

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 49, Issue 1

January 2022

Address Service Requested

Printed monthly at Hope Lutheran Church

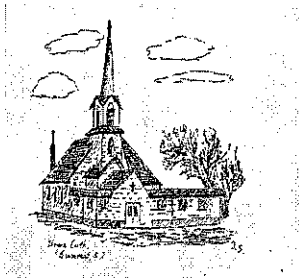
Church: hlchurch@tnics.com/Phone-(605)-398-6150

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.seesummitd.com

Follow us on YouTube: Hope's Children



January 2022

“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-Gage Conners

2- Elsie Seffrood

6-Sophia Seffrood

6-Nathalies Fida Lassang

10-Jennifer Brus

11-Mark Larson

11-Morgan Lewandowski

12-Randy Holt

19-Preslee Zubke

20- Pete Eccles

21-Gene Olson

22-Ethan Lewandowski

23-Tamijo Bronson

25-Diane Kneeland

28- Montana Crandall

30-Becki Steinocker

30-Roshanna Bourassa

30-David and Penny Cardwell



January 2022

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
<p>PLEASE NOTE-WORSHIP TIME HAS NOW CHANGED TO 9:00 AM. SUNDAY SCHOOL AND COFFEE TIME WILL REMAIN AT 10:00 AM.</p>						1
2white 9:00 am Worship NO SUNDAY SCHOOL	3	4	5 Pastor office day Florence youth group	6 9-noon-Quilting Dean meeting with Synod	7 Annual report financial reports due at the bank	8
9white 9:00 am Worship 10:00 am Sunday school/Coffee Fellowship	10	11	12 Pastor office day Florence confirmation	13 Interfaith day in Pierre	14 Annual report printing day	15 Pastor in Sioux Falls for meetings
16green 9:00 am Worship 10:00 am Sunday school/Coffee Fellowship	17	18 Conference Pastor's meeting	19 Pastor office day 7:00-Hope Youth Christmas	20 9-noon-Quilting Dean Zoom meeting	21 Newsletter items due	22
23green 9:00 am Worship 10:00 am Sunday school/Coffee Fellowship	24	25	26 Pastor office day	27	28	29
30green 9:00 am Worship/Annual meeting 10:00 am Sunday school/Coffee Fellowship	31					

Council meeting-December 12

P: Tim Gapp, Kathy Brink, Becky Pies, Dustin Holt, Jim Arten, Jorja Whempner, Pastor Janet, Elsie Seffrood.

A: Cody Sumner, Sarah Smith

O: Anne Seffrood, Dawn Wright

Pastor opened with prayer.

Treasurer report: M-Tim, 2nd-Elsie to approve. Motion passed

*Asked about sharing cost for CCL to put hymn words online for worship. Pastor will check into it.

*Anne asked to be the registered agent of the church for the state sales tax. M-Tim, 2nd-Becky to approve the change. Motion passed.

*2022 budget reviewed. It will now go to the congregation for final vote at the annual meeting on January 30.

Tim gave a report about backpack. SAEG will take it over as the Summit Cares group. M-Kathy, 2nd-Dustin to transfer backpack fund and all its monies to SAEG. Motion passed.

Secretary report- M-Jim, 2nd- Tim to approve. Motion passed.

Pastor report- 1 baptism, 1 funeral at Florence, 1 burial at Hope. Youth fundraisers for the upcoming youth convention are going well, ladies tea planned for December 14 at 1:00 pm at Pastor's house, youth Christmas party on December 15 at 7:00 pm. M-Becky, 2nd – Kathy to approved Pastor's report. Motion passed.

New business:

* Synod Council Thank you from Pam Siefert. She thanked the council for support to the Synod.

*Council decided to cancel in-house worship for December 26, but it will be available on-line. M-Kathy, 2nd-Tim to accept. Motion passed.

Old business:

* A nativity scene, made by Bonnie Moe, has been donated to the church. Thank you to whomever made the gift. Your generosity is appreciated greatly. 🙏

*It was asked when communion at the altar would be able to resume. At this time no decision can be made. We will continue with communion as is for the time being.

