



The Hope Reporter

Hope Lutheran Church (321) 242-1610 vierawest.org

Sunday Worship 9 AM & 10:30 AM Christian Education 9:15 A.M.

A Monthly Newsletter

December 2010

Reminders

Christmas Poinsettias are available to be purchased in memory of a loved one or just as a special gift. Forms are at church and the cost is \$7.

Have you signed up to be on the prayer chain? You can at our website at vierawest.org

The building fund is a wonderful way to give a gift for the future mission and ministry of our church!

Are you a Thrivent member? If so, you could give FREE money to the Lutheran church of your choice! Find out more at Thrivent.com

The Awkward Moments of Life

Why in the world I ever did it in the first place, I will never know. But, there I was, 8:30 PM Thanksgiving night waiting in a line at a local retailer. Now, before you judge me too harshly, just read on!

I was fortunate to wait in line next to a group of individuals that I would like to describe as “different”. Older than me, several piercings and tattoos, and their mouths were unending cigarette machines. The store wouldn’t open until 10 PM, so I figured I’d better think of something quick.

I thought of what to say, how to say it and I tried to play out all the possible reactions they might have and my responses to their responses. As I was about to speak, one of them said, “I bet there are people that don’t want us to smoke in the line.” Sure enough, one stayed in line and rest went off into the parking lot to puff away. I had won a momentary reprieve but hadn’t said a word!

The store opened at 10 PM and I was out by 10:15, as I easily coasted to the two items on the list and checked out. On to the next place that was to open at midnight (I know, I know). There were far fewer people, but I got into line when right behind me came a lady. A smoking out of her brain lady. What were the odds?

Again, my mind went racing to figure out the right words. How do you tell a stranger that you want them to stop smoking? But again, I was at a loss. I was just about to speak (notice a pattern?) when she said, “Are you Pastor Moreno?”. Uhm, yeah. I was me in that line that night. She then told me all about her life, her grandchild, and much, much more. But she put out her cigarette before she did.

Why tell you all this? It isn’t a rant against smokers or holiday shopping. I think that this story is a good illustration of how we can (or cannot) witness at times. Some think it’s rude to speak to someone about smoking. Some think it’s rude to speak to someone about Christ. We KNOW smoking is harmful to the body. We KNOW life without Christ ends in eternal death. While Christmas can seem to be “warm & fuzzy” time, it is a vital opportunity to share the Gospel of Christ.

This Advent and Christmas season, I prayerfully request one gift from you: Share your faith with another this month and invite them to a relationship with Christ and His church. It may seem awkward, you may not know the words, they may even seem “different”, but none of that matters. What matters is that you are next to them and they need to hear about the reason for the season: Christ the Lord!

In Christ, Pastor Moreno



Holiday Worship Schedule

Dec. 1 Children's Program 6:30 PM

Dec. 8 Meal Fellowship 6:30 PM

Dec. 15 Choral Service 6:30 PM

Dec. 24 Christmas Eve 6:30 & 8 PM

All services will be held at Hope Lutheran

Angel Tree

Our annual Angel Tree is set up and ready to go. We have been given names from Children's Home Society this year. After choosing an angel, please sign your name on the red poster next to the child whose name you choose. You may choose to buy one or more of the wishes listed. Please use gift bags to put the gifts in, attach the angel to the bag and bring back to church by December 12th. Thank you for your giving hearts and may God bless your holiday season.

Outreach Corner

Thank you once again to your generosity. Hope dropped off 37 shoe boxes for Operation Christmas Child. Thank you Jennifer Decker, the youth group and also to the Wednesday Women's Small Group for getting the boxes ready for drop off.



Come out to the Light Fest at Wickham Park! Hope is helping with this community event on Friday, Dec. 10th from 5:45pm – 10pm. We, wearing our HOPE shirts, will take the entrance fee, collect donated canned goods, greet the visitors, and direct traffic. The Light Fest is sponsored by the Rotary Club and all proceeds benefit Habitat for Humanity of Brevard County Inc. and the Eau Gallie Rotary Club charities. For more information contact Rich Sutter or Dorothee Jones.

