

THE TIDINGS

A Monthly Newsletter of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church

HOPE BORN ON THE WINGS OF FAITH

by Pastor Derek Rosenstiel

*“Hope” is the thing with feathers -
That perches in the soul -
And sings the tune without the words -
And never stops - at all -*

Emily Dickinson, “Hope” is the Thing with Feathers

The beginning of a new year is a special time in the course of our lives and is one that most of us try to mark in some sort of way. Whether it be in the purchasing of a new calendar or the uncorking of a sparkling beverage, we mark New Year’s Day as a sign of honoring the past and looking towards the future. The new year is a time to reflect upon the past year; taking stock of all the joys and sorrows experienced within it. It is also a time where many of us lay out plans for the coming year and begin to dream of what the next twelve months will bring. In these dreams we oftentimes begin to sow seeds of hope in our hearts for what may be possible for our lives in the next year.

Hope can be an ephemeral or mysterious sort of thing at times. The experiences of our lives can either give us more hope or they can steal it away from us. I do not know about you, but in the year 2020, I had an extremely complicated relationship with Hope. There were days and even weeks when Hope and I did not seem to even be in a relationship anymore. If Hope were a person, it would be as if we were not talking and that Hope had wronged me by not coming through on promises made. There were other times in which Hope was the only thing I had left to hold onto in the trials I was experiencing. Hope was my lifeline and source of strength because if I did not have Hope I feel as if I would have simply given up. Given all that we have gone through this past year, Hope and I still have a lot to work on in our relationship going ahead into this next year. How about you, is this the case for your relationship with Hope?

It may seem as if I make jest of the idea of hope by personifying it, but I honestly believe that hope is an integral part of our faith and in fact is a fruit of our faith in many ways. Hebrews 11:1 states, “Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.” While hope declares that we have something to look forward to, faith truly is the assurance that what God has promised to us will come to pass and in fact, is ours to have right now. To put it another way in the words of writer and activist, Sharon Blake, “Hope speaks of the future and faith speaks for the now in life.” This interplay between Faith & Hope I believe shows us that we absolutely need both in life. Especially in transitional times such as the new year. The gift given to us in both integral parts of our lives is what helps us not only to survive but to thrive.

It is my prayer for you as you enter this new year; that your relationship with Hope may flourish and deepen. All relationships take work, and a lot of it for sure! Yet, I believe, that we have been given all we need to be able to live in the right relationship with our own selves and with others. God, by the power of the Holy Spirit, has gifted us with the most precious gift of all, and that is faith in Jesus Christ Our Lord. Through this grace shown to us, God has sown within our heart the seeds of such things as peace, joy, love, and yes even Hope. These seeds have the capacity to sprout and take shape into beautiful plants that can uphold and enrich your life through the fruit that they bear.

As the new year begins and continues to take shape for you and yours; may faith continue to work in you to water the seeds of hope that reside within you. May all the plans you lay for this next year come to fruition, and if they do not may you still taste the fruit of God that takes their place. For it is in faith, beloved of God, that we can place our trust and never be let down. Our true and final hope lies within the person of Jesus Christ, and this hope is sure and eternal. It truly is as St. Paul writes, “hope does not disappoint us, because God’s love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.” In this year of 2021, may you hold onto this hope and experience the love of God that comes from it!

In Christ,
Pastor Derek Rosenstiel

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SAVE THE DATE!

Budget Review

Sunday, January 24, 2021.

Time to be decided.

In this meeting, we take time to review the 2021 proposed budget.

Annual Meeting

Sunday, January 31, 2021.

Time to be decided.

We will relay the details and updates as we get them through the weekly "Bridge" newsletter and on our website at <https://htlcdbq.com/member-resources>.

Funeral Service Coordinator(s) Needed

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church needs you. The Worship Team is seeking a person, or persons able to work as a team, to help coordinate our Funeral Services. You would help to locate funeral assistants to cover those parts of the service that the bereaved family has requested outside help with (e.g. ushers, readers) and to prepare communion if needed. The Pastors will let you know what is required in these areas. An easy-to-follow procedure checklist has been established to help you, including a list of volunteer ushers, readers, and so on. If you would like to review the procedure before volunteering, please contact Diane Kalms at 920-344-6148 or Terry Hoefflin at 563-542-6064. We would be happy to answer any questions and provide a procedure copy for you.

Spaghetti Dinner and Virtual Talent Show

Tuesday, January 12th

5:30 P.M.

Join us for an evening of food and fun. Sign up by emailing Bill O'Dell at wdodell@hotmail.com with the following information:

1. Name & number of meals needed.
2. Pick up a meal or need it delivered? (maybe a limited delivery area)
3. A talent you would like to display virtually via zoom. ie. instrumental or vocal performance, expository reading, display of artwork you created..... (Performance time may be limited)
4. A performance not required to participate in the meal and encouragement of others.

