



LUTHERAN CHURCH  
OF HOPE

# HOPE HAPPENINGS

APRIL 2024

## Save the Date!

- April 7:  
Building  
Blessing

## What's Inside

- PAGE 1-3:  
Council  
Articles:  
Building  
Update
- PAGE 3-4:  
Hope  
Highlights
- PAGE 5:  
Garden Update,  
Bless This  
Mess



*From Adam Bryant, Council Member—*  
Cleaning has never been my strongest quality. From a young age, I've always been one of those people who starts cleaning my room, finds something I haven't seen for a while and then becomes totally enraptured with that. Or even better is when I get the great idea to reorganize my bookshelves! Taking the books out is easy

and feels like progress in a way (not sure what it says about how good I am at making a mess instead of cleaning them...), but when I start organizing the books and then have to put them into the shelves - well let's just say it is easy to get bogged down there no matter how clever of a new organization strategy I have cooked up.

This is all to say how impressed I have been by the work our congregation has done through the Lenten season and Bless This Mess. If you haven't had a chance to see, we as a congregation have:

1. Relocated the workroom to the former pastor's office;
2. Cleaned out the nursery room, including sorting through items in the nursery room;
3. Combined the nursery and wiggle rooms to a space that looks more comfortable for both uses and allows parents to continue to participate in worship;
4. Painted the wiggle room;
5. Sorted and condensed the library;
6. Reframed broken art pieces;
7. Cleaned and organized the cabinets by the fellowship space and kitchen allowing for more shared storage for our user groups;
8. Countless other tasks!

Now as we move into Easter and beyond, we also move from Bless This Mess into the more exciting mission of finding new uses for our space. Perhaps the former nursery space can become classroom space for something like the Olé education program? Or maybe a coworking-style space for people in the community or congregation who need a quiet space for an important Zoom meeting or a

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

telehealth call? Maybe you have a fantastic idea that we haven't considered! Our property is a gift, not only for us but for our neighbors, and I am excited to see what ways we can think up to use that gift.

Adam Bryant

*From Tom Middendorf, Council Member* — The Bless This Mess initiative has made great strides in cleaning out church interior spaces. One of the next steps by the Church Council and others has been to identify possible church improvements in the refreshed space. The Council has authorized spending up to \$10,000 of Memorial Funds to complete some initial upgrades. Improvements identified so far are listed below. Names in (example) are people who have already offered to lead the improvement.

<b>Churchwide</b>	Additional interior painting and ceiling tile replacement. Thanks to Richard Clendaniel and others for repainting several rooms already.
<b>Sanctuary</b>	Remove chairs that no longer have back support and clean/oil chair wood surfaces. Paint all surfaces below the windows and the stained areas on the beams above the windows (Steve O'Donnell). Wash windows (Tom Middendorf). Replace old speaker wire for organ. Install garland hangers. Install covering or improve storage area along back wall by sound system desk. Purchase and install a new banner holder in the storage area behind the altar.
<b>Wiggle Room</b>	Install a speaker connected to the sanctuary sound system (Pastor Liz).
<b>Coat Room</b>	Bless This Mess cleanout still needed. Paint.
<b>Narthex</b>	Purchase new table outside pastor's office. Improve storage for food barrel and clothes barrel items. Purchase new comfortable chairs near the front door. More signs outside rooms. Eventually replace carpeting.
<b>Former Work Room</b>	Remove mail boxes.
<b>New Work Room</b>	Purchase/install a standing work station/cabinet (Todd Bryant). Purchase/install a safe (Todd Bryant).
<b>Men's Bathroom</b>	Replace vinyl flooring and base cove (Todd Bryant bid). Minor painting of toilet stall and stains on ceiling tiles.
<b>Women's Bathroom</b>	Replace old supplies cabinet.

<b>Children's Bathrooms</b>	Strip/wax floors.
<b>Theatre Room</b>	Bless This Mess cleanout still needed. Currently being used for storage. If this use continues, consider shelving/storage options.
<b>Library</b>	Install locking system for closets?
<b>Nursery</b>	Replace broken window, replace overhead light lens cover (Todd Bryant bids).
<b>Fireside Room</b>	Replace several broken windows (Todd Bryant bids). Eventually remove fireplace. Purchase folding table cart.
<b>Youth Room</b>	Make final decisions on tossing, saving, donating items stored here.
<b>Outdoor Needs</b>	Outdoor spring cleaning, raking, pavement cleaning. Resurface pavements. Paint/new siding on north/west sides of church exterior. Reroof oldest roof sections over the sanctuary and classroom wing. Replace glycol in heated slab (Todd Bryant bid). Inspect/maintain/clean up playground equipment. Improve visibility of church sign.

What ideas do you have? What other improvements are needed? How would you like to help? If you have any suggestions or wish to help, please contact Todd Bryant, Tom Middendorf, or Steve O'Donnell.



No More Deaths: A Remembrance Vigil on March 30 at First United Methodist Church with Christians for Equality.

Maundy Thursday meal and service



# HOPE HIGHLIGHTS



He is Risen!



He is Risen indeed! Alleluia!



## Harvest of Hope



I know it doesn't seem like we should be talking about the garden yet, but you know me. We have a good start on it already. You may have noticed in the narthex that there are plants making an appearance. Onions, leeks, Brussel sprouts, and a few cabbages are growing well. On April 1 we planted peppers and replanted a few more cabbage, no foolin'. The 20th of April we will plant more brassicas. On May 4 we will plant squash and pumpkins.

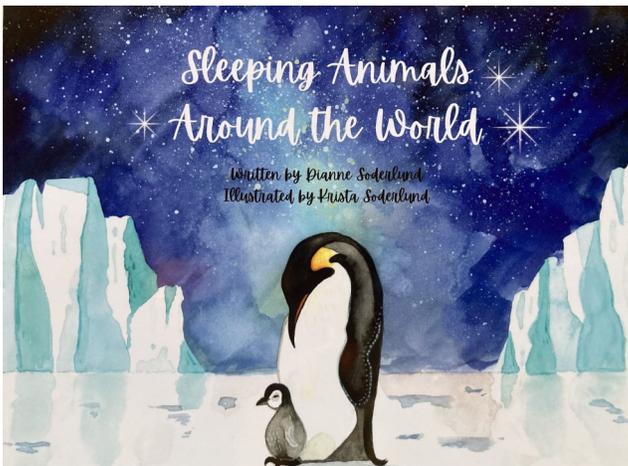
## Garden Update

With a little luck the garden will be clear by May 15 and the potatoes will go in then. The following week we will be direct seeding many veggies. Shortly or maybe during this time will put all of the plants that are or will be growing in the narthex in the ground.

While spring seems to be slow in coming, its arrival is inevitable and imminent. I look forward to the long days of late spring and summer. I would say warm as well but we all know last summer was not so warm. Certainly looking forward to getting my hands and knees dirty once again.

May these cool days after Easter refresh you and prepare you for the coming new season.

Yours in Christ, Don Bladow



Dianne Soderlund has written a book, illustrated by her daughter Krista! She has copies available for \$12

## Blessing the Building

### April 7 at 10:00 AM

We have a team of members going through an ELCA training to experiment with ministry ideas. We would like to hear from you!

On April 7th, during fellowship, you are invited to share your thoughts, experiences and dreams for our congregation.



Our April prayer partner is the Trapper Creek Fellowship.

# WORSHIP



We welcome you into the sanctuary for worship with communion at 10am!

Unable to join us in the sanctuary? We are also streaming live on Facebook. It is good to gather as the people of God each week!

Drawn together by God, celebrating grace, serving all.

# Prayer Team



During communion on the first Sunday of the month

# LEARN



Sunday morning Bible study meets at 8:30 am in person.



Keep an eye out for the next Wednesday evening series!



The Other 4H Group meets monthly to discuss books chosen by the group. The next discussion book is The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek by Kim Michele Richardson. We will be discussing this book on Tuesday, April 30 at 7 PM on Zoom.



Confirmation

**Confirmation Class starts again on Sunday April 7 at 4:30 PM at Central Lutheran Church.** PAGE 7



**Thank you for continuing your financial support of our church.**  
Check out our website for more information, [www.hopeak.org/give](http://www.hopeak.org/give)



*Birthdays and Anniversaries*

**Happy Birthday!**

Jude Crumpacker, Andrew Harnish,  
Loretta Hodson, & Jo Hobbs

**Happy Anniversary!**

Carolyn & Richard Clendaniel, Erin

Arno & Val Byrnes

# SERVE



**LSSA Mobile Food Pantry is every Tuesday at 4:30 pm.** Line up starts at 3:30 pm. You do not need an appointment to receive food. If you would like to volunteer, contact 272-0643 option 14. Distribution is drive-thru.



**Worship Team** The next meeting will be on Thursday, April 25 at 6:30 pm. They meet regularly to plan and discuss ideas for Sunday morning worship and special services. Interested in helping us? Talk to Pastor Liz.

**Property Team** helps us take care of the building and the grounds by discerning what needs to be done and how best to do it. Please talk with Don Bladow or Todd Bryant if interested in helping.

**Council** will meet on **Thursday, April 18 at 6 PM** to discern and make decisions on behalf of the congregation regarding ministry, mission and stewardship of our resources. Please pray for our council leaders.

**Art Team:** Notice different signs on the fence? Art on the windows? Art around the garden? These were brought together by the art team! Would you like to help or have an idea? Contact Chris Terry.



Lutheran Church of Hope  
1847 W. Northern Lights Blvd  
Anchorage, AK 99517  
[www.hopeak.org](http://www.hopeak.org)

