



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 Pelican Ministries. This is a combination of Amigos Ministry of SW Florida and the Pelican Ministry of SW Florida. Their goal is to get Christ to the people in a relevant way, knowing that the Holy Spirit will do His work of creating faith and getting people into the local family of faith.

Our contribution aided in preparing deaconesses to fill the gaps in ministries (vacancies & active) as equipped, certified women of God through our LCMS Seminary Deaconess Program in the EIIT. To equip your local LCMS immigrant ministries to collaborate with our district and the seminary to prepare certified and rostered LCMS Deaconesses for current and future service in our SW Florida congregations for outreach and member care. Pastor Mark Eisold now spends time equipping two Haitian Vicars every week as an official mentor with the Concordia Seminary, St. Louis. He also has placed two equipped Deacon missionaries in other LCMS congregations for outreach and ministry to the Hispanics in the area.

The Lord Jesus has blessed them to not only spread His Gospel in word and deed, but also to prepare men and women for service in the present and future. Their goal is to equip the saints for service and share that blessing with every LCMS congregation in our area. Equipping deacons is a big part of that.

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

**HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH- LCMS**  
25999 OLD 41 RD  
BONITA SPRINGS, FL 34135

**Worship Schedule**  
Sunday Worship  
9:00 am - Traditional Worship Service  
10:30 am - Contemporary Worship Service

STAY CONNECTED WITH HOPE’S WEBSITE:  
**<https://www.hopebonita.org>**  
PHONE: (239) 992-6952 FAX: (239) 992-3254



*Letter of Hope*  
*From the Desk of Pastor Richard*

August/September 2025

God’s Living Words

The Bible is far more than a historical document or moral guide—it is the living, active Word of God. Fundamental to our understanding of the Bible is the teaching of Scripture Alone (Sola Scriptura). Scriptura Alone means that God’s Word is the final authority in matters of faith and life. It also means that the Bible is intended to be at the heart of our theology, worship, and daily living.

Martin Luther sparked the Protestant Reformation in the 16th century by urging the Church to return to the authority of Scripture. He translated the Bible into German so that ordinary people could read it for themselves, convinced that God’s Word should be accessible to all. For Luther, the Bible was not just a book of rules—it was the story of God’s mercy and salvation, revealed most clearly in Jesus Christ.

Lutherans believe that the Bible, though written by human authors over centuries, is divinely inspired and trustworthy. It tells the story of creation, fall, redemption, and the promise of restoration. The central message of the Bible is the Gospel—the good news that we are saved by grace through faith in Jesus Christ, not by our own efforts.

In worship, we regularly read from both the Old and New Testaments, highlighting the continuity of God’s saving work throughout history. The Lutheran tradition also emphasizes that the Bible should be read through the lens of Christ. As Martin Luther wrote, “The Bible is the cradle in which Jesus is laid.” In other words, the Bible’s purpose is to lead us to Jesus and His saving work on the cross.

In a world of uncertainty, the Bible is a source of comfort, truth, and hope. As Psalm 119 says it this way: “Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.” May the Lord guide you to the Word, so that you may experience the Good News of Jesus at the center!

*Peace and Joy!*  
*Pastor Rick*



August/September 2025 Weekly Prayers

**Sunday** – God, renew my heart so that my worship is an outpouring of love for you and for others. In Jesus’ name. Amen.  
Titus 3:5 He saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit,

**Monday** – Dear Heavenly Father, forgive us when we take you for granted. Thank you for your steadfast love.  
In Jesus’ name. Amen. Colossians 4:2 Continue steadfastly in prayer, being watchful in it with thanksgiving.

**Tuesday** –Lord God, use me so that others see you in my daily life; strengthen me to trust and follow you. To your glory and in the name of Jesus I pray. Amen. Proverbs 3:5 Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding.

**Wednesday** – Lord Jesus, King of kings, remind me to be grateful that you came for me. May my joy overflow so that I tell everyone of your love. In Jesus’ name. Amen. Hebrews 12:28 Therefore let us be grateful for receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, and thus let us offer to God acceptable worship, with reverence and awe,

**Thursday** – Jesus, thank you for taking my place so that I will have a place with you forever. Amen.  
1 Thessalonians 5:9 For God has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ,

**Friday** – Father God, thank you for making me your child through to work of your son, Jesus. In His name we pray. Amen.  
1 John 3:2 Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is.

**Saturday** – Kind Jesus, as you prepare a place for me, send your spirit to prepare the hearts of all for the day you will return. Amen. Luke 1:16-17 And he will turn many of the children of Israel to the Lord their God, 17 and he will go before him in the spirit and power of Elijah, to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, to make ready for the Lord a people prepared.”



A note from our Parish Nurse, Tina Browning  
Staying Safe and Finding Comfort in God

Those of us in Southwest Florida are all too familiar with Tropical Storms and Hurricanes. We know it is important to be prepared for the storms physically however have we ever considered preparing ourselves for them emotionally and spiritually. Storms bring strong winds, flooding rains, and power outages. They also bring uncertainty and fear. As Christians we can hold fast to the peace and comfort that God offers.

Practical Safety Reminders

- Stay Informed – Keep up with local weather reports and alerts from trusted sources.
- Prepare an Emergency Kit – Include water, non-perishable food, medications, flashlights, batteries, and important documents.
- Plan Ahead – Know your evacuation routes and have a communication plan with family members.
- Secure Your Home – Check for loose items outside, trim trees, and ensure windows and doors are reinforced if needed.

Our preparation shows wisdom, not fear. Proverbs 22:3 says, "The prudent person foresees danger and takes precautions. The simpleton goes blindly on and suffers the consequences.NLT

Spiritual Encouragement

All of life's storms can shake our sense of security. But in the midst of the chaos, we are not alone. Psalm 46:1 tells us, “God is our refuge and strength, always ready to help in trouble.”NLT Jesus Himself calmed a storm, reminding us that even when the winds howl, He is in control. When anxiety arises, we can turn to Him in prayer, trusting that He hears and cares deeply for us.

Finding Peace in His Presence

During storm season, take time to draw near to God. Spend moments in prayer, read scripture, and encourage one another in faith. Whether the skies are calm or turbulent, His peace is available to us. In Isaiah 43:2 God tells us "When you go through deep waters, I will be with you. When you go through rivers of difficulty,you will not drown."NLT

May we be wise in our preparations, strong in our faith, and filled with hope that no storm is greater than the God who walks with us through it.

Tina Browning BSN, RN  
Faith Community Nurse



August & September Wedding Anniversaries

Julie & Mike Rohrbach- Aug 2  
Rick & Millie Bittner-Aug 7  
Charles & Deanne Schmidt -Aug 10  
Dick & Bernita Cornish -Aug 13  
Larry & Sandy Brown -Aug 17  
Paul & Karen Bradley- Aug 18  
Bruce & Donna Breckenfelder-Aug 19  
Bill & Sally Denno -Aug 19  
Ken & Linda Keyes -Aug 19  
Bill & Anne Barnes -Aug 21  
James & Judy Lieske -Aug 25  
Alan & Arlene Strawn -Aug 29  
Ken & Charlotte Stuff -Aug 29  
Richard & Tina Browning- Aug 31  
Chris & Paula Corrie -Aug 31  
Jim & Carol Sauder -Aug 31

Bob & Margaret Liptay -Sep 1  
Jim & Anne Gienapp -Sep 2  
Ronald & Beatrice Maassen -Sep 7  
Mark & Sharon Myhre -Sep 7  
Dennis & Karen Berens -Sep 9  
Lyle & Theresa Heidmann -Sep 10  
Craig & Wendy Bonar- Sep 12  
Mike & Vicki Liesmann -Sep 12  
Paul & Jean Geiwitz -Sep 14  
Jim & Debbie Foerster -Sep 15  
Phil & Del Jennings -Sep 21  
Lyle & Gloria Raguse -Sep 24  
Eugene & Lorraine Kelly -Sep 26

August & September Birthdays!

Cole Bridges -Aug 1  
Collin Davis -Aug 1  
Margo Wirtjes -Aug 1  
Michael Konicke -Aug 2  
Aybri Bradley -Aug 3  
Fred Wenk -Aug 4  
Theresa Heidmann -Aug 5  
Evelyn Taylor -Aug 5  
Anne Barnes -Aug 7  
Jean Geiwitz -Aug 8  
Carol Heinrich -Aug 10  
Barbara Hennig -Aug 10  
Mark Myhre -Aug 11  
Beverly Van Bavel -Aug 13  
Peggy Prideaux -Aug 19  
Edward Wright -Aug 19  
Jodie Fox -Aug 20  
Anne Gienapp -Aug 20  
Peter Rocheford -Aug 21

Carol Terlecky -Aug 22  
Paula Corrie -Aug 24  
Bob Bineau -Aug 26  
John Browning -Aug 28  
Richard Hacker -Aug 28  
Janice Johnson -Aug 28  
David Nesbit -Aug 28  
Dennis Vosberg -Aug 29  
Mary Cory -Aug 31  
Shirley Hite -Sep 1  
Tom Steen -Sep 2  
Tom Headington -Sep 4  
Nacy Benjamin -Sep 5  
Julie Schafer -Sep 5  
Ken Stuff -Sep 5  
Craig Bonar -Sep 7  
Thomas Singstock -Sep 7  
Erik White -Sep 11  
Casey Monti -Sep 12

Mike Liesmann -Sep 14  
Kurt Paternoga -Sep 14  
Gloria Knautz -Sep 15  
Sharan Weickelt -Sep 16  
Donna Koch -Sep 18  
Lynda Rehse -Sep 19  
Glen Lose -Sep 20  
Susan Vosberg -Sep 20  
Jan Boerman -Sep 23  
Karen Evenson -Sep 23  
Susan Schwinn -Sep 23  
Joan Davis -Sep 25  
Shari Mink -Sep 25  
Jan Jonas -Sep 26  
Sue Kammer -Sep 26  
Chuck Wolkerstorfer -Sep 26  
Pam Wilmer -Sep 28

If we missed your Anniversary or Birthday email us at [Info@hopebonita.org](mailto:Info@hopebonita.org)