

# THE ANCHOR

A newsletter published by Hope Lutheran Church Selden, NY

## OUR CHURCH NEEDS YOUR FINANCIAL SUPPORT

We had a great response to our summer camp programs, and our Family Movie Night program went well.

Our worship attendance hovered around 80 people per week at the two services, with a large number joining us on the Facebook live stream services.

Yet as fall arrives, our church finances are still a major concern for the Council. A letter was sent out to all members requesting extra giving and some of them responded generously so we could begin catching up with overdue bills.

If you were away and did not give a regular offering over the summer, please make an effort to catch up on your giving goal.

It's easy to do this. You can go online to [www.hopeluth.com](http://www.hopeluth.com) and use the E-Offering or the PayPal app to add your gift.



## HOPE'S FALL PROGRAMS ARE UNDERWAY

After an exciting celebration of the 45<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of our pastor's ordination, we have begun our full and stimulating series of fall programs at Hope.

Teen Ministry began with an orientation presentation and a dinner for students and parents, and during the 5 p.m. service, teens affirmed the Teen Ministry Covenant.

Sunday School began at 9:30 Sunday morning using a curriculum based on the Unshakable Hope program we are using with adults.

Our musical programs for children, teens, and adults are getting underway with weekly rehearsals, and our Stephen Ministry training class and our Unshakable Hope groups will be starting in October. Worship attendance has not returned to "normal" yet, and giving is still lagging behind past years, but we are hopeful that this will change soon.

Our "Livestream Congregation" is growing as people watch our services on Facebook, but they have not yet begun using the special E-Offering or PayPal options yet which are on our church website. The Anniversary celebration on September 9<sup>th</sup> received nearly 600 views on Facebook.

## PRAYERS FOR HEALING

Our October Prayers for Healing will be during our services on the weekend of October 13-14. We usually have this special time of prayer each month on the first Sunday of the month, but this fall we need to move it.

## Watch Sunday Worship on Facebook

On Sundays we live stream our services on Facebook to all who are signed up for the "Friends of Hope Lutheran Church" group or "friends" of Pastor Hill.

When you are away or unable to attend a service, you can find the service live on Facebook or recorded and available through the "Friends of Hope Lutheran Church Facebook group.

## SERMONS POSTED ONLINE

Also, every week we post on Facebook and Youtube the message from Sunday in case you want to hear it again or share it with a friend or relative. They can also be accessed via our church website: [www.hopeluth.com](http://www.hopeluth.com).

## THANK YOU

We thank Barbara and Jim Nugent for the new refrigerator for our church kitchen.

The old one passed away. Behold, the new has come!

## TEEN MINISTRY SESSIONS ARE UNDERWAY

In September we continued training teens for ministry in our church's Teen Ministry program. Teens in grades 6 and older come together for classes on alternating Saturday afternoons to learn about a variety of areas of Christian faith and life including the Bible, the sacraments, Lutheran Church history, and practical skills for living as Christians in a challenging age.

## HOPE'S BOWLING LEAGUE RESUMES

One of the most popular fun activities we have at Hope is Hope's Bowling League. On Friday nights at Centereach Bowl adults and teens come together for an evening of fellowship, fun, and friendly competition. Teams were formed early in September, but if you wish to join this activity, please contact Lisa Spinazzola by email at [LCS828@outlook.com](mailto:LCS828@outlook.com).

The league has special events at certain times during the year including a year-end banquet.

## OUTREACH TEAM MOVIE AND DINNER NIGHT SUNDAY, OCTOBER 14th

Do you have friends you would like to invite into our church's life? Hope's Outreach Team is experimenting with an idea that offers friends a chance to meet and enjoy fellowship with our church members before they begin coming to worship services here.

Invite your friends to join you for a "Dinner with Movie" night at **La Bonita**, a local Mexican Restaurant in Pine Plaza in Coram on October 14. Once a month on a Sunday night, we will be showing a movie with a powerful, thought-provoking Christian theme after sharing a meal in the catering room at the restaurant. We have arranged for a buffet table for \$20 per person (includes tip), and there is a regular menu and bar for those who wish to use them. A signup sheet is posted for people wishing to reserve places at the event. We eat at 5:30 p.m. and finish by 8 p.m.

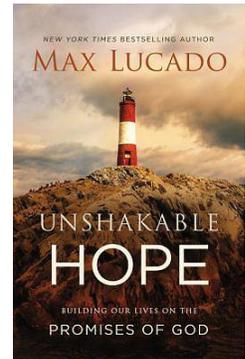
The first movie we will show is **The Shack**, a story about a man who comes to terms with the death of a child by means of a unique experience with God. We are sure it will stimulate dialogue after the movie, so if you are interested in taking part, sign up soon.

## COURSE FOR ADULTS BEGINS THIS MONTH

A new course developed by popular Christian author Max Lucado called, "Unshakable Hope: Building our lives on the Promises of God" will be offered to small groups this fall on weeknights and weekdays beginning on Wednesday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>.

What is shaking in your world? Possibly your future, your faith, your family, or finances? It's a shaky world out there. In *Unshakable Hope: Building Our Lives on the Promises of God*, pastor and New York Times bestselling author Max Lucado offers encouraging guidance for overcoming sadness and despair, renewing a sense of purpose, and triumphantly facing the fears of the future.

We've never been more educated and entertained. We have technological tools our parents could only dream of, and we are saturated with information, amusement, and recreation. Yet more than ever, we are starving for hope. School shootings are all too familiar. Depression is on the rise. And more people than ever are orchestrating their own deaths. In America alone, the suicide rate has increased 24 percent in fewer than twenty years. If a disease saw such a spike, it would be deemed an epidemic. People are dying from a lack of hope.



After forty years of counseling and ministry, Max Lucado has learned that nothing lifts the desperate, weary heart like the promises of God. In a world full of despair, depression, anxiety, and instability, we do not need more opinions or hunches; we need the definitive declarations of our mighty and loving God.

*Unshakable Hope* examines twelve of God's promises that Max has turned to over the years to encourage himself and others. Each chapter explores one significant promise and reveals how it will equip you to: overcome challenging circumstances, live through sadness and renew hope, experience lasting security, and make wise decisions. Join Max as he takes a closer look at Scripture's unbreakable promises and shows you how to live with an unshakable hope. A sign-up sheet has been posted for people wishing to enroll in this program. The two course books will cost of about \$25 per student.

### AIR FORCE WINDS QUINTET FREE CONCERT

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 16 AT 7:30 PM**

Hope is hosting an amazing concert by the Air Force Heritage Winds quintet in October. Tell all your friends and neighbors — music will include a variety from all eras and especially patriotic. Be sure to invite veterans so they can enjoy the great performance.

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

HERITAGE of AMERICA BAND  
JOINT BASE LANGLEY-EUSTIS, VIRGINIA

TUESDAY OCT 16, 2018 | Hope Lutheran Church  
7:30 pm | 46 Dare Rd  
Selden NY

Heritage WINDS

**FREE CONCERT**

Featuring the world's finest active duty musicians performing modern woodwind compositions and classic favorites for audiences of all ages

www.heritageofamericaband.af.mil

## SATURDAY NIGHT AND SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP ASSISTANTS NEEDED

Hope's Worship Team is seeking people willing to serve as Worship Assistants on a regular basis. On Saturdays when Teen Ministry sessions are held, the teens assist with readings and prayers, but we need Worship Assistants to assist with the special parts of the communion service. On non-Teen Ministry weekends, we especially need to have at least one worship assistant for the 5 p.m. service.

Each of our Sunday morning services need Assisting Ministers who are willing to serve two weeks in a row as part of our Worship Leadership team. Training is provided for all Assisting Ministers. There is no "age limit" for serving, but we want to involve confirmed members of Hope in this particular form of service. If you are interested in serving, please speak with Pastor Hill, Pauline Castiglione, Michelle Wells, Dee Hecker, or Joyce Stahl.

## USHERS AND ACOLYTES NEEDED

As we return to our regular worship schedule, there are "openings" for adults and children who wish to serve as ushers and acolytes. Training is provided for both roles, and a schedule is set up in advance so people can accordingly for their times of service.

We sometimes take for granted the service our members offer, but both roles are very helpful and valuable for the ongoing worship and witness of our church. If you wish to know more or volunteer for these worship assistant roles, speak with Sandy Reifel, our Ushering Team Leader, or Lisa Spinazzola, our Acolyte Coordinator.

## "SEEDS OF HOPE" CONVERSATIONS TO RESUME

One of the highlights of our May annual meeting of the congregation was the time we spent in small groups having conversations about our church's future. These "**Seeds of Hope**" style conversations gave us a chance to share our perspective on important aspects of the life we share as a congregation.

There are two topics we want to explore this fall: Hope's Inclusive ministry, reaching out to people who often feel unwelcome in churches or actually discriminated against by churches (e.g.s. gay and lesbian people, non-white people) and Hope's ministry with families (children and youth).

Our first conversation will focus on how Hope can become a more inclusive congregation. We will begin with a free dinner following our 5 p.m. service on **Saturday, October 27**, and we will include the viewing of a short video about the work of "**Reconciling in Christ**," produced by a group called "Reconciling Works."

We are also planning a Sunday afternoon dinner and conversation event for **November 4th** beginning with the dinner for adults and children at 4:30 and ending by 7:00 p.m. We will focus on the topic of Family Ministry at this event. A program with a dinner for children will be planned.

To help in making arrangements for food, we will have a poster with a signup sheet. We hope many will share their thoughts and ideas at these events. Please sign up and invite others.

## TRUNK OR TREAT 2018?

One of the special fall activities for families of Hope and our local community is our annual "Trunk or Treat" event. People decorate their car trunks with various themes related to Halloween and provide treats to give away to children who come in costumes



"Trick-or-treating" in the church parking lot. Car owners usually wear costumes as well. Games and contests are held during the afternoon event for children and adults.

We set Sunday, October 28th as the date for this event from 1-3 p.m.

If you wish to be part of the planning team, contact Stacy Hirsch

## CALL COMMITTEE UPDATE

Our church's call committee has been meeting regularly in preparation for the task of interviewing candidates for the position of Associate Pastor at Hope. The Ministry Site Profile has been posted online and they are waiting for names of people they can contact and arrange to interview.

They are looking for someone who could be part of a shared ministry (co-pastor) with Pastor Hill and possibly become a candidate for the office of pastor when Pastor Hill eventually retires.

The funding of the new pastor's salary and benefits would come from revising the budget to permit Pastor Hill to begin using funds he has already set aside for retirement. Specific roles and responsibilities would be worked out based on the gifts of both pastors and the needs of the congregation.

Prescott Ford is chair of the call committee. His

### CONGREGATION COUNCIL MEMBERS 2018

Carol Bottstein	Pres.	(631) 664-2477
Pauline Castiglione	VP	(631) 880-7830
Cheryl Armstrong	Sec.	(631) 875-6544
Phil Millwater	Treas.	(631) 633-4905
Barbara Bussing		(631) 748-9150
Ani Gerlach	Youth	(631) 813-8440
Christine McCarthy		(516) 647-7443
Henry Schlobohm	Property	(631) 447-0536
Michelle Wells		(631) 732-4284

### CALL COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Prescott Ford  
 Vicki Algieri  
 Dianne Browning  
 Steve Gerlach  
 Lisa Spinazzola  
 Brian Steck

## GIVING OPTIONS

There are several ways you can make donations to our church.

1. The most common way people give is by making a weekly or monthly pledge based on their income, usually a percentage of their income. This is given during worship as their offering using an offering envelope we send out.
2. Special offerings are requested at various times during the year, such as on church holidays or in response to specific needs that arise. These gifts are usually in addition to their pledge.
3. Some prefer to give "automatically" by using the automatic feature on a checking account or one of the mechanisms we have as a church: **"MyEoffering"** is set up through our website, and offerings can be scheduled as preferred. They also can use personal **PayPal** accounts connected to personal credit cards or checking or savings accounts.

## HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH

*Metropolitan New York Synod ELCA*

46 Dare Road Selden, NY 11784

Office: (631) 732-2511 Fax: (631) 732-8369  
office@hopeluth.com www.hopeluth.com

**Dr. Richard O. Hill, STS, Pastor Ext. 111**  
Home: (631) 331-5131 Cell: (516) 848-5386

**Dee Hecker —Synod Deacon Ext 110**  
Cell: (516) 316-5254

### OUR CHURCH STAFF

**Joyce Stahl Director of Music Ext. 115**  
(631) 698-6616

**Carol Hoffman Director/Teacher ANS Ext. 116**  
(516) 658-3170

**Barbara Nugent Church Secretary Ext. 113**  
(631) 588-8121

**Donna Haller Youth Coordinator**  
(631) 624-6929

**Linda Favale, Bookkeeper**  
(631) 732-5006

**John Kelly and Barbara Bussing Ext. 112**  
*St. Mark's Bread Food Pantry*

**Ed Gildersleeve, Carol Wolff, Rich Wolff**  
*Congregational Deacons*

## COMING EVENTS

**PECONIC WOMEN'S RETREAT-**  
Saturday, October 13th at Trinity, Rocky Point.

**DINNER AND MOVIE NIGHT-**  
Sunday, October 14 5:30 p.m.  
at La Bonita Restaurant.

**RECONCILING WORK DINNER  
AND CONVERSATION-**  
Saturday, October 27 at 6 p.m.

**TRUNK OR TREAT-**  
Sunday, October 28 1-3 p.m.  
A family activity in our church parking lot.

**SEEDS OF HOPE CONVERSATION-**  
Hope's Ministry with Families  
November 4, 4:30-7 p.m.  
Includes a program and dinner for children.

**ALL SAINTS' REMEMBRANCE  
SUNDAY-**  
Sunday, November 4, all three services.

**VETERANS APPRECIATION  
SUNDAY-**  
Sunday, November 11 all three services

## **KIDS' CLUB - WEDNESDAYS**

Kids' Club meets every Wednesday afternoon from 4:15 - 5:45 pm. All children ages 4 through 5th grade invited to belong to this fun club. Every week we tell Bible stories, sing, make crafts and enjoy snacks and fellowship with each other.

Bring your child down one Wednesday after and see what fun they have! Any questions please speak with Joyce Stahl or Laurel Calma.

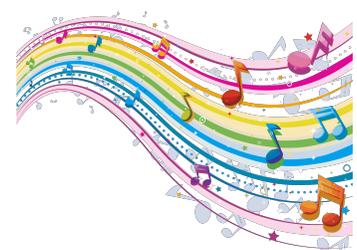


*Kids' Choir Club  
Wednesdays,  
4:15 - 5:45 pm*

## **HUGS PRESCHOOL PROGRAM/HUGS TODDLERS - TUESDAYS**

HUGS/TODDLERS is offered on Tuesday mornings for a half an hour from 9:15 - 9:45 am for children 18 months to 36 months where they can enjoy moving to music, singing, playing musical instruments with their parents.

HUGS is designed for preschool children ages 3 and up and meets every Tuesday from 12:15 - 1:30 pm beginning October 16th. Children learn Bible stories, songs, motions, make crafts and enjoy a snack together.



## **JOYFUL RINGERS**

Our Children's Chimes group rehearses on Tuesday evenings from 7 - 7:30 pm. All children from 2nd grade and older are invited to learn how to play chimes -- no previous music experience necessary.

## **TEEN HANDBELLS**

On Tuesday evenings from 7:30 -8:15 pm our Teen Handbell group rehearses. This fun group plays more challenging music and enjoys teamwork and fellowship together.

### **FOOD PANTRY NEEDS**

Please donate a \$10 gift cards to Hope for our Food Pantry families who need help with items we do not stock. It is great to have these on hand when families come in who just need special help. Place them in an envelope with Food Pantry on the outside. Thank you

## SERVICES ON THE INTERNET

One of the ways we reach out to people with the gospel is by putting our worship services on Facebook each weekend, and over the past several months we have seen a new "congregation" forming through that medium.

In recent weeks many people have watched all or at least a part of our services- often as many as 100 "viewers," and now that we are livestreaming on Saturday nights.

If you are one of the viewers, please let us know by adding a comment below the item. Your comments could also be added.

One of the ways viewers can connect with the "live" congregation is by adding your personal worship offering using the tabs on our church website: [www.hopeluth.com](http://www.hopeluth.com).

Another way we share the gospel is by recoding and posting sermons each week on **Facebook** and **YouTube**. You can find the videos on YouTube at Pastor Richard O, Hill. It can also be accessed through our church website. There are already more than 100 sermons posted on YouTube.



**HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
46 Dare Road Selden, NY 11784

**Join us for worship!**  
**Saturdays at 5 p.m.**  
**Sundays at 8:00, 9:30, and 11 a.m.**  
**Sunday School ages 3-11 at 9:30 a.m.**

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