As 2010 comes to a close, we can reflect on how Hope has impacted our community and world. Through our mission monies we have supported Lutheran World Relief in Haiti, the SELC missions, Laura McLeran and Rebecca Schoenrock in China, Samaritan's Purse, and locally with Overlook, CITA, Project Hunger, Children's Home Society, and Haven for Children. The congregation provided hands on work with Habitat for Humanity as well as a few lunches. We were out in the community with an Easter Egg Hunt, Suntree Fall Festival, Vacation Bible School at Viera Regional Park, and the upcoming Light Fest. We hosted a well attended Video Game Night for students from the elementary schools. Christ on Campus also continues at three elementary campuses teaching the children about Jesus in the public schools. All of this is possible because of God's work through YOU! It takes many hands to make these events happen. Thank you for your generosity and your team work.

In His Service, Dorothee Jones

DECEMBER WORSHIP LEADERS

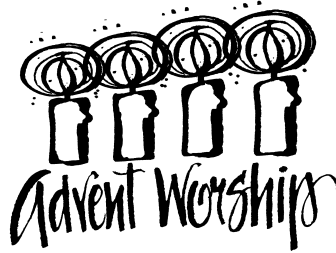
		Reader	Greeter	Sunday School (9:15)
Dec. 5	9 AM	D. Burrier	The Cowarts	Angie Cowart
	10:30	T. McLeran	Doris Balvanz	
Dec. 12	9 AM	A. Cowart	The Morrisons	Amanda Eckman
	10:30	J. Sass	Jenny Snyder	
Dec. 19	9 AM	A. Meranda	The Montagues	Raquel Moreno
	10:30	A. Wolf	Dianne Eubank	
Dec. 26	9 AM	J. Eckman	The Allisons	Raquel Moreno
	10:30	J. Stanley	The Starinskys	

December Birthdays

1 Chris Morrison
 4 Tracy Thompson
 7 Adam Meranda
 15 Tracey McLaughlin
 15 Marylin Stanley
 21 Susan Montague
 23 James Stanley
 23 Frederika Jones
 26 Linda McKee
 28 Roxanne Kerley
 29 Eric Havens
 30 Kyle Burrier
 31 Olivia Thompson

Anniversaries

Dec. 15, 2002 Stanleys
 Dec. 16, 1995 Morrisons
 Dec. 28, 1985 Kerleys



Advent Worship Services 6:30 PM Wednesdays

We will enjoy the Advent season this year with three midweek services:

Dec. 1 Childrens' Christmas Program

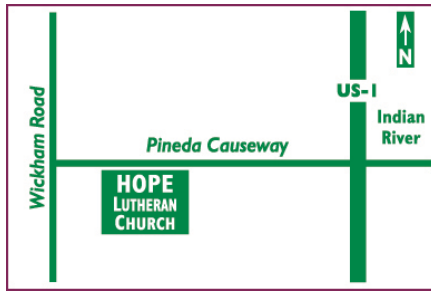
Our Advent season will be ushered in by our little ones! Join us Dec. 1st for our first midweek event of the season: The Childrens' Christmas Program! The theme this year is "God's Family Tree" and is filled with wonderful songs and scenes that unfold the story of Christmas.

Dec. 8 Meal Fellowship

Instead of being at the Moreno's this year, we'll meet at Hope! We have delicious main dishes prepared, but you are invited to bring side dishes, desserts, or whatever you'd like! The sign up is at church.

Dec. 15 Lessons & Carols

Our Advent season will conclude with a wonderful program of lessons and carols! This service is packed with Christmas classics as well as a new arrangements. Come and hear the salvation story in song!



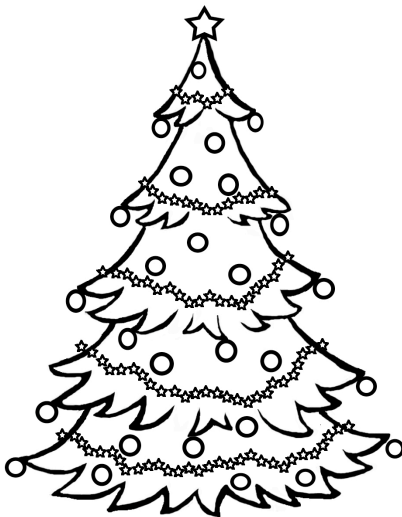
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Sunday Worship 9 AM & 10:30 AM Christian Education 9:15 AM

Important Dates: A First Look at December 2010



Dec. 1,8,15 Advent Worship Services

Dec. 1-3 Christ on Campus

Dec. 4 Toys for Tots Event

Dec. 10 Lightfest

Dec. 12 Youth Christmas Party

Dec. 24 Christmas Eve Worship Services

9 AM Worship w/ Children's church

**9:15 Adult Bible Study (in our other location at
the end of the plaza)**

10:30 Worship

December Calendar

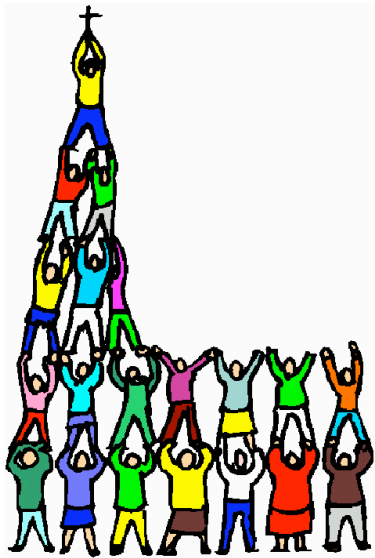
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 8AM & 7:30 PM AA Meeting 10 AM Women's Study 2:30 Christ on Campus Suntree Elementary 6:30 PM Advent Children's Program	2 2:30 Christ on Campus Quest Elementary	3 2:30 Christ on Campus Williams Elementary	4 10 AM Toys for Tots Christ on Campus Event
5 9 & 10:30 Worship 9:15 AM Ch. Ed. 5 PM Choir 6 PM Youth Night 7 PM AA Meeting	6	7 10 AM Water Song Bible Study 5:30 PM AA Meeting 6:30 PM Cub Scouts	8 8AM & 7:30 PM AA Meeting 10 AM Women's Study 6:30 PM Advent Meal Fellowship	9	10 9:30 AM Card Making 6 PM Wickham Park Light Festival Outreach Event	11
12 9 & 10:30 Worship 9:15 AM Ch. Ed. 5 PM Choir 6 PM Youth Christmas Party 7 PM AA Meeting	13	14 5:30 PM AA Meeting 6:30 PM Cub Scouts	15 8 AM & 7:30 PM AA Meeting 10 AM Women's Study 6:30 PM Advent Lessons & Carols	16	17 Pastor Moreno Navy Drill	18 Pastor Moreno Navy Drill
19 9 & 10:30 Worship 9:15 AM Ch. Ed. 5 PM Choir 6 PM Youth Night 7 PM AA Meeting	20	21 10 AM Water Song Bible Study 5:30 PM AA Meeting 6:30 PM Cub Scouts	22 8 AM & 7:30 PM AA Meeting	23	24 Christmas Eve Worship 6:30 & 8	25 Christmas Day Enjoy your family!
26 9 & 10:30 Worship 9:15 AM Ch. Ed. 5 PM Choir 7 PM AA Meeting	27	28 5:30 PM AA Meeting 6:30 PM Cub Scouts	29 8AM & 7:30 PM AA Meeting 10 AM Women's Study	30	31	

Congregational Meeting Dec. 5

Our congregation meets in December for a special meeting after the late service to propose the plan of ministry. This meeting will share our goals and our vision for our church. Please come out and participate, and we will also have a pot luck luncheon! We have some exciting news and plans that you don't want to miss out on, so plan on signing up in the narthex!

Sunday School

In December, our Sunday School will be more informal with a video, craft and a snack. The families worked hard on the Christmas program and with so many families traveling, we'll ratchet it down a little. The adult Sunday school will be taking a break and starting back up in January.



**Looking for a Way to Make a Special Gift this Year?
Consider making a special offering over and above
your regular giving towards the
Building Fund**

**We have topped \$30,000 this year towards the
purchase of a permanent home for our church!**

Senior Youth (grades 9 through 12)

Join us Sundays 6 - 8 PM. Every youth night will have Bible study & food included, and this month we'll be doing the following:

- Dec. 5** Youth Night @ Hope Dave
Ramsey Generation Change 6 PM
- Dec. 12** Youth Christmas party @ the
Minster Home 6 PM
- Dec. 19** Youth \$1 challenge @ the Avenues
in Viera 6 PM
- Dec. 26** No Youth Night! Enjoy your
family! :)

Junior Youth / Confirmation (grades 6 through 8)

We suspend regular confirmation classes during this Advent season and the families are strongly encouraged to worship on Wednesdays! Our schedule:

- Dec. 4** Toys for Tots Community Service
@ Regional Park 10 AM
- Dec. 12** Youth Christmas party @ the
Minster Home 6 PM