

# The Anchor

## March 2020

*The Newsletter of Hope Lutheran Church*  
211 Elton Adelphia Road Freehold NJ 07728  
Phone (732) 462-7545 Fax (732) 462-9320

**Worship Services with Holy Communion**  
**Sunday Worship 8:30AM and 11:00AM**  
**Sunday School 9:45AM – 10:45AM**  
**Catechism Classes 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of each month**  
**Wednesday Worship and School 7:00PM**  
**First Holy Communion Classes**  
**March 4, March 11, March 18, March 25 @ 7:00PM**  
**First Holy Communion Sunday, March 29 @ 11:00AM**

**Pastor: The Rev Dr Edward Kropa Jr**  
**[pastorkropa@gmail.com](mailto:pastorkropa@gmail.com)**

**Minister of Music: Joshua Staudinger**  
**[hopelutheranmusic@gmail.com](mailto:hopelutheranmusic@gmail.com)**

**Administrator: Cheryl Hurd (732) 462-7545**  
**[hopelutheran17@gmail.com](mailto:hopelutheran17@gmail.com)**

**HCS Director: Judy Canfield**  
**[judyc08723@yahoo.com](mailto:judyc08723@yahoo.com)**

## **Congregation Council:**

<b>President</b>	Michael Della Rosa	<a href="mailto:mdell425@optonline.net">mdell425@optonline.net</a>	908-380-8362
<b>Vice President</b>	Sharryn Papinchak	<a href="mailto:sharrynp@gmail.com">sharrynp@gmail.com</a>	732-526-7342
<b>Treasurer</b>	John Drager	<a href="mailto:johndrager@verizon.net">johndrager@verizon.net</a>	732-431-1077
<b>Secretary</b>	Debbie Unger	<a href="mailto:debbill@optonline.net">debbill@optonline.net</a>	732-577-1218
<b>Youth Ministries</b>	Tara Zigler	<a href="mailto:tzigler2@gmail.com">tzigler2@gmail.com</a>	732-446-6117
<b>Education</b>	Janet Creech	<a href="mailto:kjcreech@optonline.net">kjcreech@optonline.net</a>	732-431-1631
<b>Fellowship</b>	Thomas Landes	<a href="mailto:tomlandes@comcast.net">tomlandes@comcast.net</a>	917-797-5191
	Michelle Verdino	<a href="mailto:michelle.verdino@gmail.com">michelle.verdino@gmail.com</a>	732-861-7840
	Matthew Sprunger	<a href="mailto:Matthew.sprunger@gmail.com">Matthew.sprunger@gmail.com</a>	732-677-3830

# LENTEN MIDWEEK SERMON SERIES

## *DAVID: A Flawed Hero*

Of all the people we meet in the Bible, King David was one of the most memorable; a towering figure, in fact. Arguably the most beloved of Israel's heroes, David ruled over the nation during the very zenith of its political and military power and influence and success. And he then cast a giant shadow over the centuries to follow, during which the Israelites were always longing for a return to their former glory under David's leadership; endlessly hoping for someone who could repeat or reproduce what he had done. So great was his impact, and the memories he left behind, that the people of Israel eventually came to believe in and to hope for a "Messiah" who would be a direct descendent of David and who would someday come to reverse their fortunes.

But David, for all his greatness and many accomplishments was a "flawed" hero, however. He was not a perfect man, and he made many tragic mistakes during his lifetime. Yet, in the end, he is still remembered and revered, despite all of his obvious flaws.

David, of course, was the young shepherd boy who became a king. He was the unlikeliest of warriors who defeated the giant Goliath on the field of battle. And he was also the great hero who lost his way and took for himself another man's wife by having her husband killed in a suicide wartime mission. But, nevertheless, in the Augsburg Confession, when it came time for Lutherans to articulate their understanding of what exactly a saint was, the only biblical figure they named was... David. Warts and all. Why? Because even with all of his obvious flaws and shortcomings, David was also a man of great faith who was willing to take ownership of his tragic sins; a flawed hero through whom God could still work God's will.

On Wednesday nights at 7:00 pm during this season of Lent, we will have an opportunity to meet and consider this flawed hero named David, and to see how his life can inform our own. I invite you to join me for this journey.

### **DATE            THEME & SCRIPTURE**

<i>March 4</i>	The Shepherd Boy: "It's What's on the Inside that Counts" 1 Samuel 16:1-13
<i>March 11</i>	The Warrior: "A Champion Comes to Fight" 1 Samuel 17:4, 8-9, 24, 32-51
<i>March 18</i>	The Sinner: "A King Behaving Badly" 2 Samuel 11:1-5, 14-17, 26-27; 12:1-15a
<i>March 25</i>	The Saint: "A Final Assessment" 1 Kings 1:32-37; 2:1-4, 10-12

*Pastor Ed*

<b>HOPE STATS</b>					
<b>Sun/Wed</b>	<b>Attendance</b>	<b>Sun School</b>	<b>Offerings</b>	<b>-did NOT</b>	<b>+ reached</b>
<b>Feb 2</b>	103	30	\$4,211	<b>-\$20</b>	
<b>Feb 9</b>	117	40	\$4,723		<b>+\$492</b>
<b>Feb 16</b>	143	-	\$3,759	<b>-\$472</b>	
<b>Feb 23</b>	95	22	\$2,407	<b>-\$1824</b>	
<i>Average Offering needed <u>weekly</u> to meet the proposed budget offerings of \$220,000 is \$4,231</i>					

*Baptisms....* No Baptisms for the month of February.

*Our Love and Sympathy....* Duane Christ has passed on to Life Eternal, he and his wife Lily were members here for many years until they moved to Minnesota. He passed peacefully on February 1, holding his wife's hand and surrounded by family. In lieu of flowers, Duane wanted everyone to donate to your favorite charity. Condolences can be sent to Lily Christ @ TowerLight Senior Living 3601 Wooddale Avenue S Apt 219 Saint Louis Park MN 55416.

Carolyn Volk, wife of Pastor David Volk, David was a pastor at Grace Lutheran, Carolyn passed away February 14;

Vergil Herzberger, grandfather of Jules Bulkley passed away February 15;

Ken Friewald, cousin of Angelo Ranaudo has passed on to Life Eternal;

\*\*\*The *Kropa* family has started a *Gloria Kropa Scholarship Fund* which will go towards Hope Christian School families in need. Checks can be made out to *Hope Lutheran Church* with “Gloria Kropa Fund” written on the Memo line. We can accept donations for this fund at any time.

*More News....*

*Women of Hope Memorial Fund Donations....* No donations for the month of February reported to the office.

*For 2020, Hope Lutheran Church made additional donations...*

The Youth Group raised \$363 during their SouperBowl fundraiser and in turn donated all the proceeds to Open Door of Freehold. A free will offering of over \$400 was collected for the Mary Jane Enrichment Center on Youth Sunday. Minister of Music, Josh Staudinger so generously donated \$500 from our Organ Repair Fund to help First Methodist Church in Freehold with their vandalized organ repair.

## Notes from the Congregation Council

Some members of our congregation may not be aware of the fact that the council meets on the **third Monday of each month at 7 PM at the church**. Anyone is welcome to attend and we ask that if you are interested in joining us to discuss anything that you please let us know in advance of your plans to attend.

In addition, we can make available to any congregant the reports and minutes that are submitted for each meeting. These documents are available in the office of our HLC administrator, Cheryl Hurd, and also outside of this office in the bin that also holds the bulletins and copies of the Anchor. You may also contact Cheryl or any officer of the council to obtain that information.

As mentioned in the last Anchor newsletter, we are in the midst of phase one of the process as a church family of doing our due diligence to explore potential solutions to our space issues. We are very early in this journey. The next significant step will be to ask you for comments on the work of the Vision and Planning “Dream Team”, details of which will be available to you in the near future. The question that will be asked of you is “**How are we doing so far?**” **There will be multiple opportunities to enable you to express your comments.**

Once this period of sharing ideas and comments from the congregation is completed, a congregational meeting will be held (date yet to be determined). At this meeting a dialogue will enable all attending to comment on our “wish List”, and to **approve or disapprove** moving to phase two of the plan. **If approved**, phase two would involve the formation of a building team and hiring of architects and engineers to further explore the possibilities available to solve our space concerns.

Undoubtedly, as we move forward much comment and conversation will occur. Open communication is the key to fostering understanding and limiting rumor and misinformation about this process. The council will make every effort to communicate with the congregation via the Anchor, email messages, snail mail, and church meetings to keep you informed as our vetting process proceeds.

We ask that any congregant contact members of the council to present concerns, ask questions, and offer opinions so that we can ensure that any misconceptions are addressed and accurate information is presented.

Thank you in advance for your help and interest at this important time in our congregation’s history.

Best Regards,

Mike Della Rosa



Please sign up if you haven't already!!

Wednesdays at 7:00PM in Fellowship Hall -  
March 4, March 11, March 18, and March 25



## *First Holy Communion*

Sunday, March 29 at the 11:00AM Service



Come Join us! We hold a Contemporary Worship Service on the **THIRD** Sunday of each month at 11:00AM – our next one is Sunday, March 15<sup>th</sup>, be sure to come check it out!!



*The second Tuesday of each month at **7:30PM**, all women are welcome for Bible Study, food and fun!*

**Tuesday, March 10, 2020**



Someone special donated \$200 worth of Stop and Shop Gift Cards to help support our *next meal hosting at Saint Peter's!*

Mark your calendars for **Friday, March 13!!**



## **Gathering of Men Breakfast**

**Meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of each month at 9AM**

**February 14, 2020**

**Join the Gathering of Men for breakfast, fellowship and sharing. We'll have breakfast and conversation.**

**Any questions may be directed to:**

***Gerry Bergh, 732-972-2799***



## The Manor Worship Service

**Sunday, March 15<sup>th</sup> at 2:00PM**

689 West Main Street in Freehold (right in front of CentraState)

Worship Service with Holy Communion

*You are invited to join Pastor Kropa for assistance with this Nursing Home service,  
please arrive at 1:45PM.*



**Thursday, March 19<sup>th</sup> at 11:30AM**

*in the Hope Lutheran Church Narthex –  
the Club meets the THIRD Thursday of each  
month for fun and fellowship!!*



**The Emergency Housing Program,  
a project of the Freehold Clergy  
Association is in its final month for**

**this season!** Hope Lutheran Church is  
blessed to be the host site for our homeless  
neighbors in need. Would you be interested in

hosting, preparing a meal or driving? We are so grateful and thankful for the  
dedication and selfless service that made this season a blessing! **THANK YOU  
SO MUCH EVERYONE!!**

Please contact Andrew or Zinke McGeady at 732-363-8520 with any questions  
or for more information about this ministry. Together we are serving our Lord  
with gladness! Thank you in advance for your generous support!

***1 Thessalonians 1:2, ESV***

*We give thanks to God always for all of you,  
constantly mentioning you in our prayers.*



The Hope Lutheran Bosnia IST Team is selling  
Old Monmouth Candies for Easter!

Feel free to place your orders on the sheet in the narthex  
or contact **Grace Burrows (732-678-8981)** with any  
questions or to place an order.

Orders are due by **March 22nd** and will be available for  
pickup/ delivery by **March 27th!**

Join the Hope Lutheran Bosnia IST Team for a

### CANVAS PAINTING PARTY

On **Sunday, March 22nd from 3-6pm**

Led by local artist, Arlene Trinidad

Cost is \$40 per ticket and includes painting supplies, artist  
guided painting, your artwork to take home, music, fellowship  
and refreshments.

Please contact **Angie (732-534-2930)** to reserve your spot!



## BIKES AND BOOKS!!!

*The Freehold Area AAUW is again  
collecting books for its used book sale in  
JUNE. Please drop off any hardback or  
paperback fiction and non-fiction (no  
text books or readers digest condensed  
books!) at the church anytime between*

***NOW and MID-MAY. Joan Drager will take it from there- Thanks  
Joan! Also, John Drager will take any used bicycles to 2<sup>nd</sup> TURN  
AROUND, the bike ministry in Asbury Park – Thanks John!***





We will be holding our **FINAL** Bench Meeting  
*Wednesday, March 11 at 4:30PM* to make  
a decision to purchase – Hoping to have some nice  
**NEW** benches by Spring!



*Friday, April 3 at 6:34PM*

*\$5 per person*

Face painting, craft, story, Pasta dinner...

Sign ups in the Narthex!



## A BIG THANK YOU to...

*Cindy Livingston, Janet Creech, Sharon Black and Sue Della Rosa*  
for helping out with our Scholastic Book Fair!!

Thank you to *John Bonanno, John Drager, Bill Unger, Mark Bondo, Gerry Bergh, John Fink, Siggy Kuehn, Debbie Unger, and Suzy Coulter* for coordinating, shopping, cooking, and cleaning for Shrove Tuesday!

And thank you to *Julie Kuehn, Julia Weiss, Kelly Kuehn, Joey Hedderman, Olivia Raguseo and Madeleine Raguseo* for their help setting up, serving, and cleaning for Shrove Tuesday!

We had a *fantastic* attendance of 65 adults and 35 children!  
Equaling *ONE HUNDRED* people!

## FROM NOW ON.....

**Please do NOT turn down the heat in the classrooms, Sanctuary, Narthex, Fellowship Hall or any other space used during the week or over the weekend.** We installed some “newer” heating systems over the summer to get us through until the HVAC project is underway. It works better to maintain a regular temperature than to turn them all the way down and then skyrocket them when the room is in use again. The Sanctuary **NEEDS** to maintain a certain temperature at all times for the well being of our organ. 70 is acceptable for the time being. Thank you SO much for your ongoing support in matters like this!

**Facebook:**

**<https://www.facebook.com/HopeFreehold>**

**YouTube:**

**<youtube.com/hopefreehold>**

**Website:**

**[www.hopefreehold.org](http://www.hopefreehold.org)**



## *MARCH BIRTHDAYS!*

*Shannon Neilan  
David Lynch  
Dawn Mulcahy  
Jenna Platt  
John Platt  
Allison Fink  
Erin Behn  
Danielle Knoell  
Doris Green  
Michelle Koester  
Ray Vender  
Katie Hudak  
Nicole Seitz  
John Fink  
Nicholas D'Angelo  
Chuck Mineer  
Joanne Quinn  
Carolyn Gibson  
Anthony Russo  
Hannah Robinson  
Jeffrey Strandberg  
Ann Marie Hagemann  
Kayla Brand  
Sonja Dennis  
Sue Hu*

*Brandon Paasch  
Daniel Spicuzza  
Gary Devine  
Molly McMillin  
Sally Russo  
Ann Finkbeiner  
Maia Cardelfe  
Dolores O'Brien  
Landen Rosenberg  
Henry Sprunger  
Nicolette Birnbaum  
Michael Soutar  
Lucas Becce  
Cindy Lynch  
Santino Giacobbe  
Andrew Bayles  
Ashley Lashenick  
Brenda Johnson  
Kim Shimko  
Matthew DeFelice  
Janice Seifert  
Heather Peterson  
MacKenzie Miller  
Lorraine Cain*



