

The Beacon Hope

The Newsletter of Hope Lutheran December 2024

Pastor's Corner

Greetings brothers and sisters in Christ,

It is now December, and we begin our Advent journey preparing for the coming of Christ. We will start on December 1st with our celebration of the first Sunday of Advent. We will put up our Christmas tree and will decorate it and the church with signs of the coming Christmas season. Special thanks to all who help, especially our youth who make it look so beautiful.



The second Sunday of Advent, December 8th the women of Hope have their annual cookie can gift day. They bring so many wonderful cookies to fill the cans as gifts from Hope Lutheran to those in our community and Life House Ministries in Duluth as a reminder that we are thinking of them during the holiday season.

The third Sunday of Advent is December 15 when we will celebrate our annual youth Christmas program put on by our elementary and high school students. This year it will serve as a special time to remember Hazel and how much she contributed to making this day special for all of us during her lifetime. It is a good time to thank God for all she did for our congregation and her enthusiastic Christian witness for our youth during each Christmas season.

The fourth Sunday of Advent is December 22 when we celebrate the coming climax of Advent as we near Christmas Eve and the celebration of the birth of baby Jesus. It is also a time when we reflect on His promise that He will return for us as Our King, and we are to be always preparing for that wonderful day. Are you ready? Don't forget to keep Christ in Christmas with all the busy holiday things going on around us. *(Continued on Page 4)*



Mary, [the mother of Jesus], and Elizabeth, plus the season of Advent will be the topic of discussion on Tuesday, December 10 at 10:00 A.M. at the church. All women are welcome. *(Continued on Page 3)*

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COMMITTEE REPORTS

Hope Lutheran Church Council Minutes

September 8, 2024
APPROVED

Members Present

Gary Gustafson, Missy Wojtysiak, Kim Hutchinson, Carolyn Hosking, Pastor Burgess and Administrator Jeff Kletscher. Absent: Deb Tollgaard, Tanya Johnson

Meeting was called to order at 8:05 AM by Gary Gustafson.

Pastor Burgess opened with prayer.

Approval of Agenda

Motion by Missy Wojtysiak, second by Gary Gustafson to approve agenda as submitted. Motion carried.

Secretaries Report

June 23, 2024 Church Council minutes in packet. Motion to approve by Carolyn Hosking, second by Gary Gustafson. Motion carried.

Pastor's Report

Pastor's mileage for since last meeting was 408 miles. He distributed 8 communions. He participated in National Night Out service in August honoring police, firefighters, ambulance workers and others who serve our community. This was well attended. Pastor and Gary handed out ice cream at Floodwood school's open house on August 25th. Religious Release will be resuming September 25th. No official list has been received, however, it looks like there will be several more high school students attending. Gary will

teach the high school and Dawn will teach the elementary kids. Hazel will help with the elementary and Sunday school, while Jeanette will help with music. Helpers will be needed for providing and serving treats, sign up sheets will be posted. Pastor will be teaching bible studies at the Riverview apartments the 1st and 3rd Thursday of the month and Sunday morning from 11-noon. Carleen Jakola will be teaching with him each month during his visit there. Cindy will be teaching the women's bible study each month. There are 2 baptisms scheduled for October 6th, relatives of Cheryl and Ron Bailey. Pastor will be teaching 2 pastoral students for PEG Ministry later this fall. He is looking forward to helping with making apple pies sometime in October.

Treasurers Report and Administrator's Report

June, July and August check registers included and reviewed, nothing unexpected noted. August 2024 Financial Report, nothing unusual. Fund for Religious Release for snack, etc Current Balance: \$254.89 (no change, held in Missions Checking). Seeking direction for \$20,000 Certificates of Deposit that matures on October 30th, decision among council was to roll over half of it into another CD and place the other half in checking. Insurance is due to be renewed, packet provided for review, cost is up 25%. AC/Heat pump installed on July 2nd (bill pd in full), will be getting \$1000 rebate from Minnesota Power. Elevator inspection completed July 15th. Basement sewer line cleaned also on July 15th. Some of the light bulbs were replaced by John Serebinski in the outdoor sign. New light bulbs were purchased, will receive an \$8 rebate. We received a poster to

advertise Northview's upcoming Open House.

Motion by Carolyn Hosking, second by Gary Gustafson to approve the reports as submitted. Motion carried.

Committee Reports

Christian Education and Youth: SS and RR update included in Pastor's report.

Building Committee: Update included in the Administrator's report

Quilting Committee: Will resume September 24th

Old Business

- a. Resignation of Todd Messner - Received resignation letter from Todd. Motion made by Gary Gustafson, second by Missy Wojtysiak to accept resignation. Motion carried. Will work on recruiting a replacement and replace in January at annual meeting.

New Business

- a. Physical Security (requested last meeting by Gary) Jeff provided handout and notes from several years ago for review.
- b. Increase attendance/membership - Gary discussed offering weekly classes and reaching out to the community.

(Continued on Page 3)

Committee Reports (continued from page 2)

Looking Ahead

Globe Offering: October to November 17th – Support Operation Christmas Child

Next Meeting – December 1, 2024 at 8:00 AM.

Closing Prayer – Pastor provided the closing prayer.

Adjourn Meeting – Meeting adjourned by Gary Gustafson at 8:57 AM.

Youth

Hope Lutheran Youth will present a Christmas Nativity play December 15th during the 9:30 AM Sunday Morning Service. Prepare your hearts for Christmas with Peace and Joy.

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Lisa Dusek
- 3 Jordan Romanek
- 4 Carole Ahlgren
- 5 Carolyn Hosking
- 6 Johanna Abell
Cecilia Abell
- 10 Tony Speece
- 12 Danielle (Tollgaard) White
- 15 Lacey Wojtysiak

- 17 Courtney Young
John Hutchinson
- 19 John Seredinski Jr.
- 26 Bubba Vance
- 27 Tanya Johnson
- 29 McKennah Keil
- 30 Lindsey Rosemore
- 31 Alex Larson

DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

NONE

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Rae Rosemore
Deacon Laine
- 6 Elbert Holmes
- 15 Lukus Fries
Carter Stokke
- 23 Nolan Heikkila
- 27 Dalton Hutchinson
Drake Laine
- 28 Elsie Tollgaard
Jayna Kemp
- 30 Shannon Lund
Milee Lund

JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

- 23 Jill & Dean Fries

- 28 Dawn & Marion Shafer ('78)



Reminders

Sign up to serve refreshments!

And

Sign up to be a Scripture reader!

FLOODWOOD FOOD SHELF

2ND WEDNESDAY 12:00-2:00 PM

4TH WEDNESDAY 9:00-11:00 AM

HLCW (continued from page 1)

Quilting



No quilting this month. Check the newsletter and bulletin for future dates. (Continued on Page 4)

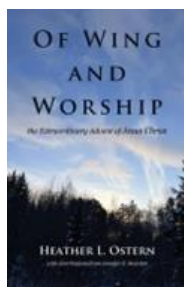
Cookie Can Sunday



December 8th will be cookie Sunday. Please bring 4 dozen cookies, placed in plastic bags in groups of 3 or 4. These will be brought to shut-ins and others deserving a special treat. The youth will also bring cookies to Lifehouse, a gathering place for homeless youth in Duluth --- something that has become a tradition.

New Book By Heather Ostern

Chaplain Heather Ostern – shared her new book titled **Of Wing and Worship: The Extraordinary Advent of Jesus Christ** on Sunday, November 10th.



There were 17 shoeboxes delivered to Cloquet for delivery to Samaritan's Purse for distribution to children all over the world. Thank you all who supported this very important ministry.



