

The Beacon of Hope

The Newsletter of Hope Lutheran Church

December 2018

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PASTOR'S CORNER

Advent

Greetings members of Hope Lutheran Church. The seasons pass by so quickly. We are moving from fall and harvest time, which includes thanksgiving, into winter, advent season and preparation for Christmas. The word "advent" is derived from the Latin word *adventus* meaning coming. During the 4th and 5th centuries in Spain and Gaul it was a time of preparation for baptism of new Christians at the January feast of Epiphany, the time associated with the visit of the Magi to the baby Jesus.

During this time Christians would spend 40 days in penance, prayer and fasting to prepare for this celebration. By the 6th century Roman Christians tied advent to the coming of Christ but not to his first coming at Christmas but rather His second coming in the clouds as judge of the world. It was not until the middle ages that the Advent season became linked to Christ's first coming at Christmas. *(continued page 3)*

Hope Lutheran Church Women



December's Bible study based on selected verses from Proverbs is titled "Finding Wisdom". Much of the book of Proverbs refers to wisdom, comparing it to the results of lack of wisdom. We cannot acquire wisdom all by ourselves, but rely on wise men and women who lived before us, as well as mentors living among us. Join the discussion on Tuesday, December 11 at 10:00 A.M. at the church. All women are welcome.

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COMMITTEE REPORTS

HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES October 21, 2018

Members Present: Susan Coccie, Mark Johnsen, Pat Seredinski, Rob Benson, Pastor John Burgess, Administrator Jeff Kletscher.
Guest: Grace Autio **Absent:** Dean Fries

Pastor Burgess opened with Prayer.

Meeting called to order at 11:06 AM by Mark Johnsen.

Grace Autio shared that a small group will be praying for our congregation on a regular basis. Pastor Burgess commented on the need for "Prayer Warriors".

Motion by Susan Coccie, 2nd by Pat Seredinski to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

Secretaries Report

September 16, 2018 Council Minutes – Motion by Susan Coccie, 2nd by Rob Benson to approve minutes as submitted. Motion carried.

Treasurers Report

Reviewed financial report. Motion by Mark Johnsen, 2nd by Pat Seredinski to approve the Treasurers report as submitted. Motion carried.

Pastors Report: Pastor John provided a written report and verbally highlighted several items. Some of the items highlighted included: Meeting with Floodwood

Ministerium, BRTA Graduation Oct 5-6 in Des Moines, LCMC Annual Meeting in Des Moines, donated old samples of ReClaim hymnals to a congregation in New York, elected to the Board of the Epiphany District, and successful ordination and installation service.

Administrator's Report Jeff's report was provided in packet. CCLI reporting period ended and all data submitted. XEROX copier will be removed soon.

Committee Reports

Christian Education and Youth – Discussion on a fundraising activity that would consist of a presentation on Feed Sack Clothing. Presentation would be made at County Fairs which choose to hire the group (\$750 day/ \$1400 two days). Jeff shared that drivers would be covered by their own auto insurance. Church Mutual underwriting would have to review entire presentation and have photos of exhibits to determine insurance cost. Cost of approximately \$25+ for adding an additional insured to our policy if required.

Committee will continue to explore the fundraiser and try to judge the interest of youth and their parents. Supper scheduled for Monday, October 29 at 6:00 PM to do that.

Youth will be selling wreaths at the Fall Bazaar.

Outreach Committee – Needs additional members. Contact Rob, Jan or Pastor if interested. Considering inviting Basketball teams to church before games for "carbo loading" meal.

Building Committee – Mice in kitchen.

Quilting – 10 quilts completed.

Old Business

Church Steeple update – Mark reported it is advertised on Craigslist.

Church Security – Jeff purchased small first aid kits for upstairs and basement. Jeff and Mark will work on AED battery replacement.

New Business

Christmas in the Campground – We were asked to host Christmas in the Campground on November 19. Consensus was to agree to host that evening.

