



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

March, 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*

Inside this issue:

Pastor Allen's Letter	1
Bible Study's/Duties	2
Upcoming Dates	2
Council Minutes	3-4
150th Anniversary	5
Shoe Collection	5
GLOW	6
Easter Lily Form	6
Prayer Shawls	7
Food Shelf	8
March Work Group	9-10
March Calendar	11

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.

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

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: 507-828-0272

Office/Kitchen: 507-872-6446

Parish Secretary: Chris Pesch

Secretary's Cell: 507-530-5666

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:

Organists: Valerie Buysse, Wendy Sarazyn

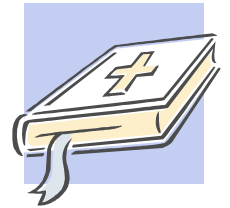
Jubilation: Gayle VanVooren

Church Email:

hopelutheran87@gmail.com

Bible Studies for Men and Women

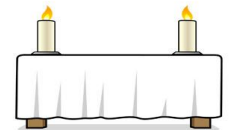
Circle Bible Study	March 2nd, 10:00 am	At Church
Circle Bible Study	March 7th, 7:00 pm	At Church
Men's Bible Study	March 4th, 8:00 am	At Porter Cafe

**2022 Church Attendance**

January 2	65	February 6	165	March 6
January 9	53	February 13	83	March 13
January 16	52	February 20	75 Est.	March 20
January 23	56	February 27	75 Est.	March 27
January 30	68	Total:	398	Total:
Total:	294	Average:	100	Average:
Average:	59			

Altar Guild (February 23—March 22)

Rose Van Uden 829-1806
Sandy Tolk 872-6730

**Workgroup Chairpersons**

Brenda Swoboda 829-2378

Date Sound Operators

March 6 Randy Prellwitz
March 13
March 20 Scott Josephson
March 27 Greg Gottskalkson

Video Operators

Jon Anderson/Tyler Gronke
Keven Larson/Cole Myhre
David Dovre

Acolytes

Kiersyn Hulzebos & Hannah Fadness
Adam Dalager & Cole Johnson
Logan & Carter Anderson
Kyler Lozinski & Chase Johnson



Money Counters: March—Rose Van Uden & Jen Anderson
April—Deb Belaen & Terri Myhre

Upcoming Dates:

March 9th—Council Meeting (following Lenten service)
March 20th—Church Clean Up Day!
April 10th—Palm Sunday
April 14th—Maundy Thursday
April 15th—Good Friday
April 17th—Easter
April 20th—3:30-5:15 pm, 1st Communion Class
April 24th—9:00 Service, 1st Communion

Church Council Notes – February 2, 2022

Fund Balances:	General Fund:	\$ 8,948.55	Cornerstone Fund:	\$ 14,033.92
	Building Fund:	\$ 737.68	Petty Cash Fund:	\$ 739.68
	Building Fund Savings:	\$ 4,152.67	GLOW:	\$ 8,146.86

Attendance:

- **Attending in Person:** Terri Myhre, Deb Belaen, Rose Van Uden, Moriah Reiss, Emily Hennen, Barb Knutson, Dave Dovre, Lizzy Davis, Gayle Van Vooren, Barry Gronke, Jen Anderson, Aimee Ascherman, Chris Pesch-Church Secretary, Pastor Allen Campbell
- **Attending via Phone:** Jason Johnson
- **Absent:** None

Election of Officers and Committees

- Rose Van Uden nominated Terri Myhre for President. Deb Belaen seconded the nomination. **Deb Belaen made a motion to cease nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Terri, seconded by Rose Van Uden. Motion carried.** Terri Myhre is our President.
- Terri Myhre nominated Barry Gronke for Vice-President. Rose Van Uden seconded the nomination. **Barb Knutson made a motion to cease nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Barry, seconded by Deb Belaen. Motion carried.** Barry is our new Vice-President.
- Barb Knutson nominated Deb Belaen for Secretary. Emily Hennen seconded the nomination. **Rose Van Uden made a motion to cease nomination and cast a unanimous ballot for Deb, seconded by Terri Myhre. Motion carried.** Deb Belaen is our Secretary.
- Board of Trustees – Terri Myhre, Barry Gronke, Deb Belaen, Rose Van Uden, Jason Johnson
- Board of Deacons – Moriah Reiss, Gayle Van Vooren, Lizzy Davis, Dave Dovre
- Board of Education – Emily Hennen, Barb Knutson, Jen Anderson, Aimee Ascherman

Pastor's Report

- 1 home visit, 1 hospital visit, 1 Synod meeting, 1 Conference Leader's meeting, 1 committee meeting, and 2 annual meetings. Also attended 2 basketball games and 1 wrestling match. I am limiting visitations at present due to the rise in Covid cases.
- Thank you to all of the council members who continue to serve on the council.
- A special thanks to those who are going off council for their service.
- A special thanks to those joining the council for your willingness to serve God and our church.

