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From the Desk of Pastor Richard

I am excited to share with you that Pastor Randy Schoemann will be assisting us during the months of January and February. Pastor Randy brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to Hope and a servant's heart. You can learn more about Pastor Randy from his greeting, which is included later in this newsletter.

During the Season of Epiphany, which runs from January 6 - February 13, the words from Howard Thurman's poem, *The Work of Christmas*, seem especially appropriate. Take a few minutes to reflect on the words of this amazing poem.

The Work of Christmas

*When the song of the angels is stilled,
When the star in the sky is gone,
When the kings and the princes are home,
When the shepherds are back with their flocks,
The work of Christmas begins:
To find the lost,
To heal the broken,
To feed the hungry,
To release the prisoner,
To rebuild the nations,
To bring peace among brothers,
To make music in the heart.*

-Howard Thurman

Epiphany Blessings!

Pastor Richard

Matthew 2:1-2 Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, 2 saying, "Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose[b] and have come to worship him." *ESV*





GREETINGS
from **PASTOR RANDY**

Dear Congregation of Hope!

What an appropriate name for a group of believers entering upon a brand new year. Permit me to introduce myself. I am Pastor Randy Schoemann. I will be assisting Pastor Richard for the months of January and February this year. I am a Semi-retired LCMS Pastor who lives with my wife, Donna in Big Flats, Adams County, Wisconsin.

In August I will be retiring from Full part-time ministry to 2 very small rural Congregations up North. Each year we come down to Estero for 2 months to escape the Wisconsin winter. We have been attending here at Hope for near a decade.

When I heard that your former Retired Pastoral Assistant was leaving last Spring I had a chance conversation with Pastor Richard where he asked if I was still working. After he informed me of the many openings for Retired Pastors in this Circuit and including at Hope, I took it to heart and prayerfully considered offering my services here at what we consider our Home Congregation in the winter months.

The leadership of Hope agreed to have me serve this January and February by assisting with Liturgy and Communion and preaching once per month. I will also be assisting Pastor Richard with a few shut-in calls each week.

Thank you for entrusting me with God's gifts among you for this period of time. My hope is to be of help to Pastor Richard so that his load is lightened a bit. He has been a great blessing to Donna and myself during our worship at Hope.

Please feel free to speak with me anytime. You'll be in my prayers!

I'll begin my service to you on the first Sunday in January, 2024. Thank you and Blessings to you in Jesus' name!

One of the King's men,

Pastor Randy Schoemann

SPECIAL VOTERS MEETING

Sunday January 28

SAVE 3 LIVES!!!

DONATE BLOOD

Sunday January 14

with NCH Bloodmobile - 8:30am-12:00pm!

JANUARY 2024
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

NEW HOURS: Open M-TH 10:30am-1:30pm

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



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

Stabilized System (improves balance) Exercise Program
Every Monday and Wednesday 10:30-11:30am

Gentle Yoga: New Location
Monday 9:00-10:00am @ Shangri la and Tuesday 10:30-11:30am

Women's Bible Study
Every Tuesday, 9:30-10:30am in Church Conference Room

VITA Free Tax Preparation
Tuesday, 12:00-1:30pm

Cards and Games
Monday, January 3, 10, 17, 24, 12:00-1:30pm

Lee Health Cancer Prevention
Thursday, January 4, 10:30-11:30pm

Teaching Technology
Thursday, January 4, 10:30-11:30pm

NO STABILIZED STEPS Monday January 8 due to FUNch Bunch

FUNch Bunch
Monday, January 8, 12:00-1:30pm
Enjoy FREE lunch and Entertainment
Sponsored by Gulf Coast Memory Care
Chronic Disease Management Lee Health
Tuesdays, January 9, 16, 23, 30, February 6, 13 - 12:00-2:30pm
Call 239-424-3121 to Register

Dubin Center Brain Booster
Thursday, January 11, 10:30-11:30am

Senior Care Authority: Should I stay or should I go?
Thursday, January 11, 12:00-1:30pm

Monday January 16 CLOSED MLK Day

Intergenerational Program with Preschool
Thursday, January 18, 10:30-11:30am

My Senior Center Training
January 18, 12:00-1:30pm

Dubin Center Caregivers Support Group
Monday, January 22 10:30am
(Usually the 4th Monday of each month)

SBB University
Monday, January 22, 12:00-1:30pm

Art Therapy
Thursday, January 25 10:30-11:30am

Blanket Buddies Life Home Health
Thursday, January 25 12:00-1:30pm

FGCU: How it benefits our community
Monday, January 29 12:00-1:30pm



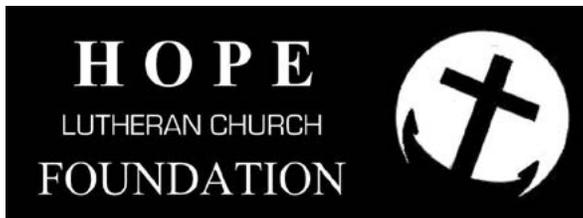
BIRTHDAYS

Linda Rustad	Jan 01	Jim MacGregor	Jan 14	Nadine Myers	Jan 20
Henry Bauermeister	Jan 02	Gloria Raguse	Jan 14	Aiden Murphy	Jan 22
Jean Boyer	Jan 03	Vonnie Ray	Jan 14	Lukas Browning	Jan 24
Robert Prideaux	Jan 03	Virginia Ruppin	Jan 14	Anita Greenwald	Jan 25
Jim Maloney	Jan 04	Scott Krawec	Jan 15	Dolores Golob	Jan 27
Gayle Repetto	Jan 04	Rick Bittner	Jan 16	Judith Hamed	Jan 30
Fred Marunde	Jan 07	Eric Brown	Jan 19	Grant Van Bavel	Jan 30
Ronald Anderson	Jan 08	Betty Trimble	Jan 19	William Barnes	Jan 31
Debbie Coomer	Jan 08			Jared Brenner	Jan 31
Phyllis Erber	Jan 08			Mary Kay Fieldman	Jan 31
Marilyn Herrli	Jan 08			Jan Mahal	Jan 31
William Baldwin	Jan 13			William Mink	Jan 31



ANNIVERSARIES

Beverly and Jim Kaufmann	Jan 1		Andy and Kathy Frech	Jan 28
Karen and Larry Drake	Jan 7		Gloria and Ron Knautz	Jan 28



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 are privileged to contribute to Preston & Eleonora Shaw of the Elim Fellowship, serving in Kazakhstan. The Shaws run a guest home to accommodate mission teams, local discipleship groups, small conferences, and "under ground churches". Their guest home and family ministry disciples local believers, reaches unbelievers with the Gospel, and strengthens the local church.

Their guest home functions as their main ministry inlet. Each month they have multiple groups and meetings that are building and strengthening the local believers and church in their city. They also provide safe housing for short-term missionaries that travel to their part of the world, enabling them to focus on the mission they came for.

In 2023 the demand for their guest home ministry grew significantly. They were able to support 5 local pastors by providing a safe gathering space for their meetings, discipleship conferences and to provide housing them.

They also provided housing for multiple short-term teams from America, Germany, Korea, Canada, Russia, Uzbekistan and other countries, all for the purpose of sharing the Gospel.

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. We are looking for an additional member beginning in January 2024. Please join us to help this worthwhile ministry grow and have the ability to help those in need.

Peace be with you-

Susan Schwinn

Secretary, Hope Lutheran Church Foundation

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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 7 thru February 25,2024

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

