

# Tidings of Hope

A large, stylized logo consisting of the letters 'AOL' formed by a dense pattern of black dots. The 'A' is on the left, the 'O' is in the middle, and the 'L' is on the right. The dots are arranged in a way that creates a textured, almost pixelated appearance.

**WEDNESDAY**

**March 6, 2019**

**Hope Lutheran Church  
Ladysmith, Wisconsin**

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# Tidings of Hope

Information & Inspiration

March 2019

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## The Season of Lent

Pastor Diane Odermann

*Isaiah 1:18 says, "Come now, let us reason together", says the Lord: "though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall become like wool."*

It's hard to believe Pastor Bill and I are starting our fifth month with you. Our time here began with snow and in the last month or more, we have had more snow than I can remember in a number of years. Entering into the Lenten season I am reminded of how the Psalms and prophets use the image of snow, as in the scripture above.

As we leave this season of Epiphany and being enlightened by the Holy Spirit, we move into a season where those things that light exposes within us become glaring to us. We can't fix them ourselves. Jesus has a whole new way for us to deal with them. Lent gives us that time when Jesus comes to turn those wounded places into places of redemption and strength. As we come into this season, we have to be willing present those wounds before the Great physician. He is a gracious and loving physician. He will be honest with us, touch us, and heal us with his great, and transforming love.

During this interim season, we, as a congregation, have decided for this year, to leave the round robin and worship with our two parishes--Hope and Glen Flora. Glen Flora will be hosting one Wednesday, March 27 at their church. The rest of the Wednesday worship services will be at Hope.

(continued)

*(Pastor's column, cont.)*

Our theme for our Wednesday Lenten services this season is "Elementary Doctrines of the Faith", which is based on Hebrews 6:1-2: *"Therefore let us leave the elementary doctrine of Christ and go on to maturity, not laying again a foundation of repentance from dead works and of faith toward God, and of instruction about washings, the laying on of hands, the resurrection of the dead, and eternal judgment."*

We are called, as the people of God, to grow up in the faith and to understand these doctrines of Christ. Christ accomplished so much change through his death and resurrection that it left many of the Jewish people reeling as it turned their thinking on its head. Join us in understanding these important teachings for your faith walk.

March 6 (Ash Wednesday) "Repentance from Dead Works"

March 13 "Eternal Judgment"

March 20 "Faith Toward God"

March 27 (Glen Flora) "Laying on of Hands"

April 3 "Instruction About Washings"

April 10 "Resurrection of the Dead"

On Sundays during Lent we will be focus on the theme, "Water and the Word". Through our baptism, Luther reminds us in the small catechism, *"Baptism is not just water but water used together with God's Word and by His Command."* Through five different stories from scripture we will hear the different ways God uses water and His Word to bring us into new life with Him.

March 10 Naaman the Syrian (2 Kings 5:1-19)

March 17 Baptism of Jesus (Matthew 3:11-17)

March 24 Crossing the Red Sea (Exodus 14:9-17)

March 31 Birth of Moses (Exodus 2:1-10)

April 7 Walking on Water (Matthew 14:22-33)

We look forward to sharing this special time and season with you. As we take this time to worship together, there will be important work going on not only in worship but outside of worship. Please see Pastor Bill's article for more information about the cottage meeting and the call process.

Come and experience the gracious love of the Savior.

## Self-Study Opportunity

We invite you, the congregation of Hope Lutheran Church, to participate in a self-study in preparation for the call process for a new senior pastor. We are asking that you sign up for a “cottage meeting” of your choice. The same eight questions will be asked in a series of scheduled opportunities at the Church or in designated homes. All conversations will be led and moderated by Interim Pastor Bill Odermann.

Sign-up sheets for these meetings are now posted and available at Hope Lutheran Church. *If you cannot come to the church to sign up, contact the church office and Bonnie will enter your name on the date of your choice.* Meetings will be held on the following dates:

- \*Tuesday, February 25 at 1:00pm at Hope Lutheran
- \*Tuesday, March 5 at 1:00pm at Hope Lutheran
- \*Sunday, March 10 at 6:30pm at the home of Charlie & Chris Holtebeck
- \*Thursday, March 14 at 10:00am at the home of Don & Nancy Bartig
- \*Monday, March 25 at 6:30pm at the home of Dave & Lisa Borman

We ask *four* things of you when you sign up:

1. Only one opportunity is permitted per person.
2. Do not fill out answers to questions and submit them; we want these questions answered in a live conversation only!
3. If you require child care to attend and participate, *please* talk to Pastor Bill Odermann. He will work with you to design and schedule other opportunities, outside the above schedule, where child care can be provided.
4. Once you sign up, please take a copy of the questions to be used with you.

The data you give us will eventually be used by the call committee to search for the appropriate candidate to become your next senior pastor. Your participation is extremely important and valued! I look forward to our conversations in the month of March!

## **NOTICE OF SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**

### **March 17, 2019**

A special meeting of the congregation of Hope Lutheran Church will be held on Sunday, March 17 immediately following the 9:00am worship service (approximately 10:15am). The purpose of this meeting is to elect members of Hope Lutheran to the Call Committee.

## **Adult Education & Fellowship Opportunities**

**A Future of Hope:** A new Bible Study entitled, "A Future of Hope: The Small and Rural Church" will begin on Sunday, March 24 at 10:30am in the Fireside Room. This study is written by Pastor Brad Hales, NALC Director of Domestic Mission. There is no cost for this study and everybody is welcome.

**Women's Bible Study:** This women's study on the Lord's Prayer will meet on Friday, March 8 at 3:30pm.

**Book Discussion:** The book discussion group will meet on Sunday, March 10 at 10:20am in the Fireside Room. The book for March is The Walk: A Novel by Richard Paul Evans. Visit the book group's website at <https://hopebookgroup.weebly.com> for more information.

**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.

## **Boy Scout Chili Feed**

Boy Scout Troop 56 of Bruce-Weyerhaeuser will be holding a Chili Feed and Silent Auction on Sunday, March 3 at the Bruce American Legion Hall (834 N. Main St.). The meal will be served from 11:00am-2:00pm. The cost is \$5.00/person with children 5 years old and younger eating free. The silent auction will end at 1:30pm.



## Hope Lutheran Church Women



**Monthly Meeting:** The HLCW will hold their annual Lenten Breakfast and Communion Service on Thursday, March 21 at 9:30am. All Women of Hope are welcome to attend.

**Quilting:** The quilting group will meet on Tuesday, March 26 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).

### World Day of Prayer

World Day of Prayer is a worldwide, ecumenical movement of Christian women of many traditions who come together to observe a common day of prayer. The local observance will be held on Friday, March 1 at 1:00pm at the Cameo Room at the Ladysmith Care Community and is hosted by Faith United Methodist and Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic churches. Refreshments will be served. This year's program is written by the women of Slovenia.

### 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Women's Retreat

The 4th Annual Rusk County Women's Retreat will be held on Saturday, March 30 at First Church of Christ (701 Menasha Ave). Registration will begin at 8:30am with the retreat going from 9:00am-2:30pm. The theme for this event is "Embracing Life's TACO: Trust, Adventure, Challenge and Opportunity" based on Proverbs 3:5-6: "*Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.*" A free-will offering will be received.

For more information about this retreat or the Rusk County Women's Ministries, please contact Ethne at 715-403-1126 or Marge 715-359-4615. This event is sponsored by the Rusk County Women's Ministries.



## *Lenten Soup Suppers*

Lenten Soup Suppers will be held in the fellowship hall on Wednesdays, March 13 & 20 and April 3 & 10 with serving from 5:00-6:00pm. The Soup Supper on March 27 will be held at Glen Flora Lutheran Church. There is no set charge for these meals but a free-will offering will be received with proceeds benefitting youth programs.

We are in need of volunteers to make soup for these meals. If you can help out or if you need more information, please contact Josi Hamilton (715-532-6052).

### **Radio Broadcasts**

Each Sunday morning our worship service is broadcast on WLDY 1340AM. This important ministry allows us to bring worship to our homebound members and to the community. Each radio broadcast costs \$79.00. If you would like to sponsor a radio broadcast, a sign-up sheet is available on the bulletin board in the narthex. Donations can also be made to the general Radio Fund. The boxed offering envelopes include Radio Fund envelopes or you may use the envelopes found in the pews. Checks should be made payable to Hope Lutheran Church with "Radio Broadcast" indicated in the memo line.

### **Scrip Program**

Scrip cards are sold following worship each Sunday. Scrip cards are currently available for Walmart, Kwik Trip, Subway and McDonald's. Through the scrip program you receive the full value of the cards and a percentage of every card sold is returned to the church as a charitable contribution. Proceeds from the Scrip program go towards building and maintenance needs. Cards can also be ordered for a list of other retailers. Please stop by the table in the multi-purpose room following worship for more information.



## FOOD PANTRY

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

Volunteers are needed to work on pantry days. If you are interested in volunteering or have questions, please contact Josi Hamilton (715-532-6052). Volunteers are also needed on the first and third Mondays of each month (March 4 & 18) to help unload the Feed My People delivery and to stock shelves. If you can help out, please be to the church by 9:15am.

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").

### **MANNA Meal** **(Meals Available for the Nutritional Needs of All)**

The March MANNA Meal will be held at Hope Lutheran on Thursday, March 28 with serving from 5:00-6:00pm. Please note this is one week earlier than usual due to Holy Week. This is a free meal providing both food and fellowship to those in need.

#### **GIVING UPDATE** **January 2019**

	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>
Income	15,332	19,445
Expense	<u>24,041</u>	<u>25,604</u>
	( 8,709)	( 6,149)

## SUMMARY OF COUNCIL MINUTES FEBRUARY 19, 2019

**Call Process:** Council will gather nominations for the Call Committee. Discussed the importance of having a diverse group, including youth representation. A special congregational meeting will be held on Sunday, March 17 at approximately 10:15am to elect seven members to the Call Committee.

**Adult Education & Fellowship:** A new class will be starting in March. The study of the Lord's Prayer continues to meet once a month. **Next Meeting:** March 8 at 2:00pm.

**Congregational Care & Outreach:** Communion to the homebound continues. Discussed a Bible reading marathon for August. Pamphlets on grief have been ordered. **Next Meeting:** March 11 at 4:15pm.

**Property:** Reviewed maintenance calendar items and projects on hand, including chimney repairs, rain gutters, parking lot, and air conditioning for the education wing. **Next meeting:** March 12 at 5:30pm.

**Social Ministries:** Local benevolence funds were allocated to Lighthouse and Embrace. The Food Pantry served 182 families in January. **Next meeting:** March 4 at 3:30pm.

**Stewardship & Finance:** The committee made a motion to purchase a new computer for the treasurer. **Next meeting:** March 5 at 5:30pm.

**Worship & Music:** No report given. **Next meeting:** March 11 at 5:15pm.

**Youth Education:** Planning for VBS and Wednesday School. **Next meeting:** Tuesday, March 12 at 4:00pm.

**Youth Ministry:** LCMC Youth Gathering is scheduled for March 1-3. Working on planning for Lenten Soup Suppers. **Next meeting:** TBA.

**Next Council Meeting:** March 19 at 7:00pm.



## **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 19.

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, 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**

Interim Pastors

Rev. Bill Odermann

Rev. Diane Odermann

Associate Pastor

Rev. Bert Schultz

Church Secretary

Bonnie Billings

Maintenance

Gary Bendixen

Custodian

Rosemary Warwick

Choir Director

Heidi Jo Sovacool

Organists

Lisa Borman

Karen Tappan

Aileen Tauchen

Hope Lutheran Church

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Ladysmith, WI 54848

Church Phone: 715-532-7739

E-Mail Address: hlcladysmith@gmail.com

Website: hlcladysmith.org

# Puzzle!

Search for these words that are all associated with the Lenten journey.

crown donkey hosanna penance Pilate sins  
colt crucifixion forsaken kiss prayer suffer  
confess death Gethsemane lots repent thorns  
cross denial Golgotha palms silver vigil

E N A M E S H T E G R L W Y  
C L E U X B M T H B U C W B  
N R I K Y P A T E T I Y X Y  
A V J G A L B R E Y A R P B  
N G N L I S N L A I N E D X  
E W M P R V R D H B N R D F  
P S O G O L G O T H A B S C  
D L N R O C O N F E S S I K  
O T H T C P E K W U O U N D  
M N S H N P W E D R H F S K  
U N F O E T K Y C S G F O E  
H E C R E V L I S W Q E C M  
H V H N C X S O C C J R L O  
F Q E S U D S H C A A Y M C  
C R U C I F I X I O N S R V



## March Worship Assistants

- |                        |   |   |
|------------------------|---|---|
| <b>3</b>               | Ushers<br>Lector<br>Acolytes<br>Comm. Assts . | Charlie Holtebeck, Kathy Peterson<br>Charlie Holtebeck<br>Kaden Becker, Sydney Schott<br>Jerry & Pat McEathron, Chris Holtebeck |
| <b>6 Ash.<br/>Weds</b> | Usher<br>Lector<br>Acolytes<br>Comm. Assts .  | George Lawrence<br>George Lawrence<br>Maddy Bunton, Cadence Calkins<br>Linda Campbell, Chris Holtebeck,<br>Irene Titera         |
| <b>10</b>              | Ushers<br>Lector<br>Acolytes<br>Comm. Assts.  | Don & Judy Soyring<br>George Lawrence<br>Megan vanDoorn, Payton Wold<br>Charlie & Chris Holtebeck, Don Bartig                   |
| <b>13 Weds.</b>        | Usher<br>Lector                               | Aileen Tauchen<br>Irene Titera  |
| <b>17</b>              | Ushers<br>Lector<br>Acolytes<br>Comm. Assts . | Irene Titera, Dave Borman<br>Bonnie Billings<br>Jonah vanDoorn, Evan Loe<br>Gordie Dukerschein, Don Bartig,<br>Linda Campbell   |
| <b>20 Weds.</b>        | Usher<br>Lector                               | Don & Judy Soyring<br>Bev Dukerschein   |
| <b>24</b>              | Ushers<br>Lector<br>Acolytes<br>Comm. Assts.  | Aileen Tauchen, George Lawrence<br>Irene Titera<br>Eme Clark, Alli Clark<br>Charlie & Chris Holtebeck, Irene Titera             |
| <b>27 Weds.</b>        | Usher<br>Lector                               | Charlie Holtebeck<br>Don Bartig   |

March Communion Prep: Nancy Bartig



## March Birthdays

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

## March Anniversaries

- |                              |                               |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <b>9</b> Jim & Bonnie Petrus | <b>24</b> Bill & Yvonne Rands |
| <b>14</b> Chuck & Jan Hyde   | <b>30</b> Bill & Bev Loser    |