



From the Desk of Pastor Richard

The month of February brings with it **The Season of Lent**, which officially begins on Ash Wednesday. Ash Wednesday falls on February 22 this year, though the date moves from year to year based on when Easter falls. But, perhaps more important than the date of Ash Wednesday is why we as a church choose to observe it. This question is best answered by the black ash crosses placed on the forehead of those participating in this service.

The ash crosses remind us of the mark of sin upon our lives and the need for scrubbing, cleansing, and purifying. Interestingly, many churches get their ashes for Ash Wednesday by burning the palms from the previous Palm Sunday. Anyone who's ever done this knows that it doesn't take too many palms to get enough ashes for multiple services. Like sin, a little bit of palm ash goes a long way. The Season of Lent is a time to reflect on how completely sin marks us and how desperately we need God to cleanse us.

While marking individuals with the cross, the pastor says, "*Remember: you are dust, and to dust you shall return.*" These words remind us of the temporary nature of life. But they also remind us that God has a plan and purpose for us. God wants us to experience the forgiveness and the new life that comes through the cross of Jesus!

May the Lord bless you as you observe The Season of Lent this year!

Pastor Richard

ESV Psalm 51:1-2 Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin!



In This Issue

At Hope..... 1-4





Bonita Senior Center Programs February 2023

Senior Friendship Centers Hot Meal Program:FREE

Monday-Thursday 11:30-1:30

Senior Friendship Centers

At Hope Lutheran Church Fellowship Center

25999 Old 41 Rd., Bonita Springs, FL, 34135

Come in and try it and sign up if interested! Need to be age 60 and Lee County Resident

FUNch Bunch

Monday, February 6, 12:00-1:30pm

Enjoy FREE lunch and Entertainment

At Hope Lutheran Church Fellowship Center

25999 Old 41 Rd., Bonita Springs, FL, 34135

Sponsored by Hope PACE program and Comfort Keepers

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

Dubin Center Memory Café

Thursday, February 9, 10:00-11:00am

At Hope Lutheran Church Fellowship Center

25999 Old 41 Rd., Bonita Springs, FL, 34135

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

Cards and Games

Monday, February 13, 12:00-1:30pm

At Hope Lutheran Church Fellowship Center

25999 Old 41 Rd., Bonita Springs, FL, 34135

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

NO PROGRAM

February 20 except Hot Meal Program on this
President's Day Holiday

Senior Blue Book University LUNCH and LEARN:

Senior Living Options

Monday, February 27, 12:00-1:30pm

25999 Old 41 Rd, Bonita Springs, FL 34135

At Hope Lutheran Church Fellowship Center

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

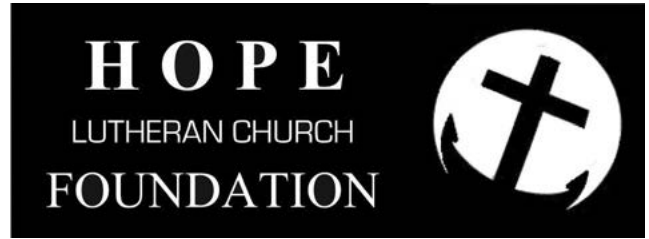
Area Agency on Aging Tai Chi

Mondays and Wednesdays January 9-March 8

25999 Old 41 Rd, Bonita Springs, FL 34135

At Hope Lutheran Church Fellowship Center

CALL TO REGISTER: 239-652-6914



It would not be possible to help any of these organizations doing God's work without your help and the contributions you give to the Hope Foundation. If you are not contributing to the Hope Foundation, we would ask you to prayerfully consider it.

This year we were able to help Advanced Theological Training in Accra, Ghana. Their goal is to establish congregations in each of the 216 districts within Ghana's 16 regions. They are establishing mission outreach stations and congregations, this is going to require a significant increase in the number of pastors who are trained at the Lutheran seminary in Sasaabi, outside of Accra.

Some those helped by the grant they received from Hope include: Rev. Matthew Adjei, who completed his course work for the Doctor of Ministry degree; Rev Alex Avor who has completed his masters course work, and has recently recently received a call to plant a church in the Volta region; Rev. Redeemer Nunyanu, had stepped out of his studies last year due to needs within his family. However he is back to his studies and should complete his masters degree course work this year. At that time he will continue his studies with the goal of becoming the seminary librarian.

Your hope foundation is pleased & blessed to be able to help the church grow in all parts of the world.

