

The Beacon of Hope

The Newsletter of Hope Lutheran Church December 2023

Pastor's Corner

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Christmas Blessings to my brothers and sisters in Christ,

We are beginning December with the First Sunday of Advent, December 3, 2023. We will be putting up the Christmas tree and Christmas decorations that Sunday, following the fellowship time. All are invited to come and help. It is a great way to start the Christmas season.



During Advent we will begin to prepare for the celebration of our Lord's birth and the anticipation of His coming again as our Lord and King. As we light the candles of the Advent wreath, we remember that Jesus is the promised light of the world which came 2000 years ago in a stable in Bethlehem, but His light still burns bright in us his followers. May we let that light shine brightly to all we encounter on Christmas season.

This is a season when we reach out in love to others as our ladies will be doing with their cookie can ministry this Sunday, December 10th.

The next Sunday, December 17, the children will tell us the Christmas story in their annual presentation in song and costumes. All are invited to come and share in the joy of this special message. Thank you to all the kids and adults who work so hard to bring this to us each Christmas season. *(Continued on Page 3)*



& HLCW NEWS

Cindy Burgess will lead a discussion on the church season of Advent at the December gathering. The date is Tuesday, December 12th at 10:00 A.M. at the church. All women are welcome. *(Continued on Page 3)*

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Hope Lutheran Church
Council Meeting Minutes

Nothing to Report

Youth

Hope Lutheran Youth will present a Hallelujah Christmas Nativity play December 17th during the 9:30 AM Sunday Morning Service. Prepare your hearts for Christmas with Peace and Joy.

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 3 Jordan Romanek
- 4 Carole Ahlgren
- 5 Carolyn Hosking
- 6 Johanna Abell
Cecilia Abell
- 10 Tony Speece
- 12 Danielle (Tollgaard) White
- 15 Lacey Wojtysiak
- 17 Courtney Young
John Hutchinson
- 19 John Seredinski Jr.
- 26 Bubba Vance
- 27 Tanya Johnson
- 29 McKennah Keil

30 Lindsey Rosemore

31 Alex Larson

DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

25 Bob & Carolyn Hosking
(’60)

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Rae Rosemore
Deacon Laine
- 6 Elbert Holmes
- 15 Lukus Fries
Carter Stokke
- 23 Nolan Heikkila
- 27 Dalton Hutchinson
Drake Laine
- 28 Elsie Tollgaard
Jayna Kemp
- 29 Hazel Bailey
- 30 Shannon Lund
Milee Lund

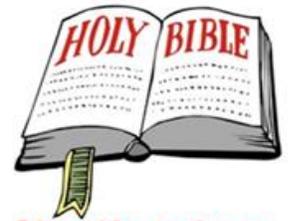
JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

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



Are you in need of
prayer or want to join
the prayer chain?

Contact Jody Messner
(218) 878-0456



Sign Up to be a
Scripture Reader



Sign Up to Serve
Refreshments

**FLOODWOOD
FOOD SHELF**

NEW HOURS:

**2ND WEDNESDAY
12:00-2:00 PM**

**4TH WEDNESDAY
9:00-11:00 AM**

Pastor's Corner (continued from page 1)

The next Sunday, December 24th, we will celebrate with a Christmas Eve candlelight service at 5:00 p.m. There will be no Sunday morning service that day. We will all rejoice together at the retelling of the miracle of Jesus's birth, the most wonderful Christmas present in all of history.

The next day, we celebrate Christmas by sponsoring the community Christmas dinner at the Downtown Floodwood Fair Center. Thank you to all those who make this special gift to Floodwood happen. All are invited to join in and help make this a special Christmas as we reach out to those in our community. Many are alone and in need of the joy of a special meal and time to celebrate Christmas with others.

The last Sunday on December 31st we will gather Sunday morning to celebrate New Year's Eve and the beginning of His mission as Savior when Jesus is presented in the temple. As He starts his mission, we remember that He called us to our mission to go and tell all we meet about Him. Let us make our New Year's resolution to do this boldly in 2024.

May You all have a safe and blessed Christmas Season,

Pastor John



Fifteen Christmas Child shoe boxes were delivered to Mt. Olivet Baptist Church on November 14th.

Thanks to all who participated in this very important ministry.

HLCW (Continued from Page 1)



Quilting

Quilting will not meet in December.



Cookie Can Sunday

Please bring 4 dozen cookies to church to be packed in containers for shut-ins on Sunday December 10th. A tray of cookies will be taken to Riverview also. Please wrap the cookies in packs of 3 or 4 cookies when you bring them in.

The Youth and Tanya Johnson will take the rest of the cookies to the Life House in Duluth for their Christmas party given for homeless teens in Duluth. Thank you for doing that.

If you know of anyone to add to our list, please let Jeanette, Elvi, or Grace know. And thank you for baking the cookies and donating them.



**COMMUNITY
CHRISTMAS
DINNER**

**FREE
MONDAY,
DECEMBER 25
NOON-1:00 PM
DOWNTOWN
FAIR CENTER
FLOODWOOD**

**Come join us for a wonderful meal
and great fellowship.**

December 2023 Hope Lutheran Planner

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 9:30 Worship with communion & Sunday School 10:30 Fellowship Christmas tree decorating NO BIBLE STUDY IN DECEMBER	4 USHER: John Seredinski 9:00-Noon- Pastor's office hours	5	6 Release Time 12:45-1:30-HS 1:30-2:15-Elem.	7 10 AM Bible Study at Riverview Manor	8	9
10 8AM Church Council 9:30 Worship & Sunday School 10:30 Fellowship Cookie Can Sunday NO BIBLE STUDY IN DECEMBER	11 USHER: Mark Johnsen 9:00-Noon- Pastor's office hours	12 10:00 AM- HLCW Bible Study	13 12-2:00 PM Floodwood Food Shelf Release Time 12:45-1:30-HS 1:30-2:15-Elem.	14	15	16
17 9:30 Worship with communion & Youth Program 10:30 Fellowship NO BIBLE STUDY IN DECEMBER	18 USHER: Gary Gustafson 9:00-Noon- Pastor's office hours	19	20 Release Time 12:45-1:30-HS 1:30-2:15-Elem.	21 10 AM Bible Study at Riverview Manor	22	23
24 (No AM service) 5:00 PM Christmas Eve Service Newsletter articles due NO BIBLE STUDY IN DECEMBER	25 USHER: Dave Zieroth NO Pastor's office hours Noon-1:00 Community Christmas dinner at downtown Fair Center FREE	26 NO Quilting	27 9-11 AM Floodwood Food Shelf	28	29	30
31 9:30 Worship & Sunday School 10:30 Fellowship NO BIBLE STUDY IN DECEMBER	LOOKING AHEAD: Friday, January 12, 6:00 PM meal, 7:00 PM program-Community Christmas Celebration at Rich Event Center REMINDER: It's never to early to start working on your report for the 2024 Congregational Annual Meeting					

PRAYER REQUESTS

December 2023



For those who are ill or struggling

Ethel	Roy
Dinah	Gary
Dean S.	Lorraine
Jerry	Bob
Danette	Sadie
Grace W.	Jim
Sue	Willa
Bradley	Theresa
Heather	Wayne
Carlene	Willie
Sulo	Jen
Floyd	Kitty
Pastor John	Doug
Ella	

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

Those mourning the loss of loved ones.

For those in the military:

Owen Seredinski, Liam Seredinski, Jacob Seredinski

For places where wars and conflict take place

Ukraine
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
Pashtun People Group
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
*For our world and nation on dealing with the Covid-19 virus

Peace and healing in Ukraine and Israel and the world!

**HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH
GIVING**

General Fund Giving

October 29	\$ 367.00
November 5	\$2734.00
November 12	\$1088.98
November 19	\$1695.00
from HLCW Pie Sales	\$ 987.00
from Clothing Etc. for Youth Events	\$ 300.00

Globe Offering

Samaritan's Purse for Operation Christmas Child Program

October 29	\$55.00
November 5	\$15.00
November 12	\$40.00

Total to Samaritan's Purse for Operation Christmas Child Program **\$150.00**

GLOBE OFFERING



There will be NO globe offering until the End of December

**Offerings can be mailed to:
Hope Lutheran Church
PO Box 288
Floodwood, MN 55736**



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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(419) 571-0299 for pastoral care

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED