

HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH
PO BOX 886
SUMMIT, SD 57266

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
PERMIT NUMBER 2

"WORDS OF HOPE FROM HOPE"

Volume 47, Issue 12

December 2020

Address Service Requested

Printed monthly at Hope Lutheran Church

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 2020

"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 | 19-Braxton Urban |
| 1-Kris and Tami Jo Bronson | 20-Jorja Whempner |
| 5-Jim Arten | 20-Damon Opdahl |
| 10-Karin Quale | 21-Andrea Gapp |
| 12-Eric Erickson | 22-Kiara Cardwell |
| 12-Cooper Ebsen | 23-Cade O'Farrell |
| 13-Robbie Young | 24-Donn Richter |
| 13-Brandi O'Farrell | 26-Brady Lindholm |
| 16-Randy Hills | 31-Rose Carlson |
| 16-Todd Brink | |
| 17-Jonathan and Nicole Ebsen | |
| 19-Nikki Pays | |

Council Zoom December 6, 2020

Present: Bruce Kneeland, Mike Schmidt, Jolene Johnston, Pastor Janet, Dustin Holt, Beth Hills, Jorja Whempner, Cody Sumner, Jim Arten.

Absent: Nikki Pays

Others: Anne Seffrood, Dawn Wright

Opened with prayer.

Secretary report- Jolene motioned and Dustin 2nd to approve. Motion passed

Treasurer report-Anne reviewed monthly budget. Motion Beth, 2nd Cody, motion passed.

Pastor report-2 baptism's canceled, 1 small in house wedding (just immediate family), Zoom funeral for Tom Frankenhoff, Advent devotions' sent out, talked about Companionship fund and Justice group, her Internship with another pastor, asked to be a speaker for Rostered pastor meeting zoom meeting, Zoom confirmation is going well, Sunday school and Sunday Worship is available on the church Youtube channel-Hope's Children. Pastor expressed thanks for the concern given to her and her family following the shop fire at their home. Discussed December Worship-after much discussion, council decided to continue with Car Worship and online services through December. Jolene motioned, Dustin 2nd. Motion passed. This includes Christmas Eve. Annual meeting-A tentative date for the Annual meeting will be on January, 31. ALL financial reports are due by January 12th. Dawn has asked them to be dropped off at the bank, written reports can be emailed to Dawn. Billie did visit out meeting and asked about the nominating committee. She is looking for people who may be interested in serving on council as Bruce, Jolene, Mike, Beth and Jonathan are going off this year. Thank you to them for serving faithfully.

Council went into Executive session to discuss salaries.

8:03 pm- Council out of executive session.

Council agreed to give Pastor Janet a \$100 a month salary increase. Secretary/Janitor and Organist salaries will remain the same.

The 2021 proposed budget was also reviewed. Anne will have it ready for council to review by next council meeting.

Next meeting-January 10-7:00 Zoom

Closed with Lord's Prayer

12:44 PM

12/06/20

Cash Basis

Hope Lutheran Church
Balance Sheet Prev Year Comparison
As of November 30, 2020

	<u>Nov 30, 20</u>
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
11102 · General Fund Checking	7,447.36
11112 · MWBank MC -Dawn	368.77
11113 · MWBank MC - Pastor Janet	1.98
11300 · HS Youth Group Checking Acct	4,901.45
11400 · Sunday School Checking Acct	1,145.32
11500 · Campership Checking Acct	1,601.92
12000 · CD's	
12110 · CD 27566	15,000.00
Total 12000 · CD's	<u>15,000.00</u>
Total Checking/Savings	<u>30,466.80</u>
Total Current Assets	30,466.80

12:25 PM

12/06/20

Cash Basis

Hope Lutheran Church
Offerings and Expenses
November 2020

	Nov 20	Oct 20	Jan - Nov 20
Ordinary Income/Expense			
Income			
41000 · Offerings	8,155.00	7,008.00	77,659.30
42100 · Gifts & Memorials	120.00	0.00	3,731.00
44000 · Other Income			
44440 · Special Offerings to Pass On	0.00	0.00	100.00
44100 · Interest Earned	0.10	0.10	53.77
44200 · Thrivent	0.00	0.00	1,098.00
44000 · Other Income - Other	0.00	0.00	1,250.09
Total 44000 · Other Income	0.10	0.10	2,501.86
Total Income	8,275.10	7,008.10	83,892.16
Expense			
66000 · Payroll Expenses			
66100 · Pastoral Payroll	7,328.83	7,328.83	80,826.23
66190 · Relief Pastor Expenses	0.00	0.00	189.00
66300 · Other Church Payroll	550.00	550.00	6,050.00
Total 66000 · Payroll Expenses	7,878.83	7,878.83	87,065.23
61800 · Continuing Ed & Conferencs	0.00	0.00	68.00
63100 · Worship & Education			
63130 · Confirmation / Adult Ed	5.21	0.00	310.44
63110 · Worship Materials	9.39	211.65	1,215.00
63100 · Worship & Education - Other	0.00	0.00	58.49
Total 63100 · Worship & Education	14.60	211.65	1,583.93
63200 · Fellowship Expenses	0.00	0.00	0.00
62000 · Office Expenses	15.66	103.94	1,336.42
67000 · Church/Building Expenses			
67100 · Landscaping Expenses	300.00	0.00	1,800.00
67200 · Repairs and Maintenance	0.00	0.00	87.80
67400 · Utilities			
67410 · Propane/Heat	0.00	0.00	2,967.54
67420 · Electricity	96.03	45.94	1,822.43
67430 · Water/Sewer	62.00	62.00	682.00
67440 · Telephone & Internet Expenses	92.13	92.13	1,031.31
Total 67400 · Utilities	250.16	200.07	6,503.28
Total 67000 · Church/Building Expenses	550.16	200.07	8,391.08
61400 · Charitable Contributions			
61410 · Synod Mission Support	1,526.24	0.00	4,807.46
61470 · Thrivent Share	0.00	0.00	700.00
Total 61400 · Charitable Contributions	1,526.24	0.00	5,507.46
69000 · Miscellaneous Expenses	9.90	9.90	99.00
Total Expense	9,995.39	8,404.39	104,051.12
Net Ordinary Income	-1,720.29	-1,396.29	-20,158.96
Net Income	-1,720.29	-1,396.29	-20,158.96

Seeds of Hope for Nicaragua

The South Dakota Synod Companion Synod program helps us to better know our brothers and sisters in Christ around the world and especially in our "Sister Synods" in Nicaragua and Cameroon.

The Lutheran Church, Faith & Hope of Nicaragua is one of our companions in faith and service. This year, the people of Nicaragua endured two large hurricanes which devastated over 44,000 homes and drowned the crops of the subsistence farmers in the region. These people are in desperate need of help.

60-80% of the farmers in the region are women and children. Programs from the ELCA have helped these farmers learn how to better tend their land, what to plant and how to use best farming practices like use of irrigation. The small family farms joined into cooperatives to help work and tend their crops together. There are currently 15 cooperatives going in the area. The hurricane totally destroyed the crops and houses of 9 of the cooperatives. That's a couple hundred families' resources wiped out. This catastrophe comes on the top of the Covid-19 virus pandemic. The pandemic hit the area hard and caused many to miss one of the two harvests this year because of sickness. People were already desperate when the final blows of 2 hurricanes hit.

Our missionary, Rev. Dra. Soliette Lopez Ortega, shared that hunger has already become a problem and a true famine in the area could occur if something is not done to help. They hope to be able to replant this fall growth when the water recedes or barring that possibility, plant another crop in the spring. But...

THEY HAVE NO MONEY FOR SEED!

As people of the land, we understand the need for seed and soil to harvest. We know the hardship of no harvests. In the USA, we have insurance and farm plans from our government to fall back on. The people of Nicaragua have nothing to help them out of this disaster.

They have nothing but us...their partners in prayer and faith.

This Advent and Christmas season, we are asking the people of the South Dakota synod to step up and help our companions in Christ from Nicaragua. We are raising money to buy seeds for the future and hope in Nicaragua.

The Companion Synod Committee is asking for your help. Each cooperative's seed will cost them \$1,445.00. We are setting a goal of raising \$14,000.00 for the farmers in Nicaragua.

This year's advent offerings will go to Seed of Hope for Nicaragua.

If you would like to contribute, you can send donations to Hope Lutheran Church, PO BOX 886, Summit, SD 57266. Please mark your donation to be used for "Seeds of Hope for Nicaragua". Donations can also be sent directly to the South Dakota Synod.

Greetings from Hope Lutheran and Pastor Janet,

Our council met on Dec. 6th to make some of the hard decisions about worship and church business. The first question we needed to answer- what are we doing for December worships and especially for Christmas. We weighed the congregation's need for fellowship on one of our holiest holidays with the need to keep our neighbors and especially our elders safe. Our congregation has another element in our decision with our pastor having an autoimmune disease and diabetes which puts her at a greater risk for Covid-19.

The council observed, several families which once thought they would worship inside with us have changed their minds due to the increased risk of catching the virus at this time. Not having the ability to sing in worship has also dampened many people's interest in Christmas Eve worship. After discussion, the council unanimously agreed that we would not worship inside for the month of December including Christmas.

This was a tough decision to make! Pastor Janet is so thankful for a faithful council who have helped to make the tough calls and continue to try to help her stay healthy and able to serve the congregation.

Our congregation is NOT closed. We still offer worship each week in the parking lot of the church. Our car church is at 10:30am. People worship from the safety of their cars and hear the worship, preaching and music on an FM radio station. Those who cannot come are invited to worship with us online with either our Facebook page or our You Tube Channel "Hope's Children". We also offer Sunday school stories, music and activities on our You Tube channel. **Our Christmas car church will be held at 3:00pm on Dec. 24th.**

2020 has been a challenging year for churches, businesses and many personal relationships. Schedules and plans have been changed and/or canceled many times. We are again reminded that the first Christmas and the birth of Jesus Christ did not come as his mother or Joseph had planned either. The labor was filled with fear, disappointment and even doubt in the things they knew to be true. The Savior of the World was born not in clean sheets with lots of loved and luxury surrounding him but in a space made for animals on their bedding hay. It was totally unexpected, totally unplanned and totally perfect.

This Christmas will not look like any before (or hopefully ever again!) But, Christ will still be there. Whether we sing in our cars, our houses or just in our hearts, the angel's song will still ring out. Joy to this world that needs it so much... Our Lord Is COME!

"⁴ So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. ⁵ He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. ⁶ While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, ⁷ and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them.

⁸ And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. ⁹ An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰ But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. ¹¹ Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹² This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."

¹³ Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying,

¹⁴ "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests."