



In This Issue

At Hope..... 4 pages



From the Desk of Pastor Richard

One of the unique portions of the book of Exodus is The Song of Miriam and Moses, which is in chapter 15. While this is referred to as a song it is actually a poem. One thing to note about Hebrew poetry is that it is unlike modern western poetry in its sound or structure. Interestingly, this is the only portion of the book of Exodus that was written in poetry. Somehow, the use of a poem seems appropriate at this crucial moment in the Exodus since it makes God's message easier to remember and share. And remembering and sharing the words of Moses and his sister Miriam is just what people did for generations afterward whenever they commemorated the events of the Exodus.

At its heart, The Song of Miriam and Moses is meant to praise God as Lord and Savior. Notice how verse 13 uses the word 'redeemed' to describe God's role:

*In your unfailing love you will lead
the people you have redeemed.
In your strength you will guide them
to your holy dwelling. (Exodus 15:13 - NIV)*

The meaning of this passage is clear: God had purchased the Israelites' freedom and guided them to safety. Verse 16 makes the same point but instead uses the word 'bought' to describe God's actions:

*By the power of your arm
they will be as still as a stone—
until your people pass by, Lord,
until the people you bought pass by. (Exodus 15:16 - NIV)*

God's role as Lord and Savior in the Exodus points us to God's greater rescue mission through the cross. It is at the cross that Jesus purchases and redeems us and ultimately sets us free.

Many Blessings!

Pastor Richard

Church Council Update

- Great news! Our two new classrooms are almost completed.
- Paul Oman will be visiting Hope for our Easter services April 9th, 2023 at 9:00 & 10:30 am.
- Please watch for updates and additional details about our Easter breakfast.
- Save the Date: Join Hope for a get to know you Saint Patrick's Day picnic. All are welcome! There is a poster board with more information in the Narthex.
- A huge thank you to our generous members. We ended the year with a budget surplus.
- Join Hope for fellowship that takes place between services on the first and third Sunday of each month just outside the Fellowship Center. Come join us for coffee, snacks and great conversations!
- The Fellowship Building Project committee has formed. The members include Chuck Feldman, Julie Marquardt, Bob Imig, Curt Brenner, and Ron Anderson.

Blood Drive

**The NCH Bloodmobile will be at
Hope Lutheran Church**

Sunday, March 12, 8:30am-12:00pm

25999 Old 41 Rd., Bonita Springs

CALL TO SIGN-UP FOR YOUR ARRIVAL TIME:

Sheila Morales - 239-919-2295

or sheila@hopebonita.org

NAMI Family Support Group

Third Monday of Each Month

2:00pm – 3:30pm

at Hope Lutheran Church

in the Fellowship Center

25999 Old 41 Rd., Bonita Springs

Limited to those who have a loved one with a mental health condition and who seek support and guidance.

CALL TO REGISTER OR IF ANY QUESTIONS:

Sheila Morales - 239-919-2295

HOPE
LUTHERAN CHURCH
FOUNDATION



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 Lutheran World Relief. LWR was founded by Lutherans in the United States at the end of World War II, grounded in Lutheran theology and building on decades of experience. LWR tackles poverty by helping adapt to the challenges that threaten livelihoods and well being. They work with people based on their need, regardless of race, religion or nationality, and they do not evangelize. They provide aid in emergencies and help families restore their lives.

LWR partners with communities to build and grow rural economies. They strive to break the cycle of poverty, so families and communities can thrive. Their goal is to help people build self-sufficiency and create new community- owned approaches to problem solving that will last long after their projects end.

The World of Good Emergency Response Fund was established to ensure sufficient funds are readily available to be put to immediate use on the front lines in the event of a natural disaster or humanitarian crisis. This allows LWR to quickly provide emergency food, water, shelter and more.

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

Gabriel Browning	Mar 1
Marylyn Otto	Mar 3
Martha White	Mar 3
Beatrice Maassen	Mar 5
Mike Rohrbach	Mar 5
Charles Fieldman	Mar 8
James Foerster	Mar 11
Barbara Bambule	Mar 13
Whitney Curry	Mar 14
Sandra Nelson	Mar 14
Robert Kolstedt	Mar 17



Michael Duchene	Mar 19
Susan Little	Mar 19
Sandra Brown	Mar 20
Joe Burton	Mar 23
David Hughes	Mar 24
Ruth Anderson	Mar 26
Barbara Perry	Mar 26
Robert Wilson	Mar 28
Janet Langlands	Mar 29
Diane Patch	Mar 30
Thomas Ramsey	Mar 30

ANNIVERSARIES

George and Maureen Nedved	Mar 2
Gary and Debbie Gotsch	Mar 10
Steve and Margo Wirtjes	Mar 12
Gene and Marie Morton	Mar 15



Greg and Heather Sorrells	Mar 15
Corey and Wanda Nyhus	Mar 18
Scott and Maria Krawec	Mar 27
Mike and Dee Peet	Mar 27

Getting to know... Annie Mares



Annie, tell us a little about your background.

