

# GOOD NEWS

HOODLAND LUTHERAN CHURCH an ELCA congregation

April 2021

**Physical Location**

59151 E Hwy 26  
Sandy, OR 97055

**Phone:** 503-622-3916

**E-mail:** hoodlandlutheranchurch@gmail.com

**Website:** www.hoodlandlc.org

**Mailing Address**

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**CONTACTS**

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*All are Welcome... No exceptions!*



**Our Mission Statement:** Called by God's grace, empowered and unified by the Holy Spirit, Hoodland Lutheran Church is a gifted and diverse family celebrating and proclaiming the Gospel by serving our congregation, community and world.

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## A Child's Easter

by Nick Doversberger

I had just turned seven years old when my grandpa died. That was the first death I had ever experienced of a person close to me. My mother's parents had died, too, but that happened earlier, when I was too young to remember. I did not see my grandpa often. We lived on a dairy farm and it was hard to get away. He and my grandma lived on a farm in central Indiana, about three hours drive to the south. But I really liked him. I remember him standing by the wood stove in their living room, smoking his pipe and handing me an occasional chiclet. He took me out with him when he fed the sheep in the barnyard and let me give them the corn. I watched him work the squeaky hand pump that pulled that cold water up from the well so we could drink from the tin cup. I got to walk back to the woods with him and my dad when they went back there to split some firewood and bring it up to the house in the wagon. He smiled easily and laughed gently. He had served in the First World War, a short, tough, wiry man often sent up to keep lookout in the crow's nest on a Navy minesweeper patrolling the frigid, rough waters of the North Sea.

He had numerous heart attacks over the years. This last one was not unexpected, but it was a severe one. He was in the hospital when my grandma called to let us know that evening. I remember telling him to get better. He said he'd try. But he died that night. There had been another phone call early in the morning before I was awake, informing us. Dad had gone out to do the milking by the time I heard. I didn't know what to think. I didn't understand how I felt. I remember asking my mother if daddy had cried. That's how I felt. I had cried about many things that made me sad. I wasn't ashamed of it, either. Still, I couldn't remember ever seeing my dad cry and I thought that if he ever did, this would probably be the time. Mom didn't answer me directly. She just said that it was like he had lost the only real friend he ever had. Somehow, I've always known what that meant.

We went to the funeral a few days later. That was when children were not shielded much from such things. People were visiting in the funeral home, talking respectfully. Lots of them were friends and fellow church members who'd known my grandpa for years. It all felt right to me that they would be there for each other. I remember sitting in a chair and thinking that if I would just pray hard enough, maybe he would still come back to life and be with us again, and all these people, especially my dad, would feel so much better. But, of course, he didn't and he never would. I realized that, little as I was, when we passed the open casket on the way out of church and when we stood out there at the cemetery in the bright sunshine of a frigid February day.

Afterwards, the family gathered at the farmhouse, and we visited and ate, and I walked out to the woods. So much had happened in so few days. In a way, our world, my world, had changed irrevocably. We all would have to go on without him.

I can't remember a single particular thing from the church service. But I do remember a feeling that came over me in spite of the sadness. There was a lightness. All those people who were in that place weren't just looking back, remembering. They were looking ahead too. They didn't act like people who thought all was lost. They were acting like people who believed in something bigger than death. Those people helped me begin to see that. So did my parents. You can't go back to the way it was and maybe, after all, that wouldn't be so good. But you can go forward. Even a seven-year old boy could sense that, sitting in church on a rainy Easter Sunday, glimpsing a fleeting drop in the corner of his father's eye.

# *Announcements and Tid-Bits . . .*

## **Financial Report**

	Jan	Feb
Net Operating Income	\$ 2,056.29	\$ 3,156.30
Net Operating Expenses	<u>\$ 2,783.63</u>	<u>\$ 2,611.25</u>
<b>Total Net Income (Loss)</b>	<b>\$ (727.34)</b>	<b>\$ 545.05</b>
Monthly income goal per budget	\$ 4,292.00	
<b>How did we do this month?</b>	<b>\$ (1,135.70)</b>	



**Save the Hoodland Senior Center.** Write, call, email and plead with the decision-makers to keep the Center open.

Email:

Gary Schmidt, County Administrator  
[gschmidt@clackamas.us](mailto:gschmidt@clackamas.us)

Board of Commissioners  
[bcc@co.clackamas.or.us](mailto:bcc@co.clackamas.or.us)

Mailing address:

2051 Kaen Road  
Oregon City, OR 97045

Phone:

(503) 655-8581



Martha Lavardsen - 4th  
Cindy Carrier - 7th  
Bob Benedict—28th

### **Neighborhood Missions**

#### **Free Food Market**

**April 26**

**9:00-10:00 a.m.**

**Hoodland Senior Center**

**Assistance message line: 503-622-9213**

## **How Can I Continue to Give?**

- ♦ **Check** - Checks payable to Hoodland Lutheran Church can be mailed to the church's mailing address at PO Box 594, Brightwood, OR 97011.
- ♦ **Online Banking** - Most banks offer *Bill Pay* (your bank may call it something else). Set up Hoodland Lutheran Church as a payee, enter your payment schedule/amount, and your bank does the rest electronically. No stamp necessary!
- ♦ **Electronic** - visit HLC website ([www.hoodlandlc.org](http://www.hoodlandlc.org)), click on the GivePlus+ box  and follow the user-friendly prompts. Choose to support the church and/or Neighborhood Missions.

### **Azul Cerralvo**

We take a lot for granted living in the States. We have access to pretty much anything we want, even living in our mountain community. We have groceries, restaurants, medical care, running water and electricity. We are blessed to find support from friends, neighbors, and our church. There have been multiple times when the community came together as a whole to help families whose lives have been touched by tragedy. Serving each other and our neighbors is what Christ calls us to do.

Nick and Kris Doversberger wrote an article for the annual congregational meeting which described their winter community on the Baja peninsula and the work they do with *Azul Cerralvo*.

*Azul Cerralvo* serves the poorest and most isolated of the surrounding communities. They reach out to the needs of the people by staying in communication and making regular visits. Getting what is needed is difficult and mired in paperwork which the people themselves simply can't take the time to complete since they are working to support their families. Families are multi-generational living in modest and often overcrowded homes. Their needs are simple – personal care items, medical supplies, food, and the basic necessities for day-to-day living.

There was much discussion about supporting this ministry during the meeting. We acknowledge our generosity in helping those in our own community, but have you ever asked yourself how you could help those across our border? We can extend God's grace and support *Azul Cerralvo* and the work they do in their community. If you are so moved, send your gift payable to Hoodland Lutheran Church with the notation "Azul" on the memo line. Gifts we send will be put to good use.



### *In our prayers*

Those in need of continued healing, especially Tommie Kirkendall, Pastor Craig Johnson (from Christ Lutheran Church), Naomi Quick, and those suffering with COVID-19

Help us to remember those who may feel alone and isolated, especially the residents of Cascadia and most especially Martha Mandel, Ruth Reade, and Pat Brown

Grant strength to families who are suffering from separation, illness, or difficult times

For children who are returning to classrooms and for their educators that they stay safe in their learning

For Michael and his family as they again grapple with news of his cancer recurrence, we ask they find comfort as they search for answers

For the safety of healthcare workers and all who stand on the front lines providing care and those delivering and administering vaccines

Praise and thanksgiving for Eduardo's (Cristina's brother) safety and Joan's (Judy's sister) successful medical procedure.

Holy God, lead us from despair to hope, from fear to trust, from hate to love, and from war to peace. Let your peace fill our hearts, our world, and our universe.

