



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

The Messenger

June
2020

Pastor

The Rev. Paul Herter

Youth/Family Life

Becky Martinal

Worship

Sundays

8:30 (Classic Praise)

11:00 a.m. (New Song)

Bible Study

Sundays

10:00 a.m. (all ages)

Wednesdays

10:00 a.m. (ladies)

6:30 p.m. (adults)

Share God's Love and Hope

Dear Loved Ones in Christ Jesus,

What a world we live in! I honestly don't know where to begin; I certainly have enough topics to talk about:

- 1) The coronavirus and the fear of the coronavirus (and it's anyone's call at this point as to whether the virus or the fear of it has caused more havoc), which has shut down churches across the land (not to mention day-to-day businesses affecting just about everybody's livelihood) – here in Michigan going on three months!
- 2) The killing of an unarmed black man being detained and arrested by a white policeman which has led to civil unrest (peaceful protests which are legitimate and even desirable under the United States Constitution; as opposed to lawlessness: rioting, looting, and violence).
- 3) The gradual, measured, and carefully monitored reemergence of God's people to gather for prayer and worship. Hope Lutheran Church, your congregation, gathered for an in-person worship service for the first time since March 15 of this year on Sunday, May 31! (And we were certainly not the only congregation to have a limited reopening on that day. Others are planning to follow soon.

It's easy and quite natural for people, including God's people, to be fearful, anxious and afraid at times in their life, certainly more so in these days! This is not the first challenging and fearsome time in our lives and in the life of our nation or, for that matter, in human history! At the same time, there is "nothing new under the sun" (Ecclesiastes 1:9) and God's Word remains forever as an encouragement – giving us strength for each day! The other day, Carol and I were reading a portion from Isaiah 8:12-14, "Do not fear what they fear. Do not be afraid. The Lord rules over all. So you must think about Him as holy. You must have respect for Him. You must fear Him. Then the Lord will be a holy place of safety for you." (NIVR) Remember that Isaiah the prophet was writing to people about 700 years before Christ, yet his message from God is just as relevant to us in our generation. Don't fear anything or anyone other than the LORD! He cares for you!

I can tell you one thing, dear ones, there has never been a better time for the members and friends of Hope Lutheran Church to live out our first name – HOPE! To possess hope is our privilege; to give hope is our mission! Especially to those who have been living, as the Bible says, "without hope and without God in this world." (Ephesians 2:12) Jesus Christ IS the HOPE of the world!

Yours in Christ Jesus,
Pastor Paul

P.S. On page 3 in this newsletter, I am repeating my invitation for Holy Communion and the options I suggested in an e-mail survey (maybe some of you didn't receive it). Please take note of how to respond to me so that I may better serve you! If you think of a better approach, let's talk about it.

Stewardship Corner

Called to Be Stewards

With a few spoken words, God created the world out of nothing. It was God's decision to let us have "dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth" (Genesis 1:26). Even though mankind did nothing to deserve this opportunity, we have been given a great honor and privilege to care for His creation. God trusts us to have dominion over the works of His hands. Our caretaker role gives us purposeful lives.

Once we understand our identity as God's stewards, it changes how we look at everything around us. As stewards, we manage what has been entrusted to us. According to God's will and vision, we are managers not owners. As His stewards, we are to protect and expand what He has given to us.

We are not born stewards. However, by His grace, God transforms us into stewards who seek to follow His ways rather than our own. With changed hearts, we embrace His love and plan for our lives. God empowers us to put aside our need to be owners who are in control as we become His faithful stewards who seek to do His will. The love of Christ controls us. Transformed, we worship the Lord and live lives of faith, love, and obedience rather than living for ourselves.

As the Holy Spirit works in us through Word and Sacrament, transforming us into the image of Christ, we, in turn, will express more of His character. When we believe that God is present in our lives and trust in His power, we will, through faith, apply God's teachings to our lives.

Being a faithful steward is love in action. As Dr. Stephen F. Olford, a 20th Century Christian leader, said,

Christ alone owns our eyes to view His world.
He alone owns our hands to serve His will. He alone owns our feet to walk His way. He alone owns our minds to think His thoughts. He alone owns our hearts to love Him fervently. He alone owns our personalities to radiate His charm and glory. Failure to recognize this is a refusal to recognize His sovereignty.

May God continue to encourage and equip us to be His faithful stewards who have been shaped by His grace.

Happy Father's Day
June 21



Thanks to All Who Helped Make our Worship Services Available During the Stay-at-Home Period:

Thank you, Paul Theung, Jon Henzi, Becky Martinal, Judy Theung, and Paul Martinal, for providing technological support and assistance. Thank you, Mary Martinal and Paul Martinal, for providing music, and Carol Herter and Jon Henzi, for providing vocal support to assist our singing at home. Thank you, Pastor Paul, for your inspiring sermons (as always!).

Rummage Sale



Hope's annual spring rummage sale will be going on shortly. The sale is OPEN NOW to members! Contact Sharron Sheridan, 403-0065, to arrange a time to come and shop. Items are not priced; donate what you think your items are worth. Sharron will give you a suggested price and you can negotiate if that works better for you!

The public is being invited to shop Thursday, June 18, Friday, June 19, Thursday, June 25, and Friday, June 26, from 8:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m. Sharron will welcome assistance during those sale days and times. Saturday, June 20, and Saturday, June 27, are shopping by appointment by contacting Sharron.

Thank you to all who brought in items for us to sell! Thank you to all who help set up and work the sale!

Contact Sharron, 403-0065, for more information or to volunteer to help out or to shop!

Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts,
since as members of one body you were
called to peace. And be thankful.
Colossians 3:15

Dear Hope Members,

Your fellow members who indicated that they wanted to return to worship in our Sanctuary (option # 1 below) reserved a place, gathered and communed on May 31st (Confirmation Sunday) with 51 fellow members/guests according to our protocols! On Sunday, June 7th 36 of your fellow members gathered and worshipped together. Thanks to Paul & Becky Martinal, (who purchased a FM radio transmitter), we have also offered communion to a significant number of your fellow members each Sunday since May 17th in the church parking lot (option # 3 below).

Some of your fellow members have indicated that they are not yet ready to return to a gathered worship service and some of them have received Communion from me at home or at church. I am also getting back in touch with our members who were already being communed at home before the pandemic quarantine.

SO, if you haven't already communicated your desire, please communicate the Statement below that best describes YOUR present desire:

1. I am ready to return to in-person worship in the Sanctuary (socially distanced seating and other protocols observed = limit of 40-50 people). **At this time, we need you to reserve a place in advance of any Sunday so that we may make a seating chart for that particular Sunday.**
2. I am ready to return to in-person worship in the Fellowship Hall (socially distanced seating and other protocols observed = limit of 24-30 people)
3. I am ready to experience worship in the church parking lot remaining within or next to my automobile (weather permitting – FM band radio broadcast. Arrive at 11:15 Sunday morning, tune to 100.5 FM for instructions – Parking lot Communion will follow end of Sanctuary service.)
Please let us know by 6 p.m. on Saturday night when you plan to participate.
4. I am ready to consider an outdoor worship service (weather permitting -socially distanced seating and other protocols observed = limit of ??? people)
5. I am NOT Ready (for various reasons) to return to any in-person worship at this time. Indicate one of the following to complete the preceding sentence:
 - A. “until maybe the end of June”
 - B. “until maybe the end of Summer”
 - C. “perhaps never” (& please call me about home communion.)

Some of these possible scenarios may be modified depending on deep cleaning of the Sanctuary and better weather out-of-doors.

We will continue live-streaming services on Sunday morning indefinitely.

Please call, text or e-mail your response ASAP. Thank-you for your help!

Blessings to you and all of us!

Pastor Paul Herter * ppaul.hope@tc3net.com –or -
Phone church or home / text 517-260-9042 / p2.hack@reagan.com

Mighty Mites at Work

Keep saving your loose change in your mite container! If your container is full, you can put the contents into a sturdy zip-loc bag, mark them as mites, and drop them off at the church when Mary is in – or write a check and mail it to church. God bless you as you support the ministries of God’s kingdom through the Lutheran Women’s Missionary League (LWML).

