

# Hope Lutheran Church

## December 2021

From the Pastor,

There is a word being used these days from Bishop Maas to prepare/enrich premarital material to Thrivent. The word is gratitude. The Rev. Robert Schuller from the Crystal Cathedral preached and wrote about having an "attitude of gratitude" way before it has now become a popular term.

When we are grateful or thankful our whole attitude about God, others, and ourselves changes. We become more generous with God with our time and money. When we focus on reasons to be thankful for our spouse in our lives and not focus on their faults or shortcomings. We can be more forgiving towards them and overlook the tiny irritations we may feel towards them at times. When we realize that God has been generous with us through the Son, we can live generously with and towards others.

November 25th the country celebrated a Day of Thanksgiving. Between Thanksgiving and Christmas charities try to contact people because at this time of year people appear to be more generous with giving to others through charities. Being grateful at Thanksgiving and anticipating being generous to family at Christmas leads to the willingness to help others.

The Church Season of Advent is a preparatory time in the Church to prepare the building for the celebration of Christmas and for the members to prepare their hearts to receive the generous gift from God of the Son from heaven to earth as a child of a human being. God made human. The Son leaves His place and power in heaven to be human for the sake of humans. On Christmas the Son is born and seven days later his name Jesus becomes official.

Jesus is the Son of God. On Christmas we receive God's generous gift to us. On Good Friday Jesus gives us the generous gift of His Life and thus the forgiveness of sins.

Let us spend this Church Year of 2021-2022 looking for God's generosity shown in our lives and then discover ways to be generous to God through God's Church and by being generous to others.

Merry Christmas

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Confirmation December 1st, 8th, 15th, & 22nd 4:00 p.m.

Grace Lutheran Church Bible Study meeting December 13th , 1:30 p.m.

Hope Lutheran Church Council December 8th, 7:00 p.m.

Hope Lutheran Church Secret Sister's Party December 11, 1:30 p.m. at Alberta's house

Grace Lutheran Church Council December 4th, 7:00 p.m.

Grace Lutheran S.S. Christmas Program December 14th, during Worship

Christmas Eve service Hope 5:00 p.m., Grace 7:00 p.m.

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**Church Seasons:** There are two Church Seasons in December. The first is Advent. It is a time to prepare the building for the Christmas season as well as prepare our hearts to receive the Christ Child on Christmas morn. The Nativity of Our Lord is December 25th and the beginning of the Christmas Season which runs through January 5th. The twelve days of Christmas is the official time to celebrate the birth of Jesus, the Son of God.

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**Church Festival Days:** December 20th: Katharina von Bora Luther, renewer of the church, died, 1552

December 21st: Thomas, Apostle

December 24th: The Nativity of Our Lord; Christmas Eve

December 25th: The Nativity of Our Lord; Christmas Day

December 26th: Stephen, Martyr

December 27st: John, Apostle and Evangelist

December 28th : The Holy Innocents, Martyrs

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**U.S. Holidays:** December 24th: Christmas Eve

December 25th: Christmas

December 31st: New Years Eve

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**Historic Board:** Presiding Bishop of the ELCA, Bishop Eaton has been elected as vice president of the National Council of Churches. The 2021 board of the NCC has made history through the election of women to all five positions. Three women of color.

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**Bishop Election:** Bishop Maas announced November 22nd that he would not fulfill his entire six year term as bishop. His term will end August 31, 2022. At that time he will be accepting a call as Vice President to Immanuel Communities. He chose this date so the Nebraska Synod has time to hold election of bishop during the 2022 Annual Assembly and so there would be no need for an interim bishop.

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**Hope Lutheran Church Council Minutes , November 10, 2021**

**Members Present:** Pastor Jim, Dave Antholz, Mark Panko, Russel Moss, Janice Beethe, Keith Moss and Linda Eisenauer.

**Members Absent:** David Lubben.

The meeting was opened with Pastor Helgren giving a prayer.

The minutes from the September meeting were reviewed and approved. There was no meeting in October.

**The Treasurer's Report:** Given by Mark reporting for the month of October

TOTAL INFLOWS    \$2,343. 60

TOTAL OUTFLOWS -6, 919.81

NET TOTAL        \$ - 4, 576.21

**Pastor's Report:** Pastor Jim reminded us the joint Thanksgiving Eve Service will be at Hope with communion, November 24th, at 7:00 p.m. The offering will go to Osage Food Pantry.

**Old Business:** The \$550 that was raised at Mission Fest will be sent to "Table Grace".

The Luther League Checking Account will be closed, as it hasn't been active for several years.

The on-going discussion about the Parsonage and the removal of trees continues. It will be a topic open for discussion during the annual meeting in January 2022.

The meeting of the area churches is November 14th at 2:00 p.m. at Faith Lutheran Church, Talmage.

Family Day is November 28th after the service and we will decorate the church for Christmas.

**New Business:** The next meeting will be December 8th at 7:00 p.m.

The meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

Minutes submitted by Linda Eisenhauer, Secretary

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**Hope Lutheran WELCA, November 11, 2021**

**Hope Lutheran WELCA group met at 1:30 p.m. on November 11th with six ladies and Pastor present.**

**The Secretary's report was read and approved. The Treasurer's was read showing a balance of \$521.18 after \$10.00 memorial and \$200.00 mission offering. This does not reflect a \$200.00 gift from the Adeline Moss family, and lunch supplies purchased for \$92.00. Report approved.**

**Mission Education: Thankoffering service will be on Nov. 21st.**

**Mission Community: Served the Moss funeral lunch.**

**Mission Outreach: 112 Personal Care and 80 school kits were sent.**

**We will be serving cookies and coffee after the Thanksgiving Eve service.**

**We will again be sending Christmas cards to shut-ins. Alberta will buy some small items to enclose.**

**Items will again be collected for Friendship Home.**

**Christmas gifts for church employees were discussed.**

**It was announced that we can begin collecting food items for the food pantry again.**

**It was decided to send \$50.00 to the Salvation Army.**

**The Secret Sister Party will be in the afternoon on Dec. 9th. Details will be announced by Sharon and Judy in that regard.**

**Flowers were discussed. Marilyn will purchase some for the altar. Alberta made a motion to order 2 \$16.00 poinsettias from the Cook Lions Club. Sharon seconded. Motion carried.**

**Judy made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Sharon.**

**Respectfully Submitted,**

**Alberta Block**

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**Pastor**  
Jim Helgren

8:45 Sunday School  
10:00 Worship Service

\*unless noted otherwise

Parish Ministry Associate

Sharon Carman, Ret.

Church Council

Chairman: Dave Antholz  
Fin. Sec. Janice Beethe  
Treas. Mark Panko  
Sec. Linda Eisenhauer  
Deacons: Keith Moss  
David Lubben  
Russel Moss

Worship & Music

Alberta Block  
Sharon Carman  
Judy Lubben  
Sherri Moss

Organists

Alberta Block  
Sheri Moss  
Dianne Riensche  
Ruth Neeman

WELCA President

Marilyn Moss

Bulletin/Newsletter

Sharon Carman

# Hope Lutheran Church-Burr

## December 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 4:00-5:00 p.m. Confirmation	2	3	4
5 Holy Communion Worship 10:00 a.m.	6	7 11:15 a.m.- 5:15 p.m. Blood Drive Syracuse Methodist Church	8 4:00-5:00 p.m. Confirmation 7:00 p.m. Church Council	9 1:30 p.m. Secret Sisters Christmas Party at Alberta's	10	11
12 Worship 10:00 a.m.	13	14	15 4:00-5:00 p.m. Confirmation	16	17	18
19 10:00 a.m. Holy Communion Worship	20	21	22 4:00-5:00 p.m. Confirmation	23	24 Christmas Eve Service 5:00 p.m.	25 The Nativity of Our Lord Christmas
26 Worship 10:00 a.m.	27	28	29	30	31 New Year's Eve	



WELCA Meeting

Altar Guild

Visitation

Bible Study: Secret Sister  
Devotions: Party @ Alberta's 1:30  
Hostess: Sharon, Judy & Deb Billington

All ladies

Cemetery

Bruce Riensche  
Russel Moss  
Dave Antholz

Marilyn Moss