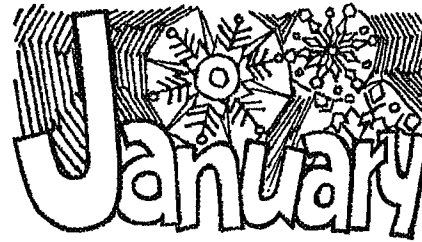


HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER - 2011

Hope Lutheran Church
113 S Jefferson St., PO Box 87
Minneota, MN 56264-0087
Office Phone #507-872-6446
Kitchen Phone #507-872-5215
Parsonage Phone #507-872-6347
E-mail: hopeminneota@starpoint.net
Website: www.hopeminneota.org



MISSION STATEMENT: Hope Lutheran Church seeks to strengthen our faith in Jesus Christ, to proclaim the Gospel to others, and to strive for unity in Christ.

Thomas T. Kolden Interim Pastor
Eric Anspach-Hanson and Christie Hanson Missionaries
Mary Hauschild Parish Secretary
Lynn & Barb Okrina Custodians
Gayle VanVooren Jubilation
Darwin Dyce Spirit Singers
Paula Dovre King's Kids
Valerie Buysse Organist

IF YOU ARE IN NEED of a pastoral call, or know of anyone who is, please do not hesitate to call Pastor Kolden. Office #507-872-6446 Home #507-872-6347 Cell #507-993-7920

HLCW CORNER

The Hope Lutheran Church Women met on December 9, 2010, for a Christmas noon potluck. Wow! What a tasty feast we had and what wonderful cooks!

Marlene Josephson was in charge of the program, in which Marlene showed a video, entitled, "The Silent Night." The video was very inspirational in that it explained how the singing of "Silent Night" around the world relates to the coming of the Christ Child.

We were able to give some monetary donations to the organizations we usually give to this time of the year, but we also decided to give a monetary donation to the Bell Tower Fund.

There will be a work day on January 13th, from 9:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. with a soup and sandwich noon lunch. We will work on the quilts for this year's Seniors and World Relief, as well as put together the items for the Health Kits.

There will be a Father-Son supper on January 29, 2011, at 6:00 p.m. We plan to have a roast beef meal with all the trimmings and entertainment. The women of the church plan on making the food themselves. Tickets will be on sale two weeks before the supper. The alternate snow date is February 5, 2011. We hope you plan to attend, so bring a son, son-in-law, or a friend.

The next HLCW meeting will be Thursday, January 20, 2011, at 2:00 p.m. with Betty Prellwitz in charge of the program, entitled "Worship." The Martha Circle will be in charge of the lunch.

I wish all of you a blessed New Year filled with health, happiness, and peace.

Take care, Betty Prellwitz/President

**HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH
CHURCH COUNCIL NOTES
DECEMBER 6, 2010**

Fund Balances:

General Fund: \$3,263.82
Building Fund: \$8,174.04
Cornerstone Fund: \$8,998.53
Petty Cash Fund: \$399.20
Borrowed from Cornerstone Fund: \$5,000.00
Borrowed from Building Fund: \$12,500.00

Treasurer's Report

† The council approved the outstanding bills for the month of December, 2010, totaling \$10,916.60; withhold Synod payment until funds are available. St. Paul Lutheran Seminary was designated as outreach for January.

Board of Trustee's Report

† Trustees approved paying \$1,672.00 to CEEC, \$431.01 to Minneota Building Materials and \$4,300.00 to Neiman Roofing Co. for repair completed on the bell tower and to be paid from Bell Tower Funds.

† December 30th at noon will be the cutoff time for offerings to be credited to the 2010 annual offering statement.

† Lynn Okrina will be building more shelves for the library on the west wall. There are funds in the Library Memorial Fund to pay for this project.

† For walk-around offerings, if you write a check to the church, you will receive credit on your annual statement for tax purposes.

† Suggestion for the Annual Meeting was to make a list of organizations for outreach programs for the coming year.

Board of Deacons Report

† What is the best way to get new volunteers for lectors, communion servers, and meals on wheels? A suggestion was to have a sign-up sheet on a clip board and pass around during church service.

Board of Education Report

† Last day of Sunday School will be May 15th.

† Teen Power is going well.

† May 4th will be the last day of Confirmation. May 18th will be for the Statement of Faith, and May 22nd will be Confirmation at a 10:00 a.m. service.

Other Business

† Allan Josephson gave an update on the Campus Religious Center that beginning July 1, 2011, more support will be needed locally from churches and individuals because of funding cuts.

