

Tidings of Hope

March 2022



Hope Lutheran Church
Ladysmith, Wisconsin

Tidings of Hope

Information & Inspiration

March 2022

A Wounded Savior for a Wounded People

By Pastor Christopher Martin

“He was wounded for our transgressions; He was crushed for our iniquities; upon Him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with His stripes we are healed.”-Isaiah 53:5

In my first call in southwestern Iowa, one of my parishioners was a nurse who specialized in wound care. She would often visit people in their homes who were dealing with surgical wounds, wounds caused by injuries or accidents, or wounds that were sometimes caused by an illness. Regardless of the cause, one thing these wounds all had in common, and what made her job so important was this: if her patients did not properly take care of their wounds, no matter how small they may seem, they could very easily spiral out of control and become bigger problems down the road. If you wanted to heal from them, it took time, and it took care.

Many of you have dealt with some type of physical wound during your life. But, the reality is, many of the wounds we often carry with us are not just physical wounds, are they? We also deal with spiritual wounds and emotional wounds. Some of these wounds that we carry with us are known to other people. Some of them are wounds that we carry with us that are deep within that nobody knows about. The reality is, if we don't deal with them, they can very easily fester and begin to infect our lives in very negative ways. We need Someone to help us heal these wounds, and make us whole once again. Indeed, because of sin, we are a wounded people.

Lent reminds us of something important. Yes, it is a season in which we “get real” about the sin that is in our lives and the wounds that it has left in its path, whether its wounds that we carry, or yes, wounds

(Pastor's Column, cont.)

that we have inflicted upon others by our words, our choices, and our actions, whether we were aware of them or not. But, Lent also reminds us of something else: God has done something about all of this. He has put flesh and blood upon His Son, Jesus Christ, to heal our wounds. Indeed, during Lent, we realize that Jesus is a Wounded Savior for a Wounded People!

This year during our Midweek Lenten worship services, our theme for our Wednesday services this year will be "The Wounds of Christ", as we walk through Matthew's passion account and discuss some of the wounds that our Savior, Jesus, endured during His passion and death. Each week, we will look at one of the physical, mental, or spiritual wounds that Jesus suffered for us, and learn how through Christ alone, we find hope and healing for the woundedness we often carry with us in life.

Elsewhere in this newsletter, you will find a schedule with our themes for each week of this series, which will begin with Ash Wednesday, March 2nd, taking us through Holy Week, and conclude with Easter on Sunday, April 17th. This is a perfect opportunity for you to take the initiative this year and invite someone who you haven't seen in church for some time, or someone who doesn't have a church home, to join you for these quieter services as we make this journey together. I look forward to seeing many of you worship with us during this Lenten season. May it be a blessing as we recognize the wounds that sin has brought into our lives, and the healing we find in our Savior, Jesus!



First Communion Instruction

First Communion instruction classes for children 2nd grade and older will take place on Wednesdays, March 23 & 30 and April 6. The classes will run from 5:30-6:15pm. The children will receive their First Communion on Maundy Thursday, April 14. If your child will be participating, please contact the church office (715-532-7739 or hlcladysmith@gmail.com) so that we can order materials.



Midweek Lent Worship Series “The Wounds of Christ”

Our Lenten journey will begin on Ash Wednesday, March 2. The Ash Wednesday worship service with Holy Communion and imposition of ashes will take place at 6:30pm. Midweek Lenten worship services will be held March 9 through April 6 at 6:30pm.

March 2, Ash Wednesday: “A Wounded Savior for a Wounded People” Joel 2:2-19

March 9: “The Wound of Betrayal” Matthew 26:20-25

March 16: “The Wound of Apathy” Matthew 26:35-45

March 23: “The Wound of Denial” Matthew 26:69-75

March 30: “The Wound of Mockery” Matthew 27:27-31

April 6: “The Wound of Abandonment” Matthew 27:45-48

April 14, Maundy Thursday: “A Meal for the Wounded”

April 15, Good Friday: “The Wounds that Heal”

April 17, Easter: “The Wound of Death is Vanquished!”

Sunday School

Sunday School children have been working on scripture memorization and were tested on their Bible verses in January. Each student who successfully memorized and verbally shared their Bible verses received a prize. Please join in congratulating Blake Nyhagen, Bradon Martin, Zachary Martin, Sawyer Solberg, Maggie Solberg, and Cassie Martin on a job well done!

In March, the Sunday School lessons will move from the Old Testament to the New Testament. Bible stories for March will be: John Points to Jesus, Mary Listens to Jesus, the Parable of the Good Samaritan, and Jesus Raises Lazarus.

Sunday School is held on Sunday mornings from 10:15-11:00am in the Jungle Room in the education wing. Sunday School is for children 3 years old through 6th grades. Everyone is welcome!



Hope Lutheran Church Women



Monthly Meeting: The HLCW will hold their annual Lenten breakfast on Thursday, March 17 at 9:30am. All Women of Hope are welcome to attend.

Quilting: The quilting group will meet on Tuesday, March 29 beginning at 9:00am. There are jobs for all skill levels. If you can stay the whole day, please bring a sack lunch. Quilt squares are also available to be sewn at home. Questions? Contact Karen Skeels (715-452-5444).

Adult Education & Fellowship Opportunities

Bible Study: The PAPA Prayers study will take place March 6 & 13 at 10:20am.

Book Discussion: The book discussion group will meet on Sunday, March 20 at 10:20am. The book for March is The Giver of Stars by Jojo Moyes.

Spiritual Realms: The Spiritual Realms study, which is led by Pastor Martin, will take place on Fridays, March 11 & 25 at 1:00pm.

Charis Healing Study: The Healing Study meets on Saturdays from 9:00am-1:00pm. Please contact Twyla Lund for more information.

Movie Matinee: We'll watch a movie on Sunday, March 13 from 12:00-2:30pm (movie TBD). Cheese & crackers, popcorn, and coffee will be provided. Feel free to bring a sack lunch.

Men's Breakfast: Men of Hope are invited to attend the Men's Breakfast & Bible Study held each Thursday at 7:00am at the Ladysmith Family Restaurant. We have breakfast, fellowship and study the scripture readings for the upcoming Sunday.

4th Sunday: There will be no Adult Education time on the 4th Sunday of each month so that everyone can enjoy the fellowship time after worship.

Journeying Through Grief

The Congregational Care & Outreach Committee sends out a series of booklets called, "*Journeying through Grief*" to members who have lost a loved one or to family members of a member of Hope who has passed away. The first booklet, "*A Time to Grieve*", is sent about 3 weeks after the death. "*Experiencing Grief*" is sent about 3 months after the death. "*Finding Hope and Healing*" and "*Rebuilding and Remembering*" are sent at 6 months and 11 months after the death. The books walk the grieving person through the various thoughts and feelings that commonly occur during the grief journey while, at the same time, stressing that everyone experiences grief differently.

If you know of anyone in our congregation who has lost a loved one, please contact the church office or a member of the committee so we don't miss reaching out to someone who would benefit from this ministry.



FOOD PANTRY

The Hope Lutheran Food Pantry serves those in need throughout Rusk County. The Pantry is open Mondays 1:00-3:00pm and Fridays 9:30-11:30am.

Volunteers are needed to work on pantry days. Volunteers are also needed on the first and third Mondays of each month (March 7 & 21) at 9:15am to help unload the Feed My People delivery and to stock shelves. If you are interested in volunteering or have questions, please contact Josi Hamilton (715-532-6052).

Donations of non-perishable food items can be brought to the church during office hours or on Sunday mornings. Monetary donations can be sent to the church office or placed in the offering plate (clearly marked "Food Pantry").

SUMMARY OF COMMITTEE ACTION FEBRUARY 2022

Council minutes were not available when this newsletter was printed. The following is a summary of committee action taken from each committee's monthly meeting minutes.

Adult Education & Fellowship: A number of Chicken Soup for the Soul books were donated to the church library. PAPA Prayer and Spiritual Realms studies continue. Discussed possibilities for future events. Outreach to college students is being done December and April. Next meeting: March 4 at 12:00noon.

Congregational Care & Outreach: Birthday cards are sent to members 80 years old and up. Sympathy cards are sent when someone dies. Discussed the possibility of doing the farmers market again this year. Next meeting: March 8 at 3:00pm.

Property: Revised the job description for the maintenance position. Kyle Austad will handle plumbing, heating, and electrical. Other duties will be handled by volunteers. Insulation above the education wing was completed. Next meeting: March 1 at 6:00pm.

Social Ministries: Backpack program is currently serving 80 students per week. Benevolence and Missions funds were designated for Rusk County Lighthouse and Water Missions International. Next meeting: March 8 at 3:30pm.

Stewardship & Finance: Discussed accounting, oversight, and guidelines for the Scrip program. Next meeting: March 8 at 5:30pm.

Worship & Music: EcoPalms have been ordered for Palm Sunday. Will be accepting hymn requests to work into the worship services. Next meeting: March 1 at 6:00pm.

Youth Education: Discussed First Communion, volunteer recognition, and VBS 2022. Next meeting: March 6 at 10:15am.

Youth Ministry: Youth breakfasts continue. LCMC National Youth gathering will be July 19-22 in Des Moines, IA. OneFest will be held July 30. Game night in the works. Next meeting: March 8 at 5:00pm.



Deadlines...

Items for the weekly bulletin are due in the church office no later than noon on Wednesday. Items for the April newsletter are due in the church office by March 15.

The preferred method of submission is via email (hlcladysmith@gmail.com) or electronic file. Items may also be left in the office mailbox or dropped off at the office during office hours.

Change of Address and/or Phone Number?

If you have had a change in address or phone number (especially if you no longer use a landline), please notify the church office of these changes. Also, in an effort to improve communication we are seeking email addresses for members of the congregation. If you would like to have your email address added to the list, please send an email to the church office at hlcladysmith@gmail.com.

CHURCH STAFF

Pastor	Rev. Christopher Martin
Church Secretary	Bonnie Billings
Custodian	Rosemary Warwick
Organists	Lisa Borman Karen Tappon Terry Wedwick

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Church Phone: 715-532-7739

E-Mail Address: hlcladysmith@gmail.com

Website: hlcladysmith.org



March *Worship Assistants*

2 Ash	Usher	Gordie Dukerschein
Weds.	Lector	Irene Titera
	Comm. Assts.	George Lawrence
6	Ushers	George Lawrence, Irene Titera
	Lector	Bonnie Billings
	Comm. Assts.	Linda Reissner
9 Weds.	Usher	George Lawrence
	Lector	Linda Campbell
13	Ushers	Nick Sovacool, Aileen Tauchen
	Lector	Gordie Dukerschein
	Comm. Assts.	George Lawrence
16 Weds.	Usher	Judy Soyring
	Lector	Charlie Holtebeck
20	Ushers	Kathy Ducommun, Charlie Holtebeck
	Lector	George Lawrence
	Comm. Assts.	Chris Holtebeck
23 Weds.	Usher	Linda Reissner
	Lector	Aileen Tauchen
27	Ushers	Gordie Dukerschein, Aileen Tauchen
	Lector	Charlie Holtebeck
	Comm. Assts.	Irene Titera
30 Weds.	Usher	Linda Reissner
	Lector	Bonnie Billings

Mission Statement

*Hope Lutheran Church is commissioned to make disciples,
commanded to love God and others, and committed to serve.*



MARCH

Birthdays & Anniversaries

- | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1 Corey Verdegan | 18 Kelsey Schwaller |
| 2 Robert Duncan | Marshal Thompson |
| Shad Para | 19 Leonard Hess |
| 4 Kathleen Dean | 21 Heather Brooks |
| 5 John Duzy | Serena Samardzich |
| Jeremiah Jennerman | Jeremiah Young |
| Julie Krisik | 23 Kyle Harmon |
| 6 Carol Redwine | Khloe Larson |
| Alyssa Schwaller | Barb vanDoorn |
| Shawn Vetterkind | 24 Linda Beckett |
| 7 Gordie Dukerschein | Andrew Borman |
| Rob Goffin | Scott Kauphusman |
| Cayden Nehring | Kathi Kesan |
| Adela Pederson | James Stanton |
| 8 Tyler Polak | 25 Linda Campbell |
| Kaitlyn Schott | Luke Rothenbach |
| Ross Vetterkind | 26 Scott Brooks |
| 10 Jessica Hoehn | John Pohlman |
| 12 Michelle Mincoff | 27 Parker Titera |
| Trisha Phillips | 29 Taylor DeWolf |
| 14 Sydney Schott | Nicholas Harka |
| 15 Erin Murray | Sarah Kauphusman |
| 16 Dave Lemke | 31 Connie Haller |
| Nate Peggarr | Arnie Olson |
| Erin Craker | |
| 17 Carter Closs | |
| Carter Soltis | |
| Cathy Tappan | |

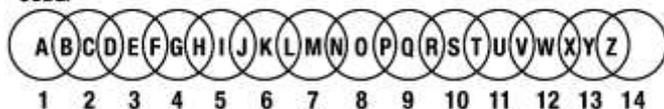
* * * * *

- 14** Chuck & Jan Hyde
24 Bill & Yvonne Rands

Puzzle!

Use the code to complete the blanks — and find out how God wants us to treat people.

CODE:



1,2 3 6 5 7,8 2,3 1 7,8 2,3

2 8 7 8,9 1 10 10 5 8 7,8 1 10,11 3

10,11 8 8 7,8 3 1 7,8 8 10,11 4,5 3 9,10'

3,4 8 9,10 4 5 11,12 5 7,8 4 3 1 2 4,5

8 10,11 4,5 3 9,10' 5,6 11 10 10,11 1 10

5 7,8 2 4,5 9,10 5 10 10,11 4 8 2,3

3,4 8 9,10 4 1 11,12 3 13 8 11'

EPHESIANS 4:32, NIV

Answer: Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you. Ephesians 4:32, NIV