



In This Issue

At Hope

Pages 1–4



From the Desk of Pastor Richard

There's an ancient tradition that Luke, the writer of the Gospel of Luke, was an artist. Whether or not he was an artist, the scene he painted in Luke 24 is impressive and worthy of a painter. With his first brush stroke, Luke presents us with a grieving pair of followers journeying along a road to the town of Emmaus. Jesus came upon the two, unrecognized by either of them. Their mood is revealed when they say, "We were hoping that Jesus was the one who was going to redeem Israel." (Luke 24.21) In their minds, they knew Jesus couldn't be the one to do this because he had died on the cross. Perhaps, they thought to themselves, that the Messiah would be revealed the following year. Jesus pointed out that they were slow to believe what the prophets had said must happen. Throughout Luke's Gospel, Jesus constantly says this is how the scriptures must be fulfilled. Jesus explained this to them by using the scriptures, which Christians know as the Old Testament (the first thirty-nine books of the Bible). It would have been amazing to overhear how Jesus explained the scriptures to them; of particular significance would have been the books and passages he led them through. Take a moment to reflect on their response:

They asked each other, "*Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?*" (Luke 24:32 NIV)

Their response to Jesus' breaking bread at the meal is an equally intricate aspect of Luke's portrait:

Then the two told what had happened on the way, and how Jesus was recognized by them when he broke the bread. (Luke 24:35 NIV)

These two individuals encountered the risen Jesus through the Word of God and the meal they shared with Jesus.

We also experience the resurrected Jesus through God's Word and the meal He offers us, which we know as The Lord's Supper. Have you encountered Jesus in other ways? If so, how has Jesus been revealed to you?

May the Lord bless you as you continue to encounter the risen Jesus!

Pastor Richard

Pastor Richard



MAY 2023

Bonita Senior Center Programs

You Must CALL TO REGISTER for all Programs

Bonita Senior Center at 239-399-4881 or
sheila@hopebonita.org

Programs are at Hope Lutheran Church Fellowship
Center 25999 Old 41 Rd., Bonita Springs, FL, 34135

Senior Friendship Centers Hot Meal Program:FREE
Monday-Thursday 11:30-1:30
Senior Friendship Centers



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

FUNch Bunch

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

Enjoy FREE lunch and Entertainment
Sponsored by Lely Palm

Wayforth: When disaster strikes: preparedness for
seniors ith weather, financial, health and legal events
Thursday, May 4, 12:00-1:00pm

Cards and Games

Monday, May 8, 12:00-1:30pm

Dubin Center: Memory Café
Thursday, May 11, 10:00-11:00am

Stabilized Steps: Fall Prevention
Monday, May 15, 12:00-1:00pm

Stabilized System (improves balance)
exercise Program

Starts Wednesday, May 17,
Every Monday and Wednesday 10:30-11:30am

Lely Palms: 5 most important things to look for in
Assisted Living/Memory Care
Thursday, May 18, 12:00-1:00pm

Senior Blue Book University LUNCH and LEARN:
Caring for the Caregiver



Monday, May 22, 12:00-1:30pm

Dignity Memorial: Your Life, your Legacy
Thursday, May 25, 12:00-1:00pm

MAY 2023 - Church Council Update

- Julie Marquardt was appointed to serve as Council President. Please keep Julie in your prayers as they serve Jesus in this capacity.
- Our next Voters Meeting is scheduled for April 30, 2023, at 11:30 am in the sanctuary. Please plan to take part in guiding the mission and ministry of Hope.
- Plans for the outside fellowship area are taking shape; an architect has been contracted to draw plans. An update will be given at the April 30 Voters Meeting



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 privileged to give assistance to Pastor Mark Eisold and the Pelican Lutheran church, a newly chartered LCMS congregation. This congregation is fully Spanish, and serves the Haitian community as well.

They were asking for funds to support a new, part-time bilingual officer worker, Mr Alfredo Valdetarro. Alfredo will cover the afternoons and help accomplish things, which their English-only secretary cannot do in her time in the mornings. Both these workers are retired and disabled, so they are a blessing to the Pelican church. Pastor Eisold equips and sends Hispanic and Haitian men to serve at other LCMS locations in our area, so they need someone in the office who speaks Spanish and English. Otherwise, all of the follow-up communication, random calls and visitors would squarely fall on Pastor Eisold.

Pastor Eisold is relentless for Christ's mission, and firmly believes in reaching all people with Jesus message of salvation, and intends on equipping and placing an equipped man of God in every Anglo LCMS congregation from Marco to North Fort Myers and Lehigh Acres.

