



5625 W. US Hwy. 223
Adrian, MI 49221
(517) 263-4317
www.hopeadrian.org
E-mail: hopecms@tc3net.com

The Messenger

August
2021

Pastor

The Rev. Paul Herter

Youth/Family Life

Becky Martinal, D.C.E.

Worship

9:00 (Classic Praise)
10:30 a.m. (New Song)

Bible Study

Sundays
Suspended for now
Mondays – 6:30 p.m.
Tuesdays – on hold
Wednesdays – 6:30 p.m.

A Price Too High to Pay

Dear Fellow Saints of the Kingdom of God,

The following article was written by Timothy Goeglein, Vice President of External and Government Relations for Focus on the Family, and printed in *The Lutheran Clarion*, Volume 13, Issue 6 – July 2021.

For the past several years, activists have targeted faith-based colleges in their war on biblical sexuality.

First, it was through the so-called “Shame List” that was created to stigmatize faith-based colleges and apply pressure to these schools to change their policies to no longer require students to adhere to biblical standards of human sexuality. In California, they attempted to pass a law that would have denied students attending faith-based schools to receive state grants, effectively drying up the source of income for many schools to remain in business. Thankfully, many of the colleges and their alumni took a stand and defeated that effort. Now, 33 activists have filed a lawsuit in federal district court in Eugene, Oregon, to achieve this same goal: forfeit your standards or forfeit your money (and with it most of your students).

This is an alarming attack on religious liberty and the rights of conscience. It is not a coincidence that this lawsuit was filed concurrently with the so-called “Equality Act” that is working its way through Congress. The “Equality Act” extends the federal Civil Rights Act to include sexual orientation and “gender identity” and would strip churches, faith-based colleges, and organizations of their ability to require their members, students, and employees to adhere to a faith-based code of conduct. For instance, students who attend faith-based schools would no longer be able to receive federally guaranteed student loans and any other form of government assistance to attend these schools. The result would be devastating for these colleges, many of which would be forced to close their doors.

This is ultimately the intention of these efforts and these lawsuits: to no longer allow any Christian expression of faith, both outside and inside the church and college campus. The new rules are: if you want to keep your doors open, you must bow to the government’s agenda.

Unfortunately, in many instances, we have already seen some faith-based organizations and colleges bow to Caesar and forsake their standards to continue receiving money. Having seen these colleges and organizations “compromise” away their standards has only empowered those who seek to punish, and perhaps eventually criminalize, any institution or individual that holds to biblical beliefs. Through their “compromise” these institutions have thrown their brothers and sisters under the bus to be crushed in the name of “tolerance.”

(continued on page 2)

ANNOUNCING A WORSHIP SERVICE SCHEDULE CHANGE – September 12, 2021

Dear Ones:

Hope’s Leadership, Staff, and I have agreed to a schedule change for the Fall, **beginning Sunday, September 12: One Service at 9:00 a.m. to be followed by Sunday School and Adult/Youth Bible Class from 10:30 – 11:30 a.m.** Our intent is to unite our worshipping community and Sunday Bible Classes as together we come out of the COVID crisis and related Government lockdowns. Your prayerful comments and questions are welcome as they will help us to accomplish this transition in a way that positively addresses the many anticipated details. We will also be using the same Sunday School/Bible Class material focus, appropriate to age level, with Concordia’s “Enduring Faith” curriculum.

Stewardship Corner

Walking the Walk

As God's stewards, we are not only to "talk the talk" but "walk the walk" as well. Through faith, we know that God entrusts us with time, abilities, and resources and that He empowers us to use them in service for others and to extend His kingdom. When we "walk the walk," we not only continue talking but we put our talk into action. The Apostle John wrote, "*Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth*" (1 John 3:18). God's love compels us to serve and bless others not only in words but also in deeds. The Apostle James tells us "*But be doers of the word...*" (James 1:22). As God's stewards, we use all that He entrusts to us as instruments through which we show love to others.

In the Parable of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:25-37), we find a Samaritan who is "walking the walk." A Samaritan is traveling on the road from Jerusalem to Jericho when he finds a man along the road who had been robbed, beaten, and left for dead. If the Samaritan was just going to "talk the talk," he would have told the man who was beaten, "I love you, and I will pray for you." However, he "walked the walk" by stopping to help. Moved by compassion, he offered his time and talents by taking care of the man's wounds. The Samaritan went even further by putting the beaten man on his animal and taking him to an inn where he could be restored back to health. The Samaritan even used his own resources to pay the innkeeper for the man's care. He "walked the walk" by using his time, talents, and money to help a person in need.

The parable also illustrates two examples of people "talking the talk." Before the Samaritan found the robbed and beaten man, a priest and later a Levite saw the injured man but each walked away and offered no assistance. We can imagine that a priest and a Levite, in their preaching and teaching, would profess the importance of loving others, yet they failed to put their words into action.

