

It's snowing...again. School is closed...again. The roads are covered in snow and ice...again.

I'm sitting warm inside as my husband struggles to find more places to pile the snow from our farmyard. There is a gigantic pile of snow outside my dining room window. It is so high, from the top you can reach a powerline (if you were foolish enough to grab for one). It is also about 15 feet wide and runs the length of our farmyard. The end sets right on top of my flower garden. Like many of you, I find all this snow and wind depressing.

But...no matter how hard the winter seems, no matter how long this keeps snowstorm cycle keeps going on... I have a secret that I hold in my heart. I know that under all that snow and a bit of earth, lies a miracle.

In my garden's earth are tulip bulbs. They were planted there a generation before I came to this farm. I've done nothing to pamper them or even encourage them. I've even tried to pull them out a time or two. However, every year, no matter what I do to help or even neglect them, those tulips break the surface and grow to bloom.

This year, those stubborn tulips have become my hope. It doesn't matter how much snow falls or blows or is piled up, under the earth the tulips sleep. One day, in the not-so-distant future, I will look out the same window and see those green spikes pointing up through the ground.

As the hope of those tulips holds my heart, the hope and joy of Easter reminds us of resurrection. When times felt the worst for our Savior, when death felt that it's power had won, when those he loved and trusted ran, God's plan still prevailed. As Jesus struggled with the powers of sin and death, it would have been easy to lose hope. After all, everything looked hopeless. But, God's power remained, ready to fight and arise from the hopelessness into something brand new. Victorious- he rose!

We can do nothing to stop or lessen the snow. The same can be said for so many of the troubles in life. Like all this snow, life's problems, responsibilities and pitfalls can seem so powerful and endless. But, never forget, we have a God who thrives on changing the hopelessness to shouts of victory.

If you find yourself hopeless under all this snow. You are not alone. God of the helpless and the hopeless has a plan for you. I offer you my "Tulip Prayer" of hope;

"Creator and Savior, help me find the bulb of hope planted deep in my heart. In it's quiet darkness, let me cherish it and ready it to grow. When change seems far off or even impossible, help me remember your unchanging strength. Help me take confidence that it will ALWAYS find a time and place to grow. Help me hang on until the time when your hope will burst forth and bloom in my life. In Jesus' name I hope and pray. Amen"

Pastor Janet Miller

# Hopes Happenings

\*EASTER IS COMING!!! My favorite holiday. 🕊️ Here is the schedule for Holy Week: 1<sup>st</sup> Communion will be held on Maundy Thursday. Worship is at 7:30 pm. NO GOOD FRIDAY service at Hope, but you are invited to join Florence on Good Friday at 7:30 pm. Easter Sunday Worship with Communion will be at 10:30 am. (note earlier start time) Breakfast will be served from 9:00-10:00.



**\*Spring will be here soon!! (we hope) and along with that comes mowing. 🌱 Mowing bids will be accepted until April 31. You can drop them at the church, e-mail ([hlchurch@tnics.com](mailto:hlchurch@tnics.com)) or snail mail (Hope Lutheran Church, PO Box 886, Summit, SD 57266).**

\*There is still time to sign up for Bible camp. Detailed information and registration can be found at [www.LOSD.org](http://www.LOSD.org) Early bird prices are good until April 17, 2023. Register now and save. The church also has funds available to help with costs! Contact Anne Seffrood or Laura Frankenhoff for more information. We want to make the joy of church camp available for EVERYONE!! 🙏

**2023 Church Council Members**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Term Ends</u>	
Carrie Rauen	Member	January 2024	1
Traci Ellingson	Member	January 2024	
Laura Frankenhoff	Member	January 2024	
Michelle Urban	Member	January 2024	
Brianna Lindholm	Youth	January 2024	
Dustin Holt	Member	January 2025	)
Ben Graf	Member	January 2025	
Tamijo Bronson	Member	January 2025	
Maddie Hinkelman	Youth	January 2025	
Billi Whempner	Member	January 2025	

# SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

March 2023 - April 2023 - May 2023

<u>Sunday March 26</u> 10:00 Sunday school - 5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent worksheets 11:00 Hope church service
<u>Sunday April 2 PALM SUNDAY!</u> 10:00 Sunday school - Palm/Passion Sunday worksheets <b>11:00 Hope church service with Kid's Church! Bring a NOISY OFFERING ;)</b>
<u>Sunday April 9 EASTER SUNDAY!</u> 10:00 No Sunday school Happy Easter 11:00 Hope church service
<u>Sunday April 16</u> 10:00 Sunday school - review our Lent Season worksheets 11:00 Hope church service
<u>Sunday April 23</u> 10:00 Sunday school - The 10 Commandments 11:00 Hope church service
<u>Sunday April 30</u> 10:00 Sunday school - The Power of Prayer 11:00 Hope church service
<u>Sunday May 7</u> 8:30 Hope church service 9:30 Sunday school - Mother's Day lesson.
<u>Sunday May 14</u> <b>8:30 Hope church service with Kid's Church! Bring a NOISY OFFERING ;)</b> 9:30 Sunday school LAST DAY until September 2023! Party day!