January 2021 Special Appeal Lutheran Chaplaincy Outreach

The first special appeal for 2021 is for **Lutheran Chaplaincy Outreach** in Iowa City. Lutheran Chaplaincy Outreach provides pastoral care to ELCA patients and their families at the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics (UIHC). It is not always easy for our pastors to travel to Iowa City to give pastoral care on a regular basis. Lutheran Chaplaincy outreach fills that need. Chaplin Cindy Breed and Chaplin residents and interns are available to pray, read scripture, console, and listen. Lutheran Chaplaincy Outreach is a non-profit and is served by a volunteer board. This ministry depends on gifts from individuals and organizations. During the month of January, you have the opportunity to support this important ministry. The gift you give will be used very wisely, the program has a small budget. The University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics provides office space, staff support, telephone service, and parking for the chaplains but do not provide any funds for salaries. So any gift you give will not be used for overhead but used to care for patients. For more information about this ministry, go to <https://www.lcoiowa.org/>

AMAZON SMILE

Amazon will donate .5% of all eligible purchases to Holy Trinity. [Learn more here.](#)

FOOD DISTRIBUTION

January 23, 2021
9:00 A.M. – 11:00 A.M.

HTLC will have a food distribution in the parking lot of the church from 9:00 A.M.- 11:00 A.M. or while supplies last. Stay in your car and we will escort you through the line to receive food items. Contact the church with any questions.

GIVING STATEMENTS

Giving Statements will be mailed this month. We will also be emailing your giving statement to the email address we have on file. Beginning this year, in an effort to cut costs, we will be emailing your quarterly and end of year statements. We will no longer mail a hard copy of your giving statements. If you would prefer to have a hard copy mailed to you, let the office know at 563-582-3228 and we will be happy to mail it to you.

WORSHIP

WE ARE LIVESTREAMING WORSHIP!

Here are ways to access live worship:
[Go to the "Worship" page of our website.](#)
[Go to our YouTube channel](#)
[Watch on our Facebook Page](#)

The bulletin for the worship service will be available on our worship page.

If you can't watch "live" you will be able to access the video at any time at YouTube.

Be sure to subscribe to our YouTube Channel, and turn on your notifications, so you will be notified whenever we post something new.

Church Closure Update

On Tuesday, December 15th, the Holy Trinity Council met for their scheduled council meeting. The council reviewed the COVID data in Dubuque, discussed current guidelines put out by CDC, state, and local authorities, and decided to remain closed.

As we reviewed the data, we were so excited by the declining numbers over the past week and made the decision that if numbers continue to decline over the next few weeks, we plan to partially reopen on **February 7th**. We will follow the protocol outlined in stage two of the Reopening Directive.

In the meantime, please stay safe. Many of our members have contracted the virus as it runs rampant in the city. Please pray for our members, for the community, for the health care workers, and for the world.

To view our Reopening Directive, [click here](#).

CONNECT

YOUTH MINISTRY

Currently meeting online.
Visit our [Youth & Family Ministry](#) page at htlcdbq.com for the links.

**Bible Explorers 5th & 6th grade
7th & 8th Grade Confirmation
High School**

ONLINE SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday morning at 11:00 A.M. on our [YouTube channel](#). Take-home bags are available for each family. Questions? Contact Sara McCaw, Family Minister, sara.mccaw@gmail.com.
For preschool through elementary age.

PARENT SUPPORT GROUP

Thursday, January 21, 2021
7:30 P.M.

Many of you are juggling work, home, and now school as you navigate online education for your children. Join us in conversation with Amy Naumann and Sydney Bonn, teachers for Dubuque Community Schools, and Lisa Anderson, an elementary school counselor.

Visit the [Youth & Family](#) page on our website for the zoom link.

ADULT FORUM

January 6 - We Believe in the Holy Spirit: Global Perspectives on Lutheran Identity presented by Rev. Dr. Winston Persaud.

January 13 - We Believe in the Holy Spirit: Global Perspectives n Lutheran Identity presented by Rev. Dr. Winston Persaud.

January 27 Topic to be announced in Weekly Tidings.

STEPHEN MINISTRY

Stephen Ministers in our congregation are ready and willing to walk alongside you in whatever you are going through. Find out more about the Stephen Ministry and how to connect [HERE](#)

WOMEN'S ECUMENICAL BIBLE STUDY

Tuesdays at 11:30 A.M.

Currently meeting online

Go to the [Ministry page](#) of our website for details and Zoom links.

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Fridays at 6:00 A.M.

FROM THE OFFICE

PASTORAL VISITS

If you would like a pastoral visit by phone during this time of social distancing, please contact one of our pastors.

Pastor Josh Martyn (563) 613-4337 or
htlcdbqpastor@gmail.com

Associate Pastor Derek Rosenstiel (608)
556-0206 or
associatepastorderek@gmail.com

STEPHEN MINISTRY

Please know there are always Stephen Ministers in our congregation ready and willing to walk alongside you in whatever you are going through. [Find out more about the Stephen Ministry and how to connect HERE](#)



HELP NEEDED!

We need your help! We are looking for volunteers to help shovel snow on the weekends. If you can volunteer to help, please click on the link below to sign up. A member of the Buildings and Ground Team will contact you. Thank you so much.

[I CAN HELP](#)

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please pray for the following:

- Carol Smart
- Christopher Bredesen and those who support him, especially Judy Bredesen who is Chris's mom.
- Bill and JoAnne Blum
- The residents and staff of Luther Manor
- Elizabeth Enbrecht's mother, 98-year-old Grace Riley.
- Basant Persaud, Winston Persaud's mother.
- Addy and Bill Gard neighbors and good friends of Dale & Mary Bjerning.

HTLC Military personnel serving our country:

Army: Kyle Salmon, Christina Fink, Col. Karl Anderson, Kyle Osborne.

National Guard: Eric Bowman

Air Force: Chris Barajas

Marines: Staff Sgt. Rossetti

Air Force: Chris Barajas, Michael Osborne, Logan Knobbe

CAN WE PRAY FOR YOU?

We would love to pray for you. We have a group of faithful people who pray for our community every day. [Submit your request online](#) or call the church office at 563-582-3228.

CELEBRATIONS

BIRTHDAYS

Hannah	Pergande	January 02	Howard	Baack	January 18
John	Swift	January 02	Spenser	Davis	January 19
Christine	Pauly	January 03	Lisa	Kragenbrin	January 20
Ellen	Lau	January 04	Amanda	Matson	January 20
Jenifer	Montgomery	January 05	Mila	Houlihan	January 21
Drake	Stierman	January 05	Mike	Murray	January 22
Elizabeth	Rose-Tolstedt	January 06	Donovan	Tye	January 23
Joyce	Sanders	January 06	William	Vondran	January 23
Norman	Anderson	January 07	Katie	Hartig	January 24
Linda	Glass	January 07	Ashley	Patrum	January 24
Timothy	Appleby	January 08	Melissa	Walen	January 24
Jeanette	Fredrick	January 09	Jan	Appleby	January 26
John	Metz	January 09	Angela	Stoffel	January 26
Laura	Rank	January 09	Kathy	Wlochall	January 26
Robin	Leib	January 10	Darin	Harmon	January 27
Jean	Bird	January 11	Kaylee	Houlihan	January 27
Thomas	Boland	January 12	Harold	Knutsen	January 27
Chase	Liaboe	January 12	Gerda	Chappell	January 28
Jean	Miner	January 12	William	Goldsmith	January 28
Honora	Swift	January 13	Hunter	Harry	January 29
Michel	Kelly	January 14	James	Lembke	January 29
Grace	Wieland	January 14	Benjamin	Lundell	January 30
Ruth	Assmus	January 16	Rachel	Ryan	January 30
Maureen	Larsen	January 16	Kim	Biederman	January 31
Thomas	Vanderlinde	January 16	Tyler	Franke	January 31
Robert	Clark	January 17	Terry	Hoefflin	January 31
Emmett	Staade	January 17	Karson	Krause	January 31
Keghan	Tiernan	January 17	Luanne	Norton	January 31

ANNIVERSARIES

Dale & Mary Bjerning	January 02	49 years
Daniel & Sally Haug	January 06	16 years
Verner & Jean Miner	January 12	62 years
Bob & Sandi Johnsen	January 18	51 years

THE OFFICE

HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

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563-582-3228
dbqweddingmusic@yahoo.com

DAN WILD STEPHEN MINISTRY LEADER

563-663-4340

NOAH'S ARK CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER

JENIFER MONTGOMERY DIRECTOR

563-203-7204
director@NoahsArkDBQ.com

CHURCH COUNCIL

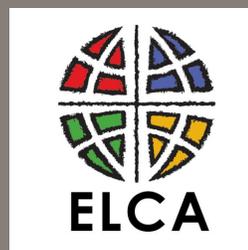
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Marlee Tart, Financial Secretary
Gretchen Kueter, Outreach
Tami Ernster, Parish Ed./Family Ministry
Darrell Kalmes, Bldg. & Grounds
Wendy Einsweiler, Stewardship
OPEN, Fellowship
Jason Duba, Noah's Ark
Terry Hoefflin, Worship
Lilly Hoefflin, Youth Rep.

WEBSITE

www.htldbq.com

FACEBOOK

<https://www.facebook.com/HTLCDBQ>



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