



Hope's Newsletter

"To Know Christ And to Make Him Known"

A Message From Pastor

This is the year of Matthew in our three-year cycle of readings. Now that we have settled into summer and the Sundays after Pentecost, we will begin reading this Gospel in earnest. Each Gospel has a theme, and many scholars believe that Matthew's theme is the parable of the Sower and the Seeds.

Matthew is concerned with the proclamation and reception of the Good News of Jesus. The various soils in the parable describe the various ways in which people accepted Jesus, rejected him, or quickly gave up on following him. Nevertheless, the sower continues sowing seeds, trusting that some will grow, and some more will come to believe.

The last few verses of Matthew are a challenge across the ages to go and teach and baptize, along with the promise that we never go alone. We are to continuously allow God to sow seeds through us.

Matthew's other theme is that Jesus is the Messiah, long hoped-for by the Jewish people. Jesus is the new Moses, sent by God to call God's people back into right relationship with God.

Together, these themes express God's extreme patience, God's extreme abundance, and God's extreme desire, to have a relationship with God's people. This desire is made crystal clear through the cross and resurrection. This is the Good News for us to proclaim, among ourselves, lest we forget, and to new believers, so they will come to have faith in Jesus. By sharing these characteristics of God, we sow seeds, so that faith will grow in more hearts.

Listen, this summer, for these two themes in Matthew, and be prepared to go and sow Jesus seeds with those who really need him. As you go, remember that you never go alone.

In HOPE,
Pastor Lynn +

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Address:
9425 N. Citrus Springs Blvd
Citrus Springs Florida 34434

Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 2070
Dunnellon Florida 34430
Phone: 352-489-5511
Fax: 352-489-5222

Church Email:
Hopeevangelical@bellsouth.net

Web Page Address:
www.hopelutheranelca.com

Sunday Sermons
www.hopewards.blogspot.com

Staff:
Pastor Lynn Fonfara
lynnfonfara@hotmail.com

Church Secretary
Kelly Murphy

Music Director/Organist
Susan Collins

Custodian
Kerry Reed

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Book Club

As we work our way through Phyllis Tickle's *The Great Emergence*, we are finding that we agree and disagree with her. That is the purpose of the book club: to examine new ideas and consider if we agree or disagree with them, to discern if we find them helpful or not. At least we are taking the time to think about them and how they may affect our lives and the life of our congregation. Join us and see where the discussion takes us, Wednesdays at 10am at Boulevard Bistro, Citrus

Springs Boulevard. July 9, 16, 23, August 6, 13, and if needed 20 and 27.

Dollars And Sense From The Treasurer's Desk

<u>Date</u>	<u>Communion Attendance</u>	May 2014	
		<u>Regular</u>	<u>Income</u>
May 4	63	5,003.00	
May 11	64	2,634.00	
May 18	57	2,150.00	
May 25	64	1,909.00	

Total Inflows: \$ 11,696.00

Total Outflows: \$ 13,086.00

The full financial statement is in Luther Hall.

Council Officers & Members

President
Steve Northsea
Education

Vice President
Harold Skidmore
Endowment

Secretary
Renate Wilms-Rovin
Social Services
Acolytes
Greeters & Guest Greeter
Readers
Ushers

Treasurer
Deacon Diane Kahler
Family Activities
Finance
Personnel

Deacon John Chiappetta
Citrus County Blessings
Worship & Music Committee

Aida Diaz

Constance De Tuerk
Stewardship/Evangelism

Casey Gaylarido
Serving Our Savior Food Pantry

Sandra Meslow
Memorial Gardens

Vivian Matthews

Richard Regan
Property

Kim Williams
Stewardship/Evangelism

Financial Secretary
Michel Northsea

Family Members in the Military

We remember & pray for those who protect our liberty by serving in the military.