Sunday school has been going great! The kids have learned some great lessons and have had a lot of fun with crafts and activities. We started out doing our Monumental lessons. We then learned Hometown Nazareth which tied into our Christmas program. The Christmas program went great & we are all so proud of Hope's kids! We then did a series of dvd's from KidVid. They taught some great lessons and had some great music! We are now on our Easter & Lent season worksheets. They follow the season of Lent & teach some great knowledge. The kids seem to be enjoying the variety of crafts that we are doing & every week is great fun!

Kid's Church is normally every 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of each month. This winter has caused some cancellations. The best day for Kid's church in April is Palm Sunday which is the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month. Since we missed our March Kid's church we are ready to WoW you!

\*We could always use donations of some gently used supplies in the form of markers, pencil sharpeners, colored pencils, pencil boxes, & glue sticks. If you have some other misc. craft supplies that you are getting rid of we might be able to eventually find a use for it. Oftentimes our crafts are thrown together magic using what we have. God has blessed our kids with great talents & creativity!\*

We could definitely use some more adult help. We have a sign up sheet for volunteering & it is great to see names on there! You do not need any special skills, just yourself! If you haven't signed up yet please pick some dates. Make your high school kids volunteer too! Thank you in advance!

If you have any comments, suggestions, questions, or would like to help feel free to talk to any staff member or call Pastor Janet @605-237-8005, Becky Pies @605-237-0539, or Annie Seffrood @605-949-5658.

## Council minutes-March 19, 2023

P: Ben Graf, Dustin Holt, Laura Frankenhoff, Traci Ellingson, Carrie Rauen, Pastor Janet Miller

A: Tamijo Bronson, Michelle Urban, Brianna Lindholm, Billi Whempner

O: Anne Seffrood, Dawn Wright

Pastor opened with prayer.

Secretary report- M-Laura, 2<sup>nd</sup>-Dustin to approve. Passed

Treasurer report-discussed budget, Campership funds are available to kids interested in going to camp.

Contact Anne for more information. Reminder of Thrivent funds need to be designated by March 31. M-Carrie, 2<sup>nd</sup>-Ben to approve. Motion passed.

Pastor report-1 funeral, Confirmation kids are helping with Lenten services. Pastor will start doing more liturgy after Easter. A discussion was held regarding communing at the altar. Council decided to designate the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of each month we will commune at the altar and the 3<sup>rd</sup> we will do continuous. This will start in May.

### Old business

\*Website update-Traci gave an update on finding someone to help set up a website for the church. She will send out links she received of templates we can choose from.

\*Taskforces- Anne asked about setting up task forces for different need at the church. Task forces are as follows and it's members (as of now); Thrivent -Traci, Janet, Dawn (for those needing assistance with applying for Thrivent grants), Construction-Ben, Dustin, Tim (moving forward with various projects), and fundraising-Laura, Carrie (for needs and projects within the church). If you are asked to join or would be interested in joining, please contact anyone on the task force. 🍷

\*lent offering-will go to the general fund

\*Florence covenant-Anne reviewed it with council. M-Ben, 2<sup>nd</sup>-Dustin to update the covenant. Passed

\*Pastor Janet asked about using a % of her salary as housing allowance. Council approved to allow.

### New business

\*mowing bids are due April 30.

\*Copier-we were informed our copier is obsolete. Office Peeps gave us a bid for a new one. Anne will contact another company for a 2<sup>nd</sup> bid.

\*Boiler-we are still having issues with it. It was discussed what to do and Anne will contact someone to come and look at it.

\*Anne asked if her and John could install NEST thermostats in the church that they donated. Council said yes.

\*Laura and Tim bought church cushions they would like to donate for the pews.

\*Beginning the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in May, we will switch Worship times. We will start at 8:30 am. Sunday school will follow.

