

# The Voice of Hope

The newsletter of Hope Lutheran Church, San Mateo, CA  
 “Knowing and sharing the good news of Hope in Christ”

## From the Council President



**H**ope is in transition. What are the elements of a good transition? One description of a good transition can be based on five characteristics that are summarized by five letters T-R-U-T-H. This Voice message is about the first letter T - Transparency.

Some changes in our lives are personal. We make decisions in private and continue on our chosen path. When a transition involves more than one person – the congregation – decisions must be made with input from everyone. The members of Hope need an open transparent environment where everyone feels safe and encouraged to express their concerns, insights and opinions. Hope’s leaders need to welcome and promote candid conversation and new ideas without being judgmental. An open environment makes hidden agendas and secret discussions unnecessary. Hope needs to draw on the experience, wisdom and creativity of the entire congregation. Hope’s Behavioral Covenants provide a wonderful guideline for the conversations the members of Hope will have concerning Hope’s future and our search and the selection of new pastoral leadership. Please, ask questions and share your ideas. It is a challenge keeping the congregation up to date with a monthly ‘Voice’ article. Some of what I write now may be old news once this message is actually delivered. So, look for information in the Sunday bulletins and ask questions. Here is a brief update: The Council has met with Rev. Nancy Nelson, Bishop’s Associate, to outline the call and interim ministry process. In the coming weeks, we will have

an opportunity to have several different ministers from the area lead our Sunday worship service. The Council hopes to have an interim in place soon – the interview process has begun.

Again, ask questions, share your ideas and pray.

Dear God, help the members of Hope to look for the Light of your Son, Jesus the Christ, that the Way may become clear, and your will may be done. Amen.

Jerilyn Struven

## Special Events

The Sierra Pacific Synod Women of the ELCA will hold their 12th Biennial Convention, October 9-11, 2015, in Oakhurst, CA

For additional information, call Martha Welch - 637-1475

### HLCW Summer Circles

All daytime Women’s Circles will meet as a group on the 3rd Tuesday of the month during summer in Nielsen Hall at 9:30 am.

## Pastor Paul's Notes



**H**ere is a 6 month report on our program, "Inter Generational Services":

We have had three Community Forums with the topics of "Quality of Life for Seniors," "Taking Care of Loved Ones" and "Spiritual Wellness." Two sessions have been conducted for "Conversations with

Teens and Seniors", both at Hope and at Holy Trinity, San Carlos.

The IGS project vision is to create a caring community in providing supportive services. In turn, to improve the overall health of the community. We aim to sort through the maze of government and community resources, as well as outreach to businesses and professionals in bringing cohesive and impactful programs to our surrounding communities. Because of the sponsorship support provided by a number of agencies and individuals, our income has equaled expenditures.

We will be planning our next Forum for October. Assisting with the project has been our coordinator, Margaret Baggerly. A Task Force serves to provide management and members include: Lynn Loveall, Lois Nieman, Bryan Pederson and George Studle.

Members of the Church Council, installed on July 19th, will serve in the coming year:

President:	Jerilyn Struven
Vice President:	Jack Coyne
Secretary:	Marlys Jungroth
Education:	Paul Forbes
Evangelism:	Hank Harper
Finance:	Jack Coyne
Preschool	Nancy Kehl
Personnel:	Neville Saner
Property Management:	Wayne Westphal
Social Concerns:	Helena Dummler
Stewardship:	George Studle
Worship:	Marlys Jungroth
Youth:	Sandi Kane
At Large:	Vacant Position
Financial Secretary:	Linda Harvey
Treasurer:	Tom Stucke

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"Single Seniors" will hope to have a lunch outing on Thursday, August 20. Details to come in Sunday bulletins.

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Café Hope needs people to host in the coming two months. Please sign-up in Nielsen Hall, and thank you for providing for hospitality and fellowship!