- John & Margarita Chiappetta's son:
Luis Jimenez
- Janet Esworthy's nephew:
Major Marc Orndorff
- Joan Klotz's two grandsons:
Brian Lucas and Kevin Lucas
- Vivian Matthews' granddaughter:
Capt. Kari Matthews
- Edith Regan's daughter:
Senior Chief Phyllis Thomas
- Edith Regan's grandson:
AMAA Taylor Tucker going to
Aviation school in Norfolk, VA

Please let the church office know of others we can add to this list.

Members Who Are Homebound or Residing in Care Facilities

Johanna Barrett—Home
Sebastian D'Auria—Home
Joan Layton—Home
Dorothy Scianna—Crystal Gem Manor,
Crystal River

Karen Summers—Home
Ruby Wagner—Brentwood, Lecanto

Martha Circle

No meeting in July! Our ladies will enjoy a month off after our busy June with the successful yard sale on June 7 and the hand-made Father's Day cards for Father's Day luncheon.

Carole Warden

Theological Discernment Series

Theological Discernment Series : A Biblical, Spiritual and Historical Look at ELCA Statements, Positions, and Resolutions on Social Issues like Abortion, Church in Society, Death Penalty, Economic Life, Education, Environment, Genetics, Human Sexuality, Peace, Race Ethnicity and Culture.

This series will be designed to explore all sides of social issues from a Christian and Lutheran perspective with the underlying principle that in love and filled with the Holy Spirit we can discuss, share, agree or disagree, and yet still realize that discernment is

about being open, curious and attuned to what God is up to—with us and our community. And it's being confident that each of us have a part to play in the story of God's love for the world.

Beginning July 7, class will meet each Sunday at 9am in Luther Hall, classroom 2. Facilitated by Dr. Steve Northsea.

Thanks from Pastor Lynn:

- Carole Warden and all who helped with the Father's Day luncheon.
 - Special thanks to Kim Williams, Dick Regan and Carole Warden for cleaning up after the Father's Day luncheon.
 - Martha Circle and all who helped with the yard sale for the shoeboxes.
 - Deacons Diane and John for preaching and serving in my absence during Synod Assembly and vacation.
 - The faithful servants at the early service, who volunteer each week to set up and clean up the altar, read, lead, and serve communion.
 - The faithful servants at the late service who volunteer each week to read, lead, usher, serve, greet, and set up and clean up.
 - The choir, whether small or large, for making a joyful and beautiful noise for the Lord.
-

Did You Ever Wonder . . .?

Did you ever wonder who wrote the hymn "Precious Lord"?

After finding out that his wife and newborn son had died, the author went into a pit of sorrow. He thought that God had done an injustice to him and that he would no longer sing and write inspirational songs. But a friend took him to a neighborhood music school and he sat down at the piano and his hands began to browse over the keys. Something happened to him. He felt at peace. He felt that he could reach out and touch God. The words and the melody just seemed to fall into place: 'Precious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, let me stand, I am tired, I am weak,

I am worn, through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the light, take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.' The author believed that the Lord gave him the words and melody and healed his spirit. He learned that when we are in our deepest grief, when we feel farthest from God, this is when He is closest, and when we are most open to His restoring power. The author was **Tommy Dorsey**. For those too young to know who he is, Tommy Dorsey was a well-known band leader in the 1930's and 1940's. His hymn is in our Evangelical Lutheran Worship book (the cranberry colored book) on page 773.

Thank You

Hi, to all our friends at Hope,

See you in December!

Thank you for making us welcome through the winter.

Dean and Gloria Varty

Thank You from Carole Warden

* Thank you to our congregation and friends for generous donations to our yard sale.

* Thank you, Dick Regan for fixing door #7!

Carole Warden

• Special thanks to Rita & Ron Cowan's friend for his generous donations to our yard sale.

Thrivent Financial - 11th Annual Thrivent Game @ The Rays

Day with the Rays! Yes, it's that time again. Don't miss the Rays vs New York Yankees game on Saturday, August 16 at 4:05pm. This year, seats are located in the baseline box area near the right field foul pole.

Join the fun & fellowship!

If ordering individual tickets, they are \$35 dollars and must be ordered online at www.raysbaseball.com/lutherans.

