



The Beacon of Hope

The Newsletter of Hope Lutheran Church

JANUARY 2014

A Word From Pastor Carl

LEADING UP TO THE ANNUAL MEETING

Our church's constitution dictates that the congregation convenes at least once a year for a business meeting of its membership. It is a requirement of state law that non-profit organizations carry out such a practice. This meeting is required to take place during the month of January as set by the church council. This year's gathering is scheduled following the worship service on January 19 and is followed by a potluck dinner.

Just as it is expected most years, the annual meeting tends to be rather routine. This is not an accident. The annual meeting is purposely designed to be more of a "rubber stamp" of business rather than exploratory discussion. If there is a controversial question presenting itself to the congregation, it is certainly appropriate for discussion and debate to take place at the time. However, extended discourse on controversial issues is more difficult to conduct with a larger number of people. If everyone at the annual meeting were to stand up and share an opinion, the meeting would become much too long. *(Continued on page 2)*

Hope Lutheran Church Women

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Session five of the Family Matters series of women's Bible studies is titled, "There's One in Every Family" - Jacob, the Problem Child. Genesis 25: 24-34 is the basis for this part of the study. Jacob, seen as the "problem child" in his family, eventually becomes the standard bearer for the family's history. In Luke 12:35-48 Jesus uses the image of servants to instruct his disciples about the call to obedience and responsibility. The section pertaining to our congregational "family" life teaches that communication and cooperation are keys to managing potential problem "issues" [or people]. We will meet at the church on January 27 at 10:00 a.m.

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Word From Pastor Carl- Leading Up to the Annual Meeting
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The constitution spells out that the congregational meeting (of which the annual meeting is the most typical occurrence) is the highest form of governance in the congregation. There are certain actions that can be made by the congregational meeting. The constitution enumerates some of these decisions as: calling a pastor, purchasing or selling property, and expenditures of money above a certain, pre-determined amount.

Because of the difficult manner of overseeing business in the large venue, the annual meeting elects a council to oversee the ministry of the congregation for the year. This body typically meets once a month but can also be called together for special occasions.

While certainly more agile than the annual meeting, the council is also established to be a body that is more of a facilitator than a doer. Just like the annual meeting, but in a reduced manner, extended conversation on beginning issues in the council meeting is often better left to those with specific experience and expertise. Addressing every issue bogs the council meeting down in minutia and extends the length of the meeting.

To help the council continue to be more of an overseer and less of a doer, the council receives reports and encourages our committees to communicate between meetings. One of the more active reports is from the Christian Education and Youth and Family Ministry. This team has met a number of times, especially for the purposes of coordinating Elementary Religious Release. The Building and Grounds committee has also been consistent in getting together before the council meeting to plan and do its work and present recommendations and updates.

As we soon prepare for another annual meeting and electing a new council, we are reminded how our governance is structured to most effectively plan and carry out the ministry of Hope Lutheran Church.

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**CHRISTIAN EDUCATION & YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRY**

See pictures from the Sunday School Christmas Program on Page 7. Thanks to all the workers who helped to put the program together.

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**HLCW News (Continued from Page 1)**

**GIFT DELIVERY**



Thank you to those who contributed and delivered items to the Life House and Bethany Crisis Shelter during December. We furnished cookies for the Life House Christmas party, along with 3 quilts and numerous hats, mittens, and scarves. Many items from their wish list were also gathered for the Bethany Shelter which is run by Lutheran Social Service. Ahlgrens made the delivery to Bethel and Jeanette to the Life House.

## DECEMBER GIVING

|                                                                   |            |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| General Fund:<br>(includes Sunday Offering, Refreshment Offering) | \$ 7805.28 |
| General Savings:                                                  | \$ 180.00  |
| Youth:                                                            | \$ 5.00    |
| Salvation Army:                                                   | \$ 25.00   |

## MEMORIALS

|                                                             |           |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| In memory of Betty Rauvola, from Jeanette Johnsen -         | \$ 20.00  |
| In memory of Betty Rauvola, from Floyd and Carole Ahlgren - | \$ 10.00  |
| In memory of Martha and Eddie Arfman, from Charles Arfman - | \$ 150.00 |

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*God Has Brought Me  
Laughter*

### ACTUAL ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM CHURCH BULLETINS

- A bean supper will be held on Tuesday evening in the church hall. Music will follow.
  - At the evening service tonight, the sermon topic will be "What Is Hell?" – come early and listen to our choir practice.
- 

#### **CARD OF THANKS**

**Thanks to all of you  
who surprised me for  
my birthday. Thank  
you also to those who  
sent me greetings and  
cards**

**God Bless You All!  
Lois Hendrickson**

#### **BOB AND JOYCE ANDREWS**

Dave, Ann and Irene Bolstad spent the day after Christmas with Bob and Joyce at their Little Falls home. The Andrews celebrated their 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary on Saturday, December 28<sup>th</sup>. Both are doing well. They send their greetings to all of their Hope friends. They miss Floodwood terribly, but have settled in their new home and community. The Bolstads also visited with Scott and Raquel Lundberg at their lovely Waller House Inn bed and breakfast, also in Little Falls.

#### **CARD OF THANKS**

**Thank you to all those who  
helped make our wedding  
day the happy occasion it  
was. Special thanks go to  
the Hope Lutheran  
Women for serving  
cookies and coffee  
following the service.**

**Sincerely,  
Pastor Carl and Jodi  
Fiskness**

## HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH PLANNER    JANUARY 2014

| Sun                                                                                                                                      | Mon                                                                                                                                                          | Tue                                                                               | Wed                                                                                                                    | Thu                                                      | Fri                                                                                    | Sat           |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|
| <b>DEC 29</b>                                                                                                                            | <b>30 USHER</b><br>TEAM: Jim Pensak & Bubba Vance – Team 1                                                                                                   | <b>31</b>                                                                         | <b>1</b><br><br><i>New Year's Day</i>                                                                                  | <b>2</b><br>9-10:30 Ruby's Pantry at Arrowhead Town Hall | <b>3</b><br>No Office Hours                                                            | <b>4</b>      |
| <b>5</b><br>9:30 Worship & Sunday School<br>10:45 Coffee Fellowship                                                                      | <b>6 USHER</b><br>TEAM: Mark Johnsen & Dave Zieroth – Team 2<br><br>7:00 p.m. Adult Confirmation & learning                                                  | <b>7</b><br>LCMC & NALC Pastor's Meeting                                          | <b>8</b><br>9-11 am FW Food Shelf at FST<br>12:10-1:00 HS Release<br>1:50-3:00 Elem. Release<br>6:00 Confirmation      | <b>9</b>                                                 | <b>10</b><br>10:00 a.m. Bible Study at Riverview Manor<br>1-3 pm Pastor's Office Hours | <b>11</b>     |
| <b>12</b><br>9:30 Worship & Sunday School<br>10:45 Coffee Fellowship                                                                     | <b>13 USHER</b><br>TEAM: Don Rosemore & Tim Tollgaard – Team 3                                                                                               | <b>14</b><br>6:45 p.m. Building and Grounds Committee<br>7:15 p.m. Church Council | <b>15</b><br>12:10-1:00 HS Release<br>1:50-3:00 Elem. Release<br>6:00 Confirmation                                     | <b>16</b>                                                | <b>17</b><br>1-3 pm Pastor's Office Hours                                              | <b>18</b>     |
| <b>19</b><br>9:30 Worship & Sunday School<br>10:45 Coffee Fellowship<br><br>Annual meeting after the service with potluck meal to follow | <b>20 USHER</b><br>TEAM: Roy Autio & John Seredinski – Team 4<br><br>7:00 p.m. Home Fellowship Bible Study at Parsonage<br><br><i>Martin Luther King Day</i> | <b>21</b>                                                                         | <b>22</b><br>9-11 am FW Food Shelf at FST<br><br>12:10-1:00 HS Release<br>1:50-3:00 Elem. Release<br>6:00 Confirmation | <b>23</b>                                                | <b>24</b><br>1-3 pm Pastor's Office Hours                                              | <b>25</b>     |
| <b>26</b><br>9:30 Worship & Sunday School<br>10:45 Coffee Fellowship                                                                     | <b>27 USHER</b><br>TEAM: Jeff Kletscher & Dean Fries – Team 5<br>10:00 a.m. HLCW meeting & Bible Study at the Church                                         | <b>28</b><br>9:00 a.m. HLCW quilting                                              | <b>29</b><br>12:10-1:00 HS Release<br>1:50-3:00 Elem. Release<br>6:00 Confirmation                                     | <b>30</b>                                                | <b>31</b><br>1-3 pm Pastor's Office Hours                                              | <b>Notes:</b> |

**Hope Lutheran Church**  
**Floodwood, MN 55736**  
**Minutes of regular November Meeting**  
**Tuesday, November 19, 2013**

Meeting called to order by President Dean Fries at 7:16 PM.

Pastor Carl Fiskness read from Psalms 46 and litany of prayers for the Philippines.

Those in attendance include: Bubba Vance, Susan Coccie, Lonna Hutchinson, Pastor Carl Fiskness, Brian Hutchinson, Carlene Jatkola, LuAnn Heikkila, Dean Fries, Marion Shafer, Rae Rosemore and Dave Zieroth. Absent: Kathy Johnsen.

**Agenda**

Motion by Susan Coccie, second by Carlene Jatkola to approve the agenda with additions; motion approved.

**Reports**

Secretary – Motion by Susan Coccie, second by Carlene Jatkola to approve the October 22, 2013 minutes; motion approved.

Pastor – Reviewed report and mileage.

President – Received two financial reports. The first one we looked at showed the \$10,000 from Endowment Fund for projects.

2.7 – Misc – budget is \$300, \$1,511.92 spent – outside job/water or remodel in office expenses.

7.4 – Building - budget is \$1,200, \$5,707.39 expenses – outside job/water or remodel in office expenses.

7.3 – Equipment replacement – budget 0, spent \$684.30 – flood/remodel.

