



The Beacon of Hope

The Newsletter of Hope Lutheran Church JANUARY 2015

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A Word From Pastor Carl

FIRST COMMUNION CLASS

Until the end of the 1960's in the Lutheran Church, first communion was connected with the completion of confirmation. Formal study of the sacrament was considered a pre-requisite for partaking in the Lord's Supper. In the early 1970's confirmation began to change. In the predecessor bodies to the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), less emphasis was placed on memorization of Luther's Small Catechism and first communion became separated from confirmation. Why were the two separated?
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Hope Lutheran Church Women

BIBLE STUDY/BUSINESS MEETING

In January two lessons will be discussed — Numbers 4 on Trustworthiness and 5 on Generosity — under the theme "The Proverbs 31 Woman." We will learn of Rahab from Joshua 2:1-14; Queen Elizabeth I; Jesus as the Good Shepherd; the familiar story of Naomi and Ruth; Mother Teresa; and Jesus as our Redeemer. All women are welcome as we meet at the church January 13th at 10 A.M.

BETHANY CRISIS NURSERY

Thank you to all who brought gifts for the Bethany Crisis Nursery in Duluth, run by Lutheran Social Service. A nice selection of items were brought there December 18th. Cookies were also delivered to Lifehouse, a teen center, for their Christmas party.

QUILTING

The Quilters will meet 9:00 until 3:00. Everyone to know how to sew; come for
(Continued on Page 3)



Tuesday, January 20th, from is welcome. You don't have the fun.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION & YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRY

OUTREACH COMMITTEE PROJECT: HOMEWORK HELP

Homework Help is a new project designed for all students attending Floodwood School, whether in elementary or high school, needing assistance with homework help. The need was initially brought to the attention of the Outreach Committee by the girls' basketball coach due to academic ineligibility of some of the teammates. The Outreach Committee decided to expand the Homework Help to any student and also to provide a supper meal. Wednesdays from 3:15 pm – 7:00 pm was the day and time selected to provide the homework assistance. Volunteer tutors will help the students.



Our first night was December 10th. We would take advantage of the help Wednesdays, we had 16, 24 and 17 Math, Social Studies, College Writing help is requested. We expect to see more upper elementary and junior high students beginning to come after the New Year.

were not sure how many students offered. On three successive students respectively come for help. and Health have been the subjects where

Meals are provided by volunteers. A good, balanced meal is offered because hungry kids cannot learn very well. A light protein snack is offered to kids who come after school and supper is served at 5:00 pm. The students know the expectation that at least one hour will be spent on homework.

We welcome anyone who would like to volunteer to help with either homework or preparing a meal. Since the students are our future in the Floodwood community, we are extending an invitation to everyone in the community who can assist with the Homework Help project.

We will know that this effort is working when we start seeing improved grades and improved academic eligibility.

Word from Pastor Carl (Continued From Page 1) FIRST COMMUNION CLASS

The Roman Catholic Church has traditionally offered first communion to students in second grade. As Lutherans become better acquainted with Catholics, some Lutherans began to imitate the Catholic manner of earlier communion although not embracing the Catholic practices entirely. Many of the congregations of the American Lutheran Church (ALC) and the Lutheran Church in America (LCA) (two of the predecessor bodies to form the ELCA, our congregation's former affiliation) began with greater frequency to hold a separate learning time earlier than confirmation specifically for first communion. This class has typically been open to students starting at the fifth grade. Churches now belonging to LCMC (our present affiliation) and NALC have followed this same, more recent pattern. And while not a majority, a good number of churches in the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod have also taken on this younger practice. However, the Wisconsin Synod, The Evangelical Lutheran Synod, the Free Lutherans, the Lutheran Brethren and the many groups of Apostolic Lutherans have moreover retained the practice of first communion upon completing confirmation.

Personally, I like the traditional practice of a more in-depth study at an older age for learning about the importance of the Lord's Supper. But I can certainly understand how younger Christians can be ready at an earlier age and I am very willing to have a first communion class for fifth grade and up. The class will begin on Sundays during the worship service with Liz Thom leading instruction. I will teach the final class at a different time apart from the worship service hour. All who are interested from the fifth grade and older are invited to attend beginning with the first class on Sunday, January 11 at 9:30 downstairs.

HLCW Meeting December 21, 2014

A brief HLCW meeting was called to order in the church overflow room following the regular church service, by President Grace Autio.

Purpose of the meeting was to transfer funds before the end of the year; and Treasurer Jeanette Johnsen reported that a total of \$2,301.08 was in the fund from our pie sales and the Fall Bazaar.

Jeanette also noted that we have other funds available and could easily round out the amount given to the church.

A motion was made by Lois Hendrickson and seconded by Shirley Johnson, that HLCW transfer the amount of \$2500.00 to the church by the end of the year. The membership voted all in favor and the motion passed.

The meeting adjourned until we reconvene on Tuesday, Jan. 13 before the regular bible study that morning.

Nancy Raihala, Secretary

Card of Thanks

Thanks to:

LuAnn Heikkila for preparing the bazaar dinner.

Hazel Bailey for organizing the Family Fun Night, and directing the Children's Christmas program.

Carole Ahlgren and Grace Autio for making the baptism quilts.

Jeanette Johnsen for being the substitute organist, and for taking care of the alter banners, flowers, and decorations, and pianist for Release Time.

To all those who work with the Religious Release Classes, the Wednesday homework classes, and the Sunday School class.

Liz Thom for leading the Community Choir and the singing at the Riverview Apartments.

To all those who contributed to Operation Christmas Child.

To all who contributed our Cookie Can distribution project.

To Leigha Kuehl for the greenery decorations in front of the church.

UNAPPROVED
HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH
FLOODWOOD, MN
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
DECEMBER 18, 2014

Meeting called to order at 7:05 pm by President Susan Coccie. Pastor Fiskness opened with prayer.

Present: Pastor Carl Fiskness, Bubba Vance, Jen Myles, Marion Shafer, Susan Coccie, Lonna Hutchinson, David Zieroth, Kathy Johnsen. Absent: Rae Rosemore, Carlene Jatkola, Bryan Hutchinson.

AGENDA

MOTION BY BUBBA VANCE, SECOND BY DAVID ZIEROTH TO APPROVE THE AGENDA WITH ADDITIONS. MOTION CARRIED.

REPORTS

Secretary: MOTION BY LONNA HUTCHINSON, SECOND BY BUBBA VANCE TO APPROVE THE NOVEMBER 18, 2014 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES. MOTION CARRIED.

Financial: MOTION BY DAVID ZIEROTH, SECOND BY KATHY JOHNSEN TO APPROVE THE FINANCIAL REPORTS. MOTION CARRIED.

Pastor: Activities report attached. Pastor Fiskness reported Arna Rennan will not be presenting a concert in December.

Youth & Family, Education: There will be no Religious Release or Sunday School classes until school resumes in January; Pastor will begin First Communion classes in January; approximately 6-8 families took advantage of the child care provided on Christmas Shopping Night. Wednesday night homework help is going well with 17-25 students attending. It was decided to ask the Outreach Committee to let the school administration know this help is available and to talk with the other churches in town to seek additional tutors.

Communication & Technology: Susan stated there were 1,870 views of Hope's Facebook page after Christmas program pictures were posted.

Building: Bubba and Brea Vance moved the quilting shelves and supplies to the small classroom and assembled a basketball game in the youth room. John and Nathan Seredinski replaced a switch at the parsonage. Trees still need to be removed from the parsonage yard.

Befrienders: Susan reported the Befrienders have received thank yous and postage stamps from grateful members.

HLCW: The Fall Bazaar had a profit of \$936.00.

Quilters: Will not meet again until January.

OLD BUSINESS

A. Auction – Larry Reedy has agreed to be an auctioneer.

B. Community Christmas Dinner – currently 34 people are signed up.

C. Stewardship Letter – has been distributed.

D. Annual Meeting – scheduled for January 25, 2015, and announcements need to be put in bulletins and the newsletter.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Membership List – By-laws require yearly review of a membership list, but Hope does not have one at this time. It was decided to ask the Outreach Committee to put together an Active list, an Inactive list with a questionnaire for these families, and research a process of record-keeping to keep a membership list current.

B. Funeral Policy – Pastor Fiskness stated changes he is seeing in funeral home services and the difficulties it can create for him and the families involved. MOTION BY BUBBA VANCE, SECOND BY LONNA HUTCHINSON TO APPROVE PASTOR FISKNESS DEVELOPING A HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH FUNERAL POLICY TO DISTRIBUTE TO AREA FUNERAL HOMES OUTLINING EXPECTATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS. MOTION CARRIED. (*Continued on Page 6*)

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C. Augustana District – New Life Lutheran Church in Duluth extended an invitation to area LCMC congregations to attend a presentation outlining their services by the Augustana District on January 17, 2015. Pastor Fiskness thinks Hope should discuss joining this district.

D. Music – Lonna stated she would find it helpful to have a short explanation of the meaning of the hymns we sing in the bulletin. Pastor Fiskness agreed and will begin adding these notes.

E. Rental House – David would like to see upkeep of the rental house budgeted for as it is a good source of income and needs to be taken care of.

GLOBE

The globe offering for January and February will be used for meal expenses associated with Wednesday night homework help.

NEXT MEETINGS

January 20, 2015 at 7:00 pm

February 17, 2015 at 7:00 pm

Kathy Johnsen, Secretary

January Birthdays

- 2 Rae Rosemore
Deacon Laine
- 5 Jennifer Myles
- 6 Elbert Holmes
- 12 Liz Thom
- 15 Lukus Fries
Brady Dahl
Carter Stokke
- 20 TJ Romanek
Gwenevere Grovenburg
- 22 Sara Maki
- 23 Nolan Heikkila
- 27 Dalton Hutchinson
Drake Laine
- 28 Elsie Tollgaard
Jayna Kemp

January Anniversaries

- 3 Jill & Dean Fries
- 28 Dawn & Marion Shafer
(’78)

February Birthdays

- 1 Bradley Hutton
- 3 Kalen Kuehl
- 7 Jaimen Davis

February Anniversaries

- 3 Carole & Floyd Ahlgren (’56)

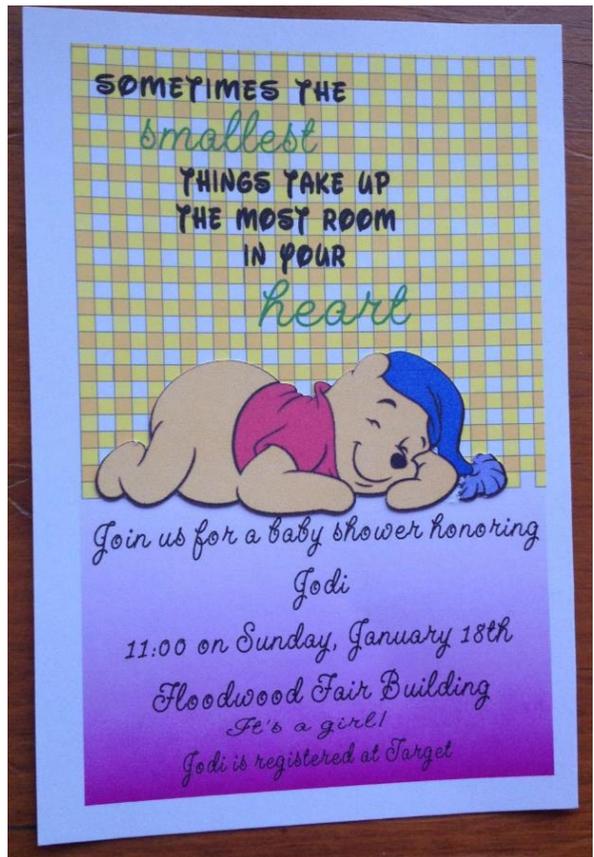


CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

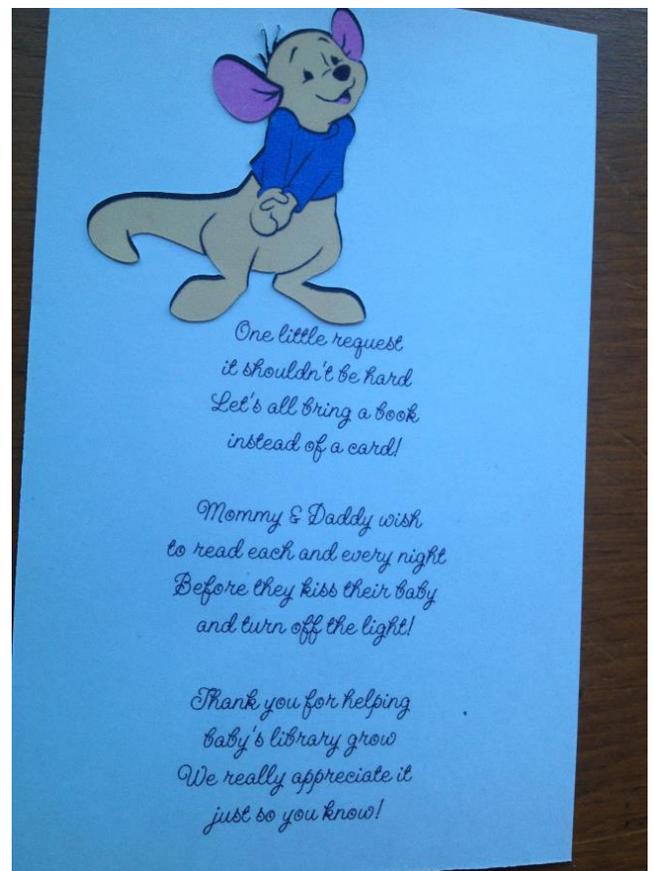




On December 10th, children from the Religious Release Classes sang Christmas songs at the Riverview Manor Apartments.



A Small Town Christmas - Community Christmas Program, was held December 21, 2014, at the New Life Community Church, in Floodwood. The Community Choir was led by Liz Thom.



DECEMBER 2014 GIVING	
GENERAL FUND	
Sunday Offering & Coffee	\$ 16,5423.30
Globe Offering (Christmas Dinner)	\$ 176.00
MEMORIALS	
In memory of loved ones, (placed in General fund, given by: Anonymous)	\$ 1,000.00

~ January 2015 ~
HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH PLANNER

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	USHER: Jeff Kletscher & Dean Fries – Team 5			1 No Ruby's Pantry <i>Name Of Jesus New Year's Day</i>	2 1-3 PM Pastor's Office Hours	3
4 9:30 Worship & Sunday School Baptism of Amelia Aho. Return of stewardship pledges 10:45 Coffee Fellowship Christian Ed & Youth & Fam. Ministry Meeting <i>Second Sunday of Christmas</i>	5 USHER: Marion Shafer & Burt Suonvieri – Team 6	6 1-3 PM Pastor's Office Hours <i>Epiphany</i>	7 Religious Release 12:27 High School 1:50 Elementary 3:15-7:00 Homework help at Hope Lutheran Church 6:00 PM Adult Confirmation	8 7:00 Evangelism & Outreach Meeting	9 1-3 PM Pastor's Office Hours	10
11 9:30 Worship & Sunday School Recognition of the baptism of Cooper Tollgaard & Beginning Class for First Communion 10:45 Coffee Fellowship <i>Baptism of our Lord</i>	12 USHER: Bob Hosking & Dale Rauvola – Team 7	13 10:00 HLCW meeting and Bible Study 1-3 PM Pastor's Office Hours	14 9-11 AM FW Food Shelf at FST Religious Release 12:27 High School 1:50 Elementary 3:15-7:00 Homework help at Hope Lutheran Church 6:00 PM Youth Confirmation	15 9:30 Worship & Music committee	16 10:00 AM Bible Study at Riverview Manor 1-3 PM Pastor's Office Hours	17 2:30-5:00 Augustana district LCMC informational meeting in Duluth at the Kitchi Gammi Club
18 9:30 Worship & Sunday School & First Communion Class 10:45 Coffee Fellowship & Women's baby shower for Jodi Fiskness at the Fair Building	19 USHER: Rob Benson & Wayne Thom – Team 8 7:00 PM Home fellowship Bible Study at parsonage <i>Martin Luther King Jr. Day</i>	20 9:00-3:00 HLCW Quilting 1-3 PM Pastor's Office Hours 6:45 PM Building & Grounds Meeting 7:00 PM Church Council	21 Religious Release 12:27 High School 1:50 Elementary 3:15-7:00 Homework help at Hope Lutheran Church 6:00 PM Youth Confirmation	22	23 1-3 PM Pastor's Office Hours	24
25 9:30 Worship & Sunday School & First Communion Class 10:30 Annual Meeting Potluck to follow	26 USHER: Jim Pensak & Bubba Vance – Team 1	27 1-3 PM Pastor's Office Hours	28 9-11 AM FW Food Shelf at FST Religious Release 12:27 High School 1:50 Elementary 3:15-7:00 Homework help at Hope Lutheran Church 6:00 PM Youth Confirmation	29	30 1-3 PM Pastor's Office Hours	31



ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Sunday, January 25, 2015
following the morning
service

POTLUCK TO FOLLOW

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
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by the 24th of the month.*

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Carl Fiskness, Pastor

Sunday School & Worship 9:30 a.m.

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