

THE ANCHOR

A NEWS PUBLICATION OF MT. HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH; GRAYLING, MI

April 2022

www.mthopelcmsgrayling.org

MtHopeLCMS@gmail.com

WE VALUE

Bible-centered Preaching & Teaching

Dynamic Praise & Worship

The Sacraments

Prayer

Evangelism

Christian Education for All Ages

Loving Relationships

Strong Christian Families

OUR VISION

By the love of Christ,
our vision is to work together,
reaching out to all people,
through the Gospel,
in our various activities and events.
As we encourage each other to worship
and grow in God's Word,
we will be a Christian influence
in our community.

OUR MISSION

BUILDING TOGETHER SPIRITUALLY FOLLOWING THE TRIUNE GOD

OUR PURPOSE

Glorifying God through WORSHIP

Reaching out to all with the Good News of

salvation in Christ through *EVANGELISM*

Actively caring for God's people in Christ

through FELLOWSHIP

<u>Creating</u> a family of God by Word and Sacrament

through MINISTRY

Equipping people of all ages for life in Christ

through DISCIPLESHIP

Notes and Announcements

TUESDAY WOMAN'S BIBLE STUDY is every Tuesday at 1:00PM. We are studying "52 Women of the Bible." ALL women are invited and can come anytime - we'd love to have you!

Please direct all questions to Sharon Hopkins

LWML is looking for used sheets to use as middles in quilts. If you are cleaning out & find any, please donate them for quilts.

Thank you!

Family Fare Receipts

There is a basket on the table in the narthex for these receipts. We are collecting them for the Day Care. If you have questions, please talk to Terry Tody.

LWML will be collecting items for the children at God's Children Haiti for the month of April.



Altar

3rd-Marj & Louise 10th-Terry Tody 14th-Dee Musselman 15th-Dee Musselman 17th-Martha Preggler 24th-Marj & Louise

Elders

3rd-Dave Jansen 10th-Jack Owens 14th-Steve Koch 15th-Steve Koch 17th-Jeff Pregler/Jason Hartman Reminder: Noisy offering will be taken on second Sundays! Noisy Offering for April-June will be collected for Book a Month for the children at our Day Care.

Thank you for your donations.

LFL Team, Sharon Hopkins, Steve and Shirley Koch and Terry Tody

MT. HOPE'S WEBSITE

24th-Jason Hartman

Did you know that Mt. Hope has a website? If you go to http://www.mthopelcmsgrayling.org/ our website will come up. It is a multi page site with much information about our church, our congregation, our Pastor, what programs we are involved with and much more! Although there is a "member log-in" area, this is just for those who work on the site. Nancy Hatfield is our webmaster who keeps our website updated and makes any necessary changes. Anyone who goes to our site can access all pages. So...check it out!



Mt. Hope Financial Report - Mary Heinlein, Bookkeeper				
GENERAL FUND	FEB 2022	YTD JUL-FEB		
Income	13,953.00	95,439.98		
Expense	-17,808.18	-77,175.81		
Net	-3,855.18	18,264.17		
EARMARKED FUND BALANCE		67,798.83		
	FEB 2022	YTD JUL-FEB		
Together in Missions	70.00	1,415.00		
Christian Help Center	22.80	1,682.80		
Noisy Offering	55.70	321.11		
	FEB 2022			
Church Extension Mortgage		470,000.00		
Mortgage Principal Payment	1,103.23	18,338.77		
Earmarked Principal Payment	10,795.00	42,233.20		
Mortgage Interest Payment	1,281.77			
MORTGAGE BALANCE		409,428.03		

<u>Attendance</u>			
February	6	49	
	13	50	
	20	42	
	27	41	





Attention: People need to sign up to host coffee hour or there will not be one.



TO PLACE SOMEONE ON PRAYER CHAIN:

Call Lynn Richmond at 989-390-8632 or lynncarolmorris@yahoo.com

Reminder about inclement weather and church functions: Our policy for bad weather cancellations has been to cancel morning Bible studies, etc. when local schools close. Evening meetings and events will probably continue, as long as road crews are out and a storm is not intensifying. Sunday services, as well as Advent and Lent midweek services, are seldom cancelled. However, do not attempt to drive if your local conditions are poor and you are uncomfortable driving in the weather!

Jamie Wohn will be handling the sign changes. Please email him with any necessary info for the sign at jackwohn3@gmail.com or jackwohn3@aol.com. If urgent, text him at (810) 965-1891

Council Approved Minutes Council Meeting February 15, 2022 Mt. Hope Lutheran Church-LCMS

Meeting Called to Order by Ken Bendick at 3:00 pm.

Opening Devotion was given by Ken Bendick based on: John 3:5, "Close the Ranks" and 1 Peter 2:9, "Kingdom of God – Chosen People of Christ."

Opening Prayer was given by Ken Bendick.

Attendance:

Pastor: Chairman: Ken Bendick P Vice Chairman: Bret Krabill A

Secretary: Sharon Hopkins P Treasurer: Mitch Linendoll A

Bookkeeper: Mary Heinlein P Elders: Jack Owens A Dave Jansen P

Education: Dave Mauro A Evangelism: Terry Tody P

Stewardship: Shirley Koch A Stewardship: Paul Mesack A Trustees: Mike Shields A CADC: Salena Laskowski A CADC: Steve Koch A Youth: Salena Laskowski A

Guest: None

Dave moved the approval of the November 16, 2021 Minutes, seconded by Terry, approved.

Reports: Council and Boards:

Bookkeeper: Mary Heinlein emailed ahead of the meeting.

November 2021 Income: \$8,352.00 Expenses: \$8,849.76 Net: loss -\$497.76 2021-2022 YTD Income: \$57,323.92 Expenses: \$42,392.32 Net: gain \$14,931.60

December 2021 Income: \$15,187.06 Expenses: \$8,375.95 Net: gain \$6,811.11 2021-2022 YTD Income: \$72,510.98 Expenses: \$50,768.27 Net: gain \$21,742.71

January 2022 Income: \$8,976.00 Expenses: \$8,599.36 Net gain \$376.64 2021-2022 YTD Income: \$81,486.98 Expenses: \$59,367.63 Net gain \$22,119.35

Treasurer Mitch Linendoll: No report.

Council Secretary: Sharon Hopkins:

Thank you from Mary Heinlein for the Christmas gift.

Thank you from Crawford County Community Christian Help Center for \$1,610.00 for their Food Pantry, dated 7/1/2022 and for 355 food and household items for the pantry, dated11/29/2021.

Newsletter from LFL.

Two thank you notes from the Toys for Tots program.

Christmas card from Geri Methot, Church Music Solutions.

A request from the Wellspring Lutheran Foundation seeking a donation.

End of year newsletter from Crossroads Ministries Ince, New Life Pregnancy Resource Center.

Donation detail from God's Children Haiti – Thank you.

Thank you for numerous food items from the Lion's Den, M.B.T.C.

Chairman Ken Bendick: No report.

Vice Chairman Bret Krabill: No report.

Board of Elders Jack Owens: In Jack's absence, Dave Jansen gave the report.

Discussion on training Mitch Linendoll on sound system and his needs to perform the task.

Looking into updating Mt. Hope's Bylaws.

Discussion on Mt. Hope's secretarial duties.

Pastor Paul will be communing The Brook, Mt. Hope's residents.

Pastor's Ken and Paul have set up their February and March schedules.

Some discussion about the Call Process and entertaining prospective pastor for a few hours when he visits.

Discussion on when Sunday school will resume.

The use of Sunday attendance cards will be resumed.

Board of Trustee Mike Shields: Sent in report.

The Trustees continue to address items from our "Goals and Objectives" for the fiscal year 2021-2022. I will be having knee replacement surgery February 17th.during my recovery Lee will be the contact person. Other Trustees and volunteers include David Hall and Pete Albright.

The mailbox was reported to be damaged and has been repaired. The outdoor light outside the kitchen entrance has been temporarily repaired. This should be replaced.

Lee is having additional keys made for the entry doors and the office/garage doors too, to keep up with the demand.

Mike received a report from Merit Laboratories concerning last summer's PFAS test. No PFAS was detected.

Still waiting for security system estimate.

Board of Education Dave Mauro: No report.

Board of Evangelism Terry Tody:

Terry is putting together Easter baskets for the Shawono boys.

Easter plants will be white lilies provided by the Altar Guild.

405 items were collected for our annual Advent donation to the Lion's Den.

LWML Spring Rally is May 7th.at Mt. Hope with guest speaker Anne Humes.

45 subs were sold and the proceeds will be given to the Christian Help Center.

Family Fare receipts are being collected for CADC.

We can order juice for CADC through the Food Bank.

We may get our future Food Trucks free; Terry is working on this.

Our first Food Truck is tentatively scheduled for either April or May.

Board of Stewardship Shirley Koch: Sent in report.

The Chewny Stewardship messages were placed in the Anchor upon receiving the information.

The Christmas Wreaths at the Church entrance were removed.

The Christmas bulletin covers were given to Nicole in our church office.

Board of Youth Salena Laskowski:

Goals:

Establish a Youth monthly Bible study.

Raise funds/establish a budget to be able to contribute for youth to attend Lutheran summer camps, youth group outings, etc.

Members & participants:

Salena Laskowski

Sharon Hopkins

Terry Tody

Brooklynn Laskowski

Bake Sale on November 21, 2021 raised \$252.00.

Brooklyn handed out abortion pamphlets to peers at GHS.

Brooklyn has been talking to peers about joining a monthly Bible study group. Sharon has committed to lead the study if we get it going.

Trinity reached out to Jason Hartman about combining Youth groups. We told him yes. A good possibility to get more members.

Mt. Hope/Crawford Au Sable Day Care Salena Laskowski:

One more staff member is needed.

Books were purchased for October, November, December and January for students.

Currently there is \$29.91 left from the Literacy Grant.

Currently 70 books have been purchased monthly, although we only have 63 students enrolled, they only come in groups of 10. Leftover books are being saved for future enrollees.

February and March books were purchased by CADC at a cost of \$97.29.

To finish out the school year – through May – the cost is \$127.20.

Mt. Hope's total book payment is \$224.49 to finish out the year.

The \$5,000.00 Grant that Steve Koch put in for CADC has been spent for family tuition credits, caps and gowns for the 2021 graduates and Mt. Hope Literacy Program. Is there anything you want submitted for your records?

\$10,000.00 payment was made on the principle of the Mortgage in November. As well as \$635.00 additional monthly payment is being paid on the mortgage principle.

Child Care Stabilization Grant was applied and received in 2021 Fall. Funds went to:

Operational costs/expenses.

A staff bonus for childcare workers - \$1,000.00 for full-time and \$500.00 for part-time – annually.

Each enrolled child was given a \$200.00 tuition credit, totaling \$11,000.00.

Building Concerns:

Ice build-up around the doors.

Looking into relicensing the multi-purpose room as a classroom and increasing CADC capacity.

Adding 2 more security cameras – multi-purpose room and front of building and parking lot.

Due to below temps we've had ice and frost build up on the walls of the vestibule.

Do they need a Mt. Hope liaison?

Pastor's Report: No report.

Dave moved to accept the reports as given/received, Terry seconded, accepted.

Unfinished Business:

LFL Life Team Sharon Hopkins: No report.

Call Committee Ken Bendick.

A letter was received from Pastor James Groleau declining the Call. Dave Jansen read the letter. We are encouraged to pray for God in sending us the right Under Shepherd.

New Business:

Mary Heinlein gave Ken Bendick several financial items that need to be addressed:

From the Congregational Meeting: Council to decide when to disperse \$10,000.00 toward our CEF loan.

Terry Tody moved to disperse the \$10,000.00 today, Dave Jansen seconded, approved. We have received Connect Grant money of \$350.00 for technology (see attached). I will put article in the newsletter (if okay).

Consensus is to do it now.

Noisy offering for 2022. Would like to decide all four quarters. Possibly the following:

1st quarter – Michigan Lutherans For Life

2nd quarter – Books for CADC

3rd quarter – Grayling Elementary school for lost hats and mittens

4th quarter – Gifts for Shawono boys

Dave Jansen moved to accept all 4 quarters as presented, Terry Tody seconded, accepted.

Terry to check with Board of Evangelism to take over the Noisy Offering distribution quarterly offerings.

The next meeting will be on March 15, 2022 at 3:00 pm.

The Devotion will be led by Jack Owens.

We adjourned at 4:00 pm.

Ken Bendick closed with a prayer.

Respectively submitted by,

Sharon Hopkins, Church Secretary

Finding Peace in Chaos

We are living in a time of uncertainty and chaos. If a health pandemic, a huge rise in the number of crimes in our major cities, the political rancor both between and within political parties, the protests in our country and in others countries is not enough, we now have Russia invading Ukraine. We have both a pandemic and the fighting in Ukraine killing people, and we, in this country, are fighting among one another with angry words about masks and mandates causing divisions between each other. Can things get more chaotic?

As Christians, we are reminded in Scripture that, because of sin, people often lived in chaos. In fact, there was one time in history when God lost his patience with so much chaos and sin in the world that He sent a flood and destroyed all the people except for the eight God wanted to save. In the book of Isaiah, the evil and chaos in the world was represented by the image of a seven-headed sea monster referred to as Leviathan (Isaiah 27:1). This monster was a symbol of chaos. Unfortunately, chaos in the world is nothing new, but it does seem that it has gotten worse.

We read in Galatians 4:4 that, when the time was right, God sent His Son into the world. He did not come as a conqueror with a sword. Jesus came in love to take our chaos upon Himself in order to bring us His grace, mercy, and peace. God sent Jesus because He loves us and wants the best for us. In the Apostle John's letter, we read that "God is love" (1 John 4:8). Love is His essence, and Jesus, God's Son, modeled what sacrificial love is all about. His life is a model for our thoughts, words, and actions toward other people.

Because of sin, chaos in the world will never end. Even though we can't expect external peace, we, through Jesus, are blessed with the peace that only He can provide. Jesus said, "Peace I leave you with you; My peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid" (John 14:27). God ends chaos within us even though chaos is all around us. May God's love and peace flow through us so we can help others find the peace that comes from trusting in Jesus.

Stewardship Corner

When Jesus went willingly to the cross on Good Friday, the world witnessed the greatest possible gift of love. "Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends" (John 15:13). Because of God's tremendous love for us, we are empowered to love and serve others. Love makes us do some outrageous serving and giving. For example, in Luke 7:36-50, we read the story of the sinful woman who washed Jesus' feet with expensive perfume. The woman responded to Jesus' great love and forgiveness with love and gratitude for Him which she expressed by pouring expensive perfume from an alabaster jar on Jesus' feet. If CNN or Fox News had been around at the time of this event, they would have jumped at the opportunity to ask her what prompted her to wash Jesus' feet with such expensive perfume. Her answer would have been, "Love made me do it."

MOTHER'S DAY – FATHER'S DAY

It's that time of year again!!! To collect diapers, pull-ups and wipes from Mother's Day through Father's Day. This year we're (Life Team) are thinking of donating them to the Women's Shelter in Grayling on North Downriver Road. As of this writing I haven't contacted them yet.

Since I'd like to give you a heads up I'll finalize who we donate them to by May newsletter. If you have another Center in mind, please let us know. Meanwhile just keep purchasing diapers, pull ups and wipes as you see them on sale.

Beginning in May there will be a crib in the Narthex for these donations.

Thank you,

The Life Team: Sharon Hopkins, Steve and Shirley Koch and Terry Tody

The Gift of Life: A Letter from President Harrison

By: Rev. Matthew Harrison, President of LCMS

As I sat in the hospital room holding my first granddaughter the week before Thanksgiving, I wondered what the world would have been like if my son and daughter-in-law had bought into the lie sold to them by their adversaries, the devil, the world, and their own sinful flesh.

Their sinful selves would not have chosen to have a baby. The old Adam does not want anyone to be dependent on him but instead wants to enjoy the soft, self-indulgent life. And old Eve would never, of her own will, choose to endure the life and death ordeal of childbirth. She, like Adam, would prefer to stay safe and comfortable, "curved in" on herself. Bringing a child into the world is an act of rebellion against old sinful Adam and Eve, one that calls the new people in Christ out of their selfish existence.

The world would have this young Christian couple believe that adding another person to the 8 billion who already exist pushes the earth ever closer to a climate crisis. It would have them believe that the way to serve their neighbor is to prevent more children from crowding out the ones who are already here. And it would have them believe that adding another mouth to their fledgling family would jeopardize the life they share as husband and wife. Shouldn't they keep it simple and adopt a dog from a shelter first?

Then there is the devil, who absolutely hates babies as he hated Christ and the innocents of Bethlehem. Every baby – especially every baby born to Christian parents – is a potential citizen of heaven, a candidate for Baptism, one whom Jesus will raise from the dead on the day of His return. The devil, hates babies because babies are an act of resistance against his regime of death and decay. He seeks to convince this couple of these lies and convert them into evangelists for his demonic cause.

The devil knows that those 10 little fingers of my granddaughter will very soon fold in prayer and seek her heavenly Father's protection against the devil's wiles. He knows that her little ears will continue to be totally receptive to the Word of God, over which he has no authority. He knows she'll be in church from the get-go, hearing the Gospel in the liturgy, and that it will stay with her until the day she passes from this life to await the resurrection.

The devil knows that my granddaughter's parents will bring her to the baptismal font and, in her stead, renounce him and all his works and all his ways. He knows that she will be instructed in the clear Word of God until she is ready to confess with her lips – which cannot yet articulate words – that Jesus is Lord. He knows that the first word her perfectly formed little lips will say in church is "Amen!" He knows that the crucified and risen Jesus wants more mouths to feed with His body and blood. And he knows that some day the children of this little baby girl will place her body in a grave "in the sure and certain hope of the resurrection" unto life everlasting.

The devil hates babies. The devil hates it when mothers in crisis are cared for. The devil hates it when Christians provide for moms, babies and dads.

The devil hates it when we supply what young mothers need to turn a crisis situation into a blessing. The devil hates it when a young couple marries and welcomes a child. The devil hates adoption, thousands upon thousands of which happen via our Lutheran agencies. The devil hates it when courageous parents welcome and love a child with developmental disabilities. The devil hates it when children are celebrated at church; loved by their extended church family; and taught the liturgy, catechism, hymns and Bible stories.

Young Christian couples continue to stick it to the devil every time they are open to God's gift of another child into their family. It's little wonder that we see so many young Lutherans with big families. We were amazed a few years ago when a study found that our LCMS young married couples were having more children, on average, than Roman Catholics!

Meanwhile, those who are not called to the vocation of mother or father stick it to the devil every time they embrace life, however they are called to do so, in their vocations – by helping care for and teach the young, esteeming the old, and upholding and defending the sanctity of life at every opportunity.

Throughout this month, I'll join with many of you in person and in prayer as we march for life. The LCMS will be at the March for Life in Chicago on Jan.8 and the National March for Life in Washington, D.C., on Jan. 21. We won't be there because, as some say, we're opposed to women or we're single-issue voters. We'll be there to carry out our baptismal vows to renounce the devil and all his works and all his ways. We'll be there to give voice to the vulnerable and unborn. We'll be there to pray and proclaim the Word against the forces of hell that would oppose life, children, mothers, fathers, marriages and families. We'll be there to counter lies with truth, shine light into darkness, and oppose the devil with the love of Jesus.

In the seasons of Christmas and Epiphany, when Jesus came in the flesh and was revealed as the Savior for all people, we rejoice that, though His life was opposed by many, He was brought safely into the world. And we draw great comfort and courage from His sacrifice for us on the cross. "By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers" (1 John 3:16).

I give thanks for you and for the courageous ways you promote life in a culture of death. May God grant you strength and encouragement in these gray and latter days.

(https://reporter.lcms.org?2022/the-gift-of-life-a letter-from-president-harrison) taken from Lutherans For Life of Michigan "LIFELINES" dated February, March, April 2022

Pro=abortion Coalition Files Proposal to Repeal Michigan Abortion Ban

A ballot proposal has been filed by a pro-abortion coalition made up of Planned Parenthood Advocates of Michigan, Reproductive Freedom for All, American Civil Liberties Union of Michigan, and Michigan Voices. The ballot proposal was filed on Friday, January 7th to the Board of Canvassers and calls for Michigan's 1846 abortion ban to be repealed.

The proposal seeks to eliminate Michigan's life-affirming law that bans all abortions except to save the life of the mother. This law has been in place since 1846 and then updated in 1931 but has not been able to be enforced due to the U.S. Supreme Court case *Roe v. Wade* and *Planned Parenthood v. Casey* adding federal protections for abortion.

Along with our long-standing ban, all prolife Michigan laws from the past 50 years would likely be invalidated as the ballot proposal makes abortion a state constitutional right using very broad language.

We are disappointed to hear the right to life is being threatened in Michigan but also not surprised. This advancement of pro-abortion policies comes at a time when the abortion issue could be handed down to the states instead of implied within our U.S. Constitution. We are positioned to fight for the right to life as we have for the last 50 years. We will never give up on life.

The likelihood of repealing our abortion ban and getting the issue on the November ballot is unclear at this time. There is a long process of getting the language of the proposal approved, collecting signatures, having the signatures be validated, and then getting Michiganders to vote to end the life of thousands of innocent children.

We will be giving updates on this ballot proposal throughout the year as it will be our next big battle. 2022 is a pivotal year for the U.S. and for Michigan as the world will see our true colors and what we value the most will be put front and center, to be life-affirming and lifesaving or succumb to pro-abortion forces and be life-destroyers.

Source: Right To Life of Michigan, submitted by Pastor Paul Clark

CALLING ALL WOMEN to our Ladies Tuesday Bible study every Tuesday at 1:00 pm. Come and join us! We are studying 52 Women of the Bible. All questions can go to Sharon Hopkins.



Jim Hatfield~1st
Mike Shields~1st
Alyssa Wohn~2nd
Joyce Kalicki~3rd
Kristie Wilkens~4th
Egon Lund~10th
Ruby Hartman~19th
Nicholas Wilkens~19th
Geri Methot~22nd
Elaine Jansen~28th
Kay Gregg~29th

Anniversaries

Mike & Joyce Kalicki~12th Ken & Sharon Hopkins~22nd

Healing Members

Bill Richmond Judi Riske Ruth Stocker Mike Shields Ken Hopkins Paul Musselman Bill Richmond

Friends

Mike Morris Karen Sperry Scott Ferguson Pete Phillips Josh Bastian Terry McGregor Kim Mendoza Diane Kolka

Cancer Members

Dave Weissenborn Paul Smith Barb Mauro Steve Koch

Friends

Larry Morris
Janice Knoellinger
Denise Sisung
Wendy Weiss Weitz
Jim Dugdale



In Military Service

Christopher Dysinger, Jordan Bulmer, Kevin Krokosky,
Darin Nicholas,, Jeremiah Hose, Travis Kulak,
Andre' Miller, Keil Clough, Trevor Clough,
Todd McCarver, Victoria Doster,
Conrad Weissenborn, Rick Dillenbeck



Dollie Adolph Jean Wittig

PRAYER REQUESTS



Pastor that day, you can give your completed prayer request form to one of the elders or ushers and ask that it be given to Pastor before worship. If your prayer request isn't needed until later in the week, you can place it in the offering plate or place it on the secretary's desk in the office.

Assisted Living & Nursing Home List

The Brook

Kay Gregg (Gaylord)

Grand Rapids Home for Veterans

Kenneth Hopkins

The Lighthouse at Roscommon

Elsa Knutson

MT. HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH 905 NORTH 1-75 BUSINESS LOOP GRAYLING, MICHIGAN 49738

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THE CHURCH STAFF

PASTOR

Pastor's Cell Phone:

Pastor's E-mail Address:

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT Nicole Alma

Office Hours: Wednesday 10am-2pm

BOOKKEEPER Mary Heinlein (989) 348-4350

CUSTODIAN Marty Haskin

CHURCH COUNCIL

CHAIRMAN Ken Bendick (989) 387-8259

VICE-CHAIRMAN Bret Krabill (989) 488-8766

SECRETARY Sharon Hopkins (989) 786-3795

TREASURER Mitch Linendoll (989) 745-6413

BOARD CHAIRMAN

ELDERS Jack Owens (810) 869-0944

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EVANGELISM Terry Tody (989) 344-1734

STEWARDSHIP Shirley Koch (231) 258-2808

TRUSTEES Mike Shields (810) 348-6692

YOUTH Selena Laskowski (231) 384-2862

DURING LENT, WE FACE HEAD ON THE DESTRUCTIVE NATURE OF SIN IN OUR LIVES AND OUR NEED FOR A SAVIOR.

"The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, Who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ" (1 Corinthians 15:56).



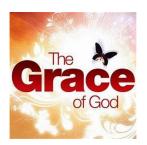
LOVE MOTIVATES US TO BE GIVERS RATHER THAN TAKERS.

"[Christ] died for all, that those who live might no longer live for themselves but for Him Who for their sake died and was raised" (2 Corinthians 5:15).



IT IS ONLY THROUGH GOD'S GRACE THAT WE BECOME FAITHFUL STEWARDS.

"For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives...and to purify for Himself a people...who are zealous for good works" (Titus 2:11-14).



Mt. Hope Lutheran Church (Missouri Synod) 905 N I-75 Business Loop Grayling, MI 49738