

September Council Corner

“God’s work. Our hands.” I am sure that most Lutherans within our synod have heard this credo multiple times over the past few years. By the time you read this sentence, many of us will have already ventured out to help the Schramm family complete various projects in/around their property, and the youth of our church will have completed their highway clean up. Our council felt that our helping hands should not stop with these two events. In this light, please do not hesitate to let us know if you have an idea regarding how our church can contribute in a positive manner to our surrounding community. Is there a project that requires completion? Is there someone who needs help around the house? Does someone merely need to converse with a friendly face? Please feel free to let the ideas flow.

The executive members of the Hope Lutheran council met with the executive members of the Babbitt Evangelical Lutheran Church council on August 26 in order to discuss Pastor Evelyn’s benefits package for 2016. We happily report that Pastor graciously agreed to continue with her current level of compensation while increasing her overall amount of vacation by a week. Both councils thanked Pastor for her outstanding leadership during tough financial times for both churches and reminded her that 60-70 hour work weeks should be the exception and not the rule. The council looks forward to working with Pastor Evelyn as we set forth together to grow our church.

On a lighter note, Pastor Evelyn and the council thought it would be a great idea to hold a “Blessing of the Animals” after services on October 11 to show how much we care about the pets in our lives. This does not require that members bring their pets to church on this day (do not hesitate to do so if you choose). Bring a picture. Share a memory. Let the animals know how much you truly care about them by your actions. Honor the pets that truly have become integral members of your respective families.

Our youngest council member, Sky Dow, has continued her efforts to form a youth group at Hope Lutheran. Within the past month, she met with our Youth and Family Committee to talk about her idea, lined up an adult advisor for the group, and contacted some of the youth from our congregation to gauge their interest in coming together to share the word of God. If you see Sky inside or outside the church, please let her know how much you appreciate her efforts. Also, do not hesitate to contact Pastor Evelyn, Stan Dow, or a council member if you know of any local youth who might be interested in joining this group. You can also feel free to send an email to hopelutheranembarrass@gmail.com if that is a more convenient method of communication.

In closing, I would like to send out a number of thank you's to the following members and/or groups:

- All the people who helped to plan and carry out our Sunday school kick-off event.
- Those who volunteer their time to fill a need as ushers, readers, acolytes, communion assistants, and coffee n' servers.

The council and all the members of church appreciate your efforts. Thank you for taking time out of your busy schedules to lend a hand. Our church could not function without great, caring people like you.

May God grant you peace until we meet again next month.....

Lance Kupka
Council President
Hope Lutheran Church