## Hope Lutheran Milestones

Milestones Ministry is a wonderful program that we started up again. With Pastor Eric gone we are now in need of a coordinator to take over Milestones. To volunteer or for more information please call our office at 650-349-0100 or e-mail [anniehelc@pacbell.net](mailto:anniehelc@pacbell.net)

### About Milestones Ministry —

We hope you will consider participating in *Milestones* as a way of nurturing the bond of our community and bridging the expression of faith in home and church. Vibrant Faith Ministries, the developers of *Milestones*, says "Life is full of meaningful moments. Celebrating these milestones helps bring God's presence into the home

and the rituals of daily life into the congregation."... Milestone Ministry provides an opportunity to "participate in a way of life that marks special moments as 'God Moments', and honors them as part of the journey of faith.

Each participating family will receive a handcrafted 4 inch bowl that, as Vibrant Faith Ministry says, "not only adds a lovely decorative touch to any home, but holds special meaning to the family that owns it. Milestones Blessing Bowls are designed to remind us of those meaningful moments that makes up our lives and to help us share our stories."



## from our Choirs Director



### WHERE DID CHURCH CHOIRS COME FROM AND WHY DO WE HAVE THEM?

Choirs began in church. Monks sang in unison tunes known as plainchant. As time went on, composers began to write more interesting melodies above the original line, thus creating parts. Then they wanted to add more and higher arts, and from the 12<sup>th</sup> century, boys were trained to do these parts. The voices were divided into basses, tenors and very high tenors into altos. Eventually women's voices were added to fill out the harmonies. The use of choirs spread beyond the church and were used to make public statements as well as to express deeply personal sentiments. Handel wrote choral works for the English public who responded by forming choirs and choral societies. Choirs began to make a big impact in Europe for its social messages, and as choral societies increased, it became clear that a choir need not possess the finest singers but could also use volunteers.

Why do we need church choirs? Choirs support good congregational singing. Without a choir to lead, most often congregations choose not to sing at all. The choir encourages the congregation without overpowering them. Choirs can offer more difficult and complex music than is possible for the congregation. In addition, the choir can offer up musical praises on behalf of the congregation that would otherwise not be possible.

The church choir is an open, welcoming and diverse group. In today's expectations, there is a trend for musicians to look a certain way, or be a certain age, etc. This is not true of a church choir. Worship leaders should resemble the diversity of Christ's Kingdom, and reflect the population of the congregation. In addition, choirs just plain have fun while serving the congregation.

The church choir adds creative artistry, beauty, and a variety of styles to our services. What

would our worship services be like without the choir? There would certainly be less leadership. In addition, there would be a lesser ability to follow the New Testament admonishment to sing and make melody in our hearts to the Lord.

Our choirs enrich our worship experience. We have dedicated groups in our choirs who lead us faithfully. The Lutheran tradition incorporates music in our worship, and although our choirs do well, there's always room for more members, and you would be most welcome to join us.

Shirley Fitzgerald, Choirs Director

[Shirleyhelc@pacbell.net](mailto:Shirleyhelc@pacbell.net)



## Social Concerns



Our annual Backpack Ingathering brought in about 30 backpacks filled with school supplies for kids going back to school this year. Some backpacks were donated to Home and Hope, where the staff will open a "school supply shop" for the children to "buy" supplies with play money and choose items they need and want. The rest of the backpacks went to the Samaritan House, where they were distributed to needy children in the community. Thank you for your contributions to our local kids' education.



## Stewardship

### **Stewardship is about money, but it is not ONLY about money**

The depth and breadth of stewardship theology – by the Rev. Michael Meier

*Continued from July Voice...*

**S**elf-care and vocational fulfillment, the stewardship of our lives In biblical times our modern concepts of personal freedom and individuality were virtually unknown. People cared for themselves and fulfilled their callings by being attentive to their assigned roles in the community. The communal fabric was intended to provide direction, supervision and support for the individual's life. Individuals were expected to trust the wisdom of the community and live in obedience to the community's expectations.

Today, in Western culture, we have huge opportunities for personal freedom and individual expression. For many the dictates of the surrounding community have a limited effect on their lives. Many feel free to "do their own thing." If one does not like the disapproval of a community, one can move and find another. In fact, many of us have moved from the neighborhoods where we grew up to neighborhoods which we view as being more tolerant of our individuality. We change jobs if the culture of our workplace impinges on our lifestyle. We change friendships, join or leave various groups, take up hobbies in pursuit of our individual goals.

Such freedom leaves us with great responsibility. The surrounding culture assumes that choices for healthy care of self and vocational responsibility come largely from within ourselves. How are those choices shaped?

A Christian approach to self-care and vocational fulfillment is marked by obedience to and dependence upon God and God's plan. Knowledge of God and God's plan, however, need not be limited to our individual wisdom. Here again, the living organism of the church, the Body of Christ, is able to provide more than we can supply from within our individual selves. Other people of faith, expressing the intentions of the Holy Spirit, can assist us by providing some level of direction, supervision and support for our individual lives.

The stewardship of our individual lives will be shaped by our understanding of God's plan as revealed through our individual quest and through the collective wisdom of the people of faith.

**What does Luther say?** Lutheran theology appeals to the gathered community of faith as one of the ways God reveals God's purposes. In the Smalcald Articles (Part III, Article IV), Martin Luther wrote: "We now want to return to the gospel, which gives guidance and help against sin in more than one way, because God is extravagantly rich in his grace: first, through the spoken word, by which the forgiveness of sins is preached to the whole world (which is the proper function of the gospel); second, through baptism; third, through the holy Sacrament of the Altar; fourth, through the power of the keys and also *through the mutual conversation and consolation of brothers and sisters. Matthew 18:20* "Where two or three are gathered..." (emphasis added).—From *The Book of Concord: The Confessions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church*, Fortress Press, 2000, p.319.

**Finding balance** Perhaps, the biggest challenge for us in the stewardship of our individual lives is the issue of balance. We need to find balance between work and leisure, responsibility and individuality, achievement and relationship, commitment and freedom, plenty and poverty, spending and saving, planning and trusting, giving and receiving.

#### **Stewardship includes care of the whole of Creation**

The events of the last several decades remind us that we live in a finite universe. This is not news to Christians; we have long believed that God brought all that exists out of nothing. What is news is our deepened awareness that our behaviors impact not only the lives of others of our species, but the whole living world and all its inanimate structures.

The Bible says that the created world is not divine; God is divine. But the Bible has a high view of the intrinsic value of all that God has created. Scripture celebrated the fullness and diversity of what God has created. Three segments of the Bible are particularly useful in reminding us of the majesty of creation: Genesis 1-2, Job 38-39 and Psalm 104.

The celebration of the intrinsic value of creation must lead to behaviors which emphasize the interconnectedness and finitude of all that exists and our responsibility to care for it.

*To be continued in September...*



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## Spark Time Sunday School in August

Children from Kindergarten thru Grade 6

dismissed to Sunday School during Sending Hymn and

join parents in Café Hope after approximately 30 minutes of study and activity.

Date	Theme	Scripture
August 2	The Greatest Commandment	Matthew 22:34-46
August 9	Solomon Builds	1 Kings 6
August 16	Naaman Is Healed	2 Kings 5:1-19
August 23	Serve and Follow	John 12:20-33
August 30	Queen Esther	Esther 2:5-18: 3:1-6, 8:1-17

### Ministry Assistants

Date	Assisting Ministers	Communion Assistants	Readers	Spark Leaders
8/2	TBA	Bill Horziencik Marlys Jungroth	James Schullte	Monika Hastings Jessica Stucke
8/9	Skip Dahl	Tom & Deb Stucke	Lyle Johnson	George Studle Emma Worthge
8/16	Jack Coyne	Carole Setzer Sandi Kane	Bill Horziencik	Hank Harper Ken Struven
8/23	Bill Kannenberg	David & Mary Phillips	Margo Kannenberg	Monika Hastings Jessica Stucke
8/30	Don Hermansen	Nancy Kehl Linda Harvey	James Schulte	Sandi Kane Heather Hoover

# Celebrating birthdays in August

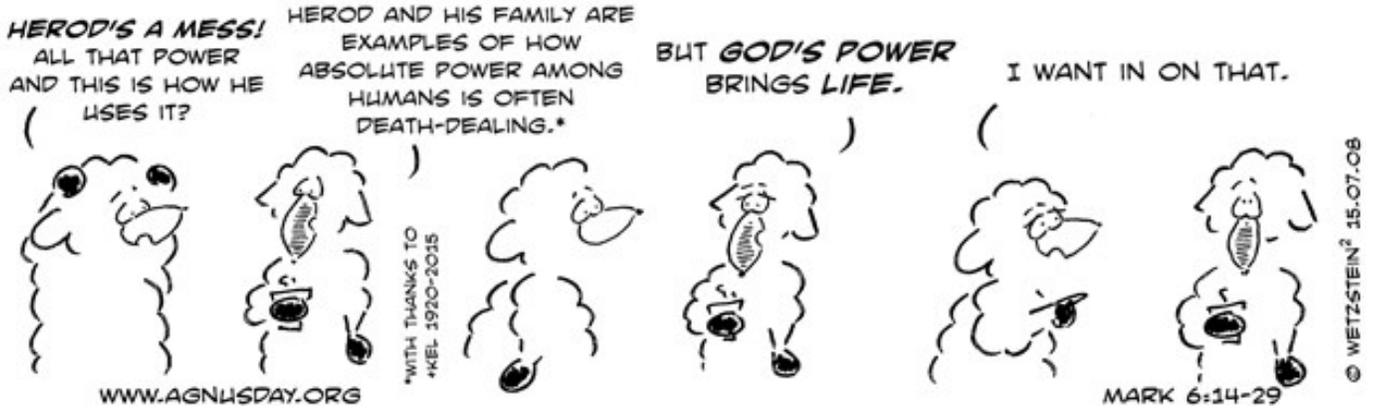
Carol Way  
 James Gottula  
 Kathryn McAuliffe  
 Karl Voss  
 George Paddack  
 Pamela Rianda  
 Greg Wagner  
 Eva Landman

Helen Hanlon  
 Meghan Green  
 Patricia Kennison  
**Vera Feige**  
 Andy Hermansen  
 Norma Martin  
 Sue Voss\*  
 Stephanie Bravo

Lyle Johnson  
 Andrew Hastings  
 Alex Bootzin\*  
 Jennifer Crawford (Fischer)  
 George Studle  
 Haley Blundell

**Names in bold = our brothers/sisters turning 90-90+ years!**

\* = Friend of Congregation



We made it to Texas and it IS hot! Paul was right when he told me at men's breakfast that traffic is even more congested here but thanks to GPS we can get to the store and back home. We do

like our new house and are looking forward to getting everything into its place. My camera is in one of those boxes yet so the best I could do with a photo is this selfie of us in front of the house.

Thanks for your cards and well wishes. We are praying for our Hope family.

God bless,  
 Eric and Marsha

 Pastor Eric's moving truck pulls out from his old California home.



Selfie from Texas





May 13, 2015

Dear Hope Lutheran Church,

My dear mother, Carleen Burri, passed away on April 14, 2015. I am sending you this letter because she attended your church for many years (approximately

1968-2005). Many people in your church were her friends through Women's Circle, Sunday school, VBS, and especially through her faithful, long-time work in the church office. So many people there welcomed and befriended her, and she loved them. They may wish to know about her passing.

Carleen did not want a funeral or any memorial service, and arranged in advance to be cremated and buried at sea. However, Carleen's children and grandchildren met together the day after she passed on, to share some vivid recollections about our wonderful mother and grandmother. We remember a remarkable woman who led a significant life. Her faith in God never wavered and she was eager for heaven. The enclosed obituary contains a short biography and some significant facts.

I thank God for the small mercies he has shown to us at this sad time. Near the end, despite her frailty and memory loss, Carleen rallied enough to recognize her family, hold our hands and kiss us all goodbye. It was extraordinary; she was such a strong woman! She passed away peacefully and without pain; she was more than ready to go. Above all, I give Him thanks for the life of a woman I am so proud to be able to call my mother, who will dwell in our hearts and memories as long as we live.

Best wishes to you, your families, and the whole congregation. Thank you for being a part of Mom's Christian life. We are thankful for all of you and your loving friendship and support.

Sincerely,  
Barbara Ditman  
P.O. Box 177  
Cle Elum, WA 98922



**CARLEEN GEORGETTE (MEYERS) BURRI**

March 9, 1919 - April 14, 2015  
Resident of Sunnyvale

Carleen "Mickey" Burri passed away from natural causes on April 14, 2015, at the age of 96 years.

