

HOUSE OF PRAYER LUTHERAN

795 NORTH ROSE STREET, ESCONDIDO, CA 92027

Rev. Karin Boye



Dec. 2020

Glad Tidings

**Of Jesus' Redemption and Release
A Monthly Publication**

**IN-PERSON WORSHIP SERVICES AND ALL OTHER ACTIVITIES HAVE BEEN
TEMPORARILY SUSPENDED**

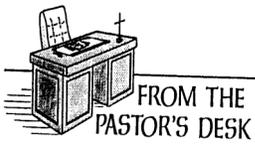
Sundays 9:00 AM & 10:30 AM

Sundays Adult Sunday School 10:00 AM - 10:30 AM

Triple - G Second Sunday of the Month, 11:45 - 1:00 PM

Wednesdays 10:00 AM Bible Study on Zoom

**Worship online every Sunday at 9:00 AM
www.hoplutheran.com**



News1 12.2020

Awake! Be ready for His coming, because no one knows the exact day and hour. (Mark 13)

Frankly, I don't like it when people start asking me "Are you ready for Christmas?" Usually they refer to gifts purchased and food prepared. Also, for decades now we seem to get up our Christmas decorations at the last minute. (Well, by now we might have made it a tradition...) And especially during a pandemic one wonders what Christmas 2020 could look like anyway.

Now seriously, with or without the pandemic, will we be ready for God's coming? Ever? The answer is tied to our hopes and expectations. It divides pessimists and optimists. There are those saying "Why would I need God to have a party and be merry?" or "For years I'm all by myself, why should it be different this year?" Then there are those saying "If love came to earth embodied in Christ, they killed the man on the cross but cannot kill the love he brought."

According to Mark 13, the only way to get ready for God's love coming into our lives is to stay alert and be on the lookout because there is always the chance to miss it. The Danish philosopher Søren Kierkegaard (1813 – 1855) put it this way: "A fire broke out backstage in a theatre. The clown came out to warn the public; they thought it was a joke and applauded. He repeated it; the acclaim was even greater."

My hope for Advent 2020 is that our church and her faithful people will capture the fiery Spirit of Love burning on the backstage of the world and share it in a way that the world will understand. That is my hope!

It was the poet Emily Dickinson who referred to hope as a thing with feathers, in a poem she wrote more than 100 years ago:

*Hope is a thing with feathers
That perches in the soul,
And sings the tune without the words,
And never stops at all.*

Perhaps Emily Dickinson understood that hope is what gives the human soul wings. Hope helps to be awake. Hope allows us to rise above what we have been to whom we might become. That is, after all, why the baby was born in Bethlehem all those decades ago. That is why God comes again and again. As we start this Advent season and our journey into the Holy Night, may that be the hope that keeps us.

Wishing you a blessed season of Advent,
Pastor Karin

Undie Sunday in December!

It has been a while since House of Prayer collected for those in need and served by Interfaith Community Services in Escondido. Here is your chance to reengage!

On Saturday, **December 12**, from **9:30 to 11:00am**, you can do a drive through at church and **drop off new**

underwear (preferred sizes are medium and larger);
warmer socks are great too;
undershirts and
sports bras are very welcome as well.

And if you missed out on a chance to meet Pastor Karin – she will be there in person and waiting for you at the parking lot.

Please enter from N Rose Street, wear a mask, do not leave the car, volunteers will take your donation, and then exit toward E Mission Avenue. Be blessed and stay safe! Thank you!!!

All donations and givers will be blessed during the Sunday service on the 3rd Advent Sunday.

We, the staff of House of Prayer Lutheran Church are wishing you a blessed Advent, a merry Christmas and a happy new year! It is an honor to serve you and we look forward to joy and happiness within our Christian family in the year to come.



House Of Prayer Christmas Eve Service Online

**The service will be available on December 24
at the House of Prayer website:
www.hoplutheran.com**



Happy (Church) New Year! It hardly seems possible to be here already! Advent began on Sunday, November 29. The banner color has changed to blue, the advent wreath is in use, and the beautiful Crismon tree is up. A special thank you to Shelli and Lawson Ellison and Mike Smith for putting up the tree this year. During these uncertain and often difficult times, it definitely gives me a sense of comfort to see familiar things like that in our worship service/setting.

I am profoundly missing our music ministry participants...the sweet voices of the singers in the choir, and the wonderful sound the ringers create with the hand bells. What I miss most is the weekly interaction with these amazing people, the stories and life moments shared, and the unbridled laughter (both at and with ourselves). I am so thankful for the memories created, that we have something to hold on to until we can physically come together again to make music.

Throughout this Advent and Christmas season, you will hear more special music during our worship services. I am grateful for those who share their talents with us. I also appreciate the continued leadership provided by Pastor Karin. The team that comes together each week to film the worship service and make sure that it is available on the House of Prayer website and Youtube channel, is amazing. Their commitment is unwavering, and I am truly grateful for their hard work.

I am praying that you are healthy and safe during this time. I wish you a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

In His Service,
Carol

“Come thou long expected Jesus, born to set thy people free; from our fears and sins release us; let us find our rest in thee. Israel’s strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art, dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.

Born thy people to deliver, born a child, and yet a king: born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring. By thine own eternal Spirit rule in all our hearts alone; by thine all sufficient merit raise us to thy glorious throne.” ELW # 254





Here we are in Advent with Christmas coming fast! I am finding with the Covid-19 that I am actually slowing down and doing more reflecting. Every year I tell myself that I need to, but I never do. I run around trying to make everything perfect and feel like I don't get anything done. This year, with things being cancelled and knowing family time won't be the same, I can take my time and just focus on what Christmas means to me.

To help me find the meaning of Christmas, I found an advent devotional that I am sharing with everyone. It is from Illustrated Ministries. The devotion is call "Do Not Be Afraid". Each week, I will be sending out that weeks lesson. You will receive it through an email or letter if you don't have emails. The lessons are based on Luke. They use the story of Jesus's coming and birth to teach the message of Advent. We need "To Hold Hope, To Bring Peace, To Practice Joy, To Choose Love" and "Christmas". I hope you enjoy this Devotional.

I am also planning an online Christmas pageant, I am contacting children, youth, young adults and young at heart to help with the video. It will be a Zoom recording. We will be meeting on Sunday, Dec. 13 from 1:30-2:30 then recording time will be determined. It will be available for Christmas Eve on the website.

We are receiving scrip orders until Dec. 14. This is a great way to help out our youth fund. and all you do is buy gift cards at the normal price. Then we receive a percent of the sales. There are a wide variety of cards to choose from, Grocery cards (I'm sure most of us are buying more than usual), restaurants (let's support restaurants in our community), gas cards, department stores, drug stores...etc. More information can be found on page 9.

I want to remind everyone of our "Undie Sunday. We will be collecting new underwear, socks, sport bras, undershirts on Saturday, Dec. 12 from 9:30-11. The donations will go to Interfaith Community Services.

As office Administrator, I am trying hard to learn the job that Darla used to do. I find new things each day. I miss see everyone in person but enjoy talking on the phone and Zooming with our church family. I do have some request: If your phone number, email, or address has changed please contact the office. We want to keep in touch with you!

If you are someone who submits articles to the newsletter or annual report, please turn in you articles before these dates. We have a lot to do and with the holidays we have less time. Thank you for your help.

January Newsletter by Dec. 24.

Annual Reports by January 6.

God's peace to you,

Kitty Wiebe
Children, Youth and Family Ministry
Office Administer



Zoom Meetings

House of Prayer Zoom Forum Meetings

Every Tuesday at 5:00pm

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86740955288?pwd=ZENoU2tyQ3U5Q29sUzdmZzZlVmJWQT09>

Or by phone Dial +1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)
Meeting ID: 867 4095 5288

Wednesday Morning Bible Study

Greetings at 9:45am Study at 10am

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81848590237?pwd=WTNtdlNGR1hWQI85TmJvUC9oNFVpQT09>

or by phone Dial +1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)
Meeting ID: 818 4859 0237
Passcode: 479904

Council Meeting Zoom

Time: Dec. 13 at 11:30

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86105853120?pwd=NFVXWXBQQIZHUXpuaFBsUkhZcTNtZz09>

Or by phone Dial +1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)
Meeting ID: 861 0585 3120
Passcode: 766380

Triple-G

Godly, Gathering and Growing

All students K-9th and their families are welcome

Dec. 13 at 1:30 pm

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84298635183?pwd=OW90V2doRTFIV0M5ZnRhY0QwbEtLUT09>

Or by phone Dial +1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)
Meeting ID: 842 9863 5183
Passcode: 392102

COUNCIL NEWS – November 2020

The Church Council met Nov. 15th via Zoom.

The Treasurer's report was accepted for the month ending Oct 31, 2020. We are under as of Oct. 31st on what we budgeted for offering revenues by \$5,236. This is much better than was expected because of COVID 19 which has caused us to close our church to worship services. The congregation has done a great job of mailing in offerings to the church office. Let us maintain that momentum. As I have said before, I am proud of this congregation.

On a more somber note, only 37 pledge cards have been returned to the church for 2021. Last year we received more pledge cards. Pledge cards are an input to the 2021 budget for House of Prayer. Please do mail yours in if you have not already done so.

As of this writing, our broken stained-glass window in the Sanctuary has been rebuilt and installed. We are getting bids for some decorative wrought iron to cover the outside of the two stained glass windows by the organ and the choir loft. This is necessary to help prevent vandalism.

The council met informally to discuss reopening the church for outdoor services. This issue was discussed during this council meeting as well. The consensus was not to reopen right now for outdoor services because we are entering fall and winter weather. There was also concern about California's move to the most restrictive purple tier as COVID cases continue to rise across the county. Many of our congregants are in the high-risk category.

The Call Committee is working on our Ministry Site Profile (MSP) and has been meeting weekly to discuss progress and the way ahead. Developing our MSP is an integral part of the process to call a new permanent Pastor.

I have talked with many of you in the past few weeks. My prayer is that you all stay happy and healthy. Let us continue to remain in God's service. One family, one team and one objective.

Peace, love, strength, and grace as our stewardship of God's house continues,

Mike Erno, Council President

Call Committee Update Nov. 24, 2020

Your seven-member Call Committee has been meeting weekly since mid-October to move forward in the search for our new pastor. We are tasked with preparing a Ministry Site Profile (MSP) that will be used by the Synod to identify the candidates that best fit our mission, hopes, and needs. We have been studying and reflecting on our congregational history, hopes for the future, demographic data about the community, and the gifts for leadership being sought by the congregation.

Last week we mailed out a Pastoral Call Questionnaire to all HOP members. We are asking for your feedback on a number of qualities and attributes our new pastor should have in order to meet the needs of our congregation. Please take a few minutes to give us your input, we want and need to hear from you!

It is our goal to have the Ministry Site Profile completed and submitted to the Synod by the end of January. We hope to be interviewing candidates early this spring.

Your Call Committee is energized and excited about our journey towards finding new pastoral leadership for HOP!

I hope everyone had a blessed Thanksgiving!

Dan Engelbrecht, Chair



We will be ordering SCRIP on Dec. 14. If you are interested please email Kitty at houseofprayeradmn@gmail.com or call the church office and we will fill out the form for you.

Mail your check to the church **so it arrives before Dec. 14.**

Be sure to make you check payable to House of Prayer Youterans and write SCRIP in the memo.

When the SCRIP order comes in you will be notified to pick up your order Monday - Thursday, 9am - 1pm. Please call ahead to let us know when you are coming and we will put your order on the mailbox.

There are a wide variety of cards to purchase. Grocery cards (I'm sure most of us are buying more than usual), restaurants (let's support restaurants in our community), gas cards, department stores, drug stores...etc

for eating...shopping...or filling your tank
Order Scrip Gift Cards!



Help bring joy this season

Buy your gifts at smile.amazon.com
or with AmazonSmile ON in the app
and Amazon donates
amazon smile



Amazon Smile

Do you have an Amazon account?

If you do, please login to Amazon Smile and add

House of Prayer as your charitable organization.

By doing this, every time you order from Amazon, HOP will receive a donation.

Click on the link below to begin.

<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/95-3360279>

CHRISTMAS FOOD BASKETS

It is that time of season again for HOP **to collect for our Christmas grocery gift cards.**

We are collecting money through

Sunday December 14th

to purchase Christmas gift cards.

This will allow each family to plan and shop according to their dietary needs and enjoy foods that meet their family traditions.

The gift cards will be purchased through the Scrip program, so it will be a double blessing. Purchasing the gift cards will also help out our youth group.



Please give prayerful thought to donating.
Your support is sincerely appreciated.



**Please make your checks out to
House of Prayer Youterans.**

**You can mail your checks to the church office.
If you wish to drop your check at the office please
CALL BEFORE YOU COME.**

12/5	Alfredo & Guadalupe Alvarado	39 years
12/13	Ramiro & Mary Acosta	33years
12/19	Tom & Kitty Wiebe	39 years
12/31	Myron & Rosita Hetland	43 years

In October, we completely started over with the prayer lists for members, family/friends and protection and safety in the military. If you would like yourself, friend or relative on the prayer list, there is a form that needs to be filled out. (See next page). You can mail or email the request back to the office, or call the office.

This is **separate from the Prayer Chain**. If you have a prayer request for the prayer chain, please email Kitty Wiebe or call the church office.



PLEASE PRAY FOR...

Members of House of Prayer:

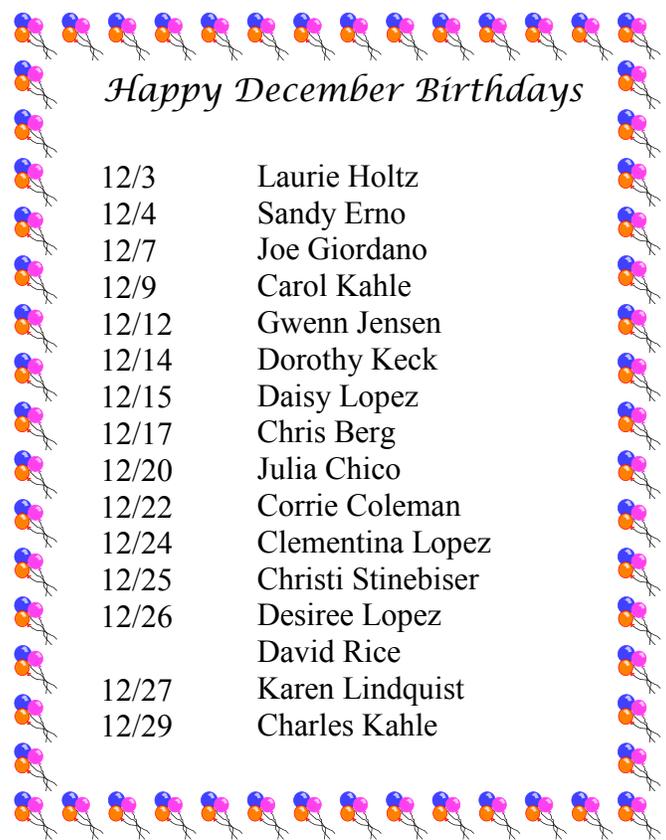
For healing: Opal Wieck, Tom Kristensen, Inge Frese, Carl Siek, Ruth Shimansky, Rosalind Mattern, Clementina Lopez, Pat Portis, Charlotte Beutlich, Rosie Foss, Matt Madsen, Rick Baker, Mike Erno, Lynn Carlson, Don Portis, Bill Carpenter, Annette Gustin

For comfort: The Gross family and Gloria Lopez family

Relatives and Friends of HOP:

For Healing and comfort: Julie Walsh, Michelle Mensen, Martha Bailey, Tim Phelps, Clyde Pauley

For protection and safety in the military: Vince Erno



Happy December Birthdays

- 12/3 Laurie Holtz
- 12/4 Sandy Erno
- 12/7 Joe Giordano
- 12/9 Carol Kahle
- 12/12 Gwenn Jensen
- 12/14 Dorothy Keck
- 12/15 Daisy Lopez
- 12/17 Chris Berg
- 12/20 Julia Chico
- 12/22 Corrie Coleman
- 12/24 Clementina Lopez
- 12/25 Christi Stinebiser
- 12/26 Desiree Lopez
- David Rice
- 12/27 Karen Lindquist
- 12/29 Charles Kahle

There is a person in the office Monday-Thursday from 8:30 -1:30. If you have an emergency and are in need of pastoral care outside of those hours, please leave a message with your name and number. **Phones are monitored during off hours** and your call will be returned in a timely manner.

Thank you!

The Church Office will be closed on Dec. 28 and Jan 4th in honor of the holidays.



Upcoming Dates
 Articles For
 January Newsletter by Dec. 24.
 Annual Reports by January 6.

Prayer Request Form

Date: _____

I would like to add _____
to the prayer list.

HOP Member: _____

Friend/Relative: _____

Protection in Military: _____

Prayers requested for: _____

Please add to the list for # _____ weeks (If prayers are still needed after this time frame,
please submit

another form)

Your name: _____

Your phone number: _____

Thank you!
House of Prayer Lutheran Church

Prayer Request Form

Date: _____

I would like to add _____
to the prayer list.

HOP Member: _____

Friend/Relative: _____

Protection in Military: _____

Prayers requested for: _____

Please add to the list for # _____ weeks (If prayers are still needed after this time frame,
please submit

another form)

Your name: _____

Your phone number: _____

Thank you!

Thrivent Choice Dollars

For Thrivent Members: Please check to see if you have available choice dollars that can be designated to House of Prayer. If you have any questions, contact Harlan Gruenstern

House of Prayer's
Wednesday **10:00am Bible Study**
is available on line.
We are studying the weekly Gospel.
The lesson is emailed on Mondays.

**There will be no Bible Study on
Dec. 23 and 30**

Financial Stewardship

<u>General Fund:</u>	<u>October</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Budgeted Revenue	\$20,347	\$203,570
Actual Revenue	\$15,356	\$181,581

Thank you to all who have mailed their offerings to the church during this time of quarantine.

Church has not stopped because we are not meeting physically. Our worship services are posted online every Sunday morning at 9:00am.

You can mail in your offerings to the church.

House of Prayer
795 North Rose St.
Escondido, CA 92027



If you want your church and staff to know...

There is a wonderful saying: "Our assumptions and the truth dine at totally separate tables!", meaning that most often our wants and likings determine our expectations and actions - and they are not necessarily connected with reality.

So if you are expecting the office or your pastor to know about something - please, call the office. Messages left on the office's answering machine are checked multiple times during the day! In case of an emergency you may call Pastor Karin directly: (c) 949.705.9966. Thank you for your ongoing support.

Baby Boy



Congratulations

It's a Boy
Born November 18th
Parents: Araceil and Jorge Mora
Grandparent: Gloria Lopez
Many aunts, uncles, and cousins are thrilled to a new member of the family.

Merry Christmas from your House of Prayer Staff



Carol



Pastor Karin



Clementina



Mark



Kitty

December 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 5:00pm HOP Forum on Zoom	2 10:00am Bible Study on Zoom	3	4	5
6 9:00am Worship www.hoplutheran.com	7	8 5:00pm HOP Forum on Zoom	9 10:00am Bible Study on Zoom	10	11	12 9:30-11am Undie Sunday Collection
13 9:00am Worship www.hoplutheran.com 11:30am Council zoom Meeting	14 8:00am Scrip Orders Due	15 5:00pm HOP Forum on Zoom	16 10:00am Bible Study on Zoom	17	18	19
20 9:00am Worship www.hoplutheran.com	21	22 5:00pm HOP Forum on Zoom	23 NO Bible Study	24 Church office closed at 10:30 am Christmas Eve Service 7:00 pm	25 Christmas Day	26
27 9:00am Worship www.hoplutheran.com	28 Church office closed	29 5:00pm HOP Forum on Zoom	30 No Bible Study	31 Church office closed at 10:30 am	1	2
3 9:00am Worship www.hoplutheran.com	4 Church office closed					