This month as you put money into your mite container, say a prayer of thanks of God’s blessings! The LWML Michigan District has paid all of its 2018-2020 Mission Grants! We praise Him for the opportunity to serve Him and others with our mite offerings. Now – it is time to prayerfully consider the proposed grants for the 2020-2022 biennium!

Throughout the 1800s and early 1900s, many women were involved in various women’s organizations dedicated to reaching out with God’s love. The seeds for the LWML were sown in the late 1920s, and in 1942, the LWML was officially born with the theme we use today of, “Serve the Lord with Gladness.” As part of a country at war, the first two projects supported key local needs: chapels for deaf-mute congregations and post-war relief efforts.

The Michigan District formed and joined the LWML in 1944. With nearly 80 years of organizing Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod women in support of local and global missions, let us joyfully consider the opportunity given to us to extend His kingdom! While we are in challenging times now, as Michigan and our country were when LWML was founded, we know the power of our Lord. Let us stand ready to serve Him with gladness!

PRAYER: Dear Lord, You have blessed so many women over the years with the opportunity to serve You. Please give us Your guidance and help us to continue that service. In Jesus’ Name, we pray. Amen.

Also, please pray for the LWML-Michigan District Convention, being held virtually on Saturday, July 11. May our Lord guide and bless our leaders as they prepare for convention in a new format. May our Lord also guide the delegates in the decisions they will make in choosing officers to lead us and Mission Grants to support in the next two years!

Serve the Lord with Gladness!

God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea.

Psalm 46:1 (NIV)

“A Minute to Consider”

Below you can read two of the radio messages Pastor Paul recorded and that were aired on WLEN, 103.9FM at various times during a week (one each week). We thank our anonymous donor for making this radio ministry possible in 2020.

Are you afraid? President Franklin Roosevelt, during the Great Depression, famously said, “The only thing we have to fear is fear itself!” Fear can be a great motivator. But irrational fear is destructive and harmful to us and for others. So is your fear making you afraid?

I am told that the words, “Do not be afraid” or “Fear not” occur 365 times in the Bible. If that’s an accurate count, then we have God in His holy Word telling us not to be afraid on any day of the year.

There is a saying among Christians that God is bigger than any problem that we face. So, isn’t God bigger than any virus that we face? We need not be afraid because the Lord has promised to be with us. And, go ahead and pick out your own verse of encouragement on that extra day in a leap year!

Back in the days of the Great Depression, as war came closer to involving the world, President Franklin Roosevelt proposed four important statements of freedom: 1) freedom of speech; 2) freedom of worship; 3) freedom from want; and, 4) freedom from fear. He proposed that these are four fundamental freedoms that people “everywhere in the world” ought to enjoy. Indeed, these are freedoms that we Christian should want everyone to enjoy as well as those guaranteed by the United States Bill of Rights. In the Bible, God told Moses to “proclaim liberty throughout the land!” There are many challenges that we will have to face and many sacrifices we may have to make; but let us never give up our precious gift of liberty!

Time is a Gift from God

Time is a gift
that is given to men and women.
We’re to use it according
to God’s own plan.
To each He gives
a measured amount –
To each a directive
to make it count.
Spend this gift wisely.
Develop life’s plan
to the Glory of God
and the Service of others.

June Celebrations

Happy Birthday

Dorothy Parker	5
Jessica Brown	6
Jane Stevens	8
Elaine Stevenson	8
Ken Sande	9
Cameron Hofbauer	11
Samantha Sande	11
Jan Wuebben	12
Andrea Jenkins	15
Katherine Fowler	19
Helen Petee	20
Jacob Teske	23
Ranetta MacBlaine	24

Baptismal Anniversaries

Jane Stevens	3
Darlene Fink	4
Penny Filber	7
Jacob Teske	23
Barb Davis	26
Sharon Shulters	26

Wedding Anniversaries

John & Melanie Butler	23
Jeremy & Penny Filber	27
Eric & Sarah Holmes	27
Dale & Mary Martinal	28
Michael & Kayla Sweeney	28

Congratulations ...

