

# OCTOBER | 2022



*“Sharing and showing the love of Christ to all through God’s grace.”*

## Mark your Calendars!

- **3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Bible Milestone on Sunday, October 16<sup>th</sup>.**
  - **Confirmation on Sunday, October 30<sup>th</sup>.**
  - **Pr. Mark’s Ordination Service on Saturday, November 5<sup>th</sup> beginning at 11 A.M., here, at Hope.**
  - **St. Dysmas Worship on Thursday, November 10<sup>th</sup> in Sioux Falls.**
- Reminder: Bible Study on the book of Genesis continues Sundays at 10:45 a.m. in the chapel and on Wednesdays at 7:35 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.***

## From the Pastor:

People of Hope,

God’s blessings to you and your loved ones, as the weather turns towards fall and harvest begins. I know I’m a month early in regards to the season of thankfulness, but I thank God for each of you as you have and continue to welcome Gretchen and I into this place. A special thanks to the Women of Hope and all who baked treats, prepared a dish, or helped serve for the Pastor’s Gathering in September. Hope hosted the monthly gathering of LCMC/NALC pastors from the surrounding region for a time of worship, fellowship, and a meal. As programs return in the fall, I am also thankful for the volunteers who help teach Sunday School, assist with the High School youth group, and help maintain the wonderful facility and grounds.

The month of October has several events happening. I attended the LCMC National Gathering in Lakeville, MN from October 2-5. At the conference it was great to hear the association’s plans for continued growth while also staying true to our shared Lutheran convictions, continued emphasis on mission-start churches, and the value districts have for congregations (Hope Lutheran is part of the Augustana District). Between October 9 & 16, we will have presented six 3rd Graders of the congregation with their own Bible, and Confirmation will happen on Sunday, October 30<sup>th</sup>. Recently, I also received notice that I have been approved for ordination! The ordination service will take place at Hope on Saturday, November 5<sup>th</sup> at 11 a.m.

with a meal to follow. There will be no Sunday worship on November 6<sup>th</sup>. Please email the office or sign up at the Welcome Center to RSVP for the meal so we can plan accordingly.

*In Christ,  
~Pt. Mark*

## St. Dymas

It has been a few years since we have worshiped at St Dymas. St Dymas is the Lutheran Church at the State Penitentiary in Sioux Falls. We are able to enter the prison to worship with the inmates. **November 10<sup>th</sup>** is the date set aside for Hope Lutheran members to worship there. You must be 18 years of age and complete an application to have permission to enter. Pastor Mark has the applications. They need to be completed **by October 17<sup>th</sup>**. If you have not participated with this in the past I would encourage you to sign up to attend. There will be a sign up sheet at the Welcome Center. We need to be at the prison by 5:35 p.m.

If you have questions please ask myself or someone else that has attended in the past.

**-Barbara Lorenz**

## Christmas Program

Do you have any gifts related to organization and the arts? Christmas seems far away right now, but the Education Committee has began planning the annual Christmas Program. We are looking for several individuals interested in helping and participating in this year's program. Without the help of others, the program will be difficult to put together so please consider sharing your gifts with us!

If you are interested in being involved, please let *Becky Picek*.

([bpicek@live.com](mailto:bpicek@live.com)) or *Pastor Mark* know.

## Salvation Army

Friends,

As new officers in the community it can often be challenging to find your place. We are grateful that God brought us to Huron because it isn't a struggle at all here. With all the wonderful people, the generous support, and family of Christ like you all, it makes it an easy transition.

Lt. Shannon and I want to extend our deepest gratitude for your generosity and kindness of blessing The Salvation Army, and more importantly, our friends in need that live in this community with your abundance of donations. We felt warmly welcomed in your midst Sunday and truly hope to be able to spend more time with you all soon.

