

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

September, 2024

Sunday Worship:

September-May

Hope—8:30 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 Confirmation
Classes/Teen Power

Coffee & Fellowship:

Following Worship at
Hope

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WORSHIP TIMES:

September 1st—May 25th

Hope Lutheran Sundays—8:30 am

Bethany-Elim—8:30 am

St. Paul's—10:30 am

Hope Lutheran Church

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

Pastor Cell: 612-477-4673
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: Jon Barsness
Pastor Email: pastorjonhisp@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

Pastor's Office Hours:

Mon: Hope, 7:30-Noon
Tues: Bethany-Elim, 8:30-Noon
Wed: No Office Hours
Thurs: Hope, 7:30-Noon
Fri: Day Off

Bible Studies for Men and Women

Circle Bible Study	September 2, 7:00 pm	At Church
Circle Bible Study	September 11, 10:00 am	At Church
Men's Bible Study	September 6, 8:00 am	At Porter Café



2024 Church Attendance

7:30 AM Worship

May 5	85
May 12	52
May 19	45
May 26	32
Total:	214
Average:	54

June 2	41
June 9	39
June 16	46
June 23	34
June 30	40 Est
Total:	200
Average:	40

Sunday 5:30 PM Worship

July 7	53
July 14	33
July 21	38
July 28	50 Est
Total:	174
Average:	44

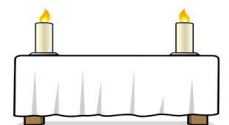


Workgroup Chairpersons

Gayle VanVooren

Altar Guild (July 24—August 27)

Marilyn Kompelien 828-1148
 Alison Ufkin 829-5812



Date Sound Operators

September 1	Matt Myhre
September 8	N/A Bug Days
September 15	Todd Sonnenburg
September 22	Scott Josephson
September 29	Cole Myhre

Date Acolytes

September 1	Mason Javers & McKenna Geisler
September 8	N/A Bug Days
September 15	Sophie Gillund & Sydney Hennen
September 22	Nola Ascheman & Imogen Moriarty
September 29	Mason Javers & Brycen Myhre



Money Counters: September—Emily Hennen & ??

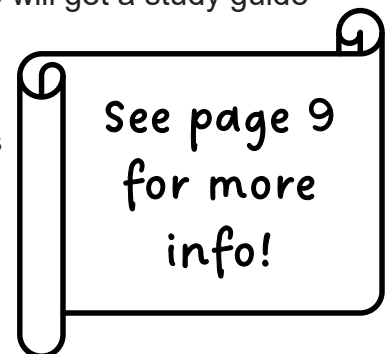
Upcoming Dates:

August 24—Wedding for Amanda Prellwitz & Jesse Burau

September 11—10:00 am—Women's Bible Study Kickoff in the church library. We are starting a new series, **Women of The Old Testament** followed by **Women of The New Testament**. If you are interested please call or text Angie Borstad (605) 380-2882 and she will get a study guide for you. She will need to know by August 30th.

September 15—9:15 am—Welcome Coffee—for prospective members

September 19—New Member Sunday



What is our Hope Lutheran Small Group Ministry and Why Join?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rmaplwJMV7Y>

Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

Acts 2:46-47

GROW Groups

What is a **GROW** group?

A Small Group is an intentional gathering, meeting regularly for the purpose of joining God's mission.

We believe God has provided significant means that help us to be receptive to the transforming power of the Holy Spirit. We have put these into the acronym **G.R.O.W.** to help remind us of what they are and what the hoped outcome will be. We believe the Holy Spirit works through **G.R.O.W. (God's Word, Relationships, Obedient Living, and Worship)** to transform us into the fullness of all God desires us to be—both individually and as a church.

No matter whether you have been growing for a few days, a few years, or a lifetime, continued growth requires taking time to foster your relationship with God. This growth doesn't happen in isolation—we need each other. Transformational growth is facilitated when we actively and intentionally embark on the journey of growth together.

G = God's Word, shaping our actions and our lives.

G.R.O.W. people are **BIBLICAL** people—people of the Word who value Scripture as the only perfect rule for our lives. We desire to know, understand, and live out the truths of the Bible. **Scriptures:** Psalm 119:105; Psalm 1:1-2; 2 Timothy 3:16, Joshua 1:8; Hebrews 4:12

R = Relationships, nurturing our growth.

G.R.O.W. people are **CONNECTIONAL** people. Our Christlikeness is demonstrated most openly in the way we relate to others: within our families, the wider community, and the world. Healthy and effective spiritual growth takes place in the context of relationships, within peer groups, across generations, and among people of varying backgrounds. **Scriptures:** Psalm 119:63; Deuteronomy 6:4-8; Luke 10:25-37; I John 4:7-12; Proverbs 27:17

O = Obedient living, using our gifts in witness and service

G.R.O.W. people are a **MISSIONAL** people, believing that discipleship to Jesus implies radical obedience to all of his teachings. Such obedience, together with the Spirit's work in us, equips us to do kingdom work, giving witness to the good news and serving others in Jesus' name. **Scriptures:** Micah 6:8; Ephesians 2:10; Ephesians 4:11-13; Matthew 22:36-39; Matthew 28:19-20

W = Worship, interacting with and experiencing God

G.R.O.W. people are a **DEVOTIONAL** people. Knowing that God desires an intimate relationship with us, we are committed to a lifestyle of worship characterized by both individual and corporate expressions of devotion. Our worship practices empower us to live an obedient, abundant, and joy-filled life in Christ. **Scriptures:** 1 Chronicles 16:29; Psalm 100:1-2; Romans 12:1; John 15:4-5; Mark 1:35

A **G.R.O.W.** Group is made up of three to four people who commit to meeting at least twice a month for intentional relationship and discipleship building. GROW Groups make a commitment for one year.

Why should I join a G.R.O.W. Group? In our hectic modern-day world, **G.R.O.W.** Groups can offer a pause that "refreshes" through Scripture and intentional movement in being a disciple of Jesus in fellowship with other disciples. **G.R.O.W.** Groups offer time and space to grow in grace, loving, and sharing discipleship in Christ.

How do I join a G.R.O.W. Group? You can either put a group together (a facilitator needs to have training on the material used) or join groups that are forming now. Sign up below as a group or individual to join a group. New groups are always forming.

Sign Up for a **G.R.O.W.** Group or find a small group through one of our ministries below:

[Men's Ministry](#) – [Women's Ministry](#) – [Young Adults Ministry](#) – [50+ Ministry](#)

How We Take the Sacraments of Holy Baptism and The Lord's Supper into Monday - Saturday

For many the individualism of our society has seeped into the life of the church, especially as it relates to our sacraments. The attitude towards baptism, that it is not about the congregational role in the baptism, nor in their responsibility towards raising up the new believer, infant or adult, represents the way many evangelicals think about the ordinances. For many, baptism is essentially about *my* personal profession of faith, an expression of *my* obedience to Jesus. Regrettably, this individualism characterizes how many Christians even think about the more obviously communal ordinance, the Lord's Supper. The Lord's Supper is purely about *my* remembrance of Christ's sacrifice, *my* confession of sin, or *my* hope in the Lord's return. So with eyes tightly shut and hearts pretty well indifferent to who may or may not be in the room, the Lord's Supper becomes nothing more than an act of private devotion—just one we do in proximity to a lot of other Christians.



The Bible, however, paints a very different portrait for how the ordinances function in the life of the church. Let me submit three ways the Bible shows us how the ordinances should shape our relationships with one another, both on Sundays and throughout the week.

1. BAPTISM AND THE LORD'S SUPPER CREATE DAY-TO-DAY COMMITMENTS

Baptism and the Lord's Supper are not hermetically sealed events in the life of the church—"flash in the pan" moments that interrupt our regular routine of worship. Instead, these are events that create day-to-day responsibilities toward one another. Going back to our opening illustration, when Thomas is baptized on Sunday morning, that baptism has implications for Dustin on Monday. In baptism, the church is making commitments to the believer and the believer is making commitments to the church.

Where do we find this in Scripture? Baptism is how the church marks out the people of God. In the Great Commission, Jesus authorizes the apostles, and by implication the church, to administer baptism to "disciples" (Matt. 28:18–20). When someone is baptized they are not only going public with their faith, but the church is also affirming their profession as credible. The church, after all, is the one *administering* the baptism, giving as it were their stamp of approval to that person's profession of faith.

