

# THE CALLING

JUNE/JULY 2017

VOLUME 3, ISSUE 6

# Love



is patient ♦  
kind ♦ not envious ♦  
not boastful ♦  
not arrogant ♦  
not rude ♦ does not insist  
on its own way ♦  
is not irritable or resentful ♦  
does not rejoice in  
wrongdoing ♦ rejoices in the  
truth ♦ bears all things ♦  
believes all things ♦  
hopes all things ♦  
endures all things ♦  
never ends. ♦

1 Corinthians 13:4-8, NRSV [adapted]



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## Pastor's Corner

In almost every church that I have served, served as supply or guest pastor, and the many churches I have visited around the country as a representative of the seminary, I always ask: tell me about your congregation. Inevitably the first things they say to me is: we are a warm and welcoming congregation.



“WHOEVER WELCOMES YOU  
WELCOMES ME,  
AND WHOEVER WELCOMES ME  
WELCOMES THE ONE  
WHO SENT ME.”

MATTHEW 10:40, NRSV

This begs these questions in my mind: How would I know that? How is that evidenced? Would the people who have visited and not come back or members who have left the church agree with that statement?

Here is what I have

experienced in many churches at which I have guest preached. Only one person, the official greeter, welcomes me in the church and shows me to where I need to go. Sometimes I don't even have that, and have to ask people where the vestry is. After church, I make my way to the coffee area – no one has invited me to it, but I go and get my cup of coffee. No one invites me to sit with them at their table, so I find an empty chair at a table in which people are talking, and as I sit down, they look at me as if I emerged from another planet. The conversation stops and there is an uncomfortable silence, until I start asking them questions. I can tell I have interrupted their comfortable and familiar routine. And then I can't wait to leave.

That is only one aspect of what it means to be warm and welcoming. Space is another way of feeling of whether we feel warm and welcomed. Is the space in the church warm, inviting, and vibrant? Is it well-taken care of? Is it suited to meet the needs of the community today? Is it comfortable for visitors? I remember my family

visiting one of our distant relatives when I was young, and she had plastic slip covers on all her furniture. It was July and there was no air conditioning. We had to sit on the sofa with the plastic slip covering, because she wanted to keep her furniture in a pristine state. She only took the plastic covers off when special people came to visit. Apparently we were not special enough! She was more concerned about her furniture than our comfort. Her welcome was as stiff and cold as her house, and after a few hours we were able to leave. Thank the Lord! That was fifty years ago, and I still remember that visit.

So when we say that Mt. Hope is a warm and welcoming place, how would people know? This is a question I would put to all our communities of faith. And if I say that I am a warm and welcoming person, how do I evidence that? I think these questions are worth discussing as we move forward in our mission for Christ in this world. To be continued . . .

Pastor Brian

## FROM OFFERINGS TO MINISTRY

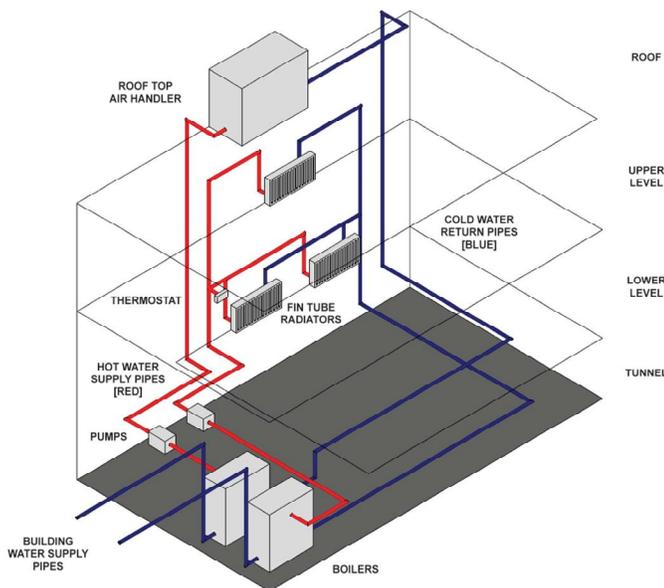
The last time you were in the education wing of our building, did you feel a bit chilly? Or did you think the bathrooms were a steam bath? Our OLD heating system in that section is in desperate need of repair. While repairing a heating system isn't too exciting, it's work that needs to be done this summer before the next heating season.

### WE NEED YOUR HELP!

The cost to repair the system is an over-and-above budget item and we need to raise \$20,000. This project was approved by the congregation at our Annual Meeting. We're asking for a commitment over and above your regular giving. Stay tuned for additional details in how

to give to this important project. As of mid-May, we already have commitments of over \$5,000! Please give as you are able. Any money raised in excess will be used to pay down our mortgage.

For those who are interested, this is a picture of the insides of the system.