Thanksgiving Service – No Thanksgiving Eve or Thanksgiving Day service this year.

Globe Offering – November globe offering will be for the Community Christmas Dinner.

Next Meeting – Tuesday, November 20, 2018 at 6:00 PM.

Mark Johnsen closed with Prayer.

Meeting adjourned at 12:15 PM.

HLCW (Continued from page 1)

HLCW Meeting November 13, 2018

The meeting opened at 11:00 a.m. Following the Bible study, with nine members present.

President Grace Autio opened the meeting with a prayer. She passed around a letter from the missionary Juhl family who had spent several weeks in Kenya this year.

(continued page 3)

HLCW (Continued from page 2)

Minutes of the October meeting were published in the Beacon of Hope, and upon motion by Susan Coccie, seconded by Jan Benson, were approved by the members.

Jeanette Johnsen's treasurer report showed a starting balance of \$288.80 as of Sept. 10, and after income and expenses, including \$1,680 from apple pie sales, a balance of \$1,720.05, and a savings balance of \$636.07. After designated funds of \$1,744.69, the total available funds is \$611.43. The report was approved upon motion by Carolyn Hosking, seconded by Ann Lundstrom and a vote of all in favor.

Under old business, Grace thanked everyone for all the help with the apple pie project and in advance for all the effort put in for the annual Christmas Bazaar and dinner set for Wednesday evening of this week.

Under New Business, Hope release time teachers are asking for HLCW to supply treats for the approximate fifteen students. Jeanette reported that Clothing Etc. plans to contribute \$200 to each of the five local churches, which will probably take care of the teachers' request.

Cookie Day will be on Dec. 9 this year with Rebecca Circle in charge. Everyone will be asked to bring four dozen cookies that day, packed about four in a zip-lock bag for packing in many containers which will be distributed to the list of homebound throughout the Floodwood area. It was agreed to also send cookies to the Lifehouse

in Duluth again as well as Riverview Manor here in Floodwood.

It was also agreed that HLCW will collect items for the crisis shelter and women's shelter in Duluth which will be brought and placed under our Christmas tree. Jeanette will have the list of items needed for this project.

There being no other business, Grace declared the meeting adjourned at 11:30.

Nancy Raihala, Secretary

QUILTING



No quilting this month, but we will resume on January 22nd 2019.

WORD FROM PASTOR (Continued from Page 1)

Today we balance the two elements of remembrance and anticipation. The first two Sundays in Advent look forward to Christ's second coming and the last two Sunday's look backward to remember Christ's first coming. As part of our celebration during this time we incorporate the lighting of candles of the advent wreath. The advent wreath was first developed in Germany in 1839 by a Lutheran minister working at a children's mission when he created a wreath out of an old wagon wheel with twenty small red candles on the rim and four large white candles inside the ring. The red candles were lit on weekdays and the white candles on

Sundays. Eventually the advent wreath was made up of evergreens symbolizing everlasting life in the midst of winter and death. The circle structure reminds us of God's unending love and eternal life He makes possible.



Candles are nestled in the evergreen wreath with four candles around a central white candle. One candle is lit each of the four Sundays in Advent with the central candle lit on Christmas to celebrate Jesus' birth. Often the first, second and fourth are purple or blue with the third candle being rose colored. The candles are lit representing Christ, the light of the world. It is only in the shadow of advent that the miracle of Christmas can be fully understood and appreciated, since it is only in the light of Christmas that the Christian life makes any sense. It is between the fulfilled promise of Christ's first coming and the yet-to-be-fulfilled promise of His second coming, that we all are preparing for while we are waiting. It is my prayer that you will come and join us this advent season and Christmas as we celebrate the comings of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

May God richly bless you this Advent Season.

Pastor John

HLCW (Continued from page 3)

COOKIE CAN SUNDAY

Sunday December 9th will be the day we distribute cookies to the community and also a tray for the residents of Riverview apartments. Please bring 4 dozen cookies wrapped 3 or 4 to a pack. The rest will be delivered to Lifehouse for their Christmas party. The Rebecca Circle will pack the cookie cans. If anyone has time to help deliver them, please let them know during coffee time.

INGATHERING FOR THE BETHANY CRISIS SHELTER

Included is the "Wish List" from the Bethany Crisis Shelter in Duluth. It looks like there are a lot of needs for teens, which could be too costly for some. Perhaps two people could combine to purchase an item. Please do not leave gift cards at the church — give them to a member of the women's group for safe keeping. All items should be at the church on or before December 16th.

- Pool cues (sticks)
- Bowling gift cards (Skyline bowling alley)
- Movie gift cards
- Target & Walmart gift cards
- Adventure Zone gift cards

- Teen boy sweat pants/joggers
- Teen boy t-shirts
- Teen boy basketball shorts
- Teen boy plus size sweat pants/joggers
- Teen boy plus size t-shirts
- Teen girl sweat pants/joggers
- Teen girl t-shirts

- Teen girl plus size sweat pants/joggers
- Teen girl plus size t-shirts
- Teen girl plus size pajamas

- Little boy boxer briefs in sizes 3T – 5T (no tighty-whities please)
- Little girl panties in sizes 2T-5T

- Melamine cereal/soup bowls
- forks
- spoons

SHARK vacuum

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FALL BAZAAR UPDATE



Thank you to everyone who worked to make our bazaar a success, especially LuAnn and the Mary Circle. Thank you to all who donated baked goods and new items.

So far over \$900.00 has been deposited, with items purchased for the meal yet to be paid. Christmas and other cards are still available. See Jeanette if interested.



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD



Members of the Hope Lutheran Church collected 31 shoe boxes filled with items for the Samaritan's Purse, Operation Christmas Child. The boxes will be sent to needy children around the world. Pastor John Burgess and the children laid hands on the boxes and prayed over them. A financial contribution of \$451.09 was sent Operation Christmas Child (from globe offering).



Worship and Music Committee Meeting

Worship and Music Committee will meet Thursday, December 20th at 9:30 am. We welcome new participants in the group. Suggestions for hymns/music can be submitted to Jeannette or Pastor John before that day.

PRAYER REQUEST DECEMBER 2018



For those who are ill or struggling

Dinah	Lorraine	Joy G.	Linda	Phil
Sadie	Danette	Coach	Gary	Dion
Frances	Grace W.	Lois	Nick	Carole
Theresa	Joy C.	Willa	Jack	Mark

Those suffering from natural disasters
Spiritual healing and salvation for our family and friends

For those in the military

David Shafer
Damien Autio
Owen Seredinski
Cody Farrell

For places where wars and conflict take place

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
Robert & Ulla Suhonen
Vision Petrozavodsk
Judy Yund and Bethel Hospital
Peace*Love*Haiti
Madagascar Mission Project

For our congregation and Church Council
Pastor Julie
For Pastor Carl, Jodi, and Greta
Floodwood Police Department Officers and all law enforcement officers

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 3 Jordan Romanek
- 4 Carole Ahlgren
- 5 Carolyn Hosking
- 6 Johanna Abell
Cecilia Abell
- 10 Tony Speece
- 12 Danielle (Tollgaard) White
- 17 Courtney Young
John Hutchinson
- 19 John Seredinski Jr.
- 26 Bubba Vance
- 27 Tanya Johnson
- 29 McKennah Keil
- 30 Lois Hendrickson
Lindsey Rosemore
- 31 Alex Larson

**DECEMBER
ANNIVERSARIES**

- 19 Bob & Joyce Andrews
- 25 Bob & Carolyn Hosking
(’60)

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Rae Rosemore
Deacon Laine
- 6 Elbert Holmes
- 12 Liz Thom
- 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)

**FOR SALE
CHURCH STEEPLE**



\$500.00
**CONTACT MARK
JOHNSEN**

CARD OF THANKS

Dear Pastor John and the Folks at Hope Lutheran Church,
Thanks so much for the gift of Reclaim hymnals for us to use. What a generous gesture on your part! May our God continue to “equip you with every good thing to do his will. And may He accomplish in us what is pleasing in His sight through Jesus Christ, to Whom be glory forever and ever.” Hebrews 13:21
I know that God has great plans for Hope Lutheran and Christ the Sheperd as well. May we be found faithful to follow!
Blessings in Christ,
Pastor Colleen Quirion
Christ the Sheperd Lutheran Church
Schoharie New York

(Note: These were sample copies of the Reclaim hymnal that we were not using.)

**HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH
GIVING**

General Fund Giving

October 28	\$ 553.50
November 4	\$3141.57
November 11	\$1229.50
November 18	\$ 965.00

Globe

Total for Operation Christmas Child
\$ 459.01

(check to Samaritans Purse)

Christmas Dinner Support	
November 18	\$ 25.00

Donation from Clothing Etc. for SS & RR	\$ 200.00
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NEEDED

COUNCIL MEMBERS

There will be 3 Church Council positions open. Please prayerfully consider serving in this way.

December 2018

HOPE LUTHERAN PLANNER

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	
	USHER TEAM: Bob Hosking & Dale Rauvola					1
2 9:30 Worship & Sun.Sch. 10:45 Fellowship	3 USHER TEAM: Rob Benson & Bubba Vance 8:30-Noon- Pastor's office hours	4	5 Religious Release 11:23-Noon-HS 1:00-1:45-Elem.	6 9-10:30 AM Ruby's Pantry @ Arrowhead Town Hall	7	8
9 9:30 Worship & Sun.Sch. 10:45 Fellowship <i>Cookie Can Sunday & tree decorating</i> Church Council Meeting	10 USHER TEAM: Don Rosemore & Tim Tollgaard 8:30-Noon- Pastor's office hours	11 10:00 AM HCLW Bible Study and Meeting	12 9-11 AM FW Food Shelf at FST Religious Release 11:23-Noon-HS 1:00-1:45-Elem. 2:30 Boy Scouts	13	14	15
16 9:30 Worship & Youth Christmas Program 10:45 Fellowship <i>Donations for Bethany Crisis Shelter due</i>	17 USHER TEAM: John Seredinski & Bryan Hutchinson 8:30-Noon- Pastor's office hours	18	19 Religious Release 11:23-Noon-HS 1:00-1:45-Elem.	20 9:30 Music and Worship Committee meeting	21	22 News Items due for newsletter
23 9:30 Worship & Sun.Sch. 10:45 Fellowship	24 USHER TEAM: Dean Fries & Jeff Kletscher NO Pastor's office hours 5:00 Christmas Eve Service	25	26	27	28	29
30 9:30 Worship & Sun.Sch. 10:45 Fellowship	31 USHER TEAM: Dave Zieroth & Mark Johnsen NO Pastor's office hours	Looking Ahead – Annual Meeting, Sunday January 20 following worship service. Potluck to follow. All Annual Meeting reports should be submitted to Jeff no later than Sunday, January 6, 2019. Email is preferred to hopefldwd7@gmail.com or jeffkletscher@yahoo.com				

SUNDAY COFFEE TEAMS

December

Leader: Roy & Grace Autio
Dale & Mary Rauvola
Ann & Dave Bolstad



January

Leader: Pat & John Seredinski
Bubba & Sue Vance
Jan & Rob Benson

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.*

Hope Lutheran Church
401 Highway 73
P.O. Box 288
Floodwood, MN 55736
(218) 476-2259
Hopefldwd7@gmail.com

Contact Pastor John Burgess
(218) 476-2259 (Church) or
(419) 571-0299 for pastoral care
Sunday School & Worship 9:30 a.m.

Hope Lutheran Church
P.O. Box 288
Floodwood, MN 55736

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED