

The Beacon of Hope

The Newsletter of Hope Lutheran Church

March 2021

Pastor's Corner

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Greetings brothers and sisters in Christ. Hopefully, we all survived the great polar vortex of February and are ready for a nice warm March.

COVID-19 vaccinations are underway, and soon we will all be finished and protected so we can begin to normalize our church worship together. I know that both you and I look forward to having church fellowship time together with treats when it is safe to do so.

We are now into the season of Lent. It is a time of repentance and preparation for Resurrection Sunday in April. I have chosen to use the midweek services on Wednesday evenings to review the doctrines we all learned as Lutherans. I will be introducing Martin Luther each Wednesday evening who will teach us in his own words. I invite you to come and learn from him what we are to believe and partake in, as true Lutheran believers. For many of you who said they would like to hear more about the teachings in Luther's small catechism, this will be the perfect way to accomplish this study. I hope to see many of you at these services.

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Lessons number 25 and 26 of the "30 Life Principles" by Charles Stanley will be discussed at the February women's Bible study. "God blesses us so that we might bless others" based on Ephesians 4:28 is principle 25. Does your love for God motivate you to serve others?

Principle #26 is "Adversity is a bridge to a deeper relationship with God", based on Philippians 3:10-11. Adversity isn't a time when God is far from you. On the contrary, it's when He's close and teaching you His ways.

Join the discussion at 10:00 A.M. on Tuesday, March 9th, with Cindy Burgess as the leader. All women are welcome.

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COMMITTEE REPORTS

HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL

January 17, 2021
UNAPPROVED

Members Present:

Dean Fries, Missy Wojtysiak, Tanya Johnson, Deb Tollgaard, Mark Johnsen, LuAnn Heikkila, Bubba Vance, Pastor John Burgess, and Administrator Jeff Kletscher. Pastor John Burgess opened with prayer.

Meeting was called to order at 8:01 AM by Mark Johnsen.

Approval of Agenda

Motion by Bubba Vance, second by Deb Tollgaard to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

Secretaries Report

There was a correction to the September 27, 2020 minutes, added the approval of \$250 for Our Daily Bread Devotionals.

Motion to approve corrected minutes by Bubba Vance, second by LuAnn Heikkila, Motion carried.

October 25, 2020 Council Minutes. Motion by Deb Tollgaard, second by Bubba Vance to approve minutes. Motion carried.

There were no minutes in December due to no quorum.

Treasurers Report

Reviewed. Emailed report contained an entry error on 6.2 so Council was provided an updated report with correction.

Motion by Missy Wojtysiak, second by Bubba Vance to approve the Treasurers report as submitted. Motion carried.

Pastors Report

Pastor Burgess provided a written report: Special thanks to Hazel for

her work on the Christmas program, many words of thanks were received concerning the kid's program and Christmas Eve candlelight service. There was a community dinner and special Christmas witness on January 15th at the Rich Event Center. 85 people attended. Each church donated \$200 for the meal. Motion by Tanya Johnson, second by Bubba Vance to reimburse Pastor for the \$200 he paid. Motion carried.

Pastor continued with religious release that they still haven't heard if it will begin again.

Quake will be virtual and held on February 26 & 27. Registration is open and will be \$50 for each. Pastor has suggested that we pay for each youth interested. Motion by Dean Fries, second by Bubba Vance to pay for each student interested in attending. Motion carried. (Funds to come from Youth Checking Account).

Pastor would like a few days of vacation February 22-24 and to be able to do the Lenten Services on Thursday for February 25 when he returns. Motion by Tanya Johnson, second Missy Wojtysiak to approve the change of the Lenten services. Motion carried.

There will be no soup suppers accompanying Lenten services due to COVID.

Pastor would like to start a Bible study when the risk of COVID is less after vaccines.

HLCW will have a bake sale on February 14 following the service. Proceeds to support HLCW.

Administrator's Report

Report was provided in packet (page 6). All giving statements were mailed out.

Committee Reports.

Christian Education and Youth – No religious release yet. Youth will have the virtual Quake on February 26 & 27 at Rob and Jan Benson's

house. Several adults will help supervise.

Outreach Committee – No report

Building Committee – We are blessed to have John Seredinski, who has been checking and working on the furnace downstairs that has not been working. We are waiting to hear from Andrew for the Floodwood Gas Company to help us fix it. John has some of the vents pushing air downstairs so nothing downstairs freezes.

Quilting – Will be starting up again this week and the women are excited about getting active again.

Old Business

a. Employee evaluation-tabled

b. 2019 & 2020 Financial Audit – Jeff will work with Kathy Johnsen and Tim Tollgaard after the annual meeting to complete.

c. Annual report review and Discussion. Jeff briefly reviewed the Annual Report for the Council. No questions.

d. Review and approve 2021 budget – Motion by Bubba Vance, second by Deb Tollgaard. Motion carried.

