



Hope Lutheran Church

Enumclaw, Washington

# The Messenger of Hope

"Member of the Plateau Ministerial Association"

*Pastor Dan's Corner*

**W**ords are such an important part of our life. They help us to form our understanding of life and how we relate to each other. But our communication is not by words alone. In fact, words account for only a small part of our human communication.

Dr. Albert Mehrabian, retired professor at UCLA, postulated what is known as the "7-38-55" rule. In his research he found that the actual words we use only form 7 percent of our communication with each other. So-called "body language" forms 55 percent, and the tone of our voices, how we talk, influences 38 percent of our human communication. I know, I know...that's TMI – too much information.

Think about that for a moment, if the literal meaning of the words we use in talking to each other only influence 7 percent of the understanding we convey, then the other 93 percent, body language and tone of voice, influence the great majority of what we take in as we communicate with each other.

If the "7-38-55" rule is true, imagine Jesus talking to his disciples. The words of salvation through God, the words of teaching in the parables, the words of comfort and healing that Jesus so often spoke – the words them-

selves – would have conveyed only a small percentage of the understanding and influence Jesus projected to his hearers. Can you imagine how powerful his "body language" and tone of voice, his presence, must have been for his hearers?

We have only the written words to convey that powerful presence, the incredible attention Jesus must have had from those who listened to him. We can only imagine what it must have been like. We don't "see" his body language or hear his tone of voice. We can't see his smile. We can't gaze into his eyes. We can't feel the soft healing touch of his hands as he spoke words of comfort to the sick, the poor, the blind, the lame.

And yet, even if we can't experience the 93 percent of communication from Jesus that came from his presence and his voice, he influences our lives in ways far more than the written words could ever express.

He spoke in a language we don't understand, Aramaic. His words were written in a language that isn't even used today, Koine (common) Greek. Those words were translated, again and again, and copied again and again.

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# Your House Has a Great Foundation, But What About the House You've Built on Top of It?

All of us have heard of Jesus' parable of the man who built his house upon sand. You also know the other man built his house upon rock. The man whose house was built upon sand got washed away while the man who had built upon rock survived. Did you know there is another metaphor about houses that Paul wrote about to the Corinthian church (I Corinthians 3:10-15)? Let's learn the lesson from this metaphor.

As Christians all of us have the same foundation—Jesus Christ (vs. 11). The type and quality of house we build upon that foundation is up to us. Some will build on this foundation using gold, silver, costly stones, others, wood, hay, or stubble. We, as individuals choose what our spiritual house looks like (vs. 10). Time will tell what kind of house we build because fire will determine whether that house has been built properly. If it survives, we will receive our reward. If the house is destroyed, we still have the foundation, but all the toil we put into the house and all that we possess will be destroyed—as though someone escaped his burning house with only what he was wearing and nothing else (v. 15).

What does this metaphor mean to us? My understanding of this is that if we have repented and have received the Holy Spirit, we have the foundation of Christ and we will receive eternal life. We will be saved by grace

through faith (Ephesians 2:8). We have done nothing to warrant the foundation—it is the gift God gives us.

Then there is another level in this passage: If we did not use our talents properly—those abilities and opportunities God has given us--then our reward will be less. In other words, we need to do more than just believe as Christians. We need to be about our father's business: sharing our faith, feeding the poor, praying, being caring parents and diligent employees, and growing in grace and knowledge of our Lord and savior Jesus Christ. Paul is telling us we need to be active with our faith not just taking our talent(s) and hiding it (them) in the ground (Matthew 25:14ff).

There is a clear difference between receiving eternal life and receiving a reward for our efforts—works—after we are converted. We Lutherans tend to emphasize the gift of salvation—grace--and forget we are supposed to do something with that gift. It's not just faith, but faith AND works.

Paul is very clear in his metaphor about being diligent and building upon the foundation of Christ. What is your house being made out of--gold, silver, and precious stones, that will withstand the fiery trials, or wood, hay and stubble, which will be consumed by flame?

Thoughtfully,  
*Richard H. Elfers*  
Sunday Forum Facilitator



## Upcoming Events

- June 4 - Fourth Wisemen
- June 4 - Relay for Life Garage Sale
- June 9 - Brewed Awakenings
- June 10 - Special Olympics Dinner in Berg Hall
- June 14 - Theology on Tap
- June 15 - SpEd Movie Night
- June 17 - Kopp Wedding Rehearsal
- June 18 - Fourth Wisemen
- June 18 - Kopp Wedding
- June 19 - Messenger articles due - One Service Begins
- June 23 - Brewed Awakenings
- June 25 - All Day Stage Door Youth Camp Concert
- June 28 - XYZ Potluck & Outing
- June 28 - Theology on Tap



**June Birthdays**

- 6/1 Becky Lee
- 6/2 Darlene Thompson
- 6/3 Chelsea Pierce
- 6/4 Alison Haywood
- 6/9 Anna Mae Jensen
- 6/9 Vi Swain
- 6/11 Dell Plagens
- 6/16 Chris Christensen
- 6/18 Virginia Lucke
- 6/19 Jason Latham
- 6/23 Nancy Berg
- 6/24 Don Bettencourt
- 6/25 Sandy Carey
- 6/27 Jonathan Semke
- 6/28 Susan Hogerhuis

**June Anniversaries**

- 6/12 Chris & Linda Ingham
- 6/20 Gary & Darlene Thompson
- 6/23 Erwin & Julie Plagens
- 6/25 Darrell & Kathy Stanley
- 6/27 Rich & Kathleen Elfers
- 6/29 Frank & Cheryl Anderson

Our June schedule for POM Food Bank: Meal in a Can



Place all donated items in the basket in the Narthex. Thank you!

**Pastor Dan's Corner cont.**

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And today those words that made up 7 percent of the effective communication he had with others, and his voice and presence that we have never heard or experienced in person, form us as Christians. They call us out of our everyday lives and into the kingdom of God. They nudge us from our comfort zone to reach out to our neighbors in need. They comfort us when our lives and our world seem to be spinning out of control.

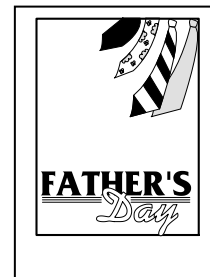
I encourage you to use your imagination. Pick up your Bible and read Luke's gospel, not just to read the words on the page, but imagine the voice, the eyes, the presence, the gestures, the smile of Jesus as he speaks, for true life is found beyond just words on paper, but from the very Word of God, Jesus Christ.

In Christ,

*Pastor Dan*

**Pew Cushions**

Judging by the eagerness to try out the cushions on Sunday mornings, they are going to be a hit. The sample cushion is in the sanctuary, and has both a section with buttons and a section without. Your job, if you choose to accept it, is to try out the cushion and see which style you like best. The actual color of the material the cushion team has chosen is an earth tone, NOT white with yellow stripes. But the type of cushion material and thickness will be the same. Try it out. It's a must for those loooong sermons (just kidding, PD.)



Happy Father's Day

**Congratulations to the following graduates Class of 2011:**

**Hailey Olafson:  
Jayde Kettner**



Articles are due for next month's Messenger by June 19!

## Council Meeting



*A detailed copy of the Council Minutes can be seen on the roundabout*

The Congregation Council met on May 1. The following was approved: The minutes were approved as written. The Treasurer report was presented by Kathie Thompson. Both receipts and expenditures were within the budget projections including the planned supplement from the general savings account. Discussion followed concerning the importance of frequent monitoring of the budget, especially during the summer months. System replacement of the sound system will require utilizing the "Uncategorized" budget line.

### Old Business:

**Pew Bibles** – The Bibles for the sanctuary pews have been ordered – 2 copies will be placed in each pew.

**Cushions** – The sample is in the sanctuary.

### New Business:

**Unbinding** – The attendees made their choice of three possible groups for leadership. Emphasis was on evangelism work at Hope.

**Council Positions** – 3 council positions are being solicited for the semiannual meeting on May 22.

### Endowment Fund –

Members of the Stewardship committee have been invited to a Synod workshop.

**Inserts**– update inserts will be made for the church directory for members joining after 2009.

**Meeting was adjourned at 2:15pm with Prayer.**

*Agenda item deadline: Monday, April 25 by noon, Next regular Council Meeting: Sunday, May 1 after the second service*

## Endowment Fund Committee

In an effort to bring every up-to-date with what has been going with the Endowment Committee, we thought it might be good to refresh our collective memories regarding the purpose of the Endowment Committee.

As stated in the bylaws, the purpose of the Endowment Committee is "to enable Hope Lutheran Church to promote funding of specific needs that support its mission and ensure its financial stability. The Committee will seek to provide a perpetual source of income to benefit three current categories:

1. **Missions: local, regional and world projects**
2. **Education: college and seminary scholarships**
3. **Youth: support for youth of all ages"**

Spring is High School Graduation and for the graduating seniors of Hope Lutheran this means that the Endowment Committee was again pleased to present our two high school seniors each with a \$100 scholarship. Congratulations to Hailey Olafson and Jayde Kettner (Rash)!!

As we continue through 2011 and look to 2012 the Endowment Committee will be looking for additional opportunities to fulfill the mission and purpose of the Endowment Committee. If you have any questions regarding the Endowment Fund please don't hesitate to ask any Committee Member.

### Summer Schedule

Don't forget that our summer schedule begins on June 19<sup>th</sup>.

*Gene Kuhlman  
Jim Niehoff  
Debbie Ekstrom*

## Bleatings From The Sheep Pen

**A**s noted in last couple month's Messenger article, we have emphasized (with specific designated funding) six outreach ministries that impact numerous people beyond our doors as part of our annual church budget. This month we highlight Living Stones Prison Congregation at the Washington Corrections Center in Shelton, WA.

As part of the outreach in setting up mission churches in our Southwestern Washington Synod region, our synod started a mission church within the walls of the prison five years ago. They supplied a pastor, Pastor Eric Wangen-Hocher, installing him in 2006, and the church has grown by leaps and bounds. As noted in their news letter;

*We are a Christian congregation made up of inmates at Washington Corrections Center. We are a member Church of Southwestern Washington Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America. Our congregation name, **Living Stones Prison Congregation**, was selected by the inmate congregation. We encourage participation by them in all aspects of services and organization. We also stress the point that, when they attend our services, they can "exhale", or let down their guard. The men here have enough stress to deal with when they walk out of a service and rejoin the rest of the prison population. Therefore, we let them know that when we are together for worship, it is our "family time".*

*The inmates of Western Washington Corrections Center value the visitors from the "outside" that come to worship with us. As a congregation we thank the good people that give up their time with families and friends to worship with us. (Several of our Hope Lutheran members did just that late last year and said it was a very powerful moving experience.)*

These inmates could never financially support this within the prison church to the point of being anywhere near being self sustaining. However, it is amazing that many of their members tithe the small earnings they do get working at the prison (\$0.35 per hour) and have raised funds to support a local homeless shelter and Habitat for Humanity. Your financial support (and visit), along with sister churches and our synod brings the Good News of God's love to our brothers who turned down the wrong path but now have hope. Thanks for your support in lending a life line.

Greetings, bleatings, from the sheep pen.

**The Lord is my shepherd. I shall not want. (Psalm 23: 1)**



*Jim Niehoff*



## Hope Lutheran Church

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### Our Purpose:

*"Making Christ known in our community by reaching out through worship, service and fellowship"*

*Hope Lutheran Church is a member of the Southwestern Washington Synod of the ELCA*

*Their mission: "...Spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ by empowering congregations and church leaders to grow in worship, education, outreach, stewardship and other missions"*

*Their website:  
www.lutheranssw.org*

*Soli Deo Gloria*

## Pastor Dan Classes and Vacation

**D**an will be in California from June 3-22 taking his final Doctor of Ministry class, and spending some time with his parents. He will be in Enumclaw for Confirmation on June 12. Should you have a pastoral emergency, Pastor Dennis Hartsook from Trinity and Pastor Bev Jensen will be available. Pastor Dan can be reached by email, [pastordan@skynetbb.com](mailto:pastordan@skynetbb.com), or by his cell phone, 253-961-6711. Cell phone reception is not good where he will be, and he will only check his cell phone in the evenings.

## Confirmation - Day of Pentecost June 12

**T**his year the two confirmands from Hope and Trinity, Harley Olafson and McKenna Patrick, will be confirmed together at both Hope and Trinity Lutheran churches. The confirmation program has been held by the two churches jointly this year, and as part of that joint program, the Rite of Confirmation will be held at both churches. Pastor Dan and Pastor Dennis will exchange pulpits for the day, with Confirmation held at Hope during first service at 8:30, and at Trinity during second service at 10:45.

## Habitat Build Update

**W**e are still working out details for the Habitat trip, but the dates will change. Depending upon timing for the build, we will either be scheduled one week earlier or one week later than the original plan of September 19-23. By rescheduling, the costs for the trip are expected to be lower. We have 10 people who have expressed an interest for the service trip, and can accommodate even more. So if you are thinking about this trip, let Lorie or Pastor Dan know. Pastor Dan expects to have all the details finalized in June.

## Summer Service Schedule and Mid-week Worship

**W**e will begin our summer service schedule on Sunday, June 19, with one service at 10:00.

Midweek summer worship and BBQ will be held on Thursdays this year, 6:00 for hamburgers and hot dogs, with a short communion worship following. First mid-week worship will be Thursday, July 7.

# How To Plant Your Garden

First, you Come to the garden alone, while the dew is still on the roses.



**FOR THE GARDEN OF YOUR DAILY LIVING  
PLANT THREE ROWS OF PEAS:**



- 1. Peace of mind
- 2. Peace of heart
- 3. Peace of soul

**PLANT FOUR ROWS OF SQUASH:**



- 1. Squash gossip
- 2. Squash indifference
- 3. Squash grumbling
- 4. Squash selfishness

**PLANT FOUR ROWS OF LETTUCE:**



- 1. Lettuce be faithful
- 2. Lettuce be kind
- 3. Lettuce be patient
- 4. Lettuce really love one another

**NO GARDEN IS WITHOUT TURNIPS:**



- 1. Turnip for meetings
- 2. Turnip for service
- 3. Turnip to help one another

**TO CONCLUDE OUR GARDEN WE MUST HAVE THYME:**



- 1. Thyme for each other
- 2. Thyme for family
- 3. Thyme for friends

**WATER FREELY WITH PATIENCE AND CULTIVATE WITH LOVE. THERE IS MUCH FRUIT IN YOUR GARDEN BECAUSE YOU REAP WHAT YOU SOW.**





## Stewardship June 2011

Summer is on its way!! At least it says so on the calendar. We should hope for more sunshine in June. The fruit trees are trying to blossom and grow fruit, vegetables are either not planted or are slow growing, school is almost over and people are planning vacations. Busy times for everyone.

June, July and August are a time for everyone to worship together at one service. We should each sign up to help with the Sunday morning church service; acolyte, usher, reader, greeter, communion assistant, worship assistant, and coffee hour is potluck. Also, remember the cleaning sign up page, maybe several people could sign up and make it an easier task.

Over the past years we have supported missionaries Melody and Carl Knight through Lutheran Bible Translators. Since they retired last year, our gift this year went to a new young family, Reverend Tim and Lisa Beckendorf and their children Aaron and Andrew. Please take the time to read the thank you note we received from them; keep them in your prayers and give thanks for the work they have already done and will continue to do.

Thank you to each of you, the stewards of Hope.  
*Kathie Thompson*  
 Stewardship Ministry Team

## Worship Schedule

### June 5 - Seventh Sunday of Easter

First reading: Acts 1:6-14; Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35; Second reading; 1 Peter 4:12-14, 5:6-11; Gospel John 17:1-11

### June 12 - Day of Pentecost

First reading Acts 2:1-21; Psalm 104:24-34, 35b; Second reading 1 Cor 12:3b-13; Gospel John 20:19-23

### June 19 - The Holy Trinity

First reading Gen 1:1-2:4a; Psalm 8; Second reading 2 Cor 13:11-13; Gospel Matt 28:16-20

### June 26 - Second Sunday after Pentecost

First reading Jer 28:5-9; Psalm 89:1-4, 15-18; Second Reading Rom 6:12-23; Gospel Matt 10:40-42


### Relay for Life Garage Sale

Relay for Life Garage Sale will be held Friday June 4 at Hope Lutheran Church. Bring donations on Thursday or before if not too big. Please price and mark if possible. Your support is appreciated.



Congratulations to this years Confirmand: Harley Olafson

*Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.*



*Matthew 5:16 NRSV*