† Call Committee update - They have submitted the 14-page form to continue to move forward with the call process.

† Strategic Plan: What are the primary goals to which you are connected? Some thoughts were: build up, bring people back, community involvement. Each council member is to bring three ideas to the next meeting about how to reach goals. Goals should be measurable, realistic, and challenging.

† Military BibleStick Outreach project is a digital audio player pre-loaded with the New Testament. Our nation's troops are hearing the Word of God while on or preparing for deployment. The cost is \$25.00 for the Military BibleStick, and this will be our local outreach program for February.

† Nona will get information from a church in Canby that uses a projector and screens, which replaces the bulletins, when music is used that is not in our hymnals.

Respectfully Submitted,
Lois VanDePutte

Musings from the Pastor

“A New Year, a New Hope”

The LORD says to his people through Jeremiah, **“For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the LORD, plans for your welfare and not for your harm, to give you a future with hope.”** Jeremiah 29:11

There is, of course, a calendar on the wall of my study, a calendar provided by Thrivent Financial for Lutherans. Sometimes year-end brings the ending of big things, like corporations and careers and the beginning of something else, something new. The striking picture above the month of December in my 2011 calendar is of the east stained glass window of a church in Dolton, Illinois. It is a beautiful window, indeed, looking out on the rising of the sun, the beginning of a new day, the start of a new year. In grace, the sun rises; the new year comes.

On the 2010 calendar there is an empty box after December 31st, a box not filled with numbers, not filled with writing. This empty box reminds me that the future does not come prepackaged but comes both as a surprise and a gift and as a project for us to be about working on. We receive each day as a gift and then give back to God by working to the glory of God in each day we are given. The future is one of promise for us who believe that God wills good for us and for all people. God gives us the stewardship of time as well as of material goods and money that come from God's hands. God calls us to love and labor in his name to create a future that is brighter for all people.

The beginning of a new year gives us the opportunity to evaluate how we have been doing as a congregation in building God's preferred future for us and for the world. We can try new things. We can try to do the customary things with more verve and vigor. We can vow to open ourselves to the Spirit as Mary and Joseph opened themselves to God's work through them.

The congregation's annual meeting is January 26th in the evening. May we get excited about the possibilities in and through our congregation for helping people regain hope and live in hope. Christ is our hope, and we are called to follow him into a future of hope.

May God's blessing be upon you in this new year.

Pastor Thomas J. Holden

Notes from the Pastor's Office

A bulletin has been received this month from: Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church of Plymouth, Minn.

Men's Breakfast will meet on the second Saturday of each month from now on at Rusty's Corner Café in Taunton. The next meeting is on **January 8th** at 7:30 a.m.

A meeting of the parents of 5th graders will be held on January 9th after worship to set up the schedule for Communion instruction.

A Christmas Cantata will be presented by the Jubilation Choir on Sunday January 9th during the worship hour. Please invite your friends.

A Bible study on the book of Genesis is meeting on Thursdays at 7 p.m. For now, we meet in the warm pastor's office. We will begin again on January 13th.

The Annual Meeting for 2010 of Hope Lutheran Church will at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday January 26, 2011. All reports of organizations should be in the church office by January 11th. When you are contacted by the nominating committee, please give serious thought to the request to serve the congregation on the church council.

One item of discussion will be the monthly Local Benevolence offerings. Council has picked Luther Seminary for January, The Military Bible Stick program for February, and the Food Shelf for March. The other nine months' offerings will hopefully be designated at the meeting. Please bring your suggestions.

Regarding ELCA/Southwestern Minnesota Synod Benevolence, council is considering a goal in the general fund budget but encouraging designated giving through Hope Lutheran Church to the Synod/ELCA.

The Region 3 Hunger Retreat will be held at Luther Crest Bible Camp, near Alexandria, Minnesota from, January 27-28, 2011. Information about this retreat is included in this newsletter. Please consider attending. You may contact Erica Lehmann for more information.

The Synod Hunger Task force is looking for names of people who may be interested in becoming hunger advocates for our congregation and area. A day-long training event will be held at Lake Shetek on Saturday, February 19th, beginning at 9 a.m. For more information, please see Pastor Kolden.

From the Internet

A New Day

**There's a brand new day before me,
And a chance to start anew.
And shiny hours waiting,
With much for me to do.
There's a blue sky up above me,
And sunlight through the trees.
Nobody should grow weary,
With gifts as great as these.
There's a brand new day before me
And I treasure every minute,
My eager arms reach out to hold
Each quiet joy within it.
I feel my steps grow lighter,
And all the worries fade,
As once again God lets me share
This new day he has made.
--author unknown**



Region 3 Connecting the Nine Synods of North Dakota, South Dakota and
Minnesota
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

November 30, 2010

TO: Region 3 Synods Hunger Resource Leaders

FROM: Pastor Erika Lehmann
West Prairie Lutheran Church
Lennox, SD

RE: Region 3 Hunger Retreat at Luther Crest
January 27-28, 2011

“If you pour yourself out for the hungry and satisfy the desire of the afflicted, then shall your light rise in the darkness and your gloom be as the noonday”.

Isaiah 58:10.

The Region 3 Hunger Retreat at Luther Crest Bible Camp, near Alexandria, MN is set for January 27-28, 2011. There will be an introductory session from 10 a.m. on Thursday, till noon for those who have not been involved with the ELCA World Hunger Appeal in the past. The retreat itself begins with lunch at noon, though registration will be open from 9 a.m. on. We will finish with lunch on Friday. Since it comes up early in the year it is important that those who might be interested get the dates on their calendars as soon as possible. We encourage synods to make sure that the invitation gets out to as many people who might benefit from this opportunity as possible. Questions or suggestions can be e-mailed to Erika Lehmann, elehmann@sio.midco.net.

Each synod is invited to send about 10 people, preferably a mixture of those who have been leaders in their synod hunger work and those who are new. We are especially reaching out to youth directors and youth and family leaders to come to the retreat, as one focus will be on how youth can be mentored in the hunger fighting work of the ELCA. For the comfortable accommodations and delicious food at Luther Crest, each person is asked to pay \$35, though the fee can be waived for those for whom that is a hardship, especially students.

Why attend this event? First of all, for the gift of fellowship and inspiration with people from across our region and ELCA Hunger Staff who share a passion for hunger and justice work. Secondly, there will be updates on the work of our ELCA World Hunger program, Lutheran World Relief, Lutheran World Federation, Church World Service, Bread for the World and other allies in the work of striving for justice for the poor in our country and world. Thirdly, there will be inspiring music, stirring worship, and Bible Study. Synod hunger committees will give reports on their work and those who attend will be equipped to share the story of the ELCA's hunger fighting work with their congregations.

In Christ's service,
Pastor Erika Lehmann
West Prairie Lutheran Church, Lennox, SD

2481 Como Avenue. Saint Paul, Minnesota 55108-1445. Phone: 651-649-0454. Fax: 651-649-0468
E-Mail: paul.bagtyvos@elca.org E-Mail: sjpilgrim@aol.com

"PRAYER SHAWL" MINISTRY

We have been so greatly blessed with the Prayer Shawl Committee since we have been in existence for four months. We have made 30 shawls and given out 24. Thank you to the committee for such a great contribution of talents and love. Prayer shawls can be used for: undergoing medical procedures; as a comfort after loss or in times of stress; during bereavement; prayer or meditation; commitment or marriage ceremonies; birthing, nursing a baby; bridal shower or wedding gift; during an illness and recovery; ministering to others; graduation, birthday, anniversary, ordination, holiday gifts; or just socializing...endless possibilities.

The Prayer Shawl Committee is open to any donations of yarn or money for this project. There will also be a memorial fund set up through Bob Nelson.

The next meeting is set for Thursday, January 13th, at 9:30 a.m. in the library.

For any questions or concerns about the Prayer Shawl committee, please contact Becky Pederson at 872-5233 or Rita Dovre at 872-6059.

"JUBILATION CHOIR" UPDATE

The Jubilation Choir Cantata is set for Sunday, January 9, 2011, during the worship service.

Choir practices will be on Wednesday, January 5th, January 12th, and January 19th. No choir practice on Wednesday, January 26th.

ANNUAL CHURCH INTERESTING

The church annual meeting is set for Wednesday, January 26th, at 7:30 p.m. The deadline for reports is noon on Tuesday, January 11th, to the church secretary, either on her desk or in the "church secretary" mailbox.

TEEN POWER

Please join us for pizza, hanging out, fun, and learning on Wednesday, January 5th and Wednesday, January 26th, beginning at 6:15 p.m.

ATTENTION: PARENTS OF FIFTH GRADERS

On Sunday, January 9th, following the worship service, there will be a meeting with Pastor Kolden to discuss First Communion instructional classes.

THANK YOU

A big "thank you" goes to Nona Gottskalkson and everyone who helped with the Sunday School Christmas program.

CALL COMMITTEE

The Call Committee met November 29th, 2010. The task at hand is to fill out the Ministry Site Profile, of which 95% has been filled out, with information needed from the church council. Once this is completed, it will be submitted, and hopefully names will be coming from the Synod. We will be completing the Profile and correspond through the Internet, and we will be meeting again once names are supplied.

Respectfully submitted, Jean Josephson, Secretary

"HOPE FOR TOMORROW" SUPPORT GROUP

The "Hope for Tomorrow" support group met on December 2, 2010, with seven people attending. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 13, 2011, at 7:00 p.m. in the church library. Anyone who has lost their spouse is welcome to come.

Respectfully submitted, Jean Josephson

The church secretary asks that any updates to mailing addresses and/or telephone numbers, that are different from what are in the pictorial directory, be called in or placed in the church secretary mailbox. The church phone number is 507-872-6446.

CIRCLE BIBLE STUDIES

Martha Circle: Wednesday, January 5th, at 9:30 a.m., at the home of Hazel Johnson

Ruth Circle: Wednesday, January 5th, at 2:00 p.m., at the home of Helen Skaar
(Note: Location change)

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Rusty's Café, Taunton, Minnesota January 8, 7:30 a.m.

WEEKLY BIBLE STUDY

Pastor Kolden's office Thursdays at 7:00 p.m.

WORKGROUP CHAIRPERSONS:

Nona and Greg Gottskalsen - 507-829-3379

ALTAR GUILD:

Betty Prellwitz 507-872-6038

Marlys Skaar 507-872-6600

SOUND OPERATORS:

Randy Prellwitz January 2
Adam Josephson January 9
Todd Sonnenburg January 16
Jack Jerzak January 23
Scott Josephson January 30

VIDEO OPERATORS:

Don Belaen
Ron Thostenson
Keven Larson
Ralph Hagen
Don Belaen

CHURCH ATTENDANCE

November 28 - 108
December 5 - 150
December 12 - 34
December 19 - 156
December 24 - 250
December 25 - 47
December 26 - 52

OUR MINISTRY SUPPORT

Amount received to date (Does not include December 28). \$119,291.45
Actual expenses to date (January to December 27). \$133,791.92

Outreach:	\$ 3,623.37	Salaries:	\$90,019.97
Worship:	\$ 4,257.26	Properties:	\$21,573.30
Parish Education:	\$ 2,996.42	Home Benevolence:	\$ 151.50
Administration:	\$11,170.10		

"BELL TOWER FUND" UPDATE

The total funds raised as of December 20th is \$8,740.93 toward our goal of \$12,000 to pay for the bell tower project.

Harold and Kathy Howard have moved and their new address and telephone number are:
18755 135th Ave Telephone #320-685-9891
Cold Spring MN 56320

2011 - GROUP 1

January: Nona & Greg Gottskalkson 829-3379
April: Gene & Barb Fodness 872-5161
July: Alan & Rita Dovre 872-6059
October: Kim & Guy Jeremiason 872-5442

Duties Every Sunday Ushering - Nursery Sitters - Coffee Servers

Special Duties

January

Clean Nursery

April

Cookies for Bloodmobile

Maundy Thursday (2), Good Friday and Easter Sunday (2)

