

Bloomington Living Hope Lutheran Church

Weekend of March 4-6, 2017

Welcome! It is a joy to have you with us today and it is our prayer that you are strengthened and uplifted through our worship and fellowship. We especially welcome those visiting. Please pick up information about our church at the kiosk located in the entry. Also, please take time after the service to introduce yourself to our pastor. We would like to get to know you better.

A Prayer in Preparation for Worship

Heavenly Father, we have come to worship you. Draw near to us in your gracious Word, and assure us of your loving kindness. Curb our wandering thoughts, that with undivided attention, we may hear your voice and sing your praise. Amen.

From the Pastor

We all have day-to-day habits in our personal lives. The good habits result in peacefulness and well-being for our own bodies and those around us, and the bad habits can hurt our bodies and those around us. Some habits can be explained and rationalized; other habits are beyond explanation and just part of who we are.

Our current series is titled, "Spiritual Habits for Ordinary People." But these "spiritual" habits are not based on our own personal preferences, they are the loving actions and reactions of the Christian who daily wants to thank a gracious and loving God. They are the result of a strong faith in Jesus and a rich way to keep Christ in focus in our modern world.

As we study these six habits week to week, some may seem more difficult than others. Be assured that we have help! We have a heavenly Father who sees us, who longs to draw close to us in his Word, and who continually gives grace to carry out these disciplines.

"Holy Spirit, power divine, fortify this will of mine;
Bend it to your own pure will, all my life with graces fill."
(Hymn 166, *Lutheran Worship*)

In Service to Christ,

Rev. Brian A. Krueger

We are One Church
with Three Campuses,
Bridged Together
with One Mission:

**to Know Christ and
to Make Him Known!**

Our PASSION is to:

- Gather Regularly** to Know Christ.
- Clarify Truth** from Error to Know Christ.
- Teach Kids** to Know Christ.
- Witness to the Unchurched** that they might Know Christ.
- Benefit People** as an expression of Knowing Christ.

Bloomington Lutheran Church

9350 Portland Ave South
Bloomington, MN 55420
952-888-2475

Living Hope Lutheran Church and School

8600 Horizon Drive South
Shakopee, MN 55379
952-445-1785

Bloomington Lutheran School

10600 Bloomington Ferry Road
Bloomington, MN 55438
952-941-9047

Our church is a member of the
Wisconsin Ev. Lutheran Synod

We are served by:

Pastor Scott Spaulding - 612-599-3661
sspaulding@bllh.org

Pastor Rod Pudell - 612-384-2206
revpudell@yahoo.com

Pastor Brian Krueger - 952-836-5005
pastorkrueger@hotmail.com

Principal Mike Butzow - 952-941-9047
mike.butzow@mybllh.org

Youth Minister Joel Hansen - 715-321-2631
joel.hansen@mybllh.org

Connect with us online:

bllh.org

bllhschool.org

facebook.com/bloomingtonlivinghope

THIS WEEK

Please check the calendar on the back of this folder for all Bible classes and other events over the next four weeks.

Sunday, March 5

~~6:00 p.m.~~ No Sr. High Vertical Encounters at LH

Monday, March 6

7:00 p.m. Board of Education at BLS

7:00 p.m. MOPS and MOMSnext Meeting at LH

Tuesday, March 7

9:30 a.m. OWLS Meeting at BLC

7:00 p.m. R.I.N.G. Handbell Practice at BLC

Wednesday, March 8 – 2nd Wednesday in Lent

12:00 p.m. Worship Service at BLC

12:45 p.m. Luncheon at BLC

5:30-6:30 p.m. 5th-8th Gr. Confirmation Class at LH

5:45 p.m. Supper at BLC and LH

6:30 p.m. Worship Service at BLC and LH

7:15 p.m. Voices in Praise (VIP) Choir Practice at BLC

Thursday, March 9

6:30 p.m. Jesus Cares Ministry at BLC

Friday, March 10

5:30-9:00 p.m. Jr. High Empower Broomball Bash at LH

Saturday, March 11

9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Community Kids Club at BLC

LOVE IN ACTION SERVERS

	Living Hope	Bloomington
This Sunday	Jeremiah	Hebrews
Lent 2	Jeremiah	Galatians
Next Sunday	Ezra	John

UPCOMING MESSAGES

Theme: <i>Spiritual Habits (For Ordinary People)</i>	
March 5	<i>Fasting ~ Philippians 2:1-18</i>
March 12	<i>Prayer ~ Philippians 4:4-9</i>
March 19	<i>Giving ~ Luke 16:1-15</i>
March 26	<i>Bible Study ~ John 17:14-19</i>

We Celebrate the Number of Worshipers in God's House Last Weekend	668
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OUR GIFTS TO THE LORD

Bloomington Living Hope Lutheran Church

Weekend of	Received Amount	Budgeted Amount	over/ (under)
Feb. 26, 2017	\$20,428	\$22,195	(\$1,767)
Year-to-Date	\$857,649	\$1,006,058	(\$148,409)

2016 Contribution Statements are available for pick up in the church entry. If you have questions, please call the church office at 952-888-2475.

ALL CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Baptism Quinn Violet, daughter of David and Rebecca Pagel, will be baptized at Bloomington Lutheran Church on Sunday. We welcome Quinn into God's family.

Divine Call Extended for School Staff Member

On March 1, 2017, the Bloomington Living Hope Board of Education extended a divine call to Mr. Thomas Flunker of Mankato, MN. The call is a new middle grades teaching position to accommodate our increasing enrollment in those grades. Mr. Flunker has also been called to serve as vice principal.

Mr. Flunker has served in the WELS and ELS for many years as an elementary principal, high school Spanish teacher, and as a college instructor at Bethany Lutheran College. He holds a master's degree and is presently working in the cultural diversity center at Gustavus Adolphus College in St. Peter, MN. His wife, Mrs. Sandra Flunker, is a lower grades teacher at Risen Savior Lutheran School in Mankato. The Flunkers have three children who will be a freshman in college, a freshman in high school, and a sixth grader for the 2017-2018 school year.

Please include the Flunker family in your prayers as they deliberate upon our call to serve at BLH. Feel free to forward any questions to Mike Butzow.

Thank You

Last weekend a door collection was taken for Costa Maya Ministries, an entity that exists on growing Cruz de Cristo church in Mahahual, Mexico and the communities around them. Bloomington Living Hope Lutheran Church is committed to supporting this ministry through prayer, contributions, and mission trips. Thank you to everyone who gave to the door collection, which totaled \$1,616. As a church community, our 2017 goal is to raise \$20,000 to support their ongoing ministry.

Help Serve Lenten Meals and Donate Desserts

There are several opportunities to help. You can help serve or donate bars for the 12:45 p.m. Lenten meals at Bloomington Lutheran Church (BLC). A sign-up sheet is located on the bulletin board in the north hallway at BLC. **March 29 is still open for serving the evening meal at BLC.** The meal begins at 5:45 p.m. Please call Living Hope at 952-445-1785 or email teri.haugen@myblh.org or if you and your group are willing to volunteer in this way. Thanks!

OWLS – Organization of WELS Lutheran Seniors, 50+

The next regular meeting is **Tuesday, March 7.** During the meeting, Pastor Spaulding will answer questions which have been submitted to him in advance of the meeting. Everyone is welcome to join us at 9:30 a.m. at Bloomington Lutheran Church.

Jesus Cares Ministries at BLC

This special ministry reaches out to people with developmental disabilities by having Bible classes and fellowship on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of each month from 6:30–7:30 p.m. The next class is on **March 9**.

Prayer and Care Ministry

Whatever your need might be, our prayer ministry stands ready to pray. Contact Diane at blhpray@yahoo.com or write your request and place it in the box at the Bloomington church. Please let us know how God answers our prayers so we can thank Him.

Build More, Do More, Serve More Campaign

Our congregation voted on two proposals related to the Living Hope expansion project. First, the Building Committee's expansion design was approved. Second, that we contract with our architects to prepare design and construction documents. These documents should be complete in the late spring or early summer.

Following that, we will be able to seek bids and then more solid expectations as to total cost and timeline. Please be prayerful that this project will move forward in a way consistent with how the Lord would have us expand our ministry in the southwest metro.

Please contact Kevin Laleman, Building Committee Chair, if you have any questions.

The Lord has moved many of you to donate to the Build More, Do More, Serve More campaign. To date \$1.5 million has been contributed and commitments and cash stand at \$2.71 million. Thank you for the wonderful response! Together, with God's blessing, our goals will be accomplished!

Prom Night Celebrated in a Grand & Special Way

St. Croix Lutheran School (SCL) faculty, staff, students, parents, and volunteers welcomed 200 honored guests to *Night to Shine*, an unforgettable prom night experience, centered on God's love, for people with special needs ages 14 and older. On one night, Friday, February 10, 2017, churches from around the world hosted *Night to Shine* for thousands of honored guests. SCL is honored to be chosen by the Tim Tebow Foundation to host the event in one of only five Minnesota locations, and the only high school. Thank you to everyone who participated and volunteered.

Offering Envelopes for 2017 are available in the church entry. **Even though you may use online giving, we ask that you still pick up your box of contribution envelopes. The boxes contain envelopes for special holidays.** In addition, the boxes also have a monthly Build More, Do More, Serve More contribution envelope. If the address listed on your box is incorrect, the update may be reported on the sheet of paper by the contribution boxes.

FOR OUR YOUTH



Jr. High EMPOWER (Grades 6-8)

Join us each Sunday for Bible study during Education Hour at both of our church sites, Bloomington Lutheran Church (9:15 a.m.) and Living Hope Lutheran Church (9:00 a.m.).

Empower Bash at Living Hope

Friday, March 10 • 5:30-9:00 p.m.

We will gather for dinner, devotion, games, and fellowship. We planned to play broomball. However, who knows what the weather will do?!

You can go online to bllh.org/empower and **vote for what game we are going to play**. Bring your gym shoes!



Sr. High Vertical Encounters (Grades 9-12)



On Sunday nights, we look forward to gathering together with other Christian teens. It is a great time to connect through snacks and games, and to discuss issues that are looming large in our lives. We do our best to blend in solid Biblical study with real-life applications on the topics in front of us each week. We meet from 6:00-8:00 p.m. at Living Hope. **We meet again on March 19.**

LOOKING AHEAD:

March 12 – Dodgeball Tournament at West Lutheran High School Sunday, March 12



We are gathering teams to represent BLH at the annual Bombardment tournament on Sunday, March 12th at West Lutheran High School. You can stay after church at Living Hope and we'll have some pizza before we head out, or you can meet us at Living Hope at noon, ready to go. Please register for this event online at bllh.org/encounter.



March 15 – Serve Lenten Meal at BLC

The dinner is at 5:45 p.m., but come early to help serve or stay to clean up afterwards. You can sign up to bring food when the event gets closer.

June 25-July 1 – REACH mission trip to Brownsville, PA

August 6-14 – Costa Maya Mission Trip to Mahahual, Mexico

Band Concert at St. Croix Lutheran School

Everyone is welcome for a magnificent montage of melodies on Sunday, March 5 at 2:30 p.m. Participants include the Crusader Band, Jazz Band, and Crusader Cadets. The Cadets are a grade school band. The school is at 1200 Oakdale Ave, West St Paul.

Devotional Series for

LENT



Wednesday Worship & Meals

Bloomington Lutheran Church
12:00 p.m. Worship – Followed by Luncheon
5:45 p.m. Meal Served
6:30 p.m. Worship

Living Hope Lutheran Church
5:45 p.m. Meal Served
6:30 p.m. Worship

Our Ash Wednesday services start off the series by focusing on what ultimately saddens our Heavenly Father, but also how we wait for Jesus' return, where he will end weeping once and for all. Join us for our Lent sermon series, "Tears," as we also dig into what made Malachi, Peter, and Mary cry, but also that those tears are wiped away by a loving God.

Dates and Themes

~~March 4~~ – Ash Wednesday – *The World Makes God Weep* (Genesis 6:11-22 & Joel 2:12-13)
March 8 – *Crocodile Tears* (Malachi 2:10-16)
March 15 – *In the Wake of Weeping* (John 11:17-35 & Revelation 21:1-4)
March 22 – *Tears on My Pillow* (Psalm 42:1-5 & Hebrews 2:14-18)
March 29 – *The Day a Disciple Cried* (Mark 14:66-72 & Ephesians 2:12-13)
April 5 – *What Makes God Weep* (Luke 13:31-35 & 1 Thessalonians 5:4-11)

It's Time to Update the Quiet Bags!

Bags with quiet-time activities during church for small children (ages 2-5) are located in the church entry and used each weekend by many children.



The 5th–8th grade Sunday School class at BLC and the BLH MOPS group are kindly going through the bags and updating them.



If you would like to donate items for the bags, please leave them in the specially marked tote in the church entry.

DONATION IDEAS:

- Books
- Lacing/Sewing cards
- I Spy Bottles
- Magnetic Toys
- Plastic animals
- Puzzles
- Draw & erase boards
- Lego kits (Duplo size)
- Little cars, trains, boats, motorcycles, etc.
- Coloring books and crayons (no markers, please)
- Smaller dolls that do not take up too much room in the bag

New &
Gently
Used

Community Kids Club

Saturday, March 11

9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Bloomington Lutheran Church



Join us!

Parents and
volunteers
are always
welcome!

- ★ Games
- ★ Crafts
- ★ Minecraft
- ★ Lunch

Order Easter Plants



Please order from the list below and your plant(s) will be used to decorate the altar area on Easter. You may take the plants home after the Easter services.

Options for this year:

- White Easter Lily – \$7.50
- Pink Asiatic Lily – \$6
- Purple Tulips – \$9
- Pink Azalea – \$16
- Blue Hydrangea \$19.50

The deadline for ordering is March 27.

Sign-up sheets and payment envelopes are on the info table at Living Hope, and on the Flower Chart bulletin board in the north hallway at Bloomington Lutheran Church.



Thank you



FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN

Saturday, March 18th

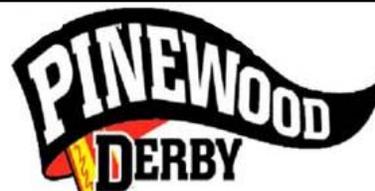
11:30 AM - 1:30 PM

Assemble dehydrated meals that will be sent to hungry children all over the world.

Meet at the FMSC facility
990 Lone Oak Rd #136
Eagan, MN

Sign-up at fmsc.org:

- Click on the “Volunteer Info” tab
- Click on “Volunteer Registration”
- Click on “Join a Group”
- Enter the **Join Code #1054145**



Everyone can make a car!

Go to bllh.org/family, fill out the form, and arrange to pick up a car kit (\$10 fee).

**Race-day is
Sunday March 19th
2:00 PM**

Living Hope Lutheran Church
Register cars from 1:00-1:30 PM

**2 Racing Brackets
Grades 1-8
Ages 14-99+!**