7.6 – Elevator Monitoring – budget is \$2,000, \$2,628.00 spent – new law passed, load test and this was the year to do; done every 5 years.

2.6 – Administrative – budget is \$1,000, \$1331.83 spent - \$300 off due to copier.

6.15 – tax payment – former Pastors were paid differently than the current Pastor.

Motion by Susan Coccie, second by Rae Rosemore to approve the financial statement; motion approved.

Youth and Family – Youth are selling Butterbraids; will be at Floodwood's Night of Shopping, November 25<sup>th</sup>. Release time going well.

Communications and Technology – There is a paragraph on our homepage from Pastor Carl.

Building – Dave and LuAnn checked garden centers for burning bushes and crab trees, all gone for the year. Too late to plant anymore this fall. Dave and Bob re-graded between sidewalks. Bubba will put up changing table. Hand rail didn't get installed yet.

Hope Lutheran Women – Served 95 at the Bazaar on November 13<sup>th</sup>, great meal. The bazaar was a success.

**Old Business**

Worship CD's – Jeff said that the week of November 25<sup>th</sup> the mixer will be installed.

Office remodel – Copier Training on Tuesday, November 26<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM. Rae Rosemore picked up a small fireproof safe. Rae wants to put the ledger book on a flash drive. The shades for the office are in. Items still needed to be picked up are end tables, clock and mirror.

Operation Christmas Child – 52 boxes were filled and brought to Duluth.

Fire extinguishers – Inspect every 5 or 6 years. 5# one in the mechanical room – cost \$57.00. Refurbish ours at the church. Our church has three. Lonna Hutchinson will talk to the fire inspector (Fire and Industrial Sales) when he comes for the gas company. For insurance reasons he will let us know how many we need.

Church software – Lonna got to talk to one church and they use Quick Books. Flock Base (\$179.00) ties in with Quick Books. Lonna will ask for a demo. We need to look on the Internet and see what's out there. *(Continued on Page 6)*

*Hope Lutheran Church Council Minutes (Continued from page 5)*

**New Business**

Contract employee for specific church jobs – talked to Jeff Kletscher about this. Pastor Carl and Dean Fries came up with a list of things for Jeff to do. \$100/week and Jeff would track his time, some more, some less during a week’s time; stipend. Re-evaluate in three months. Motion by Rae Rosemore, second by Carlene Jatkola to contract with Jeff Kletscher to do our specific projects for three months, re-evaluate in three months; motion approved. Budget 2014 for 6 months.

Tree decorating – Sunday, December 1<sup>st</sup> – Family Fun Night. Starts at 4:30 PM, tree decorating, games, bingo, prizes and dinner.

Church budget – Dean Fries will have next month.

Boy Scouts – Someone from the Boy Scouts contacted Hope Lutheran about having at our church and sponsoring. Jeff Kletscher in the past was our Liaison. Regional director should come and speak to the council in December.

Advent Services – don’t really have the time. In the past it was an evening service at 7 PM on a Wednesday night and it was a short service. Pastor is not in favor of it.

Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup> – Sunday School program.

Globe offering - Motion by Brian Hutchinson, second by Dean Fries to have the Globe offering the local Salvation Army; motion approved.

Pastor’s evaluation – Dean Fries prepared a few questions for Pastor’s evaluation. Council excused Pastor Carl after and discussed salary. Motion by Bubba Vance, second by Susan Coccie to give Pastor Carl Fiskness a base salary raise of 5% minimum; motion approved. We need to look at his original package and look at the guidelines from LCMC. Effective January 2014.

Next meeting – Tuesday, December 17<sup>th</sup>, 2013 at 7:15 PM.

Pastor Carl closed with prayer.  
Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,  
LuAnn Heikkila, 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
- 22 Sara Maki
- 23 Nolan Heikkila
- 27 Dalton Hutchinson  
Drake Laine

28 Elsie Tollgaard  
Jayna Kemp

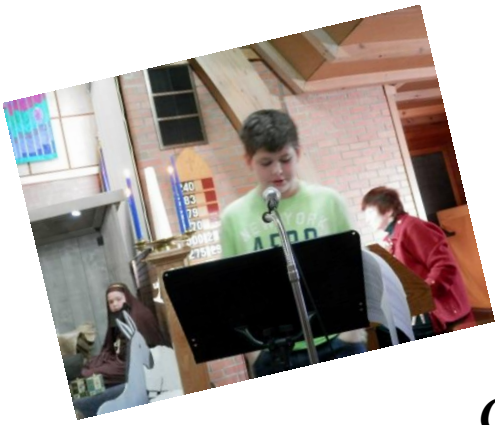
29 Bertha Wain

***January Anniversaries***

23 Jill & Dean Fries

28 Dawn & Marion Shafer  
(’78)





**SUNDAY SCHOOL  
CHRISTMAS PROGRAM**



***Congratulations Pastor Carl and Jodi on your marriage!***



*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](mailto:draseal@aol.com)) by the 24<sup>th</sup> of the month.*

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Carl Fiskness, Pastor

*Sunday School & Worship 9:30 a.m.*

HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH  
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P.O. BOX 288  
FLOODWOOD, MN 55736