



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

January, 2022

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

Coffee & Fellowship:

Hope—10:00 AM

**Hope Services Are
Live Streamed on
Facebook**

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A Note from the Pastor

*1 Our God, our Help in ages past, our Hope for years to come, our Shelter from the stormy blast,
and our eternal Home.*

*3 Before the hills in order stood or earth received its frame, from everlasting Thou art God,
to endless years the same.*

*5 Time, like an ever-rolling stream, bears all its sons away; they fly forgotten, as a dream
dies at the op'ning day.*

*6 Our God, our Help in ages past, our Hope for years to come, be Thou our Guide while life
shall last,
and our eternal Home! (Isaac Watts, LBW 320)*

Psalm 121

*I lift up my eyes to the hills— from where will my help come? My help comes from
the Lord, who made heaven and earth.*

*He will not let your foot be moved; he who keeps you will not slumber. He who keeps Israel will
neither slumber nor sleep.*

*The Lord is your keeper; the Lord is your shade at your right hand. The sun shall not strike
you by day, nor the moon by night.*

*The Lord will keep you from all evil; he will keep your life. The Lord will keep your going out
and your coming in from this time on and for evermore.*

*The year 2020 has been a certain kind of pain; sometimes acute and knife-like; sometimes dull
and achy, like that vague pain in the back of your neck that just won't go away. Most of us are
about as ready for a new year as we have ever been. The turning of the clock on December 31st
did not make the problems of 2020 go away, but we have to hope that 2021 will be better. It just
has to be.*

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Minneota, MN 56264-0087

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

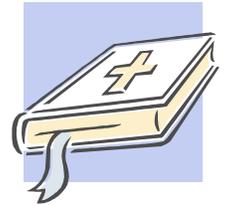
Church Email:
hopelutheran87@gmail.com

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: Lynn & Barb Okrina
Organists: Valerie Buysse, Wendy Sarazyn
Jubilation: Gayle VanVooren

Bible Studies for Men and Women

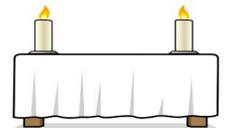
Circle Bible Study	January 3rd, 7:00 pm	At Church
Circle Bible Study	January 12th, 10:00 am	At Church
Men's Bible Study	January 7th, 8:00 am	At Porter Cafe

**2021 Church Attendance**

October 3	60 Est.	November 7	86	December 5	98
October 10	90	November 14	78	December 12	82
October 17	60	November 21	92	December 19	137
October 25	71	November 28	80 Est.	December 24	275 Est.
October 31	116	Total:	244	December 26	80 Est.
Total:	427	Average:	61	Total:	672
Average:	85			Average:	134

Altar Guild (December 29—January 25)

Marlys Skaar 872-6600
Gayle VanVooren 872-6927

**Workgroup Chairpersons**

Scott & Roberta Josephson 530-6091 or 530-6095

Date Sound Operators

January 2	Randy Prellwitz
January 9	
January 16	Scott Josephson
January 23	Greg Gottskalkson
January 30	Todd Sonnenburg

Video Operators

Jon Anderson/Tyler Gronke
Ron Thostenson
Keven Larson/Cole Myhre
David Dovre
Matt Myhre

Acolytes

Carson Javers & Kyler Lozinski
Creed Stassen & Landon DeSmet
Adam Dalager & Chase Johnson
Kiersyn Hulzebos & Tiffany Gronke
Brooklyn Ryer & Madison Minnehan



Money Counters: January 2022—Rose VanUden & Barb Knutson

Upcoming Dates:

December 24th—4:00 pm Christmas Eve Service St. Paul's, **5:30 pm** Christmas Eve Service at Hope

December 25th—NO Christmas Day Services

December 26th—Regular Sunday Services

December 30th—Last day for giving donations for 2021

January 2nd—Scholarship Distribution at 9:00 am service

January 5th & 19th (Wednesday's) 5-9 pm—Church Pictorial Pictures

January 12th—Annual reports due to church secretary

January 16th—10 am—3 pm—Church Pictorial Pictures

January 23rd—Annual Meeting

Church Council Notes – December 1, 2021

Fund Balances:	General Fund:	\$ 7,921.50	Cornerstone Fund:	\$ 6,033.67
	Building Fund:	\$ 1,373.65	Petty Cash Fund:	\$ 109.40
	Building Fund Savings:	\$ 14,152.52	GLOW:	\$ 2,218.80

Attendance:

- **Attending in Person:** Terri Myhre, Deb Belaen, Rose Van Uden, Barb Knutson, Emily Hennen, Dave Dovre, Gayle Van Vooren, Barry Gronke, Clark Corbin, Moriah Reiss, Pastor Allen Campbell
- **Attending via Phone:** Shane Bordewyk, Chris Pesch-Church Secretary
- **Absent:** Brice Denney

Pastor's Report

- 1 council meeting, 7 worship services, 6 Pastoral visits, 2 funerals, 2 baptisms, 1 Conference pastors' meeting, 3 Confirmation classes, and 1 community Thanksgiving worship service
- The new microphone was picked up, and they also fixed the other microphone at no charge since we purchased the new microphone from them.

Board of Trustees Report

- **Bills:** Bills for the month of December were provided. Total General Fund bills are estimated at \$15,376.09. This includes some of the new insurance premiums due to the change in insurance provider approved last month. It also includes a bill related the 150th Anniversary, which will be managed as a line item in the general fund. The bill for the stump removal & cement grinding and for Lynn's Woodworking will go to the Building Endowment Fund.
- **Balcony/Video System:** Carpeting has not been installed in the area where the pews were removed, and it was agreed to wait until all the final updates were done on the video and sound system as wires will need to be run for this.
- **Auditors:** Shane will be contacting people about doing this.
- **Electronic Payment Options:** The information on Tithely, our electronic payment option, was printed in the newsletter, and Chris will add it to the bulletins moving forward. The information will also be in the back of church in the narthex.
- **Budget Planning:** The trustees will have a budget planning meeting on December 22nd.
- **End of Year Dates:** December 30th will be the last day for giving for 2021. Annual reports will be due on January 12th, and the annual meeting will be January 23rd.
- **Motion made by Gayle Van Vooren to approve the Board of Trustees' report. Dave Dovre seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

Board of Deacons Report

- **Walk Around Offerings:**
- December 19 – Hope Christmas Program
- January – TBD
- February - TBD
- **Usage Fees for Weddings:** Moriah has contacted several local churches about their usage fees for weddings and other events held at the church. There are a range of costs depending on the event and whether a person is a member of the church. Moriah and Chris will work together to update our list both for costs and wording.
- **Communion planning:** We will plan to do communion at the rail on the 1st Sunday of December and walk around communion on Christmas Eve.
- **Work Person Chairs:** We are planning to make calls for work group chair persons by December 15th.
- **St. Paul's:** They won't be having a separate service on Sunday, December 19th as their youth will be joining ours for the Christmas program.
- **Christmas services:** The Christmas program will be Sunday, December 19th at 10 am. Christmas Eve service will be at 5:30 pm at Hope and 4:00 pm at St. Paul's. There will be no service on Christmas Day. There will be our regular service on Sunday, the 26th.
- **Motion made by Barry Gronke to 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: The number of students continues to be steady from week to week. Food and serving prep are going well; we seem to have enough help every week which is much appreciated. We would like to invite the council members to join us for GLOW supper, especially potluck on the first Wednesday of each month. The classrooms seem a bit tight for the amount of kids we have, which is a GOOD growth "problem" to have!! Something to think about in the future is trying to find some expansion for classrooms and sizes? Going forward, GLOW directors are going to help coordinate with Pastor on church items regarding or involving GLOW kids i.e. Bible distribution. As many of these types of events were cancelled last year, we want to continue to communicate expectations with everyone. We are going to start looking at the spring curriculum in the next few weeks. 2021 fall curriculum was the only curriculum purchased thus far.
- Teen Power: The "Shoe Away Hunger" shoe collection will start December 12th and run through February 20th; this way people can clean out closets over Christmas break. During GLOW we are practicing for the Christmas program which is on December 29th at 10 am. Weekly lessons will begin again on January 5th. We will be helping on Sunday December 5th and 19th and Wednesdays with sign-ups for the pictorial directory.
- Minneota Area Mission Trip: Fundraising for the 2023 mission trip continues. We are currently taking orders for Christmas Baking (lefse, Oreo truffles, and Belgian cookies) until Sunday, December 5th. The Baking Day will be held on Sunday, December 12th at 10:30 am at Hope Lutheran Church. We will also be serving a lunch after the Christmas program on December 19th. The Mary & Martha fundraiser we did with Nancy Krog did a total of \$3,027 in sales, and Nancy is donating \$757 to the Mission Trip. The Food at Football profit was \$2,380.16.
- Thus far 20 students have responded to the Google form regarding their preference for the type of mission experience they'd like to have.
 - 60% want a labor intensive experience
 - 25% want a combination of labor intensive and relational
 - 15% want a relational experience
- Youth of Hope: On November 21st 4 of our youth took part in our Day of Service Project. We only had one request for a project which was cleaning out a gutter at a home near the church.
- Christmas program: The Christmas program will be on December 19th at 10 am. Practices are underway.
- **Motion made by Deb Belaen to approve the Board of Education report. Clark Corbin seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

Other Business

- Building and Grounds Committee: The banner is now hanging up on the front of church. The other projects are on hold for right now.
- Cemetery Directory: The cemetery directory has been updated and a new copy will be place in the book at the cemetery. Lois VanDePutte is the treasurer for the cemetery board, and she would like to start training someone to take her place.
- Church Directory: Brian Jeremiason will be taking pictures, and he will also be putting the directory together. He will also take picture submissions if you already have a picture that you want to share.
- Video Ministry: Dave Dovre has been working with Todd Sonnenburg to get quotes on equipment to upgrade our video and sound equipment to digital. Initial estimated costs are \$9,500 for the sound system and \$10,000 for the video system. This does not include installation. The Note Gallery will also be putting together a quote. Dave Dovre will put the formal quotes together and provide it to the Endowment Fund Committee for this. The Bug Day committee is offering to buy our old sound board, also.
- Nominating Committee: Four people will have completed their terms on council – Clark Corbin, Shane Bordewyk, Lori Dyce, and Brice Denney. Clark and Brice are completing their first terms, and Shane and Lori are completing their second terms. Terri will make the nominating committee aware of the number needed.
- **Motion made by Barry Gronke to adjourn. Deb Belaen seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

Next Executive Discussion on Agenda: To be determined

Next Council Meeting – Wednesday, January 5, 2022, Trustees/Deacons 6:45 pm; Education-TBD; All together 7:00 pm

Respectfully Submitted, Deb Belaen, Council Secretary

150th Anniversary Celebration-- June 11 & 12, 2022

Pictorial Directory -

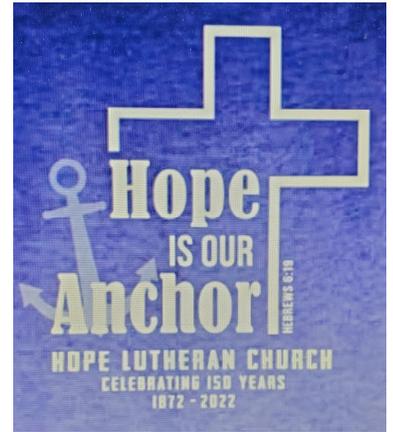
We are excited to be signing up families for their photo shoot! We have a 10 minute slot for each family. We will be signing people up in the narthex following our church service today. Our photo taking opportunities with Brian Jeremiason here at Hope Church are:

Wednesday, January 5th from 5:00-8:50

Sunday, January 16th from 10:00-3:00

Wednesday, January 19th from 5:00-8:50

If you're unable to make it on one of the three scheduled dates, we will certainly use a submitted photo from the family. Please submit your digital photos to jeremiasonphoto@gmail.com by March 1st, 2022.



Apparel -

We have Hope Lutheran apparel available with our 150th Anniversary Logo – ‘Hope is Our Anchor’, from Hebrews 6:19. Please use the following link to complete your apparel order: <https://hopelutheranchurch2021.itemorder.com/>

Ornaments -

Beautiful 150th Anniversary ornaments are ready for sale for \$12.00 in the narthex following church. They are keepsakes for our congregation and everyone who's grown up at Hope Lutheran. We have a limited number of ornaments.

Do Good, Feel Good!

Do you need a New Years' Resolution? A new year, a new purpose! Give away your new or gently used shoes to help provide shoes for someone in need. Almost everyone has a closet with at least one pair of shoes that aren't worn or an old pair that may end up in a landfill. Give those shoes to Hope Lutheran Teens and know that steps are being taken to make those usable.

Hope Lutheran Teen Power is now collecting shoes for our annual shoe drive. The collection of shoes, sandals, boots, and all other footwear starts now in December and will run through February 2022. We gather footwear and deliver our donations to Schuler Shoes in St. Cloud, MN. A few years ago, one of the employees at the drop off point at Schuler Shoes shared with us that after the shoes are paired and sorted, the shoes go to four different places. The new and nicer ones may be donated to shelters and then sold at shelters for \$5.00 with the money then being donated to the shelter food shelf, some shoes stay in Minnesota with a program called 'Shoe Away Hunger', some go to other countries where they are needed for people without shoes, and the rest, if pretty worn out or are singles, are shredded and used for playground surfacing of rubber mulch.

It is estimated that approximately 400 million children worldwide, more than the entire population of the US, live in pronounced poverty. Many of these children will grow up never having had a pair of shoes, resulting in significant ramifications for their health and well-being. Lacking proper footwear, countless children will be unable to attend school. And tens of millions of these poverty stricken, barefoot boys and girls will be infected with soil-transmitted parasitic diseases like hookworm, causing lasting suffering and lifelong debilitation.

Clean out those closets and bring bags or boxes of your household's footwear to Hope Lutheran Church!

Pastor's Note (con't)

The last quote in italics above is from my January 2020 newsletter article. Plenty of crazy things happened in 2021 as the world gets weirder, but I think 2021 was better than 2020. If not "back to normal," things are certainly more normal than we've experienced in a couple of years. At Hope and St. Paul's attendance is returning to pre-pandemic levels. We have more kids attending GLOW than in 2019, and the program is going strong. We have had several new families join at Hope, and we have already had almost as many baptisms since All Saints as all of last year. We have much to be thankful for. Thanks be to God!

Whatever this new year brings, we know that God is our hope in the year to come, just as God has been our help in ages past. The one upon whom we rely is the LORD, Creator of heaven and earth. God created us, loves us and sustains us. Thanks be to God!

Peace Y'all, Happy New Year! Pastor Allen

Minneota Area Mission Trip

December was a busy fundraising month for the Minneota Area Mission Trip. We held our annual Christmas baking fundraiser, which included lefse, Belgian cookies and Oreo truffles. People submitted their orders for these Christmas goodies. On December 12, 2021, several students planning to attend the 2023 Mission Trip worked alongside baking experts to fulfill all of the Christmas baking orders. We were amazed by the outpouring support of the Ivanhoe and Minneota communities. We filled over 50 Christmas baking orders. I especially want to thank the volunteers that helped our youth learn how to make Belgian cookies, lefse and Oreo truffles with their expertise and cooking tools. Thank you to Rita Dovre, Linda Nuytten, Roberta Josephson, Sara Citterman, Gayle Kvernmo, Jen Mahen-Deitte, and Nikki Traen. We really appreciate your help and expertise.

