

## Mission Statement

*Hope Lutheran Church seeks to strengthen our faith in Jesus Christ,  
to proclaim the Gospel to others, and to strive for unity in Christ.*

# HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER

December, 2017

### **Sunday Worship:**

9:00 AM

With Communion on the  
first and third Sundays

### **GLOW:**

God's Love On Wednesdays

5:30 PM Supper

6:00 PM GLOW

6:00 PM Confirmation  
Classes

### **Coffee & Fellowship:**

10:10 AM

### **Television Worship**

#### **Broadcast:**

Channel 3

Sunday at 6:30 pm

Tuesday at 2:00 pm

Thursday at 4:00 pm

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## *My View of the Pews*

Well here we are the end of the year is in sight and the Advent Season is beginning. So much to share so little time to prepare. So I have decided to share a couple of items I found very interesting and touching.

The first is a writing on Alzheimer's we all can and should keep in mind when this dreadful condition affects members of our family and friends. The second is a little Bible trivia I found very interesting and the third is a cartoon I found to be probably way to close to the truth about how some of us will view our hopefully entrance through the pearly gates.

Happy Advent! See you in church! *Pastor Bruce*

### **When I Wander—Author Unknown**

When I wander, don't tell me to come and sit down. Wander with me. It may be because I am hungry, thirsty, need the toilet. Or maybe I just need to stretch my legs.

When I call for my mother (even though I'm ninety!) don't tell me she has died. Reassure me, cuddle me, ask me about her. It may be that I am looking for the security that my mother once gave me.

When I shout out please don't ask me to be quiet...or walk by. I am trying to tell you something, but have difficulty in telling you what. Be patient. Try to find out. I may be in pain.

When I become agitated or appear angry, please don't reach for the drugs first. I am trying to tell you something. I may be too hot, too bright, too noisy. Or maybe it's because I miss my loved ones. Try to find out first.

When I don't eat my dinner or drink my tea, it may be because I've forgotten how to. Show me what to do, remind me. It may be that I just need to hold my knife and fork, I may know what to do then.

(Continued on page 4)

## **Hope Lutheran Church—Pastor Bruce Drackley**

**113 South Jefferson Street, PO Box 87  
Minneota, MN 56264-0087**

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Pastor's Cell: 507-828-5522

Pastor's Home: 507-734-5401

Church Secretary's Email: [hopelutheran87@gmail.com](mailto:hopolutheran87@gmail.com)

Secretary's Cell Phone: 507-530-5666

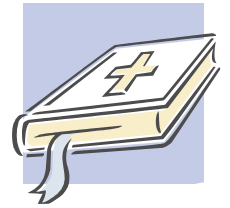
Missionary's Email: [elisajo@msn.com](mailto:elisajo@msn.com)

Parish Secretary: Chris Pesch  
Financial Secretary: Pete Van Vooren  
GLOW Directors: Bree Anderson &  
Erin Roberts

Missionary: Dr. Elisabeth Johnson  
Custodians: Lynn & Barb Okrina  
Organist: Valerie Buysse  
Jubilation: Gayle VanVooren

**Bible Studies for Men and Women**

Mary Circle	Monday, December 4	6:00 pm, Church
Ruth Circle	Tuesday, December 5	2:00 pm, Church
Martha Circle	Wednesday, December 6	9:30 am, Sandy Tolk's Home
Men's Bible Study	Saturday, December 9	8:00 am at Rusty's Café in Taunton



**2017 Church Attendance**

November 5	124
November 12	104
November 19	112
November 26	87

Total 427—Average attendance in November, based on 4 services: 107

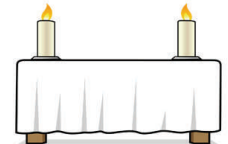


**Workgroup Chairpersons**

Fig & Linda Nuytten 829-9379

**Altar Guild (November 29—December 26)**

Marlys Skaar 872-6600



**Date**   **Sound Operators**

December 3	Randy Prellwitz
December 10	Jack Jerzak
December 17	Scott Josephson
December 24	Greg Gottskalkson
December 31	Todd Sonnenburg

**Video Operators**

Ralph Hagen
Ron Thostenson
Keven Larson
Dave Dovre
Matt Myhre

**Acolytes**

Trey Gronke & Tyler Gronke  
(The rest were not available at the time of this mailing)



**December Money Counters**—Scott Josephson, Tony Esping, Shane Bordewyk



**Church Council Notes - November 13, 2017**

<b>Fund Balances:</b>	General Fund:	\$ 9,723.79	Cornerstone Fund:	\$14,027.99
	Building Fund:	\$ 883.22	Petty Cash Fund:	\$ 952.05
	Building Fund Savings:	\$ 148.69	GLOW:	\$ 3,935.90

**Board of Trustees Report**

- Bills for the month of October reviewed. Bills totaled \$6,266.77.
- Parsonage: Should we Rent it out until a new Pastor is called?
- Insurance Policy: Checking status
- Flooring Fund: No new info
- Phones/Internet/Website: Need Commercial quality internet - Midco in November
- Bell Tower: Leaking again; Buysse Roofing
- Budget Meeting: Working on setting a date
- Building Fund: Working on a plan to rebuild the fund

**Board of Deacons Report**

- Members In/Out: Transferring in Marty Santiago, Nancy Martinez and Nicholas and Savannah
- Walk Around Offering: **November** - Live Nativity, **December** - Christmas Angels
- Mission Sunday: November 19, 2017 Mission Sunday; Mission Dinner - Ham O-Brien - Gayle and Sandy
- Thanksgiving Service: Wednesday, November 22, 2017 at 7 p.m. Ecumenical Service
- Sunday December 10, 2017: Lay service, as Pastor Bruce is out of town

**Board of Education Report**

- GLOW: No new info
- Confirmation: Thank you to Moriah Reiss for stepping up to teach the 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Pre-Confirmation Class!!
- Youth of Hope: Is planning on doing a Bake Sale soon
- Teen Power: Has the Soles for Souls donation boxes out.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Bibles: **Sunday, November 26, 2017**. Letters need to go out to students/parents.
- Acolytes: Thank you to Barb Knutson for instructing our new students on this

**Other Business**

- St. Paul's Church: Will work with St. Paul's on the signing of the Shared Ministry Agreement and present it to the Synod.
- Order Wreathes and Poinsettias - The Boy Scouts have ordered 3 wreathes to give to us for the use of the church for their meetings.
- Next Executive Meeting: **Sunday, November 26, 2017 at 10 a.m.**
- Next Council Meeting: **Sunday, December 3, 2017 at 10 a.m.**

**Respectfully Submitted, Chris Hansen, Council Secretary**

**When I Wander—Continued**

When I push you away while you're trying to help me wash or get dressed, maybe it's because I have forgotten what you have said. Keep telling me what you are doing over and over. Maybe others will think you're the one that needs the help!

With all my thoughts and maybes, perhaps it will be you who reaches my thoughts, understands my fears, and will make me feel safe. Maybe it will be you who I need to thank.

If only I knew how.

**Bible Trivia**

Jacob was a cheater, Peter had a temper, David had an affair, Noah was a drunk, Jonah ran from God, Paul was a murderer, Gideon was insecure, Miriam was a gossip, Martha was a worrier, Thomas was a doubter, Sara was impatient, Elijah was moody, Mary Magdalene was a hooker, Moses stuttered, Zaccheus was short, Abraham was old, Lazarus was dead...God doesn't call the qualified, He qualifies the CALLED! Re-post if you know you are NOT perfect but God has a plan for you. AMEN.

**2017 Mission Dinner**

The Mission Dinner at Hope was held on November 19th, with church starting at 10:00 and the meal immediately following. Laurel Johnson of Balaton was the guest speaker and told of her brother and sister-in-law who were missionaries in a third world country. It was very interesting to hear of a sibling's reaction to all the differences between our cultures.

A meal of ham o'brien, salads, buns and desserts followed the church service. The HLCW members provided salads and the Hope Council members provided desserts.

The team of Sandy Tolk, Marilyn Kompelien, Kathy Bulander, and Gayle VanVooren made the potato dish and a whole host of people assisted with the setup, serving, and cleanup after the meal.

This event could not have happened without the help of so many.

A special offering that day will be sent to our missionary.

A thank you to all who worked so hard and to those who attended.

**From Scott Josephson, Council Chairman**

Fellow Members of Hope,

As we enter this holiday season, let us be thankful for all of the blessings we have in our lives and remain focused on the real meaning of Christmas as we celebrate with family and friends. There are many holiday events scheduled here at Hope Lutheran and I encourage you to check the church calendar and be a part of our celebration of Christ's birth through the coming weeks.

As you consider your end of year giving to Hope, I would ask that you contribute to our Building Fund. We have had several large projects over the last couple of years that have depleted the account. We have repaired the roof of the church and just completed a very large project of updating the parsonage.

The parsonage project became more expensive than anticipated as we found many unforeseen problems during the remodeling process that needed to be repaired and brought up to building codes. We also continue to have problems with the Bell Tower that will need attention through the coming year. And as always with facilities like ours, there are continuous maintenance issues that need to be addressed.

So as we close out our books for the year, please help us to return our Building Fund to a comfortable level. The Hope Lutheran Church Council wishes you all a very Merry Christmas!

*Scott Josephson, Chairman*

**POINSETTIAS**

A Christmas Poinsettia Fund will be set up and contributions will be used to purchase Poinsettia plants. Please complete the form below and return it to the church office **by Sunday, December 19th**. If you prefer to share a Poinsettia plant of your own, please bring it to the church by December 24th.

\_\_\_\_\_ Donation      \_\_\_\_\_ Bringing own plant

Given in memory of:

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Given in honor of:

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Given by:

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**GLOW**

We are looking forward to our annual GLOW Christmas program coming up on December 17th at the 10:00 AM service. The kids have their parts and have been working very hard on the program to get us all in the Christmas spirit. A special thanks goes to Tegan Gillund, Jessica Gronke, and Emily Hennen for putting so much hard work into the program again! Thanks ladies!

Our program continues to be super successful on Wednesday nights. Every week it seems we feed more people! Thanks to all who have volunteered to help out in the kitchen! There is always a sign up for kitchen help downstairs. Take a peek and see if there is a night maybe you could help.

Thanks for everyone's continued support!

*Erin and Bree*

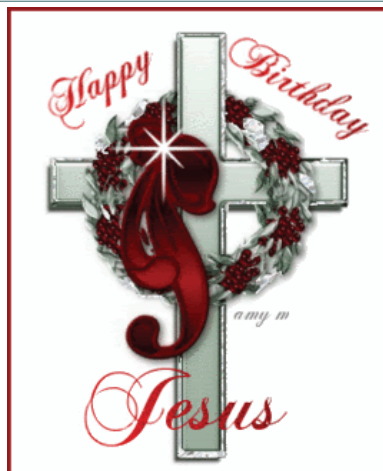


**Youth of Hope** will be having their annual Lefse and Belgian cookie bake sale on December 10th. Orders will be taken until December 8th. You can place orders in the narthex or by calling Terri at 828-0147.

Youth of Hope will be holding a lunch following the GLOW Christmas Program in December 17th. Please join us for hot turkey sandwiches chips and dessert Free will offering

Also **Mission Trip 2019** meeting will be Wednesday Jan 3rd at 6:30 pm. Any student in grades 7-college freshman is welcome to join us.

**Terri Myhre, Youth of Hope**



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**Christmas Eve Service, December 24th, 5:00 pm**

**Christmas Day Service, December 25th, 10:00 AM**