

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

When children were little, they began Sunday school and preschool at about the same time. Sometimes, the things they learned in the church got mixed up in their heads with the things they learned in school. One day my daughter came home all excited about learning the pledge of the allegiance. She proudly stood before us and put her hand over her little heart and pledged;

"I pledge allegiance to the flag, of the United States of America.

And tell your parents,  
that they should stand,  
under God,  
because we love him.

With liberty and justice for all. Amen"

Not quite the pledge of allegiance. But, I have remembered her words with a smile for 25 years because I thought they made a lot of sense.

Our American culture looks down upon those who are too zealously religious or who try to share their faith too loudly. We are encouraged to separate our faith time from our public time and to only share our faith with those of the same mind lest we offend someone. As a result, we often confine our "God time" to an hour on Sunday morning. Modern Americans tend to put God into a box and speak of him only when in the walls of their church buildings. Our scriptures have something to say about this part of our culture. Let me share with you the words from the book of Romans on the subject ;

"So here's what I want you to do, God helping you: Take your everyday, ordinary life—your sleeping, eating, going-to-work, and walking-around life—and place it before God as an offering. Embracing what God does for you is the best thing you can do for him. Don't become so well-adjusted to your culture that you fit into it without even thinking. Instead, fix your attention on God. You'll be changed from the inside out. Readily recognize what he wants from you, and quickly respond to it. Unlike the culture around you, always dragging you down to its level of immaturity, God brings the best out of you, develops well-formed maturity in you." (*The Message version of Romans 12:1-2*)

As a people, we are so blest with all we have been given. Separating God from our everyday activities, conversations and decisions goes against our Christian calling. Our scriptures challenge us to carry our God with us from our congregations into all of our decisions and all of our lives. What might your family, your neighborhood, your town or your country look like if we all got our church and our regular life "mixed up" together?

May you be challenged and "mixed up" by your God this month!

Pastor Janet Miller

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

We have just returned from a full and busy week at the 15th Churchwide Assembly in Milwaukee. The churchwide assembly is the highest legislative authority of the ELCA. Over 900 voting members from all 65 synods participated in the week-long triennial assembly to discuss and deliberate important matters of the Church.

One of those topics which you may have heard about through national news outlets was the decision to declare the ELCA as a "sanctuary church body".

In simplest form, becoming a sanctuary church body or denomination means that as the Church, we are publicly declaring that walking alongside immigrants and refugees is a matter of faith.

Accompanying immigrants and migrants is already a strategy of the Church through the work of AMMPARO.

Being a sanctuary denomination will look different across different contexts. Each congregation will need to discern what this means for them in their context.

**Legally, here is what the action by the Churchwide Assembly means:**

- The Churchwide Assembly's declaration that the ELCA is a sanctuary denomination binds only the ELCA Churchwide Organization; it does not bind congregations, synods, or other organizations;
- The Churchwide Assembly did not call for any illegal actions, all actions mentioned by the Churchwide Assembly are legal, and whether any person or organization chooses to engage in civil disobedience (and therefore accept the consequences) is up to them;
- The Churchwide Assembly did not define what it means to be a sanctuary denomination, but rather requested that the ELCA Church Council provide guidance as to what it means to be a sanctuary denomination.

Please see this linked ACLU resource. This is an excellent explainer of the difference between legal and illegal actions that often fall under the name "sanctuary", and the gray areas around there. Finally, being a sanctuary denomination is about loving our neighbors. While we may have different ideas about how to fix the immigration system and different ways of loving our neighbors, our call to love our neighbor is central to our faith.

May God bless you all as you hold conversations and decisions in Christ's name.

In Christ,



Bishop David B. Zellmer

## Hope Lutheran Church Offerings and Expenses June 2019

	Jun 19	May 19	Jan - Jun 19
<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>			
<b>Income</b>			
<b>41000 · Offerings</b>			
41100 · Regular Offerings	8,801.00	5,798.50	39,888.61
41200 · Special Services Offerings	0.00	0.00	2,566.00
<b>Total 41000 · Offerings</b>	8,801.00	5,798.50	42,454.61
42100 · Gifts & Memorials	0.00	0.00	260.00
<b>44000 · Other Income</b>			
44440 · Special Offerings to Pass On	293.96	299.34	647.30
44100 · Interest Earned	0.55	1.17	177.03
44200 · Thrivent	0.00	0.00	2,193.00
44000 · Other Income - Other	0.00	5.00	40.75
<b>Total 44000 · Other Income</b>	294.51	305.51	3,058.08
<b>Total Income</b>	9,095.51	6,104.01	45,772.69
<b>Expense</b>			
<b>66000 · Payroll Expenses</b>			
66100 · Pastoral Payroll	7,284.03	7,284.03	31,992.90
66190 · Relief Pastor Expenses	0.00	0.00	2,452.00
66300 · Other Church Payroll	550.00	550.00	3,300.00
<b>Total 66000 · Payroll Expenses</b>	7,834.03	7,834.03	37,744.90
61800 · Continuing Ed & Conferencs	0.00	287.16	362.16
63100 · Worship & Education	58.56	210.10	809.20
63200 · Fellowship Expenses	0.00	21.25	260.21
<b>62000 · Office Expenses</b>			
62200 · Office Supplies	0.00	0.00	33.53
62300 · Printing and Reproduction	0.00	170.80	355.64
62500 · Dues and Subscriptions	0.00	0.00	66.80
62600 · Postage and Delivery	43.39	0.00	418.14
62000 · Office Expenses - Other	0.00	0.00	63.89
<b>Total 62000 · Office Expenses</b>	43.39	170.80	938.00
<b>67000 · Church/Building Expenses</b>			
67100 · Landscaping Expenses	800.00	0.00	800.00
67200 · Repairs and Maintenance	0.00	63.63	403.04
67300 · Small Tools and Equipment	0.00	30.45	566.69
67400 · Utilities	188.84	867.36	4,412.95
<b>Total 67000 · Church/Building Expenses</b>	988.84	961.44	6,182.68
<b>61400 · Charitable Contributions</b>			
61410 · Synod Mission Support	0.00	0.00	1,333.32
61450 · Special Offerings Sent On	1,439.34	0.00	1,439.34
61470 · Thrivent Share	0.00	0.00	232.00
<b>Total 61400 · Charitable Contributions</b>	1,439.34	0.00	3,004.66
69000 · Miscellaneous Expenses	9.90	4.95	24.75
<b>Total Expense</b>	10,374.06	9,489.73	49,326.56
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	-1,278.55	-3,385.72	-3,553.87
<b>Net Income</b>	-1,278.55	-3,385.72	-3,553.87

August 4, 2019

Council meeting

Present: Beth Hills, Ben Graf, Kelly Faeth, Pastor Janet, Jolene Johnston, Stacey Amdahl, Matt Amdahl, Bruce Kneeland.

Absent: Billi Whempner, Mike Schmidt, Jonathon Johnston. Others: Dawn wright

**Opened with a prayer.**

Secretary and Treasurer reports read and approved.

Pastor report: Pastoral Acts-4 funerals, 2 baptisms, 4 new members. VBS went well with average attendance-30, Youth-met at Pastor's cabin for Bible study and fellowship, Fall Prep for Sunday school and confirmation. Janet talked to council about her computer. She will take it in to be cleaned and see if that takes care of the problem. Motion Jolene, 2<sup>nd</sup> Matt to accept Pastor's report.

**Old business:**

Anniversary plans-Pie social Saturday, September 14 and special Worship and meal on September 15. Choir will sing too.

Dawn will look into price for carpet cleaning before anniversary. Also, looking for anyone to help with misc. cleaning around the church. (wiping down cupboards, windows, pews, ect.)

Air conditioning to be installed middle of August. Discussed subscription to Christ in Our Home. Decided to keep it as people do read it.

Fall schedule will begin September 1-Worship 10:30 am, Sunday school begins on September 8 at 9:15 am, coffee at 9:30.

**New business**

Boiler inspection-asked council if we needed it done. Will check into it further.

Pastor talked about Bibles for confirmation students. Asking the congregation for a donation of \$36 for each Bible.

Pastor will be gone August 16-19 (Val will be gone August 18)

**Other:**

Church membership program. Dawn will look into prices.

Beth brought up an idea for fellowship events. Craft activities and other events to do along with family. Discussed an adult Bible study too.

Closed with the Lord's prayer

Next meeting-September 8 after Worship

11:48 AM

08/02/19

Cash Basis

**Hope Lutheran Church  
Balance Sheet  
As of July 31, 2019**

	Jul 31, 19	Dec 31, 18
<b>ASSETS</b>		
<b>Current Assets</b>		
<b>Checking/Savings</b>		
11100 · General Fund Checking Acct	0.00	16,305.33
11102 · New General Fund Checking	9,352.83	0.00
11112 · MWBank Reloadable MC -Dawn	155.52	500.00
11113 · MWBank MC - Pastor Janet	286.26	0.00
11300 · HS Youth Group Checking Acct	4,858.68	3,620.30
11400 · Sunday School Checking Acct	1,462.72	1,853.63
12000 · CD's		
12130 · CD 27604	10,474.71	10,303.30
12110 · CD 27566	15,000.00	15,000.00
<b>Total 12000 · CD's</b>	<b>25,474.71</b>	<b>25,303.30</b>
<b>Total Checking/Savings</b>	<b>41,590.72</b>	<b>47,582.56</b>
<b>Other Current Assets</b>		
12001 · Undeposited Funds	0.00	5,000.00
<b>Total Other Current Assets</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>5,000.00</b>
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>41,590.72</b>	<b>52,582.56</b>

# HOPES HAPPENINGS

We will have a parent and student information meeting for Confirmation on Wed. Sept. 4th at 6:00pm. We need the students and an adult there. If you can not come, make sure you contact Pastor Janet as there will be changes in the confirmation group from last year.

Pizza and planning for the youth group will be Wed. Sept. 25th at 6:30pm. Pastor will provide the pizza- you provide the ideas for a great year of fellowship!

Pastor will attend the Fall Theological conference at Pierre this year. It runs the afternoon of Sept 22- Sept 24th. Pastor will be in worship on the 22nd.

We will begin a Bible study in September. The study is called "Growing in the Christian Life" and it is a study in the book of James. We will meet every first and third Wednesday at 7:00pm. It is an 8 part study so will take us into December. Everyone is welcome! Please contact pastor with a text or email or call and let her know if you are interested in being a part of the study so we can get materials. (605)-237-8005 cell #, office # 605-398-6150 or email [hlchurch@tnics.com](mailto:hlchurch@tnics.com).

Would you like to help the Sunday School? This fall, we are doing a "Faith Builders" theme and our curriculum has us using Legos to help kids understand the gospel. We have some legos but could use some more. Do you have any you would like to give to the church? We can't promise they will come back to you after they are worked with by the kids. But we promise they will be used well!

## **Rally Day Fun!**

**Come and learn to build you faith on the one and only God our Creator and Master Builder. We have lots of exciting activities, stories and songs to help you learn about Jesus and all that our God has done for us. Sunday School begins with Rally Day on Sept. 8th at 9:15 am.**

**Our Confirmation students and the 2nd and 3rd grade students will be receiving their Bibles from the church during worship on Sept. 8th.**

## **WELCA NEWS**

Welca will meet on Thursday, September 5<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am for quilting. Lunch will at 12:00 with Business meeting and Bible study to follow at 1:00. Devotions: Caroll, Bible study: Pastor Janet. Cause of the month: St Dysmas. Runner club offering is due also. A 2<sup>nd</sup> quilting day will be on Thursday, September 19<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 am- 12:00 pm.

Women of the ELCA Fall Retreat/Officers Workshops will be Wednesday, September 18<sup>th</sup> at NeSoDak Bible camp. Embracing our Neighbors is the theme. Registration is from 9:00-9:30 am. Cost is \$10 and includes lunch and resources. Plans for the day include music, Rev. Allie Smith's chair yoga and Bible study, a lefse program, communion and information about LSS's campaign for Hope. Offering: LSS Campaign for Hope. The Love offering is for NeSoDak Bible camp and can include travel size body wash, shampoo and conditioner to place in the showers, liquid hand soap (regular bottles and refill bottles), "The Works" toilet cleaner, copy/printer paper, pens, pencils, washable markers, dry erase markers, binder clips, 9 volt batteries (for smoke detectors), Forever stamps, aerosol air freshners, Kleenex, clear storage totes with lids (70qt or 18 gallon), 60 Watt LED light bulbs, and monetary donations.

\*School supplies are still on sale so be sure to get your supplies now! Bags are available at the church too. ☺

HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH  
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Find us on Facebook: Hope Lutheran Church and [www.seesummitsd.com](http://www.seesummitsd.com)



**September 2019**

“It is the mission of Hope Lutheran Church to help people grow in their faith; to be a leader in the community; to serve the needs of all people; and to teach/educate all people.

**September Birthdays and Anniversaries**

1-Kathy Brink, Todd and Billi Whempner  
3-Jess Carson, Karter Nelson, Oriena Adolph  
4-Frank Redlin  
6-Trevor and Roshanna Bourassa  
9-Jace Wohlleber, Gary and Heather Crandall  
10-Wylie and Nicole Pays, Ben and Brittany Graff  
10-Macaffery Young, Matthew Amdahl  
11-Eugene and Rhonda Steinocker  
11- Hunter Bourassa  
14-Talon Smith  
16-Bruce Kneeland  
18-Mary Arten

19-Craig Kneeland, Val Moen  
22-Lisa Amdahl, Rhonda Steinocker  
22-Karin and Corrie Quale  
23-Kaitlyn Christofferson  
24-Bruce and Diane Kneeland  
24-Tom Thuringer  
26-Sam Seffrood  
27-Mike and Sherrie Larson  
28-Jennifer Lewandowski  
28-Andrew Amdahl  
29-Beth and Randy Hills  
30-Dani Zubke

**September 2019 WORSHIP BEGINS AT 10:30 STARTING September 1.**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 green Worship 10:30am Choir practice following worship	2	3	4 6:00pm Confirmation student and parent information meeting 7:00 Bible Study	5 Quilting 9:00 WELCA meeting and Bible Study 1:00am	6	7 Theo Amdahl baptism  Installation of Bishop Constanza Hagmeier in Sioux Falls
8 green Sunday School 9:15am Worship 10:30am Choir practice following worship. Short council meeting after Worship. Rally Sunday! Bibles given out to 2-3 graders and confirmation students at worship	9	10	11 4:00pm 8-9 <sup>th</sup> grade Confirmation  6:30 Family Fun Night	12 Pastor's Text Study	13	14 Pie Social 7:00pm
15 green Sunday School 9:15am Anniversary Worship 10:30am Lunch to follow	16	17	18 4:00 6-7 <sup>th</sup> grade Confirmation  7:00 Bible Study	19 Quilting 9:00am	20 Newsletter items due	21 Shower at church
22 green Sunday School 9:15 Worship 10:30  Fall theological begins for pastor in afternoon	23 Fall theological	24 Fall theological	25 4:00 8-9 <sup>th</sup> grade Confirmation  6:30 Youth Group Pizza and planning night	26	27	28

29 Green  
Sunday School 9:15  
Worship 10:30

30  
Worship Helpers: WORSHIP BEGINS AT 10:30 STARTING September 1.  
September 1: Ushers-Derrick Rauen, (need one), Reader: (need), Coffee: Donna Arten  
September 8: Rally Sunday!!! Ushers-Becky and Maddie Hinkelman, Reader-Donna Jensen, Communion-Billi and Jorja Whempner, Coffee-Billi Whempner  
September 15: Hope Lutheran's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary!!!-Ushers-Ben and Brittany Graf, Reader-Anne Seffrood, Coffee-(need)  
September 22: Ushers, Reader, Communion, and coffee-Whempners  
September 29: Ushers, Reader, and coffee-Whempners  
Communion Committee: Janice Halverson, Sheryl Steinocker. Communion-8<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>.