



The Beacon of Hope

The Newsletter of Hope Lutheran Church

FEBRUARY 2014

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A Word From Pastor Carl

A NEW CHURCH COUNCIL

By the time that you read this note, our congregation at the annual meeting will have elected a new church council. I know that occasionally, the nominating committee sometimes experiences a difficult time finding enough people who want to serve on the council.

Like every other commitment, I certainly can understand the concern about being able to attend enough meetings because of other commitments. And occasionally, the meeting can become a little long. These two concerns I completely understand. But I have always been surprised that people have the perception that the business of the church council is somehow uninteresting. Of the many important tasks in the congregation, I find church council to be among the more interesting activities. First of all, it is an excellent way to get a sense of the depth and breadth of the many ministries in our church. It is easy to think and perceive of the congregation as being only the ministries and activities that you participate in or see out front. However, during the council meeting, one hears reports from a variety of persons and committees. It becomes clear quickly that there really are a number of important active ministries that come from our people. It is often encouraging to hear about the good works that all these different groups are doing to make our church better.

(Continued on page 2)

Hope Lutheran Church Women

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Session Six of the Family Matters series is titled, "Need It, Want It, Gotta Have It"—Our Basic Need for Blessing. The Old Testament scripture from Genesis 27:1-45, tells how Jacob and his mother manage to trick Isaac out of the blessing that is rightly meant for the firstborn son, Esau. In Luke 15:11-32, the familiar story of the prodigal son is told—another time the rights to an inheritance and the blessing from a father are featured. In our families, as in our congregation, we need to recognize the blessing we have received from God, while learning to receive and give blessing to one another.

(Continued on page 4)

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION & YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRY

HOPE LUTHERAN BEFRIENDERS

The greeting card project received a nice surprise. The daughter of one of our members sent a thank you card, two books of stamps and a monetary donation in appreciation for our greeting card project. We have also had calls from people who are thankful for remembering their loved ones through visits, cards and prayers. It's nice to know that our Befriender program reaches beyond our intended recipients. We would like to express our gratitude to the Hope Lutheran Church Women, who encouraged the project, provide the cards and support. God has blessed us.

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### ***Word From Pastor Carl- A NEW CHURCH COUNCIL (Continued From Page 1)***

Second, involvement in church council is engaging because it sets the tone for the congregation. While part of the business of the council is receiving reports from committees and officers, there is also significant time for continuing to work on the "old business" of projects that are underway and the consideration of "new business". Participating in the council provides the opportunity to more directly influence how you think the church should be conducting its affairs.

Third, I like church council because it is always fun to watch each person's expertise put to use. When an issue is addressed and one or two persons know how to start solving the situation, it is fun to witness each person use his or her specific skills to bring about a good solution.

Let's be sure to thank our outgoing church council and pray for our soon-to-be installed folks who will help lead the ministry of our church. Pastor Carl

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*God Has Brought Me
Laughter*

Actual Announcements from Church Bulletins

- Miss Charlene Mason sang, "I will not pass this way again," giving obvious pleasure to the congregation.
- "Ladies, don't forget the rummage sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Don't forget your husbands."
- The sermon this morning: "Jesus Walks on the Water." The sermon tonight: "Searching for Jesus."
- Next Thursday there will be tryouts for the choir. They need all the help they can get.
- Barbara remains in the hospital and needs blood donors for more transfusions. She is also having trouble sleeping and requests tapes of Pastor Jack's sermons.

February Birthdays

- 1 Bradley Hutton
- 3 Kalen Kuehl
- 7 Jaimen Davis
- 8 John Seredinski
- 9 Leah Bettin
- 15 Jill Fries
Gladys Marttila
Shirley Johnson
- 17 Barbara Larson-Peterson
- 25 Judy Dressely



February Anniversaries

- 3 Carole & Floyd Ahlgren ('56)
- 14 Tracy & David Zieroth
- 27 Marlys & Tom Piontek

CARD OF THANKS

Thank you, Ron Myrvold, for making the wonderful stable for our Sunday School Christmas Program. A gift that will keep on giving.



JANUARY GIVING

General Fund:	\$ 5372.41
(includes Sunday Offering, Refreshment Offering)	
General Savings:	\$ 205.00
Salvation Army:	\$ 7.00

MEMORIALS

In Memory of Betty Rauvola from John & Pat Seredinski	\$25.00
In Memory of Donny Mattila from Kenny & Marilyn Stephen	\$20.00
In Memory of Donny Mattila from Bubba & Sue Vance	\$20.00
In Memory of Donny Mattila from Elsie Tollgaard	\$25.00
In Memory of Donny Mattila from Jim & Elvi Tollgaard	\$25.00

QUILTING

Despite the very cold temperatures on Tue. Jan.28, the quilters decided to "just do it." Five women met at 10:00 in the church basement and finished 8 quilts that Susan Coccie and Jeanette Johnsen started at home.

We also put a fire quilt together which will be finished by next month.

The next quilting session will be Tues. Feb. 25, at 9:00. Everyone is welcome to join us.