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



BIRTHDAYS



Leann Till	Feb 1
Marilyn Stuart	Feb 2
Sue Duchene	Feb 3
River Cirou	Feb 4
Sharon Kaufmann	Feb 5
Ruth King	Feb 8
Richard Pierce	Feb 8
Julianne Bauermeister	Feb 9
Donna Breckenfelder	Feb 9
Michael Mont	Feb 9
Diane Simon	Feb 9
Julie Born	Feb 10
Linda Keyes	Feb 12
Michael Reichert	Feb 12
John Bitow	Feb 13

Steven Wirtjes	Feb 13
Joyce Hussey	Feb 15
Kathleen Weiss	Feb 15
Hazel Steinmetz	Feb 16
Janice Weigman	Feb 16
Wendy Bonar	Feb 17

Nancy Goeglein	Feb 19
Gordon Rehse	Feb 19
Scot Lay	Feb 20
Kristin Marunde	Feb 22
Alexandria Newsome-Murphy	Feb 22
Richard Beumer	Feb 26
Fred Busch	Feb 26
Christopher Davis	Feb 26
Virginia McDonald	Feb 26
Lloyd Barge	Feb 27
Axel Till	Feb 27
Lyle Angerer	Feb 28
Thomas Ketteler	Feb 28
Chris Pinkerton	Feb 28
Barbara Knueppel	Feb 29

ANNIVERSARIES



Janet and Don Ede	February 3
Julie and Henry Bauermeister	February 5
Richard and Marie Hacker	February 6
Chuck and Cheri Wolkerstofer	February 6

Rebecca and Steven Weber	February 7
Sue and Paul McDonald	February 21
Scott and Dawn Lay	February 28

GETTING TO KNOW... CHRISTY CIMARUSTI



I came from a highly religious family of eight. My mom was a cello teacher and would exchange cello lessons for violin, piano, voice, and guitar lessons with other music teachers and their children. In that way, my parents were able to afford to offer each of us a highly cultural upbringing. Music was always playing in my home and therefore became a part of who I am from a very young age. I began my musical journey by playing the violin at age 6 and integrated the voice, piano, guitar/bass guitar, and ukulele throughout the years. I have always loved music. I can't remember a time when I didn't. I have also had a strong interest in helping people and began a career in medicine at age 17 as a phlebotomist and worked my way up to becoming a nurse practitioner. After 23 years in healthcare, however, I realized my true passion was music and have now made that my career. From teaching violin to kids in Immokalee and East Naples and teaching music at various preschools (including Hope) to singing and performing in church, I am very lucky to say that I love what I do! Being married to a musicologist, I have been fortunate to have been exposed to (and appreciate) many different genres of music.

My favorite, however, is bluesy jazz. I love the eclectic nature of mixing different types of sounds together. I love taking traditional songs and putting a spin on them with different rhythms, instrumentations, thus creating an entirely different feel. That is one of the many things I love about Christian pop music. It can, at times, be a bit challenging to alter rhythms and sing with musicians using a simple lead sheet due to the lack of a written musical score. They find different ways of breaking up the chords, trying different instrumentations and rhythms. But that's what makes it fun. My favorite instrument is, hands down, the voice. My son, Paul, frequently tells me (because I am constantly singing) how unfair it is that I have my instrument with me all of the time (the piano is not quite so portable. The thing I like best about singing is how you can express exactly how you feel whenever you want to. Sometimes when I can't find the words to express my emotions, I can listen to someone else's song, which eloquently elaborates my deeper thoughts. When I verbalize these lyrics, it is truly cathartic and helps me feel better immediately. Needless to say, I am an avid karaoke car singer. Lauren Daigle is my favorite Christian pop artist to sing.

In my free time, I love walking the coastline, kayaking, and traveling with my husband and two boys. Paul (15), my oldest son, is an avid pianist who plays for the Children's

Naples Philharmonic. He is so in love with the instrument, that we literally have to beg him to stop playing every night to get some



sleep. He's also a talented violinist and chess player. Christopher (12), my youngest son, is a talented horse rider, water sports enthusiast, artist, and computer technician. My favorite restaurant is The Turtle Club and my favorite meal is their Shrimp and Crab Napoleon. The last book I read was called Educated. The last movie I saw was National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation. My dream car is simply an Acura (an older version of which, I am currently driving)-- I have a plaque in my bedroom that reads, "Happiness is wanting what you have". I firmly believe that. My favorite vacation destination is not so much the destination, but rather the mode of transportation. I love cruises! I love just not having to do anything and be in the ocean. That's a true vacation. One thing on my bucket list is to write a really great song that expresses my true emotions-- one that will inspire at least just one other person.

HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH-LCMS

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34135

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



HOPE
LUTHERAN CHURCH

