

Hope Lutheran Church

January 2023

From the Pastor,

Happy New Year! I am writing this December 17, 2022. I must always be planning into the future as a pastor. I am already thinking about Lenten Midweek Services because Ash Wednesday is February 22nd. Still working on Christmas Eve planning but writing for the January newsletter. Pastor's heads must be in the here and now and in the soon to be. I have younger colleagues that have yet to understand that concept.

Perhaps that is why I must work harder than others to enjoy holidays. I basically will have celebrated Christmas a week before we celebrate Christmas. Once I have something planned out and ready to go it is as if I have celebrated the occasion and it is just the living out the plan helping everyone else celebrate Christmas or whatever the occasion happens to be.

So when you tell me Happy New Year January 1, 2023 remember I have been living in the new year at least a week. So sometimes the "day of" seems less climatic to me than to other people and that is my challenge to myself! I live in the yet/not yet of the heavenly kingdom. I must remember to live in the present while I live in the future at the same time. This is the Christmas challenge. Live for today while living our lives as children of God waiting to live in the Kingdom of Heaven as if we are living there now.

Happy New Year! Pastor Jim

Church Seasons: The Christmas Season ends on January 5th. The new church season of Time After Epiphany begins January 6th. The season runs until Ash Wednesday, February 22, 2023. Epiphany is sometimes referred to as the Season of Lights because of the star that the Wise Men followed. This is a season in which we look at ordinary items and discover how God uses the ordinary to do extraordinary things.

Church Festival Days: January 1st, Name of Jesus

January 6th, Epiphany of Our Lord

January 8th, Baptism of our Lord

January 18th, Confession of Peter

January 25th, Conversion of Paul

U.S. Holidays: **January 1st New Year's Day**
January 16th Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

Monthly Schedule: **Joint Worship at Hope, January 1st at 10:00 a.m.**
Confirmation January 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th at 6:00 p.m.
Grace Bible Study January 9th at 1:30 p.m.
Hope Church Council January 11th at 7:30 p.m.
Kids for Christ January 11th & 25th 4:00-5:30 p.m.
General Meeting & Bible Study January 12th 1:30 p.m.
Joint Worship January 15th 10:00 a.m. at Grace
Grace Annual Meeting January 15th at 11:00 a.m.
Grace Church Council January 17th at 7:00 p.m.
Hope Annual Meeting at 11:00 a.m. January 22nd

Hope Lutheran Church Council Minutes December 14, 2022

MEMBERS PRESENT: Pastor Jim Helgren, Dave Antholz, Janice Beethe, David Lubben, Keith Moss, Russel Moss, and Mark Panko. Sharon Carman was absent.

Pastor Helgren opened the meeting with prayer.

THE MINUTES from the November 16th meeting were reviewed and approved.

THE TREASURER'S REPORT by Mark Panko for November reports:

TOTAL INFLOWS	\$2,275.83
TOTAL OUTFLOWS	-\$4,143.64
NET TOTAL	- \$1,867.81

The treasurer's report was approved.

PASTOR'S REPORT: Pastor will lead worship service at Linden View December 28th.

The Children's Christmas Program will be December 18th.

Hope Lutheran Church Council Minutes Continued

We will have a joint worship service at Grace December 25th, Christmas Day at 10:00 a.m.

We will have a joint worship service with Grace January 1st, New Year's Day at Hope at 10:00 a.m.

OLD BUSINESS: We discussed a possible timeline for parsonage removal if approved by the congregation. We will probably remove the garage at the same time. Dave will remind the congregation of the upcoming discussion at the annual meeting. We will discuss this again at the January council meeting.

Carlson Construction looked at the bell tower regarding areas where bats could be coming in. They will get back to us with suggestions. It will be spring before anything can be done.

NEW BUSINESS: We will have communion service at both the Christmas Eve service and on New Year's Day service.

We will usher at the Christmas Eve service.

Cathay Steinkuhler is again filling the Christmas candy bags for the children. Many thanks, Cathay!

Christmas Eve offering will be split 50% to Lutheran Family Services and 50% to us.

Christmas gifts will be paid from the General Account and given \$50.00 to the organists, Alberta Block, Sheri Moss, and Ruth Neeman. \$50.00 to Sharon Carman for typing the bulletin. \$50.00 to janitors Marlene Straube and Craig Straube. \$120.00 to Pastor Helgren.

The Tax Exempt Form has been completed and mailed in.

The Budget for 2023 was approved with a 6% increase for pastor.

Outgoing council members are Dave Antholz, President, Janice Beethe, Financial Secretary, and Dave Lubben, Deacon. If no one else volunteers to do the positions they would do them again.

The Annual Meeting will be January 22nd with communion. Reports are due January 15th.

Grace Lutheran Church Annual Meeting will be January 15th. We will have joint services at Grace at 10:00 a.m.

We will put Christmas decorations away after church January 8th.

Counting schedule: 12/28/22-Keith M., Communion Server, Jane A., 12/24-Mark P., Communion Server, Russel M., 12/25/22-at Grace, 1/1/2-Russel M., Communion Server, Jane A., 1/8/23 Dave L.

The next meeting will be January 11th at 7:30 p.m.

We adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

Minutes submitted by Sharon Carman

Bruce and Dianne Riensche would like to thank the people of the congregation who so generously came and helped them get items ready for their auction. We could not have done it without your help. Many thanks!

Hope Lutheran Church-Burr

January 2023

Pastor

Jim Helgren

9:00 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. Sharon Carman

Decons: Keith Moss

David Lubben

Russel Moss

Worship & Music

Alberta Block

Sharon Carman

Judy Lubben

Sherri Moss

Organists

Alberta Block

Sheri Moss

Ruth Neeman

WELCA President

Marilyn Moss

Bulletin/Newsletter

Sharon Carman

Cemetery

Bruce Riensche

Russel Moss

Dave Antholz

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 10:00 a.m. Holy Com. Joint Worship @ Hope New Year's Day	2	3	4 6:00 p.m. Confirmation	5	6	7
	8 10:00 a.m. Worship; take down Christmas decorations	9	10	11 4:00 p.m. Kids for Christ 6:00 p.m. Confirmation 7:30 Council	12 1:30 p.m. General Meeting & Bible Study at Marilyn's	13	14
	15 10:00 a.m. Holy Communion Joint Worship at Grace	16 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day	17	18 6:00 p.m. Confirmation 7:30 p.m. Church Council	19	20	21
	22 10:00 a.m. Worship Annual Meeting after church.	23	24	25 4:00 p.m. Kids for Christ 6:00 p.m. Confirmation	26	27	28
	29 10:00 a.m. Worship	30	31				

WELCA Meeting

Bible Study: Marilyn M.

Devotions: Marilyn M.

Hostess: Marilyn M.

Altar Guild

Cathay Steinkuhler

Visitation

Alberta Block