

Hope Lutheran Church

October 2026

Pastor Kate's Message: September has flown by! It's hard to believe that I have been serving alongside you for almost a month already! I have had the opportunity to meet and talk with some of you, and am learning the various ministries and traditions that you and Grace have. It's an exciting - and sometimes a bit overwhelming - time of learning and exploring. I've enjoyed hearing some hopes that you have for the future, and ideas for ways that things might be different going forward. As well as learning how things have been done in the past. Starting into this three-way ministry partnership at the same time that there is a new pastor may feel like a lot of change. There is certainly a learning curve for all of us! But I have heard a lot of hope and enthusiasm about possibilities for the future.

Dr. Brene' Brown, a professor of sociology who has written several books on leadership, community, and how to live as people together, uses this adage often: "Clear is kind and unclear is unkind." She's referring to the importance of communication - and clear communication - for working, serving, and living together as people. The more clearly we communicate, the more informed and on-the-same-page everyone is. As we try to bring three congregations together into a new partnership, to learn one another, and to discern how God is calling us, communication will be important. We will try to make changes and decisions as clear and transparent as possible.

I would love to hear your thoughts and ideas, and welcome your feedback about the ministry we are doing together. In this process of figuring things out and getting to know one another, there will invariably be some bumps and questions along the way. So, please let me know if you have questions or concerns at any point. Asking or telling me directly helps me to be able to answer the question or address the concern better than if the feedback comes through others. It creates the possibility for conversation and clarification, which increases the chances that a satisfactory answer or resolution can be found. (I promise, I'm not scary.)

If you need to get ahold of me, my cell phone will be the best way to do that, either by calling or texting. If you call and I don't answer, please leave a message. Occasionally calls don't come through if I'm driving, but the voicemail will show up even if the call doesn't. Texts almost always come through. If you would like to meet with me or to have me visit, please let me know and we'll find a time.

In the coming weeks and months, I hope to meet as many of you as possible and to get to you a bit. I will do my best to learn names as quickly as possible, but it may take me a little while.

Just as I'm still learning names, I'm also still learning who might need visits, why, and when. So, if you feel that I might have missed you, please let me know. Similarly, if something happens, like an accident, illness, someone going into the hospital, etc., please let me know. Even if you think everyone already knows, it is helpful for me to get the information as

directly as possible. Relying on the grapevine will not always get me information in a timely manner and I want to make sure I'm able to be there, if you would like me to be.

Speaking of getting to know people, here's a bit of an introduction to me.

I grew up in Wichita, KS with my mom, dad, and younger sister. My dad, now retired, worked as an engineer at Boeing for many years. My mom trained as a librarian, and worked in a variety of settings including the children's room of a public library, the specialized library at a botanical garden, and before her retirement, as part of an Arts-in-schools program with storytelling and puppetry. My sister has a photography business and works as a nuclear engineer. She lives in Scotland with her English husband and their almost 1.5 year old daughter, Avi.

I attended UNL for my undergraduate degree and majored in Computer Science, though my business minor has gotten more use since I started ministry. Between undergrad and seminary, I spent a year in the Lutheran Volunteer Corps serving two churches in Baltimore city. Following that I began seminary at Wartburg Theological Seminary in Dubuque, IA. During seminary I served my internship year in Green Bay, WI. (No, I'm not a Packers fan, but, yes, I did visit the stadium.) After my final year in seminary, I was an exchange student at a seminary in Neuendettelsau, Germany for a year. As a result, I do speak German, although I am a bit out of practice now. If you also speak it, I'm happy to practice.

My German skills did get some use in my first call. The first congregation that I served was Friedens Lutheran Church in Lincoln, NE. This congregation still holds a German language Christmas service during Advent! Friedens discerned during my time there that they needed to have a parttime instead of a fulltime pastor. So, during the last year and a half of my time there, I served part time in the congregation and part time as a chaplain in an independent/assisted living and memory care senior living community. I came to this area almost 7 years ago as a transitional pastor (interim) for Faith and Christ Delaware.

I'm a vegetarian (yes, I eat eggs and dairy and all those sorts of things). I enjoy spending time outside (ideally when it's less than 85 degrees), swimming, yoga, reading, listening to music, penguins, and learning new things. I like teaching, and helping people learn about and explore their faith, so if you have questions, let's talk about it!

I'm glad to be here with you and look forward to our ministry together.

