

Hope's Happenings

HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH, NY

Volume 45, Issue 1: January & February 2017

CONTACT

INFORMATION:

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Chris LiPuma

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Pastor Emeritus:

Rev. Neil Kattermann

Music Director:

Paul Blackwell

Parish Administrators:

**Carol Boldt
Margie Rung**

Campus Ministry Intern:

Mitchell Marcin

in this *issue*

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From Pastor Shawn

Two quotes put Christmas into focus for me this year. The first came from a sermon that Martin Luther preached on Christmas himself in 1543. He said:

*"The inn was full... there are many of you who think to yourselves: "If only I had been there! How quick I would have been to help the baby!" **Why don't you do it now?** You have Christ in your neighbor. You ought to serve your neighbor, for what you do to your neighbor in need you do to the Lord Christ himself."*

As you can see, Martin Luther wasn't the type to mince words. As I read the words, I felt a certainty that he must have been talking to me. It's amazing how words 500 years old can still ring so current and so true. We've all heard of Monday morning quarterbacks. Monday morning quarterbacks look back and reflect on what they think should have happened during the football games the day before. They say things like, "we should have gone for it on 4th and 1" or "They should have kicked a field goal." Or "Why did EJ Manuel start the last game of the season for the Buffalo Bills with Rookie Cardale Jones riding the bench!?" They look back, and with certainty offer their opinion of the events before. The reality, of course, is what little good that does.

As I reflected on the words from Martin Luther I heard him talking to the Monday morning quarterback in me. The one who would have welcomed Christ into the inn, and given Mary the best maternity suite she'd ever seen. And then I remembered what little good being a Monday morning quarterback does. Instead, perhaps, it was more important how I was welcoming Christ on Monday morning.

The second quote that struck a cord this weekend hammered that point home. Howard Truman wrote:

*"When the star in the sky is gone,
When the Kings and Princes are home,
When the shepherds are back with their flocks,
The work of Christmas begins.
To find the lost, To heal the broken,
To feed the hungry, To release the prisoner,
To teach the nations, To bring Christ to all,
To make music in the heart."*

We may not be able to control the welcome of Christ that first Christmas night, but that was never a job that fell to us in the first place. Our task is the work of Christmas now. And Christmas, contrary to popular opinion, is not behind us. The work of Christmas is just beginning.

As we enter this New Year, that is my prayer for you and for our church. That we look less at what we think others should be doing, and spend more time looking for the ways God is calling us to heal, feed, and teach. Don't be a Monday morning Quarterback looking back. There's too much work to be done today, and we are the ones God has called to it!



Worship Notes

Sundays, 8am & 10:30am

8am: *Worship Band led Liturgy*
10:30am: *Piano/Organ led Liturgy*

Sunday, January 8
Baptism of Our Lord
Worship at 8am & 10:30am

Sunday, February 26
Transfiguration of Our Lord
Worship at 8am & 10:30am

Sunday, January 22
Installation of Officers & Committee Members
Worship at 8am & 10:30am

Looking Ahead
Lent Begins Wednesday, March 1
Easter is Sunday, April 16

We Remember In Our Prayers



*Matthew Nourse,
Carmon Becker,
Roger Day,
Sharlie Mullin,
Hyland Day,
Curt Emery,
Laura Bley,
Matthew
McGuinness,
Irene Gick,
Irv Dell,*

*Abbie Aldrich,
Myrtle Rammacher,
Betty Olin,
Chris Sanders,
Pastor Bob
Zimmerman,
Dave,
Irene Eichinger,
Shirley Spencer,
Bricen Thall,
Isabelle Wagner,*

*Roger Roper,
Linda Vaughan,
Luke Fries,
Sam LaScala,
John Rung,
Bill Strobele,
Marilyn Bley,
Norman Rugg,
and Elizabeth
Maier.*

We pray for all those who are struggling with drug and alcohol addictions and we also pray for the victims of all forms of abuse. We continue to keep our Servicemen and women who are serving at home and overseas in our prayers.

Financial Update

2016 4th Quarter

October 2016 Weekly Giving: **\$2,387**
October 2015 Weekly Giving: **\$2,618**

November 2016 Weekly Giving: **\$2,525**
November 2015 Weekly Giving: **\$2,416**

December 2016 Weekly Giving: **\$3,301**
December 2015 Weekly Giving: **\$2,500**

2016 Complete Year Weekly Giving: **\$2,717**

Thanks Be to God for YOU!

November 2016

Bob Landahl & Turkey Crew; *for cooking the turkeys for our Fried Turkey Dinner;*
Paul Blackwell; *For the outstanding music on All Saints Sunday*

December 2016

Paul Fehringer, *For the Snowmen Fundraiser that raised \$750 for A Future With Hope*
Brian Tavernier and the Holland BGC, *for hosting a family fun night*
Monica Reding, *for playing piano at our weekly Advent services*



Blast From the Past



Our featured throwback this month comes from Marisa Sanders. This is from 1982 when Marisa, Courtney Offers, and Becky Boll helped decorate church for Christmas!

If you have an old photo or memory that you'd like to share in the next Hope's Happenings please email the office at Office@hopearcade.org

From Chris LiPuma

Youth and Family Ministries

“New Year. New Me.”

That seems to be the hot phrase around this time of year. January 1st. Time to make some resolutions. It seems that social media has caught on as well. So many posts about, “How to get the body you want in the new year!” “Fix those bad habits this year!” Or my favorite “Make this year’s resolution to catch up on past years’ resolutions!” Yeah its no surprise these days that we are looking to always improve ourselves, and we know this time of the year is the perfect benchmark to start that improvement. When I look at my life, I see so many things I could improve on. I would love to finally get back into my football shape days. I would love to eat healthier. I would love to stop procrastinating. I would love to turn the beer in for some water. All that, and more. I’m sure everyone looks at their daily lives and can think of so many things they would like to change. But I think I have a better resolution for this year, a resolution we could all try to stick to.



My New Year’s Resolution is to live into the person I am. To live into who God put here on this earth. How often do we do that? Really do that? I know the majority of my thinking is the things I don’t excel at, the degrees I am lacking, the body I wish I had. I always find myself saying “ why do you do that?” or “You can’t do that.” Maybe these are some of your own thoughts as well. Well here’s a statistic for you that might change your mindset on that. Science has put a statistic on the probability of you being you. It’s one in four hundred trillion. Yes, you read that correctly. Somehow scientists have discovered that the chance of you being you, you with all of your bad habits, your quirky remarks, your hopes and your dreams is one in four hundred trillion. Suddenly that makes me feel pretty special. Makes me feel a little bit more motivated, motivated to not change but instead be that one in four hundred trillion.

You see, we get so caught up today in what we are not and what we lack, but what for? We have a God who made us! Us! A God who gave you your gifts, and your faults and your shortcomings because it is exactly what this world needed. This New Year or even starting right now may you live into that. Live into knowing that you are a gift to this place, a gift to this church and a gift to your friends and family. Sure there are things you would love to change but look at yourself and fall in love with you. Maybe it’s time we start looking at what we are, what we have and what we can give. That type of thinking is how we can change the world. Be that One in Four hundred trillion.

“Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? And not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. But even the hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear not, therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows.”

—Matthew 10:29-31





Youth Group

Youth Group is starting up again in the New Year on Tuesday nights from 6:30-8:30pm. We will gather for an evening of checking in, having fun, and digging into our faith.

Sledding Party

Stick around after church on Sunday, January 29 for an afternoon of sledding fun and winter treats. Bring your winter gear and favorite sleds. We'll sled in the park and warm up at church following with delicious hot cocoa.

Winter Retreat

Our youth are headed to the Residence Inn and Splash Lagoon Indoor Water Park in Erie, PA from January 13-15 for a weekend of faith formation and fun. They will be joining St. John Lutheran Church from Williamsville for the event. We're delighted that some of the confirmed youth will be attending to act as mentors and junior counselors. Our theme this year is: "Waling Wet: Living Into Our Baptism" We can't wait to show and tell you all about it when we return.