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



Yesenia Brown May 1
 James Gienapp May 1
 Kenneth Schwinn May 2
 Maureen Nedved May 3
 Richard Browning May 4
 Nydia Brown May 8
 William Greenwald May 8
 Mark Nielsen May 8
 Joan Wenk May 8
 David Dickerman May 10

Marlene Wilson May 10
 Bernita Cornish May 12
 Marian Zupin May 14
 Randall Perry May 15

Marilyn Fenton May 17
 Kathryn Mancl May 22
 River Curry-Kompare May 23
 Tina Browning May 27
 Sharon Myhre May 28
 Judith Beumer May 29
 Cheryl Hughes May 30
 Patricia Lose May 30
 Anne Hesson May 31

ANNIVERSARIES



Kent and Martie White May 4
 Ed and Dee Golob May 8
 Don and Judy Kotula May 11
 Paul and Tina Clark May 19

Siegfried and Marge Claussner May 19
 Bill and Anita Greenwald May 27
 Rob and Ramona Kolstedt May 31

Getting to know... Tom Cimarusti



Tom, tell us a little about your background and your career at FGCU.

I was born in Los Angeles and was raised by

Italian immigrant parents. As a 9-year-old boy, I became fascinated with the accordion, an instrument my father often played. After about a year of learning accordion from my father, I began formal lessons and frequently performed in the Los Angeles area, even earning the mentorship of the famed actress Ginger Rogers who for a very brief time, acted as my agent. My love for music grew throughout my high school years, eventually leading me to declare music as my college major. Following my undergraduate and graduate studies (both at Brigham Young University), I completed my Ph.D. at Florida State in Musicology with certificates in Early Music and World Music. My doctoral dissertation concerned the Italian songs of the 19th-century composer Luigi Gordigiani – a composer who, although now mostly forgotten, was

nicknamed the “Italian Schubert” Following a 5-year period as a piano salesman in Provo, UT, I joined the faculty at Texas Tech University where I served as an Assistant/ Associate Professor of Musicology and Director of the Italy Study Abroad Program. Currently, I am the Program Director and Professor of Music History for the Bower School of Music and the Arts at FGCU where I teach courses in Music History and World Music. Although past research has included topics on Italian opera and chamber music, I am currently researching the musical culture of the Koreshan Unity, a 19th century religious cult that settled in Estero, FL in 1894.

Could you share a bit about your family.

I come from a family consisting of 5 siblings – 3 brothers and 1 sister. I As the youngest of the family, I often felt blessed as all of my siblings were always supportive and took an active part in my life, from my schooling to my love for music, and through challenging times. I was also very blessed to have had wonderful parents – a hardworking father who held two jobs and a nurturing mother who spoiled us with some of the finest Italian cooking. At the age of 37, I met my wife (Christy Cimarusti) who walked

into a Utah piano store where I was working. One year later we were married. We still have the piano I sold her (she picked out a great one!), and together, are the proud parents of two remarkable boys, Christopher (13) and Paul (15). Both of our boys are students at Naples Classical Academy and have both studied music. Paul has joined the Hope Lutheran Church praise band as a keyboardist and Christopher has studied cello.

The Praise Team has two new members, Maria FeCaballero and Carter Popple. Could you share how you chose them to join you?

It was somewhat of a challenge trying to find two musicians who could join us for any length of time. However, I was fortunate to have found Maria Fe and Carter; not only are both of them fine musicians, but they are only juniors at FGCU so I am hopeful that will be with Hope for at least the next 2 years. I met both students following an announcement I made to all of the students (about 200) in the Bower School of Music. Carter and Maria Fe were the first to respond to that announcement. We are indeed blessed to have them worship with us.

What do you like most about playing music/singing?

It’s cathartic and therapeutic. In my opinion, music not only has a power to transform others, but I truly believe it is also transformative for the player. It is an expression of the self – one that can actually be experienced within. Those expressions, I believe, define who we are and can be a strong force in what we aspire to become.

What is your favorite vacation destination?

Someplace I have never been. I LOVE to travel and strongly feel that visiting other places and other cultures is one of the definitions of actually being wealthy. One learns so much, not only about the world and its people, but about yourself through cultural experiences. The memories of making a mosaic with my boys in Italy or listening to traditional Irish music in Galway are indelibly impressed in my mind. And more importantly, I know my boys experienced something that they might not have otherwise. I have been fortunate to do a lot of traveling with my family, including excursions to Greece, France, Italy, Honduras, Italy, Mexico, England, Ireland, and Scotland. Our next venture, I hope, will be Thailand.

HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH-LCMS

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Non-Profit Organization

US POSTAGE

PAID

Permit No.62
Bonita Springs,FL
34135

STAY CONNECTED WITH HOPE'S WEBSITE:

www.hope-bonita.org



FOOD DRIVE

**PLEASE HELP US RESTOCK OUR FOOD PANTRY
WITH NON-PERISHABLE ITEMS:**

*Cereal • Rice • Sugar • Cooking oil • Dry beans • Canned meats
Canned fruit • Corn flour • Pasta and sauces
Diapers sizes 1-6 • laundry detergent • toiletries/paper products*

**Bring them to church and leave in the Narthex
and call Sheila if any questions at 239-919-2295**

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

SUNDAY WORSHIP

9:00 am - Traditional Worship Service

10:30 am - Contemporary Worship Service