... to Dale & Mary Martinal, who celebrate their 45th anniversary on June 28!

We Pray This Month:

For the Nations of the world for peace, healing from COVID-19, & spread of the Gospel

For Our Nation –

that God would guide and protect all government leaders in all our states

that God would guide and protect our military wherever they are serving.

For His Church –

that God would move us to rejoice always in the victory Jesus won over sin, death and the devil and has given us by grace through faith in Him and share His message of reconciliation with those who do not know Him

For Hope –

that God would guide our Administrative Board as they do their work

that God will bless our efforts to reach our neighbors with the Gospel

For those who grieve: families of Florence Hagerman; Nora, friend of Ritzerts & Erika Lewis

For those who struggle with illness or injuries –

Myrna Sheldon

Chuck Presley (broken wrist)

Dorothy Parker

Les & Sue Howard

Marcia Albain (headaches)

Arnie Saylor

Jackie Lamba (Parkinson's)

Kristie Smith (eye issues)

Marti Hudelston

Jon Willett (lung transplant)

Micheal Thiel

Skyla Duff & Dustin (burns)

Jeremy Gerloff (cancer)

L. J. Jones (cancer)

Shannon (cancer)

Bob Gage (cancer)

Joanne Sohl (cancer)

Gregg Woods (cancer)

Ron & Dianne Gentz

Dave & Dee Weisenfelder

Tricia Moyer-Fowler

Eleanor Schippers

Jim & Diana Gulliksen

Denver Brown (accident)

Stephen Palmiter (Crohn's)

Del Nabb (fibrosis)

John Parlier

Ernie Henzi (hospice)

Larry & Betty Bendes

Bill & Jeanie Landry

Mark Case (cancer)

Dale Chase (cancer)

David Baumgartner (cancer)

Mark Garcia (cancer)

Jim Barancin (cancer)

Jerry Strayer (cancer)

David & Kathy Brevoort

Margaret Parker

Maynard Howard

Patti Vergiels (pain)

Jim Hill (Parkinson's)

Verna Garsey

Mike Weisenfelder

Jada Korsman

Karl Kellk

Jamie Murphy (cirrhosis)

Adam Bartek (dialysis)

Alan Garrison

Brenda Kafer (cancer)

Andrew Frank (cancer)

Steve McRobert (cancer)

Doug Williams (cancer)

Tim Parros (cancer)

Tom Salbut (cancer)

We give thanks to God for His many blessings.

June 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7 Holy Trinity 10:00am In-Person Worship [C] (reserve seat by Wed.) or via Facebook or WebEx 11:30am Parking Lot [C] (reserve by 6pm Sat.)	8 6:30pm Admin Bd. Mtg	9 6:30pm Elders	10	11	12	13
14 2 nd S. after Pentecost 10:00am In-Person Worship [C] (reserve seat by Wed.) or via Facebook or WebEx 11:30am Parking Lot [C] (reserve by 6pm Sat.)	15	16	17	18	19	20
				Rummage Sale 8am – 8pm Thursday & Friday, by appointment Saturday		
21 3 rd S. after Pentecost 10:00am In-Person Worship [C] (reserve seat by Wed.) or via Facebook or WebEx 11:30am Parking Lot [C] (reserve by 6pm Sat.)	22 Newsletter Deadline	23	24	25	26	27
				Rummage Sale 8am – 8pm Thursday & Friday, by appointment Saturday		
28 4 th S. after Pentecost 10:00am In-Person Worship [C] (reserve seat by Wed.) or via Facebook or WebEx 11:30am Parking Lot [C] (reserve by 6pm Sat.)	29	30				[C] = Communion
			Calendar Events are subject to change by Governor’s orders. Keep watching your email.			

June 2020 Servant Schedule

June 7 10:00 a.m. **ELDER:** Bill Kohn

June 14 10:00 a.m. **ELDER:** Rick Wetzel

June 21 10:00 a.m. **ELDER:** John Butler

June 28 10:00 a.m. **ELDER:** Jim Logan?

Give thanks to the LORD, for He is good. His love endures forever.