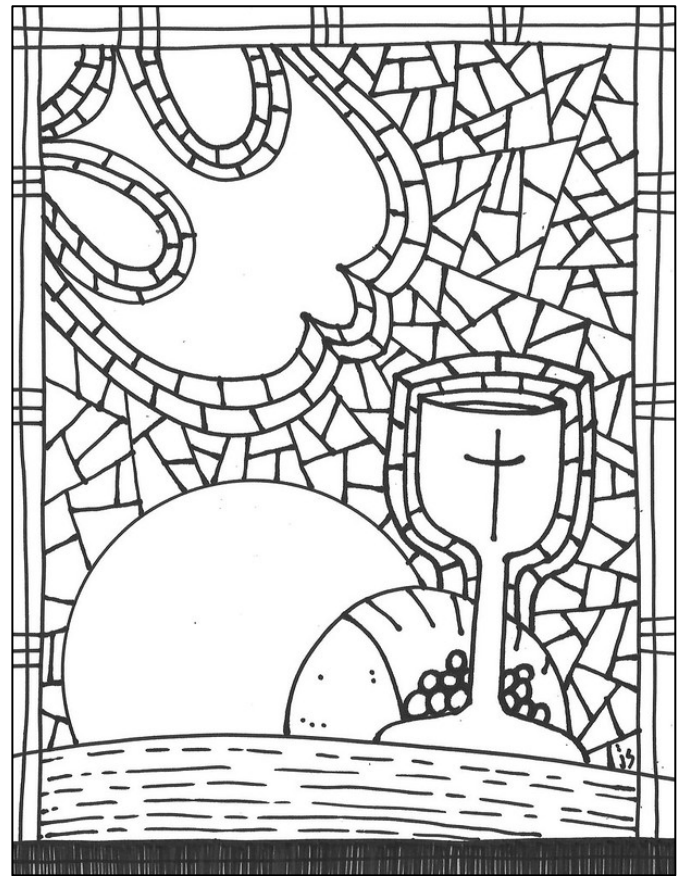
Ph: 778-350-9332

Email: pastorhelc@shaw.ca

Children's Corner and For Those Young at Heart

What does "worship" really mean?

Most people use the word "worship" to mean something we do to honor God. Because of this misunderstanding, many people believe that a church service is what we do for God. The word "worship" comes from the root words "worth" and "ship." These two words describe God rather than the ones praising Him. These words describe a God who is *worthy* of being honored and adored because of His love for us. God gives us His love through His Word and Sacraments. Worship is not something we do, but rather something that God does for us!



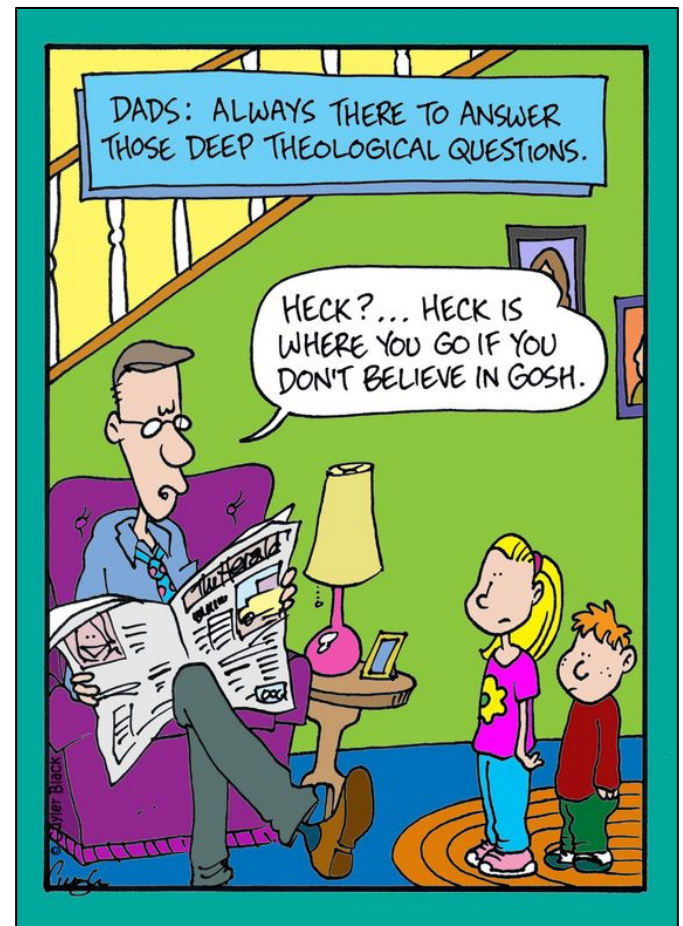
What makes the Divine Service so important?

The Divine Service is not about what we are doing for God, but who God is and what He does for us in the ways He has promised: His Word and Sacraments. That's why Lutherans call it *Divine Service*. God is serving us! What a wonderful God we have!




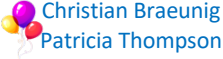




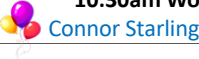


The Divine Service is like listening to one long reading from the Bible. Everything in the Divine Service has been given to us through God's Word. Explain this to your children, reminding them that it is God's Word that delivers God's

salvation to us!



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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26 The Holy Trinity 10:30am Worship 12:00pm Congregation Meeting	27	28 10:00am Bible Study	29	30 1:00pm Sewing Group	31	1 3:00pm Chimes Practice
2 2 nd Sunday a. Pentecost 10:30am Worship 12:30pm Lunch with Pastor 	3 	4 10:00am Bible Study 	5	6 1:00pm Sewing Group 	7	8 3:00pm Chimes Practice
9 3 rd Sunday a. Pentecost 10:30am Worship	10	11 10:00am Bible Study	12	13 1:00pm Sewing Group 	14	15 3:00pm Chimes Practice
16 4 th Sunday a. Pentecost 10:30am Worship 	17	18 10:00am Bible Study	19	20 1:00pm Sewing Group (Heart Pillows) 	21	22
23 5 th Sunday a. Pentecost 10:30am Worship	24	25 10:00am Bible Study	26	27 12:00pm LWML Lunch & Learn	28 	29
30 6 th Sunday a. Pentecost 10:30am Worship 	Notes	ELDERS: Michael Rumsch (250-588-0776) Bert Weiss (250-382-2612) Fred Smale (250-652-9396) Elder of the Month: Bert Weiss		Altar Guild: Deborah Gruben Theodora Henry Eleanor Murdoch Louise Rushton		