I grew up in the west suburbs of Chicago in a quaint town called Geneva.

Throughout my years there I worked for almost ten years in childcare as an infant teacher.

Could you share a bit about your family?

My immediate family is still in Illinois. My mom and dad still live in my childhood home in Geneva, though I try almost every day to get them to move to Florida. My husband and I have known each other since the third grade and have been married for almost four years and we are expecting a baby in August.

What influenced your move from Illinois to Florida? What attracted you to this area?

It has always been my husband and I's dream to move to Florida, and after we both lost our jobs due to Covid (I was working at a preschool that shut down due to low enrollment, and my husband was working for a management

company that managed wellness centers) we decided to sell our home while the market was booming and follow our dream of living in Florida.

Tell us what your week at Hope Lutheran Church/Early Learning Center looks like.

My church work is on Tuesday and Thursdays mostly doing secretarial jobs and helping Pastor and Sonia with whatever they need. Monday, Wednesday, and Fridays I help the preschool with whatever they need help with whether they need help in the classrooms or working on the curriculum.

What do you enjoy most about working for our church/Christian preschool?

Working with children has always been my calling, but after being a teacher for much of my life I was ready to take on more of an administration position. I have been blessed to now have the best of both worlds, and I get to snuggle babies whenever I want.

What is a way God has shown up in your life?

God has recently blessed my husband and I with a child. We waited a long time for this blessing and can't wait to start our new journey as parents.

What fills your free time?

My free time right now is spent preparing for the baby. My husband and I usually spend the weekends painting furniture and trying to get everything ready. We still trying to figure out a nursery theme. But we also enjoy going to the pool and getting some sun whenever we can.

What is something you are passionate about and want to spend more time doing?

A passion of mine is baking. I love to bake cakes, cupcakes, cookies, really anything. I also love taking baking classes with a local chef located in Naples.

Do you have a favorite family tradition?

A lot of family traditions are now memories due to it's just my husband and I here in Florida, but we are looking forward to starting new family traditions with our growing family.

What is your favorite restaurant?

All my favorite restaurants are back up north in Illinois. Being from the suburbs of Chicago of course I love Portillo's! Another favorite restaurant is El Punte in Saint Charles IL.

What is your favorite meal?

Pizza is my favorite, I love any kind of pizza! I also love Mexican cuisine.

What is the last book you read?

I'm not a big book reader, but I enjoy reading magazines. One of my favorite magazines is the HGTV magazine. I love reading about fixer uppers and home décor. I also love the Food Network magazine, as I love to find new recipes to try!

What is the last movie you saw?

I am not a big movie fan, but the last movie I saw in theaters was the Elvis movie. It was fantastic!

What is your favorite vacation destination?

My husband and I love to go on cruises. We love to visit the Caribbean, some of our favorite ports include Grand Turk and Aruba.

Share one thing on your "bucket list".

Traveling to Europe is on my bucket list. My father was adopted from Berlin Germany in the 50's and I would love to be able to go there some day and try to find some information on long lost family. Also cruising around Europe is on the bucket list too.

HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH-LCMS

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STAY CONNECTED WITH HOPE'S WEBSITE:

www.hope-bonita.org



GETTING TO KNOW YOU ON ST. PATS DAY

FRIDAY
MARCH
17TH

HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH POTLUCK ST. PATRICK'S DAY PICNIC 5PM -7PM

LOCATION:

The Pavillion - Bonita Bay's Estero Park
4901 Bonita Bay Blvd. Bonita Springs, FL 34134

SIGN UP FOR:

Number of People Attending and Side Dish to
Share on the Bulletin Board in the Narthex

MAIN DISHES PROVIDED:

- Sloppy Joes
- Mac N' Cheese

ALSO PROVIDED:

- Utensils • Paper Goods • Ice Tea
- Green Lemonade • Bottle Water • Ice

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

Kathy Frech at awkfrech@gmail.com (574)320-3800 or Paula Corrie at gulfbreese@aol.com (502)314-8989

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

SUNDAY WORSHIP

9:00AM & 10:30AM

