



The Beacon of Hope

The Newsletter of Hope Lutheran Church JANUARY 2018

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WORD FROM PASTOR

A Blessed and Prosperous New Year to You and Yours In 2018!

May it be filled with many adventures.

January is a tough month for many of us. It's hard to transition back into a routine after the excitement of the holiday season. Our lives can seem pretty boring-even empty, like the spot where the Christmas tree was. What do you put there now?

Dark winter days don't help our mood, either. It seems that all we want to do is hibernate like a bear and wait out Spring.

However, there is much we could be about if we choose, as we begin the New Year. Some of you will resolve to read the Bible in entirety in 2018, perhaps for the first time. If you need a plan on how to do that, please let me know. If you're not quite up to that challenge, can I suggest a very attainable one; 15 minutes daily in the Word of God, and 15 minutes daily in prayer? Select the time of day (or night) that you're most productive, because we want to give our very best to God.

(Continued on Page 4)

HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH WOMEN

Bible Study and Meeting

“The War Within” is the topic for January’s women’s Bible study. The Bible reference is James 4: 1-10. We will discuss conflict within the congregation. Why do Christians spend time arguing among themselves? James hopes that if we understand the cause of our quarrels, we will be more open to the cure that God offers. Where does our own congregation stand when it comes to conflict within? Join the discussion on Tuesday, January 9th at 10:00 AM. All women are welcome. *(Continued on Page 4)*

Committee Reports

Hope Lutheran Church Minutes of Council Meeting Floodwood, MN

December 14, 2017

Present: Administrator Jeff Kletscher, Mark Johnsen, Elvi Tollgaard, Lonna Hutchinson, Susan Coccie, Pat Seredinski, Pastor Julie Gellert, Rob Benson.

Meeting was called to order by President Mark Johnsen at 6:00 pm. and opened with prayer.

AGENDA

A motion made by Coccie to approve the agenda with three additions, second by Tollgaard.

REPORTS

Secretary: Motion by Coccie to approve the minutes of the November 16, 2017 meeting, second by Seredinski. Motion carried.

Financial: Motion by Benson, second by Tollgaard to approve the November financial report. Motion carried.

Pastor: Report given.

Christian Education and Youth: Movie night went over well with the youth taking care of the refreshments. Release time traveled to Riverview apartments for caroling. A meeting with parents of those who will be confirmed to take place on December 17th after worship.

Outreach: Traveling to Lifehouse on December 17th.

Community & Technology: No report.

Building Committee: Parsonage work completed. Purchasing shades for the Sanctuary on hold for now; could be the frosted glass maybe enough by itself.

Befrienders: 17 cards were sent out. Pastor Julie and Elsie Tollgaard traveled to the Villa Vista in Cromwell to visit.

Quilters: No report. Quilting will resume in January.

Administrator: Reports for Annual Meeting due Sunday January 7, 2018. Email to Jeff if possible. Roy Autio retiring from ushering after 60 years!! Bryan Hutchinson will be filling in that position.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Annual Meeting set for January 28, 2018 following the Service. Potluck to follow the meeting.
 2. Decided to cancel the Chosen People Ministries for Maundy Thursday.
 3. Shield 616 dedication will take place on a Sunday in January. More info to follow.
 4. A motion made by Coccie, second by Benson to pay the Administrator for 2015 tax work.
 5. Church security was discussed again. A motion made by Hutchinson, second by Coccie to send \$50 for the Church Security Seminar to be held in Hibbing on Saturday January 27th. Any person interested in attending can do so as \$50 covers any member who would like to attend.
1. Budget Meeting scheduled for January 14, 2017 after worship.
 2. Discussed changing Sunday Worship to 10:00am. Will be brought up at the Annual Meeting.
 3. We will be participating in the LCMC "3 Days of Prayer" January 2-4 watch the bulletin for more info.
 4. The Council will be in need of 4 new council members this year. Please consider filing for one of those positions.
 5. On a motion made by Hutchinson, second by Tollgaard the copier will be used for the Sax-Zim Winter Birding Festival. Copies to be paid for by the festival.
 6. A motion made by Johnsen, second by Coccie to support the following missions. Suhonen's \$2000, Ekka Family @ World Mission Prayer League \$2000 and Lutheran Social Services \$1000.
 7. Snow removal was discussed. Rob Benson has for the past 12 years done most of the snow removal. He would like another volunteer to come forward and share the responsibility.

NEW BUSINESS

Next two meetings: January 18th and February 22nd at 6:00 pm. Globe offering in January will go towards the Military Biblesticks. Closing prayer given by Pastor Julie.

Meeting adjourned.

Lonna Hutchinson,
Secretary

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION & YOUTH & FAMILY COMMITTEE

Hope Lutheran Youth

The Youth of Hope Lutheran have been trying to raise money for their Quake Zone trip in the spring and other expenses that may occur. At the Bazaar the Youth set-up a new and used table. The girls made bracelets and donated some of their rummage as did some of the adults. They did really good at the Bazaar and decided to keep the table going for a few weeks.

On Saturday December 9th, 4 youth, Hazel, Pastor Julie and under the expert guidance of Leigha, made spruce Christmas baskets and table center pieces.



It was a beautiful day and with the energetic youth working on this project, they came up with awesome baskets and centerpiece.



Most of these baskets sold that Sunday, so be sure to check out the Youth table every Sunday; you never know what they will add. The youth will continue with their new and used table and will be selling candy bars. Candy bars make good stocking stuffers!!!!

Thank you for all the support to Hope Lutheran Youth.



The gang's all here 😊 Madison Kuehl, Joey Bennett, Jayden Laine, Morgan Kuehl and Brooke Johnson decorating the church Christmas tree

Sunday School Christmas Program

On December 10, during the Sunday morning church service, the Sunday School/Youth presented their Christmas Program, "The Greatest Gift of All". The children brought gifts for the Bethany Crisis Shelter and the Life House, gifts for boys and girls less fortunate, so they too, will enjoy Christmas. Christmas is a time for sharing and the children came Sunday morning to share with their "Loving Hearts" the story of the gifts wrapped in bright paper as the children gave their green, red, white wrapped gifts to Jesus.

A number of songs were sung by the Sunday School/Youth. The congregation joined in the celebration by helping out with Christmas hymns.



Narrators: Amelia Aho, Brooke Johnson, Divia Hayes and Ree



A big hit of the program was "Happy Birthday Jesus" a solo by Alexis Hutchinson and then the entire Sunday School joining in.



The group ended the presentation by singing "Silent Night" and the congregation joined in. Closing prayer by Pastor Julie and the children and congregation proclaiming Jesus' birth by singing "Go Tell It on the Mountain."

Call Committee

The Call Committee will meet during coffee time after the church service on January 7th.

WORD FROM PASTOR
(Continued from Page 1)

Some of you will resolve to follow an exercise routine. The Apostle Paul told Timothy that physical training is of some value, but medical research has shown that physical fitness is directly correlated to better mental health, so it must be of great value for that reason alone! If you are avoiding outside physical activity for safety reasons, may I help with that? I'll be playing a low impact exercise DVD for anyone who would like to exercise with me on Monday and Wednesday from 12:45-1:30 pm and on Tues and Thurs from 6:45-7:30 pm. The only equipment needed for the routine is a resistance band and comfortable shoes.

Another mood elevator during this season is basketball! There are many home games on Floodwood School's schedule to attend, so we don't have to be isolated at home. Let's congregate court side!

The church season that we begin in January is called Epiphany, which is defined as a sudden consciousness or understanding; theologically, in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. That's very important to us as Christians, because we always want to increase in our knowledge of Him.

In addition, please pray with purpose for an Epiphany of His Perfect Will in your life in 2018, and resolve to yield to whatever it is +.

<<(>>>><
Pastor J.

May Happy Times Decorate
your Holiday Season
May Warm Special Memories
Brighten your New Year
May the Wonder of Christmas
be with you always!

-anonymous, written in
gel pen on an inside
window at a Wells
Fargo branch on Kodiak
Island, AK

January 2017

HLCW (Continued from Page 1)

HLCW Meeting
December 12, 2017

The meeting was called to order at 11:15 following the Bible Study. President Grace Autio presided. Nine members were present. Minutes of the November 14th meeting were approved as published in the Beacon of Hope, upon motion by Susan Coccie, seconded by Carolyn Hosking.

Jeanette Johnsen's treasurer's report showed pie profits of \$1,461.00 and profits from the Christmas bazaar of \$1,296.66, for a total of \$2,757.66. The profits from these projects are \$588.00 more than realized last year.

Grace reported that all 210 apple pies have been sold. It was also reported that cookies designated to the Duluth Lighthouse will be delivered by the Hope youth and Carol Ahlgren will be asked to deliver donated items to the Bethany Crisis Center in Duluth.

As HLCW has more funds than usual in its account at this time of the year, a discussion was held to decide what projects would benefit the most with some HLCW aid.

Jeanette noted that the \$500 roof refund was added to the youth camper fund, and the youth group adds to that with fundraisers during the year, and as Quake Zone is coming up again in March 2018, the youth will need more funds to participate in that. Pastor Julie remarked that Quake Zone for Youth includes hotel rooms and the church may be called upon to help fill out the expenses. Youth families will be asked to contribute \$50.00 towards expenses.

It was moved by Jeanette that the HLCW contribute \$1000.00 for the youth Quake Zone project this year, and give \$1,757.66 to the Hope General Fund. The motion was seconded by Anne Lundstrom, and all voted in favor. There being no other business, Grace declared the meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

Nancy Raihala, Secretary

Quilting



Quilting will resume on Tuesday, January 23 at 9:00 in the church basement. All are welcome.

VOLUNTEER(S) WANTED

1. ***Sunday School teachers***
2. ***Release Time teachers***
REGULAR TEACHERS
AND SUBS ARE
NEEDED. PLEASE PRAY
FOR THIS VERY
IMPORTANT
MINISTRY

**ANNUAL
CONGREGATIONAL
MEETING**



**JANUARY
28, 2018
AFTER THE
CHURCH
SERVICE**

**FOLLOWED BY
POTLUCK
LUNCH**

**LCMC THREE DAYS
OF PRAYER**



We will be participating in LCMC's annual **3 Days of Prayer** Jan 2-4. Not only is prayer a great way to start the New Year, but it is a positive alternative to a term that we've heard recently "3 Days of Rage".

We'll have activities each of the three days; please attend as many of them as you are able. When we're a church on our knees in prayer, great things are possible, because prayer is an action not a passive verb!

Day 1: Jan 2nd (Tues) This is a day focused on **confession**. Too often, we have made our lives, our relationships-sadly, the church too-in our own image. The church belongs to our leader, Jesus, not us. Let's gather to lay down the things that allow us to do that. We will have a **service of Confession and Forgiveness at noon and at 6:30 pm.**

Day 2: Jan 3rd (Wed) This is a day of **petition**. We will go on a **Prayer Walk** in the neighborhood, surrounding our area churches and our school in prayer. Afterwards, we will gather in the Fellowship Hall for cider and hot chocolate. **Please meet at the church at 6:30 pm.**

Day 3: Jan 4th (Thurs) This is a day of **vision**. A Call Committee member will present highlights of the Congregational Profile that will be used to Call Hope's next pastor, and participants will have the

opportunity to share their vision for Hope Lutheran Church's future-in 1, 5, and 10 years. **We will meet in the sanctuary at 6:30 pm for this discussion.**

**ANNUAL MEETING
REPORTS DUE**

All Annual Meeting reports should be submitted to Jeff no later than Sunday, January 7, 2018. Email is preferred to hopefldwd7@gmail.com or jeffkletscher@yahoo.com

**COUNCIL MEMBERS
NEEDED**

There will be four Church Council positions open for election at the annual meeting. If you are interested in serving on the Church Council please contact Mark Johnsen, Jeff Kletscher, or a member of the Council.

**SNOW REMOVAL
REPLACEMENT NEEDED**



Rob Benson has been clearing (shoveling, sweeping, etc.) the church sidewalks for over 12 years. Rob has let the Church Council know that he wants to retire from the position. If you are interested, talk with Rob or Jeff about the position and what the job involves.

ENVELOPES



*My Weekly
Tithes and Offerings*

Amount \$ _____

Name _____ Date _____

If you need offering envelopes please let Jeff know.

CHURCH SECURITY SEMINAR

Members of the Church Council will be attending a Church Security Seminar on Saturday, January 27 at the Hibbing Alliance Church in Hibbing (9:00AM – Noon). Seminar presenter is Lt. Robert Shene of the Duluth Police Department. If you have an interest in Church security and are interested in attending the seminar, please let Jeff know so he can provide you additional information and get you registered.

USHER SCHEDULE

Consistent rotation: Usher every 6th Sunday.

Cover 1 week (Monday to Sunday), then 5 weeks off.

Roy Autio has retired after 60 years of ushering. Thanks for your many years of service Roy!!! We welcome Bryan Hutchinson to the schedule.

Marion Shafer has indicated he is willing to substitute if needed. Give him a call if needed. 476-2145.

USHER SCHEDULE	January 1, 2018 to July 29, 2018
Monday -- Sunday	
January 1 – January 7	Rob Benson & Bubba Vance
January 8 – January 14	Don Rosemore & Tim Tollgaard
January 15 – January 21	John Seredinski & Bryan Hutchinson
January 22 – January 28	Dean Fries & Jeff Kletscher
January 29 – February 4	Dave Zieroth & Mark Johnsen
February 5 – February 11	Bob Hosking & Dale Rauvola
February 12 – February 18	Rob Benson & Bubba Vance
February 19 – February 25	Don Rosemore & Tim Tollgaard
February 26 – March 4	John Seredinski & Bryan Hutchinson
March 5 – March 11	Dean Fries & Jeff Kletscher
March 12 – March 18	Dave Zieroth & Mark Johnsen
March 19 – March 25	Bob Hosking & Dale Rauvola
March 26 – April 1	Rob Benson & Bubba Vance
April 2 – April 8	Don Rosemore & Tim Tollgaard
April 9 – April 15	John Seredinski & Bryan Hutchinson
April 16 – April 22	Dean Fries & Jeff Kletscher
April 23 – April 29	Dave Zieroth & Mark Johnsen
April 30 – May 6	Bob Hosking & Dale Rauvola
May 7 – May 13	Rob Benson & Bubba Vance
May 14 – May 20	Don Rosemore & Tim Tollgaard
May 21 – May 27	John Seredinski & Bryan Hutchinson
May 28 – June 3	Dean Fries & Jeff Kletscher
June 4 – June 10	Dave Zieroth & Mark Johnsen
June 11 – June 17	Bob Hosking & Dale Rauvola
June 18 – June 24	Rob Benson & Bubba Vance
June 25 – July 1	Don Rosemore & Tim Tollgaard
July 2 – July 8	John Seredinski & Bryan Hutchinson
July 9 – July 15	Dean Fries & Jeff Kletscher
July 16 – July 22	Dave Zieroth & Mark Johnsen
July 23 – July 29	Bob Hosking & Dale Rauvola

GOD GIVES ME LAUGHTER

A priest, a minister and a rabbi want to see who's best at his job. So they each go into the woods, find a bear, and attempt to convert it. Later they get together. The priest begins:

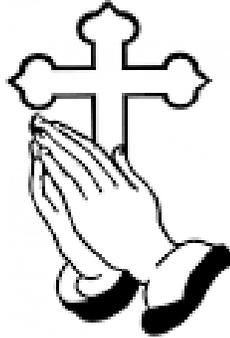
"When I found the bear, I read to him from the Catechism and sprinkled him with holy water. Next week is his First Communion."

"I found a bear by the stream," says the minister, "and preached God's holy word. The bear was so mesmerized that he let me baptize him."

They both look down at the rabbi, who is lying on a gurney in a body cast.

"Looking back," he says, "maybe I shouldn't have started with the circumcision." *From Reader's Digest*

PRAYER REQUEST JANUARY 2018



For those who are ill or struggling

Dinah	Lorraine	Joy G.	Mary	Monica
Sadie	Danette	Coach	Gary	Phil
Frances	Grace W.	Lois	Nick	
Theresa	Joy C.	Willa	Linda	

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

For those in the military

Michael Thom
David Shafer
Damien Autio

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, the Call Committee and Church Council
For Pastor Carl, Jodi, and Greta

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)

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Bradley Hutton
- 3 Kalen Kuehl
- 7 Jaimen Davis
- 8 John Seredinski
- 11 Greta Fiskness
- 15 Jill Fries
Shirley Johnson

17 Barbara Larson-Peterson

25 Judy Dressely

FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

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

GLOBE OFFERING



The Globe Offering in January will be used to purchase Military BibleSticks.

HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH GIVING

General Fund Giving

- November 22 \$ 170.00
- November 26 \$ 506.55
- December 3 \$2767.00
- December 10 \$1719.55
- December 17 \$2039.50

Globe Christmas Dinner
\$ 307.00

Youth
\$ 476.50

Memorial
In Memory of Bubs Nelson
from LuAnn Heikkila
\$ 125.00 (Youth Account)

CARD OF THANKS

Thank you to the Fries family for the donation of the beautiful Christmas tree that graces our sanctuary.



Thanks to everyone who donated and/or volunteered to make the Community Christmas party a success.

Thank you for the generous response to the request for items for the Lifehouse and Bethany Crisis Shelter, and to the Ahlgrens for delivering the donations designated for the shelter.

January 2018 HOPE LUTHERAN PLANNER

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 USHER TEAM: Rob Benson & Bubba Vance	2 Noon & 6:30 Service of Confession & Forgiveness	3 Religious Release: 11:23-12:00 -High School; 1:00-1:45 – Elementary; 2:30-3:30 Confirmation Class 6:30 Prayer Walk	4 9-10:30 AM Ruby’s Pantry @ Arrowhead Town Hall 6:30 Visioning		
LCMC Three Days of Prayer						
7 9:30 Worship & Sun.Sch. 10:45 Fellowship Call Committee <i>meeting</i> <i>Annual Meeting</i> <i>reports due to Jeff</i>	8 USHER TEAM: Don Rosemore & Tim Tollgaard	9 10:00 HLCW Bible Study and Meeting	10 9-11 AM FW Food Shelf at FST Religious Release: 11:23-12:00 -High School; 1:00-1:45 – Elementary; 2:30-3:30 Confirmation Class			
14 9:30 Worship & Sun.Sch. 10:45 Fellowship Budget Committee meeting following service	15 USHER TEAM: John Seredinski & Bryan Hutchinson		17 Religious Release: 11:23-12:00 -High School; 1:00-1:45 – Elementary; 2:30-3:30 Confirmation Class	18 9:30 AM Worship and Music committee 6:00 PM Church Council Meeting		
21 9:30 Worship & Sun.Sch. 10:45 Fellowship	22 USHER TEAM: Dean Fries & Jeff Kletscher	23 9:00 HLCW quilting in church basement	24 9-11 AM FW Food Shelf at FST Religious Release: 11:23-12:00 -High School; 1:00-1:45 – Elementary; 2:30-3:30 Confirmation Class			
28 9:30 Worship & Sun.Sch. 10:45 Annual meeting with potluck to follow	29 USHER TEAM: Dave Zieroth & Mark Johnsen	30	31 Religious Release: 11:23-12:00 -High School; 1:00-1:45 – Elementary; 2:30-3:30 Confirmation Class	Looking Ahead February 22 – 6:00 PM February Church Council Meeting		

SUNDAY COFFEE TEAMS

January

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



February

Leader: Burt & Cory Suonvieri
Floyd & Carole Ahlgren
Rosie & Phil Speece
LaVerne Hutton

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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Hopefldwd7@gmail.com

Contact Julie Gellert, Pastor
(218) 476-2259 (Church) or
(907) 654-4625 for Pastoral Care
Sunday School & Worship 9:30 a.m.

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED