

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

February , 2023

Sunday Worship:

Hope—9:00 AM
St. Paul's—10:30 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/Teen Power

Coffee & Fellowship:

Hope—10:00 AM

*Hope Services Are
Streamed on
Facebook*

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Pastor's Office Hours:

**Tuesday—Friday
8:30 am—Noon**

**Or he can be reached by
cell phone, text or email
at other times.**

A Note from the Pastor

...you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; you are dust, and to dust you shall return.' Genesis 3:19

Abraham answered, 'Let me take it upon myself to speak to the Lord, I who am but dust and ashes. Genesis 18:27

All go to one place; all are from the dust, and all turn to dust again. Ecclesiastes 3:20

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent. Ash Wednesday as a day of repentance has been observed in the church for at least the last thousand years. What do we do on Ash Wednesday?

We set aside a day to remember our tendency to turn away from God. This is not to make us feel awful about ourselves. (Many of us do not need a special day for that.) It is a day to remind us of our own mortality, and in that mortality, how much we are dependent upon God for life.

We contemplate Psalm 51, traditionally understood to be a prayer of repentance from David following the events involving Bathsheba and Uriah. (Google it.)

We pray a very specific prayer asking God's forgiveness for our sins. This prayer lists our corporate sins in detail and offers a fuller account of our shortcomings than the Brief Order for Confession and Forgiveness that we pray on Sundays.

We receive the traditional sign of the cross in ashes upon our foreheads. Putting dust and ashes on the head have been signs of mourning since well before Old Testament times. The Ashes signify our mortality; the sign of the cross signifies God's merciful giving of himself for the forgiveness of our sins.

We hear the words, "remember you are dust and to dust you shall return," God's words to our first parents after their sin in the garden. This life is temporary; God's life is eternal.

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Hope Lutheran Church

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

Pastor Cell: 507-828-0272
Office/Kitchen: 507-872-6446
Parish Secretary: Chris Pesch
Secretary's Cell: 507-530-5666

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

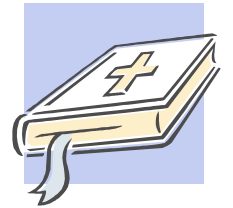
St. Paul's Lutheran Church

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

Pastor: Pastor Allen Campbell
Pastor Email: pastorallencampbell@gmail.com
Missionary: 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

Bible Studies for Men and Women

Circle Bible Study	February 7th, 7:00 pm	At Church
Circle Bible Study	February 8th, 10:00 am	At Church
Men's Bible Study	February 3rd, 8:00 am	At Porter Cafe

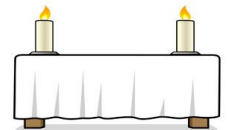


2022 Church Attendance

November 6	102	December 4	83	January 1	62
November 13	81	December 11	96	January 8	105
November 20	175	December 18	324	January 15	160
November 23	41	December 24	220	January 22	75
November 27	87	December 25	34	January 29	79
Total:	486	Total:	757	Total:	481
Average:	97	Average:	151	Average:	96

Altar Guild (January 25—February 28)

Lori Dyce 828-9567
Sandy Tolk 872-6730



Workgroup Chairpersons

Greg & Nona Gottskalkson 829-3379

Date Sound Operators Acolytes

February 5	Randy Prellwitz	Brody Anderson & Owen Dalager
February 12	Todd Sonnenburg	Sophie Gillund & Madison Minnehan
February 19	Scott Josephson	Mason Javers & Logan Pohlen
February 22		Cole Johnson & Heydan Danielson
February 26	Greg Gottskalkson	Nola Ascherman & Grace Horner



Money Counters: February—

Upcoming Dates:

Wednesday, February 1st—NOTE CHANGE FOR SUPPER—This week will be a prepared meal.

February 1st—Council Meeting

Wednesday, February 8th—NOTE CHANGE FOR SUPPER—This will be a “Soup & Appetizer Potluck” for Super (soup-er bowl) Bowl.

Sunday, February 19th—Let It Shine Service

Sunday, February 19th, 5-7 pm—Mission Trip Spaghetti Supper

Wednesday, February 22nd, 7 pm—Ash Wednesday Service

Church Council Notes – January 4, 2023

Fund Balances:	General Fund:	\$ 15,974.90	Cornerstone Fund:	\$ 134.57
	Building Fund:	\$ 16,871.24	Petty Cash Fund:	\$ 634.41
	Building Fund Savings:	\$ 2,640.95	GLOW:	\$ 6,425.94

Finances:

General Fund Offering Income January 1st \$ 1,216.00

Projected Expenses for January \$13,968.98

Attendance:

- **Attending in Person:** Barry Gronke, Rose Van Uden, Terri Myhre, Deb Belaen, Emily Hennen, Lizzy Reiss, Barb Knutson, Jen Anderson, Dave Dovre, Moriah Reiss, Gayle Van Vooren, Chris Pesch-Church Secretary, Pastor Allen Campbell
- **Attending via Phone:** Jason Johnson
- **Absent:** Aimee Ascheman

Pastor's Report

- 1 Minneota Assisted Living worship service, 4 home visits, 1 other visit, 2 nursing home visits, 1 committee meeting, and 2 funeral planning meetings.
- Pastor Allen will need to be off on Sunday, April 23rd.

Treasurer's Report

- Bills – Bills for the month of January were presented by Barry Gronke. Total General Fund bills are estimated at \$13,968.98.
- **Motion made by Gayle Van Vooren to approve the Treasurer's Report. Emily Hennen seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

Board of Trustees Report

- Bills: The bill for the annual fire inspection from Heiman will be paid from the building fund. Per our discussion last month, the FICA payment has been divided into monthly payments rather than one lump sum payment at the end of the year.
- 2023 Budget: The trustees met on December 18th to review the 2023 budget, and this was reviewed with the council.
- Agenda / Reports for Annual Meeting: The agenda was set and will include the same items as last year. Chris requested that the reports be sent to her by January 8th, and if they are not received by January 11th, they won't be included in the annual meeting report.
- Cornerstone Fund: We need to pay back the Cornerstone Fund, and it was agreed that we would pay back \$2,000 in January. We will continue to evaluate it on a monthly basis and continue to pay it back as quickly as possible while also meeting our other financial commitments.
- **Motion made by Moriah Reiss to approve the Board of Trustees' report. Rose Van Uden seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

Board of Deacons Report

- Walk Around Offerings: 4th Sunday of the month -
 - January 22 – Adaptive bike for Minneota schools
 - February 26 – WRAP – Women's Rural Advocacy Program
 - March 26 – Food Shelf
- Lenten Services: We will check with Teen Power about doing the readings for the Wednesday night Lenten services. We would like the confirmation students to do the ushering.
- Work Group Leaders: Work group leaders are needed, so if you are willing to volunteer for a month or two, please reach out to the deacons and let them know.
- Video & Sound Update: A donation was made for the video and sound equipment, and we would like to order new cameras as the current ones are quite old. They are approximately \$1,100 each, and we would like to purchase two of them. Chris was going to check on the funds available versus the expenses on this project.
- **Motion made by Barry Gronke to approve the purchase of cameras if funds were available and approve the Board of Deacons' report. Rose Van Uden seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

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Council Minutes (con't)

Board of Education Report

- **GLOW:** GLOW will resume on January 11th, and supper will be potluck. On January 18th, we will be holding a new event – Grandparents Night at GLOW. Students are encouraged to invite their grandparents or grandparent figures to attend.
- **Confirmation:** Confirmation will also resume on January 11th.
- **Mission Trip 2023:** Our mission trip destination has been chosen! We will be going to Elliot County, KY from June 25th through June 30th. This will be through Next Step Ministries. There will be 34 students and 8 chaperones who will be going. The Christmas baking fundraiser was successful. The current fundraiser is a coupon and discount card that will sell for \$10 and is being printed now. It features local Minneota and Ivanhoe businesses.
- **Teen Power:** They will resume on January 11th, and they are once again collecting shoes.
- **Summer VBS:** Green Lake Ministries will be doing our VBS program, and it will be July 23rd – July 27th. This is a change from last year due to Green Lake's schedule. We will plan to do a walk around offering in April for VBS to help with the cost of this program, and we will do it on April 16th, which will be the last GLOW Let it Shine service.
- **Scholarships Distribution:** Distribution of scholarships will be on Sunday, January 8th. There was discussion about how people are selected to the Scholarship Committee. Written documentation of policies and procedures needs to be updated/ completed.
- **Motion made by Deb Belaen to approve the Board of Education report. Moriah Reiss seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

Other Business

- **Annual Meeting:** We will have the meeting in the sanctuary. Chris will e-mail the report to the e-mail addresses that she has for congregation members. The reports will also be available prior to the meeting.
- **Service Time:** The council was asked to consider moving all services to 10 am. We felt it was a congregational decision and decided we would take a vote at the annual meeting. This would be a change for ALL Sunday services - not just during the school year and not just for special occasions. St. Paul's has decided that, if Hope Lutheran moves to a 10 am service, they would hold their service at 8:45am.
- **Motion to adjourn made by Barry Gronke. Rose Van Uden seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

Next Executive Discussion on Agenda: Week of January 30th via e-mail

Next Council Meeting - Wednesday, February 1, 2023. Boards at 7:15 pm; All together at 7:30 pm

Respectfully Submitted, Deb Belaen, Council Secretary

Pastor's Note (con't)

We share Holy Communion, hearing again the words of Jesus: "This is my body, given for you," and "this cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin."

Like us, our repentance is imperfect. We repent not as we ought, but as we are able. God's forgiveness is not dependent upon our ability to "make a good confession," but upon God's steadfast love.

Lent is not about how bad we are, but about how good God is.

Peace Y'all

Pastor Allen

Minneota Area Mission Trip

Planning and fundraising continues for our June 2023 Mission Trip to Elliott County, KY. We have 34 students and 8 chaperones planning to go this summer. Travel arrangements have been made as we continue to prepare for our trip. Currently, we have coupon/discount cards available for sale. The cards include discounts from local businesses in Ivanhoe, Minneota, Ghent and Marshall. Contact one of the students (34) going on this summer's mission trip to purchase your coupon/discount book today.



Mark your calendars for our annual Spaghetti Supper fundraiser. We will be hosting the Spaghetti Supper on Sunday, February 19, 2023 from 5:00-7:00 pm at Hope Lutheran Church. The meal will include a spaghetti dinner with breadsticks and dessert. Take-out will be available, too.

God continues to bless us with the gracious giving and support of our congregations and communities. Please keep our group in your prayers as we continue to plan and fundraise for the 2023 mission trip. If you have any questions regarding the 2023 Mission Trip or are interested in going on the 2023 mission trip, please contact Emily Hennen at emhaugland@hotmail.com or 507-828-6797.

With A Grateful Heart

Hope Lutheran Church,

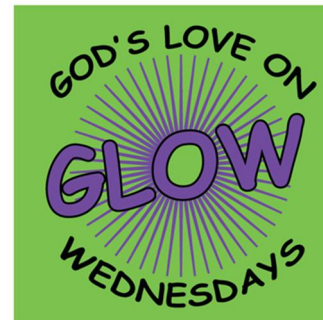
Thank you for the mitten and hat donations you made to Minneota Public Schools. We've already dug into them as they were sorely needed! Our students love playing outside during recess, and you've made it possible. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely, The MPS Staff & Students

GLOW

January seems to have flown by and we can't believe February is here! We have had a great return to GLOW after Christmas with our Let it Shine service on 1/15 and our first ever Grandparents Night at GLOW on 1/18.

In February, we look forward to Souper Bowl Night on 2/8 and our Let it Shine service on 2/19. Plan to join us for a Let it Shine service or come to GLOW on a Wednesday evening! It is great to see all of the families in church!



In Christ,

Jess and Erin

Teen Power

We are studying the Bible through weekly lessons and discussions, sharing our highs and lows for the week, as well as things we are grateful for. We are collecting shoes for our annual "Shoe Away Hunger" shoe drive. Please clean out your closets and bring your boxes and bags of your households gently worn footwear to Hope! Please pass the word along to family and friends.

Work Group Leaders Appreciated

So many of our church members donate their time for the good of the church. One area is the leadership provided by our three work groups.

Our members are divided into these three groups to fill various tasks for our church services and beyond. And a leader is needed each month of the year to assist in calling on volunteers.

The main tasks are ushering at our church services and being hosts in the kitchen for fellowship after church. Another service we provide is providing workers and cake for funeral services if the family requests this.

Our work group leaders for 2022 are thanked for their leadership. They were: Scott & Roberta Josephson, Clark & Jena Corbin, Bob & Linette Nelson, Tony & Tammy Esping, Todd & Lisa Sonnenburg, Chad & Moriah Reiss, Matt & Mandy Norby, Derek & Angie DeVos, Brenda Swoboda, Gayle VanVooren, Fig & Linda Nuytten, Marilyn Kompelien and Sandy Tolks.

A new group of leaders is now in place and you are urged to help if you are called. Better yet—call your leader during their month and volunteer your time and efforts. We all are needed at Hope Lutheran in so many areas. Let's make 2023 a good year among our church family.