Board of Trustees Report

- Bills – for the month of February were presented by Barry Gronke. Total General Fund bills are estimated at \$15,531.03. We received a statement/bill from the Prairie Conference for \$667.50 to support the SMSU campus ministry. It is based on \$.25 per baptized member and \$1.00 per member attending SMSU. It was agreed that we should make this a walk-around offering.
- Concordia – 2023 offering envelopes – We have already received the bill for this. Chris Pesch will follow up and call Concordia on this. With the addition of electronic giving options, we will stop this from being a standing order to eliminate extra envelopes being ordered and not used.
- Bulletins/Reading Inserts – This is a quarterly bill, and there was a question about the children's bulletins that we used to have. Chris will check to see if those are still available.
- Money Counters – The list was sent around so people could sign up. Please show up for the months that you signed up; if you are not available, please ask someone else to fill in for you.
- 150th Anniversary and Sound & Video System Funds – Chris put together a spreadsheet to show the funds that have been received and invoices paid related to the 150th Anniversary and Sound & Video system update. Chris was asked to put together a "thermometer" to show progress toward our goal of \$25,000 for the Sound & Video system project.
- Elevator – The elevator is locked and can't be used. MEI came and looked at it, and the cylinder under the cement has been leaking oil. MEI will send a technician to do a follow up review and provide us a formal quote. Based on the initial assessment, it could take a few months based on the scope of work.
- **Motion made by Barb Knutson to approve the Board of Trustees' report. Deb Belaen seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

Board of Deacons Report

- Officers: Gayle Van Vooren was elected chairperson and Moriah Reiss was elected secretary.
- Lenten Services: The Lenten services will be related to Top 10 scriptures, and pastor is arranging the music.
- Ash Wednesday – March 2, 2022. Service will be at 6:45 p.m.
- Usage Fees: An updated list will be ready for review at the next council meeting.
- Letter for 1st Communion: This was also discussed by the Board of Education. The date for 1st Communion for 5th graders will be April 24th, which is the Sunday after Easter. Chris will send a letter to the 5th grade parents.

(continued on page 4)

Council Minutes (con't)

There will be a first communion class on Wednesday, April 20th from 3:30 to 5:15 pm, and there will be someone from the Altar Guild also in attendance to show the students where communion is prepared.

- Walk Around Offerings: 4th Sunday of the month
 - February 27 – Esther's Kitchen
 - March 27 – Marshall Food Shelf with Endowment Match
 - April 24 – SMSU Campus Ministry
- Installation of New Officers and Council Members: Sunday, February 20, 2022. (This was determined after the council meeting.)
- **Motion made by Deb Belaen to approve the Board of Deacons' report. Barry Gronke seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

Board of Education Report

- Officers: Emily Hennen was elected chairperson.
- GLOW: February 6th is our 1st LET IT SHINE SERVICE! The students will be doing the ushering, helping with communion, reading the lessons and also singing. We are looking into new ways to get the kids to church other than just for the Christmas program. We may be doing some mini skits possibly for Lent, and we are still working on these. If anyone from Council would like to help with these events, Jess is willing to share her ideas and is open to any other ideas. A "penny war" fundraiser will be starting in the next few weeks; we are still working out the details. The spring classroom curriculum has arrived, and the teachers are beginning to utilize the boxes.
- First Communion: Set for Sunday, April 24, 2022. The chalices are already made. Lynn Okrina makes them, and Pat Myhre puts their names on them. Currently there are 8 students signed up. Pastor is planning to have one class from 3:30 to 5:15 on Wednesday, April 20, 2022.
- Teen Power: They are back to having class after helping with pictorial pictures and updating the information for the pictorial roster. They are still collecting for "Shoe Away Hunger" thru the end of February.
- Mission Trip 2023: The next fundraiser is the Spaghetti Supper which is scheduled for Sunday, February 22nd from 5:30 to 7:00 pm. They will be serving salad, a spaghetti meal, breadsticks and dessert. The winter fundraiser is TBD.
- Youth of Hope: The National ELCA Youth Gathering, which was scheduled to be held in Minneapolis, MN on July 24-28, 2022, has been cancelled due to the rise in COVID cases.
- VBS: Emily e-mailed Lindsey from Green Lake Lutheran Ministries and answered questions in order to proceed with reserving the dates of July 31 – August 4 for VBS day camp at Home this summer. Barb Knutson will be the contact person for Hope. We had 25 students last year, and we hope to get more this year. Pastor Allen and Sally are willing to host the camp counselors again this year.
- Bible Camps: There was a question about the amount the church pays for students to attend Bible camps. In the past we have paid up to \$150 per student. Judy Hagen has informed us that there is \$300 in memorial funds for families to use. We currently have two families that have taken advantage of the Early Bird discount and registered their children for camp at Lake Shetek. Scholarships are also available on a needs basis through the Scholarship Committee. Families should contact or give their request to Ralph Hagen or Barry Gronke for the funds from the scholarship committee.
- Minnesota All-State Choir: MN All-State Choir has returned. They had been on hold for the past several years due to Covid. They will be accepting applications for high school students starting February 15th.
- Temple Talks about Bible Camps: We will work to have someone from Shetek and Green Lake Lutheran Ministries come on a Wednesday night during GLOW to provide a temple talk about Bible Camp opportunities.
- **Motion made by Deb Belaen to approve the Board of Education report. Rose Van Uden seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