*Annual meeting will be held on January 30 during worship. In order to have the report out two weeks prior, all financial reports are due at the bank by January 7 so the auditing committee as time to audit and all others due to Dawn by January 14 so she has time to print it.

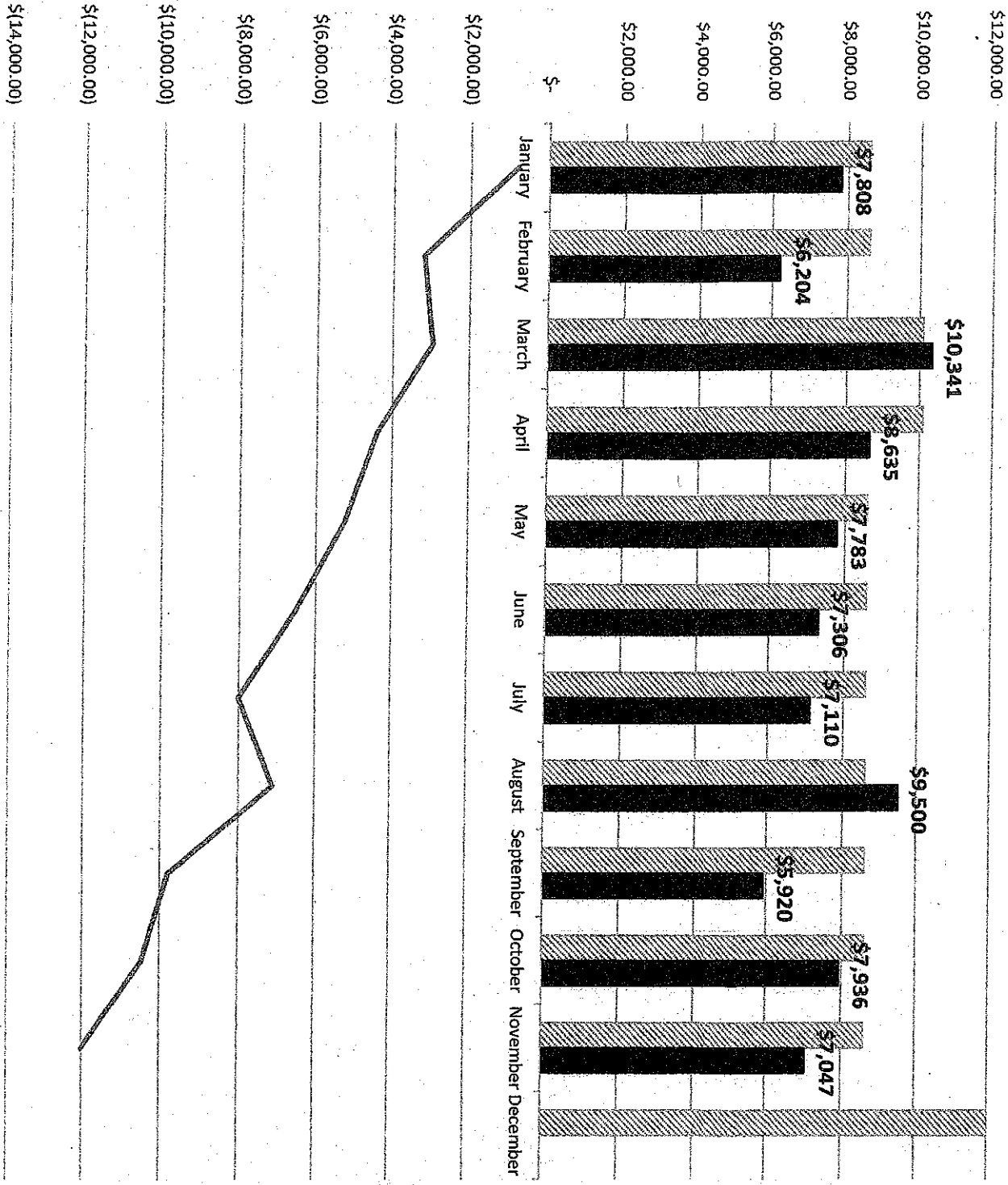
Meeting closed with Lord's prayer.

