

HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH
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"WORDS OF HOPE FROM HOPE"

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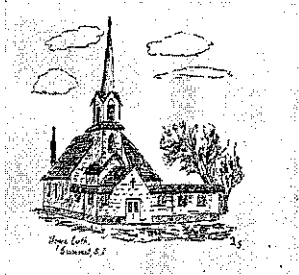
Church: hlchurch@tnics.com/Phone-(605)-398-6150

Pastor Janet Miller-cell #605-237-8005/home #605-947-4482

Secretary Dawn Wright -cell #605-881-4377

Find us on Facebook: Hope Lutheran Church and www.seesummitsd.com

Follow us on YouTube: Hope's Children



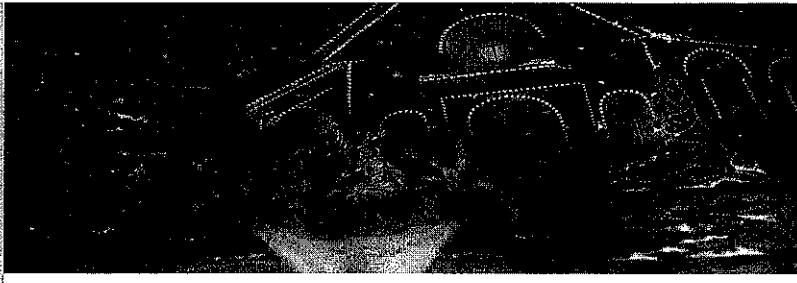
December 2021

“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.

Anniversaries and Birthdays (please let me know if there is an error or omission) ☺

1-Jen Zubke
1-Kris and Tami Jo Bronson
5-Jim Arten
10-Karin Quale
12-Eric Erickson
12-Cooper Ebsen
13-Robbie Young
13-Brandi O'Farrell
16-Randy Hills
16-Todd Brink
17-Jonathan and Nicole Ebsen
19-Nikki Pays

19-Braxton Urban
20-Jorja Whempner
20-Damon Opdahl
21-Andrea Gapp
22-Kiara Cardwell
23-Cade O'Farrell
24-Donn Richter
26-Brady Lindholm
31-Rose Carlson



December 2021

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
No Quilting during the month of December			1	2	3	4
5 blue 3:00 Piano recital at Hope	6	7	8 Florence confirmation	9	10	11
12 blue Council meets following Worship	13	14 1:00-Ladies Tea at Pastor Janet's house	15 7:00-youth group Christmas party	16 Conference Dean Zoom meeting	17 Newsletter Items due	18
19 blue Sunday school Christmas program during Worship	20	21	22	23	24 white 5:30 Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship	25
26 white NO SUNDAY SCHOOL Pastor gone- Worship of Carols	27	28	29	30	31	

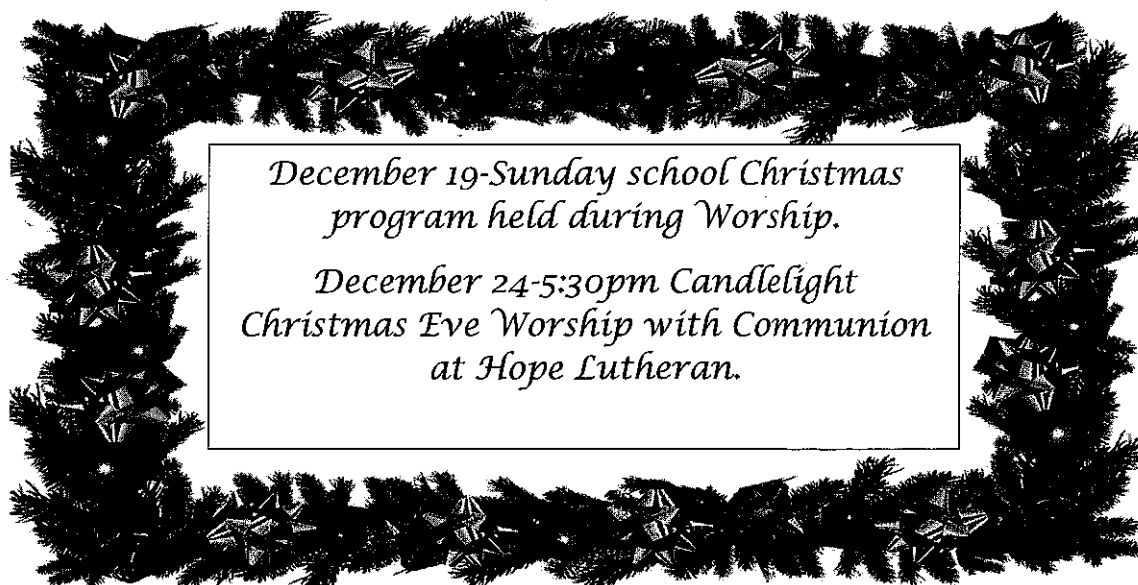
Worship Times:
 9:00am Worship at Florence
 10:00am Sunday school at Hope
 (NO SS ON DEC. 26 OR JAN. 2)
 11:00am Worship at Hope Lutheran
 Christmas Eve Worship:
 3:30 Candlelight service at Florence

HOPES HAPPENINGS

Many thanks to the youth who helped to decorate the church. Also, thanks to those who brought food and served during the Craft and Vendor event. We raised \$1378.00 for our youth! The youth will have their Christmas party on Dec. 15th at 7:00pm. we are doing the present game so you are asked to bring a wrapped present worth about \$10.00. The sillier present the better!



Advent mission- we will be doing a 2 special things during Advent for missions. First , we will be supporting the local "angel tree" and will have needed items on our tree in the narthex soon with more info in our bulletins. Second, we will be hearing about and supporting the Cameroon ministry of the "Lutheran Center for orphans and Vulnerable Children." This orphanage helps to support children who have come into the country because their families have been killed. Most are from Christian families who are being pushed out and killed by muslim malitia.



December 19-Sunday school Christmas program held during Worship.

December 24-5:30pm Candlelight Christmas Eve Worship with Communion at Hope Lutheran.

*Reminder to Sunday school parents-The kids have been working hard learning their songs for the Christmas program. This year we are doing a traditional program, simply. As we don't yet have a superintendent, the teachers are putting the program together on their own. ☺ The older kids, who volunteered, will have reading parts, while the younger kids will help tell the story with coloring pages they did. The Sunday school as a whole will sing. Kids are welcome to dress how they choose. We aren't assigning costumes. Please make sure your child(ren) are in Sunday school each week so they have plenty of time to practice!! Thanks!!



South Dakota Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

December 2021 Newsletter Inserts

From the Bishop's Desk: Advent 2021 Podcast!

Dear Siblings in Christ,
Grace and peace to you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit! I am inviting you to tune in to our second annual South Dakota Synod Advent Podcast. The title is plain and simple "Shortage." It seems that much of our life these days is determined by what we don't have, whether it is in material, emotional, physical, mental, or spiritual sense. The world is always right at hand to shout at us loud and clear what we are short of, what we are not, and where we miss the mark. The Bible calls these shortcomings sin.

As we wait for more than packages to arrive at our doorstep, as we try yet one more time to pull ourselves up by our bootstraps, as we take a deep breath hoping that tomorrow will be better, I invite you to tune in this Advent season and listen to Tangled Blue's tunes and synod staff's faithful conversations with partners in ministry. And as we arrive every week to listen, we trust that the Holy Spirit will open our ears and hearts to the message of hope-filled abundance so that we are ready to celebrate the birth of our Savior, Jesus the Christ at Christmas time. So, watch and wait with me, as details for our annual Advent podcast are unfolding abundantly in the midst of shortages in the World. Peace be with you!

Journeying in Christ with you,
Rev. Constanze Hagmaier
Bishop of the South Dakota Synod, ELCA

Rural Ministry Liason Position

Rev. Renee Splichal Larson

As the South Dakota Synod, we are committed to journeying together in Christ. This commitment is rooted in Luke 24 where Jesus attentively accompanied the disciples on the road to Emmaus for as long as they needed him. Once their eyes were opened and they discovered that their hearts were burning within them they picked up ministry again and Jesus vanished from their eyes. But as long as their trust was shaken, they felt alone, uncared for, and desperate. Jesus walked with them, listened to them, and taught them. In the same manner, our rural congregations often feel alone, uncared for, shaken and desperate. If our mission is to accompany each other on the journey, we must find a way to do so.

The South Dakota Synod identified that we would journey together in Christ through relating with intentionality,

networking across the church, equipping leaders, and sharing leadership, because we are confident that Christ loves all. Through prayer and discernment, the executive board of the synod has affirmed the pilot effort to provide a 'Rural Ministry Liaison' to congregations who are currently without a rostered minister working through the call process.

The 'Rural Ministry Liaison' would build intentional relationships with our rural ministry sites through immersion in 14-day increments. During these extended stays they would listen, learn and care for our rural ministry partners. They would network these rural sites with other sites and the wider church, as well as recognize and foster leadership gifts in local people. They would, like Jesus on the road, listen to the people in the faith community, and at the same time teach them through scripture about the hope that lies within the waters of baptism; so that, in turn, they can rediscover that their hearts were burning inside them all along for the purpose of revitalizing ministry and becoming once again bearers of the Good News that Christ loves all.

Stay tuned for further news about the 'Rural Ministry Liaison'!

ELCA Youth Gathering

Hello, faithful families of the ELCA across South Dakota! I bring you a message of glad tidings this December. As we are all preparing for Christ's birth and all the love and blessings (and cookies and presents) that surround our special advent season, I want to encourage you to think about how you might be able to sustain the growing faith in the young people in your congregation by supporting them and their trek to the 2022 ELCA Youth Gathering next July. Thirty thousand young people and their adult leaders will gather to hear the Word, serve their neighbors, make friends, hear they are loved unconditionally by God our creator, and of course, have some fun at US Bank Stadium in downtown Minneapolis. I ask you to pay attention to how you might be able to help the teens in your pews experience this moving and sustaining experience. Are their fundraising efforts going on in your congregation? Is there a call out for volunteers to be adult leaders? Can you pray for this mission to build faith in Jesus Christ at the Gathering next summer, remembering, "We are the church that shares a living, daring confidence in God's grace. Liberated by our faith, we embrace you as a whole person--questions, complexities, and all. Join us as we do God's work in Christ's name for the life of the world." -from www.elca.org/YouthGathering

May God bless your congregations as you celebrate this Advent season. And Merry Christmas!

Tami Steffensen
SD Synod Gathering Coordinator

Council-November 21, 2021

Present: Tim Gapp, Elsie Seffrood, Jorja Whempner, Becky Pies, Cody Sumner, Jim Arten, Dustin Holt, Pastor Janet.

Absent: Sarah Smith, Kathy Brink

Others: Anne Seffrood, Dawn Wright

Opened with prayer.

Secretary report read and approved.

Treasure report given-PPP grant has been forgiven. M-Tim, 2nd-Becky to approve the treasurer report.

Tim talked to council about SAEG want to set up an Angel Tree and putting together a committee to help identify families in need in our community. He asked if the church would be interested in having a tree at church too. Council agreed to do that.

Pastor report-1 Wedding, 1 baptism, Vendor and craft fair youth fundraiser, youth decorating, Janet and Mike will be going to the cities to pick up the Christmas Wreaths. Starting the 1st Sunday in January, Worship time will change to 9:00 am. Sunday school time will stay the same. M-Elsie, 2nd-Jorja to approve Pastor report.

Old business:

*Boiler is back working.

*The fiber optics have been installed and is working well.

*Constitution has been approved by the Synod.

*5:30 pm Candlelight Worship one Christmas Eve

*Cemetery report given-will table any decisions until Spring

New business:

*Sign board is falling apart on the inside. We need to decide if we want to fix it or look into a digital one.

*Snow removal-Pete has agreed to do it for us again.

*Prop/Manag.- light outside is burned out, hymnal holders need to be fixed.

*Annual meeting-per constitution it needs to be held on the last Sunday in January.

Budget for 2022

M-Tim, 2nd Cody to go into Executive Session to discuss budget.

Next council meeting will be held on Sunday, December 12 following Worship.

