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# The Voice of Hope Lutheran Church

**The Rev. David M. Oddi,  
Pastor**  
(816) 351-0744  
pastordave59@gmail.com

**Lay Director Joyce Cronin,  
LCC Director**  
(660) 582-9294  
layministerjoyce@gmail.com

- Church Secretary  
Jean Memken  
(309) 825-5326
- Elder on Duty  
Richard Oltman
- Altar Guild on Duty  
Pam Myers  
Pat Bobzien



Sunday School 9:00 am  
 Adult Bible Class 9:00 am  
 Worship 10:00 am  
 (Holy Communion on 1st and 3rd Sundays)



**Sunday Morning Worship  
Service  
with  
Pastor Oddi**

KNIM 1580 AM or 95.9 FM  
10:00 am to 10:30 am

Hope Lutheran Church, 931 S. Main Street, Maryville, Mo 64468  
Phone: 660-582-3262  
Website: www.maryvillehopelcc.org E-mail: hopelutheranlcms@gmail.com



## “The 67<sup>th</sup> Regular Convention of the LCMS”

**T**he writer to the Hebrews in Hebrews 12:1-3 writes this under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, *“Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God. Consider him who endured from sinners such hostility against himself, so that you may not grow weary or fainthearted.”*

This month, from June 20-25, our Lutheran Church Missouri Synod will meet in its 67<sup>th</sup> Regular Convention in Tampa, Florida. As the writer to the Hebrews wrote, we Christians, brothers and sisters in Christ, do not stand alone. Jesus, before He ascended into heaven, reassured the disciples and all who would be brought to believe in Him with

these words from Matthew 28:20, *“And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”*

We also have one another for mutual encouragement and support. We have the assurance of knowing that we stand with thousands of other men and women, both young and old, who believe, teach, and confess just as we do. As a synod, we stand, pray, worship, give thanks, and suffer, and rejoice together. As a synod, we stand at the communion rail and receive the bread and the wine that we believe, teach, and confess are the true body and true blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

As the Church, we realize that we do not stand outside of and insulated from the world and its griefs and its sin. We are the Church who is called to be in

the world, to proclaim Christ to the world, to call the world out when it goes down the path of sin and death.

There are times when this task seems overwhelming, when it seems that we are all alone in a world of darkness and death. There could be nothing further from the truth. We stand with a great cloud of witnesses, and when you attend a convention such as the LWML convention, the National Youth Gathering, or a District or Synodical Convention and fellowship with your brothers and sisters from all over the state or the nation, and speak about your shared joys and griefs, you see that you are **NOT** alone, the great assembly of Saints stands there with you. Your troubles and griefs, your joys and celebrations are also theirs, and theirs are ours.

*(continued on page 2)*

I AM **JOY:FULLY**  
**LUTHERAN**  
 1 THESS 5:16-24



## Organist

- 7/7 – Pam Shannon  
 7/14 – Pam Shannon  
 7/21 – Nancy Jenkins  
 7/28 – Nancy Jenkins



## Greeters

- 7/7 – Jean Memken  
 Jonathan Rogers  
 7/14 – Bob & Carolyn  
 Henry  
 7/21 – Gary & Pat  
 Bobzien  
 7/28 – Bill & Jeanette  
 Whited



## Ushers

- 7/7 – Lesley Oddi  
 Liz Mandrick  
 7/14 – Ralph & Marie  
 Walsh  
 7/21 – Karl & Linda  
 Ritterbusch  
 7/28 – Larry Abbott  
 Joe Pappert



## Lay Readers

- 7/7 – Jonathan Rogers  
 7/14 – Pastor Oddi  
 7/21 – Jean Memken  
 7/28 – Ralph Walsh

The 67<sup>th</sup> Regular Convention of the LCMS

(continued from page 1)

At the end of this month, as our synod comes together in convention, they will, first and foremost, give praise and thanks to God for all of His blessings and grace He has showered upon us both individually and as a synod. They will partake of our Savior's true body and true blood. Then, after this most important and joyful gathering is over, our delegates will represent us in the business of the Church, because, as I have reminded us all, we exist in the world. There will be resolutions made and votes taken on many issues. But be assured of this, the Word of God and the Gospel are not and are never up for debate or vote. These are decisions and promises that God has made to us and they do not change, and we have no authority to change them.

