

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, 2024

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:

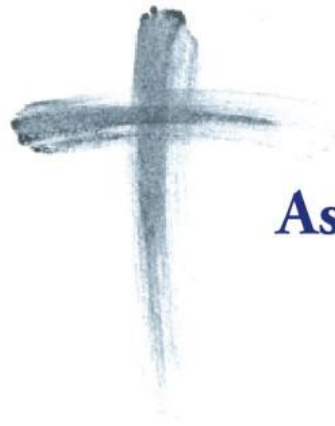
Hope—10:00 AM

*Hope Services Are
Streamed on
Facebook*

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Pastor's Office Hours:



Ash Wednesday

— Lent Begins

February 14—6:45 pm

Lenten Worship will be

each Wednesday

from 6:45—7:15 pm

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

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

Pastor:
Pastor Email:
Missionary: Dr. Elisabeth Johnson
Missionary Email: elisajo@msn.com

Bible Studies for Men and Women

Circle Bible Study	February 5th, 7:00 pm	At Church
Circle Bible Study	February 14th, 10:00 am	At Angie Borstad's Home
Men's Bible Study	February 2nd, 8:00 am	At Porter Cafe



2023 Church Attendance

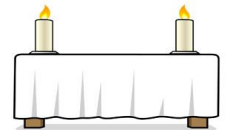
2024 Church Attendance

December 3 97
 December 10 115
 December 17 237
 December 24 N/A No morning worship
 December 24 258 Christmas Eve
 December 31 58
 Total: 765
 Avg: 153

January 7 107
 January 14 Cancelled-Cold
 January 21 70 Est.
 January 28
 Total:
 Avg:

Altar Guild (January 23—February 27)

Val Buysse 828-4404
 Sandy Tolk 872-6730



Workgroup Chairpersons

Date Sound Operators

February 4 Open
 February 11 Jack Jerzak
 February 18 Scott Josephson
 February 25 Greg Gottskalkson

Date Acolytes

February 4 Grace Horner & Alexis Bitker
 February 11 Blaze Hulzebos & Sage Bordewyk
 February 18 Sophie Gillund & Logan Pohlen
 February 25 Colton Bitker & Louie DeVos



Money Counters: February:

Upcoming Dates:

***February 14**

10 am – Morning Bible Study at Angie Borstad's Home
 6:45 pm - Ash Wednesday (Lenten services will be from 6:45-7:15)

***February 18**

During Worship-Baptism for McKinley Pohlen, Daughter of Alex & Jenny Pohlen
 11- 2 pm SOS (Social on Sunday)
 (Hot lunch provided, please bring something to share)

***February 25, During Worship**

Baptism for Watson Guetter, Son of Chesney & Sam Guetter

***March 10, 11-2 pm**

SOS (Social on Sunday)
 (Hot lunch provided, please bring something to share)

Church Council Notes – January 3, 2024

Fund Balances: General Fund:	\$ 19,821.67	Cornerstone Fund:	\$ 37,803.02
Building Fund:	\$ 4,091.95	Petty Cash Fund:	\$ 154.58
Building Fund Savings:	\$ 2,641.19	GLOW:	\$ 4,653.00

Attendance:

- **Attending in Person:** Terri Myhre, Rose Van Uden, Emily Hennen, Jen Anderson, Barb Knutson, Chris Pesch, Angie DeVos, Barry Gronke, Deb Belaen, Aimee Ascheman
- **Attending via Phone:** Jason Johnson
- **Absent:** Lizzy Reiss, Moriah Reiss

Secretary's Report: Motion made by Barb Knutson to approve the secretary's report. Barry Gronke seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

- **Bills** – Bills for the month of December were presented by Barry Gronke. Total General Fund bills are estimated at \$6,293.49. There was also a bill from Heiman for servicing the fire extinguishers for \$188; that will be paid out of the building fund. **Motion made by Emily Hennen to approve the Treasurer's Report. Angie DeVos seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

Board of Trustees Report

- **Budget Review:** The trustees had a budget planning meeting on December 11th, and the proposed budget was reviewed. An increase in salary for both the secretary and custodian was included. We also included an anticipated increase in the cost of insurance due to inflation. The total pastor's salary is also included as we need to account for this if we get a pastor.
- **Auditors:** Mike Stassen and Krista Bowman have agreed to be auditors, and we will try to have someone who has done it before to help them as it will be their first time.
- **Annual Meeting:** The annual meeting is scheduled for January 28th after the church service.
- **Other:** There are four people who will be going off council – Barry, Deb, Moriah and Dave. We are still looking for additional people who are willing to serve on the council.
- **Motion made by Rose Van Uden to approve the Board of Trustees report. Deb Belaen 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.
 - January 28 – SMSU Campus Ministry
 - February – TBD
 - Erin & Jess have asked to do a walk around for GLOW, and we want to make it clear in the bulletin what it is for.
- **Work Groups:** Barb is waiting to meet with Lizzy and Moriah to work on setting up the 2024 work groups.
- **Pulpit Supply:**
 - Sunday, January 7th is Scholarship Sunday, and there are 19 students receiving scholarships.
 - Tim will be here for all four services in January.
 - March 3, 6, and 10th Pastor Tim will not be available. Barb will reach out to John Lupkes for the March 3rd and March 10th services.
- **Lent Service Planning:**
 - The plan is to have Lent services from 6:45 to 7:15 pm.
 - Pastor Tim is willing to do the Lenten services, and he will use a liturgy that he has. He does need to be gone on 2 Wednesdays, but he will have a sermon prepared that can be read by a person in the congregation.
 - Ash Wednesday is February 14th, and Barb will follow up with Tim on the Imposition of Ashes.
- **Motion made by Barry Gronke to approve the Board of Deacons' report. Angie DeVos seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

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Church Council Notes – October 4, 2023 (continued)

Board of Education Report

GLOW:

- The Christmas program was a Huge Success! Thank you to everyone who helped and thank you to all the students for participating.
- A donation was made to GLOW for food by Jane Bitker; a thank you note will be sent to her.
- GLOW classes will resume next week on January 10th.
- Grandparents' Day is January 31st. Last year we had activities for them to do with their kiddos; we had snow in the forecast, but we still had a terrific turnout. We have some fun activities for them to work together on and a story about grandparents.
- 5th grade 1st Communion classes start next week on January 10th. An email will be sent out to the 5th grade students' parents about the classes this week.
- Teachers and Christmas program directors are needed for next year. Please keep your ears and hearts open for someone to step up for these roles.
- Thank you to the council members for continuing to keep GLOW in your hearts and showing up for these kiddos over and over again.
- The GLOW kids voted on where to donate the funds raised from the offering taken during the children's sermon. The children's offering was \$403.45, and the Endowment Fund committee is matching it 2-1 up to \$500 for a total of \$903.45. The GLOW students voted to divide the money between the Christmas Angels program and the Minnesota Area Mission Trip.

Mission Trip:

- Upcoming fundraiser – The Extra Slice Fundraiser
 - Pizza fundraiser with Extra Innings Paninos & Pizza (Varsity Pub)
 - 20% pizza and seasoning sales and 10% on gift card sales.
 - Planning to hold the fundraiser from 1/15/24 to 2/16/24.
- Any students going into 8th grade - 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 address is emhaugland@hotmail.com.

Youth of Hope:

- In November and December the youth practiced for an awesome Christmas program. Most of the Teen Power kids participated with speaking and singing parts. Resuming weekly lessons next week.
- Started "Shoe Away Hunger," our annual footwear collection. Please bring all gently used footwear to Hope Lutheran Church to be donated to people who need footwear.

Upcoming Dates:

- April 7, 2024 – 1st Communion for 5th graders. Thank you to Lynn Okrina and Pat Myhre for making the cups for those receiving their First Communion.
- Baccalaureate – May 5, 2024

VBS:

- Rae from Green Lake Ministry confirmed the dates of July 28 – August 1, 2024, for VBS at Hope Lutheran. Amie will continue to be the contact person for Hope Lutheran regarding VBS. We are looking for a person(s) to be in charge during VBS. Please contact Amie Ascherman or Emily Hennen if interested.
- **Motion made by Barb Knutson to approve the Board of Education report. Deb Belaen seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

Other Business

- Call committee update: We have not received any potential names for pastors from the synod either for a full time or an interim pastor.

Motion made by Deb Belaen to adjourn. Rose Van Uden seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Next Executive Discussion on Agenda: Week of February 5, 2024, via e-mail.

Next Council Meeting – Wednesday, February 7, 2024. Boards meet at 7:00 pm

Respectfully Submitted, Deb Belaen, Council Secretary