

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 2025

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 Ignite
(Confirmation)
Classes/Teen Power

Coffee & Fellowship:

Following Worship at
Hope

All Are Welcome

WORSHIP TIMES:

Hope Lutheran
Sundays—9:00 am
Communion 1st & 3rd Sundays

St. Paul's—10:30 am

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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

Pastor:
Pastor Email:
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

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

Bible Studies for Men and Women

Gather Magazine Bible Study	March 3, 6:30 pm	At Church
Women of the Bible Study	March 12, 10:00 am	At Church-Library
Men's Bible Study	March 7, 8:00 am	At Porter Cafe



2025 Church Attendance

January 5	89	February 2	82
January 12	73	February 9	59
January 19	73	February 16	68
January 26	70 Est.	February 23	49
Total:	305	Total:	258
Average:	76	Average:	65

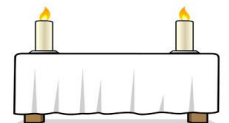


Workgroup Chairpersons

Clark & Jena Corbin
507-828-6967 or 507-829-8725

Altar Guild (February 26—March 25)

Jena Corbin 829-8725
Rose Van Uden 829-1806



Date Sound Operators

March 2 Matt Myhre
March 9 Todd Sonnenburg
March 16 Scott Josephson
March 23 Cole Myhre
March 30

Date Acolytes

March 2 Jagger Stassen & Beckham Norby
March 9 Sydney Hennen & Taryn Myrvik
March 16 Jagger Stassen & Beckham Norby
March 23 Levi Pohlen & Aiden DePestel
March 30 Logan Esping & Parker Minnehan



Money Counters: March - Jason Johnson & Barb Knutson

Upcoming Dates:

- ***March 5**—Ash Wednesday Service at 6:30 pm
(Wednesday Lenten services will be at 6:45 pm)
- ***March 9**—MAMT Bingo, Ivanhoe VFW, 116 E Saxon Street, 3-5 pm
- ***April 13**—First Communion/Palm Sunday
- ***April 17**—Maundy Thursday Worship, 7 pm at Hope
- ***April 18**—Good Friday Worship, 7 pm at St. Paul's
- ***April 20**—Easter Sunday
- ***May 11**—Baccalaureate Sunday
- ***June 9-12**—Vacation Bible School with Bethany-Elim
- ***June 22-27**—Mission Trip to Perry, FL

Church Council Notes – February 5, 2025

Fund Balances: General Fund:	\$ 20,125.51	Cornerstone Fund:	\$ 71,575.08
Building Fund:	\$ 4,824.11	Petty Cash Fund:	\$ 983.70
Building Fund Savings:	\$ 2,455.96	GLOW:	\$ 7,782.92

Attendance:

Attending in Person: Terri Myhre, Emily Hennen, Rose Van Uden, Kent Borstad, Cory Myhre, Deb Belaen, Jasmine DeSmet, Amie Ascheman, Jason Johnson, Sandy Josephson, James Danielson, Chris Pesch – Church Secretary

Attending via Phone: Barb Knutson

Absent: Angie DeVos

Election of Officers and Committees

- Rose Van Uden nominated Kent Borstad for President. Deb Belaen nominated Cory Myhre for President; he respectfully declined. **Deb Belaen made a motion to cease nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Kent, seconded by Rose Van Uden. Kent Borstad was elected as President.**
- Rose Van Uden nominated Corey for Vice-President. Emily Hennen nominated Amie Ascheman for Vice-President. Rose Van Uden nominated Sandy Josephson for Vice-President; she respectfully declined. Cory Myhre made a motion to close nominations; seconded by Rose Van Uden. Motion passed. **Paper ballots were distributed and counted by Kent. Aimee Ascheman was elected as Vice-President.**
- Rose Van Uden nominated Deb Belaen as Secretary. **Terri Myhre made a motion to cease nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Deb, seconded by Jason Johnson. Motion carried.** Deb was elected Secretary.
- Board of Trustees – Kent Borstad, Aimee Ascheman, Deb Belaen, Terri Myhre, and Rose Van Uden
- Board of Deacons – Barb Knutson, Sandy Josephson, James Danielson, Jason Johnson
- Board of Education – Emily Hennen, Angie DeVos, Cory Myhre, Jasmine DeSmet

