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"WORDS OF HOPE FROM HOPE"

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January 2023

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Find us on Facebook: Hope Lutheran Church and www.seesummitsd.com

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January 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.





January 2023

Con-	N /	T	Residence described	The Co	Fri.	Co+
Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	FII,	Sat.
1 NO SUNDAY SCHOOL 11:00 am-Worship Pastor gone	2	3	4	5 Conference Dean	6 Financial reports due (leave at the bank)	7
8 10:00 am-Re-rally Sunday 11:00 am Worship- Children's church	9	10	11 6:00-Confirmation (Brett snacks) 7:30 Youth group	12	ALL REPORTS DUE!!!! WILL PRINT IN THE AFTERNOON!	14
15 10:00 am-Sunday school 11:00 am Worship w/communion	16	17 Conference Pastor's meeting	18	19	20 Newsletter items due	21
22 10:00 am-Sunday school 11:00 am Worship	23	24	25 6:00 Confirmation (Jace snacks)	26	27	28
29 10:00 am-Sunday school 11:00 am Worship w/Annual meeting. Potluck to follow	30	31				

WORSHIP: 11:00 AM, SUNDAY SCHOOL RESUMES ON JANUARY 9 AT 10:00 AM.

Worship helpers as of time of printing: 1/8/23-Bronson family (NO Communion), 1/15/23-Mark and Lisa Amdahl Family (communion)

December 11 Council minutes

Members Present: Pastor Janet, Tim Gapp, Elsie Seffrood, Laura Frankenhoff, Michelle Urban, Brianna Lindholm, Traci Storms.

A: Carrie Rauen, Sarah, Smith, Becky Pies, Kathy Brink

O: Anne Seffrood, Dawn Wright

Pastor opened with prayer.

Secretary report-M-Traci, 2nd-Elsie. Approved

Treasurer report- M-Laura, 2nd- Michelle. Approved

*Budget 2023 reviewed

Pastors report

- *Monthly article for Wilmot newspaper
- * Youth went bowling on Oct. 30th
- *I took class for mental health first aid and finished boundaries course.
- *Met with Becky to help her get started on the Christmas program

Old business

- *Reps from executive committee met with Florence about continuing our agreement with them. Anne will draft a new contract and copies will be shared.
- *Thanks to Becky and Kathy for all their hard work on the Sunday school Christmas program and to all other who helped.
- *A re-rally Sunday is planned for Sunday, January 8.
- *Reminder of Family Advent event on December, 18. Stations will be set up from 10:00-11:30ish. Making lefse, crafts
- *Report on website. Anne will get contact information to Traci of a local person who designs websites.

Council went into Executive Session to discuss salaries.

Council out of Executive Session

New business

- *Worship time change effective January 1. Worship will begin at 11:00 am. Sunday school remains at 10:00 am.
- * Pastor asked for help hanging names of tree.
- *Annual meeting dates-Financial reports due at bank January 6, other reports-January 13. Dawn will print on the afternoon of January 13 so reports can be out on January 15. Annual meeting will be held during Worship on January 29 with a potluck after.
- *Report given on installation of folding doors.

