



COMMUNITY OF HOPE

MISSION:

To demonstrate the abiding word of god through faith and good works and expressing the love of Jesus Christ by providing daily necessities as well as hope for the future to those in need.

November 2024

A Happy and Blessed Thanksgiving to You All!

Board Members:

Shari Olson, President
Patti Svaleson, VP
Gail Francette, Treasurer/Sec.
Marcie Antell
Pastor Joy Armstrong
Tom Ochocki

Committees:

Creative Media – Kim Ochocki
Donations – Tom Ochocki
Finance – Gail Francette
Networking – Shari Olson
Outreach – Charity Okron
Prayer – Robin Brady
Research – Julie Juntti

Questions?

Call Shari Olson
218-348-2417

Emails:

For General Inquiries:
info@communityofhope216.org

Items for the Board:

board@communityofhope216.org

Questions on Donations:

donations@communityofhope216.org

Upcoming events or suggestions:

events@communityofhope216.org

Prayer for yourself or someone else

prayer@communityofhope216.org

Web Address:

www.communityofhope216.org/



As we begin the Celebration of the Season of the Birth of our Savior let us remember what he did for us.

Our King came to earth to live a humble meager life. He set out at the young age of 30 to tell the world about our Father and what would please the Father the most in how we live. Many places he was rejected, often ran out of town and his life was threatened in many ways. He had times that thousands came to listen to him teach. He showed the love, we all look for, by giving us miracles watching him heal, feed thousands, bring back to life and heal those plagued with evil spirits.

He showed us how to love and not judge. Let us remember all he gave before he returned to his Father.

Remember the Three wise men. Who came to honor the one that was born to be King. They gave a gift, something that was precious to them and their culture.

Today our time is precious. What gift will we be willing to give to Jesus? Perhaps a little time to ring a bell at the Salvation Army Red Kettles or helping feeding those at Thanksgiving or Christmas dinners. Perhaps it is reaching out to someone who is lonely or hungry or in need.

Whatever it is, wrap up your gift to Jesus this Season and show him the same love he showed us.

We look forward to seeing you out and about. Stop in at the Sunday meals and say hi - we would love to know all is well with you.

God Bless.

Shari Olson
President

Helping Our Neighbors This Holiday Season

For most of us, Thanksgiving means spending time with loved ones sitting around a table and enjoying the tastes and smells of the turkey dinner. But for others, Thanksgiving is just another day on the calendar – one spent alone or on the streets or in their car with just the bare necessities for a meal or a place to sleep. For those experiencing homelessness, the holiday season can be an especially challenging time.



The Reality of Homelessness on Thanksgiving

Imagine not having a place to call home, let alone a warm table to gather around with loved ones on Thanksgiving Day. This is the harsh reality that homeless or unhoused people face every year. Homelessness brings with it a profound sense of isolation and despair, and these feelings can be amplified during the holiday season when the contrast between one's own situation and the joy of others is most evident. Thanksgiving, a symbol of togetherness and abundance, can seem like a distant dream for those living on the street.

How You Can Help

However, you can make a difference by:

- **Supporting organizations:** like the Salvation Army of Cloquet, United Way of Carlton County, Community of Hope, Cloquet Outreach Center, to name a few that are dedicated to helping people experiencing homelessness find stable housing and the support they need to rebuild their lives.
- **Donate** – Consider making a monetary donation to organizations that work to provide food, shelter, and support services to the homeless population. Or carry a \$20 bill in your pocket or car and the next time you see someone on the street that is in need, stop and offer it to them.
- **Volunteer** – Many organizations could use your help at a local shelter, food bank, or organizations such as DAV-Cloquet or the Thanksgiving Day Buffet sponsored by the College of St. Scholastica that offer a free Thanksgiving meal.
- **Spread Awareness** – Use your voice or social platform to raise awareness about homelessness and the organizations that are dedicated to helping those in need.

Thanksgiving is a time for gratitude and togetherness. It's also a time to remember those who are less fortunate and to extend a helping hand. By supporting organizations like those mentioned above and others working tirelessly to assist homeless individuals during the holiday season, you can make a positive impact on the lives of those who need it most. Let's come together as a community to ensure that everyone can experience the warmth of Thanksgiving, regardless of their housing situation.

Greetings from the Donations Team Lead

Thank you for continued support with donations of items for daily living. As a non-profit we also have operational expenses that would benefit greatly from financial donations. The biggest expense currently would be our weekly free meal. While we do receive some donations, the majority of the costs fall back on the volunteers. Also things like postage and printing add up. Please consider a monetary donation if you can. It can be done on our website communityofhope216.org or with a check in the mail. Thank you very much!

Community of Hope 2:16
P.O. Box 192
Cloquet, MN 55720

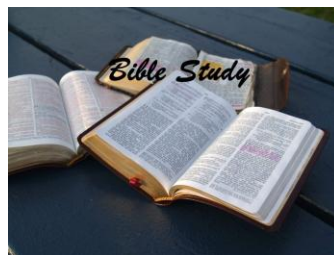
COMMUNITY CHURCH EVENTS

Good Hope Community Church: 55 Armory Road Cloquet

- **Operation Christmas Child** – Pick up your shoebox – return by Nov. 17
- **Trampoline Park (Grades 6-12)** – Nov. 27: 6—7:30pm. Cost \$23
- **Women's Group**- A time of worship, teaching and socialization. 3rd Friday 6-8:30pm at Good Hope Cloquet.
- **Fall Groups**- Both Growth & Connect groups are in full swing! Visit their web page
- **Jamaica Missions Trip**- January 29-February 5. Registration deadline: Nov. 6th.

Our Savior's Lutheran Church: 615 12th Street, Cloquet

- **Quilting Group** – 2nd & 4th Thursday @ 9am
- **Bible Study** – Wednesdays 10am-11am.
- **Book Club** – 3rd Thursday of the month @ 7pm.



St. Matthew's Lutheran Church: 4 Elizabeth Avenue, Esko

- **Experience Recovery** – Thursdays @ 6pm
- **Soul Sisters** – Mondays @ 6:30pm
- **Men's Morning Bible Study** – Tuesday's @ 7am

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church: 515 Skyline Blvd, Cloquet

- **Ladies Bible Study** – Thursdays @ 7pm
- **Men's Bible Study** – Thursdays @ 7pm
- **Quilting Group** – 2nd & 4th Thursdays @ 9:30am
- **Pie & Ice Cream Social** – Nov. 27 @ 7:30-8:30pm



Journey Christian Church: 1400 Washington Avenue, Cloquet

- **In the Footsteps of the Savior** – October 2, 6:30-7:45. Lifegroup for Adults
- **Family & Friends Skate Night** – November 4, 5:00-7:30pm
- **Ladies Bible Study** – Tuesday's @ 1:00-2:00m
- **Love You to Pieces Quilters** – 2nd & 4th Thursday @ 10:00am-3:00pm
- **Pie Fundraiser** – Nov. 23, 8:00-8:30am

OUR SPOTLIGHT SHINES ON.... THE PRAYER TEAM

The purpose of this group is to pray for the Community of Hope for guidance in all their endeavors, be prayer partners at events and be available when special prayer requests are needed. The group is led by Robin Brady. If you would like to become a member of this team or join the prayer group, please contact Robin @ prayer@communityofhope216.org.

THANK YOU'S

**A Big Thank You to all those
that give their time and talents
and to those affiliated churches
that allow us to use their space.**



DINNER SCHEDULE - NOVEMBER

- November 3 St. Paul's Church**
Sloppy Joes, salad, fruit, dessert
- November 10 Our Savior's**
Chicken Wild Rice Soup, bread, salad, fruit, dessert
- November 17 Our Redeemer Church**
Turkey, mashed potatoes, fruit, dessert
- November 24 Good Hope Church**
Ham, salad, fruit, dessert

THANKS for all you do!

We could really use more volunteers to help with this service. If you are willing to help out, please contact Charity @ (218) 409-2606 or Kathy @ 262-617-6270

ONLINE DONATIONS

Did you know you can now make monetary donations on the Community of Hope website? Every dollar helps us further our missions and support the goals of Community of Hope. Our work is only possible through caring people like you. Visit <https://www.communityofhope216.org/donate-now/> for more information or to make a donation. And thank you so much for your continued support!

A SEASON OF ANXIETY AND THANKFULNESS

Most of us would agree that with hurricanes, floods, wildfires, political unrest and uncertainty and myriad other troublesome things in our world, there is a lot we can be depressed, worried and anxious about.

What should we as Christians do about this? I just came back from a Christian Counseling workshop. Did you know that gratefulness (particularly regularly journaling about what we are grateful for) is scientifically proven to successfully combat anxiety and depression? God's Word reinforces this.

This month we celebrate the Thanksgiving holiday, and for most of us it is a time for family, feasting and reflecting on/giving thanks for our blessings. However, God tells us in His Word that we are always to be thankful, and this should always be a big part of our prayer life.

Here are some bible passages that we can meditate on, even memorize, and most of all practice: Ephesians 5:20 Giving thanks always and for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ

Philippians 4:6-7 Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Colossians 4:2: Continue steadfastly in prayer, being watchful in it with thanksgiving.

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 - Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

I found this helpful statement when searching for scriptures: Thankfulness naturally lends itself to praise. The act of praising God realigns our thoughts onto His character and provisions. As we exalt His name and recount His faithfulness, anxiety loses its grip. The "sacrifice of praise" pushes back the darkness of fear and worry

Psalm 100:4 - Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name.

May the Lord of peace give you strength and peace as you practice gratefulness by expressing your thankfulness and praise to Him in prayer.

Robin Brady, Prayer Team Lead