

The Hope Reporter

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

Sunday Worship 8 AM & 10:30 AM Christian Education 9:15 A.M.

A Monthly Newsletter

February 2009

Don't Swerve!

A couple of months ago my family and I were headed through Orlando. It was heavy traffic and it had just rained but the sun was still out. I took a corner way faster than I should have and I began fishtailing!

It was an odd moment in time, I could see the kids in the back looking around somewhat unconcerned. Then I looked at my wife and her eyes were as big as dinner plates. I heard no noise. I looked to my left and to my right, and even looked in the rearview mirror.

God really took care of us that day; even though it was heavy traffic, there was a huge gap all around us (maybe the other drivers were just great defensive drivers!) and I felt safe as long as I didn't flip the van! Then noise came back and my wife said, "Steer INTO the skid; don't swerve!". I had tried to fix the problem by over-compensating and basically twisting the steering wheel hard to the left, then the right. I wisely listened to my wife and within a second we were driving normally.

I am sure the whole incident took less than 10 seconds but it seemed like an eternity to me. It got my heart pumping and some interesting conversation from the passengers. Reflecting on it now, I wonder how much we do that in our lives. It seems like if we see a problem we try really hard to address it, sometimes over-compensating.

I commend you today to listen to the words of Hebrews 10:23-25 printed in the box of this page. Hold unswervingly to the hope we profess in the Name of Christ! I know that many are concerned about income and the ability to pay bills; I know many are concerned about time with loved ones; and about what the future holds.



Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful. And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds. Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

How do you avoid swerving away from the hope we have? By hearing about it regularly at worship, by living it every day in faith, by growing in God's Word as you study it; by spending time in prayer with our Lord.

If you are encountering problems in life, try these helpful tips:

- 1) **Don't over-react!** Don't be like me behind a steering wheel; take time to gather yourself and make a measured response.
- **2) Listen to those you respect and can trust.** I needed to hear a voice to not only give guidance but also to remember I wasn't alone.
- **3) Remember that God is with you!** In the midst of a problem, even a bad problem, God has promised to be your strength and stay. His strength is perfect in our weakness, so rely on the Lord to be your strength.

I am glad God kept me and the whole family safe on that sunny but slick day. Even though my oldest son raised both arms and said, "Let's do THAT again!" I have managed to avoid a repeat performance. But even if I have that problem again, it is comforting to know that God will be with me. And a chorus of voices!

In Christ: Pastor Moreno





Bible Studies in February

In February we will begin a wonderful Bible study on discipleship taught by Pastor Moreno. This class meets on Sunday mornings at 9:15 in the sanctuary. In addition we have three other classes continuing this month:

The Book of Galatians- Galatians is the most theologically significant of the Pauline epistles, and has been particularly influential in Protestant thought. Along with Romans, it highlights the concepts of sin & grace, law & gospel, and the gospel of Christ! This class taught by Pastor Moreno is

offered on Tuesdays at 7 PM on the campus of Faith "Viera" Lutheran (Jan. 20 through Feb. 24) and Thursdays at 7 PM at Hope Lutheran (Jan. 22 though Feb. 26). Please sign up for one as we strive for every person in the Word every day!

<u>Adult Information Class-</u> For those seeking to better learn what our church teaches and confesses, we offer this wonderful class as an atmosphere to ask questions and find answers! This class taught by Pastor Moreno is offered on Mondays at 7 PM at Hope Lutheran all February. The class meets Mondays Jan. 19 through Feb. 23. and upon completion of this class, you may elect to join the church.

LWML Feb. 14 at 9 AM

We had a GREAT turnout for our first meeting of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League, a.k.a. Lutheran Women in Mission or the LWML as it is loving known as. We had 12 women attending and we had the best time. We talked a lot, shared a lot and got to know each other better. At this next meeting we have some other things that we need to discuss and I hope that you will be able to meet with us again. Remember baby sitting is available. And there will be coffee and cookies as it will be Valentine's Day. We hope that you will join us again on Saturday, February 14th at 9 AM! - Joan Koch

FEBRUARY WORSHIP LEADERS

		Reader	Greeter	Sunday School
Feb. 1	(8 am)	S. Minster	The McLaughlins	R. Moreno & A. Eckman
	(10:30)	A. Wolf	The Nienass Family	
Feb. 8	(8 am)	E. Haven	The Morrisons	J. Decker & K. Howard
	(10:30)	M. Thompson	The Merandas	
Feb. 15	(8 am)	K. Allison	The Pauls	A. Cowart & T. Thompson
	(10:30)	D. Lawrence	The Stanleys	
Feb. 22	(8 am)	J. Eckman	The Cowarts	R. Moreno & A. Eckman
	(10:30)	B. Howard	The Serrates	



Confirmation

This month we meet February 4 & 11 at Faith Viera Lutheran 6:30 to 8 PM. This month Pastor Moreno is teaching on Baptism and all courses will be held on Wednesdays at Faith Viera. Junior youth night is on Feb. 18

Ladies Night Out

Ladies Night Out: Our next outing will be dinner and bowling. We will meet at 6:30 PM at a restaurant soon to be determined for dinner and move on to Brunswick Bowling Center on Wickham and Sarno at 9 PM for 2 hours of open bowling. Cost to bowl is \$11 per person and includes 2

hours of open bowling and shoes. This cost is based on 6 people to a lane. If there are not 6 people on a lane, the cost will rise to \$14 per person. Please use the sign up sheet at Hope to get your name on the list. You can sign up for dinner only, bowling only, or both. Sounds like a lot of fun. I'm looking forward to seeing you all there. - Wendy Havens

Family Movie Night

This month we'll be watching Madagascar 2: Escape from Africa on Friday Feb. 13 at 6:30 PM. As always, popcorn, drinks and pizza will be available, so come out and have a great time! Invite friends and neighbors and sign up!

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Offering Statements

Offering statements are available in the narthex with your name on them; if you don't see yours, please let pastor know.

This is for your tax purposes so you can "write off" your donations! Make sure you take a close look at them to make sure they are accurate, and if it isn't, please contact Judy at FVLC at 636-5504.

Senior Youth Group News

Youth Nights in February

Feb. 1- Super Bowl NO Youth Night

Feb. 8- Youth Night 6-8 PM

Feb. 15- Youth Night 6-8 PM

Feb. 22- Youth Night 6-8 PM

Senior Youth Gathering in Jacksonville FL March 6-9

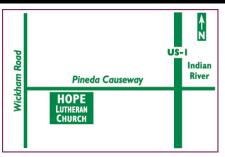
Cost is \$70 (church pays \$30 for you!)

Mission Trip News

Our Trip To Texas is SET!

Upcoming Fundraisers:
Dinner Theatre Feb. 21
Car Washes Mar. 28, Apr. 15 & Apr. 25
Rummage Sale Mar. 14
Remember play practices are at 5 PM Sundays





Hope Lutheran Church 2955 Pineda Causeway #122 Melbourne FL 32940

Phone (321)242-1610 Fax (321)636-2030

Website: Vierawest.org E-mail: rock_moreno@yahoo.com

Sunday Worship 8 AM & 10:30 AM Christian Education 9:15

Important Dates: A First Look at February 2009

Out 6:30 PM
Fri. Feb. 13 Movie Night 6:30 PM
Sat. Feb. 14 LWML 9 AM
Sat. Feb. 21 Youth Dinner 6 PM

Fri. Feb. 6 Ladies Night

Wed. Feb. 25 Ash Wednesday 7 PM

Lenten & Holy Week Worship Schedule
February 25 Ash Wednesday 7 PM @ Hope
March 4 Lent Midweek 7 PM @ FVLC
March 11 Lent Midweek 7 PM @ FVLC
March 18 Lent Midweek 7 PM @ FVLC
March 25 Lent Midweek 7 PM @ FVLC
April 1 Lent Midweek 7 PM @ FVLC
April 9 Maunday Thursday 7 PM @ Hope
April 10 Good Friday 7 PM @ Hope
April 12 Easter Sunday 8 & 10:30 @ Hope
9:15 Easter Egg Hunt

February Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 7 PM Adult Instruction	3 7 PM Men's Basketball @ Health First 7 PM Bible Study Galatians @ FVLC	4 6:30 PM Confirmation at FVLC 7:30 PM AA meeting	5 7 PM Galatians @ Hope 7 PM Men's Basketball @ Health First	6 9:30 AM Card Making 6:30 PM Ladies Night Out & Bowling	7 8 AM Cub Scouts Orlando Science Center
8 Worship 8 AM Ch. Ed 9:15 AM Worship 10:30 AM Youth Night 6 PM	9 6:30 PM Cub Scouts 7 PM Adult Instruction	10 6 PM Choir 7 PM Men's Basketball @ Health First 7 PM Bible Study Galatians @ FVLC	11 6:30 PM Confirmation at FVLC 7:30 PM AA meeting	12 7 PM Galatians @ Hope 7 PM Men's Basketball @ Health First	9:30 AM Card Making 6:30 PM Family Movie Night Madagascar 2	14 9 AM LWML @ Hope Valentines Day
15 Worship 8 AM Ch. Ed 9:15 AM Worship 10:30 AM Youth Night 6 PM	16 6:30 PM Cub Scouts 7 PM Adult Instruction	17 6 PM Choir 7 PM Men's Basketball @ Health First 7 PM Bible Study Galatians @ FVLC	18 6:30 PM Jr. Youth 7:30 PM AA meeting	7 PM Galatians @ Hope 7 PM Men's Basketball @ Health First	9:30 AM Card Making	21 6 PM Youth Fundraiser Dinner
22 Worship 8 AM Ch. Ed 9:15 AM Worship 10:30 AM Youth Night 6 PM	23 6:30 PM Cub Scouts 7 PM Adult Instruction	24 6 PM Choir 7 PM Men's Basketball @ Health First 7 PM Bible Study Galatians @ FVLC	25 6:30 PM Jr. Youth 7 PM Ash Wednesday Service 7:30 PM AA meeting	26 7 PM Galatians @ Hope 7 PM Men's Basketball @ Health First	9:30 AM Card Making	28
			FEBRUARY			

Suntree YMCA Bible Study Beginning March 4 at 10 AM



YMCA

We build strong kids, strong families, strong communities.



Lent & Easter Worship Schedule

We will have a full schedule of Lenten worship opportunities, please save this schedule for future reference. Notice we have midweek services March 4 through April 1 at Faith "Viera" Lutheran as the pastors will enjoy a "round robin" preaching schedule. Pastors Bielenberg, Moreno, Meyr, Mennicke, and Bowman will be participating.



February 25 Ash Wednesday 7 PM @ Hope Lutheran

March 4 Lent Midweek 7 PM @ FVLC

March 11 Lent Midweek 7 PM @ FVLC

March 18 Lent Midweek 7 PM @ FVLC

March 25 Lent Midweek 7 PM @ FVLC

April 1 Lent Midweek 7 PM @ FVLC

April 9 Maunday Thursday 7 PM @ Hope Lutheran

April 10 Good Friday 7 PM @ Hope Lutheran

April 12 Easter Sunday 8 & 10:30 @ Hope Lutheran

9:15 Easter Egg Hunt

New Member Sunday March 8

We will have our first new member class of 2009 in March! If you are interested in joining by transfer or instruction let pastor know.

Birthdays

- 1 Tom Decker
- 1 Jared Decker
- 5 Ethan Moreno
- 6 Larry Kerley
- 19 Brittany Howard
- 23 Jason Eckman

Things You Don't Want to Say on Valentines Date

- * I really don't like this restaurant that much, but I wanted to use this 2-for-1 coupon before it expired.
- * I used to come here all the time with my ex.
- * I never said you NEED a nose job. I just said it wouldn't hurt to consider it.
- * I really feel that I've grown in the past few years. Used to be I wouldn't have given someone like you a second look.
- * I know you said you don't eat anything with a face. But a good butcher will cut that part off for you if you ask.
- * It's been tough, but I've come to accept that most people I date just won't be as smart as I am.

Anniversaries

Feb. 14 Havens