Some resolutions which will be discussed and voted upon are, To Encourage God's People to Engage in Active Witness; To Encourage the Planting of Churches; To Study Shared Ministry among Small Congregations; To Support Marriage, Life, and Family; To Continue Vigilance in Child Protection; To Give Thanks to God for 100 Years of LCMS Campus Ministry; and many others.

This has already been one very important decision which has been made by our appointed delegates, both pastoral and lay, as well as the pastors currently serving congregations in our synod; that is the decision on who will lead the synod for the next three years. "The Rev. Dr. Matthew C. Harrison has been re-elected to a fourth term as president of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod after receiving the majority vote on the first ballot during the June 22–25 election period."

Please keep President Harrison, all of our District Presidents, as well as our Pastoral and Lay delegates in your daily prayers. Ask our Lord to bless them with wisdom, patience, and grace. Ask God to remind them that even those they disagree with are their brothers and sisters in Christ and that all of the discussions would be made in the love of Christ and His Church. Pray for the protection of the delegates as they travel to and from Tampa as well as their safety as they attend and move about the convention grounds.

Note: The Pastoral delegate for our St. Joseph Circuit is the Reverend Joel Cundiff, Associate Pastor at St. Paul in St. Joseph. The Lay delegate for our St. Joseph Circuit is Mrs. Lesley Oddi of Hope in Maryville. These delegates were duly elected to represent our Circuit at the synodical convention during the Circuit Forum held October, 2018, at St. Paul Lutheran Church in St. Joseph.

*God's Blessings - Pastor Dave*

## LC-MS Convention Theme: "I Am JOY:FULLY Lutheran"

**A** Lutheran is a person who puts all of his or her faith and trust in Jesus alone. Lutherans do not rely on their own works or worthiness to earn God's love. Lutherans look to Jesus' death and resurrection as the fulfillment of God's promises to save His people and to forgive our sins. Jesus' death and resurrection promise eternal life for all who believe. God delivers His gifts of love and forgiveness through His Word proclaimed and read and through His Sacraments of Baptism and the Lord's Supper. Through these means, God comes to sinners with His free gift of salvation.

Lutherans freely and fully confess their sins and seek to amend their sinful life by the power of the Holy Spirit. This change does not earn God's love, but is a life of thanksgiving for His love. Blessed (full of joy) are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness. Blessed are those whose sins are forgiven.—*From the LC-MS Convention Website-joyfullylutheran.org*



- 7/1 – Deanna Mandrick
- 7/3 – Phyllis Abbott
- 7/11 – Joe Pappert
- 7/11 – Matt Strauch
- 7/14 – Lisa Ewing
- 7/16 – Larry Abbott
- 7/19 – Elizabeth Stoeckle
- 7/21 – Paula Sheil
- 7/24 – Frank Leyhe
- 7/29 – Pat Bobzien
- 7/30 – Cindy Carmichael



- 7/1 – Stacy & Jeremy Mason
- 7/7 – Becky & Rick Hanna
- 7/12 – Rev. Carl & Marcia Droegemueller
- 7/16 – Frank & Judy Leyhe



- July 11, 2019, 5:00 pm
- Phyllis Abbott
  - Marilyn Bettis



## LWML Convention Highlights

The Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML) welcomed 3,104 people with 691 as first timers to the LWML Convention in Mobile, Alabama, June 20–23, 2019, under the theme "In Praise to the LORD!" The convention theme was based on 1 Chronicles 16:23–24a. Liz Mandrick and Twyla Hazen attended from our church, along with St. Joseph zone president, Carol Sharp, from Holy Trinity, Mound City.

Delegates to the 38th Biennial Convention of the LWML adopted a \$2,100,000 mission goal for the 2019–2021 biennium. This goal, by the grace of God, will fund 21 mission grants as men and women respond in prayer and offerings during the next two years. LWML chose to support the following mission grants, pledging their support with prayers and mites (offerings) given over the next biennium:

1. Water and the Word for Rural Schools in Kenya, \$80,000
2. Teach Me Too—Preschoolers with Learning Needs in Austin (LSEM), \$100,000
3. Mission Outreach for At-Risk Young Women in Africa, \$100,000
4. God's Grace for This Generation (LAMP), \$100,000
5. God's Word Changes Everything (LBT), \$95,000
6. Mobile Medical Mercy Mission Bus for Guatemala, \$100,000
7. Restoring Hope for Detroit Children and Families, \$100,000
8. Lights for Christ Scholarships in Guatemala, \$95,000
9. Wind River Indian Reservation Transportation at Fort Washakie in Wyoming, \$40,000
10. Ministry in Motion at Trinity in Mobile, AL, \$58,000
11. Touching the Living Word (LBW), \$100,000
12. Women's Witness and Mercy Asia — Mission Central, \$100,000
13. Digital Media Development (LFL), 30,000
14. Hope and Healing Hub of Downtown Lincoln, NE, \$50,000
15. Pre- and Post-Seminary Training for Local Church Workers in Africa, \$62,650
16. Preparing Leaders for Tomorrow (LCMS School Ministries), \$80,000
17. Christ for You, Anytime, Anywhere (KFUO Radio), \$60,000
18. Sri Lanka Multipurpose Building Construction, \$50,000
19. Making Jesus Known in the United States Ethnic Communities at Concordia Seminary in St. Louis, \$100,000
20. Music Outreach, Classes, and Resources on the Border in El Paso, TX, \$98,400
21. LCMS Deaconess Ministry (LCMS Office of International Mission), \$39,523

The voting body elected the following to serve as officers, Counselor, and nominating committee: Debbie Larson, Rocky Mountain District, President; Marie Chow, Washington-Alaska District, VP of Organization Resources, Deaconess **Betty Knapp**, VP of Special Focus Ministries, Karla Koehler, Treasurer, Rev. Brian Noack, Atlantic District, Junior Pastoral Counselor; Sylvia Bean, Carrie Brumbaugh, Mary Harrington, Crysta Miller, and Brianne Stahlecker, Nominating Committee.

Lastly, LWML President Patti Ross unveiled the new LWML Mite Box design. The design was shared during the President's report, and was also shared via LWML social media channels and Livestream.

## Lutheran Campus Center Gets Busy with a New Director

I want to thank all of you for asking me to come back to be the church's campus ministry director. I am very thankful and excited. I would like to use this time each month to keep you up to date on what is happening at your LCC.

SOAR is currently going on at Northwest for incoming freshman. The Leaders of the various Campus Ministry Programs have split up the dates to hand out information and get students to give us contact information. There are Lutherans out there...but many more Catholics! ☺ We are working very well together and they will be good friends and a resource for me.

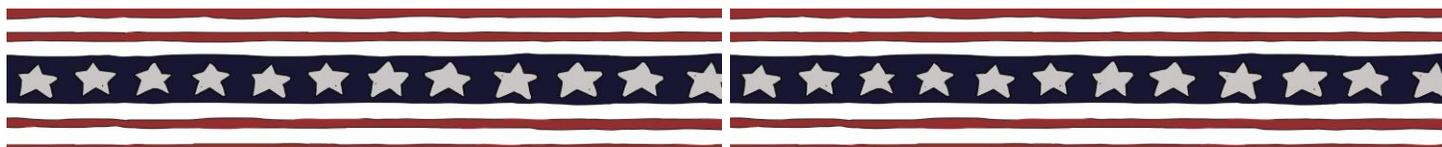
My assistant, Deanna Mandrick, and I went to Columbia for a Campus Ministry Conference, paid for by Lutheran Hour Ministries. We learned a new Evangelism approach and again, made friends and now have great resources. I'm working with Columbia's Campus Lutheran Church's

minister and campus director on how the Missouri District can help us communicate with all Lutheran Churches through email to help us recruit students. The minister in attendance representing the Synod was very helpful.

I'm working on getting the banner updated for outside the house, the web site updated, business cards printed and t-shirts are designed and printed. T-shirts will be on sale for \$15, \$17 for XXL and larger, and less for children.

I want you all to know that our last graduate, Megan Clasen, told the LCC Board how much the kids love how involved our church family is! Please put The Welcome BBQ on your calendar...it's a week earlier this year, Sunday, August 18, at 6:00 pm.

Home cooked meals will return to Sunday nights at 6:00 pm and Bible studies will be Thursdays at 7:00 pm. I want to thank all who have encouraged me: Deanna, Pastor D., Marcia and Jean for volunteering to help, and Pastor Dave and Lesley for answering ALL my questions and also so ready to help with this ministry. God will bless this ministry again....but we can use all the prayers we can get!!!—Joyce Cronin, LCC Director



### Council Notes

Here are some of the things that were discussed at the last Church Council Meeting.

Trustees: Larry Abbot reported that he will contact a professional to clean the carpets in the sanctuary. He also led a discussion about the cost of mowing and cleaning. The council approved to increase the pay for cleaning to \$75 a week.

Finance: Mike Mandrick reported that the donations are lower during the summer.

Education: Karla Roush reported that they were ready to host VBS at Lake Mozingo.

Campus Relations: Pam Myers reported that Joyce Cronin is gathering information and preparing for SOAR, the week of freshmen orientation out at Northwest.

No additional information from Elders, Evangelism, or Long Range planning.

There was no new or old business.

## Changing the World for the Better

In case you hadn't noticed, there's an election coming up! I know, it seems this time around, we cannot escape the myriad of ads for the 20+ candidates that are running for president, ready to take on President Trump in next year's election.

I watched the debates this past week and was struck that so many of the candidates talked about big changes they would employ if elected. They cited things like climate change, the inequities of our economic system, rising healthcare costs, and the crisis related to immigration as examples showing that we need to change, and not just in little ways, but in sweeping reform.

As Christians, we often see our role as just being a disciple. That's what Jesus told us we should do in the Great Commission. We think of reaching out with the Good News of Jesus Christ and converting others. But God's kingdom is more than just a convert here or there, it is a sweeping transformation of society. So how do we bring that about? The Bible discusses several ways.

First, you can be a blessing to our country. In the book of Proverbs it is written, *"When the righteous prosper, the city rejoices . . . through the blessing of the upright a city is exalted, but by the mouth of the wicked it is destroyed."* (11:10-11). And, *"For lack of guidance a nation falls, but victory is won through many*

*advisers."* (11:14). How we live as individuals not only affects ourselves and our families, but also the world around us. When Christians are elevated to leadership roles, good things can happen. When Christians become role models in the community, that community becomes better. And when Christians offer their wisdom to others in a community and use their spiritual gifts to help others, that community can change for the better.

So what does that mean? Live a Christian example. Don't speak ill of your neighbors. Don't gossip or talk down others. Be kind-hearted and helpful. Build up others in the community as much as you can. If you have any skills or talents, use them to help your neighbor, and by that I mean your fellow citizens. Can you imagine what Maryville would be like if all Christians united to make it better? Our community would surely be exalted in many ways.

Jesus was a good example of sweeping reform when he encountered the Samaritan woman at the well. Jesus did some amazing society-transforming acts then, and they are good examples for us. I'm sure you remember the story: Jesus separates from his disciples and ends up at a well where a Samaritan woman of ill repute (she married and divorced five times and was currently living with a man she was not married to) came to draw water. Jesus talks to her and asks her for a drink of water, and proceeds to point out her sin. She realizes he is a

prophet, but he tells her he is more than that and can supply her with "living water" so she will never thirst again.

Which brings me to the second way you can transform our world. Be considerate of the opposite sex. Jesus had a long and interesting conversation with this woman at the well. That was contrary to every norm of Jewish society. If we follow Jesus' example, there would be no need for a "Me, too" movement as all women would be treated with respect. The battle of the sexes would be a thing of the past. And God's idea of a mutual respect between men and women would finally emerge.

Third, Jesus also broke down racial barriers in this encounter with the Samaritan woman. Jews were supposed to hate Samaritans. They were a despised minority with no real power. But Jesus doesn't care. He explains that salvation comes from the Jewish race, but she is welcome to it. He openly accepts her in spite of her race and ethnicity. And we need to do the same.

Finally, Jesus does not care that this woman is a social outcast because of her sinful lifestyle. He loves her in spite of her imperfections, just like he loves you and me, also sinful human beings. He doesn't condemn her in a "fire and brimstone" sermon about the law, but wins her over with his love and respect for her. Jesus doesn't see anyone as a second-class citizen or social outcast.

Can we do the same? That might be the most difficult challenge of all as we work to transform our community and world. And yet, if we do, imagine what the Holy Spirit could do to those we openly accept and show the love of Jesus. Just like that Samaritan woman, the spark of faith might be kindled and we will welcome others into God's kingdom.

So Jesus is not only our Savior, but our role model to create a sweeping reform to society. He shows us the way to be a good citizen of the world with His encounter with a Samaritan woman. By putting aside her gender, race, and social standing, He gives her acceptance, an intimate relationship with a loving Lord, and a new meaning to life. But more than that, He points her to the one true way to salvation. Thanks be to Christ, our Savior, but also our Reformer. May we follow His example and work to reform our community, nation and world as we live His example. Blessings to all as this week you celebrate our freedom to do just that!—jm





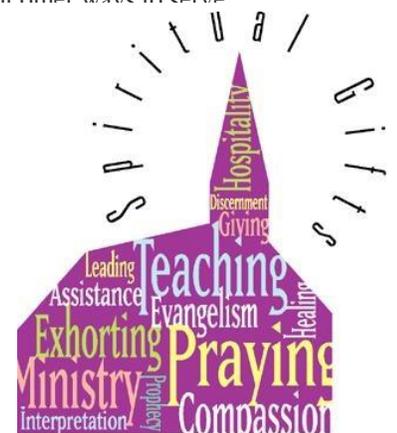
The Wednesday afternoon Women’s Bible Study just completed a study on spiritual gifts, and it was very enlightening. The study got us searching the scriptures about the gifts we are given as God’s children, examples of how those in the Bible used those gifts, and how we are to use those gifts for their intended purpose – to build up the church.

Some churches put a lot of emphasis on spiritual gifts and others, like ours, do not. The study warned that we can get a little too wrapped up in the identifying spiritual gifts and forget about using spiritual gifts, or we can take spiritual gifts to such an extreme that we forget about the orderly way a church should operate. But spiritual gifts are important – they are given by God through the Holy Spirit, and if the Holy Spirit is at work in your life, you should be able to identify and use your spiritual gifts for his purpose.

Along with the Bible study, I ran across an article in an e-publication our church receives that discusses the focus on spiritual gifts in the church. Here are a few takeaways from that article by Pastor Juan Sanchez.

1. **Encourage members to discover the church body’s needs** – I know it seems like our church runs pretty smoothly all the time, but it might be good for our church leaders and others to sit down and think about where our ministries could use some support. One area I can think of is evangelism, and we discussed this in our Bible Study. Not only do we need to think about evangelism in the community, but also on campus as we work to build up our campus ministry again. What are other areas that need support here at Hope? Where is the harvest great, but the laborers few?
2. **Encourage your members to pray** – As you know I am a great advocate of prayer. I keep a little prayer journal that lists all the people we pray for each week at Women’s Bible Study and throughout the week in our own homes. It is interesting to look back and think about those who were so sick and yet are now well, those struggling with career decisions or problems at home or work that are now focused and at peace in their lives. There are also those we have prayed for where God has seen fit to do something we weren’t praying for, but I can see the good in His decision. So perhaps we all need to pray for Hope, for our LCC ministries, and for our church leaders, asking God to give them the wisdom to lead us in the direction He would have us go.
3. **Encourage your members to ask, “What do you enjoy doing?”** – According to Pastor Sanchez: “Why do some people think doing the Lord’s will has to be miserable? If the Spirit has gifted us, and if we’re growing in grace, we’ll enjoy serving the Lord and the church with the gifts He’s given us.” Not everything we do here at Hope is exciting for our members (check out the cleaning crew on page 8 of this newsletter), but it is still important. Sanchez adds, “the Lord may also have equipped your members with certain skills they’re reluctant to use at church because it’s what they do all day at work (i.e., accounting, IT). Still, we should encourage others to serve the church body in these ways. In most cases, they’ll find it a delight.” From my own example, I really like to sew, and when my kids were little, there was always a sewing project – a Christmas dress, a costume, a class project, etc. But now, I don’t really need to sew much for my family or home, so on a lark, I decided to make some banners. And then I was hooked. I don’t really do much sewing on the banners I make, but I have great fun going to the fabric store and searching the aisles for just the right color and texture and weight of fabrics to use in the banners I make. So think about what you like to do and how you can use that skill to serve your church and others.
4. **Encourage your members to seek Godly Counsel** – If you are hesitant about serving, talk to a fellow Christian who knows you well to see if the spiritual gifts you have identified yourself as having make sense. Maybe just by talking about them, you will confirm that they really are a part of your life, or that maybe you need to think about other ways to serve.
5. **Encourage members to not just sit there, but to do something, to serve somewhere** – From our Bible Study, I discovered finding your spiritual gifts can be hard work. They don’t just magically appear and it can take awhile for you to understand what they really are. In the meantime, do something, anything to help here at Hope or in the community. You will probably discover how much you really enjoy that activity once you take the plunge and actually do it.

If you are interested in learning more about your spiritual gifts, I have a copy of the Bible Study we worked through in our Women’s Bible Study class, and you are welcome to use it for your own personal Bible Study. You might be surprised what you discover about yourself and the work that the Lord wants you to do. I can guarantee it will bring you closer to God as you let the Holy Spirit work in your life through your spiritual gifts.—jm



# VBS Reaches for the Stars!

This year's Vacation Bible School was out of this world! It was to the moon and back! It was a star-studded extravaganza! If can't already tell, this year's VBS had the astronomical theme of "Miraculous Mission: Jesus Saves the World! We had approximately 30 children this year, so the Mazingo Conference Center was packed! There were Bible lessons, skits, songs, crafts and, snacks! The campers descended on the Lake Mazingo youth camp on early Saturday afternoon for a pizza lunch, and then the fun began. The adults rolled in around 6:00 pm for a cookout/potluck dinner where there was a lot of really delicious food. The children worked that off quite easily with the annual water balloon toss and the melee that always ensues when it is over. Then it was campfire/s'mores time and finally a chance to settle into the cabins for a good (?) night's sleep.

On Sunday morning, the elders whipped up a great breakfast of Biermann scrambled eggs, sausage, and pancakes, which everyone enjoyed. VBS held their final session and worship began at 10:00 am as usual with a record number of attendees! In all, it was a great weekend for all involved.

Here are a few pictures from the weekend.



Karla Roush and friends led the lessons.



Dean and Pastor D. worked the grill this year.



That point when the water balloon fight becomes a free-for-all. The kids had a blast!



Hope led the music and accompanied our worship service.



Our Bethesda friends enjoyed the crafts with help from Phyllis Abbott.



A full house for worship this year!



Not sure what was more fun. Building up the towers or knocking them down!



The Jonatha/on-squared took charge of the games.



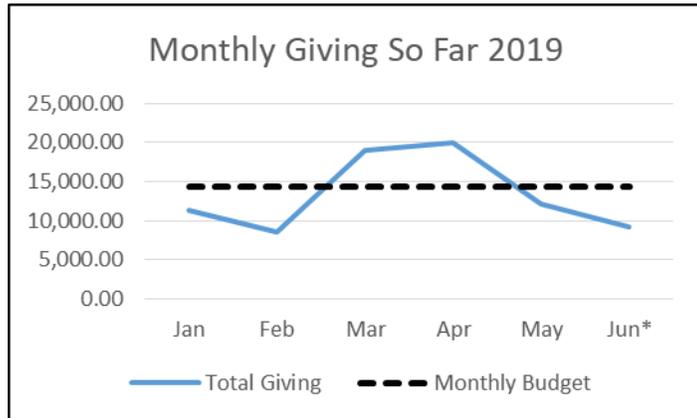
So much great food! Thanks, LWML, for organizing the potluck!



Craft time!



## Our Financial Picture



\*-June does not include offering from June 30.

## Time for a Good Cleaning

A few good women answered Phyllis Abbott's call to clean the pews this week. They gathered on Tuesday morning and set to work removing the pew cushions and vacuuming and dusting the pews in our sanctuary. Many hands make light work, and the crew finished quickly. Thank you so much to the following women for your service: Phyllis Abbott, Marcia Droege Mueller, Jan Duncan, Beth Goudge, Twyla Hazen, Liz Mandrick, and Pam Myers. The pews look great!



*Beth and Marcia work in the back while Jan, Liz, and Phyllis clean the front pews.*



*Beth Goudge (left) wields the vacuum while Pam Myers and Jan Duncan (above) sweep off a pew on the other side.*



## Altar Guild – Northwest Students Partner for Banner Project

A group of computer science students were in need of project this summer to fulfill their requirements for a graduate directed project. Jean Memken, director of the altar guild here at Hope, contacted the university to see if they might work with our Altar Guild to develop a computer website/app that members could use to access the church calendar, the altar guild schedule, the seasonal colors of the paraments, and the banners available to hang for each season of the church year.

The students set to work and put together a prototype site that does all that and more. Not only can an altar guild member log on the secure site and see when they are assigned to work, but they can also see the colors of the paraments for that month, the banners available to hang, along with any special care requirements, the banner's history, and when it was last used. They also will see the scripture readings for each week they serve and whether there are any banners that coincide with the readings. They can also access a schedule of altar guild volunteers for each month and their contact information in case they need to trade or find a substitute.

A group of altar guild members will attend the students' final presentation of their prototype next week. Jean reported that what they have done so far has been great, and she thinks it will be a really useful tool for our Altar Guild members. As administrator of the site, she can add and subtract banners, update the history and usage, and update assignments and membership each year.

In the fall, the students will be enrolled in a class where they will add graphics and create an easy- to-use interface for the site. We should be able to access the new website and use it starting with the Advent season and the start of the new church year in December.

Many thanks to this great group of Northwest Students for helping with this important ministry of our church!—jm



*Jean Memken and the Northwest Students working on our Banner Website/App project this summer.*



# "IN DEPENDENCE" DAY!

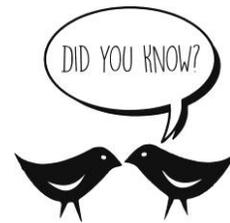
Always live "in dependence" on God.

Directions: Use the vowel code to complete Psalm 16:8, NIV.

A=  E=  I=  O=  U= 

k\_ \_ p my \_ \_ y\_ \_ s  
 l\_ w\_ \_ y\_ s \_ \_ n th\_ \_ L\_ \_ RD.  
 W\_ th h\_ \_ m \_ \_ t my  
 r\_ \_ ght h\_ \_ nd,  
 w\_ ll n\_ \_ t b\_ \_ sh\_ \_ k\_ \_ n.  
 Ps\_ \_ lm 16:8, N\_ \_ V

Answer: I keep my eyes always on the LORD. With him at my right hand, I will not be shaken. Psalm 16:8, NIV



-- **Vanessa Pappert** was the Jefferson High School student awarded the DAR (Daughters of the American Revolution) Good Citizen Award. Those receiving this honor must display the qualities of dependability, service, leadership and patriotism. She received a certificate and a "Good Citizen" pin. Congratulations, Vanessa!

WELL WHOSE CHURCH IS IT THEN?