As God's stewards, we seek opportunities to thank God for His love, forgiveness, and gifts by using our blessings in serving and giving to others. We are able and willing to help others because God's love within us overflows through us to others. May God help us all "walk the walk" and be the stewards we are called to be.

"Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth."
1 John 3:18

Too High a Price, cont.

Unfortunately, for years, many churches and faith-based institutions have been lulled to sleep with the argument advanced by those attacking religious liberty that no one is trying to take away their freedom to practice their faith, at least within the walls of the church and the institution. But time and again, we have seen this proven to be false. In the days since the *Obergefell* decision, we have seen a relentless assault on faithful artists, photographers, and other creative professionals who did not want to use their talent to affirm such unions.

Finally, churches and faith-based institutions have been told that they will be free to practice their faith within the walls of their buildings. This is not true, as this lawsuit and the "Equality Act" clearly reveals. These same activists are coming directly for churches and faith-based institutions, by redefining them as "public accommodations" that must allow behavior that violates their faith, or face the legal and financial consequences.

For too long, the church and these faith-based institutions have bought into this fiction, and we are reaping the result of apathy and ignorance. The questions we must ask ourselves as faithful Lutherans is this: Will we stand against this assault? Or will we, like many others, wilt under pressure and bow to Caesar? I pray, for the sake of our nation, our children, grandchildren, and all succeeding generations that the answer is the former: that we will stand for freedom and fight against efforts such as these lawsuits and the "Equality Act." The price of remaining on the sidelines is unthinkable.

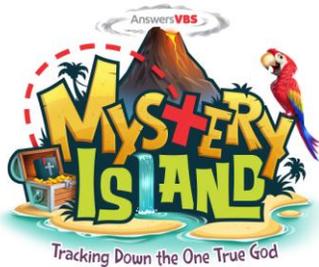
Church Extension Fund

A Hive for Workers

God's house is abuzz with workers! One way to become a worker in God's house and have part in building His Church is to invest in Church Extension Fund. Consider making an investment today. For more information, contact (Congregation Representative Name and telephone number) or call 800-242-3944.

The information provided here is not an offer to sell or a solicitation of an offer to buy CEF securities. The offering of CEF securities is made solely by our Offering Circular. CEF will offer and sell our securities only in states where authorized. The securities are subject to certain risk factors as described in our Offering Circular. CEF investments are not insured by the FDIC, SIPC, or any other governmental agency.

Vacation Bible School 2021!



Come to Mystery Island. Everyone – all ages! Study God’s Word. Enjoy snacks, crafts, games, and music. Join us from 5:00 – 7:30 p.m. on Sundays, August 8, 15, and 22, at Hope!

Each Sunday, we will learn more about one of God’s amazing attributes and how that applies to our lives by focusing on the Biblical accounts of Jonah, David, and Jesus!

Grab your sunscreen and get ready for a taste of paradise as you track down the one true God at Mystery Island!

Register by signing up at the VBS table in the church lobby or by contacting the Church Office. (Registration is appreciated, but is not required.) Join us for Mystery Island!

Thank You

Thank you for all the cards, prayers, phone calls, and other expressions of sympathy, love, and care shown to me and to my family at the death of our sister and aunt, Nancy Parker. Your love made a sad and difficult time a bit easier. God bless you.

Jane Stevens, Margaret Parker
Amy Giroux & family

Fellowship Activity

Our next Fellowship Activity will be held on Wednesday, August 18, from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m..

We will enjoy some ice cream (and the fixings?) and karaoke. Pick your favorite song, let Becky know, and warm up your voice! Ice cream and karaoke – what could be better on a summer evening!



Fifty Years of God’s Blessings!

Hope Lutheran Church celebrates her 50th anniversary in 2022. We received our charter on November 29, 1972. Special festivities will be planned. If you are interested in helping to plan our celebration, please contact Sharron Sheridan, 403-0065.

Praise God from Whom all blessings flow!

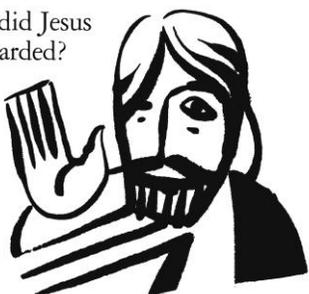
Great is the LORD and most worthy of praise; His greatness no one can fathom. One generation will commend Your works to another; they will tell of Your mighty acts.

Psalms 145:3-4 (NIV)

Bible Quiz

What seemingly small act did Jesus specifically say would be rewarded?

- A. Giving a child a toy
- B. Giving a lost traveler directions
- C. Giving someone a cup of cold water
- D. Giving a sad person a hug



Answer: C (See Matthew 10:42.)