Born and raised by extended family in the small town of Arlington, Iowa, Carleen grew up to be a perky, lively, and energetic woman, suiting the nickname of "Mickey" that was bestowed on her by a favorite uncle. Carleen followed her future husband, Paul, to California, where they married in December 1942. Although an experienced hairdresser, she joined the war effort by working as "Rosie the Riveter" on WWII military planes at the Consolidated airplane plant in San Diego, until she became a mother. In addition to lovingly raising her five children, Carleen became a factory worker in electronics and worked intermittently in that industry for many years.

Carleen was a devoted Christian and taught Sunday school for over 60 years. She was an active member of churches near her homes in Richmond, S. San Francisco, Belmont, and Sunnyvale, and donated countless hours to help them succeed and grow. Widely admired for her energy and engagement, Carleen also volunteered in hospitals, homeless shelters and kitchens, schools, child care, and elsewhere. Her major hobbies were reading, crocheting, and crossword puzzles; she also enjoyed traveling and gardening. She was especially fond of young children and loved to cuddle and read to them. Her homemade cookies were a favorite of generations of family and friends. Carleen was noted for vivid, joyful memories of her youth and her enduring love and care for her family.

Carleen was preceded in death by her husband, Paul Burri; daughter Bonnie Prescott; sisters Norine Lindfield, Reva Mae Bates, and Lorna McCarthy; and brother Veryl Meyers. She is survived by her brother Don Meyers; brother-in-law Jim Bates; daughters Beverly Burri, Barbara (Craig) Ditman, and Betty Burri (Kurt Annweiler); son Joseph Burri; son-in-law Steven Prescott; eight grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews. She was loved and will be missed by all of them.

At Carleen's request, there will be no memorial service. Contributions in her memory may be made to Hope Lutheran Church in Belmont or a charity of your choice.

Published in the *San Mateo County Times* on Tuesday, April 28, 2015.

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July 7, 2015

Dear Hope Lutheran Church family,

I appreciate all the visits from Pastor Paul & Pastor Eric and others who've visited. Also, thank you for sending the weekly Bulletins & "Christ In Our Home" booklets, they keep me going.

Sincerely,  
Lois Kornaherns

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July 14, 2015

To the Folks at Hope -

Thanks many time given for your cards, calls and prayers! We are slowly coming back!

Best wishes,  
Warren & Maralyn Struven

**~August 2015 ~**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						<b>1</b> Youth Mexico Mission Trip
<b>2</b> Youth Mexico Mission Trip  10am Worship 11am Café Hope	<b>3</b> Youth Mexico Mission Trip  9:30am Aerobics  7:30pm AA*	<b>4</b> Youth Mexico Mission Trip  12pm Staff Meeting	<b>5</b> Youth Mexico Mission Trip  9:30am Aerobics  6:30pm Elder Consult Geriatric Med "Support Group"	<b>6</b> Youth Mexico Mission Trip	<b>7</b> Youth Mexico Mission Trip  9:30am Aerobics  8pm AA*	<b>8</b> Youth Mexico Mission Trip
<b>9</b>  10am Worship 11am Café Hope	<b>10</b>  9:30am Aerobics  7:30pm AA*	<b>11</b>  9am Quilters	<b>12</b>  9:30am Aerobics  2pm Worship Committee Mtg.	<b>13</b>  7pm Council Mtg.	<b>14</b>  9:30am Aerobics  8pm AA*	<b>15</b>
<b>16</b>  10am Worship 11am Café Hope	<b>17</b>  9:30am Aerobics  7:30pm AA*	<b>18</b>  10am Women's Summer Bible Study  12pm Staff Meeting	<b>19</b>  9:30am Aerobics	<b>20</b>  12:30pm Single Seniors	<b>21</b>  9:30am Aerobics  8pm AA*	<b>22</b>
<b>23</b>  10am Worship 11am Café Hope	<b>24</b>  9:30am Aerobics  7:30pm AA*	<b>25</b>  9am Quilters	<b>26</b>  9:30am Aerobics	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>  9:30am Aerobics  8pm AA*	<b>29</b>
<b>30</b>  10am Worship 11am Café Hope	<b>31</b>  9:30am Aerobics  7:30pm AA*	* = Outside Organization				