



Hope Lutheran Church  
PO Box 886  
Summit, SD 57266  
605-398-6150 - hlchurch1969@gmail.com

# “WORDS OF HOPE FROM HOPE”

VOL. 52 ISSUE 6

July 2025

“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.”

Everyone is welcome

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

Follow us on YouTube: Hope's Children

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The book of Ecclesiastes has a lot to say about time. Read the following from the 3rd chapter;

**“3** For everything there is a season and a time for every matter under heaven:

**2** a time to be born and a time to die;

a time to plant and a time to pluck up what is planted;

**3** a time to kill and a time to heal;

a time to break down and a time to build up;

**4** a time to weep and a time to laugh;

a time to mourn and a time to dance;

**5** a time to throw away stones and a time to gather stones together;

a time to embrace and a time to refrain from embracing;

**6** a time to seek and a time to lose;

a time to keep and a time to throw away;

**7** a time to tear and a time to sew;

a time to keep silent and a time to speak;

**8** a time to love and a time to hate;

a time for war and a time for peace.

It can be hard to understand God’s timing while we are in the middle of our lives. The beginnings, the endings and even the adventures in between are sometimes hard to navigate. What does God have in mind for the time? Which direction would he have me go?

This summer, I find myself and the congregations I serve in a time of transition. I find myself asking over and over, “Where and to what am I being called by God?” God has a habit of calling his people out of comfort and into the unknown.

God has gifted me with being the pastor for Hope Lutheran Church for 6 years 7 months and 25 days (as the day I write this letter). It’s been an amazing call. I came just as we entered the year of no planting being done in terrible conditions which meant no harvest was there in the fall. Within the 1st calendar year of my call, Covid 19 hit, sending our world into turmoil by the spring of 2020. We lived through funerals with not more than 10 people allowed, graduations canceled, and months of “car church”. I learned the art of online worship (thanks for all you who didn’t give up on us!) Later, we came back together with only about 12 people social distanced and with masks. We gradually regrew the congregation. The average fall/winter worship is now 60 or so with 100 people possible if the kids are doing things in worship. (Our summer numbers go way down as we are a farm/lake community but people come back in the fall.) We’ve taken on some huge projects like siding the church and replacing windows, drywalling the narthex and painting all over. The congregation’s work to give and raise money and do the work was amazing. We’ve worshiped out God, baptized our young, communed together, confirmed our youth, and buried our dead. Some days were amazing and we rejoiced. Some days were terrible and we cried together. All the days, we followed our God.

As my time with Hope Lutheran draws to a close, I give thanks to my God for all of you. I give thanks for the opportunity to be among you and pastor the congregation. I give thanks for the work God has accomplished through this congregation in the community of Summit.

My family has been blessed by Hope Lutheran in so many ways. Now, as I say at the end of every worship, *“Go in peace and serve the Lord. Thanks be to God!”*

With Love, Pastor Janet and Michael Miller

Hope Lutheran Congregation,

Jeremiah 29:11 "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

As we move forward with Pastor Janet's transition of call, we can take comfort in knowing that God is in control and that we need to trust in His plans and move forward in confidence knowing that He has great things in store for us.

The church council and I would like you all to know that we are working together to make this transition as smooth as possible and are working on getting pulpit supply filled for the time being. We will work with the Synod office for a longer term interim pastor. A call committee will be formed and there will be many discussions about our future as a congregation.

Thank you Pastor Janet. Wishing you the best on this new chapter in your life and may God bless you always.

With Hope,  
Tamijo Bronson and The Hope Lutheran Church Council

## Hope Lutheran Church Council Special Meeting

June 25, 2025

Present – Scott K, Tim G, Tamijo B, Nicole E, Vicky G, Brittany G, and Dustin Holt

Others – Pastor Janet and Anneliese S

Not Present – Traci E, Cooper E, and Addison B

Opening Prayer by Pr Janet

Tech equipment and other items returned will be in Prs office.

Worship templates for services have been sent to Nicole

Pr is working on physical copies of the confirmation curriculum and other class materials.

We discussed accounts and passwords to be passed on to the council

Pastor Janet's final church service will be July 6<sup>th</sup>. We will have a special send-off for you on Wednesday the 16<sup>th</sup>. The council will provide cake and lemonade and coffee. The council President and VP will be doing an exit interview before the 19<sup>th</sup>.

