

Spirit of Hope

Mount Hope Lutheran Church

Preschool and Childcare

September 16, 2020

Message from Pastor Fran Green

"For I fully expect and hope that I will never be ashamed, but that I will continue to be bold for Christ, as I have been in the past. And I trust that my life will bring honor to Christ, whether I live or die." Philippians 1:20 NLT

The above verse is not as familiar as the one that follows, which is a well-known verse of St. Paul; *"For to me, living means living for Christ, and dying is even better."* (Philippians 1:21), but it is a wonderfully challenging verse for us to consider. These days, it simply might be easier to be passive than to be bold for Christ. But Paul tells us to follow his example to be bold and trust that our lives will bring honor to our Lord Jesus.

This coming Sunday we will begin adult Bible study in the sanctuary at 10:30. As mentioned for several weeks now, we are learning as we go. So, we will record these sessions and will try to live-stream them as well. I am confident we will improve each week just as we've done in presenting the online worship service.

Sunday school and confirmation will be offered virtually in partnership with St. Michael's Lutheran Church much like vacation Bible school this summer. We are grateful for the privilege and openness of our congregations to work together for the mission of the Church. Please check out St. Michael's website for more information on *Connect Kids at Home*. When you are ready, **please register at the following link** if you would still like to join <https://smlcb.org/ministries/children/>. Please contact me if you have any questions. pastor@mthopelutheran.org

Our in-person worship service will continue at 9:30 on Sunday mornings. Our numbers have slowly gotten larger, but we are still within safe parameters to remain at less than 50% capacity.

Please remember and practice these safety guidelines when attending in-person worship:

1. The doors will be opened fifteen minutes prior to the service.
2. Masks will be required while in the building along with the following of social distancing 6' apart guidelines. Hand sanitizing stations are located just inside the door. Please use on both your way in and out.
3. At this time, we will enjoy the singing of the music leaders only. You are welcome to hum along if you would like to participate.

4. The bathrooms will be available for emergencies only. Maintain a 6' apart social distance from others if you do need to use the restroom. The bathroom doors can be easily opened with the handicap accessibility buttons. No need to touch the door handles.
5. Offerings will be collected in a drop-box style cabinet. There will be no passing of the offering plates.
6. Mount Hope will continue to offer communion on Wednesdays instead of during the service.
7. Hymnals and Bibles have been removed from the pews. There will be no bulletins, but all the information you need will be available on the screens.
8. At this time, congregation members will be limited to the narthex and the sanctuary. Please practice 6' apart social distancing. Any spaces used by the childcare, including the kitchen and Fellowship Hall are for the childcare only. The nursery must also be closed. Thank you for understanding.
9. At this time, food and drink are not to be served in a communal setting such as our fellowship hour. We will need to wait a bit longer to enjoy fellowship time together with coffee and treats!
10. The building will be thoroughly cleaned and frequently-touched surfaces are sanitized regularly.

Exclusions

The guidelines state that any one experiencing COVID-19 symptoms or who has had recent exposure to a person with COVID-19 be excluded from participation. If a member of your household is experiencing symptoms, please stay home as well.

Symptoms of COVID-19

New onset of coughing or shortness of breath by themselves OR at least two of the following: fever (100.4F or higher), chills, muscle pain, sore throat, loss of sense of smell or taste, and gastrointestinal symptoms of diarrhea, vomiting or nausea. It is also recommended that you stay at home and consult a physician if you have a new symptom with no alternate diagnosis explaining it.

Healthy Congregation

You are encouraged to continue worshipping from home/online if you are in a high-risk group or do not feel comfortable returning to in-person worship at this time. Our prayer is that everyone remains healthy.

We will **continue to offer private communion on Wednesdays**. Please contact the church office to **get your spot** to receive Holy Communion, Wednesday, September 16. If Wednesday does not work, please let Kim know what does and I will work you in.

We are slowly, with caution and safety, offering more of our "regular" church activities. Thank you for your patience and support and thank you to all of you who are worshipping with us online each week.

Thank you also for all of your prayers, God is faithful!

We are Mount Hope, *Where Guests become Friends, Friends become Family!*

Pastor Fran Green

Announcements

Discipleship 101 at Mount Hope

The Scriptures command us to be growing disciples and part of that growth occurs as we become more engaged in the Body of Christ, His Church. It all begins with Class 101 where we Discover Our Church Family. This is our “new member class” and is the starting point to becoming a growing disciple of Jesus where you can discover your place in God’s story. We will walk through the fundamentals of the Christian faith, build community with one another, and see what following Jesus looks like. In Class 101 you will learn who we are and what we believe as a family of faith. Contact Pastor Fran for more information on Class 101.

Adult Sunday Bible Study-10:30 am

Class 201 *Discovering Spiritual Maturity* is the next step in our spiritual journey to develop a few key habits in our lives so that we grow and mature as followers of Jesus. Class 201 is designed to teach you about these simple habits and show you the different steps you can take to mature and grow as a Christian.

Class 201 will resume on Sunday, September 20 at 10:30 after our worship service in the sanctuary at Mount Hope. Contact Pastor Fran for more information.

In **Class 301 *Discovering My Ministry***, you will learn that what you do with your life matters to God. You were created for a purpose, God shaped you in a unique way, by your spiritual gifts, your heart, your abilities, your personality, and your experiences. Class 301 is designed to help you find the perfect place to serve based on who you are. You were created to make an impact in the world. Class 301 will begin immediately following Class 201 in early October.

Class 401 *Discovering My Life Mission* will lead you to discover that God designed you to live life on mission, every day could be an opportunity to make the world a better place. You have a role to play. Class 401 is designed to equip you to tell your own story and share your faith with others. You will also learn how to be a part of the outreach opportunities of Mount Hope. Class 401 will be offered in early 2021.

**CLASS, *The Life Development Process*, used with permission *Pastors.com*.

Sunday School

Sunday school and confirmation will be offered virtually in partnership with St. Michael’s Lutheran Church much like vacation Bible school this summer. We are grateful for the privilege and openness of our congregations to work together for the mission of the Church. Please check out St. Michael’s website for more information on *Connect Kids at Home*. When you are ready, **please register at the following link by September 8** <https://smlcb.org/ministries/children/>. All materials will be delivered to Mount Hope after this date in time for a September 20 kickoff. Please contact me if you have any questions. pastor@mthopelutheran.org

In-Home Bible Study

Ladies, you are welcome to attend our new study on *Hymns*! We will be meeting at the **church** this year in the **Youth Room**. We will follow state mandates by social distancing mandates and by wearing masks. We will be meeting every 3rd Tuesday during the months of September – May. At our study we will look at 4-5 hymns; who wrote them and their meaning. Our first study will be on **Tuesday, September 22 at 6:30 pm**. If you would like the study book or have any questions, please contact Jennifer Adamek at 952-451-5860.

Wednesday Communion

Pastor Fran will continue to offer in person communion on Wednesdays at Mount Hope in the sanctuary. Make your appointment from 10:00 am-5:00 pm. Appointments are 15 minutes apart allowing for a visit of approximately 10 minutes. Please call the office at 952-888-5059 between 9:00 am-3:00 pm to set an appointment. You can also email your request to church@mthopelutheran.org.

For your safety and for the safety of the Center families and the staff, we will be using the East door. There will be hand sanitizer available at the entrance. We also ask that social distancing practices are followed and that masks are worn if at all possible. You will be able to drop off your offering and LWML Mites offering and pick up a Portals of Prayer as well. You will not have access to the rest of the building at this time. Thank you for respecting these guidelines. Pastor will follow safety protocols when preparing the wine and wafer for communion.

Altar Flowers

We will begin ordering Altar flowers again to beautify our church. If you would like to keep your week that you have signed up for please let us know. September 20 is Jerry and Harriet Buelow, September 27 is Dave and Fran Wallin. If you would like to keep your week that you have signed up for please let us know.

Church Library

Check out our great selection of books in the church library. There are five fiction bookshelves and two non-fiction bookshelves. There are Christian love stories, mysteries, books of hope and relationships, autobiographies, bibles, and bible studies to choose from. Browse and pick books to read, return them when you are finished. It's that simple! You do not need to check them out, just return them when you are finished.

Lutheran Women on a Mission

Pick up your free copy of the Lutheran Woman's Quarterly Magazine at the communion table in the entryway.

Check out the attached Great MNS Mission Get Together held at Mayer Lutheran on Saturday, October 10. Jennifer Adamek will be attending if you need a ride. The deadline to rsvp is September 19th.

LWML-Mite Offerings

Two out of every three people do not know Jesus as their Savior. Lutheran Women in Mission is reaching out to a world in need of the Gospel through mission grants. You have the opportunity to help reach others with the saving Word of Jesus.

This year, LWML is celebrating GivingTuesday on September 15. You may donate toward the 2019–2021 LWML Mission Goal by using LWML Facebook, lwml.org/givingtuesday. Your donation will be doubled on that day, thanks to the commitment of a generous donor. You can HELP by sharing on GivingTuesday.

(If you are unable to donate online, you may send your contributions to the LWML office at 801 Seminary Place Suite L010, St. Louis, MO 63105. Be sure to note GivingTuesday 2020 with your contribution.)

September's TO REMEMBER

Giving Tuesday ... a day of giving, typically celebrated on the Tuesday following Thanksgiving. This year the Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML) is celebrating this event on September 15, 2020, our **LWML September to Remember**.

We remember loved ones, a mentor, an LWML sister, or a pastoral counselor ... someone who kindled our love for doing the Lord's kingdom work. Write a note to someone who inspired you in your walk with our Lord and your support of LWML. We encourage you to share your LWML story of that person on Facebook, donate toward the LWML Mission Goal in honor of that someone special, and pray for our mission grants.



Ladies, you are invited to attend:

Masks and social distancing mandates will be followed.

“TELL EVERYONE WHAT HE HAS DONE!”



**THE GREAT MINNESOTA SOUTH
MISSION GET—TOGETHER**

Saturday, October 10, 2020

Mayer Lutheran High School

305 5th St NE, Mayer, MN 55360

Doors open at 7:00 a.m.

Worship Service: 9:00 a.m.

MNS LCMS President Lucas Woodford, Proclaimer

Keynote Speaker, Jan Struck

Devotions Moments

Mission Speakers

Silent Auction Servant Events

Lunch

2 Offerings: *benefiting MNS LWML*
Mite Goal, Phil's Friends, Trinity First—
Minneapolis, Chance International

Registration: \$30.00

Register online at mnslwml.org

Deadline: September 19, 2020

Live Stream

Minnesota South District LWML/Facebook



Sponsored by MNS LWML

Sunday Worship Schedule

9:30am In-Person Worship

Services online at

www.mthopelutheran.org

Phone: 952-888-5059

E-mail: church@mthopelutheran.org

Website: www.mthopelutheran.org

Mount Hope's Staff

Fran Green	Pastor pastor@mthopelutheran.org
Christina Brantner	Music Director music@mthopelutheran.org
Jennifer Adamek	Administrative Assistant-Media jadamek@mthopelutheran.org
Kim Woebke	Director of Preschool and Childcare Administrative Assistant church@mthopelutheran.org
Steve Sundseth	Custodian
Sam Killam	Custodian

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Address Service Requested