M-Dustin, 2<sup>nd</sup> – Carrie to adjourn

Next meeting-April 16 following Worship

Meeting closed with Lord's prayer

Hope Lutheran Church  
Offerings and Expenses

	<u>Feb 23</u>	<u>Jan 23</u>	<u>2023 YTD</u>
<b>Income</b>			
41100 · Regular Offerings	\$ 6,909.00	\$ 8,527.00	\$ 15,436.00
42100 · Gifts & Memorials	\$ -	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00
43000 · Florence Parish Contr	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 7,000.00
44100 · Interest Earned	\$ 1.46	\$ -	\$ 1.46
44200 · Thrivent	\$ 666.00	\$ -	\$ 666.00
44300 · Special Event Donations	\$ 60.00	\$ -	\$ 60.00
44350 · Christmas Greens Inc	\$ -	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00
44600 · Amazon Smile	\$ 25.24	\$ -	\$ 25.24
<b>Total Offerings &amp; Income</b>	<b>\$ 11,161.70</b>	<b>\$ 12,127.00</b>	<b>\$ 23,288.70</b>
<b>Expense</b>			
66100 · Pastoral Payroll	\$ 9,235.51	\$ 8,241.85	\$ 17,477.36
66190 · Relief Pastor Expenses	\$ 125.00	\$ -	\$ 125.00
66310 66310 · Secretary Salary	\$ 400.00	\$ 350.00	\$ 750.00
66320 66320 · Janitor Salary	\$ 245.00	\$ 215.00	\$ 460.00
66330 66330 · Organist Salary	\$ 40.00	\$ -	\$ 40.00
63300 · Insurance Expense	\$ 318.86	\$ 318.86	\$ 637.72
63100 · Worship & Education	\$ 48.55	\$ 19.99	\$ 68.54
62300 · Printing and Reproduction	\$ 170.97	\$ -	\$ 170.97
62600 · Postage and Delivery	\$ 44.00	\$ 320.91	\$ 364.91
62000 · Office Expenses - Other	\$ 15.66	\$ 15.66	\$ 31.32
67200 · Repairs and Maintenance	\$ 418.41	\$ 8.25	\$ 426.66
67300 · Small Tools and Equipment	\$ -	\$ 268.50	\$ 268.50
67420 · Electricity	\$ 181.04	\$ 88.32	\$ 269.36
67430 · Water/Sewer	\$ 74.00	\$ 74.00	\$ 148.00
67440 · Telephone & Internet Expenses	\$ 95.73	\$ 95.73	\$ 191.46
67000 · Church/Building Expenses	\$ 769.18	\$ 534.80	\$ 1,303.98
69000 · Miscellaneous Expenses	\$ 9.90	\$ 14.85	\$ 24.75
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>\$ 11,422.63</b>	<b>\$ 10,031.92</b>	<b>\$ 21,454.55</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>\$ (260.93)</b>	<b>\$ 2,095.08</b>	<b>\$ 1,834.15</b>

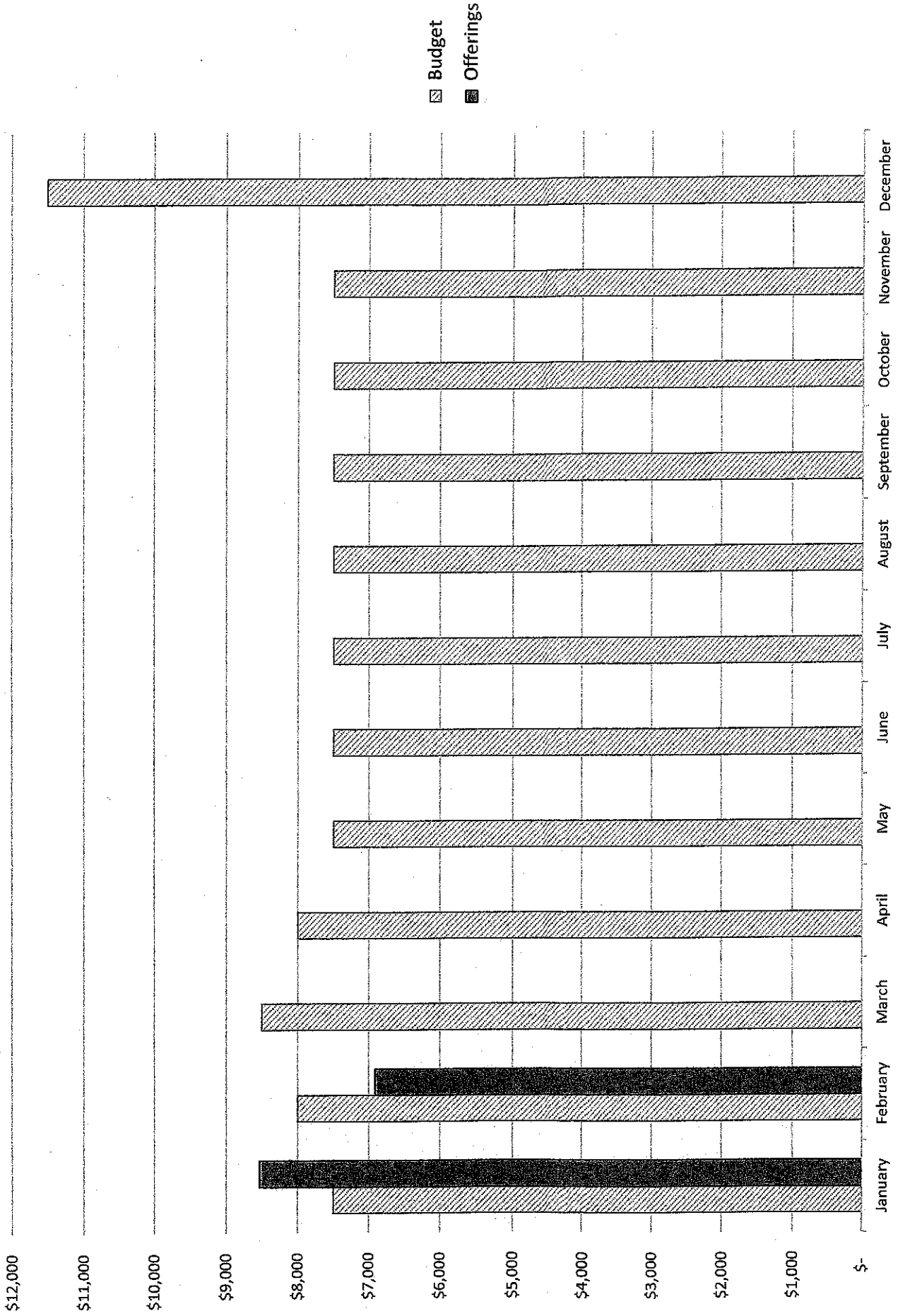
**ASSETS 2/28/2023**

11102 · General Fund Checking	\$ 32,180.45
11112 · MWBank MC -Dawn	\$ 184.48
11113 · MWBank MC - Pastor Janet	\$ 811.23
11114 · MWBank MC - Sarah	\$ 199.35
Total 12000 · CD's	\$ 15,000.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 48,375.51</b>

11300 · HS Youth Group Checking Acct	\$ 9,079.64
11400 · Sunday School Checking Acct	\$ 598.26
11500 · Campership Checking Acct	\$ 793.92

# 2023 Monthly Offerings vs Budget

(does not include memorials, special gifts, other income)





# April 2023

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
						1
2 Palm Sunday-Purple Children sing w/communion	3	4	5	6 9:00-noon Quilting 7:30-Maundy Thursday and 1 <sup>st</sup> communion Worship	7 No Good Friday service at Hope. 7:30 at Florence	8
9 Easter-white NO SUNDAY SCHOOL Breakfast-9-10 Worship w/communion- 10:30	10	11 <b>4/11-4/13- Spring Theological meetings in Watertown</b>	12	13	14 Pastor not in office.	15
16 2 Easter-white Council mtg after Worship	17	18	19	20 9:00-noon Quilting	21 Newsletter due	22
23 3 Easter-white	24	25	26 <b>6:00- Confirmation</b>	27	28	29
30 4 Easter-white						

Notes

**Every Sunday (unless otherwise noted, Sunday school-10:00, Worship-11:00.**

Worship helpers (as of printing): **4/2**-Coffee-Traci, Ushers-Becky and Brett, Reader-Maddie, **4/9**-U- (3 needed), r-Laurie K., Communion set-up-(2 needed), Serve communion-Laurie K, (1 needed), **4/16**-C-needed, U-Kaitlyn and Steve, R-Dustin, CS-Sheryl, (1 needed), SC-Carrie and London, **4/23**-C-Traci, U-Traci and Jared, R-Jared, **4/30**- All Worship helpers needed.

HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH  
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Find us on Facebook: Hope Lutheran Church and [www.seesummitsd.com](http://www.seesummitsd.com)

Follow us on YouTube: Hope's Children



April 2023

"It is the mission of Hope Lutheran Church to help people grow in their faith; to be a leader in the community; to serve the needs of all people; and to teach/educate all people.