Special Sunday Schedule

August 29, 2021

**ONE Service at 10:30 a.m.
with Communion**

Congregational Picnic

Dedicated Mites at Work

What a blessed privilege we have – to assist in mission work by saving our loose change (and currency) in our mite containers. This is one simple way to help spread God’s kingdom, something everyone can do!

This month as you put money into your mite container, say a prayer for the Mission Grants selected at the LWML Convention in June 2021!

The Grants selected are:

1. Dakota Boys & Girls Ranch - Deaconess	\$81,680
2. Healing Wounds of War – Spirit Warrior	\$95,000
3. Bible Books for Africa’s Children	\$100,000
4. LCMS Life Ministry – Next Generation	\$92,000
5. Lutheran Deaf Outreach	\$50,000
6. Hope of Christ for Cancer Patients	\$70,000
7. Training Pastors in Russia	\$100,000
8. Light of Christ in Eastern Europe	\$56,000
9. Propelling the Gospel - LAMP	\$65,000
10. Educating Pastors in Africa	\$100,000
11. Redeeming Life Maternity Home Expan.	\$100,000
12. Mercy Medical Care for Tanzania	\$68,182
13. Gospel Outreach in Mongolia	\$100,000
14. Caring for/Sharing Christ with Hurting People	\$100,000
15. Littlest & Least, Dallas, Texas	\$42,000
16. Inner City Children to Camp, Colorado	\$25,000
17. Spiritual/Physical Food for Peru Children	\$56,750
18. MOST Ministries Scholarships	\$50,000
19. Sharing Jesus’ Love in India	\$100,000
20. Outreach to Least, K. I. Sawyer Community	\$51,356
21. Mercy House Belize Lutheran Campus	\$100,000
22. Vehicle Fund, Ethiopia & Sierra Leone	\$70,000
23. God Cares About You, New Mexico	\$98,000
24. Reaching the Homebound	\$100,000
25. Missionaries to America Project	\$88,000
26. Strengthening Mission to Kuna, Idaho	\$100,000
27. Expanding God’s Love in Uganda	\$92,000
28. Christ-Centered Materials for Hmong	\$70,208

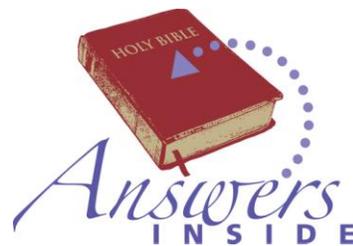
The LWML Mission Goal for the 2021-2023 biennium is \$2,150,000! And 95% of that money will go towards funding the above grants!

Keep filling those mite boxes! If you would like one, contact Mary Martinal or Sharron Sheridan. And keep bringing in those donations! Checks (made out to Hope Women), cash or coins – whichever works best for you – can be given to Mary.

*Serve the Lord
with Gladness!*

Lutheran Laymen’s League Men’s Retreat

Since 1946, laymen of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod have gathered annually on the shores of Lake Michigan at Camp Arcadia for fellowship, recreation, relaxation, and, most importantly, praising God and growing their faith. Whether you are a first timer or returning, you are invited to this multigenerational men’s retreat taking place September 9-12, 2021. Dr. Michael Zeigler, Speaker of The Lutheran Hour, will be the featured presenter, with Pastor Evan Gaertner, Our Shepherd Lutheran Church, Birmingham MI, and Pastor Daniel Eggold, Grace Lutheran Church, Lafayette IN, serving as retreat chaplains. “Remember, Rejoice, and Renew” is the theme for this year’s 75th edition of the LLL Men’s Retreat. Camp Arcadia is located at 3046 Oak St., Arcadia, MI. Register at www.camp-arcadia.com/register, or by calling the camp office directly at (231) 889-4361.



- ❖ I am the Bible, God’s wonderful library; I am always and above all – the **truth**.
- ❖ To the weary pilgrim, I am a strong **staff**.
- ❖ To the one who sits in darkness, I am glorious **light**.
- ❖ To those who stumble beneath heavy burdens, I am sweet **rest**.
- ❖ To him who has lost his way, I am a safe **guide**.
- ❖ To those who are sick in sin, I am healing **strength and forgiveness**.
- ❖ To the discouraged, I am a glad **message of hope**.
- ❖ To those who are distressed and tossed about by the storms of life, I am an **anchor**, sure and steadfast.
- ❖ To those who search for salvation, I **reveal the Savior of the world**.
- ❖ I am **God’s Word for YOU**.
- ❖ I am your **Bible!**

August Celebrations

Happy Birthday

Maddix Stevens	3
Melanie Butler	7
Kathy Loudon	7
Jay Butler	9
Vivian Knight	9
Tricia Moyer-Fowler	11
Philip Starr	11
Jeremy Filber	14
Madeline Sande	18
Amy Teske Giroux	20
Marcia Albain	24

Birthdays, cont.

John Butler	24
Emma Wetzel	26
Sara Hackney	27

Baptismal Anniversaries

Kay Logan	1
Haley Wetzel	11

Wedding Anniversaries

Bill & Dianne Wrase	2
Hans & Arleen Jacobsson	19
Ted & Kathy Beekel	25
Jason & Tricia Fowler	30



We Pray This Month:

For the Nations of the world for peace and healing from her troubles & healing from COVID-19
For Our Nation –

that God would provide comfort and support to all who have lost their homes and/or loved ones to storms, floods, fire or violence and keep all our firefighters and police officers safe that God would guide and protect our military wherever they are serving.

For His Church –

that God would strengthen and protect all His people and move them to witness boldly

For Hope –

that God would guide our Administrative Board as they do their work and would raise godly leaders to assist us in fulfilling our mission for God

that God would bless and grow our Sunday School, our congregation,

For Those who grieve: families of: Larry Money, Fred Faust, Verna Garsey, Nancy Parker

For those who struggle with illness or injuries –

Myrna Sheldon	Dorothy Parker	Maynard Howard
Margaret Parker	Dave & Dee Weisenfelder	Chuck & Ruth Presley
Jason & Tricia Moyer-Fowler	Marcia Albain (headaches)	Patti Vergiels
Ron Gentz (shoulder)	Arleen Jacobsson (knee)	Bob Wachter
Les Howard	Vikki Ritzert (knee surgery)	Lowell & Linda Oberhaus
Bill & Barb Davis	Stephanie Butler	Mary Jane Hull
Jim Hill	Annette Miller	Brad Housman (pain)
Rev. Daryl Etheridge	Richard Sande	Marti Hudelston
Tim Allwardt (crushed foot)	Jada Korsman	Kristie Smith (eye issues)
Jon Willett	John Parlier	Mike Weisenfelder
Bob Beagle	Jeff Moyer (stroke)	Micheal Thiel
Bill & Jeanie Landry	Don Smith, Jr.	Gloria Putten
Ralph & Wanda Saylor	Casey Muck (concusion)	Norma Fidler
Melissa Morton (stroke)	Jamie Murphy (cirrhosis)	Lisa Cable (cancer)
Allison Oliver (cancer)	Tammi McCarley (cancer)	Fred Langley (cancer)
Brenda Kafer (cancer)	Doug Thumm (cancer)	Gregg Woods (cancer)
L. J. Jones (cancer)	Dale Chase (cancer)	Andrew Frank (cancer)
Shannon (cancer)	David Baumgartner (cancer)	Kelsey (cancer)

We give thanks to God for His many blessings.

Contact the Church Office, 263-4317 or hopelcms@tc3net.com, with new requests and/or updates.

August 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 10 th Sunday a. Pentecost 9:00am Classic Praise [C] 10:30am New Song [C]	2	3	4 6:30pm Adult Study	5	6	7
Camp Restore-Detroit Mission Trip						
8 11 th S. after Pentecost 9:00am Classic Praise [C] 10:30am New Song [C] 5:00pm VBS for ALL	9 7:30pm Ladies Study @ Theungs	10	11	12	13	14
15 12 th S. after Pentecost 9:00am Classic Praise [C] 10:30am New Song [C] 5:00pm VBS for ALL	16 7:30pm Ladies Study @ Theungs	17 6:30pm Admin Bd. Mtg	18 6:00pm Ice Cream Social & Karaoke	19	20	21
22 13 th S. after Pentecost 9:00am Classic Praise [C] 10:30am New Song [C] 5:00pm VBS for ALL	23 7:30pm Ladies Study @ Theungs	24 Newsletter Deadline	25 6:30pm Adult Study	26 6:30pm Elders	27	28
29 14 th S. after Pentecost 10:30am One Worship [C] Noon Church Picnic	30 7:30pm Ladies Study @ Theungs	31				[C] = Communion

August 2021 Servant Schedule

Aug. 1	9:00 a.m. ELDER: Ron Gentz 10:30 a.m. ELDER: Bill Kohn; READERS: Carol Herter, Bill Kohn
Aug. 8	9:00 a.m. ELDER: Jim Logan 10:30 a.m. ELDER: Jim Logan; READERS: Youth, Jim Logan
Aug. 15	9:00 a.m. ELDER: John Butler 10:30 a.m. ELDER: Rick Wetzel; READERS: Jennifer Sande, Rick Wetzel
Aug. 22	9:00 a.m. ELDER: Bill Kohn 10:30 a.m. ELDER: Rick Wetzel; READERS: Judy Theung; Rick Wetzel
Aug. 29	10:30 a.m. ELDER: Ron Gentz; READERS: Madeline Sande, Ron Gentz

Let everything that has breath praise the LORD.