Vicky Gleason has very generously stepped up to lead VBS July 21,22 & 23rd from 1-4. She will also be our new Sunday School Director. Thank you, Vicky!

The removal of Pr Janet and Dawn Wright from all accounts from the church.

Tim G made a Motion and Brittany G seconded the motion

Adding Sarah H to the Church bank accounts

Vicky M made a motion and Brittan G seconded the motion

To close all Pastor's bank cards on July 7<sup>th</sup>

Dustin H made a motion and Tim G seconded the motion

Nicole and Tamijo will bring a group to the summer youth conference in Aberdeen on the 2<sup>nd</sup>

Discussed using pulpit supply for July and August. We already have many Sundays filled

Starting July 13<sup>th</sup> Worship will begin at 9:30 and we will have the congregation choose the closing hymn during service.

Next meeting is July 15<sup>th</sup>

Meeting adjourned



# Hope Happenings

Congratulations to Myla Kneeland for receiving the Bold Woman award in June for her lifetime achievements in leadership and service at the state, conference, and local levels of the Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA)! Myla was instrumental (chairperson) in the development of this statewide women's group following the merger of the American Lutheran Church and the Lutheran Church of America and served as the second president. She also later served on the ELCA statewide synod council and as Prairie Coteau women's group conference president as well as multiple offices for the Hope Lutheran Church Women's group. She continues her service at 95 years old through sewing and assembling quilts for Lutheran World Relief (LWR) with women from Hope Lutheran Church. During the first year of the COVID pandemic when the quilt group couldn't meet, she alone made more than 100 quilts and sent to LWR. She says "This has been a part of my life since I first got married because my mother always went and that was important to her. My service with the church women's group has been the guiding star of my life."







# *Sunday July 6th*

The Hope Lutheran Church Council  
would like to invite you to Pastor  
Janet's last Service on July 6<sup>th</sup>

We would also like to invite you for to  
a send off celebration on July 16<sup>th</sup> at  
7:30 to celebrate and thank her for  
her many years of service to our  
church. The council will be serving  
cake and lemonade.

*Wednesday, July 16<sup>th</sup>  
at 7:30*



We are looking for volunteers to help with painting the Sunday School/ Quilting room. We will be painting on July 29<sup>th</sup> Starting time to be determined.


Please contact Sarah Holt if you have any questions.



We are pre-registered for the Summer Youth Conference in Aberdeen on August 2<sup>nd</sup>.

(See Flyer on next page for more information)

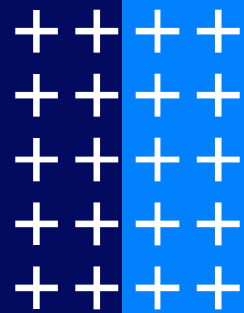
Please contact Nicole Ebsen or Tamijo Bronson if your Middle School or High School student would like to attend.



If you are available for the month of July to help usher, read, or help with communion at our Worship Services please sign up at church

# MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL SUMMER YOUTH

## Conference



Lunch will  
be served



**2 AUG**  
SATURDAY

**10 - 04**  
AM PM

**GOOD SHEPHERD**  
ABERDEEN, SD

## Featuring

**DR. MICHAEL CHAN**, KEYNOTE FROM  
THE ELCA YOUTH GATHERING


MUSIC FROM **TANGLED BLUE**



**REGISTER BY JUNE 13**

 [BIT.LY/2025YOUTHCONFERENCE](https://bit.ly/2025youthconference)



This event is free, made possible by grant funding  
for the youth primarily in the NP & PC conferences



"For I know the plans  
I have for you,"  
declares the Lord,  
"plans to prosper you  
and not to harm you,  
plans to give you  
hope and a future."

**Jeremiah 29:11**

# 2025 July

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3	4	5
				Quilting		
6 Paster Janet's Last Service  Communion @8:30	7	8	9	10	11	12
13  Service at 9:30	14	15  Council Meeting @6:30	16 Pastor Janet's Send Off @7:30	17  Quilting	18	19
20  Service at 9:30	21 	22	23 	24	25	26
27  VBS Sunday Noisy Offering Service at 9:30	28	29  Painting Sunday School/ Quilting room	30	31		

Colors Stay Green all this Month