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THE VOICE OF HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH

HOPE EVANGELICAL
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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

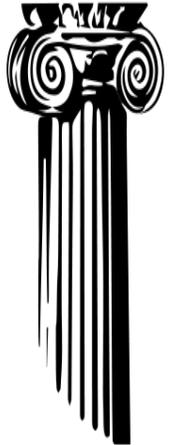
"Free To Choose - Abortion"

Among the many issues that divide the people of this nation is the issue of abortion. Make no mistake, abortion is the taking of the life of another human being. A human being created by God. Another human being for whom Christ died. A human being who feels pain. A human being who cannot possibly be anything but another human being. Someone, who at least in the eyes of other human beings, is innocent of any wrongdoing. A helpless individual, who, deserves our protection and aid. In human eyes they have certainly done nothing which is deserving of death.

But we live in a society which demands the right of personal choice. We live in a society where the "right to choose" has been upheld by the courts over and above the right to life. This is a great tragedy. We, as individuals, have an abundance of rights. We have a wonderful list of freedoms. But we **DO NOT** have the right to murder. Let's make no mistake and let's not sugar coat this or make the issue sound better using euphemisms. There is a danger in doing this. We need to call a thing what it is, and abortion is not freedom to choose, abortion is in fact the wrongful taking of a human life, murder. Murder is sin. The Fifth Commandment clearly tells us, "Thou shall not murder."

Let's look at God's Word. **Psalm 139:13-16**: "For you formed my inward parts; you knitted me together in my mother's womb. I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; my soul knows it very well. My frame was not hidden from you, when I was being made in secret, intricately woven in the depths of the earth. Your eyes saw my unformed substance; in your book were written, every one of them, the days that were formed for me, when as yet there were none of them."

Isaiah 44:24: "Thus says the LORD, your Redeemer, who formed you from the womb: "I am the LORD, who made all things, who alone stretched out the heavens, who spread out the earth by myself."



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...continued from page 1.

Exodus 21:22-24: "When men strive together and hit a pregnant woman, so that her children come out, but there is no harm, the one who hit her shall surely be fined, as the woman's husband shall impose on him, and he shall pay as the judges determine. But if there is harm, then you shall pay life for life, eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot."

Many will claim that in the case of rape or incest, or birth defects abortion should be allowed, but again, Scripture says NO!

Exodus 4:11: "Then the LORD said to him, "Who has made man's mouth? Who makes him mute, or deaf, or seeing, or blind? Is it not I, the LORD?"

Deuteronomy 24:16: "Fathers shall not be put to death because of their children, nor shall children be put to death because of their fathers. Each one shall be put to death for his own sin."

Life and death both belong to God and to Him alone. **Genesis 9:6:** "Whoever sheds the blood of man, by man shall his blood be shed, for God made man in his own image."

Proverbs 6:16-17: "There are six things that the LORD hates, seven that are an abomination to him: haughty eyes, a lying tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood. . ."

Amos 1:13-14: "Thus says the LORD: "For three transgressions of the Ammonites, and for four, I will not revoke the punishment, because they have ripped open pregnant women in Gilead, that they might enlarge their border. So I will kindle a fire in the wall of Rabbah, and it shall devour her strongholds, with shouting on the day of battle, with a tempest in the day of the whirlwind."

What about our freedom to chose then, where does this leave us? Where God speaks in His Word our freedom to chose ends. We are required to obey what God has commanded. Of course, we do not. Of course, we all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

Those who demand the right to murder unborn children argue that once the child is born, (saved from being murdered) we no longer pay any more attention to them, we no longer pay attention to their needs; are they hungry are they homeless. Of course, that is just an attempt to take the focus from the real issue. Should we be doing more for these children as well as their mothers, **of course**. Scripture speaks of this as well. **Galatians 6:2:** "Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ."

Deuteronomy 10:18: "He executes justice for the fatherless and the widow, and loves the sojourner, giving him food and clothing."

Psalms 146:9: "The Lord watches over the sojourners; he upholds the widow and the fatherless, but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin."

James 1:27: "Religion that is pure and undefiled before God the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unstained from the world."

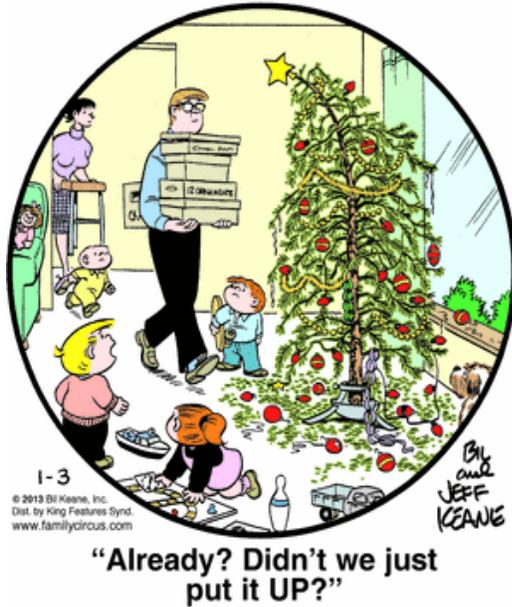
Neglecting the needs of those in poverty and abject want is also sinful. However, that does not justify the murder of the unborn. The consequences of these sins is indeed dire.

Proverbs 21:13: "Whoever closes his ear to the cry of the poor will himself call out and not be answered."

