

It's coming...It's coming... as the days flash by to our Thanksgiving holiday next week, it signals the coming of the holiday season. Some of us look forward to the holidays of Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Years with joyful anticipation. Others who are experiencing hardships or grief can look on the season with dread. This year, I find myself half way in between. It's a new experience for me. I've always been a jump up and down with excitement kind of holiday person. My basement shelves have stacks of tubs full of Christmas decoration waiting for me to put up and enjoy. But, this year I'm finding less anticipation. I think it's because this will be our first holiday season without my dad. Also, this year one of my daughters is still struggling with the grief of losing twins before they were born.

It doesn't seem like that festive holiday time of year should be here yet to me. I'm not quite ready for it. I know I'm not alone in the feeling. Many of you have experienced the empty seats at the Thanksgiving table, and thought of the presents you won't buy, make or wrap for the person you love. Though we go on with our regular lives and deal with the trials that can cause grief, there's something about the holiday season that brings it back.

But, ready or not, we approach the season of Advent in the church. Advent- the season of waiting, the season of readying ourselves. Advent is a season of endings and beginnings. As the calendar year comes to a close on Christ the King Sunday, a new church year begins. Christ's birth ushers us into new ways of living and loving; and yet, the world as we know it spins madly on. In many ways, pregnant Mary was surrounded by endings—large and small, personal and political. But Mary proclaimed hope in a God who was and is making all things new. Christ's birth offered a beautiful new beginning for shepherds and Magi alike—all the while, King Herod tried to bring Christ's story to an end. When we ourselves navigate seasons filled with endings and beginnings, we need reminders. We need words that can feel like steady ground, like a path for our feet to find as we step forward into the unknown.

That is why this year we are participating in an Advent series called, "Words for the Beginning". To remind us of the Savior with the power to walk us through our endings into joyous beginnings in this world and the next. The authors of the Advent series provided us with poems for our advent walk. I thought the following one was particularly appropriate for me life this Advent.

Field Notes With Tears in Your Eyes,
you name all the bumps
and zigzags your life has taken.
With clenched teeth
and a hummingbird pulse,
you wake up and wonder, how did I get here
In the last 40 days of desert wandering
You say you haven't heard Gods voice once
You say you miss when God was close
When God used to sing the harmony line
So, you yell at the sky
Begging God to drop the pain
To name the road, to draw a map

You lament the way this life isn't easy
you ask me-was the road ever straight and narrow.
Or was that all a lie?
But then you crest the mountain
and I don't hear from you for a while
Because God was growing
in the field on the other side of the hill
God was scattered among the pebble
of the road you never planned to take
There are a million roads home
And God walks every one with you

Blessing on your Advent journey- Pastor Janet Miller

HOPES HAPPENINGS

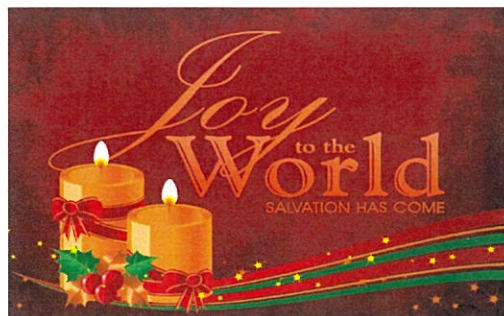
We want to take the time to thank Dawn for over 21 years of service as our secretary here at Hope Lutheran Church! For several years, Dawn served as church custodian as well. Dawn's service to us will be missed. Thank You!

Thank you for allowing me to serve the congregation for these 20+ years. When I took the job all those years ago, it was a calling that I felt deeply. I knew it was what I needed to do to grow in my faith and become more involved in the congregation. Things have changed a lot over the years and now I felt the calling to step down and allow another to step up and serve. Thank you again for the support and kindness you have shown me. It is very much appreciated! -dawn

Christmas Eve Candlelight service will be at 5:30 on Tuesday, December 24. If you would like to donate a poinsettia to adorn the altar, please have to the church before then.

REMINDER: The Sunday school Christmas program will be held during worship on December 15. Sunday school will resume on January 12 at 10:00 am.

Beginning on January 5, worship time will be at 11:00 am. Sunday school will remain at 10:00 am start time.



November 11, 2024 Council Meeting

Members Present: Nicole E, Cooper E, Ben G, Vicky G, Billi W, Levi W, Dustin H, Tamijo B, Pastor Janet

Members Absent: Kevin C

Others Present: Annelies S

President Dustin Holt called the meeting to order.

Motion by Levi, Second by Tamijo to approve Minutes of October 7, 2024 meeting. Motion passed.

Motion by Vicky, Second by Ben to approve Treasurer's Report. Motion passed.

Pastor Janet gave her Pastor's Report

Pastor's report

- 2 confirmation groups going well one with 5 kids one with 6 in the other.
- Youth group 2nd week of the month- we went bowling and had pumpkin carving and it was really well attended.
- I had 2 funerals (one in Webster at funeral home) and 2 baptisms (one each congregation) this month
- I hosted prairie coteau conference pastor's and lay leader's meeting here at Hope- I am Conference Dean
- They had vbs at Florence the 1st week of Oct. (after school) and I helped.
- I helped as mentor to a pastor in training in our conference.

She plans to use vacation time for a family wedding the weekend of November 23-24.

Discussion items included the following.

Snow removal bids are needed. Anyone interested should contact the church. Dustin will talk to Jeff

The Sunday School Program will be December 15th. There will not be communion that Sunday.

There was discussion about a Mission Trip for both youth and adults. There are opportunities to participate and plan as part of a larger Prairie Coteau Conference group.

The church will host a Porch Pot Party on Dec 3rd at the Firehall. The cost is \$45 with a pot or \$35 if you bring your own pot. 39 out of 50 wreaths have been sold.

Servant Teams were discussed. Two of the groups need new leaders. The schedule will stay the same as last year. Communion set up has gone back to the "old WELCA method." The monthly schedule will be included in the Annual Report.

Hope Lutheran will hold a Candlelight Christmas Eve Service with Communion at 5:30.

Communion worship in December will be the 1st and 24th

Motion by Billi, Second by Tamijo to have the Cemetery Fund pay \$4,000 of the summer mowing costs for Hope Lutheran Cemetery. Motion passed.

Motion by Vicky, Second by Ben to switch church lay staff to w-2 status and hourly starting January 1, 2025. Motion passed.

The next Council meeting ^{TBD} ~~will be Sunday, November 10th at 6:30 pm~~

Motion by Billi, Second by Vicky to adjourn.

Meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

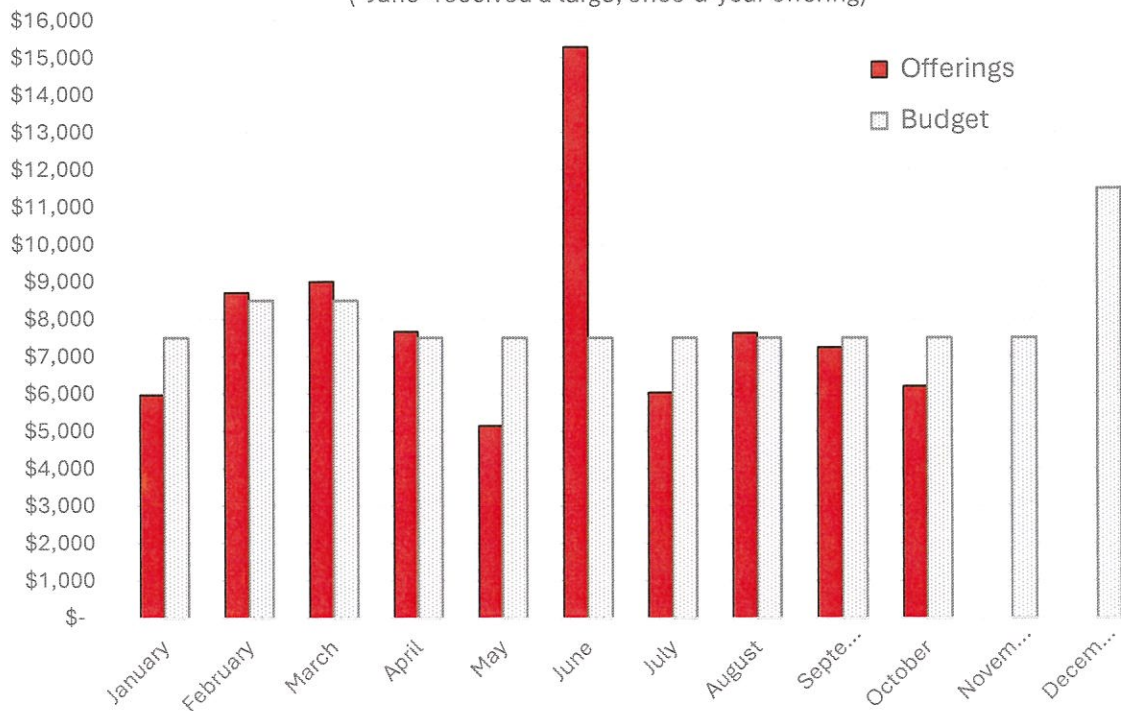
Hope Lutheran Church

Account Balances 2024

	Oct 31, 2024	Nov 9, 2024
Checking/Savings		
11102 · General Fund Checking	\$ 9,889.53	\$ 12,253.95
12101 · Undeposited General Funds	\$ 580.00	\$ -
11201 · Building Fund Saving	\$ 4,015.77	\$ 5,275.77
11112 · MWBank MC -Dawn	\$ 212.49	\$ 195.83
11113 · MWBank MC - Pastor Janet	\$ 117.02	\$ 97.21
11114 · MWBank MC - Sarah	\$ 181.97	\$ 171.77
12004 · CD 710143990	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 15,000.00
TOTAL General Fund Accounts	\$ 29,996.78	\$ 32,994.53
11300 · HS Youth Group Checking Acct	\$ 2,602.61	\$ 2,602.61
11400 · Sunday School Checking Acct	\$ 875.38	\$ 875.38
11500 · Campership Checking Acct	\$ 626.92	\$ 626.92

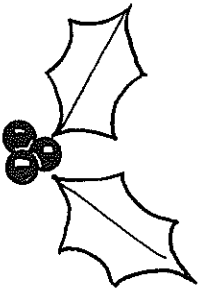
2024 Monthly Offerings vs Budget

(does not include memorials, special gifts, other income. Does include Lent Services)
 (*June -received a large, once-a-year offering)



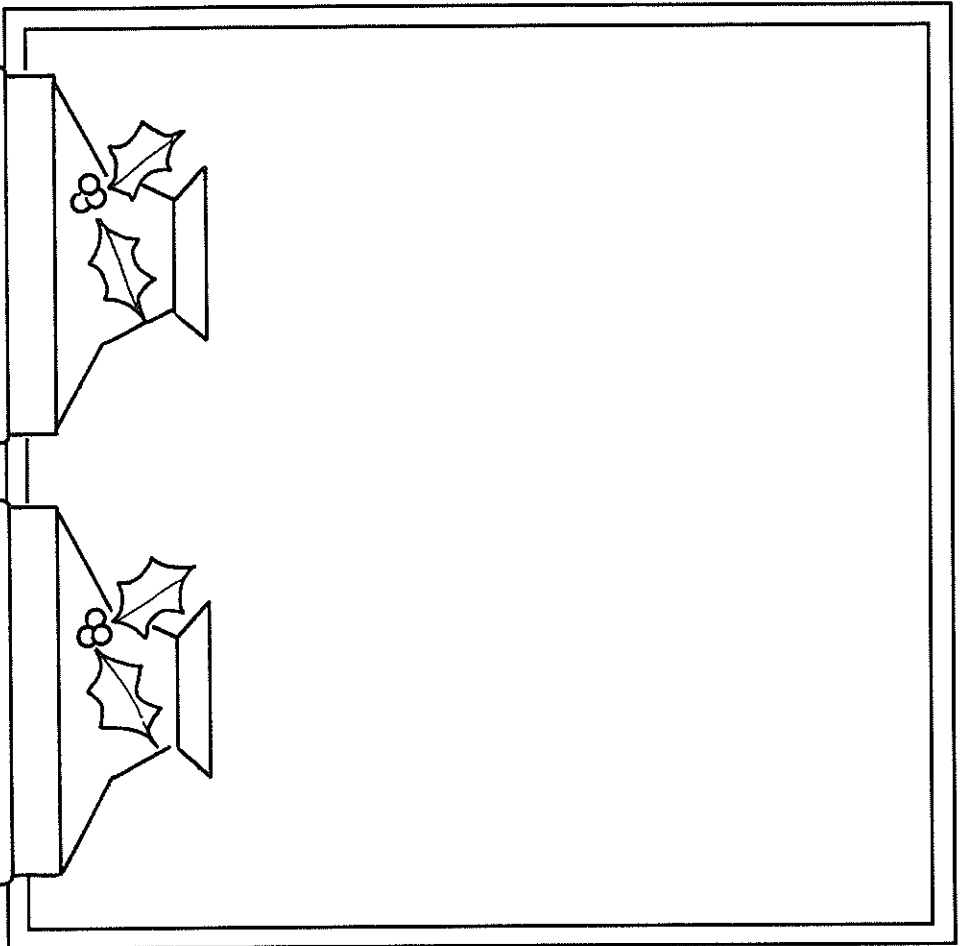
Hope Lutheran Church
Offerings and Expenses September October 2024

	<u>Sep 2024</u>	<u>Oct 2024</u>	<u>Jan - Oct 2024</u>
41130 · Auto / Online Offering	\$830.00	\$830.00	\$8,810.00
41120 · Traditional Offerings	\$5,754.00	\$4,799.00	\$62,160.22
41140 · Venmo Offerings	\$665.00	\$580.00	\$5,553.38
41200 · Special Services Offerings	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,392.00
42100 · Gifts & Memorials	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,831.16
43000 · Florence Parish Contribution	\$3,500.00	\$3,500.00	\$35,000.00
44100 · Interest Earned	\$1.68	\$395.31	\$570.99
44200 · Thrivent	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,346.00
44310 · Building Projects - Siding	\$260.00	\$260.00	\$22,786.11
44440 · Special Offerings to Pass On	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,200.00
44000 · Other Income - Other	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,124.69
Total Income	\$11,010.68	\$10,364.31	\$146,774.55
Expense			
66110 · Pastor Salary	\$3,666.66	\$3,666.66	\$36,666.60
66120 · Pastor Housing Allowance	\$1,916.67	\$1,916.67	\$19,166.70
66150 · Pastor Social Security	\$427.17	\$427.17	\$4,271.70
66160 · Pastor Benefits	\$2,978.53	\$2,978.53	\$29,785.30
66310 · Secretary Salary	\$375.00	\$375.00	\$3,750.00
66320 · Janitor Salary	\$250.00	\$250.00	\$2,500.00
66330 · Organist Salary	\$0.00	\$440.00	\$1,680.00
60200 · Auto/Mileage Expenses	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$639.18
61800 · Continuing Ed & Conferencs	\$372.84	\$0.00	\$1,387.95
63300 · Insurance Expense	\$371.47	\$742.94	\$3,714.70
63130 · Confirmation / Adult Ed	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$72.22
63120 · Sunday School Materials	\$0.00	\$37.51	\$814.53
63110 · Worship Materials	\$69.25	\$14.86	\$794.46
63100 · Worship & Education - Other	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4.49
63200 · Fellowship Expenses	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$144.32
62800 · Website Fees	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$350.46
62200 · Office Supplies	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$83.06
62300 · Printing and Reproduction	\$112.22	\$126.20	\$1,450.10
62500 · Dues and Subscriptions	\$0.00	\$66.38	\$242.76
62600 · Postage and Delivery	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$136.00
62000 · Office Expenses - Other	\$16.66	\$16.66	\$166.60
67100 · Landscaping Expenses	\$1,200.00	\$1,200.00	\$5,025.00
67200 · Repairs and Maintenance	\$157.31	\$80.00	\$1,106.42
67210 · Siding & Int Projects 2023-24	\$1,268.55	\$2,175.99	\$72,564.58
67410 · Propane/Heat	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,688.68
67420 · Electricity	\$81.90	\$52.38	\$1,465.87
67430 · Water/Sewer	\$78.00	\$78.00	\$780.00
67440 · Telephone & Internet Expenses	\$96.47	\$96.47	\$960.20
61410 · Synod Mission Support	\$0.00	\$1,673.60	\$5,625.16
61450 · Special Offerings Sent On	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,200.00
61400 · Charitable Contributions - Other	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
69000 · Miscellaneous Expenses	\$14.85	\$14.85	\$138.60
Total Expense	\$13,453.55	\$16,429.87	\$201,875.64
Net Offerings & Income less Expenses	<u>- \$2,442.87</u>	<u>- \$6,065.56</u>	<u>- \$55,101.09</u>
NET without Siding & Interior Projects	<u>- \$1,434.32</u>	<u>- \$4,149.57</u>	<u>- \$5,322.62</u>



Today is the second Sunday in Advent. The coming of Jesus is closer! Today we light 2 candles.

Draw 2 candles.

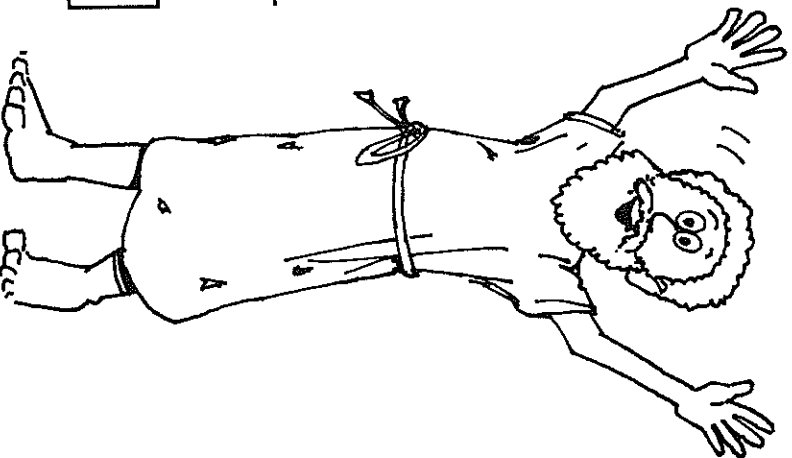
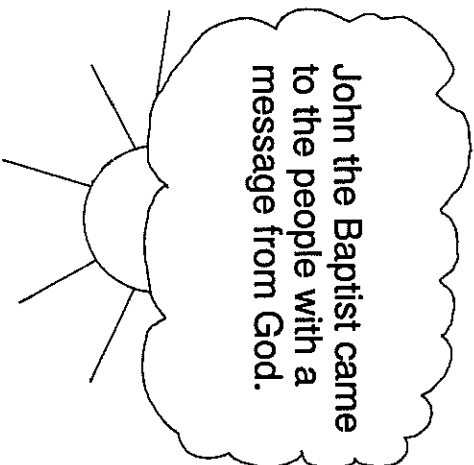


Prepare for Jesus—
Light the way!
Two candles burn
For Him today!

Children's Worship Bulletin

Ages 7-12

December 6, 1992
Matthew 3:1-12



the way of the Lord!

Add or subtract words or letters to find the answer.



- tzel +



- e



- ar =



December 2024

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
1 advent-blue Hanging of the Greens Service 3:00-7:00 pm rector	2	3 6:00-Porch Pot class at the firehall	4 3:30/5:00-Confirmation 6:00-Youth group	5 9-noon-quilting Ps. Conference dean zoom mtg.	6	7 Baptism
8 advent-blue	9	10	11 3:30/5:00-Confirmation 6:00-Youth group	12	13	14
15 advent-blue Sunday school Christmas program during Worship	16	17	18 3:30/5:00-Confirmation	19 9-noon-quilting Ps. Conference mtg.	20	21
22 advent-blue NO SUNDAY SCHOOL	23	24 5:30-Candlelight Worship	25	26	27	28
29 Christmas-white NO SUNDAY SCHOOL	30	31				

Notes

Worship (unless noted otherwise)-9:00 am Worship, 10:00 am Sunday school.
Worship helpers: No Worship Helpers as of printing.

HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH
PO BOX 886
SUMMIT, SD 57266

"WORDS OF HOPE FROM HOPE"

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Church: hlchurch1969@gmail.com/Phone-(605)-398-6150

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

Secretary-

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

Follow us on YouTube: Hope's Children



December 2024

"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.

