

*Monthly Newsletter of Mount Hope Lutheran Church  
Preschool and Childcare May 2019*

# *Spirit of Hope*

## **THE GOOD NEWS OF THE RESURRECTION NEVER GROWS OLD**

Jesus is alive! He rose from the grave. He defeated death. And He promised to raise up all who die trusting in him. That's Good News! It never gets old.

Funerals get old. It's hard to say goodbye to people we love. We want them with us. We want the joy of their company. We have comfort in knowing that believers in Jesus are at home in heaven with the Lord, and they have no more pain or sorrow of any kind. But it's hard to say goodbye. It wears us down.

We get old too. And as we do, the trips to the cemetery become more frequent. Someone my age said to me a few years ago, "Heaven seems more real to me now. It seems like a more interesting place, and like I have more of a connection to it. My father is there. My mother is there, and my sister is there. I don't feel the same way about heaven as when I was younger."

Yes, heaven is real, and the saints who have died are safe in the Father's house. But for them and for us, the best is yet to be. It will come when Jesus returns, and, with the power of his voice, he will call forth the bodies of his people from their graves to rise to new life – spiritual, physical, and eternal.

What sustains and strengthens us is the promise of Jesus: "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies . . ." (John 11:25) Thank God for this promise that never gets old, and for the hope it gives! –*Pastor Ralph Rokke*



## ***Pastor Green***

Pastor Fran is now recovering at home. We thank God that he is receiving excellent medical care, and we pray for him and his family as they work through his recovery.

Pastor wishes to thank everyone for the prayers, cards, and gifts. He is feeling blessed and supported by his Mount Hope family.

## ***Mount Hope is again counting its blessings.***

Pastor Ralph Rokke has stepped in while Pastor Fran is recovering. We thank him for his willingness to serve, and we thank him for providing this biography for the congregation.

*Pastor Ralph Rokke was born in 1951, and grew up at Strandquist, Minnesota, graduating from high school there in 1969. He attended Bemidji State College, and graduated in 1973, with a B.A. in English and German. Then he attended the Association Free Lutheran Theological Seminary, and graduated in 1976, with a B.Th. degree.*

*Following ordination on June 13, 1976, Pastor Rokke served a three-church parish at McIntosh and Fosston, Minnesota, for three and a half years. Then he served a parish in the inner-city of Minneapolis for sixteen and a half years. During those years, he earned an S.T.M. degree in 1989, and a D. Min. degree in 1995, both from Concordia Seminary in St. Louis, Missouri.*

*In 1997, Pastor Rokke was received on the roster of Ministers of Religion – Ordained of the Lutheran Church -Missouri Synod. Being new to the LCMS and needing a home church in the Minnesota South District to be eligible for a call through the district office, Pastor Rokke spoke with Pastor Bob Schultze at Mt. Hope Lutheran Church in Bloomington. Ralph and Kathi joined Mt. Hope in 1997.*

*While waiting for a call to full-time parish ministry, Pastor Rokke served as an adjunct professor at Concordia University in St. Paul, and briefly as assistant pastor at Trinity Lone Oak Lutheran Church in Eagan, MN.*

*In 1998, Pr. Rokke was called to serve as pastor at Saint James Lutheran Church in West St. Paul. He served there for nineteen years, and retired on October 31, 2017, which was the 500th anniversary of Martin Luther's 95 Theses and the Lutheran Reformation. It's an easy date for him to remember!*

*Ralph and Kathi Rokke were married in 1972. They have two daughters, Joyce and Shari; two sons-in-law, Greg and Hank; and six grandchildren. A seventh grandchild is expected in July, 2019.*



## *Upcoming Events*

### ***Volunteer Appreciation Sunday***

Volunteer Appreciation Sunday is May 5. You are all invited to a reception between services to celebrate and thank the incredible volunteers who help Mount Hope run so smoothly. There will be no Bible Study or Sunday School that Sunday.

### ***Family Connection Night***

Our next Family Connections event is May 1 from 5:30-7:00pm. Dinner will be provided. The children will be planting flowers to bring home and flowers for our volunteers along with other May Day fun!

### ***Gerten's Flower Pick-Up***

Gerten's Flower Pick-up begins May 1st. Those who ordered this spring can pick up on either May 1 at 5:30pm or May 2nd from 10:00-12:00 and 4:00-6:00. Thank you to everyone who purchased flowers this year. The proceeds from this fundraiser will help fund future events for the children and community.

### ***First Friday Book Club***

May's Book Club selection is a light happy book by Elizabeth Berg titled *Night of Miracles*. It features a retiree named Lucille who keeps busy teaching baking and helping in her community. She embodies the power of "community, friendship, and kindness"... and infuses each chapter with a renewed sense of hope. The next meeting is May 3 at 1:30pm at Renata Melby's home. All are welcome.

### ***Women of Hope***

Since our Salad Supper meeting in April was cancelled - we're counting on no snow this month! Join us on Thursday, May 9 at 6:30pm at church. Ladies are invited to bring a salad to share at our May-Women of Hope Salad Supper. The theme for our program is "Fruit of the Spirit" based on Galatians 5:22 "But when the Holy Spirit controls our lives he will produce this kind of fruit in us: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control."

### ***Sunday Morning Bible Studies***

You are always invited to join a Sunday morning Bible Study. They begin at 9:30am in both the Adult Education Room and the small Conference Room. Both groups will be working through the study *Father, Master, Bridegroom, King*.

### ***Teacher Appreciation Week May 6-10***

Help us celebrate National Teacher Appreciation Week. A dedicated group of teachers and helpers work very hard to make our Preschool and Childcare a wonderful place for children to be cared for and educated. They represent us well in the community and are dedicated to Christian education. If you would like to leave a note or card of thanks to our Preschool and Childcare workers, please drop it off in the office by May 6.

**The Preschool and Childcare Staff :** Heather Ottum, Kevin Woebke, Josh Cornes, Melanie Collins, Cindy Torgerson, Barbara Prigge, Jean Helm and Kim Woebke



## *Help Needed*

### *Volunteer Appreciation Sunday Request*

Looking for recent pictures of our volunteers in action! Did you capture some of our Mount Hope members volunteering at events this year? VBS, Harvest Bazaar, Sunday School, Bible Studies, Outreach events, Christmas decorating, Summer Concerts, Greeters, Ushers, Leadership? These are all ways in which our members serve the church and serve the Lord! Please email any photos you have to Christina Brantner or put them in her mailbox at church by May 1.

## *Updates and Thank You's*

### *Lenten Meal Donation*

The profits collected during our Lenten meals have been donated to International Friendship Center ministry. A check for over \$450 will be given to Nader and Georgette to further their ministry. A small amount of money was also set aside as seed money for future Advent and Lenten meals.

### *Easter Events*

Thank you to everyone who helped plan, worked at or donated to the many services, events and celebrations that took place during Lent and Holy Week. It is amazing what can be done when we work together. May God continue to bless Mount Hope and our vision to reach our friends and neighbors.

### *Thrivent Choice Dollars*

Thank you to all the Thrivent members who designated Mount Hope to receive Thrivent Choice dollars. The payment received for the month of March was \$5,120.

### *May Celebration Days*

#### **Happy Birthday**

1 Armand Boehnke  
4 Joe Rosner  
5 Ted Simmons  
6 Josh Adamek  
7 Gene Roehrick  
7 Lorraine Wolden  
9 Richard Hinz  
11 Pauline Von Deylen  
13 Linda Borgen  
15 Cody Rosenlund  
15 Wayne Markel  
15 Fran Wallin  
18 Silas Melbostad  
20 Paul Hinz  
20 Dianne Ritter  
25 Faith Alt  
26 Melissa Quittschreiber  
28 Emily Woodhall  
29 Marjule Boehnke  
30 Pastor Dan Ritter

#### **Baptism Anniversary**

1 Ramona Duncan  
2 Kim Kunkel  
4 Cathy Frank  
7 Sam Killam  
8 Pat Roehrick  
11 Vivian Brantner  
15 Nathan Moss  
21 Hannah Gliten  
22 Max Blauvelt  
24 Lorraine Wolden

#### **Wedding Anniversary**

1 Dan & Jennifer Adamek  
6 Pastor & Tammy Green  
25 Steve & Kathy Sundseth  
28 Conrad & Marilyn Nelson

### *Financials*

Treasurer's Report for February 2019

Monthly Income	\$46,004
Monthly Expenses	\$57,066
Year-to-Date Income	\$107,077
Year-to-Date Expenses	\$115,413

### *Church Attendance*

March 24	8:15 – 55	10:45 - 53
March 27	6:30 - 59	
March 31	8:15 - 52	10:45 - 49
April 3	6:30 - 61	
April 7	8:15 - 44	10:45 - 55
April 10	6:30 - 24	
April 14	8:15 - 53	10:45 - 73
April 18	6:30 - 69	
April 19	6:30 - 57	
April 21	8:15 - 84	10:45 – 92

# *Those Who Serve in May*

Sunday Morning Coffee  
Kitchen / Reception Committee  
Altar Guild

Prepare & Clean-Up: Karen M  
Karen M & Renata M  
Frein family

## **May 5**      **Volunteer Appreciation Sunday**

Elder	Matt F	
	<u>8:15</u>	<u>10:45</u>
Reader	Bart K	Karen M
Greeters	Linda C & Harriet B	Karen M
Ushers	Jerry B, Bob T, Al B	Joel S, Dave S, Armand B
Counters	Jenny & Cody R	

## **May 12**

Elder	Al J	
	<u>8:15</u>	<u>10:45</u>
Reader	Paul H	Renata M
Greeters	Pat & Gene R	Darlene W
Ushers	Arnie B, Gene R, Mike R, Butch C	Kirsten B, Betty S, Judy M
Counters	Joel & Betty S, Kirsten B	

## **May 19**      **Graduate Recognition Sunday**

Elder	John M	
	<u>8:15</u>	<u>10:45</u>
Reader	Faith A	Kim W
Greeters	Pauline V & Sue H	Shirley F
Ushers	John & Karen M, Conrad & Marilyn N	Steve Schmidt, Lloyd Q, Steve Sundseth
Counters	Harriet & Jerry B	

## **May 26**

Elder	Lloyd Q	
	<u>8:15</u>	<u>10:45</u>
Reader	Conrad N	Kim W
Greeters	Conrad & Marilyn N	Eileen D
Ushers	Jeff, Faith & Colin A	Bob T, Bill R, Kirk V
Counters	Kirk V, Kim W	



# *May Daily Devotions*

May 1	Num 3:1—16, 39—48	Luke 14:25—15:10	Num 4:1—8:4
May 2	Num 8:5—26	Luke 15:11—32	
May 3	Num 9:1—23	Luke 16:1—18	
May 4	Num 10:11—36	Luke 16:19—31	
May 5	Num 11:1—23, 31—35	Luke 17:1—19	
May 6	Num 11:24—29; 12:1—16		Luke 17:20—37
May 7	Num 13:1—3, 17—33	Luke 18:1—17	
May 8	Num 14:1—25	Luke 18:18—34	
May 9	Num 14:26—45	Luke 18:35—19:10	Num 15:1—41
May 10	Num 16:1—22	Luke 19:11—28	
May 11	Num 16:23—40	Luke 19:29—48	
May 12	Num 16:41—17:13	Luke 20:1—18	Num 18:1—19:22
May 13	Num 20:1—21	Luke 20:19—44	
May 14	Num 20:22—21:9	Luke 20:45—21:19	
May 15	Num 21:10—35	Luke 21:20—38	
May 16	Num 22:1—20	Luke 22:1—23	
May 17	Num 22:21—23:3	Luke 22:24—46	
May 18	Num 23:4—28	Luke 22:47—71	
May 19	Num 24:1—25	Luke 23:1—25	
May 20	Num 27:12—23	Luke 23:26—56	
May 21	Num 32:1—6, 16—27	Luke 24:1—27	
May 22	Num 35:9—30	Luke 24:28—53	Acts 1:1—7:60
May 23	Song 7:6—8:14	John 6:41—59	
May 24	Eccl 1:1—18	John 6:60—71	Esther 1:1—10:3
May 25	Eccl 2:1—26	John 7:1—13	
May 26	Eccl 3:1—22	John 7:14—31	
May 27	Eccl 4:1—16	John 7:32—53	
May 28	Eccl 5:1—20	John 8:1—20	
May 29	Eccl 6:1—7:10	John 8:21—38	
May 30	Eccl 7:11—29	John 8:39—59	
May 31	Eccl 8:1—17	John 9:1—23	



# May 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 9:00am Prayer Group 10:00am IFC 5:30pm Family Connection Event	2 Gerten's Flower Pick-Up	3 10:00am IFC 1:30pm 1 <sup>st</sup> Friday Book Club	4
<b>Noisy Offering</b> 5 8:15am Worship 9:30am Volunteer Appreciation Reception 10:45am Worship	6 5:00pm IFC	7 8:00pm AA	8 9:00am Prayer Group 10:00am IFC	9 6:30pm Women of Hope	10 10:00am IFC	11 Fellowship Hall rental – Center Staff event
<b>Mother's Day</b> 12 8:15am Worship 9:30am Connecting Hour 10:45am Worship	13 5:00pm IFC	14 8:00pm AA	15 9:00am Prayer Group 10:00am IFC	16 5:00pm Ministry Staff meets 6:30 Governing Board Meets	17 10:00am IFC Bethesda Thrift Shop Work Day	18
19 <b>Graduate Sunday</b> 8:15am Worship 9:30am Connecting Hour 10:45am Worship	20 5:00pm IFC	21 8:00pm AA	22 9:00am Prayer Group 10:00am IFC	23	24 10:00am IFC	25
26 8:15am Worship 9:30am Fellowship No Bible Study/SS 10:45am Worship	<b>Memorial Day</b> 27 Church Office & Center Closed	28 8:00pm AA	29 9:00am Prayer Group 10:00am IFC	30	31 10:00am IFC	

## Sunday Worship Schedule

### Sunday Worship Schedule

8:15am Traditional Worship Service  
9:30am Bible Study and Sunday School  
10:45am Praise Worship Service

**Phone:** 952-888-5059

**E-mail:** church@mthopelutheran.org

**Website:** [www.mthopelutheran.org](http://www.mthopelutheran.org)

## Mount Hope Lutheran Church Staff

Fran Green	Pastor
Ralph Rokke	Vacancy Pastor
Candy Frein	Administrative Assistant
Christina Brantner	Music Director
Kathy Sundseth	Custodian
Kelly Rosner	Connections Director
Kim Woebke	Preschool and Childcare Director
	Administrative Assistant
Steve Sundseth	Custodian
Sam Killam	Custodian

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