

March 2024



Mt. Hope Lutheran Church, Bloomington, MN

Words from Pastor Fran

*“I am the Resurrection and the Life,” Jesus said to her, “Anyone who believes in Me will live even if he dies.”
John 11:25 (Beck)*

We love Christmas, don't we? “It's the most wonderful time of the year.” Yes, it certainly is “a” wonderful time of year. I would argue, though, that it isn't the “most” wonderful. Wouldn't that honor go to Easter? The Resurrection of our Lord and Savior changes everything!

*Let us praise the God and Father of our Lord
Jesus Christ, Who by raising Jesus Christ from
the dead has in His great mercy given us new
birth so that we have a living hope.*

1 Peter 1:3 (Beck)

*I passed on to you what was most important and
what had also been passed on to me. Christ died for
our sins, just as the Scriptures said. He was buried,
and He was raised from the dead on the third day,
just as the Scriptures said. 1 Corinthians 15:3-4 (NLT)*

Thank God! Easter changes everything! We will be celebrating this life-changing event on March 31 at 9:30. I hope and pray to see all of you there! And that brings us to:

Our mission highlight for this month is Mount Hope Lutheran Church. Yes, You and Me! We are the mission highlight. Easter, Resurrection Day, is the last day of March. And despite all the competing draws on people's time, energy and attention, the power of the resurrection of Jesus Christ still possesses a tremendous spiritual draw. We need to invite! Who can you invite to join you in worship on March 31st? Our mission focus and challenge will be to fill our church to standing room only on Resurrection Day.

We have perhaps no greater opportunity as Easter is one of the three times each year when people are most likely to attend church. I was working late one afternoon when a gentleman from our neighborhood brought some things for VEAP. He is not a member, but knew we collected for VEAP. We had a nice conversation as we walked and talked, stopping at the sanctuary door. He looked at me and said, “Yeah, I know I need to get back to church.” Yes, I invited him to join us and gave him the information on when the service begins and what to expect, etc. I'm praying he will join us.

Continued on next page

It is interesting, in that there are people all around us who are thinking the same thing. They have a desire and know that something is missing in their life. Maybe they're waiting for you to invite them to church. I have a great idea! The person who has the most people join them on Easter Sunday gets to deliver the message. Just kidding. (I'm looking forward to hearing from you about that comment to know that you are reading this.)

But there is no doubt though, that you will get something for inviting and having someone join you in worship. You get the greatest feeling in the world. It's amazing how that happens.

It's a great time to be part of the Mount Hope Family, where Guests become Friends and Friends become Family.

Your Friend,

Pastor Fran Green

Lent Series Continues

The series we are using for Lent this year is based on Rev. Dr. Reed Lessing's book titled, *Deliver Us: God's Rescue Story in Exodus*. The series began on Ash Wednesday and continues each Wednesday at 6:30pm leading up to Holy Week where we will conclude the series on Easter Sunday. Our upcoming schedule:

Lent Three (3/6)

"Strike the Rock!" (Ex. 17:1-7)

Lent Four (3/13)

"Mine!" (Ex. 20:1-17)

Lent Five (3/20)

"Digging Ourselves into a Hole" (Ex. 32:1-14)

Palm Sunday (3/24)

"A New Beginning!" (Ex. 34:1-8)

Maunder Thursday (3/28)

"Access!" (Exodus 24:1-11)

Good Friday (3/29)

"Agnus Dei" (Exodus 12:1-13)

Easter Sunday (3/31)

"Against all Odds!" (Exodus 15:1-18)

We hope to see you each week for this exciting study! Pastor Fran



This month the preschoolers will be learning about all the events that led up to the crucifixion and resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ! We will begin with His triumphal entry into Jerusalem and work our way through the week before Easter. The special event for the month will be when Al Johnson comes in to the preschool room and helps the children make a wooden cross that can be displayed in their homes! We are looking forward to that time with Al!

The preschoolers will also be learning about other things surrounding Easter such as bunnies, chicks, baskets, spring, and new life! We will be sure to share some of our many projects with you!

I will be working on the children's assessments for our Parent-Teacher conferences that will be held on March 5. There is no school this day, but parents will come in and meet with me to go through these assessments.

Praying that the season of Lent will help prepare your hearts for the death and resurrection of our Lord and Savior! His painful sacrifice gives us the certainty of heaven and life everlasting! Oh, what joy we have in knowing that our Redeemer Lives!

Because of Jesus,

Wendy Ewald

Activities and Events

Weekly Events

Sunday Adult Bible Study

10:45 am in the Library

Sunday School

10:45-am continues each week through May

GriefShare

GriefShare is a friendly, caring group of people who will walk alongside you through one of life's most difficult experiences. You don't have to go through the grieving process alone.

Grief Share meets on Monday afternoons from **1:00-3:00pm**. Contact Joy Schneider for information.

Tuesdays @ Two

Mt. Hope hosts conversation and coffee on Tuesdays at 2:00 pm. All are invited to attend. We usually have some treats too!



Ongoing Events

1st Sunday of the Month

Children's Message during the Sunday morning worship service. Also on that day we take a **Noisy Offering** for a specific cause each month! Bring your "noisy" coins that day to drop in the bucket (paper money donations gladly accepted also!) Currently, the offering is going to the new Toddler Room at the Child Care.

Card Ministry

Take a moment to fill out the **April** birthday cards in the entryway. Write a little bible verse, add a birthday greeting and bless those at Mt. Hope who have birthdays in April. We're always one month ahead so when the new month begins, we can start distributing the greetings!

Cancelled Stamps Collection

Did you know that you can donate your cancelled stamps for charity? Save your stamps that have their perforations intact, leave at least ¼ inch on each side of the stamp when cutting it from the envelope or postcard. Place your cut cancelled stamps in the labeled bin located on the shelf above the coat rack.



Prayer Chain Ministry

Have you ever had times when it is hard to pray? I know I have. But, after reading a daily devotion from ***In Touch Ministries***, I realized, more strongly, who my rock and salvation is. I'd like to share what I read and where we all can find true rest.

"Sometimes it is hard to pray—to ask God to heal bodies, mend relationships, or fulfill dreams, knowing He may not answer the way we expect.

But He's promised to always be near, to soothe aching hearts and racing minds. To share the weight of our griefs.

God ***is with us***. His presence is our place of refuge, the answer to a prayer not yet spoken."

And speaking of prayer, each month we provide for you a daily prayer topic list. You can find it located at the information table outside of the office or at a number of other places throughout the church.

Send any prayer requests you may have to me at fratwocor489@aol.com or telephone at 952-707-1881.

Blessings, Fran Wallin

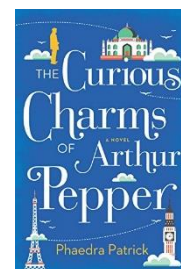


Book Club

March book club is on Friday, March 8th. NOTE; WE MEET AT 11:30AM AT FESTIVAL FOODS WHERE RENATA WILL BRIBE YOU WITH A FREE LUNCH FOR HELPING CLEAN AND SORT THE CHURCH LIBRARY! This should only take about 2 hours. Let Renata know if you can come (YOU don't have to be in book club).

We have a great new book, THE CURIOUS CHARMS OF ARTHUR PEPPER. It is a romance-mystery-adventure story about a widower and an easy read. The author is Phaedra Patrick. Enjoy!

---Renata



Women of Hope

NEW LIFE FAMILY SERVICES

Many thanks for the generous donations in our January Collection. The staff at the center were very welcoming and appreciative. We received this note of thanks:

Dear Friends at Mt. Hope,

Thank you for your generosity in supporting New Life Family Services! Specifically, through the year end gift and the wonderful items collected at your church in January. So many women and families in the Twin Cities need support as they face an unplanned pregnancy. You are a part of coming alongside them and pointing to life! Thank you!

Grace and the NLFS Team

NEXT MEETING

Ladies, the next Women of Hope meeting will be Saturday March 9, 2024 at 10:00AM. We would love to have you come and share your ideas as we connect with food and fellowship.

HOLY CROSS WOMEN'S TEA

The Women's Ministry at Holy Cross in Prior Lake is hosting and inviting us to their Women's Tea on Saturday March 9, 2024 at 11:30AM. They will have a delicious lunch of finger sandwiches, sweets and tea. The program is "From the Cradle to the Cross". Please contact Pam Hunter @ 952-250-1756 for more information.

LWML WOMEN ON A MISSION

The LWML Spring Rally will be on Saturday April 6, 2024 at St. Michael's Lutheran Church in Bloomington. Registration starts at 9:00AM and the program starts at 9:30AM.

The speaker is Michelle Gillard with Lutheran Bible Translators. She is the program assistant to Papua New Guinea and has an interesting and informative presentation on the work LBT is doing there. Please see Linda Quittschreiber for tickets or call her at 952-237-5256.

We are looking for a LWML delegate from Mt. Hope. Please contact Linda Quittschreiber if you would like more information regarding this important ministry.

THANK YOU

- Thank you to all the guys who ordered and installed our new garbage disposal.
- Thank you to all the ladies who assisted with the Valentine's Tea! What a great event.
- Thank you everyone as you serve the Lord in so many areas at Mt. Hope.



Valentine Tea



Our Annual Valentine Tea held on Feb. 10th was blessed with great weather, great travel conditions, great entertainment, a great brunch, and great fellowship.

Pati Kachel, a professional story teller, from Shoreview, presented "A Patchwork Quilt of Heartwarming Stories".

She displayed several vintage quilts on a cloths rack, also draped over a table, and spoke about each quilt sharing the pattern name, and family stories tied to each quilt. She also adds some humor, and songs

throughout her presentation. She got everybody's attention when she put new words to the tune of the "Beer Barrel Polka."

Following Pati's presentation we went into the fellowship hall for our meal. The area was very festive with floral centerpieces, and Valentine helium balloons, among other appropriate decor. The kitchen crew prepared and served an awesome brunch of:

Hash Brown Breakfast Casserole, Fruit Salad, Orange Muffins, and Red Velvet Cake (Pati Kachel's favorite), with tea, coffee, & punch. Sixty four guests were served.

Many thanks to all who helped in any way, to make this Valentine's Tea a success. It takes many hours of planning and preparation for it to happen.





VEAP Update

VEAP Reminder: March is the Big Food & Fund Drive encouraging donations from Feb. 26th thru April 6th.

This years goal is 100,000 pounds of food, along with \$300,000. Also, please note: rather than recycling your paper grocery bags, please save them, and bring to the green VEAP collection shelf, as they make use of them on a daily basis. Also permanent tote bags are accepted. No plastic grocery bags please.

Thank you for your donations of Birthday Party items, which was the February featured item.

Here is a rundown of what you donated:

- Birthday plates – 11pks
- Birthday napkins – 13 pks
- Birthday candles – 11pks
- Cake mixes – 11 boxes
- Frosting – 11 containers
- Posters – 2
- Balloons – 1 bag
- Party favors 7 pks

They will definately help to make a lot of kids special day, a little more festive.

Karen Mueller, Ministry Partner Rep.



NEW BASIC LERT TRAINING

The goal of LERT training is to prepare congregations and individuals to be better prepared when a disaster strikes and help them know how to respond.

The LERT (Lutheran Early Response Team) model will be presented. Participants will learn how to develop local teams of trained volunteers to respond when disasters occur. Congregations are encouraged to send a group of people to this training.

Date: Saturday, April 6, 2024

Location: [Crossview Lutheran Church, Edina](#)

Time: 8:30 Check-in; 9:00 Class begins

Pre-registration is required and is online. [Click here to register.](#) Or go to: www.lcms-lert.org/need/ and scroll down to the MN South event. Early registration is greatly appreciated.

We would love to have a person or two from Mt. Hope attend this session. If you might be interested, contact either Fran Wallin or Pastor Fran for more details.

ANNOUNCING
S.A.G.E.S.
 GATHERING XXXIV
 At Country Inns and Suites, Mankato MN

MAY 6 AND 7, 2024

**Rev. Dr. Dean Nadasdy,
 Featured Presenter**

FINISHING STRONG

PSALM 71 FOR SENIORS
 v.17- SINCE MY YOUTH, GOD, YOU HAVE TAUGHT ME, AND TO THIS DAY
 I DECLARE YOUR MARVELOUS DEEDS.

THREE PRESENTATIONS, SEVEN WORKSHOP choices, MUSIC,
 FELLOWSHIP, BANQUET WITH ENTERTAINMENT BY
 The Benson Family Singers



Presented by S.A.G.E.S. (Saints Alive, Growing, Ever Serving) Minnesota South LCMS Older Adult Ministry

Registration form and more information can be found at the South information nook by the fellowship hall.

Registration deadline is April 15th.

March Celebrations!!

BIRTHDAYS

3/04 Al Johnson
3/10 Orpha Radford
3/10 Emily Vogland
3/11 Jennifer Adamek
3/16 Erica McMullen
3/18 Debbie Lingen
3/20 Maria Killam
3/21 Lloyd Quittschreiber
3/21 Bella Blauvelt
3/24 Darlene Buelow
3/27 Vivian Brantner

BAPTISM BIRTHDAYS

3/02 Drew Blauvelt
3/04 Harriet Buelow
3/06 Katie Jacob
3/10 Hadley Lang
3/10 Holden Lang
3/18 Zachery Brantner
3/20 Candy Frien
3/20 Al Johnson
3/20 Todd Mack
3/23 Karen Mack
3/23 Anika Quittschreiber
3/27 Charlotte Rosner
3/27 Jack Rosner
3/27 Penelope Rosner

ANNIVERSARIES

3/01 Kirk & Dorene Vogland – 39yr
3/08 Jerry & Harriet Buelow – 66yr
3/24 Bart & Maria Killam – 40yr



Serving in March

Coffee & Coffee Clean up: Holly Traetow

Receptions: Renata Melby

Altar: – Linda Quittschreiber, Darlene Wendt

Elders: 3/3 – Al J., 3/10 – Richard E. 3/17 – Dave S., 3/24 – Steve S., 3/31 – Al J.

Altar Flowers

March 3 – (open)

March 10 – Eileen Daak – In memory of her husband, George, and daughter, Rosie, who celebrate their birthdays together on March 14th in heaven

March 17 – Renata Melby – In thankfulness for the wonderful family of Mt. Hope

March 24 – #1 Steve and Kathy Sundseth—In celebration of grandsons, Noah and Oliver, their 19th birthdays on 3/23

#2 The Brantner Family—in celebration of Vivian’s 10th birthday

March 31 – Kristi Voth – In memory of her dad, Fred, for his 84th birthday on 3/26



Sponsoring the altar flowers is a beautiful way to honor loved ones. Flowers are often given to mark special life events such as birth and birthdays; anniversary of a wedding, baptism, confirmation; the memory of a loved one; or as a thanksgiving for life’s blessings.

The 2024 Altar Flower Sign Up Calendar is up on the bulletin board in the information hallway. Please sign up for a date and place your \$30 check, payable to the Women of Hope, in Karen Mack’s mailbox in the information hallway. Karen Mack’s phone number is 952-831-7428 for any questions you may have.

March 2024

Where Guests become Friends and Friends become Family

Mount Hope Lutheran Church Preschool and Childcare

3601 W Old Shakopee Rd Bloomington MN 55431

www.mthopelutheran.org

church@mthopelutheran.org

952 888 5059

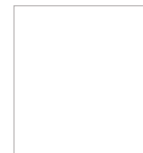


Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 PreSch Closed 10:00am IFC	2
3 9:30am Worship 10:45am Education Hour	4 PreSch Closed 10:00am IFC 1-3:00pm GriefShare 5:00pm IFC DMV	5 PreSch Closed 6am-8pm Voting 2:00pm Tues@2 5:30pm Girl Scouts 8:00pm AA	6 10:00am IFC 6:30pm Lenten Worship	7	8 10:00am IFC 1:30pm Book Club at Marilyn Nelson's	9 10:00am Women of Hope Meeting
10 9:30am Worship 10:45am Education Hour	11 10:00am IFC 1-3:00pm GriefShare 5:00pm IFC DMV	12 2:00pm Tues@2 8:00pm AA	13 10:00am IFC 6:30pm Lenten Worship	14	15 10:00am IFC	16
17 9:30am Worship 10:45am Education Hour	18 10:00am IFC 1-3:00pm GriefShare 5:00pm IFC DMV	19 2:00pm Tues@2 8:00pm AA	20 10:00am IFC 6:30pm Lenten Worship	21 6:30pm Governing Board Meeting	22 10:00am IFC	23 10:00am-4:30pm Baby Shower
Palm Sunday 24 9:30am Worship 10:45am Education Hour	25 10:00am IFC 1-3:00pm GriefShare 5:00pm IFC DMV	26 2:00pm Tues@2 8:00pm AA	27 10:00am IFC	Maundy Thur 28 PreSch Easter Brk 6:30pm Lenten Worship	Good Friday 29 PreSch Easter Brk 10:00am IFC 6:30pm Lenten Worship	30
Easter Sunday 31 9:30am Worship						

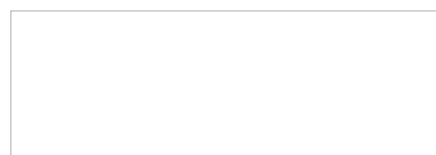
**Deadline for
April News**

Mt. Hope Church Office Hours: Monday-Thursday, 1:00pm-5:00pm

Mt. Hope Lutheran Church
3601 W Old Shakopee Rd
Bloomington, MN 55431



Address Service Requested



This is a monthly publication of Mt. Hope Lutheran Church (LCMS) in Bloomington, MN. Any submissions to the newsletter need to be in the office by the 20th of the month. Publication is generally around the 25th, with the goal of being sent out/available to members by the last Sunday of the month (this can vary, depending on a few factors).

Other reading material currently available at the church:



- **Mar** MN South District News
- **Spring** Lutheran Women's Quarterly
- **Jan-Mar** Portals of Prayer
- **Jan/Feb/Mar** Sagacity Senior News
- **Winter** LWML MN South news
- **...and more!**

Sunday Morning Schedule

9:30 am In-Person Worship

10:45 am Adult Bible Study & Sunday School

Services Online at:

YouTube Channel: Mount Hope Lutheran Church

Facebook: Mount Hope Lutheran Ch, Bloomington, MN

Mount Hope's Staff

Fran Green	<i>Pastor</i> pastor@mthopelutheran.org
Wendy Ewald	<i>Childcare/Preschool Director</i> mounthope.ps.cc@gmail.com
Hiring for	<i>Music Director</i>
Allen Petersen	<i>Administrative Assistant</i> church@mthopelutheran.org
Sam Killam	<i>Custodian</i> skillam06@yahoo.com