Hope Lutheran Church Offerings and Expenses
July - October 2021

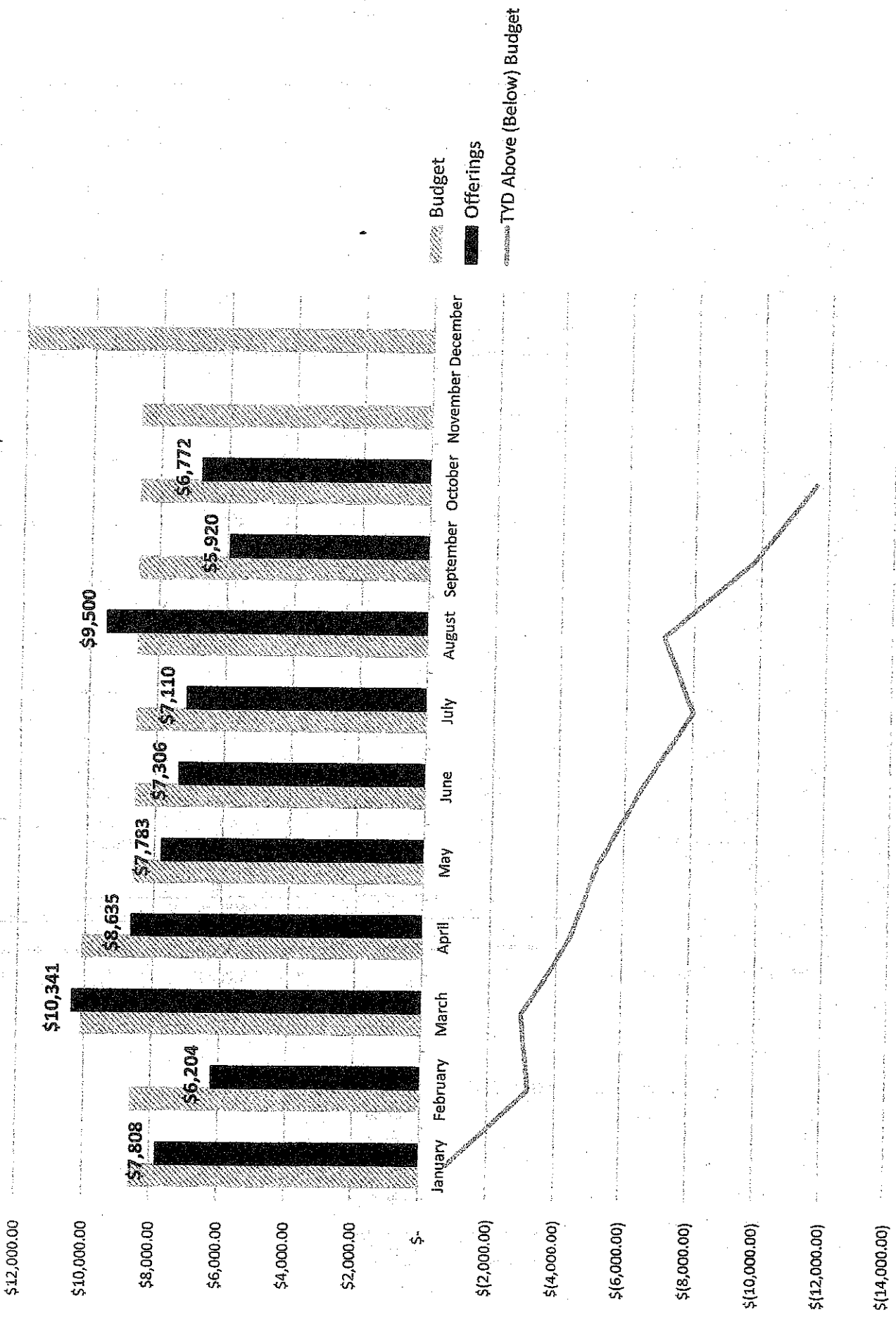
	Oct 21	Sep 21	Aug 21	Jul 21	Jan - Oct 21
41000 · Offerings					
41100 · Regular Offerings	\$ 6,772.00	\$ 5,920.00	\$ 9,500.00	\$ 7,110.00	\$ 76,283.87
41200 · Special Services Offerings	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,094.00
Total 41000 · Offerings	\$ 6,772.00	\$ 5,920.00	\$ 9,500.00	\$ 7,110.00	\$ 77,377.87
42100 · Gifts & Memorials	\$ 20.00	\$ -	\$ 8,975.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 11,550.00
43000 · Florence Parish Contribution	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 6,000.00			\$ 9,000.00
44100 · Interest Earned	\$ 0.20	\$ 0.18	\$ -	\$ 0.18	\$ 50.36
44200 · Thrivent			\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,382.00
44500 · Gov't Programs - PPP Loan			\$ 14,825.50	\$ -	\$ 14,825.50
44000 · Other Income - Other			\$ 3.86	\$ -	\$ 2,823.89
Total Income	\$ 9,792.20	\$ 11,920.18	\$ 33,314.36	\$ 7,160.18	\$ 117,009.62
Expense					
Total 71000 · HS Youth Group Expenses	\$ 60.71	\$ -			\$ 60.71
66100 · Pastoral Payroll	\$ 7,640.43	\$ 7,727.44	\$ 7,553.42	\$ 7,553.42	\$ 75,791.42
66310 · Secretary Salary	\$ 350.00	\$ 350.00	\$ 350.00	\$ 350.00	\$ 3,500.00
66320 · Janitor Salary	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 2,000.00
66330 · Organist Salary	\$ -	\$ 600.00			\$ 600.00
61800 · Continuing Ed & Conferencs	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 160.00	\$ -	\$ 680.40
63300 · Insurance Expense	\$ 259.34	\$ 259.34	\$ 259.34	\$ 259.34	\$ 2,593.40
63130 · Confirmation / Adult Ed	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 268.16
63120 · Sunday School Materials	\$ -	\$ 12.00	\$ 95.72	\$ -	\$ 107.72
63110 · Worship Materials	\$ 14.89	\$ 38.61	\$ 19.14	\$ 111.26	\$ 740.40
Total 63100 · Worship & Education	\$ 14.89	\$ 50.61	\$ 114.86	\$ 111.26	\$ 1,116.28
63200 · Fellowship Expenses	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 35.13
62000 · Office Expenses	\$ 53.34	\$ 272.52	\$ 254.18	\$ 174.24	\$ 2,445.01
67350 · Audio & Video Equipment	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,810.42
67100 · Landscaping Expenses	\$ 450.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 750.00	\$ 1,200.00
67200 · Repairs and Maintenance	\$ -	\$ 186.61	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 512.61
67410 · Propane/Heat	\$ -	\$ 406.12	\$ 3,450.00	\$ -	\$ 3,918.82
67420 · Electricity	\$ 97.98	\$ 55.89	\$ 83.14	\$ 79.22	\$ 1,741.96
67430 · Water/Sewer	\$ 68.00	\$ 68.00	\$ 68.00	\$ 68.00	\$ 668.00
67440 · Tel & Internet Exp	\$ 92.28	\$ 92.46	\$ 92.46	\$ 92.46	\$ 924.78
Total 67400 · Utilities	\$ 258.26	\$ 622.47	\$ 3,693.60	\$ 239.68	\$ 7,253.56
61410 · Synod Mission Support	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,863.16	\$ 3,768.55
Total 61400 · Charitable Contributions	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,863.16	\$ 3,768.55
69000 · Miscellaneous Expenses	\$ 9.90	\$ 4.95	\$ 14.85	\$ 4.95	\$ 89.10
Total Expense	\$ 9,296.87	\$ 10,273.94	\$ 12,600.25	\$ 11,506.05	\$ 103,456.59
Net Offerings minus Expenses	\$ 495.33	\$ 1,646.24	\$ 20,714.11	\$ (4,345.87)	\$ 13,553.03
Net without PPP forgiveness			\$ 5,888.61		\$ (1,272.47)

Account Balances October 31, 2021

11102 · General Fund Checking	\$ 23,757.96
11112 · MWBank MC -Dawn	\$ 70.38
11113 · MWBank MC - Pastor Janet	\$ 452.44
12110 CD 27566	\$ 15,000.00
12001 · Undeposited Funds	\$ 1,250.00
Total Current Assets	\$ 40,530.78

2021 Monthly Offerings vs Budget

(does not include memorials, special gifts, other income)



PASTOR'S PAGE

As we reach December and all the special events, I urge you all to stop and take a moment to think about the child whose birthday we celebrate Christmas Day. On that first Christmas, God became a human infant. He was born into poverty. He was born in an unexpected way and dangerous place and time. God became a vulnerable human child in need.

In honor of that vulnerable human infant named Jesus, we will be taking part in two mission this Advent season.

Locally, we have been asked to help those in our community who are in need. We have joined with the members of the bank and school in Summit in sponsoring an advent angel tree. You can find a tree with need of our community children at the bank and in our narthex. Gifts may be returned to the church or the bank before Christmas.

We will also be helping the Lutheran Center for Orphans and Vulnerable Children in Cameroon. Cameroon is our sister synod and the people there have many needs. The country of Cameroon has been overrun with refugees from the Central African Republic. The Christians communities from the country were attacked and often decimated. Those left were forced to run for their lives. A large portion (hundreds of thousands) of the refugees are children without adults. The children stumble into cities looking for help and often find crime, prostitution, and painful death. In an effort to help the Cameroon church has established the Lutheran Center for Orphans and Vulnerable Church. There are currently no other orphanages in many of Cameroon's major cities.

The money we give can go so far in helping those vulnerable children. You can feed a child in the orphanage for \$1000.00 per year. You can buy all the materials and uniforms required for education for \$43.00 per year. \$125.00 per year will provide for all the health care needs one child needs including malaria and other tropical diseases. How many Christmas presents will you buy your family for \$43.00? Could they miss one of those gifts so a child may go to school this year?

How many people turned away Jesus' parents because they were too busy celebrating with their families? How many people thought only of themselves as a vulnerable infant came into the world with no healthcare and no crib to lay him down? How many people did nothing as the Son of God's family ran for their lives to Egypt?

Will you pay attention this year? Will you take your eyes from the glittering lights and wrapping paper to see the child in need?

Let's make this Christmas a good one for everyone. Let's honor that child born in the hay and lift each other up.

Merry Christmas,
Pastor Janet Miller