Other Business

- Building/Grounds Committee: March 20th has been set for a church clean up day. Lunch will be provided.
- Mowing at Parsonage: Cole Myhre has been doing for the past few years, and he is going to college, so we need to find a replacement.
- Council Monthly Meeting Day: Planning to continue meeting on the 1st Wednesday night of the month. March's meeting is moved to Wednesday, March 9 after the Lenten service as March 2nd is Ash Wednesday.
- **Motion made by Barry Gronke to adjourn. Barb Knutson seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

Next Executive Discussion on Agenda: Week of March 1st via e-mail

Next Council Meeting – Wednesday, March 9, 2022, Boards at 7:15 pm after Lenten service; All together 7:30 pm

Respectfully Submitted, Deb Belaen, Council Secretary

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

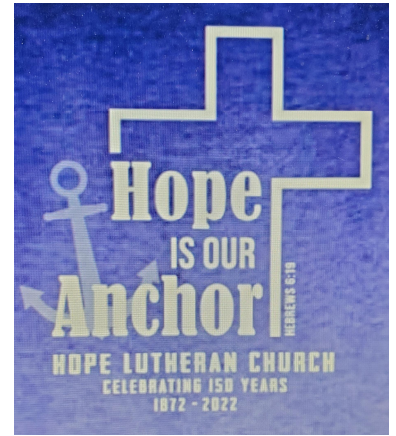
150th Anniversary Apparel

'Hope is our Anchor' apparel is available for online purchase! Please use this link to complete your apparel order:

<https://hopelutheranchurch2022.itemorder.com/>

Ornaments

Beautiful 150th Anniversary ornaments are for sale in the narthex before and after church services for \$12.00. You may call the Chris at the church office and have them mailed to you for an additional \$5.00. We have a limited number of keepsake ornaments.



Attention Thrivent Members:

If you are a Thrivent member you are able to apply for \$250.00 twice a year for service projects. If you are a member and are willing to donate your \$250.00 or \$500.00 to projects around the church or towards a meal or some project for the 150th Anniversary, please get a hold of Chris at the church office and we can help you apply.

Pictorial Directory -

We are also taking pictures of important events and the various committees we have here at church. If you or someone you know has a picture(s) of events such as Graduation, Confirmation, Scholarship Sunday, Baptism, 3 graders with their bibles, etc. please share those with us either at: jeremiasonphoto@gmail.com or robertajosephson@gmail.com , at (507) 530-6095 or drop them off in the mailbox at church with a note on the back with your name and address so we can get those back to you.

The Committee pictures we are in need of are: Church Council, Music and Worship Committee, GLOW, Funeral Co-ordinator, Prayer Shawl, Alter Guild, Building and Grounds, Technology- Sound and Video, Cemetery, Endowment, Scholarship, Mission Area Group, Youth of Hope, Food Shelf, Hospice, Outreach, HLCW, Quilt, Jubilation Choir, Praise Band, Nominating, New Members, and others that I may have missed.

Please get your Committees together and have an extra person take a picture, or let Roberta Josephson know and she will take it after church, or Wednesday evenings.

Hope Lutheran Teen Power is still collecting shoes of all kinds through the 1st week of March. Please bring in your boxes or bags of footwear and donate your gently worn footwear to someone who is in great need of shoes. The shoes that aren't able to be used for footwear are ground up and used for rubber playground surfacing. Please give to those in need!

GLOW

Our first ever LET IT SHINE church service was a hit! Thank you to all who took part! Please mark your calendars, as our next service is May 1st!

As Lent is upon us, we will be having class, but will not meet together as a group at 6:45. This is to allow families to attend Wednesday evening Lent service. This change begins on Ash Wednesday.

Parents of 5th grade students: Please mark your calendars for First Communion at 9:00 am on Sunday, April 24th. 5th grade students will need to attend class prior to taking First Communion on April 20th, from 3:30-5:15 pm.

We always need volunteers to help in the kitchen with serving and clean up after supper. Here is the link for all Wednesdays for the rest of the GLOW year:
<https://signupgenius.com/go/9040A44ACAD2BA7F85-glow>

In Christ,
 Erin and Jess

**Easter Lilies**

Easter is April 17th. 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 (Easter Flower Fund). If you prefer to share a plant of your own, please bring it to church by April 16th.



\$ _____ Donation _____ Sharing Own Plant

Given in Memory Of: _____

Given in Honor Of: _____

Given By: _____

Hope's Prayer Shawl Ministry

The Hope Lutheran Prayer Shawl Ministry has been active for several years now, but do you know much about it? They are not a “secret group” but they are people who enjoy knitting or crocheting with the work they do destined for people of the congregation or community.

Is this a new thing in the church's history?

No, rather it has been a practice that has been used for centuries. An article in the

January/February “Gather” magazine that our ladies use for Bible study, points to the good of the prayer shawl ministry. Written by Linda Post Bushkofsky, it tells more of the practice of this kind of spiritual growth and giving.



She writes, “**Lutheran women might not have originally conceived of the prayer shawl, but we were early adopters.** Across the church, for at least two decades, women have been knitting and crocheting prayer shawls, working their prayers into the stitches, often for yet-unknown recipients. Thousands and thousands of children and adults have received prayer shawls, wrapping themselves with the prayers worked into the soft yarn of these shawls. Prayer shawls have been given upon the death of a loved one, a difficult diagnosis, an impending surgery, the loss of a job or any other challenge we face. Shawls have also been gifted upon joyful events, like the birth of a child or a wedding.”

We see this happen before our eyes when a family comes forward to have a child baptized, as a prayer shawl is one of the gifts that is given by the committee here at Hope. But those shawls have also been given to those coming home from the hospital, or other important times in our lives. Our ladies work at home, and together, as they stitch and add prayers to each shawl. And then they share them with others.

Bushkofsky added, “I didn’t know how (and to what extent) the discipline of making a prayer shawl would aid my own personal prayer life. I have been surprised, too, by how the shawls touch recipients, each in a different way.”

The Prayer Shawl Committee remains active in our midst, without us really seeing them. But we know they are sharing their love of crocheting and knitting, and adding prayers, to many shawls each year, for my late husband and I have both been recipients of these beautiful shawls. What a comfort to wrap up in a warm shawl on a cool night, and know that it has been made by one of our congregation members, and prayed over by the committee. It is, truly a gift that keeps on giving.

Thank you to our Prayer Shawl Committee for the good you do for others.

Submitted by Gayle VanVooren

MARCH WALK AROUND OFFERING—FOOD SHELF



Greetings,

Thank you! We are grateful for your support this past year! It's been challenging for everyone but especially for those who struggle with having enough to eat.

On the bright side, Spring is coming and along with that, is the largest food and fund drive in the state of Minnesota. The Minnesota FoodShare March Campaign is in its 41st year of creating awareness of food insecurity across the State. The Campaign runs February 28th-April 10th, and you have an opportunity to make a difference.

We invite you, through monetary gifts, food donations or the gift of time, to be a part of the FoodShare vision. This helps create a Minnesota where all residents have access to healthy food, and no one struggles with food insecurity. All gifts donated during the March FoodShare Campaign are used at your local food shelf and benefit your neighbors and community.

Donations, both monetary and pounds of food, are reported to the Minnesota FoodShare Campaign. They in return stretch your gifts by sending us an incentive check based on the total donations we receive.

In 2021, Marshall Kitchen Table Food Shelf:

- Distributed 195,150 pounds of food.
- Served 4,488 individuals (duplicated)
- Participated in the Thrivent Choice Program (thrivent.com/thriventchoice)

To donate or drop off food, our address is 1400 S. Saratoga St. Marshall, MN 56258

Our hours of operation: Mondays & Fridays 12:30-4:30, Wednesdays 9:30-4:30. (or by special arrangements)

We would greatly appreciate your help to meet the food needs in our community. Host a food drive. Drop off donations. Donate your time.

With heartfelt appreciation,

Margaret Palan Margaret.palan@unitedcapmn.org 507-537-1416 #2116

Margaret Palan

Lori Lerohl loril@unitedcapmn.org 507-537-1416 #2139

Lori Lerohl



"By doing simple acts of kindness for others, we lift ourselves up. I dare say, your simple acts of kindness have lifted me." ~ Food Shelf Client