



# Welcome to Hope

## SUNDAYS

8:00 & 10:30AM—Worship  
9:15AM—Family Bible Hour  
4:00PM—Spanish Worship w/Communion

## LENTEN WEDNESDAYS

5:15PM—Fellowship Dinner  
6:30PM—Lenten Worship

### **OUR MISSION STATEMENT:**

**“Anchored in Christ, Empowered by the Spirit, Connecting People to Jesus”**

We are glad you are taking the time to worship our Risen Lord and Savior Jesus Christ with us this weekend! We pray God's blessings on your worship and time spent among us at Hope Lutheran Church! We ask you to please take the time to fill in the Friendship pad (be sure to give us your name and address) and feel free to indicate any prayer concerns on the reverse side of the pad. We are a "Family-Friendly Church" and encourage the participation of children in our worship. However, we realize there are times when children can become disruptive to other worshipers, and for that reason there is a cry room located in the back of the church for your use. Children's worship bags are available in the narthex for your use during the service (see an usher or elder). Please return the bag following the service to the "Worship Bag Tree." We encourage you to join us for any and all activities at Hope in the week ahead!

**IMPORTANT NOTES:** for the sanctity of our worship and the benefit of those around you, please refrain from excessive talking in the narthex and sanctuary, and turn off all cell phones, pagers, etc. Please time entrances and exits during congregational singing to minimize distraction to our worshipping community. Following our worship, please make every effort to leave God's House just as you found it. Please do not bring coffee, cans of soda or bottled water into the sanctuary for your use before or even during the service. Also, please be sure to remove any "used" tissues from the pews or hymnal racks. Your help in keeping God's house neat and clean will most certainly be appreciated! Thank you!

*Hope: Anchored in Christ*



Please turn off or silence your cell phone and **NO** food or drinks in the Sanctuary.

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## *Activities This Week at Hope:*

<b>Sunday 2/26</b>	8:00	Worship
	9:15	Family Bible Hour ( <i>snacks: Whitehurst</i> )
	10:30	Worship
	11:45	Christian Growth Ministry Team Meeting
	4:00	Spanish Worship w/Communion
<b>Monday 2/27</b>	6:30	Choir
	7:30	Young Adults @ Starbucks
<b>Tuesday 2/28</b>	10:30	GriefShare
	12:00	Staff Meeting
	6:30	GriefShare
<b>Wednesday 3/1</b>	<b>Ash Wednesday</b>	
	4:30	Worship w/Imposition of Ashes & Communion
	5:15	Fellowship Dinner ( <i>Host: Youth &amp; Youth Ministry Team; Menu: Chili</i> )
	6:30	Worship w/Imposition of Ashes & Communion
<b>Thursday 3/2</b>	<b>Florida Strawberry Festival (March 2-12)</b>	
	10:30	Bible Study
	6:30	Elders Ministry Team Meeting
<b>Friday 3/3</b>	<b>Florida Strawberry Festival (March 2-12)</b>	
<b>Saturday 3/4</b>	<b>Florida Strawberry Festival (March 2-12)</b>	
	8:00	Trustees' Work Day
	10:00	Confirmation
<b>Sunday 3/5</b>	<b>Florida Strawberry Festival (March 2-12)</b>	
	8:00	Worship w/Communion
	9:15	Family Bible Hour ( <i>snacks: open</i> )
	10:30	Worship w/Communion
	10:30	Prison Bible Action Team Event
	1:45	Youth Ministry Tem Meeting
	4:00	Spanish Worship w/Communion

## *Worship Attendance / Communion:*

### Wednesday, February 15, 2017

Worship: 6:30: 31/25

Hope Studies: 8

### Sunday, February 19, 2017:

Worship: 8:00: 75/75    10:30: 98/70

FBH: Adults: 55    Youth: 6    Children: 0

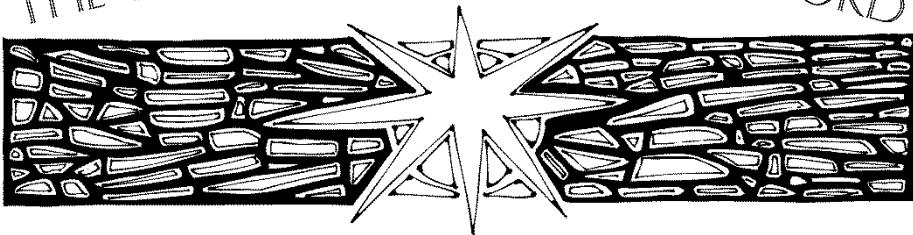
Spanish Worship: 4:00: 35/17

Offerings—General Fund: \$7,038.25

## *Stewardship Perspective:*

**Matthew 17:8** “And when they lifted up their eyes, they saw no one but Jesus only.” Jesus is enough. Moses and Elijah point to Jesus and are happy to fade into the background. With our eyes focused on Him and Him alone the rest of our lives come into focus. He is primary, all else secondary. When that order is right in our lives, things truly fall into place.

