Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Grief... the dictionary defines it as, "the anguish experienced after significant loss, often death of a beloved person. Grief includes physiological distress, separation anxiety, confusion, yearning, obsessive dwelling on the past, and apprehension about the future."

One of my favorite authors often says, "grief is that gamble you take in loving someone or something. If you come to love them or it, you can feel grief when loss happens."

So many people in our communities are grieving. Some griefs are old with the rough edges rounded off but still strong. Some griefs are new and they cut the heart with pain. Everyone's grief is different and their own. Some people have debilitating sadness, some anger or rage, some fear or panic attacks and some have a combination of all of them and more. No one grieves exactly the same or follows in the same order to heal.

Hear me when I tell you this... how you grieve is not wrong. The time it takes you to "get over" your grief is totally unique and can't be too much or too little.

We begin the season of Lent with Ash Wednesday on Feb. 14th. One that day, we make a cross on the forehead of those who come and say, "remember you are dust and to dust you shall return." It reminds us of the words we say at the graveside, "we commit them to the ground, earth to earth, ashes to ashes and dust to dust. In sure and certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life..." As I make the cross on the foreheads of my people, I used to wonder which of these beloveds will I bury this year. It can be an overwhelming thought until we remember why we celebrate the season of Lent.

Lent helps us to remember the sacrifice our Lord made for us. Jesus Christ went to the cross *on purpose*! He knew it was coming. He could have avoided it with the power of God. Yet, he took the sins of humanity to that cross and died for us. He fought the powers of death and sin for us and WON! Then rose again in victory so that nothing, not even death can separate us from our God ever again.

I remind us of this truth at every funeral. That death is just a temporary parting from us still here in this life on earth. The people we love who have passed into eternity are held in their Savior's hands and loved by the one who gave it all for them.

So, we remember, "Ashes to ashes and dust to dust..." beloved are you. Safe are those you love with our God and we will meet again. Remembering these truths, we grieve, we heal and we turn to our God.

Pastor Janet Miller

Hope's Happenings

<u>Lenten Supper Helpers</u>: (The youth are serving this year) 2 families are needed for each Wednesday. There is a sign-up sheet at the church.

2/14-Whempners/Bronsons-Lasagna

2/21-Schmidts/ (need one more family)

2/28-Hinkelman/need one more family

3/6-Ebsens/Urbans/Lindholms

3/13-Thuringers/need one more family

3/20- 2 families needed

3/31-Easter Breakfast

Communion Set-up list: 2 people needed each month. Communion is typically 1*/3*d Sunday. (check calendar each month)

January-Jackie Adolph/Billi Whempner

February-Stacey Amdahl/Kathy Brink

March-2 needed

April-Thuringers/Kathy

May-Laura Frankenhoff x2

June-Diane Kneeland x2

July-2 needed

August-2 needed

September-2 needed

October-Traci Ellingson x2

November-Earline Holt/Sarah Holt

December-2 needed

(sign-up sheet at the church)

Sunday School Helpers:

February-PK/K-needed

1-3rd-needed

4-6th-Dawn

March- All grades needed

April-All grades needed

May-all grades needed

If you are willing to teach a month or Sunday, please let Becky Pies or Pastor Janet know. They will provide you with everything you need.

A Lenten Reflection...

Give up complaining; focus on gratitude
Give up harsh judgments; think kindly thoughts
Give up worry; trust divine Providence
Give up discouragement; be full of hope
Give up bitterness; turn to forgiveness
Give up hatred; return good for evil
Give up negativism; be positive
Give up pettiness; become mature
Give up jealousy; pray for trust

Community Pancake Feed & Basket Auction

Summit Firehall Sunday, February 11, 2024 10:00 am – 1:00 pm

This will be the final fundraising event for the Siding & Window Project.

The menu will include pancakes, scrambled eggs, sausage, juice, and coffee. The Silent Basket Auction will feature many Valentine themed treats.

We will need basket donations & volunteers. Look for a signup sheet on the bulletin board in the entry.

Invite a friend (or two) to have breakfast and support Hope Lutheran Church.

Hope Lutheran Church has a CAMPERSHIP FUND

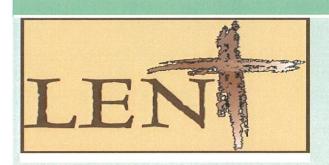


The current policy is for families to pay the deposit due at registration and the CAMPERSHIP FUND will pay the balance for the youth of Hope Lutheran Church. The goal is to make Bible Camp affordable for all families.

In 2023 five youth attended NeSoDak.

Applications can be found on the bulletin board in the church entry. Or contact Annelies Seffrood 605-949-5658 or annelies.seffrood@gmail.com

Early Bird prices are good until **April 15**th. Register now & save. Detailed information and registration can be found at <u>www.LOSD.org</u>



February 2024

Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
			9:00-noon- quilting Pas. Conference Dean mtg.	2	3
5	6	7	8	9	10
12	13	14 6:30-supper 7:30-Ash Wednesday worship	9:00-noon- quilting Pas. Conference Dean mtg.	16 Newsletter items due	17
19	20 Pastor at Cederview	21 6:30-supper 7:30-Lenten Worship	Support to Ministry in Sioux Falls	23	24
26	27 Pastor at Cederview	28 6:30-supper 7:30-Lenten Worship	29		
	12	5 6 12 13 19 20 Pastor at Cederview 26 27 Pastor at	5 6 7 12 13 14 6:30-supper 7:30-Ash Wednesday worship 19 20 Pastor at Cederview 7:30-Lenten Worship 26 27 Pastor at Cederview 6:30-supper 7:30-Lenten Worship	1 9:00-noon-quilting Pas. Conference Dean mtg. 5 6 7 8 12 13 14 15 9:00-noon-quilting Pas. Conference Dean mtg. 1 15 9:00-noon-quilting Pas. Conference Dean mtg. 1 2 9:00-noon-quilting Pas. Conference Dean mtg. 1 2 22 Support to Ministry in Sioux Falls 2 2 28 6:30-supper 7:30-Lenten Worship 2 2 29	1 9:00-noon-quilting Pas. Conference Dean mtg.

Worship times-(unless noted otherwise)-9:00 am Worship, 10:00 am Sunday school. Worship helpers as of printing: 2/4-Coffee, Ushers, Reader, Communion Server (all needed), 2/11-Children's Church, 2/18-Coffee-Raelee, (Ushers & Reader needed), CS-Kathy B and Kid, 2/25-Coffee and Ushers (needed), Reader-Earline.

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

"WORDS OF HOPE FROM HOPE"

Volume 51, Issue 2

February 2024

Printed monthly at Hope Lutheran Church

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

Pastor Janet Miller-cell #605-237-8005/home #605-947-4482

Secretary Dawn Wright -cell #605-881-4377

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

Follow us on YouTube: Hope's Children



February 2024

"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.

