

Pastor's Page

February 2018

First of all, Pam and I would like to thank the congregation for the Christmas Gifts we received this year. It is greatly appreciated. We would also like to thank all of the members who sent us Christmas cards, pictures of your families, and gifts. We are blessed to be a part of such a wonderful, loving community.

February is the month of love, with Valentine's Day, landing right in the middle of the month. *(PS – Valentine's Day is also Ash Wednesday this year. Come with your sweetheart and hear about God's incredible love for us as we begin our Lenten Journey, following our Savior, Jesus Christ to the cross. Hey, we will even cook supper for you! See the rest of the newsletter for more on our plans for the Season of Lent.)* We were in Wal-Mart a few days after Christmas and they were already preparing to help us celebrate love as the Christmas aisles were quickly being converted to red and pink hearts.

When I hear the word love, one of the Scripture passages that I think of is in Matthew 22, where Jesus says, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest commandment. And a second one is like it. You should love your neighbor as yourself."

These commandments seem so straight forward and almost simple. Yet, we know it is actually more complicated than that. Loving God means committing our life to Him so that everything we do and say, all that we are is grounded in His teaching and His commands. But it is too easy to set God aside when His will and His ways do not line up with what we want in our life. To choose to not come to worship because we are just too tired. To choose to lie or cheat to get what we want. To choose to not be generous with the gifts God has entrusted to us, because our selfishness wins out and we keep and hoard what we have.

It gets even more difficult when we get to Jesus' second command. Loving our neighbor as ourselves. Our society right now is failing at living out this commandment as we have become more divisive and more judgmental of people who are our neighbors but do not look like us, act like us, sound like us, or even worship like us. We read Psalm 139 recently in worship and the theme of that Psalm is that we are wonderfully made by God because He has knit us together in our mother's wombs. What beautiful imagery. However, we need to remember that this Psalm is true for each and every person in this world. God has wonderfully created all of them. We are now called to love them as our fellow children of God.

When you look at the people in your life, the strangers you meet at the store, the crowds you see at the basketball games, do you see them as fellow children of God deserving of love? Or do you see them as outsiders to be discarded and set aside and unworthy of your compassion?

May we all hear these words of Christ during this month of love. And may we all choose to love the Lord our God with all our hearts, and with all our souls, and with all our minds and especially may we choose to love our neighbors (all of our neighbors) as we love ourselves.

HOPES HAPPENINGS



Lent Begins on February 14th

The Season of Lent begins this year on Wednesday, February 14th with Ash Wednesday. Supper will be served by the Church Council beginning at 6:00pm with Worship following at 7:00pm. Worship will include the Imposition of Ashes and Holy Communion.

Mid-Week Service will continue throughout the Season of Lent every Wednesday. Soup Supper at 6:00pm and Worship at 7:00pm. Our Theme for these Mid-Week Service will be "Signs of Lent." This series of services is based on the concept of road signs and how their messages apply to our life in Christ.

Ash Wednesday – February 14th - U-Turn

Like signs we see along the roads that tell us what to do, we see signs along the way on our Lenten journey that show us the way to Christ. In our Ash Wednesday worship, we are reminded to make a U-Turn, turning away from our sins and turning back to God through our Lord, Jesus Christ.

Week 1 – February 21st - Stop

In our Lenten worship this week, we remember how Peter tried to put a Stop sign in front of Jesus on His way to the cross. But Jesus helped him (and us) to see that He could only stop when He reached the cross to save us all.

Summer Bible Camp Registration is Open! – First Early Bird Discount ends on February 15th.

Just a reminder that Registration for Summer Bible Camp is open. Registering before February 15th will give you the greatest discount and the best price for sending your kids to camp this Summer. Brochures are available on the table in the Entry Way or check out Lutherans Outdoors website at www.losd.org.

The Prairie Coteau Conference Assembly

Sunday March 4, 2018 at 3:00 PM at NeSoDak

We can send 2 voting members along with Pastor Justin to the Conference Assembly. If you are interested, please speak with Pastor Justin today. Below are the Conference Positions that will need to be filled during that Assembly. Again, if you have any interest or questions about any of these please speak with Pastor Justin soon and he can pass on your name to the Conference Nominating Committee.

Resolutions Committee – 1-year term (Clergy or Lay)

Conference Secretary – 2-year term

Synod Council – to finish a term ending 2019 – (Lay Female)

Nominating Committee – 1-year term (3 positions either Clergy or Lay)

Augustana Association – 1-year term (2 Clergy & 4 Lay)

2019 Churchwide Assembly – 1 lay Female and Alternate; 1 Clergy and Alternate

-To be held August 5-10 in Milwaukee, WI

Thank you to everyone who donated Poinsettias to adorn the altar this Christmas season. The following is a list of who gave in memory of a loved one.

*In memory of Harold Aker from Loreen and families.

*In memory of our grandparents from Justin and Pam.

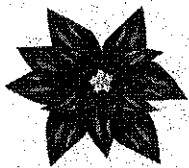
*In memory of Lester and Ruthe Arten from James and Donna.

*In memory of Merlin, Florence, and Charles Lowery from Sandra and Tiffany Lowery.

*In memory of Percy Chamley and Jake and Gertie Steinocker from the Gene Steinocker family.

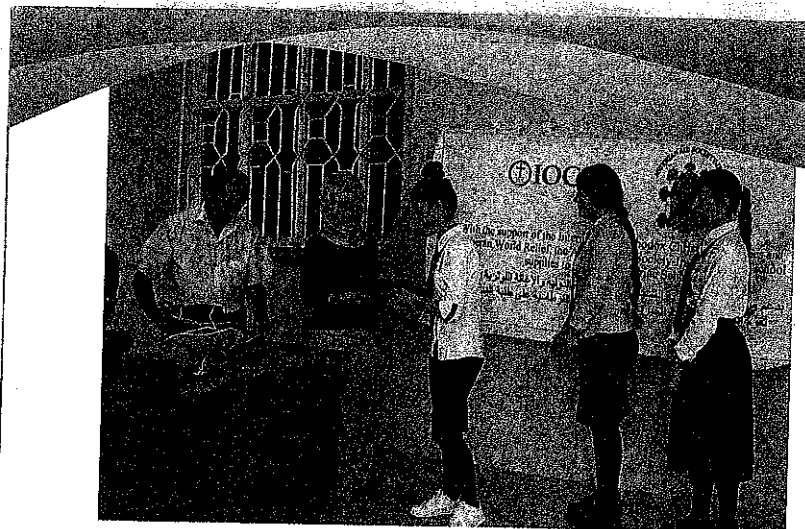
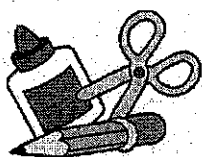
*In memory of Leonard, Jessie and Gary Knutson from Richard and Diane Knutson.

*In memory of Roland, Mary, Ron and Rita Carlson from Dawn, Jeff Carson and family, Diane Reyelts and Boys, Sandra and Tiffany Lowery.



WELCA will meet Thursday, February 1 at 9:00 am for quilting. 1:00 business/Bible study. Devotions-Myla, Bible Study-Pastor Justin, Cause of the month-Native American Ministries. Lunch-Loreen and Caroll. A second quilting day will be on Thursday, February 15th at 9:00 am.

A wonderful Thank you from LWR was received so we thought it needed to be shared with the congregation so you can see all the good you do with the school kits we send each year! ☺



SCHOOL KITS REACH CHILDREN IN IRAQ

Your generosity reached more than 13,650 students with School Kits in northern Iraq!

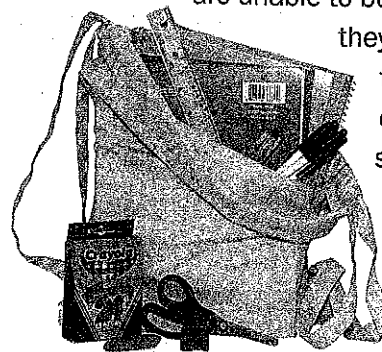
The students, who range in age from elementary to high school, expressed what a tremendous difference the Kits made in their lives. Many of their families are unable to buy school supplies because

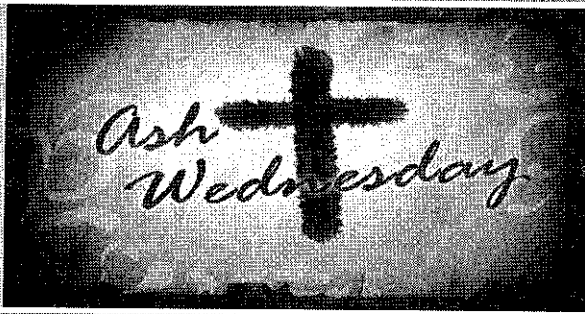
they have only recently returned

to their homes after years of ISIS conflict. As a result, students couldn't complete their homework or skipped school entirely.

These students now have the basic, necessary supplies for continuing their education. Our

partner has even reported that absences have decreased and students are now able to complete their work at school and at home. Your support continues to make a difference in lives of children living in poverty around the world — **THANK YOU!**





February 2018

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
				1 9:00 am WELCA quilting 1:00 Bible	2	3
4 green	5	6	7 4:00 Confirmation	8	9	10
11 white	12	13	14 4:00 Confirmation 6:00 supper 7:00 Ash Wednesday with Communion and Imposition of Ashes	15 9:00 am WELCA quilting	16 Newsletter items due	17
18 purple	19	20	21 4:00 Confirmation 6:00 Supper 7:00 Worship	22	23	24
25 purple	26	27	28 4:00 Confirmation 6:00 Supper 7:00 Worship			

Notes

Worship 10:30 am (unless otherwise noted), 9:15 Sunday school, 9:30 Coffee.

Communion 11th and 25th

Communion committee: Shirley Binde, Anne Seffrood

Servant team: Youth Group

HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH
PO BOX 886
SUMMIT, SD 57266

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
PERMIT NUMBER 2

"WORDS OF HOPE FROM HOPE"

Volume 45, Issue 2

February 2018

Address Service Requested

Printed monthly at Hope Lutheran Church

Church: hlchurch@tnics.com/Phone-(605)-398-6150

Pastor Justin Neugebauer (605) 398-6192 /cell #605-228-8073

Secretary Dawn Wright -cell #605-881-4377

Find us on Facebook: Hope Lutheran Church and www.seesummitsd.com



February 2018

“It is the mission of Hope Lutheran Church to help people grow in their faith; to be a leader in the community; to serve the needs of all people; and to teach/educate all people

February Birthdays and Anniversaries

1-Beckham Rauen
3-Roger Wright
4-Simon Pies
8-Dash Ebsen
10-Dylan Goldade
11-Corey Amdahl
11-Gary Crandall
12-Kevin Kneeland
12-Jerod Carson
13-Roger and Vicky Smith
14-Toni Conners

15-Nicole Ebsen
16-Jonathan Ebsen
17-Jaelyn Phillips
17-Stacey Amdahl
17-Emily Neugebauer
20-Peyton Bourassa
22-Amber Anderson
24-Shawn Ellingson
25-Donna Olson
25-Megan Gapp