



FEBRUARY 2022

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## THE VOICE OF HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH

HOPE EVANGELICAL  
LUTHERAN CHURCH  
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Sunday Morning Worship  
Service with Pastor Oddi  
KNIM 1580AM or 95.9FM  
At 10:00 am



Online Worship on  
Facebook  
9 am Bible Study  
10 am Worship  
Service

**9 am Bible Study and  
Sunday School in  
person at Hope**

**In person Worship at Hope  
Lutheran Church every  
Sunday at 10 am**

Holy Communion is  
celebrated on the first  
and third Sundays'  
of each month.

*Facemasks are optional*

### Pastor's Column

#### **“Free To Choose – What Are They Thinking?”**

Last month we talked about Life. God desires life for us. In Christ Jesus His Son our Lord we are given free and abundant life. We observed “Sanctity of Life Sunday” and one of the verses noted was **Deuteronomy 30:19** – “I call heaven and earth to witness against you today, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and curse. Therefore choose life, that you and your offspring may live.” God Himself speaking through Moses telling the people to make a choice between death and life. Of course, to choose life was to not turn away from God, whereas to choose death was to run off after false gods.

We are faced with many choices every day. Some of these choices are relatively insignificant. What to eat. What to wear. These are choices which we can make almost without putting much thought into. But even these choices might cause an outside observer to say to themselves, “What are they thinking?” Come on guys, you know what I’m talking about. Who among us has not been asked by our wives, “Is that what you’re wearing?” In other words, “What are you thinking?”

In all seriousness there are many choices which we make that are very important. We have a choice of obeying or disobeying the laws of the state. To disobey carries consequences. I just heard about someone who chose to drive a company vehicle under the influence of alcohol. He was stopped by law enforcement and arrested for DWI. The consequences also included the loss of his employment due to operating a company vehicle. His family will also experience the consequences of the choice he made. “What was he thinking?”

Other choices we make are whether to seek medical treatment or not. Maybe someone sees or feels something. It’s different than they normally feel. Something looks a little different than it normally looks. But they tell themselves that it’s alright. There’s really no problem. Or maybe the hope is that the issue will just go away, the problem will just resolve itself. So the choice is made to not seek out a doctor’s opinion or treatment for the unusual issue. So the issue becomes more, it becomes a real problem. Eventually there is no choice left to be made and medical intervention is absolutely required even though it could possibly be too late. What are they thinking?

*Continued on page 2*

...continued from page 1.

We may find ourselves asking that question when it comes to those who refuse to believe in Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior. Those who have made the choice to continue in their sinful ways. Those who have made the choice to continue to follow after the false goods of self and this world. "What are they thinking?"

What about God? What was God thinking? What was He thinking when He sent His Son to take on the flesh of a man? What was God thinking when He placed His own Son under the Law? What was He thinking when He allowed His perfectly obedient and sinless Son to suffer and be crucified for sinners for the ungodly for you and for me? Some may ask those questions. But those questions are not for us to ask. God did these things out of His great love, **John 3:16**, "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life."

**John 3:17-18** continues, "For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God.

God chose us to be His in Christ Jesus His Son our Savior and Lord from the very foundation of the world. In Jesus name and for His sake we are freely given forgiveness and sin and eternal life. To those who refuse this wonderful gift and continue to chose death we can only ask, "What are they thinking?"

*Amen and Amen.*

*God's Blessings - Pastor Dave*

*Just a Reminder*

Please, please do not bring material to be cut for quilt blocks to church. We do not need any more fabric, as we will not be making quilts next year. Thanks to all of you who have contributed to this project over the years.

# February BIRTHDAYS

5th-Lesley Oddi

6th-Beth Goudge

6th-Hope Pappert

15th-Rev. Carl Droegemueller

16th-Shelia Brunnert

17th-MaryAnn Zanzie

21st-Carson McMillen

21st-Dawson McMillen

21st-Becky Hanna

28th-Linda Myers

# February ANNIVERSARIES

5th-Bill & Jeanette Whited

Schedule for Fellowship Dinners at the Lutheran Campus Center- Spring Semester 2022

- ◆ February 6—Twyla Hazen
- ◆ February 13—Jeanette Whited
- ◆ February 20—Terry & Lisa Ewing
- ◆ February 27—Mike Jenkins



Deadline for the March 2022 newsletter is Feb. 20th

Prior to starting our meeting, members took down the Christmas decorations from the Sanctuary.

Mary Ann Zanzie led the devotion from The Quarterly entitled "Setting Our Focus." The devotion stressed that when we keep our focus on Jesus through our faith, he helps us deal with the challenges of our earthly life.

Extra Christmas ornaments were purchased by members present at the meeting.

Member dues for 15 members were paid to the St. Joseph Zone and Quarterly subscriptions were paid to the District.

A time was set for Lesley Oddi and Phyllis Abbott to show Pam Myers, Twyla Hazen and Cynthia Carmichael how to properly clean and store the Advent candles.

A big THANK YOU to Pam Myers and Marie Walsh for heading our poinsettia project and for arranging the beautiful poinsettias at the front of the church for Christmas.

We signed a thank you card for Katie Jenkins for the Christmas scene she painted and donated to the church.

Just a reminder that the District LWML convention will be held June 3-5, 2022 in St. Louis. The theme is "For Such a Time as This."

The next workday will be Thursday, January 13, 2022 from 10-12. We will continue to work on the banners. Future projects will include checking the flower arrangements we have stored, reviewing the books and media in the bookshelves and sorting through the LWML files.

At our February meeting we will collect Love Gift monies and pack Valentine boxes for our university students. We have 4 students plus the LCC.

Knots of Love will start tying quilts on January 6 at 1 pm.

Pam Myers presented our mite box devotion on "Leading Each Deaf Person into a Relationship with Jesus."

Our next meeting will be Tuesday, February 1, 2022 at 7 PM at the church. Marcia Droegemueller will lead the devotion.



**Feb.  
13th**

## **-GIFTING AND REGIFTING-**

Before the Pandemic started many of us at Hope were privileged to be able to go down to a little shop by the Post Office called "Harvest Blessings". Kristy Grimm was the owner. In the store was an amazing array of religious and secular gift items to purchase.

After closing her store, Kristy presented our church with hundreds of greeting cards, mostly Christian, to be used in some way.

The cards sat in our church kitchen for many months as Covid continued to change our schedules.

After much discussion the LWML decided to contact Senior Living and Nursing Home facilities to see if there was a need for cards for resident and staff.

In November 2021 L.W.M.L. members were asked to deliver the cards. Cynthia Carmichael took a card—filled medium tote to Parkdale. Beth Goudge delivered one to Maryville Living. Marcia D. dropped one off at Oak Pointe and Pam Myers took a tote to Village Care. The Confirmation cards were mailed to St. Paul's Lutheran Church in St. Joseph. The First Communion cards were delivered by Pam Myers to St. Gregory's Church and School here in Maryville.

A greeting card ministry was born out of Kristy giving us a gift and in turn we being able to give these cards as a gift to people in our area.

To God we give all praise for letting us be a part of this.

Sincerely,

***The L. W. M. L.  
Women of  
Hope Lutheran***





