

I saw a funny facebook message the other day. It had a cartoon of an exhausted looking woman and under it was written; "I threw in the towel and God threw it back at me and said, "wipe your face girl, we're almost there!"

2019 has been a tough year for a lot of people in our area. For our farm families, an incredibly wet growing season made for poor planting, spotty growing and if they got the harvest out they were weak. Feed costs are going up as people have not been able to harvest hay. Livestock prices were lower too. When farmers don't have the money to pay bills or have extra purchases, local businesses flounder too.

Many families in our area experienced hardships. Our community lost a child to death, a family in our school lost their home to a fire. Finances and health concerns have been carried by families in 2019. 2019 was a year many would not want to repeat.

However, the blessings of a new year is that we are given a chance to stop and take stock of all that has happened. We get to mark an ending to the old and a beginning to a whole new time.

God gives us messages of help for troubled times. Psalm 46 reminds us that "God is our refuge and strength, an ever present help in trouble. Therefore, we will not fear, though the earth give way, and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam and the mountains tremble with surging." Notice that God is with us not only when things are great but in the middle of all that is not! As we look at the tough year behind us, we need to look deeply enough to see all the places our God walked with us. God promises that nothing- not even the fires or falling of mountains could keep him from us. He promises that nothing, not even all the rages of the oceans is stronger and more powerful than He is. God promises he is stronger and more than water logged fields, doctor's notices, or bank accounts. Where did you see your God walking with you in 2019?

God also promises us a future of hope. Here again the words of Psalm 46 in the modern language version called "The Message"; ³ God is a safe place to hide, ready to help when we need him. We stand fearless at the cliff-edge of doom, courageous in sea storm and earthquake, Before the rush and roar of oceans, the tremors that shift mountains. Jacob-wrestling God fights for us, GOD-of-Angel-Armies protects us.⁴⁻⁶ River fountains splash joy, cooling God's city, this sacred haunt of the Most High. God lives here, the streets are safe, God at your service from crack of dawn. Godless nations rant and rave, kings and kingdoms threaten, but Earth does anything he says. ⁷ Jacob-wrestling God fights for us, GOD-of-Angel-Armies protects us. ⁸⁻¹⁰ Attention, all! See the marvels of GOD! He plants flowers and trees all over the earth, bans war from pole to pole, breaks all the weapons across his knee. "Step out of the traffic! Take a long, loving look at me, your High God, above politics, above everything."¹¹ Jacob-wrestling God fights for us, GOD-of-Angel-Armies protects us."

What does the future look like when you remember that the "God-of-Angel-Armies" will be walking beside you in it? God's promises for life abundant gives us the courage we need to step into a new day and see life in a new way for the year 2020.

In 2019, you may have felt like throwing in the towel at times... but God has thrown it back to us. Wipe your face folks, We're almost there! Let's walk into a blessed year with our God-of-Angel-Armies by our side!

- Pastor Janet Miller

Council-December 8, 2019

Present: Jonathon Johnston, Jolene Johnston, Billi Whempner, Bruce Kneeland, Pastor Janet
Absent: Michael Schmidt, Ben Graff, Stacey Amdahl, Matt Amdahl, Kelly Faeth, Beth Hills.
Others: Michael Miller (Synod rep), Dawn Wright, Anne Seffrood

Pastor opened with prayer.

Michael Miller was in attendance as our Synod Rep. He Thanked our church for it's continued support. Brought report to show where monies go and answered any questions we had.

Secretary report read and approved.

Pastor report: Hanging of the Wreaths service was cancelled due to weather but the confirmation kids stepped up and helped to decorate the church for Christmas, family fun night is well attended, Bible study attendance anywhere from 5-14 and will continue every 2nd and 4th Wednesday, WELCA attended a special Christmas tea at her house. Sunday school Christmas program will be December 15. No Sunday school December 22, 29 and January 5. Pastor will be gone sometime early January. She will find pulpit supply too.

Treasurer- discussed shortfalls in budget. Motion by Bruce and 2nd by Jolene to cash in CD 27604. A group text vote was also done. Motion passed.

Moved into Executive session to discuss staff budget. Moved out of Executive session.

Council decided to leave staff budgets as is for this year. The general budget for 2020 was discussed. Anne went through it line by line. She will make necessary changes before the Annual meeting. Motion Bruce, 2nd Jolene to approve budget. Annual meeting date set for February 2 with ALL reports due NO LATER then January 12.

Old Business:

Stewardship/time talents will wait until this spring

Pew Hymnal holders-Jolene will see if Joey would be able to build something.