Pastor Kate

Monthly Schedule: Oct. 4th, 10:00 a.m. Holy Communion Worship at Hope

Oct. 11th, No Service at Hope

Oct. 18th, 8:00 a.m. Worship at Hope

Oct. 25th, 10:00 a.m. Joint Worship at Grace Mission Fest
Oct. 13th & 27th, 4:00 p.m. Kids for Christ @ Grace
Oct. 14th, 7:30 p.m. Hope Council
Oct. 21st, 2:00 p.m. Grace & Hope Bible Study @ Grace

U. S. Holidays: Oct. 12th, Indigenous Peoples' Day, Columbus Day

Oct. 31st, Halloween

Hope Lutheran Church Council Minutes September 9, 2026

MEMBERS PRESENT: Pastor Kate Woolf, Dave Antholz, Janice Beethe, Keith Moss, Megan Pope, Trevor Pope, Mark Rumery and Sharon Carman. Pastor Kate opened the meeting with prayer.

THE MINUTES from the August meeting were reviewed and corrected.

THE TREASURER'S REPORT: by Megan Pope for August reports: TOTAL INFLOWS	\$2,945.00
TOTAL OUTFLOWS	-\$1,651.83
NET TOTAL	-\$1,293.17

August 31st balance was \$16,925.87. The treasurer's report was approved.

PASTOR'S REPORT: Pastor Kate asked how the service had gone on her first Sunday. No concerns were mentioned.

OLD BUSINESS: **Mission Fest will be a joint service October 25th at Grace 10:00 a.m.

**We still need to find a home for our old LBW hymnals. Sharon will call the Good Will or Salvation Army to see if they will take them.

**We will have joint worship with Faith & Grace at 10:00 a.m. Sunday, September 13th, to welcome Pastor Kate and a potluck will follow worship. Grace is supplying shredded pork and buns. We should bring a side dish.

**We will have coffee following the 8:00 a.m. service Sunday, September 20th.

**Russel Moss came to update Pastor Kate on the workbook committee and the cemetery board.

**Sunday School will start the first Sunday in October. Jane ordered material with funds from Thrivent. We also ordered Bibles for the students to receive then.

****Sharon, Alberta and Marilyn visited Judy Lubben. Sharon, Nancy, and Cathy visited and communed Carol Speth. Sharon will go with Pastor Kate to visit them as Pastor Kate is available.**

NEW BUSINESS: **We discussed the options for the Sundays we do not have worship at Hope. We can go to Grace or Faith or watch the streamed version from those services.

****There was water in the north side of the basement about a month ago. Dave plans to cut down a hump outside so it drains better.**

****The south side of the basement wall has a large crack in it. We will contact Thrasher for Epp to check out the issue.**

****Kudu Lawn Care will do some more work this fall.**

****Pastor Kate would like to have quarterly joint meetings with the three councils perhaps the second week in November.**

****Only one offering plate will be placed out now.**

****There were numerous complaints about the sound on our worship video. After discussion Trevor agreed to look into the purchase of a Mevo camera and tablet to record the services at Hope to get better sound.**

****Pastor Kate would like for communion age to be worked out between her and the child's parents. If a child is interested and understands they should be communed.**

****Jane purchases the confirmation gifts for confirmands.**

****Pastor orders baptismal items.**

****Mondays are the pastor's day off.**

****The ladies provide cookies and drinks for funerals.**

****We use candles for All Saints Sunday.**

****Jane maintains the communion records.**

Counting Schedule: 9/20/26 Trevor, 10/4/26, Dave, Comm. Ser. Deb.

The next meeting will be on Wednesday, October 14th at 7:30 p.m. We closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Minutes submitted by Sharon Carman.

Hope Lutheran Church-Burr October 2026

Pastor
Kate Woolf

9:00 Sunday School
Worship Service
**Check schedule
for time

Church Council
Chairman: Dave Antholz
Fin. Sec. Janice Beethe
Treas. Megan Pope
Sec. Sharon Carman
Deacons: Keith Moss
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	2	3
4 9:00 S. School 10:00 a.m. Holy Communion Worship at Hope fellowship after	5	6	7	8	9	10
11 9:00 S. School NO SERVICE AT HOPE 8:00 a.m. Faith 10:00 a.m. Grace	12 Columbus Day Indigenous Peoples' Day	13	14 4:00 Kids for Christ @ Grace 7:30 Hope Council	15	16	17
18 8:00 a.m. Worship at Hope fellowship after 9:00 Sunday School	19	20	21 1:30 Bible Study at Grace	22	23	24
25 9:00 S. School 10:00 a.m. Mission Fest at Grace Potluck Dinner after	26	27	28 4:00 Kids for Christ @ Grace,	29	30	31 Halloween

Cemetery
Dave Antholz

WELCA Meeting

Bible Study: Oct. 21st 1:30 @ Grace

Altar Guild
Janice & Becky

Visitation
Nancy