

LIVING HOPE
Lutheran Church ELCA
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Return Service Requested

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here

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WORSHIP WITH US

YOU ARE INVITED TO WORSHIP WITH US
SUNDAYS AT 10:30AM
FOLLOWED BY COFFEE & FELLOWSHIP



WE ARE SOCIAL

We want to help you stay connected to the many good things happening here at Living Hope. One way is our weekly updates email - please let the office know if you're interested in receiving it.

We are also active on Facebook and Instagram (@pwslutherans).

Miss a week of worship? Tune in to sermons via our podcast or stream the whole service on YouTube.

Visit our church website at livinghopesaukville.org for links

Stronger Together

FALL 2023

HIGHLIGHTS INSIDE

Pastor's Column

**September 10 - God's Work,
Our Hands & Stone Soup**

**September 17 - Sunday School,
Confirmation & Bible Study Start**

**Events: Outreach for Hope,
Trunk or Treat, Bishop Erickson**

**Stewardship & Financial
Update**



SERMON SERIES: PRACTICING FAITH

live hear proclaim serve strive



If Lutherans had to pick one key Bible verse, it'd probably be Paul's writing in Ephesians 2:8, "For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God."

Martin Luther's central contribution to the Christian faith was his insistence with Paul that salvation comes only through God's grace, not through our work.

We're never going to do enough to save ourselves; **salvation is always a gift of grace from God.**

And yet, the Bible insists that faith always leads to action. (see James 2—a passage Luther famously hated!) If our faith is genuine, it will affect the way we live. Good works are not a litmus test of whether someone is a Christian or not, but they are a natural, inevitable result of faith. As a gift from God, our faith might get us to heaven, but God intends more than that. God calls us to do something in this world too. God cares about how we live! As Luther also once wrote, **"God doesn't need your good works, but your neighbor does."**

Allowing faith to make a difference takes practice. Faith is a gift from God, but it doesn't do much earthly good unless we unwrap the gift and daily put it into use and practice. And of course, God is still involved in that too. The Holy Spirit is always nudging, encouraging, and empowering us to use our faith. It's a little bit like a coach pushing us on to keep practicing.

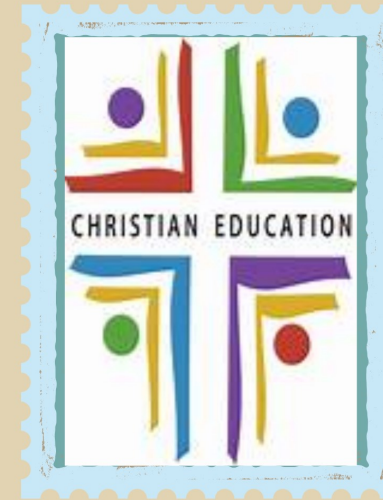
This fall, I hope you'll join us for a five-week worship series on **Practicing Faith**. Beginning with our joint service on September 10, we'll look each week at one of the promises in the baptismal covenant, the promises we affirm at confirmation and when new members join our congregation:

- **Live** among God's faithful people
- **Hear** the word of God and sharing in the Lord's supper
- **Proclaim** the good news of God in Christ through word and deed
- **Serve** all people following the example of Jesus
- **Strive** for justice and peace in all the earth.

Together, these commitments in the baptismal covenant are a framework for us to live out our faith, open ourselves more and more to God's work, and make a difference in the world around us. See you in church!

In Christ,
Pastor Daniel

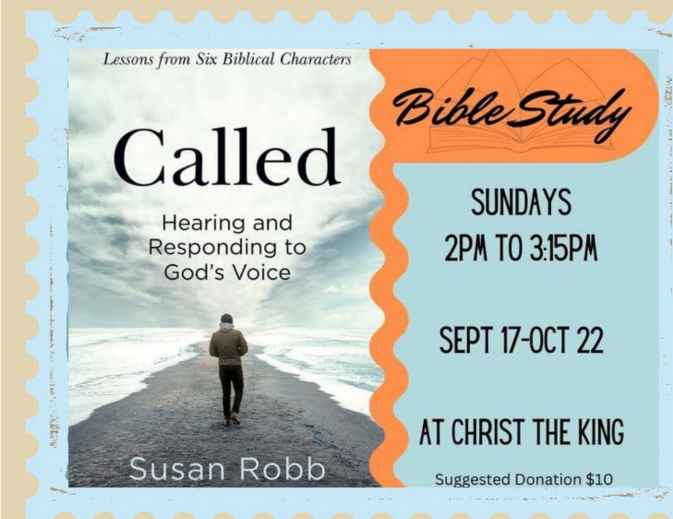
September 17 Sunday School, Bible Study & Confirmation Kick Off



9:15-10:15am Sunday School for
students ages 3-5th grade

2-3:15pm Bible Study at Christ the King

6-8pm Confirmation Student/Parent
Supper and Meeting



SUNDAYS
2PM TO 3:15PM

SEPT 17-OCT 22

AT CHRIST THE KING

Suggested Donation \$10

Scam Warning 🙄🙄

Local churches have recently been targeted by a scam where someone texts or emails members of a congregation falsely claiming to be the pastor. Often, the scammer will claim to be visiting someone in the hospital and request that you purchase a gift card for them and respond with the number.

Pastor Daniel will never make such a request of members. If you receive such a request, please contact Pastor Daniel or the church office.



SERVE

Serve in Worship

Worship is not a spectator sport, but something we all do together. Each Sunday's service involves many roles, including setting up communion/altar care, preparing for coffee & fellowship hour, helping to serve communion, reading the scriptures, working in the tech booth, and greeting attendees as they enter the sanctuary.

How might God be calling you to serve? Contact the church office to get involved.

stewardship

“Cultivate the habit of being grateful for every good thing that comes to you, and to give thanks continuously. And because all things have contributed to your advancement, you should include all things in your gratitude.”

—Ralph Waldo Emerson

It takes a lot of people working together for our church to do the ministry we do.

THANK YOU for all the ways you've been a part of what God is doing through our work together here at Living Hope. Your gifts of time, treasure, and talents make our ministry possible.

In the first half of 2023, we've received about just over 49% of the giving estimated in this year's budget. During the same time period, we have similarly spent just under 46% of our budgeted expenses. Generally, we are on track financially right now, although since we passed a budget with a faith factor deficit of \$11,685, we do have a bit of ground to make up as a congregation this fall to end the year in a solid place. The Equipping the Saints campaign this spring received \$52,585.75 in commitments, exceeding our goal of \$50,000! Of that, \$31,225 has already been received. Thanks to your generosity, we've been able to install new front doors, redo the front entry concrete, and the new storage building is in progress. We look forward to the new parking lot going in soon, to be paid for by the lots we sold last year!

Again, thank you for your commitment to our congregation's ministry. Your presence, your volunteering, and your giving matter. You make a difference in this community!

Financial Summary

(Excluding Equipping the Saints Campaign)

2023 Budgeted Receipts (through June): \$76,598

2023 Actual Receipts (through June): \$76,033

2023 Budgeted Expenses (through June): \$82,465

2023 Actual Expenses (through June): \$75,412

“What do you have that you did not receive? And if you received it, why do you boast as if it were not a gift?”

—Paul in

1 Corinthians 4:7b



Outreach for Hope

Outreach for Hope supports life-giving ministries that serve with the people of low income communities in the Greater Milwaukee Synod, ELCA. These ministries provide help with daily necessities, and most importantly, they are centers in the heart of their communities for providing transformation and hope.

Our 16th annual Family Ride Run Walk fundraiser is coming up on Saturday, September 30. Join us for a fun morning of road and trail bike riding, walking, or running, followed by a picnic lunch and fellowship. Together, we hope to raise \$160K for grants to Ministry Partners in our synod!

Ozaukee County's site is Grace Lutheran Church, 715 6th Avenue in Grafton. Visit OutreachForHope.org to sign up to walk, run, bike, or just come for fellowship & lunch. CTK will also be providing a refreshment station. See Paul Hoffmann to volunteer.



As a new school year begins, we are excited to kick off a new year of programming at Lighthouse! Summer's highlight was Hunger Quest. Three service projects

focused on tackling hunger both locally and globally through a Milwaukee community garden, serving around 100 people at Saukville's community meal, and packing meals at Feed My Starving Children to feed 39 kids in a different country for a year. Through videos, discussions, games, and worship we learned more about how we as Christians are called to respond to hunger and poverty. We even got a taste of what it's like to be hungry by fasting for 24 hours, then ended with fun at Six Flags!



We are so grateful for all your prayers and financial support for this trip and all our events. Looking back over the last year, it's wonderful to see so many students having fun, serving their neighbors, and growing in faith. This year, 36 different students attended at least one Lighthouse event, and we're always welcoming more! We've got lots of exciting things planned, so if you have kids or grandkids in grades 5-12, encourage them to check us out and don't hesitate to contact me or Living Hope's Lighthouse board members, Alex Pieper and Lindsay Nelson.

—Christin Flucke, Lighthouse Program Director

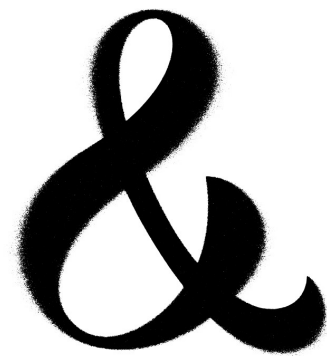
Sunday, September 10

God's Work Our Hands Sunday

On September 10, we'll have a **joint worship service** at **10:00 am at Living Hope** which will include presentation of Bibles to children, backpack tags for anyone going to school, and the fall launch of Stone Soup. Then after worship, we'll join together in our God's Work, Our Hands service project of assembling 100 school kits for Lutheran World Relief.

Please bring in any donations for the school supply kits by September 3. There is a grey collection bin outside the sanctuary. Based on what has been collected so far, the most needed items are notebooks.

 **LUTHERAN
WORLD RELIEF**



Stone Soup Kickoff

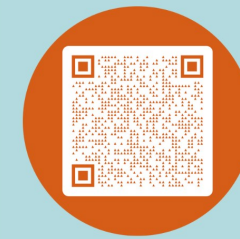
On Sunday, September 10, we will also be celebrating the restart of Stone Soup with a special reading of the Stone Soup story during service. We will also be sharing a cup of homemade soup after service for fellowship. Our Stone Soup mission will start up again on Saturday, September 16th and will continue to meet at Christ the King on the 1st and 3rd Saturdays of every month from 9am until approximately Noon.

Soup is shared with local food pantries, homebound, and people in need. All are welcome to join us in this effort to share God's love with our community! Please check the [Google Events Calendar](https://www.ckport.org/events-calendar/) at [ckport.org/events-calendar/](https://www.ckport.org/events-calendar/) for any changes in the schedule due to holidays.



Trunk or Treat

Come be part of our fun Trunk or Treat event on Sunday, October 29 from 12pm to 2pm. We are looking for as many folks as possible to decorate a car and park in the parking lot to hand out candy to all the costumed trick or treaters. We will have a bounce house and brat fry too, so invite your neighbors!



Worried you aren't creative enough to decorate a trunk? It's as easy as grabbing a few Fall/Halloween decorations and putting them in your trunk. Feeling a little more adventurous? Scan the QR code with your camera app for some thrifty themed ideas.

This is a great opportunity to reach out to our broader community!



Five Tips for Being a Friendly Church

1. Talk to newcomers first, before talking with friends.
2. Move to the middle of the row, leaving aisle seats and back rows open for visitors.
3. Wear a name tag each week in worship.
4. Have conversations in an open circle so others can join.
5. Introduce yourself and welcome people you don't recognize. Invite them to join you for fellowship time.



Christ the King Sunday--November 19

Mark your calendar for November 23, Christ the King Sunday! Bishop Paul Erickson from our Greater Milwaukee Synod will be here to lead worship as we are reminded that we should see the face of Jesus in the faces of all human beings everywhere, and thus treat them as we would Jesus. We will continue faithfully worshipping and serving in Jesus' name here in Saukville.