And what happens after someone is baptized? They join the church. Baptism doesn't just mark someone's commitment to follow Jesus, it also marks their commitment to Jesus' people. Throughout the New Testament, new believers joined up or "were added" to the church by baptism (Acts 2:14; 1 Cor. 12:3), and once added to the church, the church loved and spiritually nourished them (Acts 2:42–47).

So when church members watch someone get baptized, we aren't just celebrating their private profession of faith. We are making a commitment to them to oversee the well-being of their Christian walk, to care for them, and to love them as members of our church. In other words, when we witness someone baptized we are, as a congregation, implicitly saying our church covenant to them as they go down into the water and they are saying it back to us as they emerge. When you see someone baptized in your congregation, add them to your prayer list and start asking how they're doing—they're part of the family now.

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2. THE LORD'S SUPPER CONSISTENTLY CONFRONTS ANY UNCHECKED PRIDE OR BITTERNESS

In 1 Corinthians 11:17–34, Paul identifies one of the primary problems in the Corinthian church as divisiveness (11:18) rooted in some form of classism and pride (11:22). How does Paul respond? By talking about the Lord's Supper—yep, the Lord's Supper! Shocking isn't it? But not if we recognized just how central the ordinances are for a healthy church community.

Paul rebukes the Corinthians because the Lord's Supper demands that they be one unified body (11:23–33). This supper portrays a gospel that demands that we all make the same claims about ourselves: we are sinners and Jesus is our only source of righteousness. The Lord's Supper assumes we are one, united, reconciled body. It's a family meal.

The Lord's Supper then is meant to function like a net, catching any unchecked pride or bitterness that church members might be harboring toward one another.

To switch analogies, the Lord's Supper is like an air filter in your heating system. Air filters catch all the pollen, bugs, and other decaying material from outside to make sure that only the cleanest air gets pumped into your home. But after three months, those filters need an upgrade. The wear and tear of catching all that muck means it needs replacing. So too the Lord's Supper catches the muck of division. Each celebration of the Supper is like replacing that air filter, renewing the church's resolve to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bonds of peace (Eph 4:3).

In other words, the unity of the church manifested in our relationships with one another is so important that God implemented a regular, reoccurring table fellowship that demands that all the participants resolve their differences and forgive one another before participating. The supper makes the many into one: "Because there is one bread, we who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread" (1 Cor. 10:17).

As we remember that the Lord's Supper is coming, it should motivate us either to dissolve any bitterness we may harbor toward others (1 Pet 4:8) or to seek out reconciliation and work through our bitterness with them (Matt. 5:23–24).

3. BAPTISM AND THE LORD'S SUPPER CONTRIBUTE TO OUR CORPORATE FIGHT FOR ASSURANCE OF SALVATION

The Bible teaches that our assurance of salvation should primarily be rooted in the objective work of Christ in our place and second in evidence of grace we see in our own life (i.e. our response to the objective work of Christ [1 Jn 2:3; 5–6; 3:10]). How then should we examine these evidences of grace?

First of all, we should endeavor to maintain a clear conscience and a healthy dose of self-critical honesty. But self-reflection is not the *only* way we analyze whether our lives exhibit gospel transformation. When understood rightly, baptism and the Lord's Supper also function as God's ordained means whereby the entire congregation exercises its authority to strengthen and encourage our personal sense of assurance.

How so? Remember, in baptism, the church tells the believer, "We think you're a Christian." Well, in the Lord's Supper, the church tells the believer, "We *still* think you're a Christian." That's why church discipline involves barring the unrepentant one from communion (i.e. *excommunication*), not from attending the church.

This means that when we gather around the table, we're exercising a congregational authority and proclaiming to one another, "Brother or sister, if you are at this Table, then be emboldened and have assurance." The people of God with whom you live week in and week out and who are examining your profession of faith are telling you, "Yes, your life reflects someone who genuinely believes the gospel." As one friend of mine puts it, when we gather with our church to take the Supper, our brothers and sisters look at us and sing "blessed assurance, Jesus is yours."

For Him,

Pastor Jon

Schedule Change for Sept, 2024 - May, 2025

Our new schedule for the next 9 months will be as follows:

Hope Lutheran - Sunday, 8:30am*

Bethany-Elim - Sunday, 8:30am*

St Paul's - Sunday, 10:30am

** Note that Hope Lutheran and Bethany-Elim both have services at 8:30am. In order to accommodate this, Pastor Jon will be at our service every other week. On the weeks that he is not at Hope, we will have someone leading the liturgy. There is also an option to have someone read the sermon, or Pastor Jon will videotape it. If we cannot find volunteers to cover these 18 Sundays, we will need to hire a lay minister, which would be paid from our general fund.

We have had a few questions regarding Pastor's salary. The salary is divided by the 3 churches using the following formula. The total amount of benefits (\$36,459.12) is divided equally. Pastor's salary (\$55,118.58) is divided based on the percentage of membership each church has. Hope has 70%, Bethany-Elim has 23% and St Paul's has 7%. This formula equates to Hope paying \$51,269.45, Bethany-Elim paying \$24,599.17 and St Paul's paying \$15,709.08.

A few have asked, since Hope pays the largest portion of Pastor's salary, why do we not have Pastor every week? There was much deliberation over how to hold 3 services on a Sunday morning. It was important to Pastor Jon that we allow for adequate time for fellowship, as well as travel time. In order to respect his wishes, it was apparent that three services before noon is just not feasible. Bethany-Elim is striving to grow their congregation, and they offer Sunday School for K-6th grade on Sunday mornings. They needed to have an 8:30am service to best accommodate their Sunday School. We asked for input from our congregation, and a vast majority said they wanted service as close to 9am as possible. If you recall, we voted on switching to a 10:30am service a year ago and it was overwhelmingly voted down. So, we decided 8:30am was the best solution for Hope Lutheran. St Paul's was willing to take 10:30am, as that fits their needs and Pastor Jon's schedule the best.

Another extremely important point for us to realize is that Pastor's compensation extends far beyond Sunday morning services. Pastor is visiting shut-ins and nursing homes, he is offering Bible Study opportunities, he is teaching Confirmation, and he is giving the GLOW message each week. Bethany-Elim's 7-12th graders will be coming to GLOW. Pastor Jon is also looking at offering a contemporary service once a month on Wednesday evenings. We also determined that all Lenten Services will be held at Hope Lutheran, immediately following GLOW.

Christmas Eve services have been determined with St Paul's being at 4pm, Hope Lutheran at 5:30pm, and Bethany-Elim at 7pm. The Easter schedule has been determined also.

Please know that none of these decisions were taken lightly, and that we have looked at many options to find what would work best for each congregation. The harsh reality is that there is not adequate funding for a full-time pastor on our own, and this partnership is essential to having a pastor. This is a schedule for the next 9 months, but it is not carved in stone forever. We will re-evaluate as needed. We pray that you will consider being part of the solution, and volunteer to help our congregation in any capacity that you can. We ask for prayers for Pastor Jon as he navigates an extremely busy schedule. And we ask for prayers for our faith community. As always, you are welcome to worship at any of the 3 congregations.

In faith,
Terri Myhre, Cory Myhre & Deb Belaen

Church Council Notes – August 7, 2024

Fund Balances: General Fund:	\$ 27,341.73	Cornerstone Fund:	\$ 37,805.71
Building Fund:	\$ 3,441.81	Petty Cash Fund:	\$ 294.33
Building Fund Savings:	\$ 2,593.45	GLOW:	\$ 1,257.72

Attendance:

Attending in Person: Terri Myhre, Emily Hennen,, Rose Van Uden, Barb Knutson, Cory Myhre, Deb Belaen, Angie DeVos, Sandy Josephson, Lizzy Reiss, Pastor Jon Barsness, Chris Pesch-Church Secretary

Attending via Phone: Jason Johnson

Absent: James Danielson, Jen Anderson, Amie Ascheman

Secretary's Report – Motion made by Cory Myhre to approve the secretary's report. Emily Hennen seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Pastor's Report

- 1st 100 Days: Pastor reviewed his 100 day plan through July 31st. He continues to work on opportunities to get to know church members, leaders, staff, volunteers, and community members. He is also determining projects that need planning and support, such as the annual stewardship campaign or a church-wide ministry event (i.e., an upcoming youth trip).
- Technology: He has been working with the technology team and two proposals have been submitted for the work being done. Not likely to meet the timeline for getting live-streaming ready for mid-September.
- Outreach/Evangelism: He has met with prospective families about membership, and he has also been working to connect with GLOW families who are not current members. Meeting with CRU leader at SMSU in mid-August to help with GLOW and in Music Ministry.
- Visitations (Homebound) – July 2024: Has done 11 home/assisted living/nursing home visits. (Total we have listed is 13.) There were no hospital visits.
- Funerals / Baptisms / Marriages: There were no funerals or baptisms. 1 wedding performed on July 26.
- Teaching Ministry: Have had over 100 downloads of the podcast so far with 3 followers. The weekly Bible study on Thursday is ongoing and averaged 9.5 people in July. There were 7 men who joined for the Bible Study in Porter in July.
- Upcoming (August – September): Working on a blog post – weekly “Coffee with Pastor” devotional series that will be on the website. Would like to plan an outdoor worship for the end of August or September. Will be launching small groups in September.

Treasurer's Report

- Bills: Bills for the month of August were presented by Cory Myhre. Total General Fund bills are estimated at \$13,467.02. **Motion made by Terri Myhre to approve the Treasurer's Report with the addition of paying GLOW their budgeted \$1,000.00 line item. Deb Belaen seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

Board of Trustees Report

- Bills: Total General Fund bills are estimated at \$13,467.02. Additional bills for this month included the quarterly invoice for the bulletins and an invoice from AgPlus for propane for summer fill. There was also an invoice from VK Services for the website maintenance; the invoice included a \$150 donation, so the expense was lower than planned. The invoice from MEI for the annual elevator inspection will be paid from the building fund.
- **Motion made by Barb Knutson to approve the Board of Trustees' report. Lizzy Reiss 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. As the June walk around was accidentally missed, it was agreed that we would not do a walk around in July or August but would resume them in September with the kitchen remodel.
 - September 29 – Kitchen Remodel
 - October 27 - Esther's Kitchen – Looking at getting confirmation to help deliver the check and finding possible opportunities to work with this organization, also.
 - November 24 – Christmas Angels
- Upcoming Events:
 - September 8 – No church at Hope; community service will be at Bug Square.
 - September 29 – New Member Sunday. We are also looking at having that day also be a time and talents day with a pot-luck lunch after the service to welcome new members and give them opportunities to learn about the different programs we have.

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Church Council Notes (continued)

- October 6 – Bible distribution for the 3rd and 7th graders. We will have an estimated 17 – 3rd graders and 9 – 7th graders this year. Chris will order Bibles for the 3rd graders.
- October 27 – Confirmation Sunday
- **Motion made by Deb Belaen to approve the Board of Deacons' report. Cory Myhre seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

Board of Education Report

- VBS Review: Thank you to Amie Ascheman for all of her coordinating for this year's successful VBS week. We had a great turnout with 51 students attending and 10 student helpers assisting. Thank you to Dawn and Jeff Van Keulen for hosting the counselors. Thank you to Amie Ascheman, Kathy Opdahl, Linda Nuytten, and Jess Moriarity for providing supper for the counselors.
 - **Positive take aways of the week** – Kick-off service was a great way to start the week of VBS. Format – Liked having 6 instead of 4 counselors; one counselor was able to support/plan while the others ran groups. Great helper turnout.
 - **Ideas for next year** – Amie would like to be there 1 fully day, at the beginning of each day and/or the program. Have 3 different people supervise the other 3 days. One of the VBS counselors mentioned last year why they like day camp so much is “it gives the camp experience to many that will not be able to go or circumstances don't allow to camp.” Possibly consider not reimbursing for actual camp attendance and put that money towards VBS where the dollars can reach more kids. Did we have anyone go to camp this year? Possibly try to coordinate VBS with Bethany-Elim next summer. Adjust time of camp – start at 8:30 am instead of 9:15/9:30 am to make it more convenient for working parents.
- Mission Trip Fundraisers:
 - Continuing to fundraise for the 2025 mission trip.
 - The Shine Center Car Wash (next to Lockwood's in Marshall) was cancelled due to lack of volunteers.
 - We were at Belgian American Days softball tournament concession stand on August 3. There was not a great turnout, and many thought it was due to hot weather.
 - We will be helping at the Polish Days food stand on August 10 from 10:30 am to 2:00 pm.
 - Future fundraiser suggestions – Silent auction during Spaghetti Supper and selling Mission Trip T-shirts.
 - Currently, we have 67 students signed up for the 2025 Mission Trip. Any students going into the 8th – 12th grade the fall of 2023 are eligible to go on the 2025 Mission Trip. Please let Emily Hennen know if your child would like to participate; her email is emhaugland@hotmail.com.
- GLOW:
 - Curriculum meeting is scheduled for August 20, 2024, at 3 pm. Thank you to Angie Borstad and Amie Ascheman for their on the GLOW curriculum for preK – 6th grade.
 - Trying to determine whether to do the kick-off on a Sunday (Sept 15) or Wednesday (Sept 18).
 - Will be looking for teachers soon. Contact Jess or Erin if interested in teaching GLOW this year.
 - GLOW finances – The price of groceries has increased. Some suggestions included talking to GLOW families about monetary contributions. We could also do a “Serve or Give” option to families. Sign up to help with meals or give money to help with food purchases. As noted earlier, we also approved the \$1,000 budget line item to be paid to GLOW.
 - Bible Distribution: October 6, 2024, for both 3rd and 7th graders.
 - Confirmation: October 27, 2024
 - Other: The Jr. High youth gathering in Wilmar is in November, and it is usually the same weekend as the musical at Minneota Public. Pastor Jon is going to look into possible alternatives.
- **Motion made by Barb Knutson to approve the Board of Education report. Deb Belaen seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

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Other Business

- Service Times: The executive boards have met several times to discuss options for service times. The evening service times have not been successful, and 3 worship services on Sunday morning is also not an option as Pastor Jon does not have time for fellowship and to focus on providing the service and ministry needed. We agreed to the following service times for September through May.
 - **8:30 am – Services at Hope and Bethany-Elim**
 - 8:30 am – 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month – Pastor Jon at Hope
 - 8:30 am – 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month – Pastor Jon at Bethany-Elim
 - **10:30 am – St. Paul’s**
- On the 5th Sunday of the month, Pastor Jon will alternate between Hope and Bethany-Elim.
- On the Sundays that Pastor Jon is not at Hope, we will have members of the congregation lead the service or we will use a lay minister. If it is a member of the congregation leading the service, Pastor Jon will provide the sermon either written or in audio / video format.
- Sunday School is very important for Bethany-Elim as an opportunity to grow their congregation, and the 8:30 am time is best for that.
- Our congregation also preferred the 8:30 am time versus the 10:30 am time based on discussions with members recently and the vote earlier this year about changing the time.
- All Lenten services will be at Hope as Bethany-Elim already has a program in place for that.
- For Christmas and Easter, there will be 3 different service times, so Pastor Jon can be at all 3 churches.
- The times for Christmas Eve services are the following:
 - 4:00 pm – St. Paul’s
 - 5:30 pm – Hope
 - 7:00 pm – Bethany-Elim
- We also want to experiment with GLOW and possibly do a worship service one Wednesday a month in the fellowship hall with a contemporary service.
- **Motion made by Deb Belaen to adjourn. Cory Myhre seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

Next Executive Discussion on Agenda: Week of September 2nd via e-mail

Next Council Meeting – Wednesday, September 4, 2024. Boards meet at 6:30 pm. All together 7:00 pm

Respectfully Submitted, Deb Belaen

NEW MEMBER WELCOME EVENT FOR 2024:

September 15th, 2024 @ 9:15 am: Welcome Coffee *for prospective members*

September 29th, 2024 during Worship (8:30 am): New Member Sunday

Attend New Member Sunday – Affirmation of Baptism

We ask new members to attend the New Member Sunday worship service. During this service, the pastor will invite new members to the front where the pastor will lead you through the Affirmation of Baptism as a group.

Connections

Join us after Worship on the 29th of September to celebrate your membership and our Rally Day!

Because membership is more than just a name on a roster, we strive to help you make your new church feel like “home”. We have many ways for new members (and all members!) to connect through their time, talents, and treasures. All members, new and long-standing, are invited to celebrate on the 29th. We will have refreshments and treats and ways for you to see all that is going on at Hope. It's important to us that you feel as connected as you want to be in your faith community.