



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.

March 2025

Board Members:

Shari Olson, President
Patti Svaleson, VP
Kim Ochocki, Secretary
Tom Ochocki, Treasurer
Marcie Antell
Pastor Joy Armstrong
Emily Schlimmer

Committees:

Creative Media – Kim Ochocki
Donations – Tom Ochocki
Finance –
Networking – Shari Olson
Outreach – Charity Okon
Prayer – Robin Brady
Research –

Questions?

Call 218-600-6520

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/



Happy St. Patrick's Day and First Day of Spring!

March is just the start of new beginnings as we welcome the first day of spring on March 20, along with hopes of spring flowers and warmer weather soon to follow.

I would like to share a recent story of a young local teen who had gone through a series of unfortunate situations – including health issues and depression. Due to these issues, it resulted in the need for a new mattress and bedding. The family, unfortunately, did not have the money to replace all the bedding and find a new mattress for her to sleep on so she was forced to sleep on the floor.

But thankfully a person from HDC had heard of our organization and reached out to us to see if we could help. We contacted several individuals to find a twin bed, but to no avail. But then someone associated with Community of Hope heard of the situation and was kind enough to provide the necessary funds to buy a twin bed and mattress covers so this teen could sleep in comfort. The young girl was so grateful for the new bed and it has greatly uplifted her spirits.

I think too often we fail to realize that one of the greatest and purest joys in life comes from helping someone else. No matter who we are, no matter what season we're currently experiencing, the joy of making another person smile can bring warmth and light to our own hearts.

We are so thankful for those associated within our organization that are willing to help in times of need. What a joy it is to be able to help someone!

"And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased". Hebrews 13:16.



Greetings from the Donations Team

First of all, thank you for your donations both directly and through the area churches that have collection boxes. Some items currently listed are motor oil, windshield washer fluid and antifreeze. Many of the unhoused we support are living in their vehicles and those items are always needed for them. As we approach the period of Lent, preparing us for the joyous celebration of Christ's resurrection from the dead, many people consider prayer, fasting and acts of charity to be part of that season. Please consider a financial donation to Community of Hope 2:16. Most of our expenses are directly related to our weekly free meals and your support goes a long way towards giving a wonderful meal to many people who greatly appreciate it!

As always, thank you!

Prayer Thoughts for March by Robin Brady



Here we are in March already with thoughts of spring, the first robins and grass peeking out from the snow. March is also the month of St. Patrick's Day, with celebrations including leprechauns, shamrocks, and green beer.

While legends abound including the most famous one about how he drove all the snakes out of Ireland, the fact is that St. Patrick was a man who loved God. There are also legends about how God used him to raise lots of people from the dead, and how he prayed, and God provided a bunch of pigs to feed hungry sailors. There is another legend that he used the Shamrock as a tool to teach people about the triune God, (the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit being one).

Whether there is fact to any of those legends is unclear. But from what is reported about him, gleaned from his writings, is that he was a humble and prayerful man, who spent time fasting and seeking God and asking Him to save the people of Ireland. He was also a man who was inclined to the practice of praise and thanksgiving to the Lord. This, despite much suffering in his life, including being taken into slavery as a boy and being put into chains as a man related to his bringing the good news of Jesus to the Irish people. He saw many people turn from darkness and false beliefs to the spiritual freedom that comes from belief in the living God.

This March, as we look to St. Patrick's day, a better way to honor his memory and celebrate this day is to remember to spend time following St. Patrick's example. Let's take time to praise and give thanks to God.

And let us pray for those we love, and those who are hungry and needy, whether it is for physical food and needs or the even more important spiritual needs that lead to eternal life. Perhaps we can even follow his example and set aside a meal or a day of meals and spend time in prayer with our focus on God and those who are in need. Perhaps even making a donation of the money we save in our fasting to Community of Hope or another organization that helps those in need.

COMMUNITY CHURCH EVENTS

Good Hope Community Church: 55 Armory Road Cloquet

- **Annual Celebration** – Potluck at 5:30 pm Celebration @ 6:30 pm
- **Youth Game Night** – March 7th 7pm-1am @ Good Hope – Cloquet. Board games, video games, active games.
- **Holy Spirit Nights** – March 16th, 23rd, & 30th.
- **Men's Advance – Stepping Up** – March 28-29 – Lake Geneva Christian Camp. Check the website for more details.

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

- **Ash Wednesday Service** – March 5th @ 6:30pm
- **Wednesday Lenten Services** – begin March 12. Soup Supper @ 5:15pm – Service @ 6:30pm
- **Indivisible Group** – Tuesday, March 11 @ 5:30pm
- **Mobile Food Distribution** – March 20 @ 8:30am

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

- **Ash Wednesday** – March 5 – Soup Supper @ 5:30. Service 6:30-7:30pm.
- **Lenten Services** – Begins March 12. Soup Supper @ 5:30, Service 6:30-7:30. Continues through April 9th.
- **Brunch Fundraiser** – March 16 @ 11:30. Check website for more details.
- **Book Discussion Group** – March 20 @ 1pm. Book is "A Lineage of Grace" by Francine River.

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church: 515 Skyline Blvd, Cloquet

- **Ash Wednesday Service** – March 5 @ 6:30pm
- **Mid-week Evening Services** – March 12 – April 9th: 6:30pm
- **Quilting** – Thursdays @ 9:30am
- **Men's Bible Study** – Thursdays @ 7 p.m.
- **Ladie's Bible Study** – Thursdays @ 7pm.



Journey Christian Church: 1400 Washington Avenue, Cloquet

- **Youth School of Worship** – Begins Thursday, 6pm-8pm
- **Family & Friends Skate Night** – March 3; 5pm. Check the website for details.
- **Ladies Night Out** – March 10 from 6-9pm. Meet at The Streetcar, Carlton.
- **Night of Entertainment** – March 14, 6pm-8pm. Check the website for details.



DINNER SCHEDULE - MARCH

- March 2** **Our Savior's Lutheran Church**
Chicken Tortilla Soup, salad,
fruit, dessert
- March 9** **St. Paul's Church**
Chili, salad, fruit, dessert
- March 16** **Our Redeemer Church**
Teriyaki chicken w/Broccoli, Rice,
salad, fruit, dessert
- March 23** **Good Hope Church**
Pulled Pork Sandwiches,
salad, fruit, dessert
- March 31** **Our Savior's Lutheran Church**
Meatloaf, Baked potatoes, salad,
fruit, dessert



February 2025:
Total Meals Served - 131
To Go Boxes - 64
Volunteers: 40 (average 10 @ each meal)

We could really use some additional volunteers. If you are able to help out on Sundays please reach out to Charity @ 218-409-2606 or Kathy @ 218-262-6270. You can also contact the office number @ 218-600-6250
Thank you to all those that make this possible!



Community of Hope 2:16
PO Box 192
615 12th Street, Door 3
Cloquet MN 55720
Phone: 218-600-6520

NEXT BOARD MEETING – MARCH 24 @ 6:30PM @ COMMUNITY OF HOPE OFFICE.

If you are in need, come to our office and we will be available to help with finding resources or help with short-term assistance. If you know anyone who is looking for direction or help, have them stop by at Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Door 3. Our office hours are:

Monday, Wednesday and Saturday 9am-12pm. Or call 218-600-6520.