It is only because of the outpouring of love and support from our community that The Salvation Army can continue meeting the needs and offering hope to others.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

*Lts. Justin & Shannon Bluer*

## Rally Sunday was a fun & Successful Morning!



# Keyboard Update

A year and a half ago conversation began about purchasing a digital piano. A committee was recently formed and prioritized what our needs at Hope would be for such an instrument. The committee came up with the following priorities:

- 1) *Have recording and play back features;*
- 2) *Be available for playing duets;*
- 3) *Have the ability to transpose (from one key to another);*
- 4) *Have the option of being used with a Praise Team;*
- 5) *Providing different sounds (organ, drums, chimes, bells, etc.); and..*
- 6) *Have easy movability throughout the church.*

With the approval from the council and memorial fund committee, a recommendation was made to purchase a digital piano. Working with Poppler's Music in Sioux Falls, a Yamaha Clavinova CVP-805 was decided upon based on the needs above and purchased. On October 11<sup>th</sup> the piano was delivered to the church and several members received instructions regarding the many features.

For more information you may talk to *Beth Picek, Shari Lord, Karim Simons, or Kris Claeys.*

## September Council Meeting Highlights:

- ✦ Missionary Luke Johnson presented to the council on his time as a missionary in China and Thailand. The Johnson family will be returning to Thailand in spring 2023.
- ✦ Discussed landscaping and liability issues related to the walnut trees on the property. The trees will be trimmed to help lessen the amount of walnuts that need to be picked up.
- ✦ The council approved a memorial fund policy and discussed the possibility of establishing a long-term fund vehicle like an endowment or investment account for Hope Lutheran Church. Additional research will be done this fall on the type of account and location.

*Operation Christmas Child*  
*at*  
*Hope Lutheran*



Operation "Christmas Child" is a ministry of Samaritan's Purse, which sends gift-filled shoeboxes along with the gospel of Jesus Christ to needy children around the world. This is an exciting way to share our love and faith with others. Shoeboxes this year have been provided by Samaritan's Purse and Living Hope Alliance Church.

Hope Lutheran shoppers have already taken advantage of the before school sales and purchased the needed school supplies for the boxes. The boxes are being packed for girls and boys ages 5-9. Gift items and/or shoeboxes may be left on the table in Fellowship Hall or brought to the church on November 13<sup>th</sup>, our packing day.

Church members can become involved by helping purchase "Wow" items, contributing money toward these and other needed items, or shopping and filling boxes at home. "Wow" item ideas includes: stuffed animals, dolls, small musical instruments, backpacks, tote bags, purses, outfits of clothing, underwear, shirts, pants, hairbrushes, compact mirrors, wrist watches, flashlights, flip-flops, water bottles, Matchbox cars, sunglasses, bracelets, dress-up items, crowns and jewelry, plastic toys and figures, yo-yos, etch-a-sketch, etc. Remember, the items must fit in a shoebox. **Items to not include:** candy, toothpaste, gum, used or damaged items, war related items, toy snakes/bugs/rodents, seeds, food, liquids or lotions, medications or vitamins, breakable items or glass containers, aerosol cans.

*For more information about this project or to make a monetary gift for the shoeboxes, visit with **Betty Krutzfeldt, Paulette White, or Joan Kutter.***



## Pastor's Homework:

### *Ruth*

The saying, “when life hands you lemons, make lemonade” can be a hard one to swallow at times, especially amidst the bleakest of tragedies. Yet, during life’s difficult moments we sometimes hear platitudes or sayings like this. Although they are offered with the best of intentions, they don’t actually produce any nourishment to quench a weary soul. Instead, it is only God who can provide the life-giving water that we so desire. In faith we cling to God’s Word, just as Ruth does amidst great sadness, and anxiety for what is next. The book is short with only four chapters and unfolds like a play, as each chapter presents a different theme within the story.

As with plays, act one provides the background information for the upcoming story ahead. The book takes place when judges ruled over the lands, and there was a famine impacting the region of Judah. Instead of beginning with Ruth, the story follows Naomi and her husband Elimelech along with their two sons as they leave Bethlehem for Moab. With the family being from Bethlehem, there is a sense of irony because Bethlehem translates into “place of bread” according to Strong’s Hebrew. In Moab, Elimelech dies, and so Naomi is left with their two sons Mahlon and Chilion. The sons marry Orpah and Ruth, who are Moab women. Although ten years pass by, the text immediately notes the death of both sons, and so the women are now both widowed. Living by faith and not by sight, Naomi hears that the Lord had visited Judah and provided them with food. She decides to return home and encourages her widowed daughters-in-law to return to their mother’s house where they would be taken care of. Naomi’s words encouraged Ruth to have faith in the God of Israel, while Orpah returned home to be with her own people and gods. Ruth and Naomi face a bleak journey ahead without children or spouses to support them, yet God remains faithful to his promise and provides for their needs.

Returning to Bethlehem at the time of the barley harvest, the story shifts to a more hopeful outlook. Ruth enters into the fields to pick the grains that had been left over after the reapers. Grains that remained after the reapers were to be left for sojourners, widows, and the fatherless, as found in Deuteronomy 24. In the field she meets Boaz, a relative of Naomi’s husband, and God’s providential blessing on Ruth begins to be revealed. She works long hours in the field to gather grain and this catches the eye of Boaz. Throughout the second chapter, we are reminded that Ruth is a foreigner and outsider, living in a strange land and lacking common protections from the law. Operating outside the established law and cultural practices, God shows his mercy to Ruth. Because of her faithfulness to the Lord, she is blessed through the actions of Boaz and finds favor in his eyes. Through Boaz, Ruth’s social standing within the community rises quickly, and soon she is treated like family. God reverses the bleak future outlook for Naomi and Ruth and turns their difficult times into good.

From here the story shifts to the threshing floor scene, as Naomi seeks to set up Ruth and Boaz. Ruth prepared herself like a bride to be while Boaz was winnowing barley late into the night. Once Boaz ate his meal and lay down for the night, Ruth proceeds to uncover his feet and lay down at his feet. Boaz awakens at midnight and is startled by Ruth. He blesses her and commends her for not quickly entering into another marriage, and abandoning Naomi. Through a marriage with Boaz, Ruth would remain loyal to Naomi, as the family would be redeemed economically and with an heir. Together both Boaz and Ruth trust in the Lord that He will redeem them. Chapter four brings about the bold act of redemption by Boaz, which secures the futures of both Naomi and Ruth. After Boaz redeems Ruth, they have a son named Obed who is the father of Jesse, who is the father of David. Coming full circle, we are left with the genealogy of David going all the way back to the time of Genesis. The gospel of Matthew picks this up as the book notes the genealogy of Jesus Christ in the opening chapter. Through Christ we too are redeemed through his saving act on the cross, dying for our sins and defeating death. Death no longer has the final word over you for you receive a new life in him, just as Naomi and Ruth received in their faith.

*~Pr. Mark*



Contact Information:

**1667 Frank Avenue Southeast  
Huron, SD 57350**

**Pastor Mark Nassen**

**E-mail: [pastormark.nassen@gmail.com](mailto:pastormark.nassen@gmail.com)**

**Pastor's Cell: (605) 595 - 3485**

**Office: (605) 554 - 1002**

**E-mail: [hopelutheran@midconetwork.com](mailto:hopelutheran@midconetwork.com)**

**Visit our website for the latest updates, sermons, & more!**

**[www.hopelutheranhuron.com](http://www.hopelutheranhuron.com)**



***Updated Office Hours:***

***Mondays : Out of office.***

***Tuesdays: 12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. (LUNCH) 3:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.***

***Wednesday: 12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. (LUNCH) 3:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.***

***Thursday: 12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. (LUNCH) 3:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.***

***Fridays: May vary.***