

BUILDING HOPE

A NEWSLETTER OF HOPE LUTHERAN OF THE SIERRA,
SOUTH LAKE TAHOE, CA

From Pastor Diana....

JUNE 2017

The meaning of Pentecost is God's equipping His church with the power of His Spirit so that He will be glorified among the nations.

The point of Pentecost is mission, and the goal of mission is that "the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea" (Hab. 2:14). If we properly understand this great historic event, our hearts will be enflamed with cause of seeing some from every tribe and tongue and nation bowing before the exalted Lord Jesus Christ.

God's purpose at Pentecost was to equip His church with the mighty power of the Holy Spirit so that we would be His witnesses to all the nations, resulting in His eternal glory. I want you to ask yourself these questions as you think about this purpose:

We have 7 weeks to define our mission and glorify our Lord! In these 7 weeks let the Holy Spirit start a fire in you that will last forever!

My challenge to you and myself is to live with these 4 questions every-day to awaken the Holy Spirit within us.

*(1) *Is my focus on God's glory in all things?**

- (a) Did I even think about that as I went through my week?
- (b) Did it determine how I resisted temptation or how I spoke to others?

*(2) *Is my passion that the nations would glorify God through the gospel?**

- (a) If my heart is not on world missions, it is not in tune with God's heart.

*(3) *Is my daily life consciously dependent on the Holy Spirit?**

- (a) Would I have missed Him if He had withdrawn from me this past week?

Your Church Council

Executive Board 2017

President

Rexton Thran 530 416-8047

Vice President

Larry Lambdin 530 577-3432

Secretary

Cindy Towle 530 545-0162

Treasurer—

Penny Michal 530 318-1883

Council Members

Kim Blank 530 721 2783

George DuPuy 530 318 8081

Art Eggers 530 600 0437

Lynn Setnor 530 577 1799

Nancy Gaynor 530 545 0995

John Long 530 541 3510

Staff

Church Secretary:

Cynthia McCormack (530) 541-1975

Volunteer Bookkeeper: Arlene Wolfe

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

PASTOR DIANA'S LETTER	1&5
CHURCH COUNCIL REPORT	2
MINISTRY REPORTS	2
CHURCH CALENDAR	3
JUNE SCHEDULES	4
JUNE BIRTHDAYS	4
PASTOR ON STEWARDSHIP	5&6
LUTHERAN MYTHBUSTING	6&7
DIANE ON STEWARDSHIP	7
NONNA VIA ARLENE	8
TCH UPDATE	8
PASTOR'S CALENDAR	9
CHURCH CONTACT	10

Continued.....Page 5

This and That . . .

FROM Church Council . . .

No Report at this time.

FROM Worship Ministry . . .

No Report at this time.

FROM Property and Admin . . .

May 13th was our latest work day at Hope Lutheran Church. After winter, there is always plenty of clean-up. Thanks to Diane, Ted, Cindy, Mort, John, Art, Kim and David Foster, we were able to clean out the storage room, accomplish some yard cleaning and bring back the sprinkler system around the church sign. There is still a lot of yardwork, so if you have an extra hour or two anytime, there are plenty of black bags in the clean storage room, so help is appreciated.
Property Committee

FROM Education Ministry. . .

No Report at this time.

FROM Congregational Life. . .

Full Moon Outing, Thursday, June 8th at Cove East beginning at 7:30pm.

Full Moon Outing, Friday, June 9th at Midtown Blue Dog Pizza beginning at 5:00pm.

Beach Fellowship throughout June & summer at Pope Beach beginning June 4th at 4:00pm.

Next Congregational Life Meeting is scheduled for May 21st, *before service* at 9am.

And

Happy Birthday to all of you in April, May and June!! Hope's Quarterly Birthday Bash this summer will be on Sunday July 16th. It will be a potluck right after church service. Please bring a yummy dish to share. "Birthday cake" will be provided along with coffee, tea and water. So if you are starting another 365 days around the sun in April, May or June we "Hope" to see you at your birthday party potluck!! Also, if you are in attendance you will be able to get your special homemade "just for you" cookie and have friends of Hope sing happy birthday to you!!



-Linda Amundson for Congregational Life

FROM Stewardship Ministry. . .

Hope Lutheran Church of the Sierra Stewardship Meeting on Thursday May 18 at 6pm

Present: Linda Amundson, Kim Blanck, Bonnie Driscoll, Marilyn Long, Arlene Wolfe, Paul Zaffiro

Discussion: "Where have you seen God in your life this week?"

"Stewards of God's Love."
Adding more pictures to our poster.
Committee member's interest and Council member representation

Reviewed: Pew card and Opportunities to Serve
Suggestions going forward as to change in Opportunities in future
Secretary and Pastor will handle cards and information on front; Marilyn and Bonnie will do follow up on opportunities.

Discussion: How to get the word out: Sunday morning announcement, newsletter, and communication with other ministry teams.

Focus will be quarterly and reviewed at next meeting on Thursday, July 20 at 6pm.
"We are to ASK, THANK and TELL"

Go in peace, Share God's love.

Church Calendar - June 2017

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 12pm Women's 12 Step 6:30pm Church Council Meeting	2	3 10:00am Adult Education Class 7pm Pueblo de Dios
4 10:00am Worship Service Day of Pentecost & 2pm - Barton Skilled Nursing Service 4pm-Pope Beach	5 7:30pm - 12 Step Program Open Mtg	6 7pm - Pueblo de Dios	7	8 12pm - Women's 12 Step 6:00pm - P&A Meeting 7:30pm - Full Moon Outing	9 5:00pm - Full Moon Outing	10 10:00am - Adult Education Class 7pm - Pueblo de Dios
11 10:00am Worship Service Holy Trinity 4pm-Pope Beach	12 7:30pm - 12 Step Program Open Mtg	13 7pm - Pueblo de Dios	14	15 12pm - Women's 12 Step	16	17 10:00am - Adult Education Class 11:00am - Worship Asst. Training 7pm - Pueblo de Dios
18 10:00am Worship Service 2nd Sunday After Pentecost 4pm-Pope Beach Father's Day!	19 7:30pm 12 Step Program Open Mtg	20 7pm - Pueblo de Dios	21 Summer Begins!	22 12pm - Women's 12 Step	23	24 10:00am - Adult Education Class 7pm - Pueblo de Dios
25 10:00am Worship Service 3rd Sunday After Pentecost & Blue Bucket Sunday 4pm-Pope Beach	26 7:30pm - 12 Step Program Open Mtg	27 7pm - Pueblo de Dios	28	29	30	

JUNE SCHEDULES

Worship Assistant Schedule for June 2017

***JUNE 4th:**

Reader: Volunteer
Ushers: Volunteer & Volunteer
Communion Assistant's:
 Volunteer & Volunteer

***JUNE 11th:**

Reader: Volunteer
Ushers: Volunteer & Volunteer
Communion Assistant's:
 Volunteer & Volunteer

***JUNE 18th:**

Reader: Volunteer
Ushers: Volunteer & Volunteer
Communion Assistant's:
 Volunteer & Volunteer

***JUNE 25th:**

Reader: Volunteer
Ushers: Volunteer & Volunteer
Communion Assistant's:
 Volunteer & Volunteer

***Schedule of Worship Assistant's as per Publication.**

Chancel Flower Dedications

JUNE 4: Open for Hosting
JUNE 11: Open for Hosting
JUNE 18: Rory La Chapelle
JUNE 25: Burkley La Chapelle

June Birthday's

June 6 Julia Martinez
 June 10 Ryan Mahnken
 June 20 Annika Johnson
 June 20 Natasha Johnson
 June 25 Carolyn Meiers

Do you have any upcoming events for next Month -
July 2017? If so, before the 20th of the
current month (June), please
 contact Cynthia in the Church
 Office at (530) 541-1975. She can then get your article in our next Newsletter.
Thank You!

The Pastor's Letter....Continued from Page 1

(b) Do I lean on Him for purity of life and power to obey God?

*(4) *Is my daily life consciously dependent on the Holy Spirit?*

The power of the Spirit isn't given just to make me happy. It is given to make me holy so that my life and my words bring glory to God as I bear witness to His saving grace.

As Christians, we are meant to live in the presence and power of the Spirit of God. The Holy Spirit helps us to confess Jesus as Lord, empowers us to serve God with supernatural power, binds us together as the body of Christ, helps us to pray, and even intercedes for us with God the Father. The Spirit guides us, helping us to live like Jesus.

That should be the meaning of Pentecost for you and me.

Blessings,

Pastor Diana 

From the Pastor. . . .The Meaning of the Peace -Stewardship

Background- First be reconciled to your brother or sister. . .

For some people, the moments in the liturgy following the prayers of the church are awkward ones. The presiding minister offers these words: "The peace of the Lord be with you always." The congregation responds "And also with you." The members of the congregation are then invited to "share the peace" with one another. What does this really mean? Sharing God's peace is not simply offering a friendly hello to those sitting around you. Sharing God's peace is not a time for catching up on news with your neighbor or for reminding someone about an upcoming meeting. Sharing God's peace does not require each worshiper to offer a sign of God's peace to every other worshiper present. The "exchange of peace" (also commonly called "sharing the peace" or "passing the peace") is an act of reconciliation that serves as a transition point between the Word and Meal portions of the liturgy. As stated in *The Sunday Assembly: The exchange of peace is a ministry, an announcement of grace we make to each other, a summary of the gift given to us in the liturgy of the Word. This ministry we do to each other is far greater than a sociable handshake or a ritual of friendship or a moment of informality. Because of the presence of Jesus Christ, we give to each other what we are saying: Christ's own peace. Then, having been gathered by the Spirit around the Risen One present in the word, we turn to celebrate his meal (p. 173). Jesus' Sermon on the Mount, as recorded in Matthew's Gospel, lays a foundation for the practice of sharing God's peace. "So when you are offering your gift at the altar, if you remember that your brother or sister has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to you brother or sister, and then come and offer your gift" (Matthew 5:23-24).*

Other sources from the early church confirm the practice of sharing the gift of peace. In the *Didache*, an early Christian writing nearly as old as many of the New Testament *Worship Formation & Liturgical Resources: Frequently Asked Questions* writings, the Christian community is encouraged to "come together on the Lord's day, having first confessed your sins so that your sacrifice may be pure. Anyone who has a quarrel with his fellow should not gather with you until he has been reconciled, lest your sacrifice be profaned." This passage from the *Didache* confirms that the pattern Jesus spoke about in the Sermon on the Mount became a regular weekly occurrence in the early Christians' practice of Holy Communion. Over centuries, the exchange of peace sometimes came later in

From Pastor. . . On StewardshipContinued from Page 5

the service, after the Lord's Prayer and before the distribution of Communion. Some congregations still exchange the peace at this point, though the preferred placement in Evangelical Lutheran Worship is following the intercessory prayers and before the setting of the table (quite likely the more ancient pattern). That the sharing of the peace follows the prayers of the church is not accidental. Having been forged into a common people in Holy Baptism, the congregation prays for peace in the Church, peace in the world, and peace for all those in need. Then the congregation follows through with the people offering peace and reconciliation to one another. This is not human peace alone, but the peace which is possible only through Christ. Then, after the exchange of peace, we receive the gift of Christ's peace in our sharing Holy Communion. Practice How assemblies practice this exchange of peace will vary. In some assemblies, worshippers simply turn to those sitting nearby and offer a handshake with the words "peace be with you" or "the peace of Christ be with you." In other assemblies, worshippers move out of the pews/chairs, extending this sharing of peace for a good deal of time. The benefit of such sharing is that the time is given to celebrate this assembly, the primary symbol of Christ present among us. The drawback is that it can be seen as a time just to move about and greet friends; it loses the equality of simply greeting those around you (The Sunday Assembly, p. 174).

Furthermore, the sharing of the peace can be lost and the time can be more about saying "good morning" or having other conversation. It is especially important that this practice invites hospitality to visitors; this is not a time to simply greet those we know. Since the peace is an outgrowth of our prayers for peace and the promise of Christ's peace for us always, it needs to be clear that we share this peace as a sign of our baptismal unity as children of God. How is the peace actually exchanged? Some enact this exchange with a handshake. Others may use an embrace or a kiss. Another option, especially if there is concern about contagious disease such as a flu epidemic, is to "grasp both of the other person's lower arms, speaking the words with the other" (The Sunday Assembly, p. 174). In whatever manner an assembly shares the peace, the pastor or other leaders are wise to consider the "what, whys and how's" of this exchange and to find opportunities for teaching the meanings of this practice in worship and its connection to our every day lives. Christians are a people who seek reconciliation with one another. Making peace is a daily action in our lives. We do not need to wait to come to church on Sunday morning in order to make peace with our neighbors and our family members. Sharing God's peace is a daily opportunity.

Blessings,
Pastor Diana



Lutheran mythbusting *By Timothy J. Wengert*

On the popular cable show *Mythbusters*, the hosts unmask assumptions about our world and rigorously test their plausibility. When it comes to history, however, certain legends and inaccuracies can persist for generations without being challenged or corrected. In the run-up to commemorating the 500th anniversary of the Reformation in 2017, here [is the first of 10 popular "myths" about Martin Luther that deserve busting.

Luther thought himself a reformer of the church.

Here historians answer, "Yes and no!" We can trace changes in theology and practice in the churches of early modern central Europe to Luther. But he didn't often — if ever — call himself a reformer. For one thing, the word "*reformatio*" was used for reconstituting practices and wasn't a

Lutheran mythbusting....Continued from Page 6

particularly radical word in his Latin vocabulary.

For another thing, Luther thought of himself more as a forerunner to the true reformation of the church that Jesus Christ would bring in, rather like the images of Elijah or John the Baptist at the time of Christ. Indeed, the famous Wittenberg painter Lucas Cranach often depicted Luther the preacher as John the Baptist, pointing to Christ, "the lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world." That is what pastors today also are — "finger pointers" to Christ the savior of the world.

From Diane Martin. . . On Stewardship

Stewardship: What Does It Mean?

Today you were given a stone. It is an example of God's Church that was built on His Word as a solid foundation that cannot be destroyed. It also is a reminder that we can hold on to His church and cling to it when life's many trials come to us. Jesus is the corner stone upon which His church was built and lives today.

Consider for a moment how this stone exemplifies our life with Christ. The stone can be a reminder of those significant times we reached out to others in the need through the sharing of time, food, and shelter. Jesus calls us to GIVE of ourselves through our time, talent and tithing to share the Gospel with the nations.

Ephesians 2:19-22 - tell us . . . you are no longer foreigners and aliens, but fellow citizens with God's people and members of God's household, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone. In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord. And in Him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit.

As you hold this stone in your hand, consider how it can represent our faith in the building up of Christ's church through the tithing of our first fruits. It has edges, rough spots, and smooth surfaces. Sometimes our faith can be that way, but no matter how the stone appears, it is always something we can cling to.

As a Church Council member, we make decisions about how to be good stewards with the Lord's offering. We struggle with decisions as to how to both serve this church and yet we keep the faith that this church will be able to meet its basic financial needs.

In closing we are reminded of Matthew 6:19-21 – Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Stewardship
a way of life

From Arlene Wolfe . . . Nonna's Article

The following story was written by my mother, Nonna Katzenstein around 1980. The little boy in the story is Cindy Towle's son, Cooper. Enjoy!

ANGEL IN SNEAKERS

I have been a grandmother long enough to smile compulsively at children, then I met Cooper. I remember my introduction to him, my first encounter with the mischievous little imp squirming next to his mother in the church pew, just ahead of where I was sitting. She attempted to tone down his childish energy, rebuke his distraction, his frequent exits, encouraging his scribbling art work during the sermon. I must admit his antics were in direct competition with the pastor's sermons, no doubt disturbing to some worshippers in church, since later I noticed that they sat in the back pew of the church.

I recall how one Sunday when they sat next to me I offered to buy his "art work" after church for a \$1.00, mostly out of sheer admiration for his mother's patient endurance and his reluctant church attendance.(I still have it for remembrance.)

Since that day he greets me with his impish grin and offers a Russian language salutation, "Zdrastvuite!" (Hello!) which he learned to say from his older sister, whom I happened to teach a little Russian one day in her school.

Today, he was our altar boy, solemnly lighting the candles prior to the start of worship service. All eyes were on Cooper, mine included. There he was with his freshly washed freckled face, flamboyant red hair, sporting a big grin, transformed into an angel at the altar, solemnly lighting candles, his small pink tongue exposed out of the side of his mouth, deep in mental concentration.

With the task completed a brief stumble over untied shoelaces, then a wide grin from his loving mother and a wave of smiles came from the congregation on this important initiation. For who can resist the sight of a lovable angel in sneakers?

From Cynthia McCormack . . . TCH Update

As most of you know, I am a Board Member of Tahoe Coalition for the Homeless, as well as being their Grant Writer. I had written an Impact Grant for the Tahoe Women's Community Fund in 2016, and we were awarded the full Award amount. Because of this, I was invited to the TWCF Grants Gala on May 18th. I was asked to speak and the statistic's below are from that speech:

Here are some very important statistics from this past Winter 2016-2017 Season:

- ◆ We (The Warm Room) were open for 137 nights during our four month season
- ◆ We provided 3,741 Shelter Bed Nights for our homeless guests
- ◆ We served 136 homeless in The Warm Room with a total of 148
 - * The difference in the two numbers are from the family's we served who had children
 - * The families with children who came to The Warm Room were sheltered in Motel rooms paid by Tahoe Coalition for the Homeless
- ◆ We had an average of 27 Guests nightly
 - * This average ratio was 7 Women and 20 Men
- ◆ For the duration of our Season, we had a grand total 108 men and 40 women stay as guests
- ◆ We had 5 Veterans stay at The Warm Room
- ◆ 87% of our guests were locals when they became homeless
 - * These guests, before becoming homeless, lived at their last local residence for 90 days or longer before homeless
 - * 80.5% gave a SLT zip code for their last residence
 - * 2.6% gave a NV South Shore zip code for their last residence
 - * 3.5% gave an El Dorado County/South Shore zip code for their last residence
- ◆ 10 Homeless guests ended their homeless cycle and were able to be placed in housing
- ◆ There were 22 guest social worker appointments with our guests
- ◆ There were 5 Social Worker case management follow-up appointments with our guests
- ◆ Lastly, 1 of our Veterans, who had been chronically homeless for decades and suffering from PTSD & Substance Abuse, kept meeting with our volunteer Social Workers, a Plan-of-Action for him was formulated, he met with Allison Hibbard of El Dorado County Mental Health and is currently still in treatment!

Pastor's Calendar - June 2017

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3 <i>10:00am Adult Education Class</i>
4 <i>10:00am Worship Service Day of Pentecost & 2pm - Barton Skilled Nursing Service</i>	5	6	7 <i>11:30am - Clinton Purvance, CEO of Barton Health</i>	8	9 <i>9:00am - Rabbi Evon Yakar-Coffee - Clergy Coalition</i>	10 <i>10:00am - Adult Education Class</i>
11 <i>10:00am Worship Service Holy Trinity</i>	12	13	14	15 <i>10:00am - 2pm: Outside Appointments</i>	16	17 <i>10:00am - Adult Education Class</i>
18 <i>10:00am Worship Service 2nd Sunday After Pentecost</i>	19	20	21	22	23	24 <i>10:00am - Adult Education Class</i>
25 <i>10:00am Worship Service 3rd Sunday After Pentecost &</i>	26	27	28	29	30	

June 2017

HOPE LUTHERAN OF THE SIERRA NEWSLETTER, SO. LAKE TAHOE, CA

PLEASE CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE SHOULD YOU NO LONGER WISH TO RECEIVE THIS NEWSLETTER. Thank You!

Church Office Address:

930 Julie Lane
South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150

Pastor Diana Turner

Pastor's Office Hours:

Wednesday, Thursday & Friday :
10am to 12pm & 1pm to 3:00pm

Office Phone: (530) 541-1975

Office Hours: Wednesday, Thursday and
Friday -10am to 12:00pm

Church Secretary: Cynthia McCormack

Email: hopelutheranslt@gmail.com

Website: www.hopelutheransierra.org

And: www.tahoehope.com

Address Correction Requested

If you are receiving this Newsletter by regular mail and have an e-mail address that we could send this to, please notify us of your e-mail address so that we can cut the cost of postage. Thank you!

This is the church of the warm heart
That heals hurt lives,
That comforts the old
That challenges the young
That knows no distinction of class or station
The church of the people
High as the ideals of Jesus
Low as the humblest human