

MAY NEWSLETTER 2024

Dear Members and Friends of Hope Community Presbyterian Church,

It has been my privilege to be the pastor at Hope Community Presbyterian Church since June of 2022. It has been my joy to lead worship, preach, provide pastoral care, visit in hospitals, care centers, assisted living centers and homes, moderate Session meetings, attend Deacon, Support and Worship committee meetings, participate in Food for Thought, administer Communion, conduct baptisms, officiate at Celebration of Life and Graveside funeral services, lead a Bible Study, attend Presbytery gatherings, sing with the choir, develop messages for young disciples, write monthly newsletter articles, fill the little pantry, volunteer at Ruby's pantry monthly to help fill the little pantry, assist in developing services to celebrate special liturgical events like our hundredth anniversary celebration and Christmas eve, enjoy Lenten soup suppers, and most especially, to spend time with each of you. You have enriched my life; I am grateful for each of you; Your kindness and encouragement has been very meaningful to me.

As you may know, for the past several months I have been struggling with what seems to be a psychological as well as a physiological depression. Because I have been advised by medical mental health professionals to take some time to obtain the therapy needed to heal, I will not be renewing my annual contract with Hope Community Presbyterian Church. In fact, I will be terminating my current contract early and not be leading worship or preaching during the months of May or June. Each morning, I seek God's will for my day and for my life by reading Scripture. The two scripture passages I read this morning included:

Isaiah 48:17 that says, "This is what the LORD says – your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel: "I am the LORD your god, who teaches you what is best for you, who directs you in the way you should go."

and

Psalm 46:10 that says, "Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth."

I am not planning on leaving Virginia or the Range, so, when I am feeling better, I will be available to provide Pulpit Supply at Hope Community Presbyterian Church when it is needed.

Peace, blessings and unconditional love to you all,
Rev. Wendy

Sunday Lectionary Readings for May 2024

Date	Old Testament	Psalm	New Testament	Gospel
May 5, 2024	Genesis 35 9-15	Psalm 98	1 John 5: 1-6	John 15: 9-17
May 12, 2024	Jeremiah 10: 1-10a	Psalm 108	1 John 5: 9-13	John 17: 6-19
May 19, 2024	Ezekiel 37: 1-14	Psalm 104: 24-34	Acts 2: 1-21	John 15: 26-27 & 4b-15
May 26, 2024	Isaiah 6: 1-8	Psalm 29	Romans 8: 12-17	John 3: 1-17

Happy May Birthdays

1 – Priscilla White 23 – Eli Koski
3 – Barb Mason 23 – Trudi Mellak
4 – Jack McKillop 27 – Carolyn Olsen
12 – Sandy Breckon 29 – Paj Falkowski
15 – Susie Pearsall 31 – Steve Badanjak
21 – Patty Maki 31 – Veronica Kvale
23 – Stephen Day 31 – Amelia Moschler

Session Highlights

- There was no moderator for the April Session meeting, so no important decisions were officially made, but preliminary discussions were begun regarding what comes next after the end of Rev. Wendy's contract.
- Rev. Corey Larsen from the Ely Presbyterian church will moderate the May meeting and provide some guidance on what our options may be moving forward.
- Listing contract documents with Edina Realty will be signed by the chair of the Administrative Commission, Rev. Dianna Bell to move forward with selling the CE building.

Pulpit Supply

May 5 – Rev. Frank Davis, Communion
May 12 – Sue Stevens
May 19 – Stephanie Falkowski
May 26 – Pr. Ellen Taube
June 16 – Rev. Frank Davis, Communion

Welcome New Members!

Since we have had 3 people transfer their membership recently, we will formally welcome them during worship on May 5. Welcome Marjorie McPeak and Sandy & Don Breckon to our church family!

Church Directory

There have been quite a few changes to make to our church directory, so a new one will be printed in the next month or so. Please contact the church office if you know of changes that should be made.

Congregations Caring for the Earth

Congregations Caring for the Earth is hosting an event called 'Examining our Plastic Addiction' on Thurs. May 23 at 6pm at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Virginia. It will be an opportunity to learn about the impacts of our plastic use and discuss ways to address the problem. Sharon Chadwick will be the guest speaker. The next CCE meeting will be Mon. May 13, 10am in the basement of our church.

Memorial Sunday

May 26 will be Memorial Sunday. As in past years, you will have the opportunity to light candles in memory of loved ones. If you would like to purchase a geranium in honor of a loved one, please contact the church by May 22. Geraniums are \$5.00.

Church Office Hours

Church office hours will again be 12-3pm on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays.

Graduating Senior

Mason Kroll will be graduating from Rock Ridge High School on May 31. In the fall, he will be attending St. Cloud State University to major in Mass Communications. Everyone is invited to attend his graduation party which will take place on Saturday, June 1, 3-6pm in the fellowship hall of our church. We appreciate all of Mason's work as our technical director and custodian. We wish you best of luck with your future endeavors, Mason!



HOPE COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION & YOUTH NEWS

Thank you, Mom & Servicemen

MAY 2024

Children's Sunday School



May 5

"New Commandment"
John 15:9-17

Jesus tells his disciples "Love one another as I have loved you." Live the Cristian life as best as you can. Love lasts, it stays, it remains.

May 12 - Mother's Day

Jesus prays for us
John 17:6-19

Jesus continues to pray for his followers, to be strong and hopeful because of his suffering and resurrection.
"Blessed be the person who does not walk in the way of the wicked"



May 19

Pentecost
John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15

Jesus tells the disciples of the coming of the Holy Spirit. The Spirit was sent by Him -The Spirit comes from the Father. We must all stand before God with our own faith. "I believe".



May 26

Trinity Sunday
John 3:1-17

Jesus invites all of us to receive life as God's gift. We are all Children of God. Jesus tells Nicodemus that to really be led by God's Holy Spirit is like starting over.

LOVE - THANKFUL - BELIEVE - HOPEFUL

Remember Mom on Sunday, May 12th. Make sure she knows how much you love and appreciate her. Happy Mother's Day!



Christian Education Calendar

Sunday May 5	Sunday May 12	Sunday May 19	Sunday May 26	Monday May 27
John 15:9-17 Communion Sunday	John 17:6-19 Mother's Day	John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15 Pentecost	John 3:1-17 Trinity Sunday Memorial Sunday	Memorial Day

Congratulations to our graduate, Mason Kröll

Ages 3+

May 18, 2024 • John 15:28-27; 16:4-15

The Work of the Holy Spirit

Jesus told His disciples about the Holy Spirit.

Circle 12 of Jesus' disciples in this picture.



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