

Happy May Birthdays

3 – Barb Mason	23 – Eli Koski
4 – Jack McKillop	23 – Trudi Mellak
12 – Sandy Breckon	27 – Carolyn Olsen
15 – Susie Pearsall	29 – Paj Falkowski
18 – Irene Salo	31 – Steve Badanjak
21 – Patty Maki	31 – Veronica Kvale
23 – Stephen Day	31 – Amelia Moschler

Session Highlights

- The CE building has sold! The closing date is 4/30. The purchase price was \$70,000 with the concession of 2 parking spaces in the previously grassed area along the alley. We will also be sharing the rear entrance with the buyers. Thank you to everyone who helped move or dispose of all the items in the building!
- Session is deliberating whether or not to take out the 10-15 year, 0% interest loan from the city for the steam conversion. There are benefits to having those funds available for an extended period of time, although if we don't take out the loan we can get a rebate of 75% of our 2023 steam costs, which would equal over \$4,000.

Preaching Schedule

May 4 – Rev. Kate Stangl, Communion
May 11 – Stephanie Falkowski
May 18 – Judy Erickson
May 25 – Rev. Rebecca LeMenager
June 1 – Rev. Kate Stangl, Communion
June 8 – Rev. Rebecca LeMenager
June 15 – Rev. Nancy Deever

In Sympathy

- We offer sympathy to Janice Rafferty and family on the passing of Armand Rafferty on April 5. A memorial service was held on April 16 at the Bauman-Cron Funeral Home in Virginia.
- The funeral of Donald Jacklen will be held Friday May 16th at Grace Lutheran Church

in Hibbing. Visitation begins at 10am with the service at 11am and lunch following.

Memorial Sunday

May 25 will be Memorial Sunday. As in past years, you will have the opportunity to light candles in memory of loved ones. If you would like to purchase a geranium in honor of a loved one, they will be \$5.00. Please contact the office for any memorial messages.

New Office Location

The church office has been moved to the Session room at the back of the sanctuary. When the office is open, the main front doors will be open. The Support Committee is also upgrading the entrance at the top of the ramp on the NW side of the church. When completed, that entrance will be available for use during office hours. Those hours are Tues, Weds, Thurs 12-3pm. The church mailbox will be located at the top of the ramp.

New Back Door Key

Since we will be sharing the back entrance with the new owners of the CE building, we had to rekey the outer back door. The inner back door is keyed the same as previously, so you will need 2 keys to come in the back door. If you need access to the back door and need the new outer key, please contact the office.

Church Directory Updates

An updated church directory will be worked on soon. If you would like anything changed, please contact the office.

Faithful Earth Keepers

Congregations Caring for the Earth has a new name! It was changed to Faithful Earth Keepers in an effort to welcome all faithful people, including those who don't participate in a congregation. Faithful Earth Keepers invites everyone to a Litter Cleanup Day on Sunday, May 18 at 1pm. Meet at Southside Park in

Virginia (south end of 5th Ave). Bring work gloves (rubber boots might be helpful too). You're also welcome to bring a picnic lunch at 12:30. The rain date alternative will be Monday, May 19 at 4pm. The next Faithful Earth Keepers meeting will be on Monday, May 19 at 10am in the new church office. All are welcome to come share your ideas and your passion for caring for our earth!

A Note from Session

Session felt it was important to note a couple things about the selling of the Christian Education building. First, they would like to thank everyone who has been involved with this long process. The process began in July 2023 when the Support Committee first suggested moving forward with the sale in order to use the funds to keep the church going as long as possible. From there, the decision to put the building up for sale needed approval from Session and then the congregation at the December congregational meeting. After approval was granted, the Presbytery granted approval in February 2024 to authorize the formation of the Administrative Commission that would make the final decision to sell the building. The commission met in March and a listing contract was signed in May. After the price was lowered a couple times, the HCPC Task Force was formed in January 2025 and helped facilitate another price reduction which led to accepting an offer and finally moving out of the building. Again, thank you to all involved throughout this whole process!

A second thing to emphasize is that the funds from the sale of the building were originally intended to keep the church going longer. They were not intended to be used for the steam conversion. If the funds were used for that purpose, there would not be much left over to keep the church open much longer. The results from the questionnaire from the December congregational meeting indicated that people

were willing to contribute to a capital campaign adequately enough to cover the expected costs of the steam conversion. It was because of this that Session agreed to move ahead with the steam conversion and plan on keeping the church building. Session would like to make it clear that, even though we sold the CE building, a fundraising campaign will still be necessary to fund the steam conversion. The Task Force will be developing a fundraising plan, and Session hopes that everyone considers doing their part so that we can continue to worship together in our historic church building!

HCPC Task Force Report

- The Presbytery has approved our loan applications with the City of Virginia for no-interest loans for the steam conversion of both the Church and the CE Building. (The one for the CE Building will hold funds available for the buyers, if they request them.)
- The paperwork for the sale of the CE Building is progressing and the hope is that the closing will be April 30. As part of the agreement, the buyers will take care of the steam conversion of that building and the church will be obligated to provide 2 dedicated parking spaces behind the church building for the buyers.
- The address change for the CE Building to 210 ½ 5th Ave. S. is official, so a new mail box will be installed for the church, which will remain 212 5th Ave. S.
- Due to the sale of the CE Building and the projected closing date of April 30, the Task Force dedicated the month of March to emptying out the CE Building and moving the office over to the church. Needless to say, it was a HUGE project! Several work days were held and a dedicated, hard-working crew showed up. Many thanks to those who helped with the cleaning and moving! They include: Anne & Steve Badanjak, Sylvia Chad, Claude & Judy Erickson, Lee Kesanen, Craig Mason, Mel

& Kathy Moschler, Bob Prosen, Irene Salo, Sue Stevens, Pete Wilhelm, Gordy Hoelscher, Jeff Kroll & Dawn Trexel.

(Please forgive me if I've omitted anyone. There may have been other workers there at times when I was not – Sylvia)

- As part of the clean-out, there are many items on the tables in the Fellowship Hall which are available for free or for a small donation.

- Other items were donated to Jackie's Attic and items of special interest were sold online.
- Now that the time-sensitive physical labor has been done, we will still work to conduct a formal steam conversion fundraiser. In the meantime, if you wish to donate to the project, you may do so. Just indicate that your donation is intended for the steam conversion project. Thank you!

Easter Lily Memorials

Anne & Steve Badanjak – In memory of Juliane & Frank Badanjak

Georiga & Dwight Day – In honor & memory of our parents

The Falkowskis & Johnsons – In thankful memory of all loved ones, praying for peace in the world

Kay & Gordy Hoelscher – Remembering Easters past

Kathy Jacklen & Mel Moschler – In celebration of family

Marianne Loscheider – In memory of Harry Digerness and Peter Loscheider

Barbara & Craig Mason – In memory of family

Marge McPeak – With thanks for a wonderful, caring family

Carolyn Olsen – In memory of Earl and families

Susie & John Pearsall – In honor of our loved ones

Irene Salo – In memory of Larry Salo

Sue & Craig Stevens – In celebration of family

Dana & Rick Wahlberg and Bret Hestetune – In loving memory of Beth Hestetune and in honor of our loving dad Dan Hestetune



HOPE COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION & YOUTH NEWS

Thank you, Mom
&
Servicemen



MAY 2025

Children's Sunday School



May 4

Jesus Forgives Peter
John 21:1-19

Jesus promises us second chances,
just as He forgave Peter for denying Jesus.

May 11- Mother's Day

Listen to Jesus' voice
John 10:22-30

No one can separate Jesus from His followers.
Listen to what He has to say.



May 18

John 13:31-35

Love one another as I have loved you -
with selflessness, humility and forgiveness.
You need to honestly care for God and for others.

May 25

John 5:1-9

Jesus heals a man showing faith and healing.
We show our love for others
by obeying God's commandments.

LOVE • THANKFUL • FORGIVE • OBEY



May 11

Mother's Day & Fishing Opening
Celebrate, enjoy and stay safe.



Ages 7+

May 4, 2025 • John 21:1-19

Jesus and the Big Catch of Fish

The disciples went out to fish,
but they did not catch anything!

Find 15 differences in the second picture.



Hope Community Presbyterian Church

212 So. 5th Ave. Virginia, MN 55792

<https://hopecommunitypc.org>





Enter your **SECRET CODE** to unlock games @
games.childrensbulletins.com

SECRET CODE
WN4026

Remember Mom on
Sunday, May 11th. Make sure she knows
how much you love and appreciate her
Happy Mother's Day!



Christian Education Calendar

Sunday May 4	Sunday May 11	Sunday May 18	Sunday May 25	Monday May 26
Communion Sunday  John 15:9-17 <u>Jesus Forgives Peter</u>	John 10:22-30 Mother's Day 	John 13:31-35 <u>Love One Another</u> 	John 3:1-17 Have faith and follow God's commandments. Memorial Sunday 	Memorial Day 