Hope Lutheran Church
Offerings and Expenses
November 2021

	Nov 21	Oct 21	Jan - Nov 21
Offerings, Gifts, & Other Income			
41100 · Regular Offerings	\$ 7,047.00	\$ 7,936.00	\$ 84,494.87
41200 · Special Services Offerings	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,094.00
42100 · Gifts & Memorials	\$ -	\$ 20.00	\$ 11,550.00
43000 · Florence Parish Contribution	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 12,000.00
44100 · Interest Earned	\$ 41.53	\$ 0.41	\$ 92.10
44200 · Thrivent	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,382.00
44500 · Gov't Programs	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 14,825.50
44000 · Other Income - Other	\$ 12.17	\$ -	\$ 2,836.06
Total Offerings & Income	\$ 10,100.70	\$ 10,956.41	\$ 128,274.53
Expense			
Total 76000 · Sunday School Expenses	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 178.92
Total 66100 · Pastoral Payroll	\$ 7,640.43	\$ 7,640.43	\$ 83,431.85
66310 · Secretary Salary	\$ 350.00	\$ 350.00	\$ 3,850.00
66320 · Janitor Salary	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 2,200.00
66330 · Organist Salary	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 600.00
61800 · Continuing Ed & Conferences	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 680.40
63300 · Insurance Expense	\$ 259.34	\$ 259.34	\$ 2,852.74
63130 · Confirmation / Adult Ed	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 268.16
63120 · Sunday School Materials	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 286.64
63110 · Worship Materials	\$ 205.88	\$ 14.89	\$ 946.28
63100 · Worship & Education - Other	\$ 281.07	\$ -	\$ 281.07
63200 · Fellowship Expenses	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 35.13
Total 62000 · Office Expenses	\$ 403.25	\$ 53.34	\$ 2,848.26
67350 · Audio & Video Equipment	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,810.42
67100 · Landscaping Expenses	\$ -	\$ 450.00	\$ 1,200.00
67200 · Repairs and Maintenance	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 512.61
67410 · Propane/Heat	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,918.82
67420 · Electricity	\$ 70.03	\$ 97.98	\$ 1,811.99
67430 · Water/Sewer	\$ 68.00	\$ 68.00	\$ 736.00
67440 · Telephone & Internet Expenses	\$ 126.31	\$ 92.28	\$ 1,051.09
61410 · Synod Mission Support	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,768.55
69000 · Miscellaneous Expenses	\$ 63.78	\$ 9.90	\$ 152.88
Total Expense	\$ 9,668.09	\$ 9,236.16	\$ 113,421.81
Net Offerings & Income minus Expenses	\$ 432.61	\$ 1,720.25	\$ 14,852.72
net without PPP Loan Forgiveness			\$ 27.22

2021 Monthly Offerings vs Budget

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



Budget
 Offerings
 TYD Above (Below) Budget



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

January 2022 Newsletter Inserts

From the Bishop's Desk Happy New Year!

Partners in Ministry, sojourners in Christ,

Grace and Peace to you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit!

As 2022 stretches out in front of us I pray that hope and joy in Christ will be yours. We know that trouble always finds us, but be assured that in the baptismal waters Christ found and claimed you long before trouble will find you. Therefore let us set out to journey together in Christ with the confidence that nothing between heaven and earth will ever be able to separate us from the love of God, which comes to us in and through Christ Jesus. Personally, I am looking forward to journeying with you in Christ through your congregation's joys and challenges. I am always up to join you for Sunday morning or midweek worship services, congregational forums, coffee fellowship, or a potluck meal. Please, know that I am available to come and be with you, but also know that my door is always open in case you have questions or concerns about the SD Synod or how we are being church together as the ELCA. I continue to be committed to listening to you, learning from you, and caring for you. Let's begin the new year in the good hope that God's still God and the assurance that no matter what we are God's people journeying together in Christ.