### President's Pen

Council is continuing to look at long-range plans for all areas of Mount Hope: heating and other repairs will begin shortly so that we can have a building that is comfortable and safe in all seasons. Financially we

are sound. As boards and committees are strengthened, it gives the Council the freedom to discuss priorities and goals and then delegate them to appropriate committees. We would like all of you to have the opportunity to

participate in the missions and ministries of Mount Hope in whatever capacity best reflects your interests and talents.

In His Service,  
Cathy Hinrichs  
Council President

### Vacation Bible School

The dates for VBS are July 17-21 from 9 a.m. – 12 p.m., with an evening performance on Thursday, July 20 for the parents at 6:30 p.m.

Apostle Presbyterian Church (1509 S. 76th St.) will be hosting VBS.

The theme is **Hero Central: Discover Your Strength in God**. There will be many hero themed activities and the children will be collecting money to support the Hope Closet!

Volunteers are needed to help during the week. Please contact Colleen(sundayschool@mounthopelutheranchurch.org)

### Brewers Game

Sign-up has begun for the annual Mt. Hope Brewers Game on Saturday July 15th at 6:10. Please see the table in the Fireside Room for further information.

Contact Curtis Templin (414-315-9669) with any questions.

## Mission Outreach

Mount Hope – a congregation that is acting as God’s hands in our community!

**Thanks...** to all who contributed to the Shower of Blessings collected on Mother’s Day. All donations benefited Good Samaritan in West Allis. Kudos to the efforts of Scott and Katie Pavlichek who coordinated this awesome Ministry.

...to all who donated food and went in Fellowship for our May Hephatha Sunday lunch coordinated by Linda Melbard.

**Coming up...**  
**Global collection:** Personal Care kit collections for Lutheran World Relief. This effort will run all summer long for pack up

in September and delivery with quilts, to Lutheran World Relief at that time. Combs, towels, clippers, toothbrushes, toothpaste etc. More info coming from Colleen Hammerer and Lynne Loosen who are coordinating this effort. There is a drop off bin in the Fireside Room.

**Local collection:** School Supplies for Good Samaritan and Mount Hope clothing closet. Can it really be THAT time already? Yep! Sandra Hoeft and Kathy Zingsheim will share information for this collection that will go on all summer long. Items collected June through July will be delivered to

Good Samaritan. Items collected August through September will be given to the Hope Closet. Donation bin in the ‘Fireside Room.

**On going collections:** Food for the Hope Pantry, new items for the Hope Closet as well as gently used clothing, food and personal care items for Good Samaritan, are always collected at Mount Hope in the Fireside Room.

Sign up for “serving opportunities” to live our Faith at Hephatha August 6<sup>th</sup> serving lunch and ‘Serenity Inn September 17<sup>th</sup> serving dinner

Mission Outreach Committee

### June Celebrations

#### Special Birthdays:

*Celebrating 90+*

Pearl Weidenhoeft—93

Ruth Sengstock—100

Gladys Vahl—96

#### Special Wedding Anniversaries:

*Celebrating 50+*

Darrell & Judy

Roblee—55

Bruce & Bobbie

Malchow—54

## Boy Scout Troop 580

Seven young men have reached Scouting’s highest award, the Eagle since the beginning of the year and we are not even half way through 2017. This matches the largest single year total of Eagles the Troop has ever had.

In May we had a mini-golf outing with over 30 Scouts and family members in attendance. On May 13 a number of Scouts partici-

pated in a 20-plus-mile bike hike. Later in May Scouts will be involved in Memorial Day activities including participating in the West Allis Memorial Day Parade and the ‘ceremonies immediately following at Veterans Park. During June Scouts will camp at the zoo, have a day trip to Noah’s Ark in the Dells and participate in a week of summer

camp. There are 36 Scouts signed up to attend camp.

During July over 30 Scouts and adults will take a weeklong trip to the Smoky Mountain National Park. Highlights besides the Smoky Mountain National Park will include the Kentucky Horse Park, Mammoth Cave National Park, a day at Dollywood Amuse-

ment Park, and a visit to Lincoln’s birthplace.

To be a Boy Scout a young man must have completed the 5<sup>th</sup> grade or be 11 years old. If you know of someone who might be interested in checking out what Scouting has to offer, have them contact Dave Loosen at 414-327-0419 or email at [dilloosen@hotmail.com](mailto:dilloosen@hotmail.com).

## Around the Building

Our big project for May has been tackling the windows on the south side of the Youth Building. Four, faulty glass window units, and the exterior caulking, and panels on all the windows were replaced. Interior plaster that has been damaged will be addressed.

We are looking forward to working with the Steward-

ship Committee on our mini fund raiser taking place in June. It's focus is to raise money for our boiler system repairs. Remember, although it's warm now, we have to have heat in the winter to operate!

It's a pleasure to see the church landscape green and growing. Unfortu-

nately, the weeds like the warm weather too, and we'd like to work on that in the near future. We would like to add some large, decorative rocks to the beds, but they are costly. If anyone has access to some please contact me.

Connie Pelzek.  
Facilities Management

## Hope Closet

As I write this update, I am reading a text message from a client: *"Thank you and everyone for everything! My boys loved everything. Especially Xavier. He loves his shoes. He was like – Mom, they make me run fast! Again, thank you for everything."*

During the months of May and June, we are inviting our clients back to the Hope Closet for spring and summer clothing as well as their first visit to the Hope Pantry. The smiles, hugs, and thanks confirm for us that we ARE making a real difference in the lives of people who often feel that hope is fading.

If you would like to see what this ministry is all about, come and join us on Thursday (3-7 p.m.) or Saturday (10 a.m. - 1

p.m.). We will ease you into the various tasks involved in sorting and tagging clothing, reorganizing, helping our clients choose their clothing items, and bagging their selections.

Due to the large turnover of inventory, we are always in need of new items. Currently we are low on women's tank tops, women's tennis shoes (size 6-10) and adult hoodies.

Finally – the word is spreading! On April 27<sup>th</sup>, the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction visited the Hope Closet and Hope Pantry as part of their evaluation of the West Allis-West Milwaukee school program for students in transition. The DPI representatives loved what they saw! In a follow-up email after the visit, one



of the social workers wrote that our visitors were "blown away" by what they saw. Their only question was, "How can we replicate this model in other places?" What a powerful witness! We can be proud of the connection we have made with the school system and we can only hope that this partnership brings strength to our entire community.

Donna Jonasen  
Hope Closet Coordinator

## Hope Pantry

The Hope Pantry officially began serving clients on May 4<sup>th</sup>. Families returning for spring clothing from the Hope Closet are now able to obtain food from the pantry. They appreciate being able to "shop" for items they need and know their families will eat.

There is a current need for granola bars, fruit and vegetable juices, pancake mix, syrup, hearty soups and toilet paper.

Expanding our community outreach to include the Hope Pantry could not have happened without your donations and continued generosity and is greatly appreciated. We are truly blessed to be a blessing. Thank-you.

Linda Helminski  
Hope Pantry  
Coordinator

## **Mission Partner: Lutheran Social Services**



### **Challenge Grant Will Benefit Refugee Resettlement**

The Siebert Lutheran Foundation has provided a generous \$30,000 challenge grant to help offset recent disruptions to federal funding for the LSS Refugee Resettlement Program. The challenge is to match the grant with \$30,000 in donations from other supporters.

Can you and your congregation help meet the challenge? For more information, visit the LSS website, [www.lsswis.org](http://www.lsswis.org). You'll see two buttons: to learn about refugee resettlement, click Read More; to donate, click Donate Now. Donations of all sizes are welcome and appreciated.

## **What's Up?**

Happy Easter. Happy Spring. Happy, happy, happy everything...

Are you Happy? How much are you happy? When are you happy? Is anyone ever happy all the time? Are we supposed to be? These are very interesting thoughts...

An idea comes to mind... that I am the happiest when I'm doing for others. First I must take care of me, because as everyone knows you must be in good shape to help others. This leads me to think it's connecting with ourselves and others that leads us to be happy.

At school kids can be nice to others and the same goes for adults at work. While doing errands and hitting the grocery store, try smiling at someone.

Errands and chores are much more pleasant with a positive attitude, and positive attitudes lead to happiness.

The Golden Rule enters here: Do unto others as we would have them do unto us. Life gives us imperfect days and they are not always easy to embrace. God helps us feed our souls and reach our highest potential. Could a new awareness of life and happiness come along with this?

Our difficult and boring chores suddenly become okay. What a relief, no more worries, God is with us.

Hmmm...all the stuff we hear in church from Pastor Brian's sermons, stuff we read in the Bible and learn in Sunday School suddenly makes sense!

Last month when I polled those people who ran the Youth Spaghetti dinner their consensus was that connections and togetherness were what made this project such a success. Thank you God for helping us to learn how to be grateful, thankful and lead us through our lives to joy and happiness.

Positive attitudes are much more powerful than negative and encourage wonderful results. Play the Happy Song and praise the Lord!

Happy summer to everyone!

Judi Hertzfeldt

P.S. Huge hugs and thanks everyone for all the kind words about my column. It's a blessing to write.

## **Third World Mission Store**

Your support has increased Fair Trade sales in the U.S. This benefits marginalized artisans and small-scale farmers who desperately need ongoing support.

Examples include funding

youth and nutrition programs in Nepal, India, and South Africa, and design, financing, and marketing in 25 countries. Relief funds went to Haiti after Hurricane Matthew.

Thank you for your Christian discipleship.

Pat Morris  
Coordinator



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Friday  
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## Congregation Council

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President

Keith Paukner  
Vice-President

Paul Cannestra  
Secretary

Kathy Solberg  
Treasurer

Greg Jansen  
Geoff Nurse  
Lynda Taylor

## Outreach for Hope

### Family Bike Ride September 9, 2017

There's something for everyone at the Family Bike Ride supporting the churches of the Greater Milwaukee Synod doing ministry in low income communities.

- Casual rider: includes families and children – a ride on the paved Glacial Drumlin Trail, 14 miles or less if you prefer
- Avid bicyclist: either a 20, 30 or 50 mile mapped, supported ride on country roads around Dousman
- Everyone: catered picnic lunch
- Volunteers: over 100 positions available
- Non-bikers: you don't have to ride to impact lives - simply donate. The results are amazing!

Visit the website for information:  
outreachforhope.org

## Save the Date

**Walk to End  
Alzheimer's  
September 17**  
Henry Maier Festival  
Park



**Thursday, June 1**

*Greater Milwaukee Synod Assembly*  
 3-7:00 pm Hope Closet  
 7:00 pm Mission Outreach Committee

**Friday, June 2**

*Greater Milwaukee Synod Assembly*

**Saturday, June 3**

*Greater Milwaukee Synod Assembly*

9-12:00 pm Hope Closet

**5:30 pm Worship**

**Sunday, June 4**

8:00 am Sunday School:  
 Volunteer  
 Appreciation Breakfast

**8:30 am Worship**

9:30 am Coffee & Fellowship

**10:00 am Worship**

**Monday, June 5**

**Tuesday, June 6**

7:30 am Women's Breakfast Group  
 2:00 pm Alzheimer's Support Group  
 7:30 pm Milwaukee Festival Chorus

**Wednesday, June 7**

9:00 am Quilter's Group  
 9:30 am Prayer Gathering  
 5:30 pm WISH Support Group  
 6:30 pm Praise Band  
 6:30 pm Youth Planning

**Thursday, June 8**

3-7:00 pm Hope Closet  
 6:00 pm Troop 580: Eagle Court of Honor  
 6:00 pm Financial Mgmt.

**Friday, June 9**

**Saturday, June 10**

9-12:00 pm Hope Closet  
 5:00 pm Blood Pressure Check  
**5:30 pm Worship**  
 6:15 pm Blood Pressure Check

**Sunday, June 11**

**8:30 am Worship**  
 9:30 am Coffee & Fellowship  
 9:30 am Blood Pressure Check  
**10:00 am Worship**  
 11:00 am Blood Pressure Check

**Monday, June 12**

**Tuesday, June 13**

7:30 am Women's Breakfast Group  
 9:00 am Cleaning Crew  
 7:00 pm Boy Scout Troop 580  
 7:30 pm Milwaukee Festival Chorus

**Wednesday, June 14**

9:00 am Quilter's Group  
 9:30 am Prayer Gathering  
 5:30 pm WISH Support Group  
 6:30 pm Praise Band

**Thursday, June 15**

3-7:00 pm Hope Closet  
 6:00 pm Facility Management

**Friday, June 16**

**Saturday, June 17**

**5:30 pm Worship**

**Sunday, June 18**

*Father's Day*

**8:30 am Worship**  
 9:30 am Coffee & Fellowship  
**10:00 am Worship**

6:00 pm Fellowship Dinner (Serenity Inn)

**Monday, June 19**

**Tuesday, June 20**

7:30 am Women's Breakfast Group  
 6:00 pm Congregation Council  
 7:00 pm Boy Scout Troop 580  
 7:30 pm Milwaukee Festival Chorus

**Wednesday, June 21**

*Summer begins*

9:00 am Quilter's Group  
 9:30 am Prayer Gathering  
 5:30 pm WISH Support Group  
 6:30 pm Praise Band

**Thursday, June 22**

3-7:00 pm Hope Closet

**Friday, June 23**

**Saturday, June 24**

**5:30 pm Worship**

**Sunday, June 25**

**8:30 am Worship**  
 9:30 am Coffee & Fellowship  
**10:00 am Worship**

**Monday, June 26**

**Tuesday, June 27**

7:30 am Women's Breakfast Group  
 9:00 am Cleaning Crew  
 7:30 pm Milwaukee Festival Chorus

**Wednesday, June 28**

9:00 am Quilter's Group  
 9:30 am Prayer Gathering  
 5:30 pm WISH Support Group  
 6:30 pm Praise Band

**Thursday, June 29**

3-7:00 pm Hope Closet

**Friday, June 30**