*Dear God, I am taking a moment to thank you for the week ahead of me. I pray for Your strength every day, and I am thanking You in advance for Your care, wisdom, and guidance. We are still dealing with so much, but I am grateful You are walking with me through each storm with Your mercy and grace. I cannot be everywhere, but You are. Please guide and bless my loved ones and keep us safe in Your care. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.*

**Prayer Ventures** (*petitions are offered as a guide to prayer for the global, social and outreach ministries of the ELCA, as well as for the needs and circumstances of our neighbors, communities, and world*)

- 1 As Paul said, our faith in Christ may seem like foolishness to some people but we can always trust in God's love for us through Christ because it is real, trustworthy and life-giving. Pray that God will embolden us to share our faith without hesitation or embarrassment and to invite others to believe even when doing so seems foolish.
- 2 *Good Friday* Remember the suffering and sacrifice of Jesus, the Son of God, for our sake and salvation. Give thanks that God looks upon us with concern, gracious love and mercy.
- 3 Lift up prayers of humble gratitude that through baptism our lives are conjoined with the life, death and resurrection of Christ, which enable us to "walk in newness of life" and be "alive to God."
- 4 *Easter Sunday* He is risen! Praise God! Give thanks that through Jesus' resurrection we are no longer constrained by sin and death but can celebrate salvation, new life and God's wonderful grace, which reclaims and changes us.
- 5 "This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it." Look around and give thanks for the people, community, world, wonders of creation and signs of God's presence and work that surround you.
- 6 *Arab American Heritage Month* Remember in prayer the diverse gifts, cultures, heritages and stories of our Arab and Middle Eastern siblings in Christ, who remind us of the rich history and tradition of Christ's church in the world. Ask God to bless and further the work, witness and advocacy of Arab and Middle Eastern Ministries in the ELCA and the Association of Lutherans of Arab and Middle Eastern Heritage of the ELCA.
- 7 Give thanks for the generosity shared from across our church, which helps us respond to the needs of the world, live out our faith in service to our neighbors and proclaim the gospel everywhere.
- 8 Jesus continues to walk with us daily and to make his loving presence known when we gather with bread and wine, remembering the sacrifices he made for our sake and for the restoration of our relationships with God. Give thanks and praise to God for being in our lives!
- 9 Give thanks for the empathy and support expressed by the Rev. Martin Junge, general secretary of the Lutheran World Federation (LWF), in his letter to Presiding Bishop Elizabeth A. Eaton and our church in a time of political and social tension. "People need to talk and listen to each other again," he wrote. "Broken relationships need to be mended. People need to trust again so that they can live and work together. People need to heal from their pain and their wounds." Give thanks for the LWF, a global family who accompany one another in doing God's work in the world.
- 10 Pray for the humility to acknowledge and respect God's infinite power, presence and grace for the sake of all people.
- 11 Jesus is with us in times of fear and uncertainty, just as he was with his troubled disciples after the resurrection. Pray for the Spirit to encourage our faith, ground us in the good news of Christ and grant us peace, reassurance, hope and direction throughout our baptismal journey.
- 12 Give thanks for signs of spring! Some places still have snow on the ground, yet others show signs of nature blossoming and new life emerging. Give thanks for the good, life-giving work of our Creator, who urges patience and stirs new life and hope in every season.
- 13 Pray for Creation Justice Ministries, Lutherans Restoring Creation and other ministries, organizations and networks that deepen our awareness and knowledge of creation and the environment and equip us to care for creation and our communities.
- 14 "How very good and pleasant it is when kindred live together in unity!" Pray that God will help us better understand what living together in unity requires of us as siblings in Christ and as world citizens striving for peace, justice, reconciliation and mutual care.
- 15 Ask the Spirit to inspire wisdom, insight, compassion and boldness in the members of the ELCA Church Council as they gather online this week to guide and shape the work of our church in spreading the good news of Jesus Christ, serving our neighbors in need and supporting our congregations.
- 16 Pray that, as we share the gospel and serve our neighbor, we will recognize the spiritual, physical and emotional needs of our siblings in Christ who are also doing God's work in the world.