# THE TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD



February 26, 2017

## AS WE GATHER

Reflecting on the experience of the transfiguration of Jesus, Peter wrote in his Epistle, "We were eyewitnesses of His majesty" (2 Peter 1:16). The three disciples on the mountaintop, Peter, James, and John, were also "earwitnesses" as they heard the voice of God the Father say, "This is My beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to Him" (Matthew 17:5). As we listen to the proclamation of the Gospel, we become "earwitnesses" as well. The working of the Holy Spirit that shapes our witness as we share it with others leads us to be those who make manifest the fruit of the Spirit, including gentleness and self-control, in our lives.

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

## RINGING OF BELLS

### PRELUDE AND MEDITATION    "Rock of Ages"

The sanctuary is a place of meditation and preparation for worship. Therefore, as the prelude begins, we cease our conversations and quiet our hearts to converse silently with God.

## **OPENING SONG**

*"Rock of Ages"*

*ABS (3) 65*

**There is no Rock, There is no God like our God,**

**No other name, Worthy of all our praise.**

**The Rock of Salvation That cannot be moved,**

**He's proven Himself to be faithful and true.**

**There is no Rock; There is no God like ours.** *(Repeat first time)*

**Rock of Ages, Jesus is the Rock. Rock of Ages, Jesus is the Rock.**

**Rock of Ages, Jesus is the Rock. There is no Rock;**

**There is no God like ours.** *(Repeat all)*

"Rock Of Ages", words and music by Rita Baloche, © 1997 Maranatha! Praise, Inc. (Admin. by Maranatha! Music) All rights Reserved. CCLI License No. 759305

## **INVOCATION, CONFESSION, AND ABSOLUTION**

P: In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

P: Almighty God, we have actively turned away from Your light.

C: **Lord, have mercy.**

P: We have become haughty and arrogant. We act as if we can forge our own path and we don't need You to lead the way.

C: **Christ, have mercy.**

P: We have walked a path paved by greed, selfishness, hatred, and an utter lack of self-control. At our worst, we've run down this path.

C: **Lord, have mercy.**

P: Our wandering has caused us to fall asleep and stumble short of Your glory. We deserve Your temporal and eternal punishment for our evil words, thoughts, and deeds. Yet for the sake of Your only begotten son, please have mercy upon us. Make us fully awake, so that we may once again walk the path of righteousness, the path that You have made for us, even though it is undeserved.

C: **O Lord, our God, have mercy on us.**

P: We fall at Your feet and humbly repent of our sins, so that we can once again draw near to You and Your promises. *(Pause for silent reflection.)* The LORD has heard your cries for mercy. I, as a called and ordained servant of the word, proclaim God's grace of our Lord and savior Jesus Christ to all of you. By His triumph over the grave through His death and glorious resurrection, your sins have been forgiven. May this most precious gift that comes from the light of the world transform you and give you peace.

C: **Amen.**

## **SONG OF PRAISE**

*"God of Wonders"*

*ABS (2) 30*

**Lord of all creation, of water, earth and sky;  
The heavens are your tabernacle: Glory to the Lord on high!**

*(Chorus)* **God of Wonders beyond our galaxy, You are holy, holy!  
The universe declares Your majesty, You are holy, holy!  
Lord of heaven and earth! Lord of heaven and earth!**

**Early in the morning, I will celebrate the light.  
When I stumble in the darkness, I will call Your name by night.**

*(Repeat chorus twice)*

"God Of Wonders", words and music by Marc Byrd | Steve Hindalong, © 2000 New Spring | Never Say Never Songs | Storm Boy Music | Meaux Mercy (Admin. by Brentwood-Benson Music Publishing, Inc.) | (Admin. by Brentwood-Benson Music Publishing, Inc., 741 Cool Springs Blvd., Franklin TN 37067) | (Admin. by EMI Christian Music Publishing) | (Admin. by EMI Christian Music Publishing), For use solely with the SongSelect Terms of Use. All rights Reserved. CCLI License No. 759305

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Let us pray. O God, in the glorious transfiguration of Your beloved Son You confirmed the mysteries of the faith by the testimony of Moses and Elijah. In the voice that came from the bright cloud You wonderfully foreshadowed our adoption by grace.

C: **Mercifully make us co-heirs with the King in His glory and bring us to the fullness of our inheritance in heaven;**

P: through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

## **10:30 SPECIAL MUSIC**

*"Lift Your Light"*





## + SERVICE OF THE WORD +

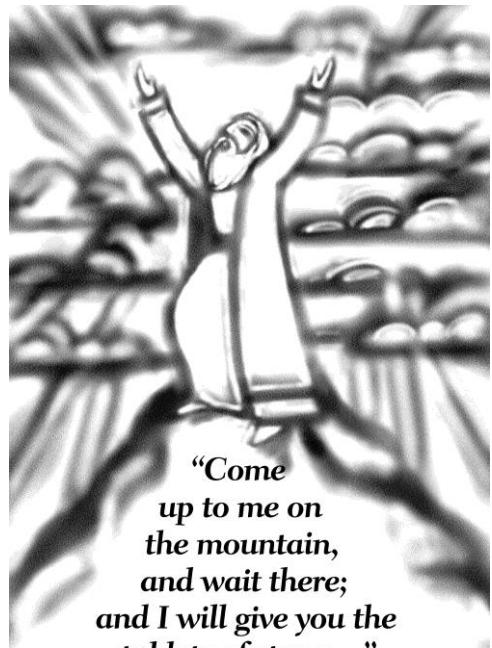
### OLD TESTAMENT

*(God allows Israel's elders to see Him and eat with Him on Mount Sinai.)*

<sup>8</sup>And Moses took the blood and threw it on the people and said, "Behold the blood of the covenant that the Lord has made with you in accordance with all these words." <sup>9</sup>Then Moses and Aaron, Nadab, and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel went up, <sup>10</sup>and they saw the God of Israel. There was under his feet as it were a pavement of sapphire stone, like the very heaven for clearness. <sup>11</sup>And he did not lay his hand on the chief men of the people of Israel; they beheld God, and ate and drank. <sup>12</sup>The Lord said to Moses, "Come up to me on the mountain and wait there, that I may give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction." <sup>13</sup>So Moses rose with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up into the mountain of God. <sup>14</sup>And he said to the elders, "Wait here for us until we return to you. And behold, Aaron and Hur are with you. Whoever has a dispute, let him go to them."

<sup>15</sup>Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. <sup>16</sup>The glory of the Lord dwelt on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it six days. And on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the midst of the cloud. <sup>17</sup>Now the appearance of the glory of the Lord was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the people of Israel. <sup>18</sup>Moses entered the cloud and went up on the mountain. And Moses was on the mountain forty days and forty nights.

*Exodus 24:8-18 (p.65)*



**"Come  
up to me on  
the mountain,  
and wait there;  
and I will give you the  
tablets of stone..."**

*Exodus 24:12, NRSV*

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

## EPISTLE

2 Peter 1:16-21 (p.1018)

(Peter and the others were eyewitnesses to the transfiguration.)

<sup>16</sup>For we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of his majesty. <sup>17</sup>For when he received honor and glory from God the Father, and the voice was borne to him by the Majestic Glory, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased," <sup>18</sup>we ourselves heard this very voice borne from heaven, for we were with him on the holy mountain. <sup>19</sup>And we have something more sure, the prophetic word, to which you will do well to pay attention as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts, <sup>20</sup>knowing this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture comes from someone's own interpretation. <sup>21</sup>For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

## RESPONSE

"Halle, Halle, Hallelujah"

WOV 612

The musical score consists of four staves of music in G major, common time. The lyrics are "Halle, halle, hal - le, hal - le, lu - lu - jah!" repeated three times. The music features eighth and sixteenth note patterns, with a fermata over the third note of the first measure and a dynamic marking of '8' over the eighth note of the second measure. The fourth staff concludes with a final 'jah!' on a single note.

## HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 17:1-9 (p.822)

(Jesus is transfigured.)

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the seventeenth chapter.

C: (Sung) **Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>And after six days Jesus took with him Peter and James, and John his brother, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. <sup>2</sup>And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became white as light. <sup>3</sup>And behold, there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. <sup>4</sup>And Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good that we are here. If you wish, I will make three tents here, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah." <sup>5</sup>He was still speaking when, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him." <sup>6</sup>When the disciples heard this, they fell on their faces and were terrified. <sup>7</sup>But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Rise, and have no fear." <sup>8</sup>And when they lifted up their eyes, they saw no one but Jesus only. <sup>9</sup>And as they were coming down the mountain, Jesus commanded them, "Tell no one the vision, until the Son of Man is raised from the dead."

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: (Sung) **Praise to You, O Christ!**

## SONG OF THE DAY

"Shine, Jesus, Shine"

WOV 651

(Refrain) **Shine, Jesus, shine, fill this land with the Father's glory;**

**Blaze, Spirit, blaze, set our hearts on fire.**

**Flow, river, flow, flood the nations with love and mercy;**

**Send forth your Word, Lord, and let there be light!**

**Lord, the light of your love is shining,  
in the midst of the darkness, shining;  
Jesus, light of the world, shine upon us,  
set us free by the truth you now bring us.**

**Shine on me, shine on me:** (Refrain)

**As we gaze on your kingly brightness,  
so our faces display your likeness,  
Ever changing from glory to glory,  
mirrored here may our live tell your story.**

**Shine on me, shine on me:** (Refrain)

"Shine, Jesus, Shine", Graham Kendrick, © 1987 Make Way Music (Admin. by Music Services, Inc.) All rights reserved. CCLI License # 759305

**SERMON**

"Climb Every Mountain?"  
Rev. Dean Pfeffer

Matthew 17:1-3

**HYMN OF RESPONSE**

"Jesus on the Mountain Peak"

LSB 415

**APOSTLES' CREED**

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.  
And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the  
Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was  
crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day  
he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven, and sits at the  
right hand of God, the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to  
judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian church, the communion  
of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the  
life everlasting. Amen.