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

Treasurer's Report

- **Bills:** Bills for the month of February were presented by Aimee Ascheman. Total General Fund bills are estimated at \$8,498.16. Next month there will be an adjustment to the Building Fund and Cornerstone Fund to correct a deposit that was made to the wrong fund. The check for the wind tower was put into the Building Fund and will be moved to the Cornerstone Fund.
- **Motion made by Cory Myhre to approve the Treasurer's Report. Emily Hennen seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

Board of Trustees Report

- **Bills:** Total General Fund bills are estimated at \$8,498.16. We received a bill from Prairie Conference for dues of \$133.50, and we agreed that should be paid. We also received a statement from Prairie Conference for \$534.00 for SMSU Campus Ministry. We agreed to hold paying that until we find out the status of this ministry as there were several people who thought it had closed. Aimee will check on that. We will do a walk around offering if needed for this. Additional bills for the general fund included Ag Plus for propane for the parsonage, Doug's Marine for snowblower repair, and Tolk Graveling for snow removal in December. We will check on propane in July to determine if we want to contract and manage the cost on a monthly basis.
- **Building Fund:** The bill from B&B Electrical to repair the furnace and add a circuit in the kitchen will be paid from the Building Fund. Heiman did their annual fire extinguisher inspection, and they will need to do the 6 year inspection in the next year.
- **Marco Printer:** Our contract is coming due. Our current contract is \$155 per month + \$.02 per copy. We are averaging \$193 per month. For \$197 per month, we get 5,000 copies per month and a new copier. We agreed the new copier for an additional \$4 per month was the best option. Chris will contact them, and she does want to be on site when they bring in the new copier, so it can be set up to print from a phone, also.
- **Installation of Council:** Installation of council will be next Sunday, February 16th. Chris will put in the bulletin who the new officers are and which board each member is on.
- **Motion made by Deb Belaen to approve the Board of Trustees' report. Cory Myhre 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.
 - February – United Way of Southwest Minnesota
 - March – Food Shelf. We will request a 3 to 1 match with no cap from the Endowment Fund.
 - April – VBS. We will request a 3 to 1 match from the Endowment Fund for this, also.

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Church Council Notes (continued)

- Lent: March 5th is Ash Wednesday. Service will be at 6:30 pm, and the other Lenten services will be at 6:45 pm. Jennifer will be doing all the Lenten services. We all agreed that the Holden Evening Prayer liturgy could be used, and we will make Jennifer aware of that for planning purposes.
- Palm Sunday: Palm Sunday and First Communion will be on April 13th.
- Easter: April 20th
- Maundy Thursday – 7 pm at Hope
- Good Friday – 7 pm at St. Paul's
- Easter – 7 am at Hope / 8:30 am at St. Paul's
- **Motion made by Terri Myhre to approve the Board of Deacons report. Jasmine DeSmet seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

Board of Education Report

- Mission Trip:
 - The Mission Trip is June 22 – 27, and we will be going to Perry, Florida, to do hurricane relief with TEAMeffort Missions. There are 49 students and 10 chaperones going.
 - Fundraising
 - We helped serve at the Wilno Catholic Church Breakfast on February 2nd and over \$700 was raised. Thank you for the generous support.
 - The Spaghetti Supper will be February 16th from 5 to 7 pm; Tastefully Simple will be there as well as a bake sale that evening.
 - We are starting a coffee fundraiser, and we can raise up to 30% of the sales.
- GLOW:
 - It was grandparents' night this evening, and we had a great turn out despite the weather.
 - The March Let It Shine service will be changing dates; once the date is determined, we will provide an update.
- Confirmation:
 - There were 5 speakers from the congregation who came into speak to the Confirmation students, and they talked about their own statements of faith. The students were very attentive, and it was a very positive experience.
- Teen Power: They have started their "Shoe Away Hunger" annual footwear collection.
- VBS: We will be doing joint VBS with Bethany-Elim in the afternoons from June 9 to 12.
 - Shetek Lutheran Ministries Day Camp will be providing the program, and 4.0 Bus will be transporting the students to and from Hope.
 - Registration will start in April, and Aimee Ascheman will be the Hope contact person.
- Upcoming Dates:
 - April 13, 2025 – First Communion for 5th graders / Palm Sunday. There are 16 students, and Emily has contacted Lynn Okrina and Lorelee Miller about the chalices.
 - May 11, 2025 – Baccalaureate for 9 seniors. Emily has contacted Rita Dovre about the quilts, and they are already made.
- **Motion made by Deb Belaen to approve the Board of Education report. Aimee Ascheman seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

Other Business

- Change to Constitution: During the annual meeting there was a vote to explore changing the constitution that would allow us to hire a pastor that was not from the ELCA. As this would impact our ministry agreement with St. Paul's and the pastoral sharing with Bethany-Elim, it was agreed that we needed to meet with the executive committees from St. Paul's and Bethany-Elim to make them aware of the discussion. It was agreed that we needed to have follow up discussions internally before contacting the ELCA about this, so we have a better understanding of what changes would be taking place. We will have a working session during the next council meeting, and Aimee will reach out to Barry to be there.
- Parsonage: It was agreed that we do want to rent out the parsonage if we find an interested party. Rose will be the contact for house showing and advertising. We will include the information in the bulletin.
- Scholarship: Separate by-laws are being worked on for the scholarship committee.
- Money Counters: Please sign up to be a money counter for at least 2 Sunday's. Emily and Terri will do it for February.
- **Motion made by Deb Belaen to adjourn. Cory Myhre seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

Next Executive Discussion on Agenda: Week of March 3rd via e-mail

Next Council Meeting – Wednesday, March 5, 2025. Meet at 7:00 pm after Ash Wednesday Service.

Respectfully Submitted, Deb Belaen

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Cemetery Sexton Needed—If you would like to volunteer, please contact the council or the church office.

Teen Power is doing their **annual shoe collection**. Please clean out your closets and bring your new or used shoes, sandals, boots, and tennis shoes to Hope Lutheran Church to donate to people who need them. All shoes that are beyond reusable will be shredded and used for playground mulch.

Parsonage Rental—The council has decided to rent out the parsonage at this time. If you know of someone looking for a place to rent, please contact one of the council members or the church office. The parsonage is a 5 bedroom, 2 bath home. This would be a month-to-month agreement, with rent being \$600/month, with a deposit of \$600. Renter would be responsible for all utilities. Also no pets are allowed.

IGNITE & YOH Service Project:

During the month of March the IGNITE students (formerly Confirmation 7th & 8th graders) along with Youth of Hope (YOH-6th graders) students will be accepting donations for either toiletry items or cash donations to purchase these items so that they can put together welcome kits for kids who are transitioning into foster care placement in Lyon County. Some examples of what will be in the welcome kits are: Toothbrushes, toothpastes, shampoos, conditioners, hair brushes, deodorant and body washes. Having their own toiletry items will help make the kids feel less anxious about foster care placement and for some, it might be the first time they have had access to these items.

At the back of the church there are white envelopes for cash donations and a teal tote where toiletry items can be dropped off. On behalf of the IGNITE and YOH students, thank you for your consideration and we appreciate your support on our upcoming service project. If you have any questions please feel free to reach out to me directly; 507-531-2526 (text/call).

Thank you,

Angie DeVos, IGNITE Coordinator

Easter Lilies

Easter is April 20th. 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 (Memo—Easter Flower Fund). If you prefer to share a plant of your own, please bring it to church by April 19th.

\$ _____ Donation _____ Sharing Own Plant

Given in Memory Of:

Given in Honor Of:

Given By:



ONLINE giving

Online Giving—Go to www.hopeminneota.org and click on the green “GIVE” button. Or:



On your phone, scan the QR code to be taken directly to online offering.



Text your offering to: 855-715-2588.

- Text Give to the number above. **First time users will receive a link to set up or log in to your Tithely account.**
- Click the link in the text you receive to start creating OR logging into your account. If you haven't used Tithely before you will have to provide your email, full name, create a password, enter your bank information and set up a 4-digit pin.
- Enter your donation, choose the fund to donate to.
- In the future, once your account is created or after your first donation by text, you can simply text a dollar amount (Ex: \$50) to the number above and your donation will be made!
- If you have any questions, please contact the church secretary.