

Bloomington Living Hope Lutheran Church

Weekend of April 1-3, 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

Lord, our God, we yield to you most hearty thanks for this opportunity to worship and praise you. Grant that this time will not be in vain. Let your words make a lasting impression on our hearts, that we may be strengthened in faith, and settled in our hope. Keep us steadfast in Jesus Christ until we enter into the inheritance of the saints in light. 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
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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, April 2

6:00 p.m. Sr. High Vertical Encounters at LH

Monday, April 3

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

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

Tuesday, April 4

9:30 a.m. OWLS Meeting at BLC

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

Wednesday, April 5 – 6th 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, April 6

6:00-7:30 p.m. Volunteer at Feed My Starving Children Facility in Chanhassen

Saturday, April 8

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

LOVE IN ACTION SERVERS

	Living Hope	Bloomington
This Sunday	Acts	Galatians
Lent 6	Ezra	Psalms
Palm Sunday	Samuel	Hebrews

UPCOMING MESSAGES

Theme: *Spiritual Habits (For Ordinary People)*

March 5	<i>Fasting</i> ~ Philippians 2:1-18
March 12	<i>Prayer</i> ~ Philippians 4:4-9
March 19	<i>Giving</i> ~ Luke 16:1-15
March 26	<i>Bible Study</i> ~ John 17:14-19
April 2	<i>Self-Examination</i> ~ Ephesians 5:8-16
April 9	<i>Community</i> ~ Romans 12:3-16 Palm Sunday

We Celebrate the Number of Worshipers in God's House the 4 th Wednesday in Lent and Last Weekend	1,034
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OUR GIFTS TO THE LORD

Bloomington Living Hope Lutheran Church

Weekend of Mar. 26, 2017	Received Amount	Budgeted Amount	over/ (under)
Plate & Envelope	\$19,971	\$26,056	(\$6,084)
Year-to-Date	\$974,243	\$1,121,984	(\$147,741)

ALL CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Baptisms On Saturday, March 25, Eden Joyce, daughter of Sarah and Mark Gibson, was baptized privately by Pastor Pudell. Oscar Paul, son of Luke and Cathie Armbrust, will be baptized on Sunday at Bloomington Lutheran Church. We welcome Oscar and Eden 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.

Project Lead the Way (PLTW) at Bloomington Lutheran School –STEM Grant Update

This school year, 82 students at Bloomington Lutheran School are benefiting from an Automation and Robotics \$20,000 Project Lead the Way (PLTW) STEM grant! 8th Grade completed the unit in the first trimester, 7th Grade is learning the unit right now and 6th Grade will finish the school year learning Automation and Robotics. This is an incredible opportunity to build on what students learned last school year with PLTW Design and Modeling. Currently, 7th Grade is learning to write computer code to program a cortex attached to what they designed and built with VEX parts. It's a great opportunity to spark an interest in students to pursue higher level science, math, and technology coursework in high school. Thank you to the Cargill Foundation for funding this grant! We are thankful for this blessing!

Prayer and Care Ministry

Whatever your need might be, our prayer ministry stands ready to pray. Contact Diane Walters (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.

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.

Build More, Do More, Serve More Campaign Update

The second anniversary of our three year Build More, Do More, Serve More campaign is quickly approaching. The campaign continuation committee is now working hard on reaching out via letters and phone calls to various member groups to invite members to participate in the campaign for the first time as well as to confirm member's intentions who are currently giving without a commitment. As of the end of February, the Lord has moved more than 3 of every 4 contributing member households to participate in some way to this campaign. What a blessing and we thank God for this. After celebrating the second anniversary of the campaign with an event in May of this year, commitments and in-kind gifts will be totaled and compared with the final construction costs currently being worked on by the building committee to determine the additional amount needed to be raised. Once the additional amount is known, a plan, which could include a second campaign, will be brought before the congregation for consideration. May the Lord continue to bless our congregation as we seek to do His will to know Christ and to make Him known!

Update from Keith Anderson, Church President

Plans for our new building are coming along. Soon, Station 19 Architects will finish construction documents and Langer Construction will receive bids. Getting to this point, there have been many meetings between Station 19, Langer, BLH called and lay workers, building committee members, numerous BLH member volunteers, the City of Shakopee and the Watershed District. Thank you to all who have given of their time and knowledge to advance this project.

After construction documents and bids are complete, we will gather the congregation together to share final building plans and cost figures. When the congregation meets, likely a few weeks after Easter, we will vote on when to begin construction of our dedicated sanctuary, youth/multi-use and conference room space. Very importantly, we will also discuss and vote on our funding strategy. During the January 5, 2017 meeting, when the congregation voted to proceed with the design document phase, it was noted that our Build More, Do More, Serve More capital campaign commitments were \$1,200,000 short of the estimated construction cost. If our BMDMSM commitments are now between \$1.0 and \$1.2 million short of what is needed, we should plan to seek at least \$1.5 million just to ensure that we are adequately funded for completing of this building project. The recommendation that will be brought to the congregation will most likely seek additional funds, in the neighborhood of \$2.0M, which will allow us to correct for our current and past years' operating deficits and, if the Lord sees fit, to pay down a portion of our long-term debt – something we have wanted to do for many years.

Please keep this building project as well as the ongoing ministries of BLH at the top of your minds and in your prayers. If you have questions, please contact Kevin Laleman, Building Committee Chair at klaleman@gmail.com or 952-956-2155.

OWLS – Organization of WELS Lutheran Seniors, 50+ Our upcoming schedule is as follows:

- **Tuesday, April 4, 9:30 a.m.** – Regular monthly meeting at BLC. Our speaker will be Fred Bork, who will give a presentation on Noah's Ark.
- **Wednesday, April 19, 9:00 a.m.** – OWLS Spring Rally at Martin Luther College in New Ulm. Please look over the information on OWLS bulletin board at BLC.

Upcoming Events at St. Croix Lutheran School
Saturday, April 8 - Twin Cities Fine Arts Festival at SCL
Sunday, April 9 - Spring Sacred Concert
Sunday, April 23 – Ric Gibson 40th Anniversary Celebration
April 28-29 – Spring Play – *Pride and Prejudice*
More info at StCroixLutheran.org.

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.).

LOOKING AHEAD:

April 5 – Serve Lenten Meal at Living Hope

The dinner is at 5:45– 6:15, but come early to help serve or stay to clean up afterwards. You can sign up to bring food when the event gets closer.

8th Grade Confirmation Capstone Retreat

April 21-22 at Living Hope

Friday, 5:30-9:00 p.m. and

Saturday, 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

The confirmands will spend a weekend getting ready for the transition to adult membership in the church, and the transition to high school. The cost is \$25.

This is required for Confirmation.



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 April 2 and 9.**

AMAZING RACE



FAMILY EDITION

SUNDAY, APRIL 9TH ★ 3:00 PM ★ LIVING HOPE

Participants will be formed into teams (families will stay together), and will complete a series of challenges in a race to the prize (Easter Egg Hunt). This event will have a healthy blend of cooperation and competition.

Join us for this exciting event!



After the race, we will facilitate family discussions about using our God-given talents.

We will wrap up with dinner at 5:00 PM.

VBS is June 19-22 ★ Registration begins soon!

Community Kids Club

**Saturday, April 8
9:00 a.m. -12:00 p.m.**



Celebration

Bring a friend!

Parents and
volunteers
welcome!

Join us for:

- † Games
- † Crafts
- † Fellowship
- † More

Volunteer at Feed My Starving Children

**Thursday, April 6
6:00-7:30 p.m.**

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



Meet at the FMSC facility
18732 Lake Dr E, Chanhassen

Sign-up at fmsc.org:

- Click on the “Volunteer Info” tab
- Click on “Volunteer Registration”
- Click on “Join a Group”
- Enter the **Join Code #1054157**

Enjoy Easter Breakfast at Church!

**BLC
begins
at 8 AM**

Served by Family Ministry!

Everyone is welcome to help with prepping, cooking, and serving this meal!

As in previous years, the meal will be rounded out by donations of breakfast pastries. If you would like to donate (homemade is welcome), please sign up on the sheet posted on the kiosk in the BLC church entry. If possible, drop off your donation on Saturday, April 15 from 9:30-11:30 a.m.



Volunteers are needed on Saturday, April 15 beginning at 9:30 a.m. to prep eggs, meat, fixings, and help set tables.

And, volunteers are needed on Easter Sunday.

To sign up, go to SignUpGenius.com and use the email joel.hansen@myblh.org to find the sign-ups for Saturday and Sunday. Or, feel free to email Joel directly.

**Sit-down
Family-style
Meal**

It's a potluck!



Bring family, friends, and a dish or two to share.

We have invited the neighbors and are counting on you to help the visitors feel welcome.

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)