

JUNE NEWSLETTER 2022

Dear Hope Community Presbyterian Church Congregation,

It is my great joy to greet you and be given the opportunity to introduce myself as I hope to begin to serve as your new Minister of Word and Sacrament. More specifically, I want to share how grateful I am for God's faithfulness, grace and mercy and encourage you in the hope we all receive as a result of our belief in a triune God (Father, Son, Holy Spirit) as the Creator, Savior and Sustainer of our lives. It has been my experience is that God is faithful and never fails to provide guidance, wisdom, strength and courage when we ask. In fact, "Great is Thy Faithfulness" has been my favorite hymn for many years despite losses, divorces, miscarriages, disappointments, frustrations, financial concerns and health issues. A life that contains hope, healing and faith in Jesus Christ is a life worth living!

My faith journey began in Virginia, Minnesota at the First Presbyterian Church. My parents, the late Wally and Joyce Christianson, attended and participated in the church for many years until their respective deaths, with funerals officiated by Rev. Frank Davis and Rev. Nathan Williams.

Although I was baptized at six months of age at Concordia Lutheran Church in Superior, Wisconsin, most of my faith formation and significant Christian Education and that of my brother Charles (Chuck) Christianson took place at the First Presbyterian Church in Virginia, Minnesota including the nursery, Sunday School, Children's Church, the Children's Choir, church camp at Camp George E. Sigel, release time on Wednesday afternoons from Horace Mann Elementary School, Vacation Bible School, Christmas Programs, junior and senior youth groups, church potlucks and confirmation.

Additionally, as a young adult, I was able to teach Sunday School and was married in the church by Rev. James Remer to Bruce Anderson, a young man I met when I was a member of the First Presbyterian Church in Great Falls, Montana, who, unfortunately, died in an automobile accident when he was just 38 years old.

Through the years, I have been privileged to work and be professionally educated or to do both in a variety of locations. When I graduated from Roosevelt High School, I attended Mesabi Community College for two years, Oak Hills Bible Institute in Bemidji for one quarter and St. Olaf College in Northfield for one year. When I FINALLY decided on a career, I was trained as a Registered Dietitian at the College of St. Scholastica in Duluth, Minnesota and the University of Nebraska in Lincoln, Nebraska with subsequent employment in Montana, Kentucky, Indiana, Minnesota, NEW ZEALAND, Arizona and Alaska. Additionally, I chose to complete a master's degree in Public Health from the University of Minnesota and a master's degree in Divinity from Princeton Theological Seminary because I felt called to ministry in later life. While at Princeton, I had field education experiences at the Brick Presbyterian Church in New York City, Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church in St. George, Utah and Kodaikanal International School in Kodaikanal, Tamil Nadu, INDIA. Ordained as a Minister of Word and Sacrament in the Presbyterian Church USA, I most recently spent several years before I returned to Virginia, serving as the Assistant Pastor of Children and Youth Ministries at the primarily indigenous Inupiat Utqiagvik Presbyterian Church in Utqiagvik, Alaska along with the Senior pastor, Rev. Joseph R. Reid.

I enjoy walking, Nutritarian cooking, outdoor activity, watching PBS, listening to NPR, visiting my relatives in Superior, WI and Duluth, MN, performing and listening to sacred and choral music, volunteering with the Iona Community on the Isle of Iona in SCOTLAND and traveling to new places, particularly on cruise ships. I am delighted to be back in Virginia, Minnesota and look forward to all that Almighty God has planned for our time together.

Peace and blessings,
Rev. Wendy Christianson



Happy June Birthdays

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|----------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 – John Pearsall | 26 – Amanda Claesson |
| 2 – Jo Paulson | 27 – Lee Kesanen |
| 5 – Jordan Skalko | 29 – Stephanie Falkowski |
| 12 – Clyda Prosen | 29 – Pete Wilhelm |
| 13 – Roselle Parsons | |

Session Highlights

- Session decided to resume coffee fellowship following worship, except when COVID cases are at a high level in our community.
- Session voted to approve of the contract terms presented by the Pastoral Nominating Committee for Rev. Wendy Christianson to become our new part-time pastor.
- Session has scheduled a Congregational Meeting for Sun, June 12 following worship to vote on accepting Rev. Christianson as our new pastor.

COVID Levels High

Since COVID levels are again high in our community, please wear a mask. Session is following guidance from the St. Louis County Health Department for masks to be worn in public indoor places. It is a simple way to show love for others, especially the vulnerable in our community.

Congregational Meeting

Please join us for a Congregational Meeting on June 12 following worship. The purpose of the meeting will be to vote on accepting Rev. Wendy Christianson as our new part-time pastor. Rev. Frank Davis will moderate the meeting.

Pentecost June 5

Everyone is invited to wear red for Pentecost on June 5, or other flame-like colors. Also, join us following worship for cake to celebrate and thank our choir members and wonderful musician, Angie, for all their hard work throughout the year! Because of COVID, we will serve and eat the cake outside or you may take a piece with you.

Pastor Contract Terms

- Renewed annually
- Salary of \$31,000 per year (to be divided as \$19,000 salary and \$12,000 housing)
- Will average approximately 18 hours per week with 12 Sundays off per year
- 4 weeks vacation
- 2 weeks study leave; only 1 Sunday to be included
- Study expenses of \$1,000 per year
- Half of SECA payments paid directly to Rev. Christianson

In Sympathy

Sympathy to the family of Thomas Schmucker who passed away in December 2021.

Klara's Party

Everyone is invited to attend Klara DeVries' Graduation Party on Sunday, June 5 from 11:30 to 2:30 at the Olcott Park Greenhouse at 711 N. 9th Ave in Virginia. Congratulations Klara!

Land of the Loon

Join us outside church to watch the Land of the Loon parade the morning of June 18! The CE/Youth Committee will not be selling food and beverages this year, but we would still like to if we have enough volunteers. Contact the church if you are willing to volunteer. Proceeds will go toward our Little Free Pantry. Donations of cans of pop (any type), bottled water, and ice can be brought to the church before June 18.

Gethsemane Collection

Gethsemane Lutheran Church is collecting gently used bath towels and bras during the month of June to donate to two organizations. They are willing to pick up items, or you can bring them directly to Gethsemane or our church office.

Prayer Chain

Please contact the church if you are interested in being part of a prayer chain.

Geranium Memorials

- Angie Cantlon – In memory of family
- Judy & Claude Erickson – In memory of Judy’s sister Julene, newphews Luke Erickson and David Healy, and Rev. Connie Dorn
- Kathy Jacklen & Mel Moschler – In memory of Mel Sr. & Virginia Moschler, Helen & Don Jacklen
- Diane Hakala – In memory of David, Susan and Audrey
- Gordy & Kay Hoelscher – In memory of family
- Janet & Roger Koski – In memory of son-in-law Jeff
- Marianne Loscheider - In memory of Harry Digerness and Peter Loscheider
- Jack McKillop – In memory of brothers Tom & Hugh (Army WWII), family and friends
- Carolyn Olsen – In memory of Earl B. Olsen, Jr., U.S. Army-Korea
- Irene & Larry Salo – In memory of our parents Eugene & Dorothy Salo, Kirsti & Rainer Makirinne
- Sue & Craig Stevens – In memory of Craig’s dad (WWII), Sue’s grandfather (WWI)

Service Person Recognition

Kristin Clark	Air Force	1986-2008	Jim Jacklen	Navy	
Bobby Clark	Air Force	1986-2006	Lawrence Jaksch	Army	Korea
Jason Daniels	Marines	Iraq	Creighton Koski	MN Nat. Guard	
Kevin Daniels	Marines, Army, Nat. Guard	Iraq	Roger Koski	Navy	1961-1964
Dwight Day	Air Force	1981-1988	Shannon Kroenke	Nt. Guard	Active
William Day	Air Force	WWII	Bob Little	Army Ranger	WWII
Rev. Connie Dorn	Navy Chaplain		Gregory Ladd Mason	Air Force	Vietnam
Robert C. Ely	Army	1941-1946	Wesley McKay	Army	WWII
Robert H. Ely	Army	1917	Hugh McKillop	Army	WWII
Eugene Erickson	Army-POW	Korea	Jack McKillop	Air Force	1958-1964
George Ewens	Navy	WWII	Tom McKillop	Army	WWII
William Ewens	Air Force	1942-1946	Kenneth Moorefield	Marines	
Jacob Fahrendorff	Army Reserve		Melvin Moschler	Navy	1970-1989
C. A. Graham Jr	Army Sgt. MP	WWII	Earl B. Olsen, Jr	Army	Korea
James Healy	Air Force	Vietnam	Bob Prosen	Army	WWII
Jerry Healy	Army	Vietnam	Scott Schewe	Army	1960-1962
Jerry Healy Jr	Nat. Guard	Kuwait/Afghan./Sudan/ Iraq	John Smith	Navy	WWII
Judson Healy	Air Force	Vietnam	Orvel Smith	Navy	
Lee Hendricks	Army	WWII	Kenneth Smith	Army	
Tom Hewett	Air Force	1961-1965	Wesley Tjosaas	Army	WWII-killed
Gordy Hoelscher	Army	1969-1972	Fred Warren		WWII
Don Jacklen	Nat. Guard	Korea	Lemual Wilhelm	Army-Yankee	Civil War



JUNE 2022

Children's Sunday School

As you know by now we are done with the Sunday school packets. And you will soon be done with your regular school year. Congratulations!

We are looking forward to seeing you all back in church next fall for Sunday school.

Right now we are checking out some new or different Curriculum for the coming school year also. Remember we will need helpers for teaching Sunday school next fall.

Look in the mail for one more mailing with a craft for celebrating Father's Day.

Thank you, everyone, - enjoy your summer - swimming, fishing, biking, traveling or other summer activities!

Paj and your CE family

Land of the Loon 2022

There will be a Land of the Loon celebration and parade this year but we WILL NOT be having our annual popcorn, coffee, donut sale on the church steps. But the church steps are still a great place to watch the parade from.

Enjoy and stay safe and well.



Again Big Thanks!

I just want to thank everyone again for taking the time to work with the kids on their Bible readings, lessons and crafts. This would not have been possible to do without all the help from you. Also thanks to the kids for working on Sunday school from home this year. We hope it has been informative, fun and worthwhile. Next year back to face to face.

Birthday Corner
Jordan Skalko - June 5



Do You Remember?



Christian Education Calendar

Sunday June 5	Sunday June 12	Sunday June 19	Sunday June 26
Pentecost 	Trinity Sunday 	Father's Day and Land of the Loon 	Happy Sunday!