Pastor's Corner (Continued from Page 1)

Christmas Eve December 24th we will hold our usual family Christmas candlelight service at 5:00 p.m. We joyfully celebrate His birth with a service of carols ending with Silent Night. I hope to see you here that evening as we remember that special night over 2000 years ago.

The next morning, Christmas Day Hope Lutheran celebrates with our gift of a Christmas Dinner over the noon hour at the Fair Building for our Floodwood community. Special thanks to all of our members who come together each year to provide this for our community. This demonstrates what Jesus meant when He told us to love our neighbors.

We will finish our Christmas celebrations with our usual service of lessons and carols on December 29th. All are welcome to come and sing those traditional Christmas hymns that we all love.

December is a busy and special month for all of us. My prayers are for all of us to have a safe and blessed Christmas, especially for those who are traveling during the winter season. Thanks to all who remembered Cindy and I with your cards and well wishes. We are truly blessed to be a part of your family at Hope Lutheran Church.

May God Bless us all, Pastor John



COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS DINNER

FREE

Wednesday
DECEMBER 25

NOON-1:00 PM

DOWNTOWN
FAIR CENTER
FLOODWOOD

Come join us for a wonderful meal and great fellowship.

December 2024

Hope Lutheran Planner

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 8 AM – Church Council 9:30 Worship with communion 10:30 Fellowship Tree Decorating after fellowship NO BIBLE STUDY	2 USHER: Bubba Vance 9:00-Noon- Pastor's office hours	3	4 Release Time 12:45-1:30-HS 1:30-2:15-Elem	5 10 AM Bible Study at Riverview Manor	6	7
8 9:30 Worship 10:30 Fellowship NO BIBLE STUDY  Cookie Can Sunday	9 USHER: Tim Tollgaard 9:00-Noon- Pastor's office hours	10 HLCW Bible Study 10:00 AM	11 12-2:00 PM Floodwood Food Shelf Release Time 12:45-1:30-HS 1:30-2:15-Elem	12	13	14
15 9:30 Worship & Youth Program NO communion 10:30 Fellowship NO BIBLE STUDY	16 USHER: John Seredinski 9:00-Noon- Pastor's office hours	17	18 9-11 AM Floodwood Food Shelf Release Time 12:45-1:30-HS 1:30-2:15-Elem	19 10 AM Bible Study at Riverview Manor	20	21 <i>Newsletter articles due</i>
22 9:30 Worship with communion 10:30 Fellowship NO BIBLE STUDY	23 USHER: Mark Johnsen 9:00-Noon- Pastor's office hours	24 NO Quilting 5 PM Christmas Eve candle light Service	25 No service today  Noon – 1:00 PM: Community Christmas Dinner at Downtown Fair Center	26	27	28
29 9:30 Worship 10:30 Fellowship NO BIBLE STUDY	30 USHER: Gary Gustafson 9:00-Noon- Pastor's office hours	31	Reminder: It's not too early to start working on your report for the 2025 Annual Report Sunday, January 19 th – Community Christmas/New Years Celebration & Meal at The Event Center begins at 5:30 PM			

PRAYER REQUESTS

December 2024



For those who are ill or struggling

Ethel	Roy
Dinah	Gary
Dean S.	Lorraine
Jerry	Danette
Sadie	Carlene
Grace W.	Willie
Sue	Willa
Bradley	Theresa
Wayne	Doug S.
Doug B.	Kitty

Those suffering from natural disasters.
 Spiritual healing and salvation for our family and friends.
 Those mourning the loss of loved ones.

For those in the military:

Owen Seredinski, Liam Seredinski, Jacob Seredinski

For places where wars and conflict take place

Ukraine
 Syria and Iraqi Christians and missionaries threatened by ISIS and the refugees.
 Those suffering from terrorism.
 Israel and Palestine and the peace of Jerusalem.
 Persecuted church around the world.

For our missions and world missionaries

Ekka family & WMPL
 Pashtun People Group
 Robert & Ulla Suhonen
 Vision Petrozavodsk
 Judy Yund and Bethel Hospital
 Peace*Love*Haiti
 Madagascar Mission Project
 *For our congregation and Church Council
 *Pastor Julie
 *Floodwood Police Department Officers and all law enforcement officers

Peace and healing in Ukraine and Israel and the world!

**HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH
 GIVING**

General Fund Giving

October 27	\$684.00
November 3	\$5377.10
November 10	\$846.00
November 17	\$1225.00

from HLCW
 Pie Making Profits \$1268.00

Globe Offering

Support Operation Christmas Child

October 27	\$10.00
November 3	\$15.00
November 10	\$65.00
November 17	\$135.00

Total sent to Samaritan's Purse for Operation Christmas Child \$315.00

Danielle Durovec Support

November 10	\$120.00
November 17	\$215.00

Financial Update – General Fund

	Income	Expense
January 2024	\$6,777.00	\$6,485.91
February 2024	\$4,655.50	\$6,969.60
March 2024	\$7,749.71	\$10,373.01
April 2024	\$5,381.00	\$8,362.11
May 2024	\$4,908.00	\$8,079.16
June 2024	\$7,449.70	\$10,327.35
July 2024	\$5,703.89	\$6,679.55
August 2024	\$5,718.39	\$5,703.83
September 2024	\$14,177.24	\$6,292.06
October 2024	\$7,664.25	\$9,969.98
Year to Date	\$70,184.68	\$79,242.56
Year to Date Deficit		\$9,057.88

**Offerings can be mailed to:
 Hope Lutheran Church
 PO Box 288
 Floodwood, MN 55736**

Christmas Word Search

S N G D O N N E R S N S T B S E N A C S
T E E G G N O G U C O T I U R T A F P V
O X I D F Q V A J O S O R B W G O I S E
C I N E F H L D O M A C E L E B R A T E
K V H W G C X W L E E K L T O I F X F P
I H E I A I E K L T S I E H T X W S D D
N M E T E M A I Y E X N O H O S N A Q S
G L N B L I T Z E N C G N R L L N K T E
S A Z E E R T S A M T S I R H C I N Z V
S Y S W E E T P O T A T O R E Q V D K L
X O S C R O O G E G B U J R U S C E A E
Y Y D R E E D N I E R F J S D G H O Z Y
F R U I T C A K E J D F V G S N I T C A
X D W J U B I L E E I E E N D I M E A O
J F R O S T Y N W D P R M I R D N L N H
L N O R T H P O L E U S E T A I E T D A
R R E C N A R P K V C R R E C T Y S Y T
H Z O L N I S Y R O F B R E N L D I W G
S A I T T E S N I O P R Y R S P W M A H
F A I R I E S H T A E R W G M D E L S X

CARDS
CELEBRATE
FROSTY
GREETINGS
HOLIDAY
JUBILEE
MERRY
NOEL
SCROOGE
SEASON
SPIRIT
STOCKINGSTUFFERS
STOCKINGS
TIDINGS
CANDY

CANES
EGGNOG
FRUITCAKE
HAM
SWEETPOTATO
MISTLETOE
POINSETTIA
WREATH
CHRISTMASTREE
CHIMNEY
ELVES
FAIRIES
JOLLY
NORTHPOLE
REINDEER

SLED
SLEIGH
SANTACL AUS
BLITZEN
COMET
CUPID
DANCER
DONNER
PRANCER
VIXEN



**CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE
AND FACEBOOK PAGE FOR
INFORMATION AND UPDATES**

HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH WEB SITE

Hope Lutheran Church now has its
very own web site. Visit us at:

www.hopelutheranfloodwood.org

Also visit us on FACEBOOK:

Hope Lutheran Church,
Floodwood, MN

The Beacon of Hope is published each month for members and friends of Hope Lutheran Church, Floodwood, Minnesota. News items should be given to Ann Bolstad (476-2130, cell 343-0943) or send to draseal@aol.com by the 24th of the month.

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED