



A Ray of Hope

Monthly newsletter of Hope Evangelical Lutheran Church
5728 Cedar Ave. S., Minneapolis, MN 55417, 612-827-2655
www.hopempls.org

Ministers of the Gospel: The Baptized 84 years in ministry 1928—2012

Volume 81 Number 1

Make Christ Known through the Spirit of Hope

January 2012

Join us on
Sunday, January 8
at the 10am
Worship Service
for

Pastor Steubing's Installation

Minneapolis Area Synod
Interim Bishop Nycklemoe,
presiding

New Staff

On January 1, 2012 we welcome *Russ Carlson*, Minister of Music; and *Amy Morphew*, Education/ Youth/Family Ministry Director. More about them in the February newsletter.

Congregational Meeting Part 2
January 22, 2012
following Worship.

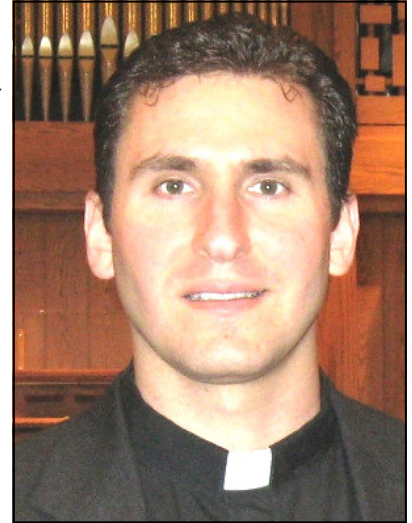
**All confirmed members are
encouraged to attend.**

2012 Offering Envelopes are not being mailed. If you did not pick yours up, please contact the church office (612-827-2655) or Ginny Olson (612-729-5132) and we'll see that you get them. Thank you!

Greetings from Pastor Chris Steubing

Dear Members and Friends of Hope Lutheran,

I write to you with joy and gratitude in my heart to announce that I have officially accepted the call to serve as your pastor. As I interviewed and listened to God's nudging over the last several months, I have become increasingly excited about the opportunity to be solo pastor in an urban congregation where I will have the opportunity to focus on preaching and worship, outreach in the local community, cross-cultural ministry, and mission revitalization.



After working as a youth minister for a number of years and attending seminary, I had the privilege to work on a large staff team at Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church in Apple Valley where I served as associate pastor for the last 3 ½ years. I believe my experience there has prepared me well for pastoral ministry.

Frederick Buechner wrote, "The kind of work God usually calls you to is the kind of work (a) that you need most to do and (b) that the world most needs to have done." I believe my greatest strengths are relationship building, creativity in music and worship, pastoral care, and visionary leadership. From my conversations with your call committee, I have learned that you are looking for a leader who can bring these strengths to Hope. I have come to the conviction that the Holy Spirit is birthing a new mission among us through this new call as your dreams and God's vision for Hope Evangelical Lutheran Church meet up with my strengths and passions for ministry.

I am looking forward to beginning my call as your pastor on Wednesday, January 4, 2012. I have high hopes of what the Holy Spirit will do among us!

In Christ,
Christopher D. Steubing



Hope for Parents invites you to:

Help Children with Change, Loss and Grief

Monday, January 30 7:00-9:00pm

Cindy Engelkes, MA, LAMFT is an educator and therapist and has worked with children and families in a variety of settings for over 20 years. She has worked with children in culturally diverse programs and schools and also counsels children, adolescents and adults in a private therapy practice. Cindy holds B.A. degrees in Elementary and Music Education and an M.A. in Marriage and Family Therapy from Adler Graduate School.

Children experience change and loss through death, divorce, disasters, disability and disappointments. This forum will equip and enable parents to help children and teens with the grieving process.

We'll explore the following topics:

- What is grief?
- How do developmental stages influence a child's response to loss?
- How can parents keep the lines of communication open?
- How can families create meaningful rituals and memorials?

Free - CEU's available

These free forums are made possible thanks to the generous grant given to Hope for Parents from Epiphany Lutheran Church's Legacy Fund.

Hope Preschool and Childcare

Michelle Florey, director



Greetings from the Preschool! All is well down here! Busy as ever rejoicing the Reason for the Season. During December each class in the school put on a skit of the Christmas Story... it was about the sweetest thing ever! They really enjoyed it and so did the staff and parents who participated. We also had our pajama parties and family night as the church with good ol' Mr. Jim and ice cream for all! Thank you to the members of the church and council who provided and served our treats! A good time was had by all.

Our music programs are coming up in February 7, 8 and 9. If you are up for a adorable and hilarious show please join us at 7pm any night at the church.

Preschool will have an open house January 25 from 6:30pm to 8:00pm. Enrollment for current families starts January 1 and is open to new families February 1. Watch for posters advertising the open house. Pick some up and hang them around the neighborhood and help spread the word about Minneapolis' hidden treasure!

I know I enjoy funny little stories about the kids so I thought I'd share one for all of our suffering football fans: *A little boy in the butterfly class wears a Chicago Bears winter hat each day. One of the teachers asked him if he liked the Bears. He said "No, but someone sure wants me to!"* Possibly one of the many distressed Vikings fans perhaps... haha.?

Blessings, *Michelle*

"When we choose not to focus on what's missing from our lives but are grateful for the abundance that is present... we experience heaven on earth." Sarah Breathnach



Missions

Global Missions Fund

Are you looking for seed money to start a mission project or to support the outreach efforts of others to help the poor in our local or global community? The *Global Missions Team* would like to announce that there is a Global Missions Fund from the monies raised from the sales of the *Music for Missions* CD recorded by Pastor Jim Sbertoli, Warren Elness and Jeff Hotchkiss.

If you would like to request some of these funds, there is an application available in the church office, or contact Deb Stoll (debbiestoll@charter.net).



Music for Missions

CD... Recorded by Pastor Jim Sbertoli, Warren Elness and Jeff Hotchkiss.

Suggested donation: \$15.

All donations given are earmarked for mission outreach by the community of Hope. Contact the church office to order.

THANK YOU!



Sponsor a Family

Again, as in past years, you all did an awesome job of shopping for our family of 8.

Thanks so much.
Pastoral & Social Ministry Committee



Thank you to everyone who purchased a poinsettia to decorate the sanctuary on Christmas and the support that our kids get for camp next summer from your purchase.

AGORA Epiphany Celebration

"Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn." Isaiah 60:3

The cultures and customs of nations from across the globe will be lifted up at the Agora Epiphany Celebration on Sunday, January 8, 3 to 6pm. Members of congregations throughout the Minneapolis and St. Paul Area synods will gather to celebrate the *Epiphany of Our Lord* at Lutheran Church of the Redeemer, 285 Dale Street North, St. Paul.

All those attending are invited to represent their own ethnic and national traditions through language, music, foods, nativity sets or other Christmas displays, and handwork.

The Agora Epiphany Celebration begins at 3:00 p.m. with nativity sets and other traditional Christmas decorations from various cultures on display. Activities for children and youth will be available at this time and music from different cultures will provide a glimpse of the diversity of cultures that are represented in the congregations of the metro area.

An Epiphany Service of Lessons and Carols is scheduled for 4:00 p.m. The service will be held in the beautiful sanctuary of Lutheran Church of the Redeemer which will be decorated for the Christmas season. Lessons will be read and

Minnehaha Food Shelf

As the holidays approach, please remember to help keep our neighborhood food shelf stocked. Donations of food or money always needed.



prayers offered in a variety of languages. Choirs and ensembles from a number of cultures will offer music, in addition to congregational singing of hymns.

A buffet supper featuring ethnic foods will take place in Redeemer's Fellowship Hall following the service of worship. Everyone is invited to bring a dish to share that reflects their own culture and customs. Foods can be brought to the church at 3:00 and can be refrigerated or heated in Redeemer's kitchen, as needed.

Families or individuals who would like to display a nativity set, handwork or other Christmas decorations from their tradition are asked to contact Pastor Sharon at Agora so that adequate display space can be provided. Those individuals who would like to serve as readers or worship leaders, and choirs, ensembles or soloists should contact Pastor Sharon at 952-888-5197 or sharonbaglyos@gmail.com.



Hope serves and has available

Equal Exchange

Coffee: Regular and Decaf

Tea: Earl Grey, Green, Breakfast Tea and

Cocoa mix

in the cabinet by the kitchen



Celebrate an important event

or remember someone special with an arrangement of flowers on the altar. Contact the office to arrange the order and to put a note in the bulletin. Arrangements are \$30.



Hope's Library



January.....BR-R-R

Now that it's cold, Grab the kids, popcorn and blankets and watch a family video from our library.

Or, time by yourself? Have a cup of tea and read a good book.

Now that's a warming idea.



Elise Annette Palmersheim

baptized on
December 4, 2011

Parents Karla and Joe,
Sister Evelyn, and
Grandmother Liz Fedde

and

Damonee Fay Hodges

baptized on December 11, 2011

Parents

Jessica Blanton and Damonta Hodges,
Grandmother Fay Blanton



Feed My Starving Children

The children's Sunday morning coin collection will continue to be earmarked for *Feed My Starving Children*. A group of 35 volunteers from Hope packed 35 boxes of food on November 19th at a cost of \$52 per box. We would like to be able to make a donation to FMSC that would cover the cost of those meals—\$1,820. As of Dec. 25, \$754.69 has been given. Thank you for your generosity!

Thank you!

Dear Hope: We and the children of Robin's Nest thank you for your generous donation of \$1,050 in matching funds from your Trash and Treasure Sale. We are humbled and blessed by those who support us, ensuring that our children receive the care they need in a Christian environment. Donations are used towards staff payroll, groceries, utilities and vehicle expenses. Please remember in prayer the 29 children currently at Robin's Nest. Also pray for those in the process of adoption. Three children have gone to new parents just during the past few months.

God's blessings be yours, *The Board of Robin's Nest*

Council Mini-Minutes December 6, 2011

- Pastor Chris will be installed by Interim Bishop Nycklemoe, and preach on Sunday, Jan 8 . Pastor Chris will be in worship January 1, in the congregation, but not in the pulpit for his first Sunday.
- A Minister of Music and an Education, Family, Youth Ministry Coordinator have been hired, both beginning Sunday, January 1.
- Looking into Hope and Getsemani's possible involvement in The Mall of America Religious Council. They have a board in the Mall of America they keep filled with information for different congregations.
- A carpet sweeper has been purchased for use in the fellowship hall. We are encourage those who create 'messes' to clean up after themselves or their loved ones.

Next council meeting: January 5, 2012—7pm

As with all of the monthly council meetings, they are open to congregation members to attend.

St Stephen's Breakfast Sunday, January 29

Hope serves breakfast at St Stephen's Sunday morning, January 29. Look for the sign up sheet in the gathering area. We need four people to serve and more people to donate food items, as listed on the signup sheet. Thank you!

Dear God,
My prayer for 2012 is for
a fat bank account and a thin
body. Please don't mix these
up like you did last year.
AMEN!



Hope Lutheran Church Contact Persons

PASTOR Christopher Steubing	church (612) 827-2655	EDUCATION / YOUTH / FAMILY MINISTRY DIRECTOR Amy Morpew	church (612) 827-2655
PASTORAL ASSOCIATE Doug Morton	church (612) 827-2655	PRESCHOOL AND CHILDCARE DIRECTOR Michelle Florey	preschool (612) 827-4369
SECRETARY Kristi Gay	church (612) 827-2655	COUNCIL PRESIDENT Becky McDaniel	church (612) 827-2655
MINISTER OF MUSIC Russ Carlson	church (612) 827-2655	NEWSLETTER EDITOR Ginny Olson	home (612) 729-5132

2012 Church Council

President	<i>Jim Gay</i>
Vice President	<i>Becky McDaniel</i>
Treasurer	<i>Clair Brenna</i>
Financial Secretary	<i>Dave Fernandez, Interim</i>
Secretary	<i>Barb Nelson</i>
Business Management	<i>Jim Nunn</i>
Education	<i>open</i>
Evangelism	<i>Jan Nunn</i>
Finance	<i>Dave Fernandez</i>
Pastoral/Social Ministry	<i>Mary Peterson</i>
Property	<i>Charlie Olson</i>
Recreation/Fellowship	<i>Eileen DePoe</i>
Stewardship	<i>open</i>
Worship/Music	<i>Duane Horn</i>
Youth	<i>Jacki Just</i>

Office Hours

Monday	9:00am to 1:00 pm
Tuesday	9:00am to 1:00 pm
Wednesday	9:00am to 1:00 pm
Thursday	9:00am to 1:00 pm
Friday	9:00am to 1:00 pm

Blood Pressure Monitoring

The second Sunday of every month in the gathering area after the worship service

Idle Thoughts From A Retiree's Wandering Mind

Experience is the thing you have left when everything else is gone.



FOOD & DRINK
1611 West Larpenteur Ave.
Falcon Heights MN 55113
Ph. 651-789-8888
www.StoutsPub.com
Ward Wollerman, General Manager & member of Hope



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Minneapolis 3640 23 Ave So (612) 729-2331
Apple Valley 14850 Garrett Ave (952) 432-2331
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Cremation
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www.HenryWAnderson.com



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Michaëlle Flaten, member of Hope



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952-891-5393
Cty. 42 & Galaxy, Apple Valley
Brother of Taimi & Scott Herron, members of Hope

Krista Johnson, member of Hope
Piano Lessons in my home
(just across Cedar from Hope)
monk2miles@comcast.net
612-209-3396
\$21 for a 30 minute lesson




OHANA STYLING SHOP
for Men, Women & Children
1512 East 66th St
Richfield, MN 55423 **612-866-9550**
Colleen Schamber, member of Hope

Hope Preschool & Child Care Center
~ Licensed ~
33 months to first day kindergarten
full and part time positions open
5712 Cedar Ave S, Minneapolis
(612) 827-4369
hopepreschoolandchildcare.org
Located between Fat Lorenzo's and the 5.8 Club