

# Heralds of Hope



Official Publication of Hope Lutheran Church; Cedar Hill, TX

November 2009

Volume XXIV Issue 11

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## What Happened in Minneapolis?

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Open

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Kathy Still - 972.293.8016  
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On the Sunday of the final day of the Churchwide Assembly I said that we can and must do two things at once. We must continue with a clear moral voice, holding fast to what the scriptures say about the sinfulness of homosexual sexual activity; and at the same time welcome all people into our midst, including those struggling with homosexual temptation, offering the gospel's forgiveness and transforming healing power for all people. We pray for wisdom to know how to do both of these at once. I also communicated that day that I would personally work to change the changed policy back to what it was before.

Shortly after this a pastor from our synod passed away from cancer. I went to the funeral. He had formerly been a member of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod in the 1970's when the LCMS equivalent to our Churchwide Assembly made some decisions at a meeting in New Orleans that brought about the dismissal of Dr. John Tietjen, the then president of LCMS Concordia Seminary in St. Louis. This dismissal brought about a mass walkout of faculty and students from the seminary. They then formed what they called a *Seminary in Exile* shortened to be called Semin-ex, or Seminex. It occurred to me on the day of the funeral that there is a time for Lutherans to leave Lutherans and be praised for it. I have therefore begun to ask the question when is it legitimately time for Lutherans to leave Lutherans? I went to Indianapolis September 25-26 to hear what other Lutherans were thinking and doing in response to the new change of policy regarding homosexual actions.

I will be sharing with the council and others what I heard and what was done at that meeting over a course of time. But let me simply give this analogy to begin this information sharing process. In this analogy I will compare the ELCA to an airline, and churches to planes.

In August of 2009 ELCA planes landed in Minneapolis for a Churchwide Assembly meeting. At that meeting policies were changed allowing for new standards regarding flight-crews and establishing a new takeoff direction to the east where it used to be to the west.

Our Mission Statement: To discover and respond to our call

**TO KNOW JESUS TO FOLLOW JESUS TO SERVE JESUS**  
in unique ministries.

# Looking

# Ahead

(continued from pg .1...)

Having made these changes a number of people began to transfer from the ELCA planes to different airlines. (For instance, Community Church of Joy in Phoenix, Az., one of the ELCA's largest congregations, voted to leave the ELCA on the very last day of the Churchwide Assembly.) Some people transferred to other Airlines. Some rented cars and drove away.

Many sat on board and tried to digest the way the ELCA airline just changed. One of the responses to the change came in Indianapolis, September 26th. At that time a group called Lutheran CORE (Coalition for Renewal) began taxiing out to the runway in the same pattern that the ELCA airline is taxiing out to the runway. It was understood that depending on what happens in the next year or so Lutheran CORE may break taxiing pattern and turn to a different takeoff runway than the ELCA airline. Or, Lutheran CORE may go out to the same runway as fellow ELCA planes and takeoff, though to the west instead of the east.

Over this next period of time I commit myself to paragraph one. And I will be in prayerful discernment regarding the rest of what I shared. I encourage you to do the same. **Pastor Joel**



## Health Screening

Monday, November 2

HealthYes Will be hosting health screening at Hope Lutheran Church on Monday, November 2. HealthYes is a mobile health screening service that uses ultrasound testing to determine people's risk for heart disease, stroke, osteoporosis, and more. They recommend their screening services to those 40 years of age and older. Discounts will be available for members of Hope Lutheran Church. More information can be found on the table in the Narthex. Go to [www.healthyes.com](http://www.healthyes.com) to learn more.

INVESTING IN THE KINGDOM:

**Actual YTD Balance** (Deficit): (\$12,470)

Budgeted YTD Deficit: (\$4,585)

*Offerings minus Expenses...Overall Balance*

*for operations: \$8,463 (8/31/09)*

**Newsletter Articles Deadline ...  
for the next 3 months. The dates are:**

**November 16**

**December 14**

**January 13**

Please email your articles as an

**attachment** to:

hopesecretary@sbcglobal.net



# HOPE LUTHERAN ANNUAL FAMILY THANKSGIVING DINNER

Mark your calendar for our annual Family  
Thanksgiving Dinner November 22  
following the 10:30 service.

We will provide:

Turkey  
Dressing  
Gravy  
Drinks

Please help us by bringing 2 of the following:

Vegetable  
Salad  
Dessert

We will need 5 people to prepare a turkey and/or  
dressing, provide and set up table decorations,  
and a clean-up crew since we are using the  
china and silverware.

There will be a sign up sheet on the counter by  
the coffee pot.

Questions???

Contact Judy Knoll  
at 972-642-5355 (home)  
or 214-542-5330 (cell)  
or [judy.knoll@gpisd.org](mailto:judy.knoll@gpisd.org)



## Memorials

In Memory of Clyde Newman

James and Barbara Carlson  
Michael and Kathleen Purkiss  
Richard and Constano Rome  
Wayne and Paula Wooley



## Storage Space Needed

Do you have available space in a storage shed,  
storage unit, or in your garage? We are looking for  
someone who might be willing to store our port-  
able outdoor stage when it is not in use. The di-  
mensions of the stage when stacked is 8' x 2' x 4'.  
Please contact Matt Cleaver if you can help us.  
(Thanks to John Navarro for building this for us)

# Coming

# Events

## Advent Decorating—November 29

Do you enjoy decorating? Do you appreciate our Christmas tree, wreaths, and other decorations that are put out every year during Advent? Then we need you to help us decorate the church for Advent this year. A few of the tasks that we are looking for help with include:

- Putting up and decorating the Christmas Tree
- Hanging wreaths on the front doors of the building
- Putting out garland or other decorations in the narthex or sanctuary
- Other ideas that you may have

The first Sunday in Advent is November 29, which would be the day that most decorating takes place. If this sounds like a good way for you to use your gifts and interests, contact Matt Cleaver.



**Hanging  
of the  
Greens**

## Choir News

On Sunday, December 13,  
we will be presenting a  
Christmas Cantata and Play called  
**CELEBRATE HIS BIRTH**



We will be practicing the music on  
Wednesday evenings in  
November and December  
7:30-8:30

and the music and play on  
Sunday, November 29<sup>th</sup>  
and  
Sunday December 6<sup>th</sup>  
After the late service  
(lunch will be served!)



**If** you are interested in singing in the choir, but  
are not able to give a full year commitment  
This is the perfect time for you to come and sing.

We need help in other areas, too!!!  
Set construction (nothing fancy!!)  
Costume cleaning and pressing  
Lighting

Questions???  
Contact :  
Cathy Peterson  
Steve Hawkins  
Judy Knoll

## Straus Road Closed



Straus Road is closed at FM 1382, which will affect some of your normal routes to the church. **The City of Cedar Hill has told us it will be closed through December.** Below the alternate route that you will need to take to get to the church. For a map, go to [www.hopelutheran.net/about/location](http://www.hopelutheran.net/about/location).

1. From FM 1382, turn north at the North Clark Road stoplight (which is west of the Straus & 1382 intersection on 1382).
2. Turn right at Old Straus Rd. There is no stop light or stop sign at this intersection. Follow Old Straus Rd directly to the church.

### **Pastor Wendy's Book Custom Designed Life Worthy of the Call**

Great gifts for the person in transition... high school, college, mid-life restlessness, life changing events, pre-retirees and post-retirees. Whether you are young or old, God will forever be calling you! In her absence on Sun AM, copies may be obtained from Carolee Juergens or Tammy Hill for \$14 (includes sales tax). Discover, discern and "incorporate" God's unique call into all aspects of your life. Scriptural guidance and wisdom is offered for understanding your unique individuality, recognizing God's guiding hand, and even grappling with two of life's more practical, yet significant questions: *Who am I? What am I to do?* The book was released nationally on Sept. 1 (Amazon, etc). Proceeds from the book will support the non-profit teaching mission, *Call Incorporated*.

### **Custom Designed Seminar**

**January 22-23, 2010**

**Friday evening (6-9:30 PM... Beginning with Dinner)**

**Saturday (9AM-4 PM)**

Discover, discern and "incorporate" God's unique call into all aspects of your life. Guidance and wisdom will be presented for understanding your unique individuality, recognizing God's guiding hand, and even grappling with two of life's more practical, yet significant questions: Who am I? What am I to do? You (everyone!) are custom designed and custom called for a custom designed life! High school youth and adults are invited, especially those in transition! The seminar will be fun, energetic and comfortable. The presenters will be Pastor Wendy and Steve Harr. Cost: \$35 (includes all materials and meals). Co-sponsored by Hope Lutheran Church and the non-profit teaching mission, *Call Incorporated* ([www.callinc.org](http://www.callinc.org)). Questions, RSVP or pre-register with Pastor Wendy (972-723-9688).

**Game**

**Night**

**Is**

**November 21**

**6:00 pm**

**(Join us for**

**Potluck Supper  
and Cards).**



**It's Not Like it was Before**  
***This Time it is about Money***  
*Come Join in a Conversation about Leasing Space*  
**November 15th at 9:15 AM**

Several years ago Pastor Cooper came to us to ask if their church could lease space at our church. Council entertained the thought for a while before Pastor Cooper himself dropped the idea. About a year later Pastor Cooper came back and reintroduced the idea of leasing. Again we entertained the idea. As we considered the first response without regard to money, we entertained the second request. Only this time our coming year's finances were predictably tougher than before. We could see how it would be helpful to us financially. Because we had entertained the first request without concern for our finances we therefore rightly said "it wasn't about the money." The request ended up not passing the congregational vote. The idea was behind us.

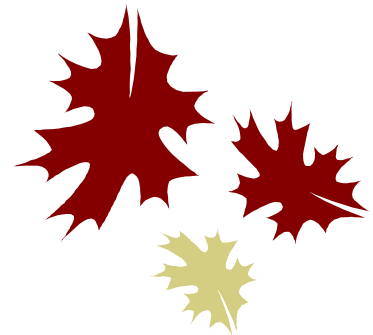
**This time it is about the money.** We have an opportunity to lease space again. This time it is a different church, Thanksgiving Tabernacle, pastored by Rev. Edsel Duréus. (Pastor Duréus has participated in Thanksgiving services with our church before. Some of you may remember him from those evenings.)

The council has not made any decisions regarding the possible lease situation except to say, "Let's bring this before the congregation and have a conversation about it." If our financial lot had not changed we wouldn't have even entertained this so soon after the prior vote. But because we are in a much tighter financial situation the council decided to go ahead bring it before the church to hear your thoughts. So please come and find out about the situation and in turn share your thoughts. We'll see you **November 15th during Sunday School hour in the sanctuary.**  
*Pastor Joel*

**What is Going On with the Lutheran Church Around the USA?**

A Forum is planned to talk about what has been happening in the church since the Churchwide Assembly sexuality decisions.

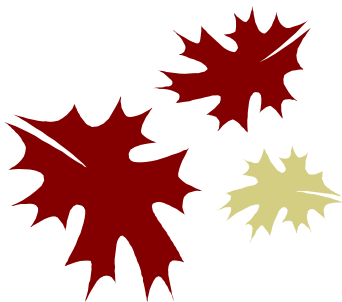
The Forum will be November 22nd during the Sunday School hour.



**Thanksgiving Eve Service at Hope**

**Thanksgiving** will be celebrated this year **at Hope on November 25th at 7:30 PM.** We will again join with the United Methodist Church of Cedar Hill and Thanksgiving Tabernacle.

Please note the date. In the past few years we have had it on Tuesday instead of Wednesday. **This year it will be on Wednesday.**



## *Homebound Residents*

Janet Dinwiddie  
Park Manor ~ Rm. 405B  
207 E. Parkerville Road  
DeSoto, TX 75115-6251  
972.223.6016

George & Jackie Milyo  
2600 Parkview Lane #138  
Bedford, TX 76002-7989

**In the hospital ~**  
No one

**Recovering at home ~**  
David Still ~ accident  
2445 Waterstone Drive  
Cedar Hill, Texas 75104-2402  
972.293.8016  
dvdstill@sbcglobal.net

Our homebound members enjoy visits, calls and cards. Please take a few minutes out for those who can no longer get out and about.



**These members appreciate your prayers and words of encouragement due to health challenges.**

Marv & Fran Christensen  
812 Vince Lane  
DeSoto, TX 75115-4410  
972.223.5172  
marvinchristensen@att.net  
FCintx@att.net

Norman Emmons ~ Recovering from  
Back Surgery  
2210 Stafford Drive  
Arlington, Texas 76012-4141  
817.461.4540  
n-emmons@sbcglobal.net




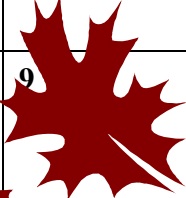

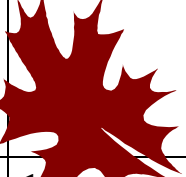





Hazel Linder  
2718 Gibbs Williams Road  
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214.337-1065  
leroylinder@juno.com

Susan Rushing  
832 Hickory Knob Circle  
Cedar Hill, TX 75104-7804  
972.291.1760  
smzrushing@aol.com

Dick and Joanna Snow  
21 Devon Court  
Mansfield, TX 76063-4890  
mjsnomom@aol.com

*Words of  
Encouragement*

# November 2009 Calendar

1 	2 HealthYes Screening 8:00 am - 5:00 pm	3	4	5	6	7
8  	9 	10 Faith Circle 7:30 pm	11	12	13 	14 
15 Conversation about Lease 9:15 am	16 <i>Heralds Deadline</i> 10:00 am	17	18	19	20	21 Game Night 6 PM
22 See box below 	23	24	25 Thanksgiving Service 7:30 pm ** 	26 Thanksgiving Day  	27	28
29 1st Sunday of Advent Christmas Cantata at 12 Noon	30  <i>Advent</i>					 <i>Thanksgiving</i>

## Wednesday Night schedule ~ November 8-18

### Sunday Schedule:

8:00 & 10:30 am Worship  
9:15 am Sunday School

5:45 PM – Pizza (\$3/person)  
6:00-7:15 – Confirmation (7-8th grade)  
6:15-7:00 – Silent Worship  
6:30-7:30 – Chimes choir practice (all ages)  
7:15-8:30 – Timothy Project  
7:30-8:30 – Reconfirmed (high school)  
6:15-7:15 – Adult Praise Team  
7:30-8:00 – Women's Group  
8:00-8:35 – Mixed Adult Group (Choir)

\*\* November 25  
7:30 pm Thanksgiving Services  
***No Other Activities***

November 22

Collection of Thank Offering Boxes  
~ 8:00 & 10:30 am services

Forum on sexuality ~ 9:15 am

Church Thanksgiving Dinner ~  
12 Noon



# Hope Women's News



Ladies of Hope,

Carol Newman and Hazel Linder love the new silver napkin rings. But more than that, they love you ladies of Hope Lutheran for presenting them in their honor at this year's tea. What a joy it is to work with you for the Glory of God.

**The Women of Hope will take their Annual Thank Offering on Sunday, November 22.**



November's Faith Circle will be Tuesday, November 10th at 7:30 pm. Come and join us.

## November Anniversaries

Steve & Kathy Harr	11/06
Norman & Lynn Emmons	11/10
David & Holly Bolduc	11/11
Mike & Kathy Purkiss	11/12
George & Jackie Milyo	11/20
Joe & Brenda Kyle	11/23
Clay & Barbara York	11/24
Keith & Diane Pleasants	11/30

## November Birthdays

Megan Johnson	11/01
Marcia Drane	11/02
Kathy Longstreet	11/02
Alex Still	11/03
Clay York	11/04
Karen Driscoll	11/05
Gene Janke	11/06
John Navarro	11/07
Wayne Wooley	11/07
Steve Hawkins	11/08
Scott Jones	11/08
Megan Standerfer	11/09
Jackie Milyo	11/10
Scott Rushbrook	11/13
Timothy Gaultney	11/18
Jack Trousdale	11/18
Marie Jones	11/19
Bill Knoll	11/19
Michelle Clark	11/24
Carolee Juergens	11/24
Wendy Berthelsen	11/26
Dustin Slayton	11/26
Jeffery Wooley	11/28

## LADIES CHRISTMAS BRUNCH



The annual Christmas Brunch for the ladies of Hope will be on Saturday, December 12 from 11 AM until 1PM at Cresthaven Village Center, behind Hillcrest Baptist Church. A map and entry code will be provided. The brunch will be catered by Judy Knoll, and women may bring finger desserts. Entertainment will be provided and there will be a silent auction. If you plan to attend, please sign up in the narthex.

If your Anniversary or Birth Date does not appear in the Heralds will you please put a sheet with you name(s) and information in the church secretary's mail box or email it to Karine at [hopesecretary@sbcglobal.net](mailto:hopesecretary@sbcglobal.net)



# November 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Sunday School			Wednesday Schedule			
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Sunday School Youth Praise Team Practice ..... Inner Mission			Wednesday Schedule			Camp Out
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
No Sunday School ..... ↑			Wednesday Schedule			
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
Sunday School			No Wednesday Activities	Thanksgiving		Youth Praise Team Practice— Tentative
29	30					
Youth Praise Team Practice ..... Youth-led worship ..... Sunday School Christmas Pro- gram Practice						

Hope Lutheran Church  
917 North Straus Road  
Cedar Hill, TX 75104

Zach Poultier  
Youth Ministry Intern  
PoultierZym@gmail.com  
o: 972-291-7902  
c: 479-212-0187

Matt Cleaver  
Director of Youth and Ministry Development  
matt.cleaver.hope@gmail.com  
o: 972-291-7902  
c: 972-754-7353

- Sundays, 9:00 AM—Good Sex Sunday School. During the fall we will be talking with our 7th-12th graders about sex and relationships. This is a very important class that could have a meaningful effect on our teenagers. Find out more at: <http://hopeyouthministry.com/good-sex/>
- Wednesdays, 5:45-8:30 PM—Wednesday Night Schedule:
  - ◊ 5:45 PM—Pizza Dinner (\$3/person)
  - ◊ 6:00-7:15—Confirmation (7-8th Grade)
  - ◊ 6:30-7:30—Chimes Choir Practice
  - ◊ 7:30-8:30—Reconfirmed (High School)
- 8 ~ Sunday, 12-2 PM—Youth Praise Team Practice. Lunch Served.
- 8 ~ Sunday, 6-8 PM—Inner Mission at the Bengtson's house. This semester we will use Inner Mission to develop spiritual formation groups around the practice of prayer.
- 13-15 ~ Friday-Sunday—Camp Out at Candy Moltz' house. Cost is \$10 (due Nov 8). Meet at Candy's house at 7:30 PM Friday night. We will all go to the 10:30 AM worship service on Sunday. Bring a sleeping bag and any camping gear you have. We will provide tents.
- 15 ~ Sunday—No youth Sunday school due to the Camp Out.
- 22 ~ Sunday, 12-2 PM—Youth Praise Team Practice. Lunch Served.
- 28 ~ Saturday, 10AM-Noon—Youth Praise Team Practice (Tentative). Check bulletin and website for updated calendar.
- 29 ~ Sunday, 8:00 AM & 10:30—Youth-led Worship services.
- 29 ~ Sunday, Noon—Christmas Program Practice. The church will be putting on a Christmas program Sunday, December 13. We need help from all ages. Lunch served.

## Growing Your Faith: *Call to Know, Follow & Serve Jesus*

Adult, Youth & Kids Sunday School: **9:15 AM**

### **Adult Sunday School**

- **Ending November 8—Running with Giants**, led by Mark Hill. This Sunday school class will examine what Old Testament heroes want you to know about life and leadership.
- **Ending November 8—*The Shack***. Pastor Joel will lead a class during Sunday School hour on *The Shack* by William P. Young. He encourages those who want to read it and discuss it to purchase it and read it ahead of time. *The Shack* is a novel about suffering and redemption, told in a very creative way. “At times it will seem very unorthodox to you,” says Pastor Joel. “But keep reading. It is very thought provoking and well worth the read.”
- **November 15**—Thanksgiving Tabernacle open forum discussion.
- **November 22**—“What Happened in Minneapolis?” Pastor Joel will share his thoughts about the effects of the decision at this year’s Churchwide Assembly, our church’s position, and what he sees going forward.
- **Panera Women’s Book Study will not meet November 15 or 22**. They will resume their normal meetings on November 29, Sunday’s at 9:15 am at the Panera Bread restaurant in Cedar Hill. Led by Janice Wessa, this semester’s book for study is Pastor Wendy’s new book, *Custom-Designed: A Life Worthy of the Call*. All women are welcome.

### **Other Spiritual Growth Opportunities**

- **Timothy Project Bible Study**, Wednesday evenings, 7:15-8:30 PM. Taught by Pastor Wendy. Over a three year period of time, you will:
  - You will read through the entire Bible and study portions as you go.
  - Learn to hear God personally speak to you through his living, active word. Incredible!
  - Learn various spiritual disciplines so that you may know Jesus as a profound friend
  - Learn to pray
  - Learn to study the Bible in a faithful in-depth manner

No Bible knowledge or experience needed. Participate as you desire. We will study the early part of the Old Testament this year as well as parts of the New Testament. Newcomers welcome!

- **Women’s Faith Circle**—meets the second Tuesday of the month, 7:30 pm at the church. Come for fellowship, devotions, and Bible study led by Carolee Juergens. All women of the church are welcome.
- **Small (Spiritual Formation) Groups**—Develop faith relationships. Talk about faith and real life. To explore an interest in becoming a part of a group, see Pastor Joel or Matt Cleaver.

### **Daily Devotionals and Study Resources**

- Available on the table in the church lobby. Take one!
- ***Christ in our Home***—Available quarterly, this devotional has daily Scripture readings, thoughts and prayers.
- ***The Wise Economy of Your Life: Balancing Time and Money***—This resource outlines scriptural principles for creating freedom and versatility as you “spend” your time and money.



*Building Hope  
Together*



# Hope Lutheran Church

917 North Straus Road  
Cedar Hill, Texas 75104  
[www.hopelutheran.net](http://www.hopelutheran.net)

**Return Service Requested**



## Thanksgiving Service

**Wednesday, November 25th, 7:30 pm**