

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 in Christ,

While this newsletter may get to you after the fact, I wanted to let everyone know about a special class I am teaching on Saint Augustine—yes, he is a saint for Lutherans, although we don't pray to him or expect him to intercede for us with God. Knowing Augustine as I do from his writings, he would probably be appalled at the idea that he could be considered a mediator between God and humans. This is so primarily because Augustine was the person who did the most to define what grace means, and our absolute need of grace for hope, faith, and salvation.

The book selected for April's book club meeting is Augustine's "Confessions." This is not a theological work. It is an extended prayer wherein Augustine narrates his life as a journey, under the guidance of God, into the realization that Jesus Christ is, as Saint Paul said, "The wisdom of God," and that Christianity is essentially a matter of coming into a spiritual union with Christ. The meeting is on Thursday, April 6th at 1:30 pm. The class is on Saturday, April 1st at 10:00 am. If you get this in time, I hope you can make it.

Our other study, the Sunday morning class on the gospel of Matthew, is going very well. If you wish to receive a more detailed commentary on this book, each chapter we have covered so far is on the website. Give it a try. I think you will enjoy it.

We have covered Luther and his influence on modern theology as well as his relationship with the Church Fathers. However, it would perhaps be even more interesting for you if we did a survey of the biblical literature, much like the one we did last year, only this time focusing on how Luther interpreted the Torah (First five books of Moses), the history, the

prophets, the wisdom literature (Job, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes), the psalms, and finally the gospels and letters of the New Testament. The advantage of this would be the overall perspective it gives on the Bible, as well as how our Lutheran heritage has seen in each section the grace of God at work for the salvation of us all. More information will be provided in the bulletin. And again, I hope we can find a way to invite others to come

The most important week in the Christian calendar is only a week away. I hope you will join us for all three of these central commemorations. They virtually define what the Gospel is. On Maundy Thursday, April 13, we will celebrate First Communion along with our remembrance of Jesus' last supper with his disciples. On Good Friday, April 14, we will have a service based on the seven last words of Christ from the cross, and their significance for us. And, of course, on Sunday, April 16th, we will celebrate our Lord's resurrection from the dead at two services, one at 8:30 am, and one at 10:30 am. This is the day of salvation. This is the day wherein we are assured that love wins over hate, and life over death. Apart from this event in human history, there is no hope that rises above mere temporary goals for happiness. Easter assures us that life, love, and fellowship with God are eternal. Please join us and praise the Lord for his inexpressible gift!!

There is one more item of note having to do with Church business. The Synod Assembly this year is on May 4-6-this is a Thursday through a Saturday-at the Double Tree by Hilton in Fresno. We are entitled to three lay members, either two women and one man, or two men and one woman. If anyone is interested in coming down to beautiful downtown Fresno with me, let me know. I really would prefer not to go alone!!

Happy Easter to all,
 Pastor Dan

Pastor Paul's Notes



We extend our love and care to the Severson family on the passing of Ruth. The memorial service was held at Hope on March 11. In her memory there is now an established "Senior Ministry Fund" that will be used to expand activities and offer specific assistance to meet a variety of needs that are expressed.

A member of some years ago, Geraldine Rockefeller, passed away on March 10. A tentative date for a memorial service has been scheduled for Saturday, July 8.

"SINGLE SENIORS" will have a lunch-outing and tour to Filoli Gardens in Woodside on Tuesday, April 4. We have a chartered bus that will leave church at 11 am. The fee for the bus is \$6. The plan is to have lunch there first and then enjoy a tour, guided by a docent.

On Thursday, April 27, the group plans to travel to the Job Corps on Treasure Island, having lunch at their Culinary Arts dining room followed by a tour of the facilities. Car pool from church at 11 am. Please make sure to sign-up in Nielsen Hall by April 16 so we can co-ordination transportation.

Thank you to "SINGLE SENIORS" for hosting Café Hope on April 2.

On Tuesday, May 2, we will have a guest speaker, Attorney Roxanne Jen, and that will take place in Nielsen Hall, 12:30 to 2 pm. Bring a bag lunch. More details will follow on the specific topics she will address.

A new book recommendation: The Spirituality of Age by Drs. Bob Weber and Carol Orsborn. We will soon have that book available for reference and study. A brief description is that "it empowers us to view aging as a spiritual path. It affirms that by engaging with questions about loss, meaning and mortality we not only learn to cope but live life to the full."



Pictures above: From 3/7/17
Guest Speaker Marla Seidman

Photo credit to
Maggie K Timeus



Pictures below: From 3/16/17 Seniors
Lunch outing at Pacifica Rockaway Beach,
Moonraker.

From our Council President



Brothers and Sisters in Christ, I hope this edition of the Voice of Hope finds you in good health and good sprits. While I thought last month we might be through the wettest of our winter weather and ready to welcome Spring,

I guess I was wrong. We are still seeing a lot of rain and colder weather, but we are also seeing spring flowers bloom, longer days and some warmer weather. Spring is around the corner and it is time to get ready, ready for Spring, ready for Easter, and ready for great things at Hope. So what does it take to get your Spring-cleaning done or spruce up your garden and plant spring flowers? Well, it takes some planning as to what needs to be spruced up, what you want it to look like, what flowers or colors you want added to your garden, or what vegetables you want to plant, grow and harvest. Then you need to do the work and after that is done you need to enjoy the fruits of your labor. It is usually not too much work, it just takes some time, planning, money and effort.

So what does it take to be ready for Easter? As we get ready for Easter and the celebration of the new life and forgiveness of sins given us by our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, we should remember why Jesus died for us and was raised on Easter morning. We should contemplate how to live our lives as children of God. We have many opportunities to worship together during this time, as we get ready for Easter.

Well then, what does it take to be ready for and participate in the great things we have and do at Hope? Well, one thing we need to consider is how can we individually support Hope and our brothers and sisters at Hope, what can each of us do or offer to make Hope as great as it can be, and serving God in assisting our congregation and community? Well, one way everyone could be ready is to consider and agree to serve on the Hope Council. We are at that time again when the Nominating Committee will be reaching out to people to see if they would be willing to serve on the Council. I hope you will give it careful consideration. But that brings up the question of what does it take to be a Council Member at Hope? I know many of you feel it is something you do not have the time, or skills or experience to do, but let me tell you what it takes to be on Council. It doesn't really take that much. It takes a willingness to spend a few hours over the period of a year meeting and discussing what you and what you think others at Hope would like to take place. It takes someone who cares about Hope and our family here and who wants that to continue. It takes someone who can listen to the other Council members and the people at Hope and make sure all voices are heard. Being a Council member is not hard, it is very important, and it can be rewarding also. So as the Nominating Committee members reach out to you, consider serving on the Council. Please ask yourself: what does it take for me to help my Hope family and help as a Council member? Remind yourself that it does not take any special skills. It just takes a love for Hope and a desire to help. Then, please volunteer to serve.

Council President
Jack Coyne



Easter Plants

The Altar Guild will be decorating the church with lilies and other spring plants during the Easter season. To donate a flower please complete the form found in your bulletin or on the table in the Narthex. The cost is \$12.00 each.



from our Choirs Director



During the month of April as we concentrate on preparing for Holy Week and Easter, we will temporarily table our project of using hymns that have a special connection to the 500 Reformation theme.

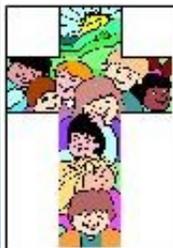
We have highlighted #309 "The Only Son from Heaven" in January, #313 "O Lord, Now Let Your Servant" in February, and #641 "All Are Welcome" in March.

In April we will enjoy revisiting familiar, dearly loved hymns of Lent, Holy Week, and Easter. In May we will return to including hymns that highlight our continuing connection to the preparation for the 500th anniversary of the Reformation.

Shirley Fitzgerald
Choirs Director



Preschool Corner



We are preparing for our annual Family Night. This year the theme is "Preschool is a Jungle!"

The children are busy making tigers, elephants, snakes, frogs and much more getting the classroom ready for an amazing rain forest.

This is our way to show case the preschool and treat the parents to the wonders of preschool.

As we are also preparing for Easter, the children will perform songs reflecting the season at the annual Spring sing and Recognition Sunday.



Wish all a very Happy Easter from the preschool staff.

Blessings,
Jeanne



Celebrating birthdays in April

Everett Bootzin*
Kim Schroeder-Siguenza
Bruce Bulkin
Art Schillberg
Krista Wilson
Elaine Dummler
Joan Ausman (Grimsby)
James Schulte

Crystal Dahl
Frank Lin
Robert Mendes*
Barbro Sandberg
Wayne Westphal
Barbara Kreslake
Pamela Loo
Bradley Worthge

Bob Way
Richard Ekong
Kaitlyn Blundell
Kris Brooks
Karin Pickard
David Widdra
George Henderson

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

* = Friend of Congregation



Lenten Suppers & Services with St. Andrew's



Photo credit to
Maggie K Timeus

---_Stitches & Ties x x x x

This writer was acquainted with a fabric collector/bargain hunter who had more fabric than she could use before she passed. The solution was to cut all pieces of less than 4 yards length into 3 yards and make LWR fabric kits, 24 in all. Another fabric lover found 48 350-yd spools of neutral thread online to complete the kits. How satisfying to imagine the persons learning to sew using fabrics already appreciated!

Each kit must contain 2 lengths of woven cotton or cotton-blend fabric. Specific sizes requested are

60"x81", 44"x108", 36"x144". Guidelines for printed fabrics, which are similar to quilt requirements, include no military including no camouflage, also no religious symbols or wording. Your contribution of fabric or funds for the kits will be appreciated by someone eager to learn to sew.

Hope Quilters will continue to meet in Nielsen Hall on the second and 4th Tuesdays through the spring and summer until the end of October. Come and see and enjoy.

HLCW Circles

Lydia Circle is open to women of all ages and stages; Evening or weekend meetings; Our schedule is flexible. Location: Hope Youth Room
Contact: Heidi Waters

Sarah Circle
3rd Tuesday of the month 10:00 am
Location Varies
Contact: Lois Nieman

Mary Circle
3rd Tuesday of the month 10:00 am
Location Varies
Contact: Martha Welch





Hope Lutheran Church Women's Spring Luncheon

Come and Relax
SATURDAY, APRIL 29
12 NOON

Please sign up on the Patio before or after Worship: April 9, 16,
23 or call our Office 650-349-0100

\$12 per person

ENTERTAINMENT INCLUDED



The history of the Golden Gate Brass is a tradition of thirty eight years of making exciting music and entertaining audiences throughout the San Francisco Bay Area. The music began in 1977 with an informal concert on a street in downtown San Francisco, five brass players performing Christmas carols and seeing the first five-dollar tip being dropped into the trumpet case. A number of people participated in the ensemble during the early years, but since 1984 the group has been performing before audiences and delighting those audiences with the same roster of well-known and highly skilled Bay Area musicians.

Hope Lutheran Church
600 W. 42nd Ave.
San Mateo, CA 94403

Social Concerns

HOME and HOPE Thank You's !!

Many thanks to all who helped us support our two lovely families in March. We hosted two Moms and four children, ages two to ten. Picture the hum of kids playing with Legos, Playdough, puzzles, books, the fire engine, drawing, and sleeping safely...it was good.

Set up was done by Bill Fong, Alex and Owen Hoover, Karin Pickard, and Brooks. It was wonderful to make beds with new sheets and blankets, a BIG thanks to all those who donated so generously! Our families also received lovely quilts from our Hope Quilters, much needed this winter. Comforting food was supplied by Marlys Jungroth, Coyne's, Sandi Kane, Marilyn Johnson, Elaine Dummler, and Hank Harper. HUGE thanks to evening hosts/overnighters Marlys, Helena Dummler, Heidi Waters, John Dummler, Hank, and the Brooks. Grocery shoppers were Sam and Nancy Jung, a big job done in the background, and much appreciation to our numerous laundry angels as well.

Please extend your thanks to all volunteers when you see them, as they keep us afloat. Our volunteer base is very slim, so we especially appreciate these caring individuals. Your financial support is also vital and we thank you as well.

Our next Hosting week is in September. We have reduced our participation in Home & Hope to only three weeks in 2017. Our site works especially well for H&H families with use of our Sunday School rooms and Ed bldg. Our small volunteer base still wants to keep a presence in the program, and we ask for prayers to guide us in how to do this. Here's some especially sweet memories of past Home & Hope volunteers....

Eva Landmann, a founding supporter of then Interfaith Hospitality Network, gently holding sleepy babies and spending many, many overnights on an aerobed,

Bernice and Ed Willers, both have passed on, enthusiastic evening hosts, Ed playing with all the kids while Bernice served dinner,

Devra and Mark Dallman, long time supporters with two daughters, Ellie and Carrie growing up helping in the program, now living in Napa and girls all grown up! The whole family spent many Friday/Sat. nights and overnights, having hearts for this ministry that remains today,

Nancy Appling, grocery shopper for many years, working in the background to keep cupboards/frig full,

Christa Basch, generous and loyal dinner provider, always concerned we had enough food,

Doc Dockter, loyal set-up and take-down volunteer, even vacuumed Sunday School rooms willingly,

Joan Cleven, another loyal evening host for so many years, who provided unconditional hospitality to our families,

Phil Gaal, so willing to do overnights whenever needed, and to so many more who created the foundation for our commitment to this shelter program, we thank you.



March 15, 2017

To all my friends at Hope:

I want to thank all of you for your expression of support, and the many cards and letters you gave to me

following the death of my mother. Both I, and my entire family are very thankful and feel blessed for your support and love during this difficult time in our lives. May God bless each of you.

Pastor Dan

March 15, 2017

Dear Hope Lutheran Church,

Thank you for your donation of socks and underwear benefiting Lutheran Social Services of Northern California.

Housing first is our blueprint for success. We serve 3,500 clients daily and offer them tools that will enable them to build stable lives. Most of them share a common history of long-term poverty and homelessness often complication by serious mental and physical health issues.

LSS is in this work to help our clients and their families to build a better future. I am glad to know that there are generous individuals like you whose support we can count on. You allow us to offer stability and hope for a better future to those we serve.

Thank you again for your support.

Sincerely,
Carol Roberts, Ph. D., CEO of LSS of Northern CA



Spark Time Sunday School in April

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
April 2	No Sparks Sermon or Sunday School	
April 9	Holy Week	Matthew 21:1-11; 26:14-27:66
April 16	No Sparks Sermon or Sunday School on Easter Sunday	
April 23	Doubting Thomas	John 20:19-31
April 30	The Road to Emmaus	Luke 24:13-35

Ministry Assistants

Date	Assisting Ministers	Communion Assistants	Readers	Spark Leaders
4/2	Jack Coyne	Sandi Kane Nancy Kehl	Bill Hroziencik	No Sparks Sermon or Sunday School
4/9 Palm Sunday	Margo Kannenberg	Tom & Deb Stucke	Esther Ekong	Jessica Stucke Emma Worthge
4/16 8:30 am	Sandi Kane	Marlys Jungroth Bill Hroziencik	Skip Dahl	No Sparks Sermon or Sunday School on Easter Sunday
10:30 am Easter Sunday	Kirsten Severson	Jerry Brooks Skip Dahl	Martha Welch	
4/23	Bill Kannenberg	Karen Reed Linda Harvey	Lisa Sallander	Sandi Kane
4/30	Eric Hoover	Bill & Margo Kannenberg	Lois Nieman	Judy Jeschke

Upcoming Events



LENTEN SOUP SUPPER & WORSHIP SERVICE

Please join us for great soup at 6:00 pm and meaningful worship at 7:00 pm with our brothers and sisters from St. Andrews April 5 at Hope.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Christ Has Risen!

OUR HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Palm Sunday, April 9 at 10 AM

Maundy Thursday, April 13, at 7 PM

We'll have a full communion service and will also be celebrating First Communion for the young people who will have instruction over the two weeks prior to Holy week.

Good Friday, April 14, at 7 PM, we will Have a service of darkness based on the seven last words of Christ on the cross.

Easter Sunday, April 16, 8:30 AM & 10:30 AM



Hope Lutheran Pre-school Recognition Sunday—April 2nd at 10:00 am!!!!

Please join us in honoring our Hope Lutheran Church Preschool on Sunday, April 2.

A great attendance from Preschool children, their families and teachers is planned - the latest count is 64! The children will honor us with come singing.

We would love to have the pews overflowing with congregational support for this wonderful church program, that has been thriving here since the early days of Hope!

... and of course, join us during Café Hope!

Summer Day Camp/VBS

Jointly sponsored by Hope Lutheran Church and St. Andrew's Lutheran Church

"The Water of Life" - Isaiah 43:2

Dates: July 24 - 28, 2017

More details coming soon!



BOOK CLUB

Join our book club at Hope. Will meet once per month in the church Library. The dates are Tuesday, April 6, May 4 and June 1. Meeting time 1:30-2:30 pm.

~ April 2017 ~

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Mar. 26 10am Worship 11am Café Hope 11:45 am Adult Bible Study	27 9:30am Aerobics 7:30pm AA*	28 6:45pm Bells	29 9:30am Aerobics 7:45pm Choir	30	31 9:30am Aerobics 8pm AA*	1 7:30am Men's Breakfast 10am Augustine Class
2 10am Worship: <i>Preschool Recognition Sunday</i> 11am Café Hope 11:45 am Adult Bible Study 1pm Education Committee Meeting	3 9:30am Aerobics 7:30pm AA*	4 11am Single Seniors 12pm Staff Meeting 6:45pm Bells	5 9:30am Aerobics 1:30pm First Communion Class 3:45pm Preschool Board Meeting 6pm Soup Supper @Hope 7:45pm Choir	6 1:30pm Christian Book Club Meeting 7pm Evangelism Committee Mtg.	7 9:30am Aerobics 8pm AA*	8
9 10am Worship: <i>Palm Sunday</i> 11am Café Hope 11:45 am Adult Bible Study	10 9:30am Aerobics 10am Women's Bible Study Leaders 7:30pm AA*	11 9am Quilters 6:45pm Bells	12 9:30am Aerobics 2pm Worship Committee Meeting 7:45pm Choir	13 11:15am Preschool Sings 3pm Preschool Sings 7pm Maundy Thursday Service	14 9:30am Aerobics 7pm Good Friday Service 8pm AA*	15 7:30am Men's Breakfast
16 8:30am Easter Worship 10:30am Easter Worship	17 Preschool: Spring Break 9:30am Aerobics 7:30pm AA*	18 Preschool: Spring Break 10am Mary Cir. 10am Sarah Cir. 12pm Staff Meeting	19 Preschool: Spring Break 9:30am Aerobics	20 Preschool: Spring Break 7pm Council Meeting	21 Preschool: Spring Break 9:30am Aerobics 8pm AA*	22 Preschool: Spring Break
23 10am Worship 11am Café Hope 11:45 am Adult Bible Study 5pm Confirmation Class @Good Shepherd	24 Preschool: Spring Break 9:30am Aerobics 7:30pm AA*	25 9am Quilters	26 9:30am Aerobics 6:45pm Bells 7:45pm Choir	27 11am Single Seniors Lunch Outing	28 9:30am Aerobics 8pm AA*	29 12pm Women's Spring Luncheon
30 10am Worship 11am Café Hope 11:45 am Adult Bible Study	May 1 9:30am Aerobics 7:30pm AA*	2	3 9:30am Aerobics 6:45pm Bells 7:45pm Choir	4 7pm Evangelism Committee Mtg.	5 9:30am Aerobics 8pm AA*	6 7:30am Men's Breakfast * = Outside Organization