Power Church (church membership program)-Dawn asked if she could purchase an updated version. Motion Jolene, 2nd Bruce to approved purchase. Also, asked about possibly creating a photo wall to replace the hanging photo gallery now. Will check prices and get back to council with estimate.

Billi talked about progress on updating the bylaws. The Bylaw committee is Billi, Anne and Stacy. They are looking for job descriptions for council President, Vice, secretary and janitor. Pastor will look and see if she can locate. Also, a more descriptive definition of membership will be included.

Next meeting-February 2 following Annual meeting. Council will provide a lunch for the meeting.

Hope Lutheran Church
Balance Sheet
As of November 30, 2019

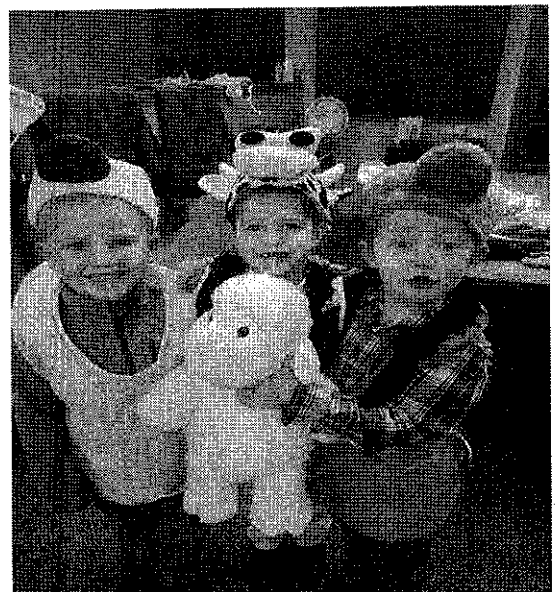
	Nov 30, 19	Oct 31, 19
ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Checking/Savings		
11102 · New General Fund Checking	2,567.19	3,458.31
11112 · MWBank Reloadable MC -Dawn	440.04	504.38
11113 · MWBank MC - Pastor Janet	722.83	1,157.39
11300 · HS Youth Group Checking Acct	6,231.68	4,858.68
11400 · Sunday School Checking Acct	1,365.06	1,531.97
12000 · CD's		
12130 · CD 27604	10,474.71	10,474.71
12110 · CD 27566	15,000.00	15,000.00
Total 12000 · CD's	25,474.71	25,474.71
Total Checking/Savings	36,801.51	36,985.44
Total Current Assets	36,801.51	36,985.44

HOPES HAPPENINGS

THINGS TO KNOW: There will be NO Family Fun night in January. Bible study has been moved to the 2nd and 4th Wednesday at 7:00 pm.

Offering reminder: Be sure to note that whether we have Worship or not, the bills continue to be paid. We ask that if you are unable to attend or it's cancelled due to weather to still consider either mailing in, giving extra the following week or setting up auto pay at your local bank. Thanks! 🙏

*****Wonderful job to all the Sunday school kids, Pastor Janet and Val Moen for singing, playing and leading!! It was a beautiful Christmas program. Reminder: Sunday school resumes on January 12!!**



Hope Lutheran Church
Offerings and Expenses
November 2019

	Nov 19	Oct 19	Jan - Nov 19
Ordinary Income/Expense			
Income			
41000 · Offerings			
41100 · Regular Offerings	7,292.60	6,704.33	75,773.55
41200 · Special Services Offerings	0.00	0.00	2,566.00
Total 41000 · Offerings	7,292.60	6,704.33	78,339.55
42100 · Gifts & Memorials	0.00	410.00	4,467.05
44000 · Other Income			
44440 · Special Offerings to Pass On	0.00	0.00	1,740.47
44300 · Special Event Donations	623.40	0.00	1,535.40
44100 · Interest Earned	0.00	0.87	184.98
44200 · Thrivent	0.00	0.00	2,193.00
44000 · Other Income - Other	0.00	0.00	1,040.75
Total 44000 · Other Income	623.40	0.87	6,694.60
Total Income	7,916.00	7,115.20	89,501.20
Expense			
66000 · Payroll Expenses			
66100 · Pastoral Payroll	7,284.03	7,284.03	68,413.05
66190 · Relief Pastor Expenses	0.00	0.00	2,640.00
66300 · Other Church Payroll			
66310 · Secretary Salary	350.00	350.00	3,850.00
66320 · Janitor Salary	200.00	200.00	2,200.00
66330 · Organist Salary	0.00	0.00	640.00
Total 66300 · Other Church Payroll	550.00	550.00	6,690.00
Total 66000 · Payroll Expenses	7,834.03	7,834.03	77,743.05
60200 · Auto/Mileage Expenses	0.00	0.00	454.72
61800 · Continuing Ed & Conferences	0.00	0.00	625.68
63100 · Worship & Education			
63130 · Confirmation / Adult Ed	60.61	19.12	836.85
63110 · Worship Materials	550.18	184.68	1,632.21
Total 63100 · Worship & Education	610.79	203.80	2,469.06
63200 · Fellowship Expenses	0.00	0.00	941.61
62000 · Office Expenses			
62200 · Office Supplies	68.68	0.00	616.43
62300 · Printing and Reproduction	245.81	0.00	891.68
62500 · Dues and Subscriptions	0.00	0.00	66.80
62600 · Postage and Delivery	37.01	0.00	529.76
Total 62000 · Office Expenses	351.50	0.00	2,104.67
67000 · Church/Building Expenses			
67100 · Landscaping Expenses	200.00	0.00	3,600.00
67200 · Repairs and Maintenance	177.27	30.85	4,425.01
67300 · Small Tools and Equipment	0.00	0.00	1,281.31
67400 · Utilities			
67410 · Propane/Heat	63.90	0.00	5,217.53
67420 · Electricity	68.24	64.06	1,279.89
67430 · Water/Sewer	57.00	57.00	627.00
67440 · Telephone & Internet Expenses	95.89	103.57	1,056.38
Total 67400 · Utilities	285.03	224.63	8,180.80
Total 67000 · Church/Building Expenses	662.30	255.48	17,487.12
61400 · Charitable Contributions	0.00	0.00	5,385.48
69000 · Miscellaneous Expenses	4.95	9.90	59.40
Total Expense	9,463.57	8,303.21	107,270.79
Net Ordinary Income	-1,547.57	-1,188.01	-17,769.59

January

2020

Hope Lutheran Church, PO Box 886, Summit, SD 57266 (605)-398-6150 Pastor Janet Miller

Worship Helpers:

Jan 5: Ushers: Brianna Lindholm, Jim Andahl, Reader: Lisa Amdahl, Coffee: Margie

Jan 12: Whempners

Jan 19: Ushers: Nolan Thuringer, Brady Lindholm, Reader: Anne Seffrood, Coffee: Anne Seffrood

Jan. 26: Ushers: Josh and Jackson Wohlleber, Reader: Earline Holt, Communion Server and helper: Joni and Zoey Wohlber, Coffee: NEED

***Sunday school 9:15 (resumes January 12), Coffee 9:30 am, Worship 10:30 am (unless otherwise noted)**

Communion is January 12 and January 26.

Communion Committee is Val Amdahl and Diane Kneeland.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 No Office day	2	3 ½ office day	4
5 White NO SUNDAY SCHOOL	6 Pastors day off	7	8 4:00- Confirmation 7:00 Bible Study Pastors office day	9 9:00 Welca quilting 1:00 Bible Study/business mtg. Pastors text study	10 Pastor gone January 10- 18	11
12 White SUNDAY SCHOOL RESUMES Annual reports due!	13	14	15	16	17 Newsletter items due	18
19 Green	20 Pastors day off	21 Pastor's Conference	22 4:00 Confirmation 7:00 Bible study Pastors office day	23 9:00 am Welca quilting	24 ½ office day	25
26 Green	27 Pastors day off	28	29 4:00 Confirmation 7:00 Youth group Pastors office	30	31 ½ office day	

UPCOMING: ANNUAL MEETING FEBRUARY 2. ALL REPORTS ARE DUE NO LATER THEN JANUARY 12 TO GIVE THE AUDITING COMMITTEE TIME TO REVIEW BEFORE PRINTING THE FINAL REPORT! THANKS!!

HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH
PO BOX 886
SUMMIT, SD 57266

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U.S. Postage Paid
PERMIT NUMBER 2

"WORDS OF HOPE FROM HOPE"

Volume 47, Issue 1

January 2020

Address Service Requested

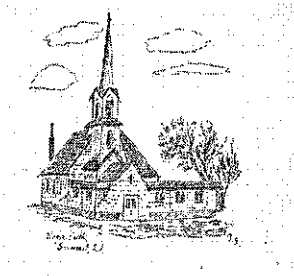
Printed monthly at Hope Lutheran Church

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



January 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.

January Birthdays and Anniversaries

1-Gage Conners	22-Ethan Lewandowski
2- Elsie Seffrood	23-Tamijo Bronson
6-Sophia Seffrood	25-Diane Kneeland
10-Jennifer Brus	28- Montanna Crandall
11-Mark Larson	30-Becki Steinocker
11-Morgan Lewandowski	30-Roshanna Bourassa
12-Randy Holt	30-David and Penny Cardwell
18-Val Amdahl	
19-Preslee Zubke	
20- Pete Eccles	
21-Gene Olson	