We served a light lunch after the Hope Lutheran Christmas program on December 19. We want to thank the Hope Lutheran Endowment Committee for their matching funds of 4 to 1 in the freewill offering at the lunch.

As we start the new year, we are hoping to work with Youth Works to figure out possible locations for our 2023 Mission Trip. Please continue to keep all of those involved with the Mission Trip in your prayers as we continue to plan and fundraise. Thank you for all of your support. God has truly blessed us with amazing youth, families and supportive communities.

GLOW

Hello GLOW Families!

“And there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch by night. And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them.” – Luke 2:8-9

Can you believe it?? Christmas program preparation, children singing, and all that goes along with Christmas is in movement. When you read this, you will have had the opportunity to see all the hard work that the kids put into the Christmas program. A special thanks goes to Tegan, Emily and Jess for putting together the Christmas program. This is their 7th year, if you see them- give them a shout out, the amount of time and effort each of these ladies put into it, surely shows in the performance.

We also want to take this time to say how very fortunate we are that all these families share their children with us on Wednesday evenings. From 5:30 P.M. to 7:00 P.M. these kids bring so much joy into our church. GLOW could not be without each and every one of our kids and the families that help. We just want to say Thank you. If you haven't been able to come see our GLOW program in motion - come about 6:45 on Wednesday evenings and join the lesson, we end with the Lord's Prayer (it's something special to see 3-4yr old kids through 18 yr. old kids saying the Lord's Prayer) It's exciting and motivational.

With the larger classroom sizes, GLOW is looking for classroom helpers (college kids, grandparents, adults, really anyone that is willing). These helpers would assist the classroom leaders with the activities and lessons. Please consider volunteering! If you are interested in this, please contact Erin or Jess!

Upcoming dates:

No GLOW December 22nd and 29th, Potluck January 5th

Please continue to look for the weekly e-mail sent out by Erin and watch the GLOW Facebook page for updates (if you do not get this e-mail, please contact Erin or Jess- and we will get you added)! This will be the most up to date information. If you haven't liked our GLOW Facebook page, please do so today!

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!

In Christ,
Erin and Jess

Online and Mobile Offerings Available

You now have the ability to send your offerings to Hope through online giving or through an app you can download to your phone! Tithe.ly is the application that we are using.

- * On the Hope website, www.hopeminneota.org, there is now a green "Give" button.
- * On the Hope Lutheran Church Facebook page, click on the church's profile and click on the link "tithe.ly/give?c=4532299".
- * On you cell phone, download the Tithe.ly app.

Once you sign up with your email address, create a password and a pin number, your information (debit card or bank information) will be saved for future use, using any of the different ways to give.

Your online or mobile donations will be deposited right into the church's bank account.

There is a detailed instruction sheet on the back of this page to help you get signed up (if you want).

As always, the offering envelopes are still used also. Either by bringing them to church or mailing them in.

If you have any questions or problems using the app, please feel free to call Chris Pesch at 507-530-5666.

Thanks!

Nominating Committee

The Hope Lutheran Annual Meeting will be on January 23rd, 2022. The Nominating Committee is meeting soon to seek out leaders who will guide our congregation to fulfill our mission of Jesus Christ. Please pray for their deliberations as they call on people from our congregation to ask them to serve on our Hope Lutheran Church Council, Nominating Committee, Endowment Committee, Cemetery Board, or who would be our representatives to the Synod Assembly in June. If you or someone you know would be a good leader for Hope Lutheran, please leave a message at our church office. We would love to have people volunteer to place their names on our ballot and then be voted in for a leadership role during the Annual Meeting.

HLCW

The HLCW had a Christmas potluck on December 8th at 10:00 am.

Sandy Josephson gave a wonderful program of Christmas readings. She also gave everyone a Christmas heart, which she had made.

Fran Fier gave everyone in attendance an angel for a Christmas tree.

Helen Rokeh reported there was \$2,632.97 in the Treasury.

Rita Dove reported she sent out welcome cards to new members, shut-ins and to the 3rd and 7th graders who received Bibles.

Kathy Bulander, Secretary