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

Worship at St. Dysmas Rev. Renee Splichal Larson

On December 9, 2021, the synod staff worshipped with the prison congregation, St. Dysmas, in Sioux Falls. What strikes me every time I worship with St. Dysmas is the people's hospitality. In no other congregation have I ever experienced such intentional welcome. We were greeted at the door, not by one person, but five. We were handed a bulletin and invited to find a place to sit. Before even sitting down, an "inside" council member was already introducing himself and sparking conversation. Another congregation member was sharing his gift of music on the piano as people gathered. During the service, their choir sang two songs, one of which was Angels We Have Heard on High. One of the choir members closed his

hymnal on the last verse as he sang out: "Gloria!" He knew the angels' joy and pronouncement of the birth of the One who is the way, the truth, and the life.

During our visit we were able to share that hundreds of people across the SD Synod pray for them, and that they are not forgotten. We named that Christ has made us one through his death and resurrection. All of us came as beggars to the table of Holy Communion, our hands outstretched, ready to receive forgiveness and new life.

How wonderful it is to be genuinely welcomed and thanked for simply joining a congregation for worship. What is abundantly clear to me is that the men at St. Dysmas claim and know their congregation, and the purpose God has for them. I experienced what their mission states on their website (www.stdysmas.com):

We all fall and stumble, regretting something in our lives. It is easy for those regrets or stumbles to become the definition of our lives and this feel unlovable and unforgivable. However, God disagrees. He created, chose, and loves each of us and includes us in his beloved family. Here at St. Dysmas, guided by the Holy Spirit and through Jesus Christ our Lord we welcome all to join in this family. We are here to emphasize God's Hope, Peace, and Grace given freely to all. We are here to give you a shoulder to lean on, an ear to hear and above all, to be open to the many plans God has for us. This is God's mission for us as inmates; to be the light in darkness, to dare trust in God's word, to bring out the Christ in everyone and praise God in all that we do. No matter who you are or what you have done, God loves you, includes you, forgives you and invites you into his eternal family.

In worship one of the men read from the book of Philippians 4.4-7, where Paul writes (from prison!): "The Lord is near."

Indeed!

ELCA Youth Gathering

Happy New Year Churches!

It's 2022! The Year of the Gathering! Finally!! We made it!

As our countdown to the 2022 ELCA Youth Gathering in July continues, I just want to encourage you to be supporting the youth in your congregations as they prepare for their journey to Minneapolis this summer. Continue to keep them in your prayers, support their fundraising efforts, ask them about what they are looking forward to most about the Gathering this summer, share your own past Gathering experiences with them, volunteer to bring snacks, or lead discussion groups for their pre-Gathering get-togethers, volunteer to be an adult

leader to travel with your church's group, or just ask your rostered or youth leaders in your church how you can help! There are upcoming registration deadlines and planning for the Gathering taking place in your church that you might not even see is happening, so asking how you can be supportive might be the best way to care for those leaders in your congregation as they plan this mission and ministry experience for your youth.

May this new year bring a renewed faithfulness in the work of the Holy Spirit in your space, whether that is in the hustle of Sioux Falls or Rapid City or the wide open spaces of central South Dakota. Know that you are held in God's love as you encourage the young people of your church in the knowledge that they are beloved children of God.

Blessings in this new year,

Tami Steffensen

SD Synod Gathering Coordinator

Dear God,

It's cold outside and I'm tired of it.

I know I shouldn't complain. I am very fortunate. I live in a house with good heating. When I turn on my faucet I get steaming hot water. I take a hot shower. At night I sleep under a warm quilt. When I go out I bundle up with gloves, scarf, wool hat and a parka. For all that I am extremely grateful, Lord.

But then the wind blows into my face, my nose drops, my cheeks burn, the cold rises up through my soles. My toes are frozen. My fingers, even in their gloves, don't want to move.

Help me, Lord, see the beauty of it. The ice on the river is beautiful, the sun sparkles on icicles hanging from eaves. There is majesty in the power of the wind, the snow, the hail. He gives snow like wool, he scatters frost like ashes. He casts forth his ice like morsels. Who can stand before his cold?" the psalmist said. (Psalm 147:16-17)

Forgive me, Lord, if I get tired of it. I feel like my body is never going to thaw out. I look at pictures of warm places and feel only envy. I want to go for a long walk or run outside to praise you... but change my mind because of the cold.