Next meeting-after annual meeting

Meeting adjourned

Closed with Lord's prayer

Hope Lutheran Church Offerings and Expenses November 2022

	Nov 22	Oct 22	Jan - Nov 22	
41100 · Regular Offerings	\$6,385.00	\$9,906.00	\$79,963.25	
41200 · Special Services Offerings	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,936.00	
42100 · Gifts & Memorials	\$0.00	\$3,298.47 *2	\$7,851.47	*
43000 - Florence Parish Contribution	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$30,000.00	
44100 · Interest Earned	\$15.75	\$29.73	\$110.69	
44200 - Thrivent	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$425.00	
44440 · Special Offerings to Pass On	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$570.00	
44600 · Amázon Smile	\$16.52	\$0.00	\$56.21	
44000 · Other Income - Other	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,751.29	
Total Income	\$9,417.27	\$16,234.20	\$122,663.91	
Expense Total 71000 - HS Youth Group Expenses	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4.09	
66000 · Payroli Expenses		,	-	
Total 66100 · Pastoral Payroll	\$8,165.70	\$8,165.70	\$89,822.70	
66310 · Secretary Salary	\$350.00	\$350.00	\$3,850.00	
66320 - Janitor Salary	\$215.00	\$215.00	\$2,150.00	
66330 ⋅ Organist Salary	\$0.00	\$480.00	\$1,880.00	
61800 - Continuing Ed & Conference	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$789.56	
63130 · Confirmation / Adult Ed	\$26.41	\$275.39	\$301.80	
63120 · Sunday School Materials	\$0.00	\$42.88	\$74.20	_
63110 · Worship Materials	\$203.93	\$86.28	\$1,299.82	
62200 · Office Supplies	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$43.65	
62300 · Printing and Reproduction	\$0.00	\$495.27	\$1,614.35	
62500 · Dues and Subscriptions	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$176.92	
62600 · Postage and Delivery	\$0.00	\$45.34	\$645,38	,
62000 · Office Expenses - Other	\$15.66	\$15.66	\$188.93	
67500 · Church Decorations	\$21.30	\$70.17	\$91.47	. }
67100 · Landscaping Expenses	-\$5,644.52 *3	, , ,	\$0.00	:
67200 - Repairs and Maintenance	\$14.00	\$1,054.84	\$2,132.88	1
67300 - Small Tools and Equipment	\$0.00	\$9.56	\$18.05	مند
67410 · Propane/Heat	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$6,467.33	7
67420. Electricity	\$83.08	\$95.27	\$1,428.14	- "
67430 · Water/Sewer	\$74.00	\$74.00	\$814.00	
67440 · Telephone & Internet Expenses	\$115.73	\$115.73	\$1,273.03	
61410 · Synod Mission Support	\$0,00	\$1,811.60	\$5,464.77 \$144.17	
61420 - Good Samaritan Fund	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$144.17 \$570.00	
61450 - Special Offerings Sent On	\$0.00 \$0.00	\$0.00	\$500.00	
61470 · Thrivent Share	\$0.00 \$24.80	\$0.00 \$84.90	\$248.80	
69000 · Miscellaneous Expenses Total Expense	\$3,665.09	\$14,552.60	\$121,994.04	
Income	\$5,752.18	\$1,681.60	\$669.87	

^{*1} Gift of Propane \$4,473

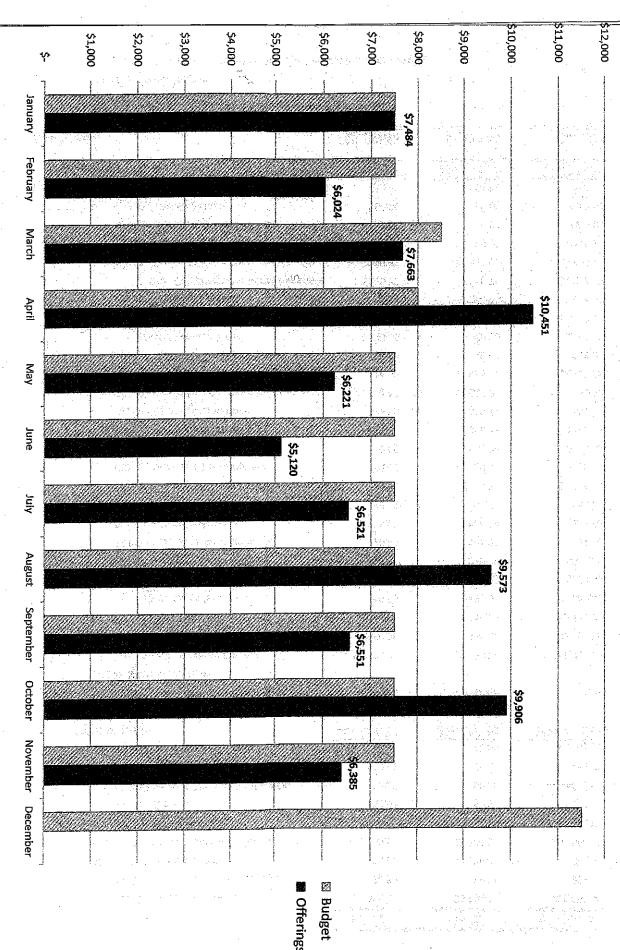
^{*2} Gift of Grain \$3,288

^{*3} Transfer \$5,644 from Cemetery Fund to General Fund for mowing

2022 Monthly Offerings vs Budget

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

As of November 30, 2022 Actual Offerings are \$2201 below budget



HOPES HAPPENINGS

A Huge Thanks

Thank you to everyone who took the time to send cards and gifts to pastor Janet and her family. You made her feel loved and appreciated.

<u>Annual Reports</u>

As the annual meetings approach, please make sure to get your reports in to the secretaries. Dawn has to have Hope's Annual report out to everyone by January 15th. That mean's Hope's Annual reports are due January 6th. Please leave them at MinnWest Bank. If you have a checkbook, you need to turn in a report and It will go through our audit committee. Other reports needed: council president's, Pastor's, Sunday School, possibly something from our quilters or WELCA.

Youth Group

Because our Christmas party keeps getting stormed out, we are having a "Non Christmas" party on January IIth at 7:30pm. Bring the gifts you were going to use at the Christmas party and come have some other "non Christmas" fun.

Worship time change: Beginning with Worship on January 1, we will switch to a 11:00 am start time. Sunday school will stay at 10:00 am when it resumes on January 8.



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As I sit to write this letter, we are in day 5 of a snowstorm that does not seem to be giving up. The first two days were freezing rain and ice storm. The last three have brought over 10 inches of snow and it's still coming down.

We were warned this storm was coming. The TV and radio weathermen were jumping up and down trying to tell us to get ready. Most of us listened.

On our farm, we went around picking up all the plastic children's toys left from the summer. Campers got put in their winter spots. Extra overgrown bushes that would stop snow got chopped down. Cows and calves got moved closer to the barns. We filled up gas tanks and extra gas cans in case we needed to run a generator when electricity goes out.

As Monday passed by and they projected the storm to begin that evening, people went to the stores to stock up. Hy-vee and Walmart in Watertown announced they were out of milk on their shelves. As the clouds approached, lots of people started for home early with plans to work from home for a day or two.

What a storm it's been. Freezing rain and fog coated our trees, streets, wires and anything left outside with over an inch of ice. Some of us scoffed at the weatherman. What kind of huge storm was this? Then, the wind and snow began. Blizzard warnings blazed on our phones. Electricity flickered and for some of us went out completely. The view changed from the icy glaze to a snowy white out.

The storm has started to pass. Though the wind is still swirling some, we can see the highway from our house again and that's about a ½ mile. A step outside shows that the entire landscape has changed. We were warned. We thought we were prepared. But, 10 inches of snow on top of ice is a lot to get used to. People will struggle with driving in snow and ice again. Tractors and snowplows will struggle to open roads we know will blow back shut as soon as the wind picks up.

Though we knew it was supposed to be coming. None of us are thrilled with the result. A lot of us find we weren't as ready as we thought we were.

I find parallels between our attitudes and results of the storm and the birth of Jesus Christ (which we will celebrate in a few days.) Th People of God had been promised and warned that the Messiah was coming. In the prophecies of God to Isaiah, we hear these familiar words, "Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: the virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel."

Micah delivered a prophesy of Jesus from God; "But you, Bethlehem of Ephrathah, though you are small among the clans of Judah, out of you will come for me one who will be a ruler over Israel, whose origins are from of old, from ancient times."

These are just 2 of the many times God tried to prepare his people for the coming of the Savior. His words were a promise, something to hold on to in terrible times and also a warning. The Messiah will come and the world will be changed.

Like our storm that began in an unexpected way, Jesus' birth was not one anyone would have expected. God come to earth as a helpless, crying infant who was born in a barn? How could anyone have expected that? And yet...

And yet...that helpless infant grew into a man who challenged the status quo, a man who taught us what compassion and inclusion looks like, a man who defeated the powers of sin and death for us, a man who changed the world!

The changes weren't always easy. Sometimes the cost his followers a lot in this world. Sometimes it's much easier to praise the infant in the hay that to follow the example of the sacrificial Messiah.

The season of Epiphany opens our eyes to who Jesus truly was and what our call really is. We are called out into a world that still needs saving. Darkness still tried hard to block out the light of Jesus Christ. So, God's people, it's time to put on our work boots, both figuratively and actually. It's time to pick up our shovels and find our way out of our safe places into a world changed but still in need. Christ is waiting out there for us.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

Be safe as you get out and let the light of Epiphany show you the way,

Pastor Janet Miller