Continued on page 5



Un—
Decorating
the Church
is sched-
uled for
Jan. 4, 2022
at 6 pm



In December 2021—our donated mites went to Mission Grant #5

**Helping Hands for Lutheran Deaf Outreach
Lutheran Deaf Outreach — \$50,000**

Lutheran Deaf Outreach has a passion for teaching others to share Jesus with deaf people. Over 98 percent of deaf and hard-of-hearing individuals do not know Jesus or attend a Christian church. Lutheran Deaf Outreach is equipping both deaf and hearing people with Gospel materials so the saving message of Jesus can be shared with the deaf community. For information and how to help, go to: lwml.org/2021-2023-mission-grant-5.

Thank you for collecting, bringing, and donating mites. Every penny makes a difference. Every penny helps God mission.

Serve the LORD with gladness! (Psalm 100:2)



**Jan.
9th**

The “In The Spotlight” section is not large enough to list the complete stories of each member in the spotlight.



In the back of church is a special “In the Spotlight” display with much more detail. Please check out the bulletin board—and “get all the news.” The following members all have accomplishments in the display.

- ◆ MaryAnn Zanzie—was given the “Making the Difference” award.
- ◆ Caleb Brunnert won 2nd place in an essay contest.
- ◆ Asher Brunnert set personnel best records at a swim met.
- ◆ Isabel Brunnert lead a robotics presentation
- ◆ Jackie Pappert and Andrea Riley are on the Platte Valley basketball team—they won a tournament, and won games against Maryville.
- ◆ Andrea Riley was chosen as the XC Girls Runner of the Year.





- 7th—Kim Hullinger
- 18th—Louise Van Swearingen
- 23rd—Eric Hanna
- 23rd—Judy Leyhe
- 25th—Jean Memken
- 27th—Jonathon Roush



January 1st
Chaim & Katie Jenkins

January 27th
Cliff & Virginia

Classes begin Jan. 12, 2022, so that also means the LCC will be open and working on it's mission.



That also means that on Sundays at 6 pm the students dine on home cooked meals, made by our caring members. The meal on Jan. 16th will be made by the LCC Board—Karla Roush, Beth Goudge and Kim Hullinger.

Twyla Hazen is making the meal on Jan. 23 and

Marcia Droegemueller will making the Jan. 30th meal.

In the December 9, 2021 issue of The Maryville Forum in Section C, the Sports section you will find an article by Jon Dykstra titled "Dorrel returns to MIAA to lead Bronchos.

The article begins —

"Maryville native and 3-time national championship Bearcat coach Adam Dorrel thanked plenty of Maryville residents and North-west Missouri State legends in his introductory press conference on Wednesday as the new head football coach at Central Oklahoma.

The list includes plenty of the obvious names with former Northwest coaches Mel Tjeerdsma, Scott Bostwick and Bart Tatum to former Spoof hound coach Church Lliteras. But the Maryville resident who earned the most air time during his speech was former Maryville teacher Carolyn Henry.

"Carolyn Henry was my elementary-school teacher and Carolyn saw something in me at a very young age when I was having a lot of difficulty in school and really resurrected my academic career," Dorrel said. "I'm been friends with her and in touch with her ever since then. We share the same birthday."

"I credit that lady with really starting me in athletics, really taking to me (into going) out for football. Where I grew up, you couldn't play football until the seventh grade. I did that and within two weeks of doing that, I had proclaimed to my family that I was going to be a college football coach. Mrs. Henry has always been very valuable to my life and I thank her for that."

The article continues ...the entire article is displayed in the back of church.



“Make a joyful noise unto the LORD, all ye lands.
² Serve the LORD with gladness: come before his presence with singing.” Psalm 100 KJV

How wonderful it was to hear the choir singing praises to God. How wonderful it was to see our choir singing praises to God. Thank you to all of the choir members their director for brightening our worship to our Lord and Savior.

Pastor's column continued from page 2.

Proverbs 24:11-12: “Rescue those who are being taken away to death; hold back those who are stumbling to the slaughter. If you say, “Behold, we did not know this,” does not he who weighs the heart perceive it? Does not he who keeps watch over your soul know it, and will he not repay man according to his work?”

No, there is no freedom to chose in this issue. Because of our sinful flesh we do not even have the freedom to chose God. But praise and thanks be to God, He has chosen us in Christ. He has given His own Son to suffer and die for these sins which we commit. He has chosen us. Through Jesus’ death and resurrection, He has given us life. He has given us His Holy Word and the Sacraments through which the Holy Spirit works to bring us to faith and new life.

We have forgiveness of sins in and through Christ and His suffering, death, and resurrection. God has chosen us!

1 Thessalonians 1:3-5: “For we know, brothers loved by God, that he has chosen you, because our gospel came to you not only in word, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction.”

1 Peter 2:4-5: “As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.”

All sins have been atoned for by the blood of Christ even the sin of the false choice of abortion. We in the Church are called to be tender and loving and caring to those who have been harmed by this so-called choice. God is and He is forgiving, gracious, and merciful.

John 8:10-11: “Jesus stood up and said to her, “Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?” She said, “No one, Lord.” And Jesus said, “Neither do I condemn you; go, and from now on sin no more.”

1 Peter 1:3: “Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.”

1 John 1:9: “If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.”

God truly has the freedom to chose and He has chosen to make us His own through the shed blood of His Son our Savior Jesus. Praise and thanks be to a God who has chosen **LIFE!**

Join us as we celebrate Life Sunday – January 23, 2022.

God's Blessings - Pastor Dave