

## JANUARY NEWSLETTER 2022

Dear Church Family and Friends,

As this January 2022 newsletter is being prepared, I am in my final days before retiring and leaving Hope Community Presbyterian Church. As we will both begin the year 2022, we will not be in a pastor/church relationship any longer. Even though I made the decision to retire at this time, my heart still breaks at the thought of leaving this wonderful church family. It is not easy to say good-bye to those I have grown to love so much. You have definitely left your mark on my soul!

What I really want to say is thank you, thank you, thank you, thank you! I have appreciated this church family and friends so much. Gratitude wells up in my heart when I think about my time with you. I thought I would come here for a few years and help you out while you were without a pastor. Instead, I came here and you helped me out. After a year of a disabling brain injury, I wasn't sure what kind of preacher or pastor I would be. You welcomed me with open arms and helped me discover that I could still be a good pastor and preacher. It has been such a gift for me to end up my ministry with success rather than uncertainty. For three wonderful and challenging years we have navigated through 1 ½ normal years and 1 ½ Covid pandemic years.

Thank you so much for the lovely retirement party in celebration of my 41 years of ministry. Thank you also for the generous cash gift, the Advent blue prayer shawl, framed photos and Cane Lakes Candies! The final blessing was the "Kate Odyssey" video that Mason put together. It is on You Tube along with our church services.

In our last "Food for Thought" gathering we saw a 2004 interview with the Rev. William Sloan Coffin saying that he doesn't know what the future will be...but he knows WHO will be in the future. That is, God. God is in the beginning. God is in the present. God is in the future. For him, that is more than enough. It is true for us too.

The Presbytery of Northern Waters has reminded me that I must make it clear that our pastoral relationship is ending. That means I don't come back as pastor for church events. However, we are allowed to maintain our friendships. I'm moving back to my home at 14665 Aspen Dr., Crosslake, MN 56442. I am confident that our paths will cross again. Until then.....

Blessings to you all!

From the very blessed Rev. Kate Stangl

## Happy January Birthdays

- |                    |                      |
|--------------------|----------------------|
| 2- Katie Hadrava   | 8- Shirley Korpela   |
| 3- Bill Ewens      | 12- Georgia Day      |
| 4- Gordy Hoelscher | 20- Ruth Saranen     |
| 5- Julia DeVries   | 29- Togboh Schandorf |
| 6- Henry Pecchia   |                      |

### Session Highlights

- Session met with a couple representatives from the Presbytery of Northern Waters to get an introduction to the pastoral transition process. Respecting Presbytery separation policies with Pastor Kate was emphasized. The Committee on Ministry will select a moderator to facilitate our Session meetings.
- Session will begin discussing future goals for our pastoral leadership in January.

### Congregational Meeting Summary

Congratulations and thank you to all who were elected to serve our congregation!

- Class of 2024 Elders: Sue Stevens, Bob Prosen, Bruce "Doc" Stanaway
- Class of 2023 Elder: Carolyn Olsen
- Class of 2024 Deacons: Claude Erickson, Barb Mason, Susie Pearsall
- Nominating Committee 2022-2024: Jeff Kroll, Angie Cantlon, Sylvia Chad
- Pastor Nominating Committee: Judy Erickson, Gordy Hoelscher, Dawn Trexel-Kroll

### Annual Report

The Annual Report will be ready around the end of January. Deadline for committee reports will be January 18.

### A Party for Bill Ewens!

Can you believe that Bill Ewens will be 88 on Jan. 3!?! (Actually, he'll be 100, but he doesn't want to be reminded of that!) We are still trying to keep it somewhat a surprise, but we will be hosting a 100<sup>th</sup> birthday party for Bill on Monday, Jan. 3 at the Elks Lodge in Virginia from 12 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. Kunnari's will provide catering. A basket will be available for cards. Donations to help with hosting the party can be sent to the church.

## Poinsettia Memorials

- \* Judy & Claude Erickson in honor of loved ones and special friends
- \* Bill Ewens in memory of my dear wife, Katherine
- \* Paj, Bob, Stephanie Falkowski and Dick and Sue Johnson in memory of all our loved ones
- \* Diane Hakala in memory of David and loved ones
- \* Kay & Gordy Hoelscher in the spirit of Christmas and the fond memories of Pastor Kate
- \* Kathy Jacklen & Mel Moschler in honor of family past and present
- \* Bill Lesar in memory of Maxine and Jackson Lesar
- \* Marianne Loscheider in memory of Harry Digerness and Peter Loscheider
- \* Carolyn Olsen in memory of family members
- \* John & Susie Pearsall in memory of John Edward & Marje Pearsall, Dr. Robert & Anna Pearsall, and B.B. Charles
- \* Kate Stangl in honor of my church family at Hope Presbyterian
- \* Craig & Sue Stevens in memory of our parents: John & Dona Stevens; "Red" & Chrys-Meree Thorsen

### Sympathy

- To Marianne (Digerness) Loscheider on the loss of her husband, Peter Loscheider
- To Becky Peterson and her family on the loss of her husband, Dale Peterson

### Congratulations and Welcome!

- To confirmands, Mason & Milo Kroll, who were welcomed into membership on 12/19
- To Angie Cantlon, who was welcomed into membership by Affirmation of Faith

### Deacons News

- The Deacons are accepting donations for our community clothesline. Hats, mittens, etc.
- Monetary donations for the Little Free Pantry can be made out to **HCPC Deacons Fund**.

### Preaching Schedule

- Sun, Jan. 2 – Stephanie Falkowski
- Sun, Jan. 9 – Rev. Frank Davis
- Sun, Jan. 16 – Rev. Rich Blood, Communion
- Sun, Jan. 23 – Bill Ewens
- Sun, Jan. 30 – Sue Stevens
- Sun, Feb. 6 – Rev. Mary Pol
- Sun, Feb. 13 – Rev. Frank Davis, Communion

# CHRISTIAN EDUCATION & YOUTH NEWS



January 2022

## Elementary Sunday School

We will continue to do our abbreviated Sunday School by sending out Bible story lessons, puzzles, and crafts in the mail. These lessons will resume for second week of January.

Our first lesson of 2022 will be about Jesus' first miracle:

**Water to Wine**  
as found in John 2:1-11

In the story we learn to go to Jesus with all our problems and to obey Him even when we don't know what he will do because what he will do is turn the ordinary into something special and good.

January 17th and 24th we cover the story **Jesus Walks on Water** as found in Matthew 14:22-33

Here we hear about Jesus showing up to help his disciples through a storm, as he shows up in life's troubles for those who look for Him. With Peter, we learn that through Christ we can do things we never thought we could.



Bye, Kate

We miss you and love you and can't thank you enough for the wonderful, blessed three years you were here with us. Please do come back and visit often. And all beautiful wishes for your future.

## Souper Bowl of Caring February 13, 2022

Even though we won't be making Friendship Soup mixes this year, the need to

**"TACKLE HUNGER"**

remains strong. If you would like to donate to the Souper Bowl of Caring project we would welcome donations either mailed in or dropped off at the church. All contributions are used locally.



Whatever He tells you, do.  
- John 2:5

### Birthday Corner

Henry Pecchia - January 6



Sunday January 2  
Epiphany

Sunday January 9  
Baptism of Christ

Sunday January 16

Sunday January 23

Sunday January 30

No Sunday School

Water to Wine  
week 1  
John 2:1-11

Water to Wine  
week 2  
John 2:1-11

Jesus Walks on Water  
week 1  
Matthew 14:22-33

Jesus Walks on Water  
week 2  
Matthew 14:22-33