

Mission Statement

God calls us to Mission and Ministry in our rural community and to the world. Gathered in Faith and nurtured by Word and Sacraments, we commit ourselves to share a hope for the future, to use our resources and talents guided by the Holy Spirit, and to work together to expand our ministry to serve others in the name of Jesus Christ.

**HOPE LUTHERAN & ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN
CHURCH NEWSLETTER**

April 2025

Sunday Worship:

September-May

Hope—9:00 AM
St. Paul's—10:30 AM
With Communion
on the first and third
Sundays

GLOW:

(Sept-May)

God's Love On
Wednesdays
5:30 PM Supper
6:00 PM GLOW
6:00 PM Ignite
(Confirmation)
Classes/Teen Power

Coffee & Fellowship:

Following Worship at
Hope

Palm Sunday

April 13th, 9:00 am at Hope with 1st Communion

Holy Week Services

April 17th, Maundy Thursday, 7:00 pm at Hope

April 18th, Good Friday, 7:00 pm at St. Paul's

Easter Sunday—April 20th

9:00 am at Hope

10:30 am at St. Paul's



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Hope Lutheran Church

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

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

**412 East Lyon Street
Minneota, MN 56264**

Pastor Cell:

Office/Kitchen: 507-872-6446
Parish Secretary: Chris Pesch
Secretary's Cell: 507-530-5666

Pastor:

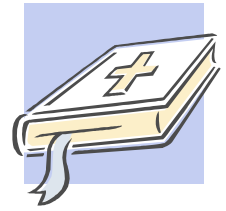
Pastor Email: Dr. Elisabeth Johnson
Missionary Email: elisajo@msn.com
GLOW Directors: Erin Roberts & Jess Gronke
Custodians: Jason & Jen Johnson & Family
Organists: Valerie Buysse, Wendy Sarazyn
Jubilation: Kasey Denney & Nona Gottskalkson

Church Email:
hopelutheran87@gmail.com
Church Website:
www.hopeminneota.org

Bible Studies for Men and Women

Gather Magazine Bible Study April 7, 6:30 pm
 Women of the Bible Study April 9, 10:00 am
 Men's Bible Study April 4, 8:00 am

At Church
 At Roberta Josephson's
 At Porter Cafe



2025 Church Attendance

February 2	82	March 2	65	March 16	60
February 9	59	March 5	84 Ash Wed	March 19	46 Lent
February 16	68	March 9	95	March 23	75 Est
February 23	49	March 12	93 Lent	March 26	75 Est Lent
Total:	258			March 30	75 Est
Average:	65			Total:	668
				Average:	74

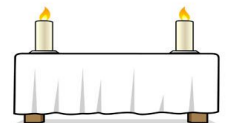


Workgroup Chairpersons

Scott & Barb Knutson
 828-9117 or 828-9111

Altar Guild (March 26—April 22)

Marilyn Kompelien 828-1148



Date Sound Operators

April 6 Matt Myhre
 April 13 Todd Sonnenburg
 April 20 Scott Josephson
 April 27 Cole Myhre

Date Acolytes

April 6 Rory Strandmark & Kingston Ryer
 April 13 Wyatt Opdahl & Levi Pohlen
 April 20 Taryn Myrvik & Aiden DePestel
 April 27 Taryn Myrvik & Rory Strandmark



Money Counters: April - James Danielson & Cory Myhre

Upcoming Dates:

- ***April 13**—First Communion/Palm Sunday, 9:00 am at Hope
- ***April 17**—Maundy Thursday Worship, 7 pm at Hope
- ***April 18**—Good Friday Worship, 7 pm at St. Paul's
- ***April 20**—Easter Sunday, 9:00 at Hope, 10:30 at St. Paul's
- ***May 11**—Baccalaureate Sunday
- ***June 9-12**—Vacation Bible School with Bethany-Elim
- ***June 22-27**—Mission Trip to Perry, FL

Church Council Notes – March 5, 2025

Fund Balances: General Fund:	\$ 13,276.96	Cornerstone Fund:	\$ 71,575.41
Building Fund:	\$ 4,824.11	Petty Cash Fund:	\$ 1,027.70
Building Fund Savings:	\$ 2,455.96	GLOW:	\$ 6,781.25

Attendance:

Attending in Person: Terri Myhre, Emily Hennen, Rose Van Uden, Kent Borstad, Cory Myhre, Deb Belaen, Jasmine DeSmet, Amie Ascheman, Jason Johnson, Sandy Josephson, James Danielson, Barb Knutson, Angie DeVos, Chris Pesch – Church Secretary

Attending via Phone:**Absent:****Discussion on Constitution Change:**

- Barry Gronke met with the council to discuss the constitution change that was voted on at the annual meeting. Previously when Barry was on the call committee, there were very few candidates that were presented to Hope as possibilities. We had looked at alternatives, even meeting with the college in Sioux Falls to see if there was an opportunity there. There were 45 openings in our synod at that time, and we are now up to 55 openings and no candidates are allocated to our synod from this year's graduating class.
- Our current constitution doesn't allow us to hire or talk to anyone outside of the ELCA. The intent of the constitutional amendment is to allow the call committee alternate resources and be able to cast a wider net for pastors. The intent is not to leave the ELCA. With the recent vote at the annual meeting, we will need to have another congregational meeting in 6 months to have a second vote.
- One of the concerns was how this change would be perceived by the synod. From what we have heard indirectly, the synod will view this as a negative move, and Kent has already received a call from the synod about this asking additional questions. Bishop Dee does plan to be at our next council meeting to review this further.
- The wording of the constitutional amendment would allow us to make a call to a pastor outside of the ELCA. Currently, we can only sign a contract with a pastor who is outside of the ELCA, and a contract is an action by the council only. A call is voted on by the congregation.
- We do need to provide 60 days' notice for the next congregational meeting, and we need to put that notice in the bulletin and in the newsletter.

Secretary's Report – A correction will be made to February's secretary's report to show that Terri Myhre nominated Aime as Vice President. **Motion made to approve amended secretary's report by Terri Myhre. Angie DeVos seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

Treasurer's Report

- Bills: Bills for the month of March were sent out prior to the meeting for review. Total General Fund bills are estimated at \$7,005.84. There were no new bills.
- **Motion made by Jasmine DeSmet to approve the Treasurer's Report. Jason Johnson seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

Board of Trustees Report

- Bills: Total General Fund bills are estimated at \$7,005.84. There were no additional bills. Jennifer will be here for the Wednesday night Lenten services, and she will be paid \$75 per week and that cost will be split with St. Paul's.
- Twitter / LSS: It was implied on Twitter that Lutheran Social Services was being fraudulent. A member of the congregation reached out to Kent and asked that a rebuttal be placed in the newsletter. It will be placed in next month's newsletter as March's newsletter had already gone out when Kent received this request.
- Auditors: The auditors still have to meet, and Aime will follow up to get that scheduled.
- **Motion made by Deb Belaen to approve the Board of Trustees' report. Barb Knutson seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

Board of Deacons Report

- Walk Around Offerings: 4th Sunday of the month - Endowment matches walk around offerings 2:1 up to \$500.
 - March – Food Shelf. There will be a 3 to 1 match with a \$6,000 cap from Endowment Fund.
 - April – The Banquet in Sioux Falls. The youth will be helping serve a meal there, and this offering will be a donation to that program.
 - May – VBS. We will request a 3-to-1 match from the Endowment Fund for this, also.
- Lent: Lenten services will be at 6:45 pm, and Jennifer will be doing all the Lenten services.
- Palm Sunday: Palm Sunday and First Communion will be on April 13th.

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Church Council Notes (continued)

- Easter: April 20th
 - Maundy Thursday – 7 pm at Hope
 - Good Friday – 7 pm at St. Paul’s
 - Easter – 9 am at Hope / 10:30 am at St. Paul’s (This is a change from the previous times provided.)
- April Services:
 - Wednesday, April 23rd will be the next Wednesday evening contemporary service. The Praise Band will join us, and we will also do communion on that night.
 - Sunday, April 27th – Jennifer won’t be here; this is also Praise Band Sunday. Kent will reach out to the synod to have them provide a pastor to lead the service.
- **Motion made by Terri Myhre to approve the Board of Deacons report. Cory Myhre seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

Board of Education Report

- Mission Trip:
 - The Mission Trip is June 22 – 27, and we will be going to Perry, Florida, to do hurricane relief with TEAMEffort Missions. There are 49 students and 10 chaperones going.
 - Upcoming Fundraisers
 - Bingo – March 9th at the Ivanhoe VFW from 3 to 5 pm. We will look at doing it in Minneota the next time.
- GLOW:
 - Our last Let it Shine service will be on April 6th.
 - Our last contemporary service (FUEL) will be April 23rd.
 - Our last night of GLOW will be April 30th.
 - Thank you to everyone for your help with the meals this year.
- IGNITE (Confirmation) / Youth of Hope:
 - March Service Project: They are accepting donations for either toiletries or cash donations to purchase these items to put together welcome kits for kids in Lyon County who are transitioning into foster care placement (toothbrushes, toothpastes, shampoos, conditioners, brushes, deodorant, body washes).
 - On April 6th, we will have a pizza party and assemble the Foster Kid Welcome Kits. We will also be requesting a donation from the Endowment Fund committee for this.
 - We are planning to take some of these students to help serve at the Banquet in Sioux Falls. They need about 30 people to serve, and we agreed to do the April walk-around offering to provide a donation to this outreach when we go to serve.
- Teen Power: Their “Shoe Away Hunger” annual footwear collection continues through Easter, so please bring all gently used footwear to Hope Lutheran to be donated to people who need footwear. Monetary donations are also appreciated to help cover expenses to deliver the footwear.
- VBS: We will be doing joint VBS with Bethany-Elim in the afternoons from June 9 to 12.
 - Shetek Lutheran Ministries Day Camp will be providing the program, and 4.0 Bus will be transporting the students to and from Hope to Bethany-Elim in Ivanhoe. We will be alternating the host church each year, so next year, Hope will host.
 - Registration will start in April, and Aime Ascheman will be the Hope contact person.
- Upcoming Dates:
 - April 13, 2025, at 9 am – First Communion for 5th graders / Palm Sunday. Practice will be on April 2nd. There are 16 students; thank you to Lynn Okrina and Lorelee Miller for making and adding the names to the chalices.
 - May 11, 2025 – Baccalaureate for 10 seniors. Emily has contacted Rita Dovre about the quilts, and they are already made.
- **Motion made by Cory Myhre to approve the Board of Education report. Aime Ascheman seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

Other Business

- Parsonage: It was agreed that we do want to rent out the parsonage if we find an interested party. Rose will be the contact for house showing and advertising. We will include the information in the bulletin.
- **Motion made by Deb Belaen to adjourn. Emily Hennen seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

Next Executive Discussion on Agenda: Week of March 31st via e-mail

Next Council Meeting – Wednesday, April 2, 2025. Meet after the Lenten service.

Respectfully Submitted, Deb Belaen

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Cemetery Sexton Needed—If you would like to volunteer, please contact the council or the church office.

Teen Power is doing their **annual shoe collection**. Donations taken until Easter.

Parsonage Rental—The council has decided to rent out the parsonage at this time. If you know of someone looking for a place to rent, please contact one of the council members or the church office. The parsonage is a 5 bedroom, 2 bath home. This would be a month-to-month agreement, with rent being \$600/month, with a deposit of \$600. Renter would be responsible for all utilities. Also no pets are allowed.

IGNITE & YOH Service Project:

During the month of March the IGNITE students (formerly Confirmation) along with Youth of Hope students will be accepting donations for either toiletry items or cash donations to purchase these items so that they can put together welcome kits for kids who are transitioning into foster care placement in Lyon County. Examples are: Toothbrushes, toothpastes, shampoos, conditioners, hair brushes, deodorant and body washes. At the back of the church there are white envelopes for cash donations and a teal tote where toiletry items can be dropped off. On behalf of the IGNITE and YOH students, thank you for your consideration and we appreciate your support on our upcoming service project. If you have any questions please feel free to reach out to me directly; 507-531-2526 (text/call). Thank you, Angie DeVos, IGNITE Coordinator

100th Birthday! Ilene Merritt will be 100 years young on April 5th! Please make her day even more special by sending her a card at: Avera Morningside Heights, 300 South Bruce Street, Marshall, MN 56258

Church Council Update: Kent Borstad has resigned as Church Council President due to an opportunity outside of Minnesota. We appreciate his willingness to service our congregation. Amie Ascherman was Vice/President at the time of the resignation and accepted the President position. Angie DeVos has accepted and was approved by the Council to be the Vice President/Treasurer. Jen Anderson was appointed and accepted to fill the Council vacancy.

April Walk Around: April 27th, for The Banquet in Sioux Falls. The Endowment will have a 2 to 1 match with a \$500 max. The Ignite/Confirmation students will be going to The Banquet to help serve meals the end of May. They will then present a check from Hope Lutheran to them.

The Banquet meal ministry was founded in 1985 starting with just one meal per week. They now serve 16 meals per week at two locations. The Banquet is a volunteer-based ministry, which means their meals are paid for, prepared by, and served by volunteer groups who come from Sioux Falls and the surrounding area.

In 2020 The Banquet served over 200,000 meals, and at least 25,000 of those meals were served to children under 12. They go through approximately 15,000 gallons of milk each year.

Easter Lilies

Easter is April 20th. Contributions will be used to purchase Easter Lilies. Any excess funds will go to the Memorial Fund. Please complete the form and return it to the church office by April 1st. You may also place it in the offering plate at any service. Please make you checks out to Hope Lutheran Church (Memo—Easter Flower Fund). If you prefer to share a plant of your own, please bring it to church by April 19th.

\$ _____ Donation _____ Sharing Own Plant

Given in Memory Of:

Given in Honor Of:

Given By:



ONLINE giving

Online Giving—Go to www.hopeminneota.org and click on the green “GIVE” button. Or:



On your phone, scan the QR code to be taken directly to online offering.



Text your offering to: 855-715-2588.

- Text Give to the number above. **First time users will receive a link to set up or log in to your Tithely account.**
- Click the link in the text you receive to start creating OR logging into your account. If you haven't used Tithely before you will have to provide your email, full name, create a password, enter your bank information and set up a 4-digit pin.
- Enter your donation, choose the fund to donate to.
- In the future, once your account is created or after your first donation by text, you can simply text a dollar amount (Ex: \$50) to the number above and your donation will be made!
- If you have any questions, please contact the church secretary.