Citrus County Chapter of Thrivent Financial is also sponsoring a bus trip to the game. Tickets are \$45 each and

order forms are in Luther Hall by the Coffee Hour sign-up sheet. Space is limited so order early. The bus leaves Faith Lutheran church promptly at 1pm.

Deadline for ordering tickets is July 30th. Get your orders in early. There are a limited number of tickets reserved by Thrivent.

This is a Care in Regions Fund-raiser with Thrivent Financial for Lutherans to benefit Luther Springs Camp.

Martha Circle

Martha Circle met on June 4 with Edith, Lempi, Ruth, Helen and Carole in attendance. The ladies made cards for the Father's Day luncheon that was held on June 15. Special thanks to Kelly for printing the message to go inside the cards.

Some work was done on our shoebox ministry and it was decided to skip meeting in July due to extra time spent on the yard sale in June. The ladies enjoyed home-made cookies and crackers and cheese while socializing after the work was done.

On Father's Day, small gifts were given to the men who attended the 8am and 10am services at Hope.

Operation Christmas Child “Shoebox” Fundraiser

Arigato, grazie, merci, danke, spasiba, rahmat, muchas gracias and Thank You! These are many of the ways children will be saying Thank You in their own languages because of our generosity in Operation Christmas Child shoebox ministry here at Hope. We raised \$1,202.85 at the yard sale on June 7 in Luther Hall. These proceeds will be used for shipping boxes with the gospel tracts in the languages to children all over the world.

I want to thank everyone who donated items, time, prayers or money to help make this fundraiser such a rousing success! I won't even try to name everyone for fear of forgetting someone—and each and every person is special and generous and I do appreciate EVERYONE and EVERYTHING.

There are some I want to acknowledge:

PRE SALE: Casey Gaylarado, Edith Regan and Kerry Reed for pricing items and getting things organized for sale. That was no easy tasks!

Thanks to Kelly Murphy for getting the information out about our sale and to Victor Kahler for helping set up the tables in Luther Hall.

SALE DAY: Diane Kahler for selling tea, coffee and donuts from which we made \$12. Edith Regan and Jane Hise for manning the “money” table. Kim Williams and Tanner, Ruth Mohiet, Lempi Tervo, Kerry Reed, Dick Regan & Victor Kahler for all their valuable help.

Special thanks to Dick Regan for buying our delicious lunch and for helping us getting our second wind for clean-up duty.

Carole Warden



Church Council Minutes from May 21, 2014

1. Call to Order/Remarks - President Steven Northsea called meeting to order at 7:00 PM
2. Roll Call - Renate Wilms-Rovin, Secretary
 President Steven Northsea (present)
 Vice President Harold Skidmore (not present - excused)
 Secretary Renate Wilms-Rovin (present)
 Treasurer Deacon Diane Kahler (not present - excused)
 Council Member Deacon John Chiappetta (present)
 Council Member Aida Diaz (present)
 Council Member Constance DeTuerk-Telfer (present)
 Council Member Casey Gaylarido (present)
 Council Member Vivian Matthews (present)
 Council Member Sandra Meslow (present)
 Council Member Dick Regan (present)
 Council Member Kim Williams (present)
 Pastor Lynn Fonfara (present)
3. Pastor Lynn offered opening Prayer
4. Devotions - Council members shared experiences as they relate to the first 4 questions from ELCA's Rediscover Macedonia.
5. Adoption of the May 21 Agenda
 - A. Additions/Corrections
 1. added Old business: Exploration of ELCA Reconciling Works Program
 2. added under New business: Front Door
 - a. addition of camera
 - b. list of agencies that can help when we are closed.
 - B. Acceptance was moved as amended by Sandra, seconded by Kim and passed unanimously.
6. Secretary Report

Report of the Secretary's April 16 Council meeting

 - A. Additions/Corrections - none
 - B. Acceptance was moved by Constance, seconded by Kim and passed unanimously.
7. Report of the Treasurer
 - A. Questions/Concerns -.For the Month of March and April, income exceeded expenses!!!
 - B. Acceptance was moved by Sandra, seconded by John and passed unanimously.
8. Report of the Pastor (see attached report)
 - A. Questions and Concerns
 - B. Any items needing Council approval - none
9. Reports of Church Committees by Council Liaisons
 - A. Christian Service
 - Evangelism/Stewardship
 - First Saturday
 - Family Activities - There will be a Barbeque on Father's day following the 10 AM Service.
The 8 AM service will plan something different.
 - B. Christian Education

Education - 8 weeks of Lessons are remaining in the present cycle. Participants in the Bible Class will decide whether to meet during the summer.

Youth Ministry- No confirmation classes during the summer

Adult Ministry- The Wisdom Seekers Class has finished for the summer. A Book club will take its place. The group will meet at 10 AM Wednesdays at the Blvd Bistro in Citrus Springs starting on June 11, 2014. The book by Phillip Tickle: GREAT EMERGENCE will be used as guide to discuss growth and dynamic of the church. All are welcome.
 - C. Christian Worship

Worship and Music - will meet on Sunday June 1st to discuss Music Machine and cost saving arrangements with regards to altar flowers
 - D. Administration

Property- (see attached report).
Finance - committee plans to meet on June 11, 2014. Steve encourages council and congregation members to attend.
Personnel - nothing to report
Memorial - nothing to report
 Endowment - Next meeting will be held June 22, 2014
10. Old Business
 - A. Discussion of ELCA's Inclusion Program "Reconcilingworks" and how to proceed in gaining acceptance at HOPE. This requires preparation and education. In the Florida-Bahamas Synod, several churches are "reconciling." Kim volunteered to head a committee and Steve to participate. Pastor will bring some material to the next council meeting and recommends the following website for perusal: <http://www.reconcilingworks.org/>

Church Council (Continued from page 8)

11. New Business

A. Diana and Renate attended a seminar on the OPEN TABLE concept which helps homeless people on multiple levels to regain a live of normalcy. Renate gave a report on the various aspects that this program operates. Financial and people commitment is high and for small congregations like HOPE, responsibility would have to be shared with other churches. Consideration was tabled for the time being.

B. SOS. Issues of confusion were clarified. No contributions go to St Elizabeth Ann Seaton Catholic Church. There is one basket for food items and one for personal items; content of both go to SOS. Kelly maintains a shelf of some staple goods for emergencies and may take some items if needed. However, a lady she knows who clips coupons and purchases BOGO items, contributes numerous items which also benefit the SOS baskets. Casey has also placed a box for HOPE at the Family Dollar Store which may generate additional contributions. SOS is in need of additional volunteers on Wednesdays = preparation day for food distribution on Thursday. If we are not listed as contributing church on the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church website, Pastor Lynn will make a follow-up call.

C. Stephen Ministry.

Kim and Casey expressed an interest in becoming Stephen Ministers. Ruth Moheit, HOPE's trained leader, and Steve Northsea could facilitate training.

D. Ideas of reducing church expenditures were discussed. Dick will talk with Vic about shutting of the Water Heater for Luther Hall during the week. The Music and Worship Committee will take up the issue of plants (real or artificial) for Sundays when no flowers are given in honor/memory of a person.

E. Music Machine.

Steve explained the need. HOPE has no sub for the organist/choir director and no music for the 8 AM service. A flyer about a Worship Music Accompaniment System was available. The Music and Worship Committee needs to take it up, bring a recommendation to council and if approved, the Memorial Committee may provide the funding.

F. A wireless camera is needed for Kelly to know who is at the Door. Property Committee will get details. Also a list of agencies that can help when no one is at the church should be posted at the Door. The sign of the three individuals that have abused the system and will not receive any further help, should be taken down from the front door but continued to be displayed at Luther Hall.

