

New Every Morning

I'm writing this as we are still very much in the midst of winter weather, even as some daffodils have sprouted in our front yard to tease us with the idea that spring is coming, despite snow in the forecast this weekend.

The yellow flowers pushing up through the cold, wet ground are a living reminder that winter is not the way it always seems to be - that soon and very soon, warm



weather will return and flowers will burst forth with a breath-taking array of beauty all over our yard and the rest of Seattle.

It's amazing to reflect on the gift that every year, every decade, the same thing happens again - winter chills us to our bones but then the new life of Spring returns accompanied by the joyful songs of the birds God created for us to enjoy.

There are seasons in our lives when our hearts feel like they are very much stuck in winter - times when we think there is no possible way the warmth of hope and joy could return. It's in those moments that it is so important to remember the so-called "Prophet of Doom," Jeremiah. He was someone whose calling was to announce and point out the bad news of how God's people of Israel had strayed far from Him, and how they needed to repent and turn back to God in faith. Maybe you have had days when you were your own "prophet of doom" or someone else volunteered to fill that role for you. I know I have had those kinds of days - it's easy to dwell on the negative, especially when it's right in your face and so real and seems like the only thing you can count on, now or in the future.

Jeremiah writes great words of Hope for us in Lamentations 3: 19-23 - *"I remember my affliction and my wandering, the bitterness and the gall. I well remember them, and my soul is downcast within me. Yet this I call to mind and therefore I have hope: Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness!"*

I love Jeremiah's combination of honest and defiant hope in God. There is much we can learn from him for our own lives. It is healthy and good to "well remember" our difficulties and times of overwhelming challenges and even to acknowledge that "my soul is downcast." There is no great value in ignoring or burying your feelings when some aspect of life is not well - in fact, that can hurt you more than help you. When life stinks, it's healthy to feel it and express it. Having said that, we can also "have hope" when we, like Jeremiah, "call to mind" that "because of God's great love we are not consumed" - this means that even when life stinks, it doesn't have to destroy us. And why not? Because "his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness!"

Friends, when you face some moment that feels like it will "consume you" or eat you alive, look to the faithful, never-ending love of Jesus - He wants to give you HOPE!

As we prepare to celebrate the death and resurrection of Jesus, we are reminded that even where there is difficulty, God's specialty is resurrection and renewal. Even when it seems impossible, I urge you to risk trusting and asking God to bring resurrection and new life to the all-consuming challenges of your life. He loves you so much that He died and rose for you - trust Him to walk with you through each moment of your days!

I invite you to go deeper in your faith through our Sunday and Wednesday Lenten worship gatherings, join us for a free meal at one of our Wednesday soup suppers, or share hope with a non-believing friend with a word of encouragement, act of service, or a prayer for God to work in their heart and life and bring them to belief. Lastly, pray and think about inviting a friend to join you for Easter worship on April 16th at 8, 9:30 or 11am. And remember, even when life feels like winter, the spring of God's love in Jesus is coming and has now come!

In His Strength and Peace,

Pastor Peter

Women of Hope Spring Tea - Saturday, May 13, 2:00 p.m.



Saturday, May 13, 2:00 p.m.

This beautiful tea, catered by Judy Burbrink, is sure to be a special time for women and girls of all ages. Scrumptious fare, including gluten-free items, will be on the menu. This is an event you won't want to miss!

Mission Spotlight: This year's mission spotlight will focus on an organization called R.E.S.T. (Real Escape from the Sex Trade), whose goal is simple: *"To provide freedom, safety, and hope to women and girls exploited by the sex trade. Each year we provide direct services to hundreds of people exploited by the sex trade in Seattle and the greater King County area."* We want to reach out in a tangible way. To find out more, go to their website:

iwantrest.com.

Get Involved: In April we will be collecting *new* bras and underwear as a tangible way to show our support. If you want to contribute, please bring items, any size, for young women to the Commons. Mark for "REST."

Note to moms with young girls: A fun activity for girls will be provided in another area during the speaker portion of this program.

Plan now to invite your mom, daughter, grandma, or other special women in your life.

Limited seating! Reservations will open in early March.

Early bird special through April 24:

Adults: \$15, Girls under twelve: \$10

Reservations after April 24:

Adults: \$18, Girls under twelve: \$12

Reservations taken until full or no later than May 1st.



Family Fiesta Potluck for Mexico Mission - Sunday, April 23, 5 p.m.



Bring your favorite dish and join us for our Annual Family Fiesta Potluck on Sunday, April 23, at 5 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

This is a joyful occasion that includes a presentation about this important ministry. Come and meet missionary and Hope member, Diane Mebust.

All ages are invited to a celebration of what God is doing through Ensenada Christian Ministries in Mexico!

For more information, contact Diane Mebust or the church office.

Hope School News

ANNUAL SOUNDS OF SPRING CONCERT WEDNESDAY, MAY 25, AT 7PM



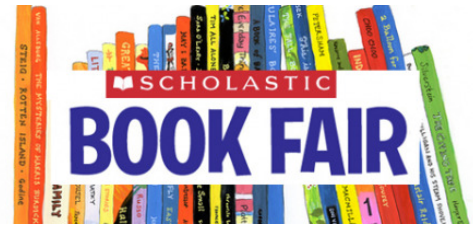
Includes performances by

- Hope School's brand new Beginning Band
- Chapel Choir
- Glee Club
- Handbell Choir
- Seattle Lutheran High School Band will be performing songs arranged by the band students.

The concert is free and all are welcome to attend.

SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR MAY 15 - 19

Shop after school Monday, May 15 - Friday, May 19
from 3 - 4 p.m. at Hope School.



SAVE THE DATE! 15TH ANNUAL EAGLE CLASSIC SATURDAY, JUNE 3

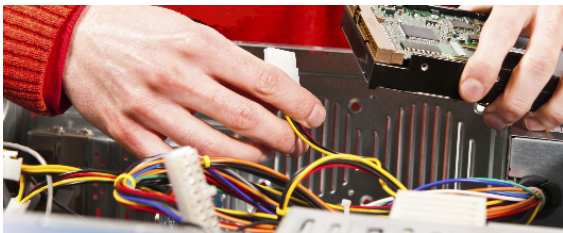
Mark your calendar for our 15th
Annual Golf Tournament,
Saturday, June 3, at 8:00 a.m. for
the shotgun tee off. This
tournament has grown every year!



Bring your family, friends, neighbors and coworkers.
If you have any questions please contact Mr. Allen at
Tallen@hopesattle.org.

Tech Giants - at Hope!

by Julia Doerr



Over the past 15 years or so, Hope has been incredibly blessed to be served in the technology arena by many very talented people. All of this work has been done behind the scenes and it has kept Hope up to speed in an unprecedented time when technology has rapidly evolved. These folks donated many hours of time and supplies in maintaining and upgrading our computer network and servers, and our computer equipment, installing and maintaining our Wi-Fi network, supporting staff, keeping our internet filter up to date so that our students and staff can safely use it, and more!

They are: Davis Peterson, Walt O'Brien, Scott Kirk, Ben Keith, Shawne Lidstrom, Dave Follis, Chris Hartley, and possibly others, all of whom have vast skills in technology that they have shared with us. We are truly indebted to them all. Shawne has also been instrumental in obtaining used computer equipment and furnishings for Hope, saving Hope tens of thousands of dollars.

In recent years, Hope added a technology director in the school: Mr. Kevin Jones. He continues to be supported by Dave Follis and others. Please offer your thanks to these individuals on Hope's behalf when you can!



Member Updates

NEW CHURCH DIRECTORY:

Our new 2017 Hope Church Directory is available for the people of Hope to pick up in the church office. One per family please.



ADDRESS/PHONE CHANGES: CONTACT CHURCH OFFICE

Dr. Ralph Svehaug

Dolores Kaehler

Lorraine Huppert

Hope Men's Boot Camp - June 2-4 - Tall Timber Ranch



Come get your heart back on a three day quest into the recovery of the masculine soul. Through video teaching sessions that go deep into the message of *"Wild at Heart"* by John Eldredge, guided times of personal reflection, and optional adventures, Hope Men's Boot Camp is more than a retreat – it is an expedition of the heart! You will never be the same. Go deeper!

Watch for registration to open online.

For more information please contact Peter Mueller at pmueller@hopeseattle.org.



Lent - Is a Season of Repentance and Humility and a Reminder of our Deep Need for our Savior, Jesus!

"It is well, it is well with my soul." The words touched the deep corners of my own soul as I listened and watched our Hope Glee Club preform this beautiful song at the LEST competition last week. As I watched our vibrant group of middle school students, I was reminded that LIFE ISN'T ALWAYS WELL. In fact, often life is hard and we are faced with great challenges: a dear sister is diagnosed with breast cancer, an older member of our congregations suffers with Alzheimer's disease, a close family member is no longer with us, marriages struggle, children rebel, a dad still can't get a job and finances are running low. You can add your own struggle. We all have them because we live in a SINFUL world. Paul writes in Romans 3:23, "All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God."



The season of Lent is a stark reminder of our sinfulness. As we walk together toward the cross for six weeks, we have the opportunity to come before our good and loving God and admit that we are broken people in desperate need of His healing touch. We take the time to remember the pain and suffering that Jesus experienced on the cross. We admit that we need a Savior and that life without Jesus IS NOT WELL! I love how David expresses this in Psalm 51:

Have mercy on me, O God,
according to your unfailing love;
according to your great compassion
blot out my transgressions.

- ² Wash away all my iniquity
and cleanse me from my sin.
- ³ For I know my transgressions,
and my sin is always before me.
- ⁴ Against you, you only, have I sinned
and done what is evil in your sight;
so you are right in your verdict
and justified when you judge.
- ⁵ Surely I was sinful at birth,
sinful from the time my mother conceived me.
- ⁶ Yet you desired faithfulness even in the womb;
you taught me wisdom in that secret place.
- ⁷ Cleanse me with hyssop, and I will be clean;
wash me, and I will be whiter than snow.
- ⁸ Let me hear joy and gladness;
let the bones you have crushed rejoice.
- ⁹ Hide your face from my sins
and blot out all my iniquity.
- ¹⁰ Create in me a pure heart, O God,
and renew a steadfast spirit within me.
- ¹¹ Do not cast me from your presence
or take your Holy Spirit from me.
- ¹² Restore to me the joy of your salvation
and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me.

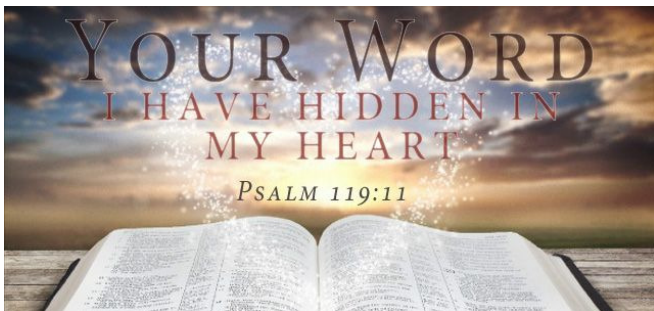
As we surrender and confess our deep need for Jesus, we can once again claim the victory of the cross and the empty grave over sin and death, over our fears and challenges. We can sing with our children, "It is well, it is well with my soul."

Upcoming Events -

- New Member Classes begin 4/26
- Women's Spring Tea 5/13
- VBS & SLHS Basketball Camp 7/24-28
- Hope's Fall Men's Retreat: 9/29-10/1
- Hope Women's Fall Retreat: 10/13-15

No, this isn't a place where they make generous rich people. If it were we would order several more! Webster defines phylactery as: "Either of two small square leather boxes containing slips inscribed with scriptural passages and traditionally worn on the left arm and on the head by observant Jewish men and especially adherents of Orthodox Judaism during morning weekday prayers." This practice came about through several scriptures, including Deuteronomy 6:6-9 *"These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. ⁷ Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. ⁸ Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. ⁹ Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates."*

When I was a kid my mother would type out different Psalms for our family to read together during devotions after dinner. When we could all recite the Psalm without looking at the paper she would move on to another Psalm. It was a great way of memorizing scripture.



Scripture is full of commands to store God's word inside us. Colossians 3:16 says *"Let the message of Christ **dwell among you richly** as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts."* Proverbs 7:1-3 says *"My son, keep my words and store up my commands within you. Keep my commands and you will live; guard my teachings as the apple of your eye. Bind them on your fingers; write them on the tablet of your heart."* David was a great example of loving God's word and meditating on it. Psalm 119:97 says *"Oh, how I love your law! I meditate on it all day long."* And again in verse 148 he says *"My eyes stay open throughout the watches of the night, that I may meditate on your promises. Look closely at the words of Joshua 1:8 *"Keep this Book of the Law always on your lips; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful."* Now look how David personalized that passage when he wrote Psalm 1:1-3 *"Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers; but his delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law he meditates day and**

night. He is like a tree planted by streams of water that yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither. In all that he does, he prospers."

In "Growing Strong in the Seasons of Life", Chuck Swindoll wrote, "I know of no other single practice in the Christian life more rewarding, practically speaking, than memorizing Scripture. . . . No other single exercise pays greater spiritual dividends! Your prayer life will be strengthened. Your witnessing will be sharper and much more effective. Your attitudes and outlook will begin to change. Your mind will become alert and observant. Your confidence and assurance will be enhanced. Your faith will be solidified." I would add that memorized scripture can help when you are comforting a hurting Christian brother or sister. It is the sword of the Spirit, which is a vital part of the armor of God in defending us against the powers of darkness. It is the power to sanctify us by transforming our world view and allowing us to know God's will as in Romans 12:2 *"Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect."* The word also keeps personal and church doctrine pure, and memorized scripture is imperative in an impromptu sharing of the Gospel.

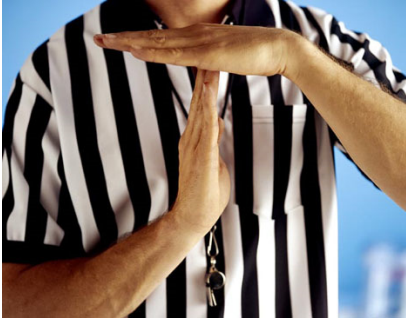
Some people say they can't memorize. We tend to remember what's important to us. Some people have tons of music lyrics memorized. Others can recite a comedian's act word for word. As we get older, certainly it's tougher to memorize. That is why it's so important for children to memorize scripture. (A lot of the Psalms tucked away inside my head are in the King James Version.) We can always meditate on passages of scripture. One way of memorizing is to release the stress and frustration of trying to memorize a passage, rather to write it on a notecard and read it over and over, meditating and praying on the truth of that scripture (John 17:17 *"Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth"*) Once you have digested the verse you will probably have it memorized.

Recently, in my mother's last days as her body and mind were failing it was wonderful to see my dad take her hand and recite the 23rd Psalm together. Even if her mind was having a tough time she would perk right up and recite those words of comfort with full attention-her eyebrows straining with concentration and her head perked up. Dad said it always energized her. It was beautiful that she and Dad would repeat the last word "forever" several times together. What a bonding moment they shared that would not have been possible if she hadn't memorized that scripture long ago. Thank you Jesus!

Marriage Moment - "Time Out"

by Loren and Bernadette Sommer

How to Effectively Use the Time Out



"Yeah, just go ahead and get them if they look OK", was the text reply from Bernadette. We had run across an ad on Craigslist for some ceramic glazed pots for the yard and had previously arranged to meet the people after Bernadette had gotten off

work. Now, however, they had changed their mind and wanted us to meet them earlier. Since the pots were a fraction of the price of new, we didn't want to let them slip away. "OK, Rachel and I will go pick them up." was my reply, and off we went. When we arrived at the house I found the pots as pictured in the ad - mostly blue along with the set of three green ones. There were a few more blue pots that hadn't been posted in the ad which were also for sale. Negotiating a package deal, I ended up with nine pots for the cost of what one of the large ones would be at a nursery. I felt good as I loaded up the pots and headed home—a job well done!

When Bernadette got home that afternoon, I could tell by that certain smile on her face that I had done something wrong, but what??

Female brain: "Wow, those green pots are horrible! That is a color unbelievably not found in nature! Sort of a dead celery/pea green! It's amazing how the color looked different in the ad. How could he not notice that and buy those? I just have to do stuff like this myself. Oh well, at least they were cheap!"

Male brain: (Sound of alarm going off) "Something's wrong! Quick! Rewind and scan the tape! Let's see, she hasn't even been in the house yet so, it must be the pots... But what? Those were the ones pictured in the ad - I'm sure of it. Some even had plants in them which we got for free and I got more of the blue ones. She mentioned something about the color of the green pots as she headed into the house, but those were the ones in the ad. I have no idea..."

I turned around and looked at the green pots again. From where I was standing the neighbor's house was behind the pots. Then I saw it. The green matched the color of the neighbor's house-which she, uh, strongly didn't like. Now one thing women need to understand is that most men see things in just a few colors- blue, green, red, yellow, and the other one. That is one of the reasons, according to marriage expert Gary Smalley, women should always decorate the house. So, for men to try to differentiate the difference in color between, say "fresh avocado" and "spring fern" for instance is like kryptonite to us. That's when I had that old "fork in the road" feeling...should I follow her into the house and confront, or just blow the whole thing off? Even though this was such a trivial thing, when you think you're going to get an "atta boy" and you get "the sigh" instead, it hurts.

After years of training I have learned the most important thing to do is not react. In other words, I call a personal "time out" (for yourself - not your wife, guys!) That is easier in a case like this, than when you come home to find the car damaged etc. In my mind, there are three basic types of time outs. It's important to note that in all three prayer and an honest submission to God, and the way he would have us love each other through grace, needs to be incorporated.

Type 1 Time Out: The personal time out. This is where you are already by yourself or easily can remove yourself without walking away from a conversation. This is the type I used here. In this case I ask myself if I am over-reacting (yes) and try to envision whatever caused the tension from her side. Spend a little time here - it can take awhile. This type of time out stops an emotional reaction in the heat of the moment that sounds like "this is exactly what you told me you wanted," or "what were you thinking?" or judgmental statements like "you're being ridiculous!"

Type 2 Time Out: These are used when you are confronting each other and the discussion is getting more and more heated, the issue is not being resolved and is getting worse, and you feel things are about to be said or done that will be regretted later. This time out is an important tool for couples that must be agreed on beforehand at a time of peace. That way you have given each other prior permission to ask for a break without making it seem like you are blowing them or the situation off. It's absolutely important to set a time to come back together and continue the discussion - usually between a couple hours to no more than two days later. Use this time out for prayer, pondering the situation from their point of view, and analyzing why you want your way so strongly. If each person does that - most matters are resolved pretty quickly when you pick up the conversation.

Type 3 Time Out: These are the most serious - what I call the "phone a friend" time out. This is reserved for an issue that the two of you just can't seem to resolve together, or is an issue like an addiction, an affair, or some other very serious behavior. In some case, you actually do phone a friend, which is why it is so important to build some trusted relationships, especially with Christian brothers and sisters. (Join or make a small group at the church!) In some cases, though, you need to hire a counselor or "life coach" as they call them today. Life's choices aren't always easy and some professional advice is sometimes the way to go. We've done it. One of the saddest things to us is to hear of a couple that is divorcing that didn't reach out to anyone. By the time we hear about it they are so far in contempt for each other that it's very difficult to rebuild the relationship.

So, the saga of the green pots is already a running joke for us. Bernadette is planning to put other pots in front of them, or finding just the perfect color combo of plants to highlight the colors. Me? If it doesn't work out with the green pots, I know who to give them to!

MEXICO MISSION JUNE 24-30

When we think about missions many different ideas, concepts or means come to mind. But the one mission of Jesus is for all people to confess him as Lord and Savior. For me, it is for all youth to have this moment where they know God is alive, active and breathing in their personal life. My desire is for them to never be the same once they experience this profound love. The kind of sacrificial love that only God the father could sacrifice for us, through his son, so that we could have everlasting life.

International mission trips to a third world country are a great way to pursue this. And we don't have to travel that far to experience it. Just over the boarder in Tijuana, Mexico, there is vast poverty. Poverty that I have never experienced. At the end of June we are taking a small group of high school youth on a journey to Tijuana to build a small house; however, we need your support. It costs \$5,300 to build a small house in Mexico and we need your help to defray this cost.

Please prayerfully consider donating to this cause which will make this trip more affordable for our youth, give them an opportunity to build a house for a family in Mexico, and change their life through service in Jesus' name.



St. Patty's Dinner & Fundraiser for Youth Mission Trip

SUNDAY, MARCH 12, 5:00 P.M.

Join us in the Fellowship Hall for a delicious St. Patty's Dinner complete with all the fixings! Support the Youth in building a small house in Mexico!



Human Care Ministries - House of Hope: Mary's Place

Elissa Sommer, Director of Human Care Ministry, esommer@hopeseattle.org

The following experience is shared by Kristen Okabayashi:

Several weeks throughout the year, Hope hosts a group of families who are homeless through Mary's Place. This is a massive endeavor, involving many different volunteers who serve the families in different ways including setting up sleeping and living areas, preparing and serving dinner, visiting and helping children with homework, and sleeping overnight. Many of us care tremendously for these families, and while I'm not always able to help out, I volunteer when I can.

During one of the weeks last year, I volunteered to be an evening helper, someone who visits with the mothers and helps attend to the children. Often there are younger kids to take care of, and so I enjoy holding babies or playing with the kids. This particular evening, one of the younger kids came over to see if I would help him with math. I LOVE math and so I was eager to help him with his homework. As soon as two of the older teens saw that I was familiar with math, they grabbed a chair right next to me and I spent probably an hour or two reviewing basic algebra concepts and going over their homework with them. We ended up staying up past bedtime because I could tell they desperately needed someone to spend more time with them, as they had a test. I asked the two of them what they would do if I were not there that night, and they said they would just do the best they could. The next day, I was thrilled to hear that their algebra tests went very well for them!

I was impressed by their commitment to learn, despite English being their second language, and despite the transitional housing that was their life. At one point one of the younger children asked for help filling out a field trip form, and he was puzzled by what to put down for his address. I had to step out for a moment and have a quick one minute cry by myself in the bathroom, and then returned to dive back into helping them. For me, this one evening made a huge impact on me, and I hope that others can be a blessing to these families as well.

-Kristen Okabayashi
Hope Lutheran School Principal



HOUSE OF HOPE - Providing Shelter for Families Tuesday, April 4 - Tuesday, April 11.

You are invited to help by:

- baking treats such as muffins, cookies
- giving food supplies or \$\$ for HCM to buy
- playing with kids
- rocking a baby
- sleeping overnight (in the Youth Room)
- many other ways to help a little or a lot!

Your entire family can participate! This is a great way to "meet & greet" with other people of Hope. But the most rewarding and fun part is getting to know these delightful moms and kids and being part of God's love.

Watch for sign up information coming soon!

For more information contact:

Pam Johnson, Mary Anne deVry, or the church office.



Financial Summary - January 2017

January 2017

General Fund Summary of Revenue & Expenditures

	Current Month	Year to Date	Budget	Favorable (Unfavorable) Variance
Offerings	\$ 49,632	\$ 440,835	\$ 396,442	\$ 44,393
School Income	121,802	843,575	844,606	(1,032)
Interest & Other	762	2,986	6,084	(3,098)
Total Income	172,196	1,287,396	1,247,133	40,263
Personnel Expense	120,440	795,758	839,675	43,917
Supplies Expense	14,221	117,869	101,273	(16,596)
Facilities Expenditures	8,023	125,487	105,350	(20,137)
Debt Service	17,694	123,858	123,859	1
Missions	-	4,500	3,500	(1,000)
Total Expense	160,379	1,167,472	1,173,657	6,185
Operating Surplus	\$ 11,817	\$ 119,924	\$ 73,475	\$ 46,448

General Fund Summary Balance Sheets

	6/30/2016	1/31/2017
Cash - General	\$ 913,004	\$ 1,017,642
School Receivables, Net & Prepaids	9,951	480,364
Total Assets	922,954	1,498,005
Designated Funds - Agency	3,538	12,742
Designated Funds - School	178,064	172,475
Designated Funds - Church	133,815	132,339
Unearned Tuition	117,953	572,114
Other Liabilities	3,345	2,171
Total Liabilities	436,714	891,842
Fund Balance	486,240	606,164
Total Liabilities & Fund Balance	\$ 922,954	\$ 1,498,005

Endowment Fund Balance Sheets

Long Term Endowment Assets	\$ 142,642	\$ 142,679
Fund Balance	\$ 142,642	\$ 142,679

Note: Hope's Endowment Fund contains funds that are permanently restricted according to the donor stipulations. The gifts were received between 1971 and 2006. The earnings from a majority of these funds are recorded in the general fund (in the church designated funds) and are to be used for financial assistance for those in pastoral training at one of the two LCMS seminaries or in training for professional church ministry. The funds are invested with the Lutheran Church Extension Fund. These funds are separate from the Hope Lutheran Foundation.

Note: Please contact Julia Doerr, Parish Administrator, with any questions regarding our financial status.

Lenten Soup Suppers - Wednesdays, March 1 - April 5, 6:00 p.m.

Join with other friends and families of Hope in the Fellowship Hall for this time to connect over supper! A variety of soups are provided by various Host groups, along with green salad and bread. We are grateful to these groups from Hope Church and School. Please show them your appreciation!

Stay for the Lenten Service at 7:00 p.m. featuring some of the best of traditional and contemporary worship hymns and songs, special elements, and inspiring messages to take us deeper into Jesus' amazing love.



Our Family at Work in Mexico

by Irene Gehring

Two Missionaries from Hope Lutheran Church:
Pastor Kaare Hagen, Friends of Literacy (FOL),
Diane Mebust, Ensenada Christian Ministries (ECM)

Our brother and a sister have been working hard for many years in Mexico. Each of them has served in two different areas and yet their work has been the same. They have shared God's love and His promises with very poor and needful people in Mexico. (Presently the minimum wage in Mexico is \$4 per day!)

Our brother, Kaare Hagen, continues to serve in the San Juanito and Sicachique areas of the state of Chihuahua. Presently Kaare is taking a break from the ministry staying here in Seattle with hopes of returning in the fall to continue teaching and preaching at the missions. The Christian School, Esperanza, (which means Hope), in La Tinaja, is a middle school (Grades 7, 8, & 9) serving 73 students, many of whom board at the school during the week. Friends of Literacy (FOL) provides funds for salary for four teachers and many other workers at the school, as well as food and school supplies and books. FOL also continues to support the primary government boarding school in Sicachique with food and support workers. The ability to board at the school during the week makes it possible for the students to attend. Kaare serves as pastor for the church in Tascate and teacher at Esperanza, as well as in many other ways as well.

Our sister, Diane Mebust, continues to serve Ensenada Christian Ministries from her home in Seattle. Having founded ECM more than 30 years ago, Diane, her family and local Mexican workers in Ensenada keep the ministry going and growing. This past year 388 students were blessed with school uniforms, which are required, as well as school supplies so that they can attend public school. (Most of the funds for uniforms came from Hope families.) Weekly Bible Studies for more than 200 children and 100 adults are led by local Christian leaders. Paradise, a farm worker settlement of Oaxacan Native Americans, is also served by ECM with food, clothing and weekly worship and Bible Study. The 150+ students in this settlement are first generation learners! This is a great joy for their parents who did not have the opportunity to attend school, and who are largely illiterate.

People of Hope Lutheran Church and Schools, Kaare and Diane are members of OUR CHURCH FAMILY. If our own children, brothers and sisters would be serving in this way, would we not be over-joyed and willing to support them in any way that we could? Certainly! Let's do this for Kaare and Diane. Support them with, first of all- but not only - with our daily prayer support. Encourage them with words of encouragement, notes of support, and financial support. With more of our Hope members supporting in any way in which they can, these two missions can keep going AND growing. And as the seed of the Word of God is sewn, God will make it grow in the hearts and souls of people. Thanks be to Him!



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Patrice Wolanin, Secretary church@hopeseattle.org

Sunday Schedule:

8:00 am Traditional Worship
9:30 am Education & Sunday School Hour
10:30 am Contemporary Worship

Phone: 206-937-9330
www.hopeseattle.org
E-mail: church@hopeseattle.org



Wednesday Services at 7:00 p.m. begin

Ash Wednesday, March 1 - April 5

**Come early for Soup, Salad, and Bread
Suppers at 6:00 p.m.
in the Fellowship Hall!**



HOLY WEEK

Services at 7:00 p.m.

April 13 - Maundy Thursday Service

April 14 - Good Friday Service



**Join us for Easter Worship Services on
Sunday, April 16**

**8:00 a.m. Traditional
9:30 a.m. Contemporary
11:00 a.m. Contemporary**