



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

September 2009

Happy Anniversary, Hope Lutheran!

Life provides many moments for reflection and many moments to be in awe and wonder over the way in which God leads and guides us. Sometimes these moments are connected to key milestones such as birthdays and anniversaries. Hopefully such milestones aren't just another day (or year for that matter) but rather a time of praise and thanksgiving! We have had many such moments in our individual lives and I am happy to say we have had four years worth of these moments as a church family!

Do you remember...

- * Our first worship service & being locked out until 15 minutes before the service began?
- * Worship in the window-less small interior room with no AC down two long dark hallways?
- * The first home Bible study at the Neinass' home?
- * Our first baptism (Richard Brooks) and our first wedding (Andrew Jaunich)?
- * The meeting at Pastor's house where we named the church?
- * Our move to our current location at Pineda? Do you recall the hammers and paint?
- * Vacation Bible School at Viera Regional Park?
- * The confirmation of Logan McLaughlin, Parker McLaughlin and Kyle Burrier?
- * Pastor's incredibly odd sermon about monkeys? (Sadly I am serious!)

September 13th at 9:30 AM

Come celebrate with us as we mark our fourth anniversary with a special service! We will offer a staffed nursery (as we always do on regular Sundays from 9:15 to 11:30) during this special service and also enjoy in fellowship afterwards! Please join us for this wonderful occasion so that you can rejoice and also find out how YOU fit into the goals and vision of our church!

As thankful as I am for all these moments and more, I am thankful for you being here with us right now. It is a wonderful blessing that you have connected to Hope Lutheran and to our Lord in such a powerful way! I cannot help but continue to be in awe and wonder as we see what the Lord has for us in the years still to come!

In Christ;

Pastor Moreno



Small Groups: Round Two!

We are kicking off a new round of small groups! Here is how the time frame looks:

First week in Sept. - Pastor organizes small groups

Second week in Sept. - Pastor trains facilitators

Third week in Sept. - Small Group facilitator contacts group members and sets first meeting

Small Groups

At the time of this newsletter, the sign ups were still ongoing; however the groups will be posted on the bulletin board at the church as soon as they are set. Each small group is unique and will be meeting through Easter at which time we'll enjoy another shakeup! The goal of small groups is to connect to others and express your faith.

Hope Ladies Group

Ladies! Ladies Night Out is back! We will meet at The Havens 528 Tarr Ave Sw Palm Bay (Koch's old house) on Friday, September 18th at 7 PM to discuss upcoming events and what you would like to do in the coming months. After this first meeting, we will go back to the first Friday of each or every other month. Sign up at church or call me 368-6340 for directions. Thank you and hope to see you there! **Wendy Havens**

Adult Information Class Monday Nights at 7 PM

This month we are offering the latest Adult Information Class, a course that shares what we as Lutherans teach, believe and confess. The class runs Sept. 7 through Oct. 19 at 7 PM. Once the course is completed, individuals may choose to join Hope Lutheran and enjoy New Member Sunday on Oct. 25. Transfers are also invited to join us for the class on Oct. 19 as that will serve as the "What it means to join a church" session!



Hope Men's Group

On September 26 at 9 AM we'll meet for a Bible Breakfast, this time we'll meet at Perkins off the intersection of I-95 and Wickham Road. At this meeting we'll also explore other events (fishing, golfing, etc.) for us to enjoy together.

The Leaf Challenge!

This fall we are doing something a bit creative: At church we have a tree with many leaves. Each leaf has a challenge written on it to "do something" between Sept. 6 and Dec. 25! This challenge is intended to help you connect to God in a demonstrable way and for you to connect at church in a different way! Look at the leaves and pray about what God might have for YOU!

SEPTEMBER WORSHIP LEADERS

	Reader	Greeter	Sunday School (9:15)
Sept. 6 8 AM	L. McLaughlin	The Gills	R. Moreno & S. Montague
10:30	T. McLeran	The Montagues	A. Cowart & A. Eckman

Sept. 13 9:30 AM D. Lawrence The Kerleys No Sunday School

Sept. 20 8 AM	D. Burrier	The Cowarts	J. Decker & M. Lawrence
10:30	T. Decker	The Thompsons	
Sept. 27 8 AM	R. Kerley	The Lubes	R. Meranda & D. Abfalter
10:30	R. Moreno	The Starinskys	

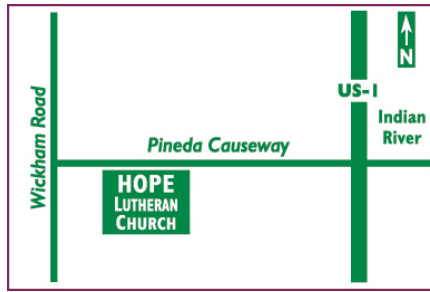


Pastor Moreno & The United States Navy

Oftentimes people wonder about what Pastor Moreno does with the Navy. Well, he has been in the Navy for over nine years serving as a chaplain. His responsibilities include going into Orlando (usually a Friday & Saturday) once a month and then also spending two weeks a year doing annual training (usually in the summer). This is a ministry that is quite different from church planting and serves as an extension of our outreach ministry here at Hope. Pastor Moreno currently holds the rank of Lieutenant and is eligible for promotion in January of 2011.

Children's Sunday School

We are always looking for new and creative ways to enhance the ministries that we offer and in particular we want to improve our Sunday School preparation. If you can help our program by helping one day a week to look at the lesson plan and get the needed materials prepared. We also could use help in the area of more volunteers on a Sunday morning. If you are interested in helping contribute to this vital ministry, please contact Pastor Moreno.



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 September 2009



Church Anniversary

September 13 at 9:30 AM

Sept. 7, 7 PM Adult Info
Sept. 12, 11 AM Night of Joy
Sept. 13, 4th Anniversary Worship
Service 9:30 AM

Sept. 18, 7 PM Ladies Group
Sept. 26, 9 AM Men's Bible Breakfast

September Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 5:30 PM AA 7 PM Cub Scouts	2 10 AM AA Meeting 6:30 PM Confirmation at FVLC 7:30 PM AA meeting	3 9 AM MOPS Melbourne 7 PM Bible Study: World Religions	4 9:30 AM Card Making	5
6 Worship 8 & 10:30 Ch. Ed 9:15 AM Choir 5 PM AA 7 PM	7 7 PM Hope Council 7 PM Adult Info	8 5:30 PM AA 7 PM Cub Scouts	9 10 AM AA Meeting 6:30 PM Confirmation at FVLC 7:30 PM AA meeting	10 7 PM Bible Study: World Religions	11 9:30 AM Card Making	12 11 AM to 1 AM Disney Night of Joy
13 Worship 9:30 AM Choir 5 PM AA 7 PM	14 7 PM FVLC Council 7 PM Adult Info	15 5:30 PM AA 7 PM Cub Scouts	16 10 AM AA Meeting 6:30 PM Confirmation at FVLC 7:30 PM AA meeting	17 7 PM Bible Study: Denominations	18 9:30 AM Card Making 7 PM Ladies Group at Havens Home Pastor Moreno Navy Drill	19 Pastor Moreno Navy Drill
20 Worship 8 & 10:30 Ch. Ed 9:15 AM Choir 5 PM Youth Night 6 PM AA 7 PM	21 7 PM Adult Info	22 5:30 PM AA 7 PM Cub Scouts	23 10 AM AA Meeting 6:30 PM Junior Youth at FVLC 7:30 PM AA meeting	24 7 PM Bible Study: Denominations	25 9:30 AM Card Making 5:30 PM Junior Youth at Grace	26 9 AM Bible Breakfast at Perkins
27 Worship 8 & 10:30 Ch. Ed 9:15 AM Choir 5 PM Youth Night 6 PM AA 7 PM	28 7 PM Adult Info	29 5:30 PM AA 7 PM Cub Scouts	30 6:30 PM Junior Youth at FVLC			



Junior & Senior Youth Ministry

Starting September 20, we will be offering two Sunday morning youth ministry opportunities, both at 9:15 AM:

Junior Youth (5th through 8th grade) Bible Study- Led by Scott Minster

Senior Youth (9th through 12th grade) Bible Study- Led by Tracey McLaughlin

Disney Night of Joy Sept. 12!

On September 12 (a Saturday) we are going to meet in the parking lot of Faith "Viera" Lutheran to head over to Disney! It'll be an all day event as we head to Hollywood Studios and enjoy the rides and attractions and in the evening many bands will play! This event is open to everyone! Cost is \$45.

Senior Youth Calendar (9th through 12 grade)

September 6 - Labor Day Weekend No Youth Night

September 12 - Night of Joy @ Disney

September 13 - No Youth Night due to Disney Night of Joy

September 20 - Senior Youth Bible Study - 9:15 AM

September 20 - Youth Night 6 to 8 PM @ FVLC - Sports: Soccer, basketball, and dodge ball

September 27 - Senior Youth Bible Study - 9:15 AM

September 27 - Youth Night 6 to 8 PM @ FVLC - Games: Active indoor and outdoor

September Birthdays

2 Felicity Meranda

5 Bo Howard

6 Glenda Terwilliger

6 Elijah Moreno

13 Parker McLaughlin

23 Ian McLaughlin

24 Janice Haeker

27 Emily Howard

29 Erik Wolf

30 Steve Cowart

Junior Youth Calendar (7th & 8th Grade)

5th & 6th Graders Invited to Italicized Events

September 2 - Confirmation 6:30 to 8 PM @ FVLC

September 9 - Confirmation 6:30 to 8 PM @ FVLC

September 16 - Confirmation 6:30 to 8 PM @ FVLC

September 20 - Junior Youth Bible Study - 9:15 AM

September 23 - Youth Night 6:30 to 8 PM @ FVLC

September 25 - Youth Night 6 to 8 PM @ Grace Merritt Island

Once a month we'll meet at Hope Friday at 5:30 PM and head to Grace Merritt Island for a great night out!

September 27 - Junior Youth Bible Study - 9:15 AM

September 30 - Youth Night 6:30 to 8 PM @ FVLC

September Anniversaries

Sept. 9, 1996 McKees

Sept. 28, 1992 Thompsons

Fourth Anniversary Service

This September 13th, we will have a great celebration as we mark our fourth anniversary! We will have a 40 minute non-communion worship service followed by a presentation about where we came from and where we are going. Included in this effort will be specific and measurable goals for our congregation! Here are some highlights of some of the activities planned:

*** ONE worship service at 9:30 AM (No 8 AM or 10:30 AM services)**

*** Open charter sign up - If you haven't had a chance to "sign on the dotted line" you can show your support and commitment**

*** Brunch Fellowship after the service (Hope provides the hot food; you can sign up to bring something that needs no heating)**

You may be surprised how "big" we really are as you see all of the other brothers and sisters in Christ at this event! You will want to come early and please do not miss this incredible opportunity to celebrate this wonderful milestone with us!

New Bible Study Thursday Nights

This September 17th, we will kick off a new Bible study series studying various Christian denominations. Here is a schedule of our 7 week class:

Sept. 17 - Methodist	Oct. 15 - Catholicism
Sept. 24 - Presbyterian	Oct. 22 - Pentecostalism
Oct. 1 - Baptist	Oct. 29 - Calvinism
Oct. 8 - Episcopal	



On the Lighter Side...

The sermon I think this mom will never forget ... this particular Sunday sermon ... 'Dear Lord,' the minister began, with arms extended toward heaven and a rapturous look on his upturned face. 'Without you, we are but dust...' He would have continued but at that moment my very obedient daughter who was listening leaned over to me and asked quite audibly in her shrill little four year old girl voice, 'Mom, what is butt dust?'

What is the difference between an extroverted and introverted Lutheran? Answer: An introverted Lutheran looks at HIS shoes when he talks to you. An extroverted one looks at YOUR shoes.

Our Lutheran Church Missouri Synod Responds to the ELCA

The two largest Lutheran church bodies in the United States are the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) with 4.8 million members and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) with 2.4 million members.

On Friday, Aug. 21, the Churchwide Assembly of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America voted to open the ministry of the ELCA to gay and lesbian pastors and other professional workers living in "committed relationships." In an earlier action, the assembly approved a resolution that commits the ELCA "to finding ways to allow congregations that choose to do so to recognize, support, and hold publicly accountable life-long, monogamous, same-gender relationships."

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod has repeatedly affirmed as its own position the historical understanding of the Christian church that the Bible condemns homosexual behavior as "intrinsically sinful." It is therefore contrary to the will of the Creator and constitutes sin against the commandments of God (Lev. 18:22, 24, 20:13; 1 Cor. 6:9-20; 1 Tim 1:9-10; and Rom. 1:26, 27).

Addressing the ELCA assembly on Saturday, Aug. 22, I responded to their aforementioned actions, stating: "The decisions by this assembly to grant non-celibate homosexual ministers the privilege of serving as rostered leaders in the ELCA and the affirmation of same-gender unions as pleasing to God will undoubtedly cause additional stress and disharmony within the ELCA. It will also negatively affect the relationships between our two church bodies. The current division between our churches threatens to become a chasm. This grieves my heart and the hearts of all in the ELCA, the LCMS, and other Christian church bodies throughout the world who do not see these decisions as compatible with the Word of God, or in agreement with the consensus of 2,000 years of Christian theological affirmation regarding what Scripture teaches about human sexuality. Simply stated, this matter is fundamentally related to significant differences in how we [our two church bodies] understand the authority of Holy Scripture and the interpretation of God's revealed and infallible Word."

Doctrinal decisions adopted already in 2001 led the LCMS, in sincere humility and love, to declare that we could no longer consider the ELCA "to be an orthodox Lutheran church body" (2001 Res 3-21A). Sadly, the decisions of this past week to ignore biblical teaching on human sexuality have reinforced that conclusion. We respect the desire to follow conscience in moral decision making, but conscience may not overrule the Word of God.

We recognize that many brothers and sisters within the ELCA, both clergy and lay, are committed to remaining faithful to the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, are committed to the authority of Holy Scripture, and strongly oppose these actions. To them we offer our assurance of loving encouragement together with our willingness to provide appropriate support in their efforts to remain faithful to the Word of God and the historic teachings of the Lutheran church and all other Christian churches for the past 2,000 years.

Dr. Gerald B. Kieschnick, President
The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

"Transforming lives through Christ's love ... in time ... for eternity ..." John 3:16-17