New Business

a. Live streaming Church Services – It would cost around \$1,500 to get the equipment up and running. Due to cost involved, time and requiring someone to run it, the council has decided live streaming would not be happening at this time.

b. As noted above Lent services will be moved from Wednesday, February 24 to Thursday the 25. Motion made by Tanya Johnson, second by Missy Wojtysiak to approve the vacation days that Pastor will be taking. Motion carried. (*Continued on Page 3*)

Committee Reports (Continued from page 2)

c. Discussion on the organ – Jeff estimates organ repair costs to be \$1,000 to \$1,500. The parts are ordered and there is only one gentleman (Robert Ward) in all Northern MN (Duluth) that works on them.

Looking Ahead

1. Annual meeting – January 24, 2021 following the service. (No potluck.)
2. Council Member installation will be on Sunday, February 14 during worship service.

Globe Offering: Motion was made by Tanya Johnson, second by Deb Tollgaard for the Globe offering in February to be for Souper Bowl of Caring. The funds are given to the Life House in Duluth. Motion carried.

Next Meeting – February 21, 2021 at 8 a.m.

Pastor Burgess closed with prayer. Meeting adjourned at 8:46 a.m.

**HOPE LUTHERAN
CHURCH
ANNUAL MEETING
MINUTES
January 24, 2021
UNAPPROVED**

Call Meeting to Order - Meeting was called to order at 10:27 AM by President Mark Johnsen.

Confirmation of a Quorum by Ushers – 27 attending, a quorum was present.

Approval of Additions to Agenda – Motion made by David Bolstad, second by Nancy Raihala to accept the agenda as is. Motion carried.

Approval of 2020 Annual Meeting Minutes - Motion made by Deb Tollgaard, second by

Carolyn Hoking to approve the agenda as written. Motion carried.

Approval of the July 19, 2020 Special Meeting Minutes – Motion made by John Seredinski, second by Roy Autio to approve the minutes as written. Motion carried.

Recognition of Outgoing Council Members – None.

Nominations from the floor – Mark Johnsen requested nominations from the floor three times. There were none.

Nominating Committee Report – Nominees are Bubba Vance and Dean Fries.

Appointment of Election Tellers – Not applicable.

Elections – Motion was made by Jeanette Johnson, second by Carolyn Hosking to accept the Ballot as is and to elect Bubba Vance and Dean Fries to remain on the council. Motion carried.

Pastor’s Report – Included in the annual report (page 7). COVID has made many changes we are using prepackaged communion to prevent the spread of germs, the services are shortened to 45 minutes to limit the time of exposure.

Attendance is only about half of what it was pre-COVID. The main reason is due to the fear of the virus. Restrictions have been difficult on our youth, interactions have been very limited and Pastor fears this will cause long term damage in the youth’s relationship with God. A special thank you to all who have helped with the youth! Upcoming, 2 youth will be confirmed at Pentecost later this year, and an infant baptism later this spring.

President’s Report – Included in the annual report (page 8). Many

changes due to COVID this year. We switched to online services (Huge thank you to Susan Coccie who recorded and posted the services), we had our first drive-by communion once the weather was warmer. Then our services resumed, we had a congregational meeting to make the final decisions on the rental house and garage. The lot has been cleared and will be a nice green space when the weather gets nice. A thank you to everyone who helped prepare the buildings for removal and to Jeff Kletscher for his coordination and adherence to regulations for this project. Thank you to the congregation for respecting rules around social distancing, mask wearing and close gathering while we wait for the vaccine to be distributed. Our community has been very lucky in keeping the cases low. Thank you to all who work to make Hope Lutheran our spiritual home. Hope has done well under Pastor John’s spiritual leadership. Prayers for the speedy return of more “normal” times.

Treasurer’s Report – Included in the annual report.

Page 9 – 2020 Giving Report

Page 10 – Annual Giving Unit Summary

Page 11 – Finances - Account balances

Page 12 – Rental Account Spending, Memorial Checking Account Spending

Page 13 – Endowment Fund Report – No endowment report for end of the year yet.

Page 14 – Attendance History – Income – Expenses Report
(Continued on Page 4)

Committee Reports (Continued from page 3)

Page 15 – 2020 Memorials

Motion to approve the Treasurer’s report by Elvi Tollgaard, second by Pat Seredinski to approve the treasurer's reports as submitted. Motion carried.

2021 Budget Proposal and Approval – Will be almost exactly like last year. Discussion from Jeanette Johnsen concerning the organ cost which will cost from \$1,000 to \$1,500. Funds will be a normal variant to the budget. Grace Autio commented that 6.3 page 21 of the budget regarding the Office Management cost should be addressed. Mr. Kletscher does a lot for Hope and his pay should be addressed. Mark reported it is on the agenda for the council but has been tabled due to COVID. Motion to approve the budget by Dave Bolstad, second by Willie Moe. Motion carried.

Closing comments – Mark Johnsen suggests we consider/weigh the pros and cons of the future elevator replacement costs. He suggests we consider the future and to think about options for using our new green space as fellowship hall and closing off the basement.

Jeannette Johnsen asked that the council be open to other charitable contributions. Mr. Kletscher reviewed all of our current contributions and reported that now it is built into the budget rather than determining on a hit or miss basis.

Mark Johnsen added a thank you to Mr. Kletscher for all of his work on the food distributions, the quilters, caretakers of the church and everyone who has helped out.

Grace Autio to add our appreciation to Pastor and Cindy for all they do for us!!!!

Motion by Dave Bolstad, second by John Seredinski to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

Closing Prayer by Pastor Burgess (read a poem from Pastor Julie Gellert).

Meeting adjourned at 10:55 am.

HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH WOMEN MINUTES

We had to cancel our February meeting due to freezing cold weather —NO MINUTES

HOPE LUTHERAN YOUTH

Our youth will attend Quake this year a little differently. Due to Covid-19 and wanting to keep everyone safe, Quake will be held virtually this year February 26th, and February 27th. Rob and Jan Benson have offered for the youth to attend Quake this year at their home. Their home is large enough to spread out, so everyone can attend safely. Four of our youth will attend and a few chaperones. We thank Rob and Jan for inviting the youth into their home for this event.

Saturday, April 3rd, Hope Lutheran Church will put on an Easter Egg hunt for the community. With our new green space, we figure we can spread out and host this event safely outside. More details to follow.

BURYING THE ALLELUIAS



Pastor John Burgess, Lilyana and Lacey buried the Alleluias for Lent. They will be brought out again on Easter Sunday.

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Tammy Peterson
- 7 Scott Peterson
- 8 Brooke Hughes Johnson
- 10 Amelia Aho
- 11 Carlene Jatkola
Ross Tollgaard
- 12 Alexis Stokke
- 13 Steve Hall
- 15 Nathan Seredinski
(Continued on Page 5)

***Birthdays and Anniversaries
(Continued from page 4)***

- 17 Patricia Seredinski
- 19 Amber Schoenrock
(Fries)
Bode Hutchinson
- 18 Floyd Ahlgren
- 21 Kaleb Holmes
- 23 Burt Suonvieri
- 26 Evan Suonvieri
- 30 Adam Schminski

**MARCH
ANNIVERSARIES**

- 15 Susan & Dick Coccie
(’01)
- 31 LuAnn & Terry Heikkila

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Tracy Zieroth
Courtney Romanek
- 4 Pat Manee
- 5 Tad Farrell
- 6 Pastor Julie Gellert
- 7 Lilyana Johnson
- 9 David Zieroth
Imijyn Thompson
- 10 Sylvia (Shafer) Romosz
Hunter Rauvola
Morgan Kuehl
- 13 Tracy Hutchinson

- 14 Neva Polo
- 15 Ethel Pensak
Jazmine Johnson
- 6 Caleb Fries
Lane Grady
David Shafer
- 17 Maija Hunt
- 18 Roy Autio
- 21 Marion Shafer
Jeff Romosz (Sylvia
Shafer)
- 22 Tabitha Tollgaard
Quinn Kuehl
- 24 Hannah Zieroth
- 30 Faith Romanek

APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

- 30 Bonnie & Steve Hall

***Pastor’s Corner (Continued
from page 1)***

During Holy week we will have a communion service on Maundy Thursday, the community Good Friday Service, Friday evening at Hope Lutheran. We will be looking ahead to Easter. We will be having an Easter egg hunt for our children Saturday April 3. Invite your grandchildren to come. We all need to celebrate Easter and give thanks to God for Our Risen Savior and for getting us safely through the viral pandemic. Better days are ahead, and we need to get back to living the purpose driven lives God has planned for each of us.

***INSTALLATION OF NEW
CHURCH COUNCIL***



Tanya Johnson, Missy Wojtysiak, Deb Tollgaard, Mark Johnsen. Not pictured, Bubba Vance, Dean Fries, LuAnn Heikkila.

HLCW (Continued from Page 1)

***HLCW AFTER CHURCH
BAKE SALE***

The HLCW had a successful bake sale February 14th, netting a profit of \$229.75. Thank you to everyone who participated.



QUILTING



We plan to meet March 23rd at 9:00 for quilting. It won't be crowded, so everyone is welcome.

PRAYER REQUESTS
MARCH 2021



For those who are ill or struggling

Dinah	Gary
Dean S.	Lorraine
Frances	Bob
Danette	Sadie
Grace W.	Lilly
Theresa	Lois
Bradley	Coach
Heather	Liz
Rosie	Willa
Gary 'Curly'	

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

For those in the military

David Shafer
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
***For our world and nation on dealing with the Covid-19 virus**

**HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH
GIVING**

General Fund Giving

January 24	\$ 468.00
January 31	\$ 590.00
February 7	\$2382.26
February 14	\$1080.00
February 17	\$ 310.00
February 21	\$1373.00

Memorials

In Memory of Darrel Benson from Rob & Jan Benson
\$25.00
(Memorial Savings)

Globe Offering



Souper Bowl of Caring (for Life House)

January 24	\$ 33.61
January 31	\$ 35.00
February 7	\$188.27
February 21	\$100.00

Globe Offering for March is Floodwood Area Food Shelf

Offerings can be mailed to:

**Hope Lutheran Church
PO Box 288
Floodwood, MN 55736**



**CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE
AND FACEBOOK PAGE FOR
INFORMATION AND UPDATES**

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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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED