

The Voice of Hope

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

Pastor Daniel Severson



Dear Friends,
 The Executive Committee here at Hope has extended my contract to serve as Interim Pastor for another six months. This means I will be with you until the month of February. One of the joys I have experienced

here was leading the classes on the Bible as a whole and another on Luther. The response to both classes was great and something like 25—30% of the congregation was involved. Clearly, there is a hunger for learning and spiritual growth at Hope.

This being the case, it would make sense to me to follow-up on this with a class that integrates the development of Christian Doctrine with issues of spirituality, and which includes recent Luther research in connection with this topic. A description of the class would be as follows:

Christian Doctrine as we know it (for example, the doctrine of the Incarnation, the Trinity, Christian anthropology, Salvation, and Eschatology [last things]) was largely developed during the time of the Church Fathers. This was mostly from the third to the sixth century. With the exception of Saint Augustine, who was from North Africa, most of the theologians who were involved with this were Greek speaking and therefore from the eastern or what became the “Orthodox” church. Their guide was, of course, scripture and so any study of this topic necessarily also involves Bible study.

These theological developments were closely tied to what we call “Christian Spirituality.” That is, these doctrines were not so much intellectual ideas alone but were concerned with how our understanding of the Christian faith impacted our spiritual development. That is one reason why, to this day,

the Orthodox Church is thought to emphasize spirituality in its outlook.

Well, wouldn’t you know it, it turns out that when a number of Finnish theologians, some Lutheran and some Orthodox, engaged in ecumenical dialogue, they discovered that Luther had more in common with the theology of the Church Fathers than he did with even some of the other Protestant reformers. In fact, with regard to spirituality centered on Jesus Christ, they were very much in the same ball park.

So, if the people of Hope are interested in spiritual growth, and if they cherish their Lutheran heritage as I do, this is where we need to go. The class would focus on the development and spiritual meaning of our central Christian Doctrines through a study of the Church Fathers and their use of the Bible, and it would include the recent research on Luther and his connection with Orthodox perspectives. History, theology, spirituality, the Bible, and Luther all in one; If you are interested in how Christian Doctrine applies to your spiritual growth, you will like this class.

Moreover, with respect to our mission as a congregation, this study fits in with a new possible emphasis on spirituality here at Hope, something that is already there in terms of our desire for meaningful worship and effective preaching of the Gospel. Were it possible to get news of this out into the community, perhaps, just perhaps, there might be some people out there who are interested in learning about and developing a more vital spiritual life based on a perspective that includes more than just Lutheran tradition. When the class will meet has not been determined just yet. I will let you know next month after discussing this with the Education Committee members. Hope to see you there and be sure to invite a friend or family member.

Pastor Dan

Pastor Paul's Notes



Within the last year what is now called "Villages of San Mateo County" has been created. It is the "HUB" organization that provides for two service organizations, referred to as "SPOKES."

This development follows the pattern of 190 other villages across the country, where neighbors join forces to continue living vibrant and healthy lives in their homes and communities, even as they age and need more support services. In our area now the two 'spokes' are "Sequoia Village" and "Mid Peninsula Village." SV has been underway for about six months and serves members in Belmont, San Carlos, Redwood City and Redwood Shores. MPV will launch its services this September and will serve people in San Mateo, Burlingame and Hillsborough.

What are the benefits of being members? They are 3-fold:

- * Volunteers are available to help with transportation, household assistance and maintenance, errands and more
- * Providers are at hand who can help with professional projects and services like plumbing, roofing, home health care - all licensed professionals who often give discounts to members
- * Programs are offered which are free or low-cost, from educational to cultural to healthy outings and Events

If you are interested in exploring membership, here are the ways to do it: You can call "Sequoia Village"

at 650 260-4569 or contact their website, www.sequoiavillage.org; or "Mid Peninsula Village" at 650 434-2455 or www.midpeninslavillage.org. In addition, there are regular information sessions conducted, either on the 2nd Thursday of each month from 10-11:30 am at the San Carlos Adult Community Center or the 4th Thursday, from 1-2 pm at Twin Pines Senior and Community Center in Belmont. In August these dates are August 11 in San Carlos and August 25 in Belmont.

There will be more information concerning the start-up of "MidPeninsula Village" in September. In addition to being a member each of the Villages seek volunteers who can assist with any number of services. If you are interested, please contact them.

"Single Seniors" has continued its schedule of lunch-outings in the summer. For this month the date will be August 18. The Sunday bulletin will provide the specifics on place and time.

We are looking forward to our first event in the fall, on Tuesday, September 6. On July 26 a planning group included people from our 4 area ELCA congregations (Hope, St. Andrew's, Holy Trinity and Messiah) for the purpose of planning events from September through the next year.

"God's Work/Our Hands" community service project will happen on Saturday, September 10. It will consist of our hosting a B-B-Q at Samaritan House. Stay tuned for details given in Sunday bulletins.

Celebrating birthdays in August

- Kathryn McAuliffe
- Karl Voss
- Pamela Rianda
- Eva Landmann
- Helen Hanlon
- Meghan Green
- Patricia Kennison
- Vera Feige**
- Andy Hermansen

- Norma Martin
- Sue Voss*
- Stephanie Bravo
- Lyle Johnson
- Andrew Hastings
- Alex Bootzin*
- Jennifer Crawford
- George Studle
- Haley Blundell



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

* = Friend of Congregation

From our Council President



Dear Brothers and Sisters of Hope Lutheran Church, I hope this month's Voice of Hope finds you in good health, sprit, and enjoying the many gifts God has given us to enjoy during this summer. Hopefully many of you have a chance to get away from your daily work and chores and enjoy some of God's miracles around us. Marcia and I will be spending a week up in the Tahoe area, which is very relaxing and peaceful and always reminds me of the gracious gifts we have received from God. I do hope and pray that all of you have a chance this summer to recognize and enjoy the wonder of God's gifts to each of us.

I also want to thank the people of Hope for responding to my request and attending the semi-annual meeting. We were able to vote on important items to carry on the business of Hope. At this point the new Council is organized and working on taking care of the needs at Hope and looking forward to the next chapter at Hope. The Call committee has been meeting and working to move the Call process forward. While we are hopeful this will move forward quickly, we also recognize that

there are a large number of churches in our Synod looking for their next called Pastor, and the Synod office has a number of staffing challenges, so it might take longer than we would like to find our next called pastor. The Council and Call Committee will continue to work hard to move this process forward and to find the right person to call as our next full time Pastor. In the meantime, we are working with Pastor Dan, who has truly been a blessing for us at Hope, to extend his contract into next year. This will give us the time to identify the person God calls to both of us to be the Pastor at Hope.

I also want to thank the congregation and the Council for giving me the opportunity to serve again as Council President. As we go through this year please let me know if there is anything you think we need to do at Hope or that you want the Council to consider. We have many opportunities and challenges facing us but together with open minds and hearts we can accomplish our goals.

Council President
Jack Coyne

from our Choirs Director



CHOIR MEMNBERSHIP

Relax I'm not going to beg you to join the choir nor lay a guilt trip on you for not joining our dedicated yet jovial group. In fact, YOU ARE ALREADY in the choir. The congregation is the church's "big" choir. Especially in Lutheran congregations with our heritage of music, singing is a shared human activity. Yes, the "chancel" choir leads the congregation and "performs" special music to support and stimulate the church's "big" choir. You don't, however, need an advanced degree in vocal performance in order to sing hymns or liturgy. The "choir" and the "big choir" may have different roles in worship, but we all share responsibility for participating.

You hear from all sides that this activity or that pill

will cure whatever your particular ailment may be, but guess what? music can help too! "Lifting your voice may lower your blood pressure. Harvard researchers ...reported the dramatic case of a woman whose blood pressure was so high that surgeons postponed a critical operation – that is, until she sang six favorite hymns. Her readings fell by more than 20 points, allowing for a successful surgery the next day. With "no cost or side effects, there's no harm in trying it." From "Good Housekeeping, December 2011.

SO WELCOME TO THE CHOIR AND "BIG CHOIR"
AND BE HAPPY AND BE HEALTHY

Shirley Fitzgerald,
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650-349-0100 x 105

Call Committee News:

The following members were elected to the Call Committee at the annual meeting in June 12, 2016:

- Linda Harvey (Alternate)
- Margo Kannenberg
- Nancy Kehl
- Lois Nieman
- David Phillips
- Heidi Waters

Call Committee proceedings are confidential and so we will update the congregation periodically only as we are permitted.

The Call Committee met on June 23, 2016 and elected David Phillips as Chairperson and Heidi Waters as scribe.

The committee reviewed its responsibilities and the Ministry Site Profile.

We agreed that we need to use prayer, discussion and discernment during the Call process and to ask ourselves "Is this who God wants for Hope?"

The Call Committee met on July 6, 2016 and proposed revisions to the Ministry Site Profile for consideration by the Council on July 7, 2016. The approved and revised Ministry Site Profile was filed with the synod on July 10, 2016.

We now await the synod's actions. The congregation is invited to inform Call Committee Chairperson David Phillips if you know of an ordained minister that you would like to have considered for the position. There is a process to be followed whereby the Call Committee can inform the synod of any additional ordained ministers we would like to consider for the position.

In His service,
Hope's Call Committee

Upcoming Events

Saturday, August 6



San Jose Giants Baseball & BBQ, Game Start Time: 5 p.m.

Please contact Sandi Kane if you have any questions. (If you do not want to carpool, the ballpark is located at: 588 E Alma Ave, San Jose, CA 95112) See you at the ballpark!!

Saturday, September 10

God's work. Our hands. We will participate in ELCA's God's Work Our Hands event, by hosting a dinner barbecue for folks at Samaritan's House's Safe Harbor Shelter on Saturday, September 10. Details to follow.

Sunday, September 11

The Sunday morning class on the Gospel according to John will be on vacation for the month of August. We will pick up where we left off on Sunday, September 11 at 11:45 in the Education Building. Anyone who would like to participate is welcome whether you attended during the summer or not. Some of the lectures on John are available on the website under the heading "Adult Bible Study".



Congratulations to Phil Gaal on his accomplishments:



Dear Family and Great Friends,
Many people have been asking how the Bay Area Senior Games came out for me. The following is a summary of my involvement in these games. All of the events listed below are between men 80 to 84 years old.

The results of the swimming events held at Stanford University on 5-22-16 were as follows:
Event #16...100 Yard IM...First Place,
Event #18...50 Yard Freestyle...Second Place,
Event #28...100 Yard Freestyle...Second Place.

The results of the Track and Field events held at CSM on 5-29-16 were as follows:
50 Meter Dash...First Place,
100 Meter Dash...Second Place,
200 Meter Dash...Fourth Place,
High Jump...First Place,
Long Jump...Second Place,
Triple Jump...First Place,
Javelin Throw...First Place.



The results of "Feats of Strength" Held at Castro Valley on 6-4-16, which was my first time for this competition, were as follows:
Pull ups/Chin ups for repetitions...Second place,
Pull ups/chin ups for Maximum Weight...Second Place
Standing Long Jump...First Place,
Farmer's Walk: 50 Meters carrying 100 Lbs. with 3 turns...Second Place,
Dynamometer Hand Grip Test...Second Place,
Vertical Jump...First Place (World Record),
Dead Lift Lockout...Second Place.



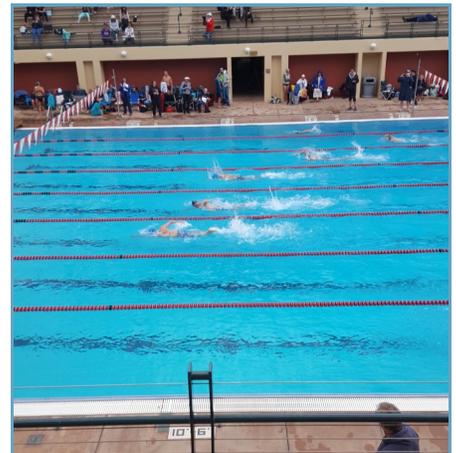
In summary, I was awarded 7 gold medals and 9 silver medals and 1 world record.

A special thanks to my tennis partner and dear friend Helen Phillips for cheering for me during the swimming meet at Stanford on 5-22-16. My sincere appreciation to Lottie and Gene Kendall and Hal Wall for the Tremendous support at the Track and Field events at CSM on 5-29-16. All my love to my wonderful wife Marilyn who supported me at all of the events. On June 29th we celebrated our 58th wedding anniversary.



Thank you so much to the members of our church for all your prayers and good wishes as I competed in 2016 Bay Area Senior Games. I feel that it is very important that each of us do some type of daily exercise no matter how little. We should challenge ourselves to do more each week. By doing regular exercise and following a healthy diet, we prepare ourselves to face any situation that may come our way. May God Bless you.

Sincerely,
Phil Gaal



~ August 2016 ~

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
July 31 10am Worship 11am Café Hope	1 9:30am Aerobics 7:30pm AA*	2 12pm Staff Meeting	3 9:30am Aerobics	4	5 9:30am Aerobics 8pm AA*	6 5pm San Jose Giants Baseball & BBQ
7 10am Worship 11am Café Hope	8 9:30am Aerobics 7:30pm AA*	9 9am Quilters	10 9:30am Aerobics	11 7pm Council Meeting	12 9:30am Aerobics 8pm AA*	13
14 10am Worship 11am Café Hope	15 9:30am Aerobics 7:30pm AA*	16 10am All Women Circle's Bible Study 12pm Staff Mtg.	17 9:30am Aerobics	18 12:30 pm Single Seniors Lunch Outing	19 9:30am Aerobics 8pm AA*	20
21 10am Worship 11am Café Hope	22 9:30am Aerobics 7:30pm AA*	23 9am Quilters	24 9:30am Aerobics	25	26 9:30am Aerobics 8pm AA*	27
28 10am Worship 11am Café Hope	29 9:30am Aerobics 7:30pm AA*	30	31 9:30am Aerobics	Sept. 1	2 9:30am Aerobics 8pm AA*	3 * = Outside Organization



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 7	The Holy Spirit	Acts 2:1-4, 36-42
August 14	Creation	Genesis 1:1-2:4a
August 21	Adam & Eve	Genesis 2:4-25
August 28	Sheep and Goats	Matthew 23:31-46

Ministry Assistants

Date	Assisting Ministers	Communion Assistants	Readers	Spark Leaders
8/7	Jerilyn Struven	Bill & Margo Kannenberg	Hank Harper	Deb Stucke Rachael Stucke
8/14	Margo Kannenberg	Skip Dahl Sandi Kane	Jerilyn Struven	Monika Hastings
8/21	Don Hermansen	Bob Lillo Carole Setzer	Judy Jeschke	Jessica Stucke Emma Worthge
8/28	Kirsten Severson	Don Hermansen Karen Reed	Frank Lin	Hank Harper Ken Struven