



In This Issue

At Hope..... 4 pages

From the Desk of Pastor Richard

We couldn't get away with saying the things Jesus said. Imagine telling someone who was lost, *"I am the way, the truth, and the life. You can't come to God the Father unless you come through me."* And we certainly couldn't say to someone who was hungry, *"I am the bread of life. Anyone who comes to me will never be hungry, and anyone who believes in me will never thirst."* Or imagine if we announced at a funeral, *"I am the resurrection and the life; if you believe in me, you'll never die."* But Jesus made these statements and more, and they somehow seemed true when He said them. Jesus made seven *'I AM'* statements, which are only found in the Gospel of John. These seven proclamations are pivotal to Jesus' ministry and to revealing His identity to us.

This month, we begin a seven-week sermon series and Bible study titled, **'In Jesus, I Am.'** As we do so, we will discover something about who Jesus is and who we are called to be through Him. The Bible study begins Wednesday, January 4, and 6:00 pm in the Worship Center, while the corresponding sermon series begins on Sunday, January 8.

May Jesus, who is the great "I AM," continue to bless and keep you!

Pastor Richard

Pastor Richard

NIV John 15:5 "I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing."





Getting to know... Pastor Mike Duchene



Pastor Mike, tell us a little about your background.

• I was born in Detroit, MI. After high school, I moved to Tampa

FL. I attended University of South Florida with a degree in Construction Mgt. Then returned to Michigan where I worked as a construction project estimator, and job superintendent for a large General Contractor.

A few years later, I then felt the call to go into full time parish ministry after serving as a trained Deacon. I attended Concordia University Ann Arbor, then went to seminary in Ft. Wayne. I have served at several churches in Michigan, Scottsdale AZ, and now Florida.

Could you share a bit about your family?

• Sue and I have 4 children (two are adopted) and two still live in Michigan.

Who is the first person who created a memory of God for you?

• My parents played a huge part in my faith life growing up. However, it was Pastor Ziegler, through his sermon in 1972 when I really heard the Gospel in the most impactful way that planted a seed to go into the ministry. Caption

What is your earliest experience of God?

• Clearly my baptism with the most impactful. However I remember my grandmother's funeral when I was 9. I felt the Love of Jesus through the Gospel of salvation, when I heard how He loves us despite our sin, and will bring us all to Him when we pass away.

Describe how you were called into ministry.

• From a very young age I served in the church. Starting

as an Altar Boy, Acolyte, then I went into the Deacon Training program where the Holy Spirit put on my heart after serving for a few years that I could do more... After a couple years of prayer, I applied...

What do you like most about the ministry?

• Preaching and teaching are really fun for me, but I love to just hang out with people and get to know them and share the Love of Jesus. I have a heart for missional work, reaching the un-churched with Jesus. I love to work in "Outreach" to reach the community where I live.

What is the most rewarding thing about being a Pastor?

• While sharing the Gospel: Seeing the Holy Spirit making that connection, and being a witness to that "Aha!" moment in someone's life.

• Being there for friends or family at or near the death of a family member and sharing the "promise of eternal life" in Christ Jesus.

What fills your free time?

• Golf, spending time with my family.

What is your favorite restaurant?

• Buddy's Pizza (Detroit)

What is your favorite meal?

• Pizza, Broasted Chicken, Fresh lake Perch

What is the last book you read?

• Finding God In Science (Michael O'Connell)

What is the last movie you saw?

Top Gun Maverick

What is your dream car?

63 Corvette Split Window (Red)

What is your favorite vacation destination?

Maui, HI.

Share one thing on your "bucket list".

Go to Europe, to walk the steps of my father in WW2 as he landed at Normandy Beach.

Bonita Senior Center Programs January 2023

Senior Friendship Centers Hot Meal Program:FREE

Monday-Thursday 11:30-1:30

Enjoy FREE Holiday lunch and Entertainment + Special Raffle

Senior Friendship Centers at

Hope Lutheran Church Fellowship Center at

25999 Old 41 Rd, Bonita Springs, FL

CALL TO REGISTER: Bonita Senior Center at 239-399-4881 or sheila@hopebonita.org

FUNCH Bunch

Monday, January 9, 12:00-1:30pm

Enjoy FREE Holiday lunch and Entertainment + Special Raffle

at Hope Lutheran Church Fellowship Center at

25999 Old 41 Rd, Bonita Springs, FL

Sponsored by Help at Homecare

CALL TO REGISTER: Bonita Senior Center at 239-399-4881 or sheila@hopebonita.org

Cards and Games

Monday, January 16, 12:00-1:30pm

at Hope Lutheran Church Fellowship Center at

25999 Old 41 Rd, Bonita Springs, FL

CALL TO REGISTER: Bonita Senior Center at 239-399-4881 or sheila@hopebonita.org

VITA Tax preparation Program

Monday January 23, 12:00-1:30pm

at Hope Lutheran Church Fellowship Center at

25999 Old 41 Rd, Bonita Springs, FL

CALL TO REGISTER: Bonita Senior Center at 239-399-4881 or sheila@hopebonita.org

Senior Blue Book University:

Where Does the Money Come From?

Monday January 30, 12:00-1:30pm

at Hope Lutheran Church Fellowship Center at

25999 Old 41 Rd, Bonita Springs, FL

CALL TO REGISTER: Bonita Senior Center at 239-399-4881 or sheila@hopebonita.org

Area Agency on Aging Tai Chi

Mondays and Wednesdays January 9 – March 8

at Hope Lutheran Church Fellowship Center at

25999 Old 41 Rd, Bonita Springs, FL

CALL TO REGISTER: 239-652-6914

AED/CPR class FREE!

SIGN UP NW TO SAVE A LIFE!

Thursday, January 19th

5pm at Hope Lutheran Church

Call Sheila to register at 239-919-2295 or

sheila@hopebonita.org



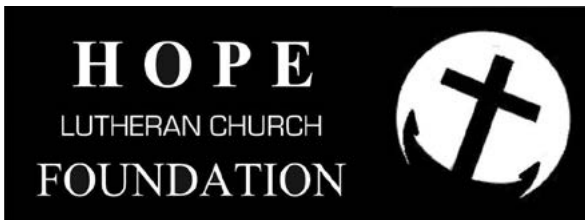
BIRTHDAYS

Linda Rustad	Jan 1	William Baldwin	Jan 13	Nadine Myers	Jan 20
Henry Bauermeister	Jan 2	Marilyn Haller	Jan 13	Wanda Nyhus	Jan 21
Jean Boyer	Jan 3	Jim MacGregor	Jan 14	Aiden Murphy-McGill	Jan 22
Robert Prideaux	Jan 3	Gloria Raguse	Jan 14	Lukas Browning	Jan 24
Elaine Fiore	Jan 4	Vonnie Ray	Jan 14	Anita Greenwald	Jan 25
Jim Maloney	Jan 4	Virginia Ruppin	Jan 14	Dolores Golob	Jan 27
Gayle Repetto	Jan 4	Scot Krawec	Jan 15	Stephanie Greul	Jan 29
Fred Marunde	Jan 7	Eric Brown	Jan 19	Judith Hamed	Jan 30
Ronald Anderson	Jan 8	Betty Trimble	Jan 19	Grant Van Bavel	Jan 30
Debbie Coomer	Jan 8			William Barnes	Jan 31
Phyllis Erber	Jan 8			Jared Brenner	Jan 31
Marilyn Herrli	Jan 8			Mary Kay Fieldman	Jan 31
Robert Endres, Sr.	Jan 11			Jan Mahal	Jan 31
Sheri Abernathy	Jan 13			William Mink	Jan 31



ANNIVERSARIES

Beverly and Jim Kaufmann	Jan 1		Andy and Kathy Frech	Jan 28
Dan and Vonnie Ray	Jan 5		Joe Burton and Janice Johnson	Jan 28
Karen and Larry Drake	Jan 7		Gloria and Ron Knautz	Jan 28
Shirley Hite and Ron Medlin	Jan 23			



We would like to send a thank you to everyone who has contributed to the Hope Foundation. It would not be possible for us to assist any of our grant recipients, who are doing God's work, without your help and the contributions you give. If you are not contributing to the Hope Foundation, we would ask you to prayerfully consider it.

One of our grant recipients was Scott M. Krawec who is enrolled in the Specific Ministry Pastor program (SMP) at Hope Lutheran.

This program allows a candidate to take courses at home through the Concordia Seminary in St. Louis. Graduation from the program will qualify Scott to be a vicar at Hope.

The quarterly tuition for this program is \$2,000. As with many LCMS churches, the pandemic and economy

have negatively affected the level of funding available for programs of this type, so it is up to the applicant to self fund the tuition. This is often difficult and a deterrent for many applicants in the program. The foundation is happy to assist Scott with his desire to serve God in this way.

If you are not familiar with the Hope Foundation, or if you have questions about our endeavors, visit the church website or contact our chairman Ron Anderson for more information.

Peace be with you-

Susan Schwinn

Secretary, Hope Lutheran Church Foundation

January 2023 Church Council Update

- Construction of the two classrooms in the Fellowship Center should be completed by February.
- January 8 marks the beginning of the 7:45 am worship service.
- Save the Date: Join us on February 10, 2023, for some high-sticking fun with the families of Hope at the rink. Watch for more details soon!
- Hope is continuing to make repairs to hurricane damage. The flag pole, gutters, and soffits are scheduled to be replaced in the coming months.
- The December concert, Glorifying God through Music, brought in over \$4,000 to support Hurricane Ian recovery efforts.
- We are collecting old books to donate to Annette's Book Nook, which was damaged by Hurricane Ian. Annette will use the books to rebuild her inventory.

HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH-LCMS

25999 OLD 41 ROAD
BONITA SPRINGS FL 34135

PHONE: (239) 992-6952

FAX: (239) 992-3254

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STAY CONNECTED WITH HOPE'S WEBSITE:

www.hope-bonita.org

~ Please support our ~

DIAPER DRIVE

Help a family by donating a box of diapers! (Sizes Newborn, 1, 6 and 4T,5T Pullups are needed)

All donations benefit Café of Life | Thank you for keeping our babies clean, dry and healthy!

Date: Sunday January 1 thru February 26,2023

Location: Hope Lutheran Church | **Hosted by:** Parish Health Ministry

DID YOU KNOW?

- * 'Diaper need' is a hidden consequence of poverty.
- * A baby requires up to 12 diapers per day, toddlers about eight.
- * Babies who remain too long in a soiled diaper are exposed to potential health risks.
- * Most child care centers require parents to provide a day's supply of disposable diapers.
- * Many parents cannot go to work or school if they can't leave their babies at child care.

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

SUNDAY WORSHIP

9:00 am - Traditional Worship Service

10:30 am - Contemporary Worship Service