Announcements



Red Cross Blood Drive

The next Blood Drive will be Tuesday, January 17 from 11:30-5:30pm. Please drop by to donate or to volunteer!



Care Givers Support Group

Care Givers Support Group will meet on the last Thursday of the month at 6:30pm. We gather to care for those who care for others, to listen, and to share both our experience and our support.



Committee Coffee House

The next Committee Coffee House will take place on Wednesday, January 25 @ 6:30pm. Topics of discussion will include: Winterfest (Outreach and Education), 2016 Financial Year End Report and Contribution Records (Stewardship & Finance), ongoing building needs (Building and Grounds), and more.



Church Council

Church Council will meet on the Second Tuesday of January & February (1/10 & 2/13) at 6:30pm. If you have anything you'd like Church Council to be aware of or discuss, please let PS or Bob Vossler (716-496-8967) know.



Fish Fry

Hope's first Fish Fry of 2017 is set for Friday, February 17. We'll begin serving at 4:30pm (until sold out). Come on out to eat, serve, or enjoy the company!



Pioneer Association of Churches (PAC)

The Pioneer Association of Churches will meet on Monday, February 13 at 6:30pm to discuss Lenten Worship and our on-going mission through the food pantry.



Winterfest: Super Heroes!

Hope will be happening during this year's Winterfest. On Friday we are hosting Emily Prior in the Winterfest Pageant. On Saturday we are hosting the Lego Contest and more. During that time, we will have hot chocolate, baked goods, and world famous chili available for purchase at church. Stay tuned for ways you can help support winterfest, and definitely mark your calendars to stop on by!



2016 McCloskey Scholarship Winner

Congratulations Mitchell Marcin for being the 2016-2017 recipient of the Martha E. McCloskey Scholarship. Mitchell is in his second year at Alfred State. Join us in wishing Mitchell a hearty congratulations!



Follow Hope on Facebook and Instagram!

Don't forget to follow us on Facebook and Instagram for the latest highlights and announcements of the many things happening around here at Hope. On facebook please "like" the page **Hope Lutheran Church, Arcade, NY**, and on instagram find us **@hopearcade**.

Christian Education

Confirmation Class

Confirmation classes resume this month and next meeting on Wednesdays, February 1 & 15. We will be discussing the gospel of John and the book of Acts.

4th Graders and the Church Year

On the Sundays in January our 4th graders will gather with Pastor Shawn to learn about the church year as we start another calendar one. We will study the seasons of Advent, Christmas, Epiphany, Lent, Easter, and Pentecost and how they relate to God's activity and Jesus' life. Watch for our very own creation of the church year calendar in the parish hall.

Looking Ahead:

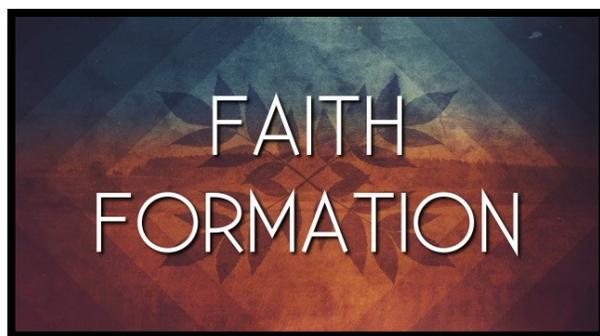
Communion Instruction

Attention 2nd graders and those interested in communion instruction. Classes are set for Wednesdays 3/8, 15, 22, & 29. We will paint chalices following worship on a Sunday afternoon TBD. Communion Celebration will take place on Sunday, April 2 at 10:30am. All classes are for children and their parents.

This years second graders include: Connor Fleischman, Kristofer Burfield, Cooper Rhodus, Mason Miller, Trey Monin, Isaiah Carter, & Jerry Nowak.

