

HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 3

MARCH 2008

Hope Lutheran Church, ELCA

FROM BISHOP MARK HANSON

2008 Easter Message

"For you have died, your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory." (Colossians 3:3-4)

"You have died." The words resonate because this world's violence and suffering -- so pervasive, so needless, so relentless -- haunt every human community and life.

Where death rules, hope lies entombed in endless grief.

Another death -- the crucifixion of Jesus -- changed everything. God is not hidden, but present through suffering, sorrow, and death. Jesus is God's resounding

"yes!" to the steadfastness of God's forgiving love, embodied on a cross.

The death of Jesus shows no partiality. It was for all nations and all people -- for them, for you, for me. Your life is now with Christ. In baptism you have died. Hidden with Christ, no longer entombed in grief, your life carries the promise of glory.

From that first day of resurrection onward, God has been raising up messengers of salvation, heralds of peace, and testifiers of the promised glory. You are a witness of the hope to come. Quite simply, Christ is your life, my life, our life. You have no other than

this One who lives resurrected in you.

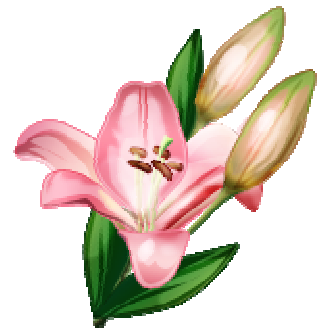
Christ is risen! Alleluia!

The Reverend
Mark S. Hanson
Presiding Bishop
Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America

Join us for:
Holy Week
Maundy Thursday,
March 20, 7 PM

Good Friday
March 21, 7 PM

Easter, March 23
Sunrise Service, 7 AM
Easter Breakfast, 8 AM
Egg Hunt, 9 AM
Traditional Worship,
10 AM



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WE NEED YOUR HELP!

We are in need of readers for the Good Friday service, March 21 at 7:00 PM. If you would like to read or provide a musical offering, please see Lynn Sowders to sign up.

We are in need of candy for the Easter Egg Hunt! Please bring the candy to the church by Palm Sunday, March 16.

Thank you!!

KIMBELL ART MUSEUM

On Friday, March 7, you are welcome to go to the Kimbell Art Museum to view the current exhibition on early Christian art. There will be a group carpooling from the church. Please arrive at 6 PM to leave for the museum. You may also meet at the museum between 6:45 and 7 PM. The cost is \$7.50 per person (1/2 off!). Pastor Kathleen will be your tour guide!

La Madeleine is the spot for dinner afterwards!

The Briarwood Vine

Providing Christian hospitality, camping and retreat programs

SENIOR CITIZEN RETREAT MARCH 7-9 –

Enjoy your stay in our motel units, fantastic food and a great program planned just for you. We have rates for those who wish to stay overnight and for those who wish to commute. Brochures have been sent to your congregation and check our website for more information.

“COME AND SEE” BRIARWOOD March

15th from 10:30 AM to 1:30 PM. You are invited to enjoy a tour of the grounds, a presentation on Briarwood, and a complimentary lunch. See the changes that have been made and hear about where we are going. See how you can be a part of this wonderful ministry. RSVP to jean@briarwoodretreat.org or call 1-800-441-0016.

JR HIGH MISSION WEEKEND March 28-

30. Come and enjoy a weekend filled with fun, Bible study, time to share with old and new friends and the opportunity to perform service projects at Briarwood to help us prepare Briarwood for everyone who comes here. Brochures coming soon and check our website for more information.

SPRING WORKDAY March 29 - Come and help us work on many projects that need all kinds of help - carpentry, planting, yard work, painting, etc. Let us know you are coming and we will feed you lunch. RSVP to jean@briarwoodretreat.org or call 1-800-441-0016.

MOTHER-DAUGHTER RETREAT April 4-6

This event is co-sponsored with the NT-NL Synodical Women of the ELCA and is an annual favorite. Moms and their 3rd through 8th grade daughters will gather at Briarwood for a weekend of games, crafts, worship, Bible exploration, great food and shared conversations. Brochures coming soon and check our website for more information.

SUMMER CAMP 2008 – Day Camp opens June 8. New this year will be a sliding scale for congregations, depending on how many day

campers you will have. Contact Briarwood for more information on these rates. The first week of summer camp is June 22. Group packets have been mailed to congregations and summer camp brochures should be in your mailboxes by the beginning of March.

SUMMER STAFF NEEDED –Young people needed to serve as leadership staff, lifeguards, cabin counselors, maintenance staff. Get your application in soon! Check our website for an application and age requirements; call 1-800-441-0016 or email henry@briarwoodretreat.org.

COMPLETE THE CALL TO ACTION FOR BRIARWOOD. At it's January meeting, the NTNL Synod Council and Bishop Kanouse, in full agreement, approved the launching (returned launching) to the “**Call To Action**” and finish what was started back in 2000-2001. More information will be given in detail in the April Vine and in other venues. So, be watching!

INVITE Jean Oswald, Development and Outreach Manager for Briarwood, to help your congregation hold a “Briarwood Sunday”. You will learn about what's ahead for Briarwood, and how we can strengthen our partnership. Contact her at 972-754-6134 or email jean@briarwoodretreat.org.



How to Reach Us

Briarwood Lutheran Ministries
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www.briarwoodretreat.org
bw@briarwoodretreat.org



WOMEN OF HOPE March 2008

Mission Statement for the Women of Hope Ministry:
Uplift and support each other, promote healing and wholeness, provide service and means to act on needed projects for our congregation and community, share our blessings and thanksgivings, with all glory to God our Father, through the power of the Holy Spirit and in the name of our Lord and savior, Jesus Christ.

MEETING SCHEDULE: Our meetings are held after worship service on the third Sunday of each "odd" numbered month (January, March, May, July, September and November).

MEETING DATE: Our next bi-monthly meeting will be on **Sunday, March 16, 2008** after worship service. We need your participation and support. Please join us. We will be discussing upcoming year events

2008 Project — Our 2008 project will be a Prayer/Serenity Garden. Come to the March meeting and help with the planning and design process. We need your input and ideas.

Remember to keep your **Secret Pal** and her family in your thoughts, prayers and heart. It the most important gift we can give one another all year long.

Please check out the Women of Hope Bulletin Board for updates. Here are some of projects and events planned for the 2008. Mark your calendars!

2008 Scheduled Events:

- **Easter Lilies – Order Deadline is March 9. Order form and details in Newsletter**
- **March 16th after service – Meeting**
- **May 1st – National Day of Prayer – First Thursday in May**
- **May 3rd - Rachel's Sunday – First Sunday in May**
- **May 18th – Ladies Luncheon (Sunday after Mother's Day) Theme: Tropical Mind, Body & Spirit**
- **May 18th – Secret Pals Revealed**
- **August 22nd and 23rd Women of Faith Conference – American Airline Center – "Infinite Grace"**
- **September – December Fundraiser for 2008 Project (Prayer/Serenity Garden)**
- **October 30th – Teddy Bear Sunday**



EASTER LILY GARDEN ORDER FORM

Easter Lilies are \$12.50 each and will be placed in the sanctuary on Easter Sunday. You may pick up your plant(s) after the last Easter Sunday service.

The **order and payment deadline is Sunday, March 9th**. Please check "In loving memory of", "In celebration of" **or both**, along with the name(s) of those you are honoring by sharing your flowers with the entire congregation. Thank you for helping us to make our church beautiful while we joyously celebrate our dear Savior's Resurrection.

Name: _____ Telephone: _____

_____ In loving memory of: _____

_____ In celebration of: _____

_____ Number of plants @ \$12.50 each = \$ _____ Total Due (checks to be made out to Women of Hope)

Paid: _____

HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER



Kitchen Angel Flight Update – March 2008



Mission Statement: *Mission of the Hope Lutheran Kitchen Angels Ministry is to provide Christian comfort and assistance in the form of meals during difficult times of illness and mourning for church family members.*

NOTE: Our next bi-monthly meeting will be on **Sunday, March 16th at 11:00 am** in the Adult Classroom.

We usually meet after service on the third Sunday of each "odd" numbered month (January, March, May, July, September and November)

Please contact **either Cheryl Watkins or our church secretary** if you or a church member may be in need of meals due to illness. Please remember we can't provide our ministry unless we know there is a need and we need your help to direct these needs to our point persons. Check it out the Women of Hope bulletin board for updated information and new team assignments.

UPDATE: Our Kitchen Angel Sunday was a great success. A big heart-felt thank you to all the Angels for their hard work, great food and a huge hearts. You all are truly a blessing to the entire congregation. Merci beaucoup y'all.

WANTED: New Angels for Kitchen Angels Flight Crew. No previous angel/flying experience required. Will train. Short and flexible schedule. Be part of a high-flying team with blessings galore. Interested parties, please see Cheryl Watkins (Angel Flight Engineer) or one of the Squadron captains (Shirley Propp or Connie Talbot) or any Kitchen Angel. Flight benefits available. Come and join us "A few, the blessed, the Kitchen Angels." We always need more angels so consider this our official invitation to join our ministry. We believe that God is speaking to your heart as you read this appeal. Come and join us.



Mark your calendars:

Our 2008 meetings and activities/projects:
Sunday, March 16th after service – Meeting

Kitchen Angel Team Rotation

March 2008 – Team B – Connie Talbot
April and May 2008 – Team A – Shirley Propp
June and July 2008 – Team B – Connie Talbot
August and September 2008 – Team A – Shirley Propp
October and November 2008 – Team B – Connie Talbot
December 2008 and January 2009 – Team A – Shirley Propp

Worship Assistants and Lectors for March and April

Worship Assistants:

March 2:	Mariah Sowders
March 9:	Fred McGilvray
March 16:	Dave Utech
March 23:	Jan Thompson
March 30:	Georgette Clark
April 6:	Lynn Sowders
April 13:	Geoffrey Sowders
April 20:	Fred McGilvray
April 27:	Mariah Sowders

Lectors:

March 2:	Christy Power
March 9:	Colwyn Power
March 16:	Doris Edmunds
March 23:	Audrey Thompson
March 30:	Mariah Sowders
April 6:	Georgette Clark
April 13:	Lynn Sowders
April 20:	Tory Cochran
April 27:	Fred McGilvray



*A Happy and Blessed
Easter to all from the
Kitchen Angels with Love*



Easter Prayer by Susan Kramer - A prayer for contemplation, meditation, on the timeless message of Easter.

Lord, You have arisen forever in my heart! May the sunrise remind me to shine in Your light. May the caress of a gentle breeze remind me of Your compassion. May the fragrance of a flower remind me to blossom in Your love. May the singing of birds bring a song of joy to my lips. And in the closing of each day may I remember to quietly pray. Wherever I am, whatever I do, may my thoughts in joy return to You!

If you would like to serve, contact Pastor Kathleen, Lynn Sowders, or Jan Thompson

Synod News Briefing

A **DISCIPLELIFE SYNOD**: NORTHERN TEXAS — NORTHERN LOUISIANA SYNOD, ELCA

Sowing and Growing Disciples of Jesus



will know that the Lutherans are in town in April. The NT-NL Lutherans will not only take over the Maude Cobb Convention Center and several area motels for the 21st annual Synod Assembly, April 25-27, but will also be all around town on Saturday afternoon engaging in mission projects (guided by the Dallas Ramps Project) and all over downtown that evening for a “street party” full of fun and festivities. It’s all part of the plan that Assembly Chairperson Pastor Phil Fenton (First, Longview) has for letting folks know about the DiscipleLife that is at the heart and faith of Lutheran Christians.

SPEAKERS at the assembly will help visitors and voting members think about how we are **Formed for DiscipleLife**: Dr. Nate Frambach, Associate Professor for Youth, Culture & Mission, Wartburg Seminary, and Ms. Kristen Glass, Director for Young Adult Ministry, ELCA Vocation & Education Unit. Both are keenly attuned to the youth and young adult culture and can speak to the church’s connection with them and their lives. As a part of the worship life of the assembly, Dr. Frambach will lead the midday service on Saturday in the “emerging church” style of free-flowing, multi-media worship. Bringing the report of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America will be Ms. Myrna Scheie, Executive for Governance and Institutional Relations, within the Office of the Presiding Bishop.

A PUBLIC HEARING on the new ELCA **Social Statement on**

Human Sexuality is also planned for the assembly. The ELCA uses Hearings as a way of gathering feedback and suggestions before a final statement is adopted. You are welcome to join the assembly for this Hearing: Saturday, April 26, 4:45 - 6:00 p.m.

LEARN MORE AND REGISTER for the assembly at www.ntnl.org/2008Assembly (early bird discounts until March 14).

Rejoice with Rejoice: *Rejoice Lutheran Church in Frisco (Pastor John Van Sant) plans to break ground for its first facility in March. The 7,400 square-foot Phase One Multi-Purpose Facility is the answer to many years of work and prayer. The facility will be located on the border of Frisco and McKinney. You can support their work by participating in Gifts-In-Kind -- which seeks donations for needed items (e.g. sanctuary chairs \$45, projection screens \$675, trees \$350, outdoor electronic sign \$13,350, amplifier \$550 etc.). Info contact 972.335.6411.*

FYI...

March Emphasis: Mosaic & Clifton Lutheran Sunset Home

Peer Ministry Training seeks to help equip those involved in youth ministry within your congregation. The training event is set for March 27-29 at Shepherd of Life in Arlington. Info contact www.NTNL.org / News and Events to download the brochure.

The Concordia Choir of Moorhead, Minnesota, enjoys a national and international reputation for its pitch and poise. Hear them at First United Methodist Church of Arlington on March 4th. Tickets are \$15 (\$5 for students). Call 817.274.2571 or 800.838.3006.

Thanks! The congregations of the NT-NL Synod pulled together and met the funding goals for Mission Support in 2007. Such strong giving has made it possible for us to support ministry locally, regionally, nationally and globally. Thanks!

Gibson Day in Seguin: Professors Hugo and Georgia Gibson are well known to TLU students of the mid-twentieth century. Their home is to be designated with a Historical Marker by TLU and the City of Seguin in a ceremony on April 8 at 4 p.m. The event will be followed by a Gibson Memorial Concert by the Concert Choir in Jackson Auditorium at 7:30 p.m. Info contact 830.372.8021.

Cherish our Children – the national and synodical initiative to care for and help form the spirits of our youngest members – is developing a web site which will have a section devoted to NT-NL. Have a look at www.CherishChildren.org.

CRASH! The computer system that the NT-NL Synod uses to send this newsletter and other information to hundreds of email addresses recently crashed. If you are not getting emails from us like you once did, or if you want to get on our list, or if you want to submit a list of your leaders and staff, please let us know by contacting Tyna@ntnl.org.

DiscipleLife

Three Mission Starts Underway

Last year the congregations of the NT-NL Synod adopted a goal of “12 x 12” (12 mission starts by 2012). That sounded like *mission impossible*. But already we have Hispanic groups gathering in Alvarado and Garland, plus the Oromo Ministry in Richardson. Each is led by a lay minister under the sponsorship of a neighboring pastor and congregation. Pray for these young ministries.



HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA

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We're on the web!
www.hopelutherantx.org

Pastor: The Rev. Kathleen E. Brennan
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k.brennan77@gmail.com

Hope Lutheran Church is a people created by God in Christ and empowered by the Holy Spirit. Recognizing that we are a community of Christ's people seeking to involve all people in Christ seek to proclaim the word of God. We wish to embrace one another as members of God's family with Christ as the head. We endeavor to accomplish this by youth and family ministry and outreach to the community.

Church Council, 2008

President: Cheryl Watkins
Vice-President: Mollie White
Secretary: Julie Morton
Treasurer: Vacant
Financial Secretary: Sylvia Cone

Deacons: Carl Clark, Betty Leonard, Colwyn Power

Trustees: Joe Morton, Sam Rutherford, David Utech

Board of Education: Georgette Clark, Christy Power, Lynn Sowders

COMMEMORATIONS

- | | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 3/1 Geroge Herbert,
hymnwriter, 1633 | 3/22 Jonathan Edwards,
teacher, missionary to
American Indians, 1758 |
| 3/2 John Wesley, 1791;
Charles Wesley, 1788;
renewers of the church | 3/24 Joseph, Guardian of
Jesus
Oscar Arnulfo Romero,
bishop of El Salvador,
martyr, 1980 |
| 3/7 Perpetua and Felicity
and companions,
martyrs at Carthage, 202 | 3/25 Annunciation of our
Lord |
| 3/10 Harriet Tubman, 1913;
Sojourner Truth, 1883;
renewers of society | 3/29 Hans Nielsen Hauge,
renewer of the church,
1824 |
| 3/12 Gregory the Great,
bishop of Rome, 604 | 3/31 John Donne, poet, 1631 |
| 3/17 Patrick, bishop,
missionary to Ireland,
461 | |
| 3/21 Thomas Cranmer,
bishop of Canterbury,
martyr, 1556 | |



NTNL PRAYER LIST

Please pray this month especially for Clifton Lutheran Sunset Home and Mosaic.

Please pray each week for the congregations and ministries of our synod:

- 3/9 Trinity, Haskell; Holy Trinity, Irving; NT-NL Synod Staff
- 3/16 Four Mile, Mabank; Good Shepherd, Marshall; King of Glory, Fort Worth
- 3/23 Faith, Meridian; Christ's, Odessa; St. Paul, Levelland
- 3/30 Trinity, Pottsville; St. Luke's, Richardson; West Texas Conference