G. Christians United in Christ will meet at Lighthouse Baptist Church at 7:30pm on June 3, 2014. Pastor Lynn and Deacon John Chiappetta will discuss Hope's outreach (Family Farm, Blessing in a

Backpack). It is hoped that we can also offer a musical selection

12. Consent Agenda No new items

13. Current Meeting Highlights for Newsletter and Bulletin were discussed.

14. Devotions for the June 18 meeting will be the next four questions (5 - 8) from ELCA's Rediscover Macedonia.

15. Steve requested a motion to adjourn.

Adjournment at 9:08 PM was moved by Casey, seconded by Dick and passed unanimously.

Closing prayer was led by Pastor Lynn.

Florida-Bahamas Synod: General Assembly

**Florida-Bahamas Synod
General Assembly
June 20-22, 2014
Orlando FL**

The 2014 Assembly's theme of Bold, Passionate and Faithful was felt throughout the three days of worship, workshops and Synod business.

Friday afternoon and evening sessions included an address by our new Synod Bishop, Robert Schaefer, election of several new Synod Council members, and the keynote address focused on the challenge of igniting and connecting congregations in Discipleship. Beth Lewis of Augsburg Fortress, spoke in the evening session on "Gutenberg to Google", the use of media to reach out into the community. Of note was her suggestion of having the lessons read by a shut-in or absent member of the congregation via Skype.

Saturday was devoted to workshops. Among many sessions offered, we attended: "Congregational Hospitality: How to Really Welcome the Stranger", "Micro-Messaging", "Asset Mapping" and "From Membership to Discipleship". In the evening we were treated to a concert by Rachel Kurtz, an inspirational folk singer.

After Sunday worship, the Assembly was wrapped up with several reports, run-off elections and adoption of the Synod Ministry Spending plan.

We are grateful to the church council for inviting us to be a part of the synod assembly. We ourselves were challenged, by the many assembly events, to examine ways we and members of Hope Lutheran Church might use the gifts God has abundantly given us to share Christ's love in the community.

Thanks - Larry Casper and Jane Hise

Thank You from Victor

I would like to thank Jim Earl, Dick Renate Wilms-Rovin, Kelly Murphy, and Kerry Reed for all their help. We put in (51 hours) since our last report.

Victor Kahler-Property

Thank You from Citrus County Blessings

To All at Hope Evangelical Lutheran Church,

Thank you for the \$60 donation received recently for our Blessings program.

As you know, we are quiet right now for summer break. Now I know why teachers look forward to this time of year.

Thank you also for all your support of our program. Honestly, I am not sure what we would do without you all. Between the use of your facility, your team assembly from your church and your volunteers to pick up & deliver our food product. You all do so much for us and I just want you to know you are appreciated. Thank you!

Sincerely,
Debbie Lattin
Chair

Council Highlights from June 18, 2014 Meeting

1. To further outreach to the community, a free lunch will be offered on the second Saturday of the month. Involvement of other churches will be sought.
 2. Stephen ministry will be revitalized. Ruth Moheit and Steve Northsea are our current leaders and interested members will be trained as Stephen ministers.
 3. On recommendation of the Worship and Music Committee, the council approved purchase of a Worship Music Accompaniment System (Music Machine for short) that will be utilized during the early Worship Service and during times when the organist/choir director is not available.
 4. A follow up on the 16 financial questions is planned for August 10th. During a pot luck luncheon, all members of the congregation are invited to share their thoughts and make suggestion to further the financial health of HOPE.
 5. To participate in ELCA's "God's Work, Our Hands Sunday" on September 7, 2014, a barbeque (hot dog, baked beans, chips, soda) lunch will be offered to members of the church and the community. A donation of canned goods for SOS is encouraged.
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Martyr's Moment

Jan Hus c1367-July 6, 1415

Jan Hus was a Czech priest, philosopher, reformer and master at Charles University in Prague. After John Wycliffe, the theorist of ecclesiastical Reformation, Hus is considered the first church reformer, as he lived before Luther, Calvin and Zwingli.

Hus was tried by the pope and because would not recant his writings and preaching he was sentenced to be

burned at the stake for his beliefs. The executioner undress Hus and tied his hands behind his back with ropes and bound his neck with a chair to a stake around which wood and straw had been piled up so that it covered him to his neck. Again Hus was given the chance to recant and save his life and he refused. As Hus was about to expire, he cried out "Christ, son of the Living God, have mercy on us!"

Lutheran Services Florida: A Ministry of Love, Service and Faith

Florida Lutherans are Making a Difference

Florida Lutherans make a big difference in the lives of many. Our work together is molding the future Church by transforming lives through loving, serving and putting faith in action. We answer prayers every day. Each year, we serve more than 130,000 people.

Most of our ministries receive government funding which is sufficient to pay the staff and other overhead. These funds do not cover other needs such as quilts, backpacks, car seats and baby monitors. For those items we depend on our donors, supporters and volunteers.

As one donor put it; "The thing I love most about giving to LSF is that I know almost every penny of my gift goes directly to the people that need it the most. Government grants pay the overhead and I get to just help the people."

Personal Money Autobiography

The Congregation Council invites members to use the 16 Personal Money Autobiography questions. One question will be in the bulletin each week. We hope that at the end of four months, all members will have used the questions to consider how and why they give what they give to the ministry of Hope.

July's three questions to add to your personal autobiography:

14. When are you willing to give to the church and other causes with no strings attached?

15. What kinds of risks are you willing to take with your money?

16. What will you do with your money as you approach the end of this life?

A follow up on the 16 financial questions is planned for August 10th. During a pot luck luncheon, all members of the congregation are invited to share their thoughts and make suggestions to further the financial health of HOPE.

Known Birthdays and Anniversaries in July

Birthdays

2 Casey Gaylaro
7 Judy Thomason-Kasco
15 Anthony Diaz
16 Ned Davis
18 Deacon Diane Kahler
24 Barbara Stetson
25 Anita O'Donnell
31 Joan Layton



Anniversaries

17 Dave & Judy Howe (34)
25 Ned & Joyce Davis (45)

Those Assisting in Worship for July at 10am Worship Service

Communion Assistants and Acolytes

6—Emilio DelValle/Renate Wilms-Rovin
13—Dee Forsyth/Jackie Dean
20—Deacon John Chiappetta/Judy Howe
27—Kelly Haines/Dee Forsyth

Altar Guild

Margarita Chiappetta
Margaret DeWalt
Casey Gaylarido
Deacon Diane Kahler

Nursery

6—Janice Pitre
13—Judy Thomason
20—TBA
27—Ann Becwar

Lay Readers

6—Deacon John Chiappetta
13—Peggy Schade
20—Lee Pitre
27—Bob Schade

Ushers for the Month

David Doyle
Manley Benmark

Assisting Ministers

6— Kelly Haines
13— Steve Northsea
20— Deacon John Chiappetta
27—Deacon Diane Kahler

Guest Greeter

Alice Doyle

Greeters

Rita & Ron Cowan



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i> Forth of July Office Closed	<i>5</i>
<i>6</i> Communion 8:00a Spoken Worship 9:00a Sunday School CR2 10:00a Worship 11:15a Fellowship	<i>7</i>	<i>8</i> 7:00p Evangelism/ Stewardship Mtg	<i>9</i> 10:00a Book Club at Blvd Bistro 7:00p Finance Committee	<i>10</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>12</i>
<i>13</i> Communion 8:00a Spoken Worship 9:00a Sunday School CR2 10:00a Worship 11:15a Fellowship	<i>14</i>	<i>15</i>	<i>16</i> 10:00a Book Club at Blvd Bistro 7:00p Council Mtg	<i>17</i>	<i>18</i>	<i>19</i>
<i>20</i> Communion 8:00a Spoken Worship 9:00a Sunday School CR2 10:00a Worship 11:15a Fellowship	<i>21</i>	<i>22</i>	<i>23</i> 10:00a Book Club at Blvd Bistro	<i>24</i>	<i>25</i>	<i>26</i>
<i>27</i> Communion 8:00a Spoken Worship 9:00a Sunday School CR2 10:00a Worship 11:15a Fellowship	<i>28</i>	<i>29</i>	<i>30</i>	<i>31</i>	<h1>July 2014</h1>	