

NEW HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH

E VOICE

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September 1th A Ten Year Reflection

September is my birth month and always a special time in our family when we celebrate not only my birthday but my daughter, Jolene and two of my grandsons. But since 2001, our celebrations have taken on a new dimension. Initially, we were shocked and deeply saddened by the tragic loss of life and property. Then the war in Iraq which brought back memories of another war close to our hearts as a family - Viet Nam.

A couple of years ago, I will never forget the scene at our PX food court. Here was a young couple with a little boy (about 4 years old)- the Mom pushing a wheelchair with a broad-shouldered man with only one arm and one leg and a face maimed by probable shrapnel. My heart was overwhelmed with sadness for that brave American who will live the remainder of his life with these disabilities. I tried to put it in prospective but could not. I came across the following poem which I want to share with you and I hope it will bring you peace as it did me. The title: **God's in Control**

When our troubles multiply, that is when I look to the sky. I ask the Lord for a hand; he'll restore peace to our great land.

Louis (Jake) Jacobs was carried to the Lord by his angels on August 14th after several months of suffering and pain. There was a military service at Fort Bliss on September 1st attended by several family members from out-of-state, family and friends. We will continue to lift his wife, Marlene, and family in prayer as they grieve their loss but they are thankful that he no longer has to endure the pain and suffering they witnessed. **Leila Budnovich** tells me that her very recent visit to her Oncologist was great! Leila states over and over the Power of Prayer and thanks us for including her and her family in prayer. **Dwight Dillon** celebrated his 80th birthday in August and is doing much better. He continues to use oxygen; is gaining weight and regaining his good color. His energy level has increased as well. He, Doreen and Daryann thank us for our continued prayer in his behalf. **Sarah Garcia** continues to work on improving her diabetic condition so her physician team can then go forward with her back surgery. Keep her in your prayers to continue to work on a life-changing struggle to control her diabetes. **Ingrid Moore** is recovering from eye surgery. She is still experiencing pain but it is getting better slowly.

CHURCH CALENDAR FOR SEPTEMBER 2011

Sunday Worship (Traditional) at 9AM and (Joy & Grace) at 11AM. Sunday school and Adult conversation at 10:15AM

Choir practice Wednesday starting September 7th at 7PM

Adult Retreat (Visitors Welcome) September 10 at 8:30AM

Church Council Meeting Sept. 11 at 12:15PM

Christian Ed Meeting Sept. 13 at 7PM

Game Night Sept. 17 at 6:30PM

RUMMAGE SALE ACTIVITIES:

Empty Sheds Sept. 24 9:30AM

Sale Setup Sept. 26 9AM

Pricing Sept. 27 9AM

Property Meeting Sept. 27 at 7PM

RUMMAGE SALE Sept. 30 4-7PM

I can't explain what's happened here; I can only wipe away my tears. We all must look to God and pray that time will heal these wounds someday.

God has blessed our Great Nation. From the ashes we will rise again. Pledge your faith – both heart and soul. Just don't forget God's in control.

Joyce Palmer, The Editor

SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

New Hope Lutheran Church will call a special congregational meeting to approve the updated Constitution on **September 25th at 10:15AM**. Our last constitution was approved in 1999 and the Rocky Mountain Synod as well as New Hope has made changes since then. Some of our changes:

- 1) The congregation will elect the congregational officers, not the council.
- 2) Council members' terms are now 2 years, with a term limit of 3 terms.
- 3) Amount of money the Council can obligate without recourse has increased to \$2,000.
- 4) Notifications for congregational meetings will be via email, newsletter and bulletin announcements not via postcards.

5) The church committees have been updated to reflect the current committees that meet.

6) A total of 35 percent voting members constitute a quorum – a change from 25 percent previously.

An informational meeting will be held on **September 11th at 10:15AM** to make the congregation aware of these changes. Copies of the proposed constitution will be available to all voting members at the meeting.

New Hope is seeking an individual to perform General Office Duties including answering the phone and assisting Pastor St. Clair. This is a paid position and will require office experience and computer skills. Hours are Monday thru Thursday, 3 hours a day. Submit resume to Pastor Jeff . If you need further information, please contact Pastor St. Clair at 821-2079.

ITEMS OF INTEREST

LUTHERAN NIGHT AT COHEN STADIUM

“Take me out to the ball game” was a fun night for all those who attended. We had good seats and enjoyed the hotdogs and burgers that were served up. The game itself was not that much fun since the Diablos really are having difficulty winning games this season.

It was fun just to get together, however and to enjoy a beautiful clear night in El Paso with a nice breeze that kept us cool. The group was approximately 25 people from around the city. Good times and good fellowship were had by all!

ADULT RETREAT

Pastor Jeff St. Clair will lead the Adult Retreat where we will study the Book of Revelations.

DATE: September 10

TIME: 8:30am meet and greet with discussion to follow from 9 to 4 with a break for lunch. Cost is \$10.00. A GREAT SPIRITUAL DAY! Bring a friend!

BOOK STUDY

The title of the book: “same kind of different As Me”.

Pastor Jeff will lead two sessions: October 6th at 7PM and October 8th at 9AM. Bring a guest. This is always a great learning experience!