

Hope Lutheran Church

October 2025

From the Pastor,

I mentioned that there may be the Rapture September 24th and 25th at the end of my sermon September 21st. I read more on the Internet that it was actually sundown Sept 23rd thru sundown September 24th. I then wondered that Monday if I should announce the two dates on the church facebook page.

This was all in humor. I believe that Jesus will return for Judgement Day. Evangelicals interpret the book of Revelation as presenting a return of Jesus to bring believers in Him to heaven, the Rapture, before terrible things happen on earth. At some point after humanity living in this horribleness Jesus will return for Judgement Day of those left behind. Some left behind. Some left behind after the Rapture could still be saved if they began to believe in Jesus as the Son of God.

Lutherans don't really believe in two second comings. Jesus seems to only talk about a return for Judgement Day in the Gospels. Jesus also says even He does not know when he will return, only the Father (God) knows. So did Jesus really tell a South African pastor he was returning for the Rapture September 23rd - 24th? We will see. If you are reading this, oops. Sorry that you were left behind.

Many Evangelical Christians quit their jobs and sold their cars. The main concern for many was would they be allowed to take their pets with them? That made me think. Who could I ask Tuesday to watch Leo while I was out of town? I did not want to imply that I was being raptured and they were not. But...

The positive outcome of the Rapture scare is that people have the opportunity to examine their relationship with God and Jesus and ask the Holy Spirit to give them the faith needed to be saved. And to live your life as a saved person.

Pastor Jim

Festival Days: October 18th, Luke, Evangelist

October 23rd, James of Jerusalem, Martyr died around 62

October 26th, Reformation Sunday

October 28th, Simon and Jude, Apostles

October 31st, Reformation Day

U.S. Holidays: October 13th, Columbus Day/Indigenous Peoples' Day

October 18th, Sweetest Day

October 31st, Halloween

Church Season: We will be in the Church Season of Time After Pentecost for two more months. The texts have been reminding us how the emphasizing of wealth and possessions in our lives can interfere with living our lives as God, cross, Christ centered people.

Monthly Schedule: Oct. 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th 6:00 p.m. Confirmation 6th, 7th, & 8th
October 5th, 10:00 a.m. Mission Festival at Grace, Potluck 11:00 a.m. 40th
Anniversary of Ordination Celebration 12:30-2:30 p.m. open to public
October 8th & 22nd, 4:00 p.m. Kids for Christ
October 14th 2:00 p.m. Grace Bible Study
October 15th, 7:30 p.m. Hope Council
October 16th, 1:30 a.m. Hope Bible Study
October 20th-22nd, Fall Leadership Conference pastor gone to Kearney
October 22nd, 7:00 p.m Grace Council
October 31st, 5:00 - 6:30 p.m. Trunk or Treat at Grace parking lot

Mission Fest: Mission Festival is October 5th with worship at 10:00 a.m. at Grace Lutheran Church and a pot luck to follow with the main dish being pulled pork sandwiches provided by Grace. The dessert will be cake.

The Mission Fest this year serves three purposes. First the celebration focused on Grace and Hope's Pastor Discretionary Funds. These funds are used by the Pastor to help people who are experiencing an emergency need in their lives. Most often in Cook the need is to prevent the electricity of a person's home from being turned off. This year every member of the congregation has experienced our power being off for hours at a time due to the power failure. Imagine no hope that it may come on again.

The second purpose of the morning is to celebrate with Pastor his fortieth Anniversary of Ordination which happened September 20th, 1985.

The third opportunity of the day is to lie to Pastor and tell him he doesn't look a day over 69. His birthday is October 10th.

There will be an open house Sunday, October 5th 12:30-2:30 p.m. for the community to come and celebrate with Pastor his Ordination Anniversary. Members unable to attend the morning activities are welcome to come in the afternoon for cake.

Hope Lutheran Church Council Minutes September 10, 2025

MEMBERS PRESENT: Pastor Helgren, Dave Antholz, Janice Beethe, Trevor Pope, Mark Rumery and Sharon Carman. Dave Lubben and Mark Panko were absent.

COUNCIL MINUTES CONT.: Pastor opened the meeting with prayer.

THE MINUTES from the August meeting were reviewed and approved.

THE TREASURER'S REPORT: by Mark Panko for August reports: **TOTAL INFLOWS \$2,926.66**

TOTAL OUTFLOWS -\$4,360.60

NET TOTAL -\$1,433.94

Balance August 31st was \$5,506.74.

PASTOR'S REPORT: Pastor visited and communed Judy Lubben, Dee Stoner and Carol Speth.

****Pastor will lead worship at Orchard Park September 25th.**

****Pastor reported the baptism for Ken'yahta Starr and Mor'trell Starr was August 17th.**

****We had the blessing of the backpacks August 10th.**

OLD BUSINESS: **Sunday School will resume the second Sunday in October.

****The Homework Committee will meet following the council meeting.**

NEW BUSINESS: **Date Change for Mission Fest. It will be October 5th at 10:00 a.m. at Grace Lutheran. The meal will be at 11:00 a.m. with Grace providing the meat and vegetables and Hope providing the desserts. 12:30-2:30 p.m. the community is welcome for a cake reception to celebrate Pastor's 40th Ordination Anniversary and his 70th birthday. Pastor Helgren will be our speaker for Mission Fest and speak to his years of service and the ways the Discretionary Funds are used in our churches. The offering will go to the Discretionary Fund.

Counting Schedule: 9/14/25 Sharon, 9/21/25 Dave A., Comm. Ser. Jane, 9/28/25 Mark R., 10/5/25 Mission Fest at Grace, 10/12/25 Dave A., Comm. Ser. Russel.

The next meeting will be October 15th 8:00 p.m. We adjourned with the Lord's Prayer

Minutes submitted by Sharon Carman.

9/17/25 Pastor sent a text to clarify what Hope is to bring for Mission Fest. Grace is supplying Hot Beef Sandwiches. Hope is to bring any Pot Luck Item. Cake is being provided for dessert.

Minutes submitted by Sharon Carman

WELCA MINUTES: Hope Lutheran WELCA September 18, 2025

Hope Lutheran WELCA met on September 18, 2025 with those present being: Marilyn, Sharon, Alberta and Pastor Jim.

Marilyn called the meeting to order and reports from the Secretary and Treasurer were presented. Balance \$1,070.80.

Sharon reported that 40 School Kits and 38 Personal Care Kits are nearly ready to send to Lutheran World Relief.

This year's Thankoffering Service will be November 16th.

Mission Festival at Grace will be on October 5th. Pastor will speak and the offering will go to the Pastor's Discretionary Fund to help persons in need. A meal will be served after the service with Hope members bringing a dish of their choice. We will be celebrating Pastor Jim's 40th Ordination Anniversary as well as his 70th Birthday.

Thanksgiving Eve Worship is at Grace on November 26th at 7:00 p.m.

Each officer agreed to continue in their position for another year.

Offering was received.

We closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully, Alberta Block

WORKBOOK COMMITTEE: The Workbook Committee for Hope Lutheran held our second working session following the Church Council meeting September 9, 2025. The topic of this session was our Purpose as a Church. We reviewed the note cards on "OUR PURPOSE AS A CHURCH" which was filled out by the congregation. It was the task of the workshop committee to interpret the responses. There were several common themes that the committee pulled from the note cards that we have listed below.

Listen to God's Word, Learn God's Word, Share God's Word.

We would like to thank everyone for filling out the note cards and helping the committee. We will continue to ask for your input and guidance as we continue to gather information that will be used by the Call Committee.

Our next meeting will be held after the October Church Council meeting.

Workbook Committee Member, Russel Moss

Hope Lutheran Church-Burr

October 2025

Pastor
Jim Helgren

9:00 Sunday School
10:00 Worship Service
*unless noted otherwise

Church Council

Chairman: Dave An
Fin. Sec. Janice Be
Treas. Mark Panko
Sec. Sharon Carman
Deacons: David Lubben
Trevor Pope
Mark Rumery

Worship & Music

Alberta Block
Sharon Carman
Sherri Moss

Organists

Alberta Block
Sheri Moss
Ruth Neeman

WELCA President

Marilyn Moss

Bulletin/Newsletter

Sharon Carman

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|---|---------|--|-------------------------------------|--|----------|
| | | | 1 6:00 p.m. Confirmation | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 10:00 a.m. Mission Fest at Grace 11:00 a.m. Thanksgiving Dinner 6:30 p.m. Community Dinner for cake | 6 | 7 | 8 4:00 p.m. Kids for Christ 6:00 p.m. Confirmation | 9 | 10 | 11 |
| 12 10:00 a.m. Holy Communion Worship | 13 2:00 p.m. Grace Bible Study | 14 | 15 6:00 p.m. Confirmation 8:00 p.m. Hope Council | 16 1:30 p.m. Hope Bible Study | 17 | 18 |
| 19 10:00 a.m. Holy Communion Worship | 20 Fall Leadership 20th-22nd pastor gone | 21 | 22 4:00 p.m. Kids for Christ 6:00 p.m. Confirmation 7:00 p.m. Grace Council | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| 26 10:00 a.m. Worship | 27 | 28 | 29 6:00 p.m. Confirmation | 30 | 31 5:00-6:30 Halloween Trunk or Treat at Grace | |

Cemetery
Dave Antholz

WELCA Meeting
Bible Study: Alberta

Altar Guild
Janice & Becky

Visitation
Nancy