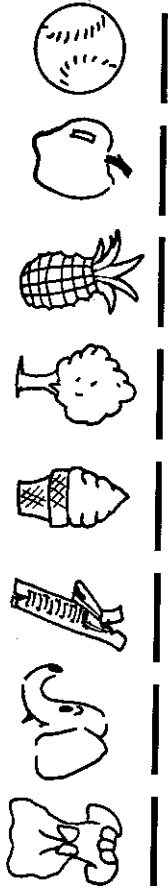
Summer will come, and I fear then that I will complain about the heat, forgetting winter. But for now, could you warm my heart a little? After all, the psalmist also added, "He sends forth his word, and melts them" (Psalm 147:18). I wouldn't mind a little melting.

Until then, let me praise you at all times, in the warm and the cold, in the thick and thin, when I'm irritated and when I'm glad. Let me be glad.

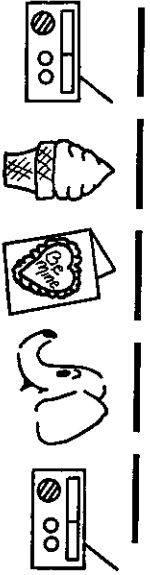
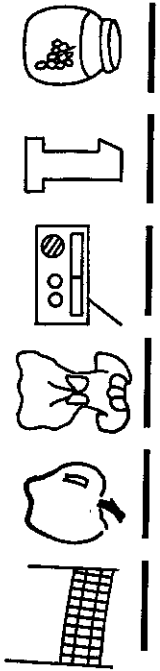
Even in this cold. Amen

Write the first letter of each picture on the line above it.

John



Jesus in the

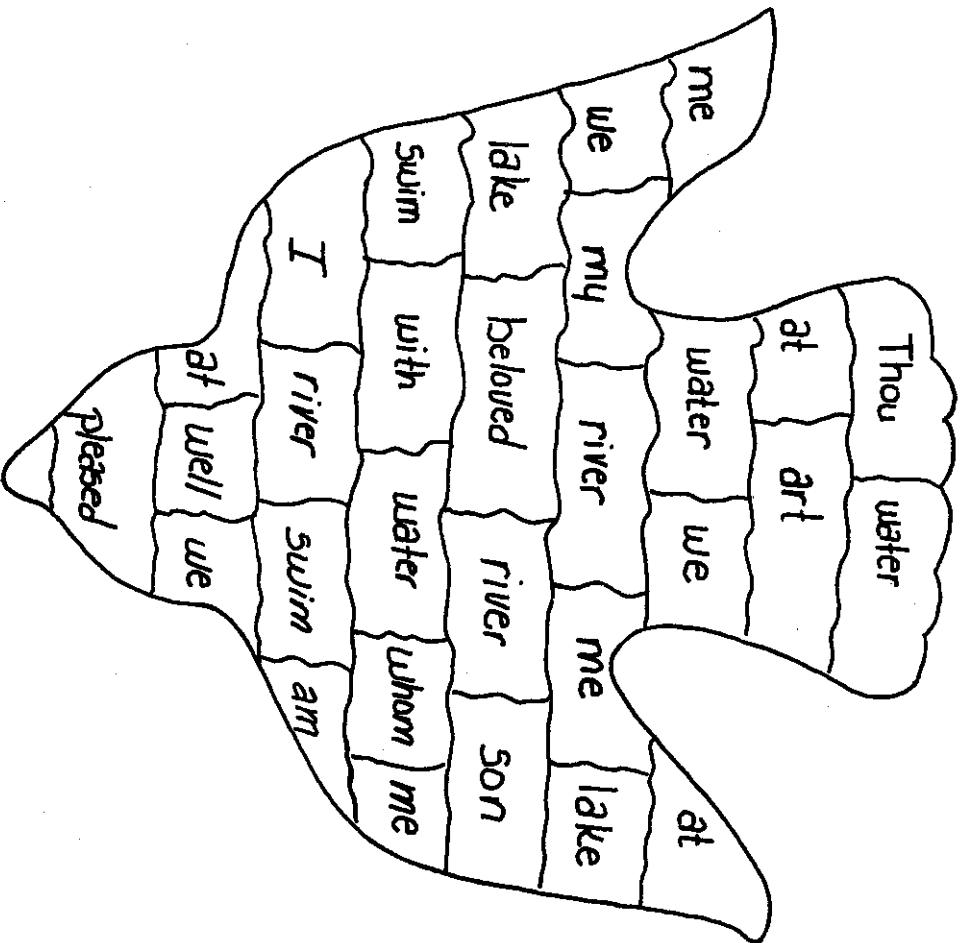


When Jesus was baptized, the heavens opened, and the Spirit came down like a dove on Him. A voice from heaven said:

“ _____ ”

-Mark 1:11

Cross out the words that you find more than 1 time.
The remaining words fit in order on the lines above.



HOPES HAPPENINGS

Changes of Schedule:

*Both Florence Parish and Summit congregation have made a change to Dec. 26th schedule from the last newsletter. We will not be having in person worship that Sunday. We encourage all of you to find our online worship on Facebook or Youtube (the channel we use for worships is Summit's called - Hope's Children).

***Please note too, starting on Sunday, January 2, Worship time will change to 9:00 am. Sunday school and Coffee fellowship will remain at the 10:00 am time.**

Advent Offerings

Advent missional offerings can still be collected throughout January. Just in case you forgot to send it yours or drop them at worship. We are sending funds to the Lutheran Home for Orphans and Vulnerable Children in Cameroon, Africa. Cameroon is our sister synod and they have thousands of refugee children who arrive in the country with no parents and no social services to help. \$43.00 will pay for everything one of the orphans needs for a year of school. \$150.00 will cover all of one child's medical expenses. \$1,000.00 will pay for all of a child's expenses for food, clothing, medical and educational needs for a year. Money can be sent to your congregation and should be earmarked for the orphanage.

Word of Thanks

Special thanks to all those who volunteered to help with the Sunday School programs and worked with the kids. You are so important to their learning about our God.

Also, a special thank you to all who remembered pastor and her family this Christmas. Your kindnesses warm our hearts!

Annual Reports

All reports that need to be looked over by the auditing committee need to be in by January 7. If you are able, please drop them off at the bank. All other reports are due to Dawn on January 14. I will be printing the complete report that morning. Our Annual meeting is January 30, during Worship.

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

"Pastor, did Jesus have boogers?"

As you can imagine the question took me by surprise and made me sputter with laughter a bit. I was just helping one of the Florence congregation's, "Wednesday night live" kids out of a coat and handing over a Kleenex for her runny nose when the question came.

"Yes, I suppose he did," I answered before questioning, "why do you ask?"

"Just wondering...cause if he was a kid like me- he had boogers. And you don't see any pictures of baby Jesus with boogers, ya know?"

She had a point. Especially this time of year, Jesus pictures and little nativity statuettes are all beautiful. But, real life is rarely artistically beautiful. Real babies have messy diapers, and cradle cap, and yes even boogers.

Why is the thought important? Because no matter how perfect and beautifully we celebrate Christ's birth on our Christmas holiday, we are celebrating something that was real. It was an actual earthly event that involved all the smells and sounds and bodily functions that come with being born a human. The wonder of it all is that God- the Creator of the universe and all that ever was- CHOSE on that day to become that messy, smelly, noisy small baby body.

Advent, the time of waiting is over. Christ was born and we celebrate that in the church for the season of Christmas and Epiphany. We celebrate the time the wonder of the world came to us as a babe. We remember that God truly knows what it is to be us. God was vulnerable, God learned to hold his head up and sit up and crawl. God learned to walk and talk as we do. God skipped and sang and laughed and cried. God loved with a human heart and grieved with one too.

As you begin a new year full of challenges. Remember that God is with us always. But also, remember that God knows what it is to live human challenges. God is not just robed and sitting on high. God knows you because he once walked here too. God in human form, Jesus Christ our Lord, cares in the way only another person who hurt and was betrayed and faced earthly challenges can. Empathy comes from shared experiences. There is no human emotion you can feel that Jesus did not feel. He came, he lived and yep, he even had boogers.

Have a blessed rest of your Christmas season and New Year,

Pastor Janet Miller