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**HLCW Minutes of Meeting  
January 26, 2014**

A meeting of Hope Lutheran Church Women was held following church service Sunday, Jan. 26 in the overflow room following coffee downstairs. President Grace Autio presided at the meeting. It was decided to forego reading of the November 25 minutes because it was two months ago and they were published in the monthly church Bulletin.

The first order of business was a request to return Jodi Fiskness' gift of \$150.00 which she gave in appreciation of the HLCW Cookie and Coffee reception downstairs following their wedding on Dec. 28. It was the consensus of the ladies that the gift should be returned because the volunteers freely gave their time. Motion made by Susan Coccie, seconded by Elsie Tollgaard to return the gift

to Jodi with our thanks. The vote was all aye.

Grace reported that the painting of the parsonage was completed and Dennis Davis was paid the final amount of \$600.00.

Grace read thank you notes from several places: from Judy Yunt for the HLCW annual contribution of \$200; from Lutheran Social Services for the Bethany Crisis Center Center gift of \$100.00; from Life House for the gifts of cookies, hats, mittens, and quilts at Christmastime; from Pastor Carl and Jodi for the wedding gift of a quilt; and from Cathy West (a friend of Dawn Shafer) who thanked our quilters for doing some finishing work on a quilt she had, and she included a cash donation of \$100.00 in her thank you card.

Jeanette Johnsen's treasurer's report showed a checking balance of \$2,174.43 at the November meeting and after income since then of \$168.00 and expenses of \$831.76, there was a checking balance of \$1,510.67 on Dec. 31, 2013. After designated funds of \$2,327.53, the report shows available funds of \$615.40. Upon motion by Lois Hendrickson, seconded by Jan Benson, the report was approved by unanimous vote. Grace reported that 33 people were served at the Hope Christmas dinner, and thanked Susan for carrying out the project.

Because unusually cold and stormy weather is reported, it was asked if the quilters will meet this week. It was decided to meet Tuesday at 10:00 a.m. as usual unless the weather is too bad.

LuAnn Heikkila reported that she purchased more silverware for the kitchen in order to have enough for

large groups and also purchased another 100 cup coffee pot for the kitchen, all which is covered by the flood insurance.

It was decided to not have bible study tomorrow because of the weather reports. It is hoped to be able to make up Lessons 4 and 5 as well as Lesson 6 in the future to be decided later.

There being no other business, the meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

Nancy Raihala, Secretary



Hope Lutheran Church, **Floodwood, MN 55736**  
**Minutes of regular December Meeting**  
**Tuesday, December 17, 2013**

Meeting called to order by President Dean Fries at 7:17 PM.  
Pastor Carl Fiskness shared Assurances from our Lord and Prayers for Healing and Hope.

Those in attendance include: Pastor Carl Fiskness, LuAnn Heikkila, Susan Coccie, Dean Fries, Marion Shafer, Jeff Kletscher, Brian Hutchinson, Dave Zieroth. Absent: Kathy Johnsen, Lonna Hutchinson, Carlene Jatkola and Rae Rosemore.

**Agenda**

Motion by Susan Coccie, second by Bubba Vance to approve the agenda with additions; motion approved.

**Report:**

Secretary – Motion by Susan Coccie, second by Brian Hutchinson to approve the November 19, 2013 minutes; motion approved.

Pastor – Reviewed report and Pastor Carl stated he forgot mileage. He will put it in January's report.

President – Dean Fries and Jeff Kletscher started putting together the 2014 Budget. They will work with the Budget Committee to finalize. Motion by Bubba Vance, second by Susan Coccie to approve the financial statement; motion approved.

Guest speaker Jeff Kletscher talked about what he has been working on. First worked on Pastor Carl's computer problems, attended Xerox copier training, made up letterhead and showed samples, switch from National Audio Visual; installed, the short an electrician will be needed, recorder and cables purchased and there is a problem with the recorder, software for the church – samples were ordered. We discussed a church directory. We can do the lay out ourselves and use a local photographer. Paper for letterhead and matching envelopes will be ordered. Jeff Kletscher is on the Toivola/Meadowlands Sax/Zim Winter Birding Board and would like to use our copy machine to make 100 posters and 225 evening programs and pay us for them. He said this would offset the cost of our machine. Color is 7.28 each copy. Color cartridges are part of our lease. Jeff would provide his own paper. Motion by Brian Hutchinson, second by Bubba Vance to allow Jeff to make the color posters and evening programs on Hope Lutheran's copy machine and pay \$50; motion approved.

Youth and Family – There are three confirmation students. Butterbraids are in.

Communications and Technology – Susan Coccie will send Jeff Kletscher all the passwords and information for the website and Facebook.

Building – Changing table is up, thanks Bubba. Handrail – there is a place in Proctor that does iron work. Chris Bernsdorf is a possibility for iron work. He's in the Meadowlands area. Deadbolt installed by Bubba at parsonage. Painting at the parsonage is almost done.

**Old Business**

Office remodel – The office still needs the end tables, clock and mirror. Safe – the safe that was purchased is too small and LuAnn will return it and buy a new larger one to fit our red ledger.

Fire extinguishers – Lonna Hutchinson; table this meeting.

Boy Scouts – Pastor Carl will call Rory O'Donnell.

**New Business**

Printing – Pastor Carl asked about printing his wedding bulletins on our church copy machine. Motion by Brian Hutchinson, second by Bubba Vance to let Pastor Carl and Jodi print their wedding bulletins on the church copy machine; motion approved. One of the perks of his job.

Annual Meeting – Discussed the annual meeting date. Motion by Susan Coccie, second by LuAnn Heikkila to set the annual meeting date on Sunday, January 19<sup>th</sup>, 2014, potluck to follow; motion approved.

Jeff Kletscher helped with the church service that Dave Walli preached at the Sunday Pastor Carl was gone. Motion by Pastor Carl Fiskness, second by Susan Coccie to pay Jeff Kletscher \$75 for his part in the service; motion approved.

Globe offering – local Salvation Army.

Next meeting – Tuesday, January 14<sup>th</sup>, 2014 at 7:15 PM.  
Pastor Carl closed with prayer.  
Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

LuAnn Heikkila, Secretary

## HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH PLANNER

| Sun                                                                                                                | Mon                                                                                                                                                                                             | Tue                                                                                             | Wed                                                                                                                                     | Thu                                                      | Fri                                                                                                                                        | Sat           |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|
|                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                         |                                                          |                                                                                                                                            | 1             |
| <b>2</b><br><b>9:30 Worship &amp; Sunday School</b><br><b>10:45 Coffee Fellowship</b><br><br>Souper Bowl of Caring | <b>3</b><br><b>USHER TEAM:</b><br>Marion Shafer & Burt Suonvieri & Evan – Team 6<br><b>NO Adult Confirmation &amp; learning</b><br><br>Pastor gone for Augustana District Theological Gathering | <b>4</b>                                                                                        | <b>5</b><br><b>12:10-1:00 HS Release</b><br><b>1:50-3:00 Elem. Release</b><br>NO Confirmation                                           | <b>6</b><br>9-10:30 Ruby's Pantry at Arrowhead Town Hall | <b>7</b><br><b>1-3 pm Pastor's Office Hours</b>                                                                                            | <b>8</b>      |
| <b>9</b><br><b>9:30 Worship &amp; Sunday School</b><br><b>10:45 Coffee Fellowship</b>                              | <b>10</b><br><b>USHER TEAM:</b><br>Bob Hosking & Dale Rauvola – Team 7<br><br><b>7:00 p.m. Adult Confirmation &amp; learning</b>                                                                | <b>11</b>                                                                                       | <b>12</b><br>9-11 am FW Food Shelf at FST<br><b>12:10-1:00 HS Release</b><br><b>1:50-3:00 Elem. Release</b><br><b>6:00 Confirmation</b> | <b>13</b>                                                | <b>14</b><br><b>10:00 a.m. Bible Study at Riverview Manor</b><br><br><b>1-3 pm Pastor's Office Hours</b><br><br><i>St. Valentine's Day</i> | <b>15</b>     |
| <b>16</b><br><b>9:30 Worship &amp; Sunday School</b><br><b>10:45 Coffee Fellowship</b>                             | <b>17</b><br><b>USHER TEAM:</b><br>Rob Benson & Wayne Thom – Team 8<br><br><b>7:00 p.m. Home Fellowship Bible Study at Parsonage</b><br><br><i>President's Day</i>                              | <b>18</b><br><b>6:30 p.m. Building and Grounds Committee</b><br><b>7:00 p.m. Church Council</b> | <b>19</b><br><b>12:10-1:00 HS Release</b><br><b>1:50-3:00 Elem. Release</b><br><b>6:00 Confirmation</b>                                 | <b>20</b>                                                | <b>21</b><br><b>10:00-12:00 pm Pastor's Office Hours (note different time)</b>                                                             | <b>22</b>     |
| <b>23</b><br><b>9:30 Worship &amp; Sunday School</b><br><b>10:45 Coffee Fellowship</b>                             | <b>24</b><br><b>USHER TEAM:</b><br>Jim Pensak & Bubba Vance – Team 1<br><br><b>10:00 a.m. HLCW meeting &amp; Bible Study at the Church</b><br><i>NEWS ARTICLES DUE</i>                          | <b>25</b><br><b>9:00 a.m. HLCW Quilting at the church</b>                                       | <b>26</b><br>9-11 am FW Food Shelf at FST<br><b>12:10-1:00 HS Release</b><br><b>1:50-3:00 Elem. Release</b><br><b>6:00 Confirmation</b> | <b>27</b>                                                | <b>28</b><br><b>1-3 pm Pastor's Office Hours</b>                                                                                           | <b>Notes:</b> |

# SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY



## FEBRUARY 2

*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](mailto:draseal@aol.com)) by the 24<sup>th</sup> of the month.*

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Carl Fiskness, Pastor

*Sunday School & Worship 9:30 a.m.*

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