***Prayer Ventures, continued***

- 17 Pray for our ELCA missionaries serving alongside companion churches and organizations in Asia and the Pacific region, including the Rev. Phillip Baker (Cambodia), the Rev. Chandran Paul Martin and Timothy Melvyn (India), the Rev. Charles Peterson and the Rev. Jeffrey Truscott (Indonesia), Hailey Brenden (Nepal) and the Rev. Suk Yeon Lee (Jang) (South Korea).
- 18 Lift up prayers of gratitude to God for the presence of the Spirit in our lives, which deepens our faith and trust in Jesus as the promised Messiah, helps us understand Scripture and moves us to respond to God's call that we bear witness to the good news of Jesus Christ.
- 19 Give thanks for volunteers of all ages and gifts who serve in congregations, including teachers, assisting ministers, child care providers, committee members, greeters, singers, musicians, people who fix things and those who visit the ill or homebound. Praise God for the rich diversity of gifts, skills and passions we share in the body of Christ.
- 20 The Multicultural Youth Leadership Event (MYLE) is a pre-event to the ELCA Youth Gathering. Pray for the MYLE leadership team of youth, young adults and adults planning the summer 2021 event on the theme "Made Free." Ask God to bless their work of creating a community, inclusive and accountable to all, that is inspired and woven together by the Spirit.
- 21 What a joy it is to be called children of God because of God's great love for us! We may not know or understand everything about God or what lies in store for us, but we are still loved, forgiven and claimed without condition. Thank and praise God!
- 22 *Earth Day* Give thanks and glory to God for the blessings and mysteries of creation, entrusted to us to sustain and enrich all generations. Pray that God will make us wise, generous and responsible stewards of nature and Earth's resources for the glory of our Creator and the well-being of our neighbor.
- 23 Give thanks for our church's partnership with Lutheran World Relief to support pandemic emergency response projects in Asia, Africa and Latin America.
- 24 Remember in prayer people who are confined in our jails, prisons and correctional facilities. Pray that they will be treated humanely and justly, be renewed by the good news of Jesus Christ, and find hope and strength in God's love and mercy. Pray for the Spirit to help us — as individuals and as faith communities — empathize with prisoners returning home and boldly extend our hospitality, acceptance and support as they do the difficult work of building new lives in our communities.
- 25 Give thanks that Jesus is the good shepherd who knows us, loves us, unites us, leads us through life and is willing to sacrifice his life for our sake.
- 26 Give thanks to God for the generosity and commitment across our church as it supports and funds global mission programs and accompanies companions in 45 countries through missionaries, companion church grants, the International Leaders Program and other programs.
- 27 In this sometimes lonely world, praise God that we always have Jesus, a loving shepherd who knows us and provides us with care, guidance, renewal, comfort and courage as we face the challenges of daily life.
- 28 Pray for the needs of people in your neighborhood and community, give thanks for their joys and recognize how their lives intersect with yours.
- 29 Pray that the Spirit will make us courageous and articulate in sharing the good news even in the most intimidating of circumstances, just as John and Peter did while in prison.
- 30 Give thanks for national and local leaders, health care workers and volunteers who continue to fight the COVID-19 pandemic and help us recover physically, economically, spiritually and emotionally. Pray that God will help them persevere and that we will generously express our support and gratitude.



*GOOD NEWS*

April 2021

Hoodland Lutheran Church

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4 <i>10:30A Worship via ZOOM</i>  <i>He is Risen!</i>	5 1-2P Bible Study via ZOOM	6	7	8	9	10
11 <i>Acts 4:32-35 Ps 133 1 John 1:1-2:2 John 20:19-31</i>  <i>2 Easter</i>	12 1-2P Bible Study via ZOOM	13	14	15	16	17
18 <i>10:30A Worship via ZOOM</i>  <i>3 Easter</i>	19 1-2P Bible Study via ZOOM	20	21	22  <b>Newsletter Deadline</b>	23	24
25 <i>Acts 4:5-12 Ps 23 1 John 3:16-24 John 10:11-18</i>  <i>4 Easter</i>	26 <b>9-10A FREE FOOD MARKET</b>  <i>1-2P Bible Study via ZOOM</i>	27	28	29	30	
<div style="border: 2px solid red; padding: 10px;"> <b>Upcoming ZOOM Worship Schedule</b> <p>May 2 (Zoom) May 16 (Zoom) May 23 (Live @ church)</p> </div>			<p><b>To access ZOOM gatherings</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Go to <a href="https://www.hoodlandlc.org">https://www.hoodlandlc.org</a></li> <li>• Click on the JOIN US link</li> <li>• First time users will need to download the ZOOM app (should automatically download)</li> </ul>			