**CELEBRATION OF FRIENDSHIP**

*As the offerings are received, please sign the register in the pews, whether you are a member of  
Hope Lutheran or a visitor. The person at the end of the pew should start and then pass it along.  
Thank you for making worship with us a priority this Lord's Day.*

**GIVING OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS**

*Our tithes are our regular, top priority, proportionate, grateful gifts to the Lord for the work of  
the gospel. Our offerings are our special gifts for special causes over and above our tithes.*

**VOLUNTARY**

"Seward"

*sett'g: Kevin Hildebrand*

**PRAYERS OF GOD'S PEOPLE**

P: Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs. For the Church, that she might cling to the prophetic word as a lamp shining in a dark place until the day of Christ's return in glory, let us pray to the Lord:

C: **Lord, have mercy.**

P: That we may not be carried away by the cleverly devised myths of the devil and the world, but instead listen to God's beloved Son, Jesus Christ, let us pray to the Lord:

C: **Lord, have mercy.**

P: For rulers and all who are in high positions, that they may not set themselves against the Lord, earning His wrath, but rather serve the Lord in fear, recognizing that He possesses all the earth; and that we might be able to lead peaceful and quiet lives, godly and dignified in every way, let us pray to the Lord:

C: **Lord, have mercy.**

P: For the sick and suffering, especially *Connie Harsh, Bud Hendershot, Tena Matthews, Ginger Moore, Rose Thomas, Dale Wenzel, Millie Wetz, and Tom Whitehurst* that they may look to the One who also suffered for all, bearing our infirmities; as He was raised, let the ailing be restored to health and strength, if that be God's will, or raised to glory on the Last Day to join with all the saints in singing Christ's praise, let us pray to the Lord:

C: **Lord, have mercy.**

P: For the lonely, that they might know the abiding presence of the Lord in the community of the saints gathered around Christ in His Word and Sacrament, and thereby find fellowship, let us pray to the Lord:

C: **Lord, have mercy.**

P: Into Your hands, dear Father, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever who taught us to pray:

C: **Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

## 8:00 SPECIAL MUSIC

"*Lift Your Light*"



## BENEDICTION

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

C: **Amen.**

P: We are now entering the mission field!

C: '**Here am I! Send me!**'

## CLOSING HYMN

"*Alleluia, Song of Gladness*"

LSB 417

## ALLELUIA BURYING

*During Lent, which begins this Wednesday, it is customary to not sing Alleluias. "Alleluia" means "Praise ye the Lord". We will sing it next on Easter. To symbolize this, as we sing the hymn, we shall remove the Alleluias from our midst.*

## POSTLUDE

"*Lauda Anima*"

sett'g: John Ferguson



**Here we go!** We are gearing up to take a **LONG WALK** across the ocean to a special place for a very important celebration!

Get your walking shoes ready to cover **5,001 miles** starting in March! We really have to work hard to get ready for this walk, and I have some ideas on how everyone can add miles to your total every week. As you may remember, **every 15 minutes of exercise equals one mile of walking towards our goal.** So, what do you think? Have some great ideas for exercise?

I have a couple of ideas too. **God gives us 168 hours per week—that's a lot of miles!** Well, if we tithe the time back to God, that's 16.8 hours that we can spend serving Him in the ways He has gifted each one of us:

- ◆ the garden can be weeded;
- ◆ the plants can be pruned;
- ◆ God's house can be given a shine;
- ◆ the kitchen cabinets can be organized, cleaned & restocked;
- ◆ windows can be cleaned and polished;
- ◆ Fellowship Hall can be given the "once-over," especially after Family Bible Hour;
- ◆ and, many, many more ways to serve our Lord, too numerous to mention.

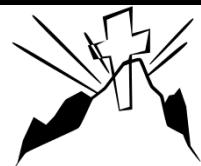
## WHAT A BLESSING THAT WOULD BE!

...Plus, all the hours add up to miles and miles towards our walk.



# *Connecting Points*

**TODAY:** we mark the *Transfiguration* of our Lord which is also the concluding Sunday of the Epiphany season. Transfiguration Sunday is always the last Sunday of Epiphany and the Sunday immediately before



**Ash Wednesday.** As a part of our service today, we will "exit" our Alleluias from our worship until we sing them again on Easter Sunday. Transfiguration comes from the Greek word "metamorphosis" which means to change as we see in our Gospel how our Lord was "transfigured" before the eyes of Peter, James & John. The color of the day is **WHITE**~ a reminder of our Lord's sinless nature and how He shone so bright that day.

**IT'S IN THERE:** That's right; your March issue of "Hope's Anchor" is **currently** in your mailbox OR was in your email **this past week**. Be sure to check it out and pass along what God is doing among us with family, friends, and neighbors—and INVITE them to **COME & SEE!**



**LENTEN FOLDERS:** to assist you this Lenten Season are also in your mailboxes. Please take yours home with you and return it on **Easter Sunday** as a special gift to the Lord in remembrance of His tremendous sacrifice for you! (A few extra folders are under the mailboxes as well.)



**LENTEN DEVOTIONALS:** from Lutheran Hour Ministries are also in your mailboxes **this morning** (with additional copies underneath the mailboxes for you to take and share). We will also make these available at the Strawberry Festival. Please feel free to help yourself to extras to share with family and friends.



**STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL WORKER TICKETS:** will be distributed **TODAY following each worship service**. Please meet with Patrick in the front of the sanctuary for a few minutes to learn what is happening at our peanut booth **this year**. In exchange for your tickets, he must have your current and correct phone number! Remember...it's all about **CONNECTING PEOPLE TO JESUS!**



**ATTENTION FESTIVAL WORKERS:** PLEASE, if you cannot work your scheduled shift at the booth, contact Patrick Griffin **ASAP** at 813-376-0258 or Jessica Griffin at 561-722-2429—AND get your ticket to the Church Office so that we can secure a substitute worker for you. Thanks in advance for your assistance!



**MARCH MEETING SCHEDULE:** Ministry team members, please note your team's meeting:



Christian Growth—**TODAY—February 26 @ 11:45 AM**, Fellowship Hall  
Elders—**Thursday, March 2 @ 6:30PM**, Conference Room  
Trustees—**Saturday, March 4 @ 8:00AM**, around campus  
Youth—**Sunday, March 5 @ 11:45AM**, Fellowship Hall  
Fellowship—**Tuesday, March 7 @ 5:30PM**, Fellowship Hall  
Missions & Outreach—**Tuesday, March 7 @ 6:30PM**, Fellowship Hall  
Human Care—**Sunday, March 12 @ 11:45AM**, Fellowship Hall  
Board of Directors—**Thursday, March 16 @ 6:30PM**, Conference Rm

**Ministry Team Leaders:** Please remember to email your meeting notes to Jessica ([hopepcsecretary@gmail.com](mailto:hopepcsecretary@gmail.com)) **by TUESDAY, March 14 (NOON)** for our BOD meeting.



**HOPE'S YOUNG ADULTS:** gather on **Monday evenings 7:30PM** @ Starbucks in Plant City. So, if you're a Young Adult (age 19-39) and like fun & fellowship or just coffee then join us Monday nights at Starbucks.

**CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED:** on **Tuesday from 12:00—1:00PM** for the regular meeting, prayer time, and study (*Autopsy of a Dead Church*) of our Hope staff.



During this time, there will be no one available to answer phones or assist should you come by. Therefore, we ask that you please time your calls and visits accordingly. The Hope families for whom our staff will pray **this week:** Joy Fritzke; Carlos & Tammy Garcia; Julie Gates; Tony Gembala; Bonnie Genrich; Breanna George; Michael George; and the members and staff of St. Paul Lutheran

Church & School, Lakeland. If ANYONE has ANY prayer concerns for our staff, please be sure to contact Jessica in the Church Office.



**DONE FOR NOW:** Our **Wednesday evening Living Hope worship and Hope Studies** has paused **this past Wednesday** for our mid-week Lenten Services. Special thanks to John Koren for his Bible Study leadership and our praise team for their leadership in Living Hope. Hope Studies and Living Hope **will resume after Easter.**



**START THINKING NOW:** whom you are going to invite to join you in attending our very special mid-week Lenten services **beginning THIS WEDNESDAY with Ash Wednesday on March 1<sup>st</sup>.** This is such a very special time in the church—a great opportunity for you to share just what Jesus did for you during the season of Lent.

**ATTENTION ELDERS:** Don't forget our monthly meeting **THIS Thursday** at **6:30PM** in the Conference Room. Please be sure to read chapter 2 of "Autopsy of a Dead Church" in advance of our meeting. ALSO, your meeting packet will be **emailed by Thursday morning**; if you need a printed copy for the meeting, please contact Jessica.



**CONFIRMATION PARENTS & STUDENTS:** Just a reminder that our classes **WILL** meet **this Saturday from 10:00AM to 12:30PM**. Please have your child here on time and pick them up **no later than 12:30**. Lunch will be provided.



**DAYTIME VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED:** by our United Food Bank of Plant City. If you can give some time to assist at the food bank, please contact Lydia at 813-764-0625.

**A REMINDER FROM OUR ELDERS:** regarding **Sunday morning** announcements before worship: **1**There is a limit to 5 announcements to be made on a Sunday morning; **2**Your announcement should be no more than 60 seconds in length; **3**You **MUST** be seated on the **FRONT** pew if you are to make an announcement (you can then return to your family); **4**You **MUST** use the handheld microphone so that **EVERYONE** in the church hears what you have to share and; **5**All announcements **MUST** be made at **BOTH** morning worships—what's good for one service to hear, is good for the other. ...And remember, all requests to make a Sunday announcement **MUST** be made to the Church Office by **NOON on Wednesday**. Thanks in advance for your assistance!



You were born  
**FOR SUCH A TIME AS THIS!!!**

Our lives seem to be continuously changing and wondering what the Lord has planned for us—next! Following the examples from Scripture, we will look into the lives of others as they faced the same challenges of purposeful events. Our teacher and leader will be Dr. David Jeremiah during this series of guidance and directions the Lord has given us based on the story of two cousins who work together in God's plan.

Join us on **Thursdays at 10:30AM**  
in the Stephen Ministry classroom.

**All welcome! Bring a friend! See you then...**



**Tuesdays**  
**at 10:30AM and 6:30PM**  
**in Stephen Ministry Room**

For more information, contact *Lyn Senkarik*



# LIVE BOLDLY... Join an ACTION TEAM!

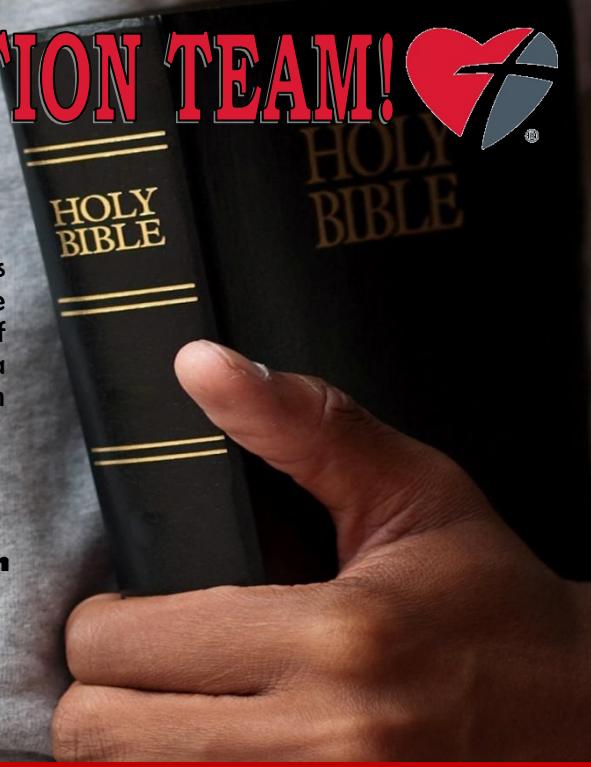
*Chaplains at prisons around the country are asking for Bibles to give to the inmates for personal study!*

Everyone, all ages...Join us to prepare several cases of Bibles to ship to various locations in need. We will be marking Gospel passages, writing words of encouragement, and inserting bookmarks as a personal interaction for those receiving their own copy of Scripture.

Donations of Christian books, Bibles, or devotionals are encouraged!

Drop in anytime between **10:30am & 12:30pm**  
on **SUNDAY, MARCH 5<sup>th</sup>**  
in FELLOWHIP HALL

See Gloria Warner for further details...  
and pick up a FREE T-shirt!



## EXPERIENCE DIFFERENT CULTURES, CHANGE LIVES—EVEN YOURS

You'll be greeted with warm smiles and be invited to broaden your cultural experiences. You'll learn what it feels like to build hope by building a home.

### Join us for a Thrivent Builds Worldwide trip

See firsthand how the opportunity to own a simple, decent home can change a family's life. Join me, Thrivent Financial members, and other like-hearted volunteers as we put our generosity into action.

#### Thrivent Builds Worldwide Trip

**Where:** Ahuachapán, El Salvador

**Date:** July 15 – July 23, 2017

**Cost for members:** \$820      **Cost for nonmembers:** \$1,120.

**Location description:** El Salvador is located in Central America, Tropical Climate.

As a Thrivent member, you'll receive a discount on trip expenses. And a generous donation will be made to the Habitat host program on your behalf.

#### Make a call. Make a difference.

For program information, visit [ThriventBuilds.com/worldwide](http://ThriventBuilds.com/worldwide).

For trip details, contact Brian Heipp at (863) 284-1100 or [brian.heipp@thrivevent.com](mailto:brian.heipp@thrivevent.com).

**Thrivent®**  
**Builds**  
with **Habitat for Humanity®**

# FAMILY BIBLE HOUR @ 9:15AM

## ADULTS

**A MAN NAMED LUTHER:** This is the second installment of a three part study series designed to honor the life and times of the German Reformer, his unparalleled contributions to the Christian church and the 500th anniversary of the Reformation in 2017. *Leader: Pastor Pfeffer*

**WATCH THE LAMB, WALK IN VICTORY:** The darkness-shattering light spoken into existence by God in Genesis explodes into glorious, unfiltered radiance in REVELATION. Here, God's story, revealed in His Word, draws to a stunning consummation. REVELATION unveils God's perfect justice and glorious design for those Jesus redeems from every tribe, language, people and nation. God's children find HOPE, PEACE AND REST in the unfailing purposes of God. Join us for a verse-by-verse study of REVELATION. *Leader: Gloria Warner*

## YOUNG ADULTS

**Live.Boldly:** Join us in 2017, as we look and learn from Christians throughout the ages—from Abraham to Paul to Martin Luther—how to live boldly in Christ so that we may “continue to speak the word of God with boldness” (Acts 4:31) in our everyday lives through actions and attitude in order to connect people to Jesus. #LiveBoldly *Leader: Pastor Shea*

## GRADES 9–12

**Live.Boldly:** Join us in 2017, as we look and learn from Christians throughout the ages—from Abraham to Paul to Martin Luther—how to live boldly in Christ so that we may “continue to speak the word of God with boldness” (Acts 4:31) in our everyday lives through actions and attitude in order to connect people to Jesus. #LiveBoldly *Leader: Pastor Shea*

## PRE-SCHOOL–GRADE 8

**GROWING IN CHRIST:** The fall quarter begins with an overview of the New Testament beginning with the birth of John the Baptist through the calling of Jesus' first disciples. *Leaders: Yolanda Heipp, Tracy MacDonald, Liz Pfeffer, Ellen Whitehurst*

# LENT BEGINS MARCH 1st

4:30PM (**Ash Wed. ONLY**): Worship w/Imposition of Ashes & Communion

5:15—6:15PM: Fellowship Dinner

6:30PM: Worship w/Imposition of Ashes & Communion

**STANDING AT THE CROSS** will be the theme for our Mid-Week Lenten worship on Wednesdays during Lent at our **6:30PM** worship services (please note only *ONE* service each week, *except* for Ash Wednesday). As a Lenten lead-in to the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Reformation, this series will focus on portions of sermons by Martin Luther for Lent. As we stand with Luther at the foot of the cross each week, we contemplate the ways in which we stand firm in the faith as followers of Christ during this holy season. Our fellowship dinners will be served from **5:15—6:15PM**. Again this year, most of the pastors of our Winter Haven Circuit will be participating in a “round robin,” so each Wednesday we will welcome another of our circuit pastors to our worship as *Pastor Shea* leads worship in their congregations (excluding Ash Wednesday and Holy Week Services).

**Ash Wednesday, March 1:** Standing in the Word | Rev. Dean Pfeffer

Dinner Host: Youth & Youth Ministry Team

Menu: Chili (*donated by Wendy's of Lakeland*), Salad, Cornbread & Ice Cream

**March 8:** Standing in Persecution | Rev. Andy Ritchie (*St. Paul, Lakeland*)

Dinner Host: Christian Growth Ministry

Menu: Soup, Salad, & Baked Potato bar

**March 15:** Standing in Suffering | Rev. Charles Reich (*Grace, Winter Haven*)

Dinner Host: Human Care Ministry Team

Menu: Pasta, Salad, Bread & Dessert

**March 22:** Standing in Truth | Rev. Tod Shouse (*Our Savior, Zephyrhills*)

Dinner Host: Board of Directors

Menu: Baked Ziti & Salad

**March 29:** Standing in Prayer | Rev. Jonathan Horsman (*Redeemer, Bartow*)

Dinner Host: Elders and Health Ministry Teams

Menu: Macaroni Casserole & Salad

**April 5:** Standing Unafraid | Rev. Shea Pennington

Dinner Host: Missions & Outreach Ministry Team

Menu: Shepherds Pie

# YOUTH DATES

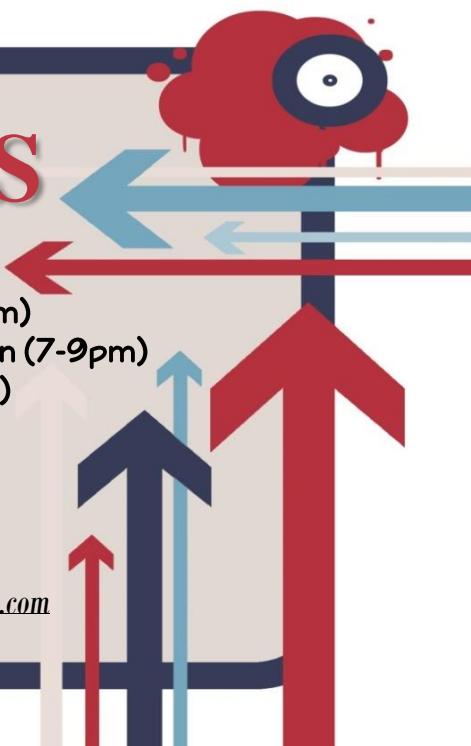
Mar. 11—Youth Group @ Hope (12:00-2:00pm)

Mar. 14—Roller Skating @ Skateland, Brandon (7-9pm)

Mar. 25—Feeding the Hungry (3:30-5:30pm)

Apr. 28-29—Lock-in @ Hope

*Grades 6 through 12—friends are always welcome!  
Contact Pastor Shea for more info: [hopepcpastorshea@gmail.com](mailto:hopepcpastorshea@gmail.com)*



The  
Lutheran  
Hour

can be heard EVERY Sunday morning at 7:30 on 540AM

## Topics for this month:

**March 5:** "A Savior Who Fights for You!"

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Gregory Seltz

Satan is a bully, but Jesus is the Savior Who fights for you. (Matthew 4:1-11)

**March 12:** "The Power of a New Beginning"

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Gregory Seltz

Real help comes to us from the outside. In Christ, new beginnings and greater endings are still possible.

(John 3:1-17)

What did the three disciples witness?

Use the code to fill in the letters.

$\bigcirc$ =A    $\odot$ =F    $\textcircled{1}$ =K    $\textcircled{2}$ =P    $\blacksquare$ =U    $\textcircled{3}$ =Z

$\odot = B$     $\ominus = G$     $\ominus \ominus = L$     $\oplus = Q$     $\circlearrowleft = V$

$\text{C} = \square$   $\text{H} = \times$   $\text{M} = \triangle$   $\text{B} = \circlearrowleft$   $\text{W} = \circlearrowright$

 = D    = I    = N    = S    = X

E  I  O  T  V

-E     -J     -O     -I     -T



A horizontal row of seven icons used for search queries. From left to right: 1. A circle with a diagonal line through it, representing the NOT operator. 2. A circle divided horizontally, with the top half black and the bottom half white, representing the AND operator. 3. A circle divided vertically, with the left half black and the right half white, representing the OR operator. 4. A circle divided into four quadrants, with the top-left and bottom-right quadrants black, representing the NEAR operator. 5. A circle containing the word 'EXACT' in quotes, representing the EXACT operator. 6. A circle containing a question mark, representing the Fuzzy operator. 7. A circle containing an asterisk, representing the Wildcard operator.





"Think of us in this way as servants of Christ and stewards of God's mysteries."

1Corinthians 4:1

### **SERVING THE LORD THIS SUNDAY (2/26/2017) ARE:**

Bell Ringer	8:00/Jerry Cockwell; 10:30/Mason Reese
Greeters	8:00/Ray & Rita Gonzalez; 10:30/Ken & Becky Hartmann
Crucifer	8:00/Kristin Reagin; 10:30/Yulia Hartmann
Lector	8:00/Gloria Warner; 10:30/Jim Drapp
Elder on Duty	8:00/Wayne Warner; 10:30/Nick Trivunovich; 4:00/Brian Heipp
Flowers	E. Miller & Reichard families
Offerings	Richard & Mary Decker
Ushers	Team 3
	8:00/Lonnie Bertsch,* Diane Bertsch, Tom Reagin;
	10:30/ Stuart Howell,* Judy Adkins, Andy Anderson, Jack Moberg

*Altar flowers are given to the glory of God by  
Liz Miller and Lois Reichard*

### **SERVING OUR LORD THIS LENTEN WEDNESDAY (3/1/2017) ARE:**

Acolyte	6:30/Keaira Griffin
Lector	4:30/John Koren; 6:30/Keaira Griffin
Elder on Duty	6:30/Todd Warner
Communion Assistants	6:30/Pastor Pfeffer & Pastor Shea

### **SERVING OUR LORD NEXT SUNDAY (3/5/2017) ARE:**

Bell Ringer	8:00/Jerry Cockwell; 10:30/Savannah Gembala
Greeters	8:00/Bill & Janet Von Deylen; 10:30/Judy Adkins & Barbara Wagner
Acolyte	10:30/Thomas Goethe
Lector	8:00/Tena Matthews; 10:30/Cathie Warner
Elder on Duty	8:00/Wayne Warner; 10:30/Todd Warner; 4:00/Pastor Shea
Communion Assistant	8:00/Wayne Warner; 10:30/Todd Warner
Flowers	Bosler & Drapp families
Offerings	Dale & Jonie Wenzel
Ushers	Team 1
	8:00/Wayne Warner,* David Booher, Ian Matthews, David Niver, Jeff Reaume;
	10:30/ Todd Warner,* Mack Goethe, Wendell Lattz, Jim Szostkiewicz

### **SERVING OUR LORD THIS MONTH OF FEBRUARY:**

Altar Guild	Liz Pfeffer
Nurse/HMT Member	Sally Kimbrell