July

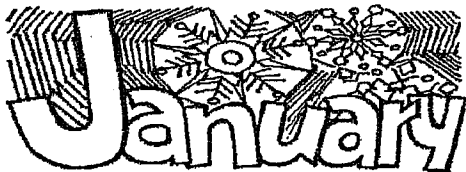
Clean Nursery

October

Birthday Party at the Manor - October 7

FUNERALS ARE SERVED ON A ROTATING BASIS

Doretta Addison	872-6804	Shawn Kaas	
Keith Anderson	872-6290	Scott & Barb Knutson	872-5058
Kevin & Jamie Anderson	872-6583	Dennis & Nadine Kor	872-6682
Shane & Trish Bordewyk	829-2194	Bryce & Wendy Kosmalski	296-4654
	or 224-2145	Wendell & Darlyne Larson	872-6082
Mel & Kristi Breyfogle	872-6543	Audrey Lawrence	872-5163
Dan & Linda Canton	872-6322	Luella Mattson	872-6754
Jerry & Jennifer Christianson	872-6913	Ilene Merritt	872-6237
Gladys Coderre	487-5561	Doug & Jo Moen	872-6171
Allan & Rita Dovre	872-6059	Sandy Muhl	872-5175
Charles Drown	872-5453	Harvey Myhre	872-6897
Judy Esping	530-7260	Bob & Lisa Myhre	872-6266
Peg Esping	872-5244	Paul Myrvik	872-6862
Marilyn Esping	872-5052	Linda Okrina	872-6771
Gene & Barb Fodness	872-5161	Colleen Pederson	872-5922
Lon Gawarecki	829-9805	Marlin & Becky Peterson	
Greg & Nona Gottskalkson	829-3379	Rob & Brenda Prellwitz	872-6996
Bonnie Hanson	872-6790	Chad & Moriah Reiss	872-6066
Amanda Hatletvedt	828-0902	Don & Janyce Sanow	872-6010
Sue Hatletvedt	828-7853	Todd & Lisa Sonnenburg	872-5456
Andy & Emily Hennen	428-3562	Byron & Bonnie Stelton	872-6869
Danny Hettling	872-6860	Sandy & Duane Thompson	872-6212
Dudley & Marie Hovland	532-5929	Sandy Tolk	872-6730
Howard Huso	428-3599	Bill & Alison Ufkin	872-5458
Howard & Elloween Jensen	872-5392	Sandy Vershelde	872-5288
Cliff & Edith Jeremiason	872-6301	Wayne West	872-6776
Connie Johnson	872-5146	Mike & Michelle Williams	872-6635
Hazel Johnson	872-6378	Carmen Yost	
David & Betty Josephson	872-6566	Darin Yost	872-6248
Allan & Marlene Josephson	872-6706		

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<h1>January 2011</h1>						1
2 9:00 a.m. Worship/Holy Communion 10:00 a.m. Coffee Hour/ NO Sunday School NO Bell Choir Practice 6:30 p.m. Worship TV Broadcast, Ch. 3	3 7:00 p.m. Church Council Meeting	4	5 8:00 a.m. Prayer Group 9:30 a.m. Martha Circle at the home of Hazel Johnson 2:00 p.m. Ruth Circle at the home of Helen Skaar 5:30 p.m. Confirmation 6:15 p.m. Teen Power 7:00 p.m. Jubilation Practice 8:00 p.m. Worship Meeting	6 9:00 a.m. Interim Pastor at Redwood Falls 2:30 p.m. Manor Service	7	8 7:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study at Rusty's Café in Taunton
9 9:00 a.m. Worship/Choir Contata Following worship, parents of fifth graders meet with pastor in the chapel 10:00 a.m. Coffee Hour/Sunday School Bell Choir Practice Following Sunday School 6:30 p.m. Worship TV Broadcast, Ch. 3	10	11 <u>NOON</u> ANNUAL REPORTS DUE	12 8:00 a.m. Prayer Group 5:30 p.m. Confirmation 7:00 p.m. Jubilation Practice	13 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. <u>Work Day</u> NOON Lunch - soup and sandwich 9:30 a.m. Prayer Shawl Meeting-Library 7:00 p.m. Bible Study-Pastor's office 7:00 p.m. Hope for Tomorrow Support Group in church library	14	15
16 9:00 a.m. Worship/Holy Communion 10:00 a.m. Coffee Hour/Sunday School Bell Choir Practice Following Sunday School 6:30 p.m. Worship TV Broadcast, Ch. 3	17	18 9:00 a.m. Pastors' Conference at Porter	19 8:00 a.m. Prayer Group 5:30 p.m. Confirmation 7:00 p.m. Jubilation Practice	20 7:00 p.m. Bible Study-Pastor's office	21	22
23 9:00 a.m. Worship/Praise Band 10:00 a.m. Coffee Hour/ Sunday School Altar Guild Meeting Bell Choir Practice Following Sunday School 6:30 p.m. Worship TV Broadcast, Ch. 3	24	25	26 8:00 a.m. Prayer Group 5:30 p.m. Confirmation 6:15 p.m. Teen Power 7:00 p.m. NO Jubilation 7:30 p.m. ANNUAL CHURCH MEETING	27 7:00 p.m. Bible Study-Pastor's office	28 10:00 a.m. to 12:00p.m. Western Community Action - Parent Meeting - "Dollar Work II"	29 6:00 p.m. FATHER-SON BANQUET
30 9:00 a.m. Worship 10:00 a.m. Coffee Hour/Sunday School Executive Council Meeting Bell Choir Practice Following Sunday School 6:30 p.m. Worship TV Broadcast, Ch. 3	31					

ANNUAL MEETING



JANUARY 26TH - 7:30 P.M.