First Sundays

On the first Sundays of the month we have special Sunday School at Hope. In February, Sandi Bennett will lead the First Sunday with upcoming Winterfest in mind, and in March Tracey Wood will lead the first Sunday with the upcoming blood drive in mind.



Hope Preschool



From Director, Ms. Chris

It's hard to believe, but we're nearing the halfway point of our preschool year! We had a busy couple of months with the holidays & a fundraiser thrown in, looking forward to slowing things down a bit in January. Thank you to everyone who supported our fall fundraiser, we made a little over \$300. Not quite enough to replace our computer, but a good start! We'll be holding a chicken barbecue this spring, more info will come in the next issue of Hope's Happenings! Thank you for your continued support of the program & our fundraisers! Don't forget, you can always help a child by making a donation to our tuition assistance program.



This fall Hope announced plans to begin a capital campaign to build a community/ministry center right here in Arcade. This bold endeavor is a response to hearing God's call for us to create a space to meet community needs, celebrate our life together, and form life-long faith.

Starting February our capital campaign team will begin inviting you to consider donating. Our goal is to raise \$400,000 in 18 months.

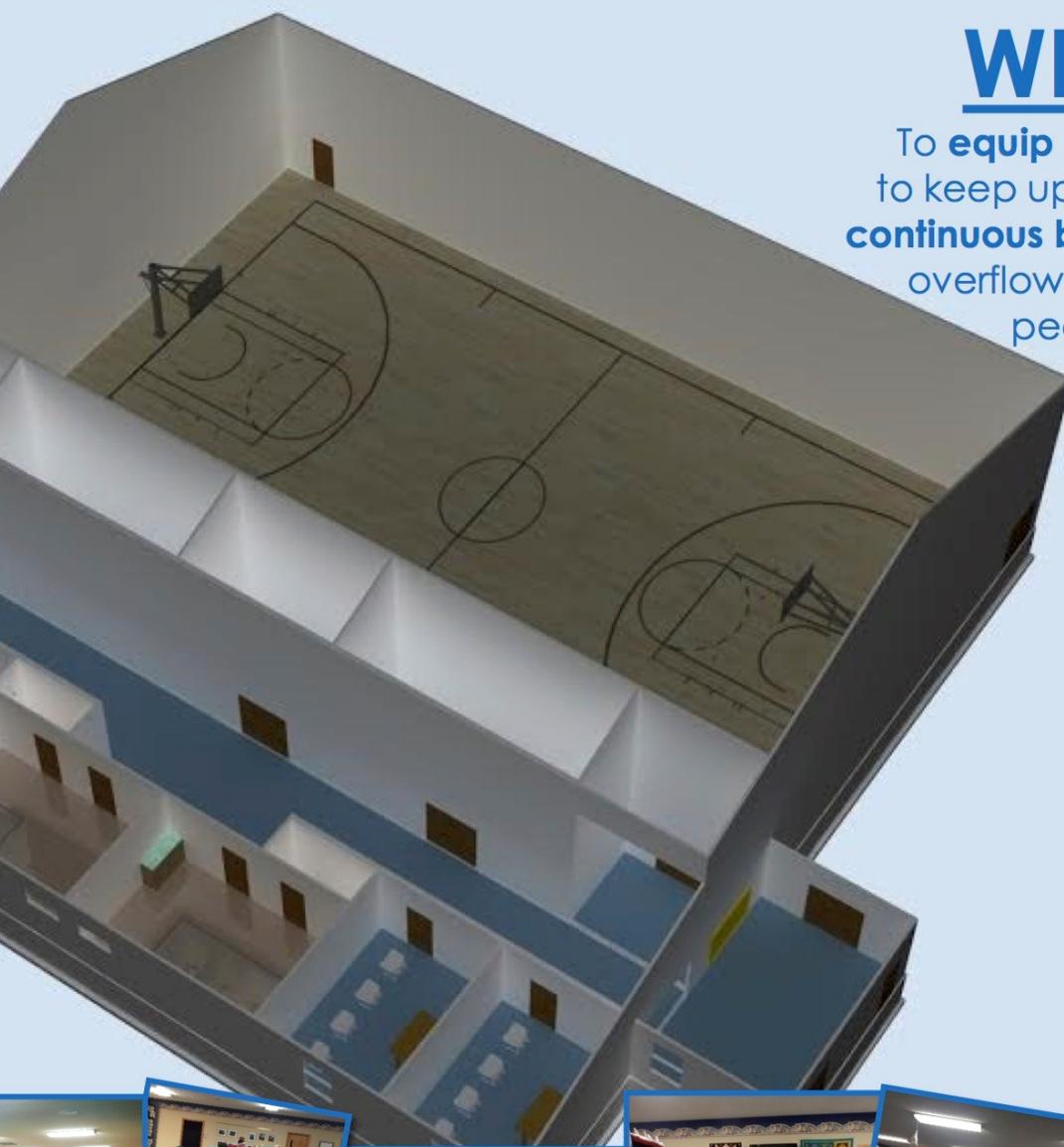
For more information, please see the bulletin board in the parish hall, contact our pastor or church office, or request an appointment by placing a note in the offering basket. "A Future with Hope" offering envelopes are available in each pew, and on the display in the parish hall.

GOAL

Raise \$400,000

b/t November 2016 and Easter 2018
to enable us to meet **God's**
growing call for our congregation





WHY

To **equip ourselves**
to keep up with God
continuous blessing of an
overflowing ministry with
people of all ages
within and outside
our congregation.



Opportunities to Give & Serve

Empty Bowls Project

The Empty Bowls Project is an international grassroots effort to raise both money and awareness in the fight to end hunger. This winter our youth and outreach committees are teaming up with Black Raven Pottery and Bev Fehringer. We will be creating beautiful, one of a kind pottery bowls that will be for sale. Upon purchase you will also be invited to a soup supper at a later date. Please stay tuned for more information and speak with Jen Blackwell for more information.



Super Bowl of Caring

This Superbowl season, Hope joins in a national effort to tackle hunger as we collect food and monetary donations for our local pantries. Many folks feel called to give during the holiday season to pantries, but hunger doesn't take a winter break. Give your donations, and be sure to place them in the bucket of the team you think will win! We will collect donations of food and money on Sundays, January 22 & 29 following both services.

Fish Fry!

Come on out and enjoy the best fish fry in town on Friday, February, 17, March 10, & April 7. Each Fish Fry will support another important ministry of Hope, and there is no better way to enjoy food than by eating knowing it's going to a great cause. We can always use all hands on deck to make the dinners run smoothly, and sign up sheets for how to help with be posted prior on The Shelf in the parish hall.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!



January Campership

As our 7-12 graders gear up for a retreat this winter, you are invited to make a contribution to help make the weekend a financial reality for those in need. Each participant's registration fee is \$100 for the weekend. Hope has subsidized the cost for each family, and hopes to give scholarships to those in need. Please consider making a complete or partial donation.



2017 Pledges & Envelopes



You may have noticed a “Where Your Treasure Is” pledge card in with your envelopes this December. If you have not already done so, please use those cards to estimate your 2017 financial contribution to Hope. Estimating our giving helps us plan for the coming fiscal year more responsibly, and we thank you for your help in doing so.

As you fill out the card, you will notice a place for your name and contact information. **Filling out this portion of the card is optional.** Your pledge will not be shared by name with the Pastor or other leaders.

We all know that things can change. By April 2017, you and your family may discover a capacity and desire to exceed your pledge or you may not be able to give as much as you hoped. The pledge does not represent a maximum gift. Neither does it represent a minimum. It is merely an estimate of giving. After filling out your card, please return it to the church office.

Hope is a wonderfully-alive place, and it is funded 100% through the generosity of people like you. Isn't it amazing what God can do when we pool all our gifts together? **Hope is Happening.**

*The 2017 Envelopes are also available. Please use these envelopes to give your gift to church in the upcoming year. Using an envelope helps our counters keep an accurate record of your gift, as well as helps you designate how you'd like your gift directed. **If you do not have envelopes, and would like them, simple request a set in the office or by phone (585-492-2530) or email (office@hopearcade.org).***



Hope is Happening!!!



Hope's Quilting groups gathers each Tuesday from 10am-2pm. Here they are enjoying their lunch (left) and showing off a quilt they made for Pat and Mike Cady's grandson who has recently found out he is ill (right).



*Two recent holiday events:
In November our Preschool celebrated a Stone Soup before Thanksgiving (left),
And in December our youth gathered for a awesome Christmas Party (below)*





*Scenes from this year's Christmas Pageant: Dude, You Hear What I Hear?
Everyone did a truly wonderful job bring the message (and some manikins) to life!*

*Hope looked beautiful this
Advent and Christmas!
Many thanks to all who
made helped deck the halls!*



Celebrations!

Birthdays

January

4—Brenda Schmidt

5—Sue Dressel

6—Al Noble

8—Al Ackerman

10—Mary Dell

12—Heather Petrillo

12—Gavin Schwab

13—David Carr

14—Mark Cordz

14—Kelly Frazier

16—Graham Milks

17—Scott Rimbey

20—Kim Offers

20—Len Dressel

21—Caroline Neamon

23—Marilyn Piridy

26—Paul Blackwell

29—Amanda Metzger

29—Clara Gross

February

1—Kathleen LaScala

2—Jessica Rung

3—David North

5—Jana Landahl

6—Roger Day

8—Becky Sonner

8—Vince Hammell

10—Edward McCarthy

12—Tarra Schwab

14—Tracy Stiles

17—Christiano LiPuma

21—Judith Noble

22—Eileen Deahn

22—Allen Nichols

23—Barbara Phair

24—Michael Prior

27—Bonnie McCarthy

27—Melissa Pleace

Anniversaries

January

1—Paul & Jennifer Blackwell

2—Heather & Mark Petrillo

13—Kim & Pat Wittenrich

27—Robert & Margie Webster

February

8—Diane & Paul Gibbs

10—Bill & Kathryn Landahl

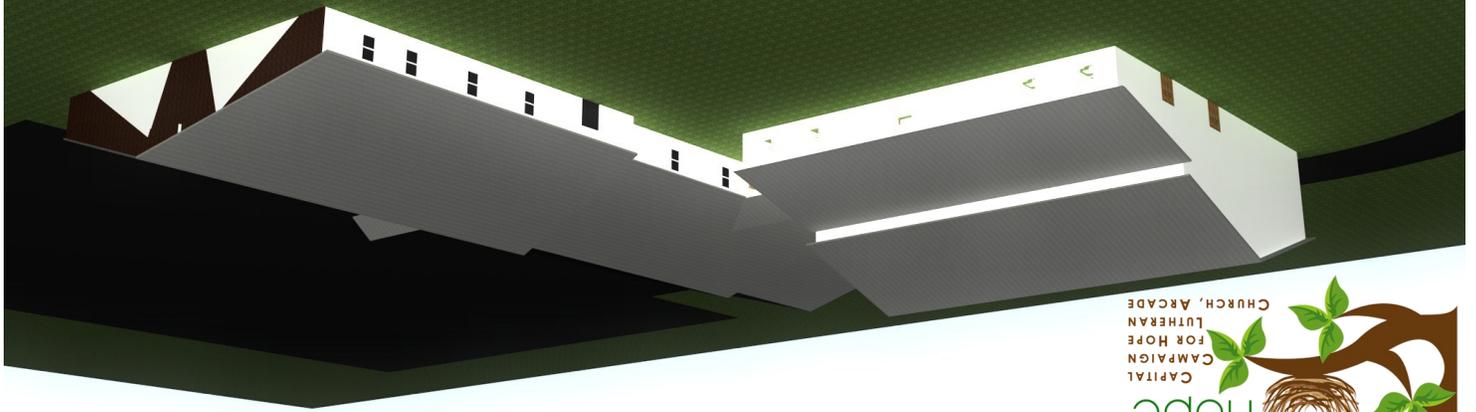
14—Doug & Betty Nichols

16—Amy & Jim Burns

17—Ed & Ellen McCarthy

Date	January 8	January 15	January 22	January 29
<i>Acolyte 8am</i>	Catherine Brown Haley Celotto	Timmy Sonner Cole Rhodus	Riley Bliss Sydney Schrock	Garrett Milks Eric Rautenstrauch
<i>10:30am</i>	Anna Tavernier Grace Tavernier	Clara Gross Payeton Burfield	Alyssa Boldt Gavin Hammell	Addison Woodruff Anna Tavernier
<i>Altar Guild</i>	Margie Rung Carol Staffehl	Carol Boldt	Jim and Mary Alpin	Sue Dressel Judy Strobele
<i>AV Tech 8 am 10:30 am</i>	Cora Blackwell Alyssa Boldt	Trevor Bley Norman Rugg	Cora Blackwell Bradley Schrock	Trevor Bley Alyssa Boldt
<i>HC Assistant 8am</i>	Kristin Bley	Scott Bley	Margie Webster	Joanne Offers
<i>10:30am</i>	Bob Vossler	Marcia Davies	Sue Dressel	Lisa Deahn
<i>Council Rep 8am</i>	Jim Alpin	Kaitie Wood	Paul Fehringer	Jen Blackwell
<i>10:30am</i>	Rachel Kittleson	Carol Boldt	Bob Vossler	Rachel Kittleson
<i>Greeters (10:30)</i>	Cliff and Marcia Davies	Bob & Jodie Buchhardt	Kathy LaScala	Bob and Sharlene Vossler
<i>Lector 8am</i>	Tim Sonner	Mary Alpin	Kim Offers	Tim Sonner
<i>10:30am</i>	Sharlene Vossler	Matt Rung	Julie Tingue	Dale Deahn
<i>Prayers 8am</i>	Kaitie Wood	Kim Offers	Joanne Offers	Margie Webster
<i>10:30 am</i>	Al Boldt	Sue Dressel	Paul Rigerman	Matt Rung
<i>Ushers (10:30)</i>	Len Dressel Sue Dressel	Al Boldt Dale Deahn	Melissa Pleace Lauren Pleace	Scott Rimbey & Sons
<i>Coffee Hour</i>	Jen Blackwell	Angie Tavernier	Marilyn Piridy	Julie Tingue
	February 5	February 12	February 19	February 26
<i>Acolyte 8 am</i>	Tim Sonner Cole Rhodus	Catherine Brown Haley Celotto	Riley Bliss Sydney Schrock	Garrett Milks Eric Rautenstrauch
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<i>10:30am</i>	Bob Vossler	Rachel Kittleson	Carol Boldt	Bob Vossler
<i>Greeters (10:30)</i>	Kim Boldt Megan Boldt	Chuck & Pam Bradford	Al and Carol Boldt	Gary and Margie Rung
<i>Lector 8am</i>	Kaitie Wood	Monica Reding	Tim Sonner	Kim Offers
<i>10:30am</i>	Al Boldt	Sharlene Vossler	Julie Tingue	Sue Dressel
<i>Prayers 8 am</i>	Carol Hannon	Kim Offers	Margie Webster	Kaitie Wood
<i>10:30</i>	Sharlene Vossler	Sandi Bennett	Paul Rigerman	Al Boldt
<i>Ushers (10:30)</i>	Len & Sue Dressel	Scott Rimbey & Sons	Al Boldt Dale Deahn	Kathy LaScala
<i>Coffee Hour</i>	Melissa Pleace	Kim Boldt	Erin Hammell	Jodie Buchhardt

In everything there is hope.



HOPE
LUTHERAN
CHURCH

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Address Service Requested

This newsletter was prepared especially for: