



Hope Lutheran Church  
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# “WORDS OF HOPE FROM HOPE”

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“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

Greetings People of Hope!

Grace and peace to you from Christ our Savior, his loving Father, and the Holy Spirit!

Welcome to Advent and December! (And winter 😊)

As the new church year begins, we turn again to the stories of waiting for the Messiah, Gabriel speaking to Mary, John the Baptizer preparing his followers for the one who will baptize with fire. We decorate the church and our homes, preparing for Christmas. Why do we do all of this? Why repeat it every year? Because we forget and need the reminders, the traditions, the music—all of it can help us connect again with the story and promises of Christ that everyday life distracts us from. Just like people need to slow down and remember how to drive in winter, we need to slow down and pay attention to God's presence in our lives and in the world.

This time of year, most people want to jump to Christmas songs. I get it. There's not a lot of opportunity to sing those hymns and songs in church. And yet, I love many Advent hymns, too. One of them is All Earth Is Hopeful by Alberto Taulé, translated by Madeleine Forell Marshall - #266 in the ELW (red hymnal). Taulé was a priest in Spain, specifically in Catalunya. The tune is simple and upbeat, easily accompanied by guitar, piano, or organ. The text beautifully summarizes the season and our faith.

1 All earth is hopeful, the Savior comes at last!

Furrows lie open for God's creative task:  
this, the labor of people who struggle to see  
how God's truth and justice set ev'rybody free.

2 People of Israel, you heard the prophet tell:

"A virgin mother will bear Emmanuel";  
she conceived him, "God with us," our brother, whose birth  
restores hope and courage to children of this earth.

3 Mountains and valleys will have to be prepared;

new highways opened, new protocols declared.  
Almost here! God is nearing, in beauty and grace!  
All clear ev'ry gateway, in haste, come out in haste!

4 We first saw Jesus a baby in a crib.

This same Lord Jesus today has come to live  
in our world; he is present, in neighbors we see  
our Jesus is with us, and ever sets us free

Taulé touches on words from Isaiah, Matthew, Luke, James, and Revelation. The first verse describes the essence of Advent—waiting for the Savior we know arrived in Christ, reminding us of God's creativity and desire to set people free. Verse 2 shares the prophecy and the promise of God's presence. The next verse challenges us to pay attention and be open to God's activity. The song ends with the Christmas story, then directs us towards how Christ has been and continues to be present in our lives and in the world to set us free. Joy greets us in the words and the music. Take a moment to look it up on YouTube or Spotify or Pandora.

May the promise and love of Christ encourage us, the Holy Spirit guide us, and the Father give us peace.

In Christ,  
Pastor Kari

## November 9th Church Council Meeting

-Tim Gapp, Addison Bronson, Cooper Ebsen, Scott Kneeland, Brittney Graf, Vicky Gleason, Traci Ellingson, and Tamijo Bronson --- Pastor Kari, Anneliese Seffrood (treasurer)

-Secretaries Report – Brittany M – Vicky 2nd – Motion passes

-Treasures report – Tim -M, Vicky – 2nd – Motion passes

-Cemetery Mowing – \$7,111.90 – The cemetery fund will refund the church fund for cemetery mowing this year. Tim G – M, Brittany 2nd – Motion passes.

-10 people (7 kids and 3 adults) from our church community went to Bible camp this summer. Vicky M, Tracy 2nd – Motion passes

-Christ in our home books. – ALC in Milbank has extra books and would be willing to give us their extra instead of us ordering the minimum of 25. We will be getting Sundays & Seasons.

-Paraments & Banners are being discussed. We will be looking at what we have and seeing what to update and what to keep.

-Servant teams – Shifting over 1 month. Altar Guild – 6-month teams

-Candles – Our options are oil filled, Real wax candles or the battery-operated candles. We will switch to oil candles

-November 30th – Adrian Wise will fill in for Pastor Kari Hanging of the Greens Service – Ask youth group to participate

-December 28th - Service of the Carols – Pastor Kari is out – Anne can cover this service - Breakfast

-Pastoral Care – Please contact Pastor Kari with any needs – Funerals, hospital visits, end of life care, and any other needs.

-Membership list – Outdated and the software program is no longer available. We need to find a better option and update the list. The Day-to-Day team will be working on this.

-Transition team – Tamijo B, Vicky G, Scott K, Tim G, Cooper E, and Addison B

-Day to day team – Nicole E, Traci E, Brittany G, Anne S –

-Christmas Decorations – Congregation help decorating on November 30th after church.

-Angel Tree – SAEG/Summit Cares will bring the tree to the church for our members to be able to help.

-Next date – December 14th after church

-Addison M to adjourn Cooper 2nds – Motion Passes.

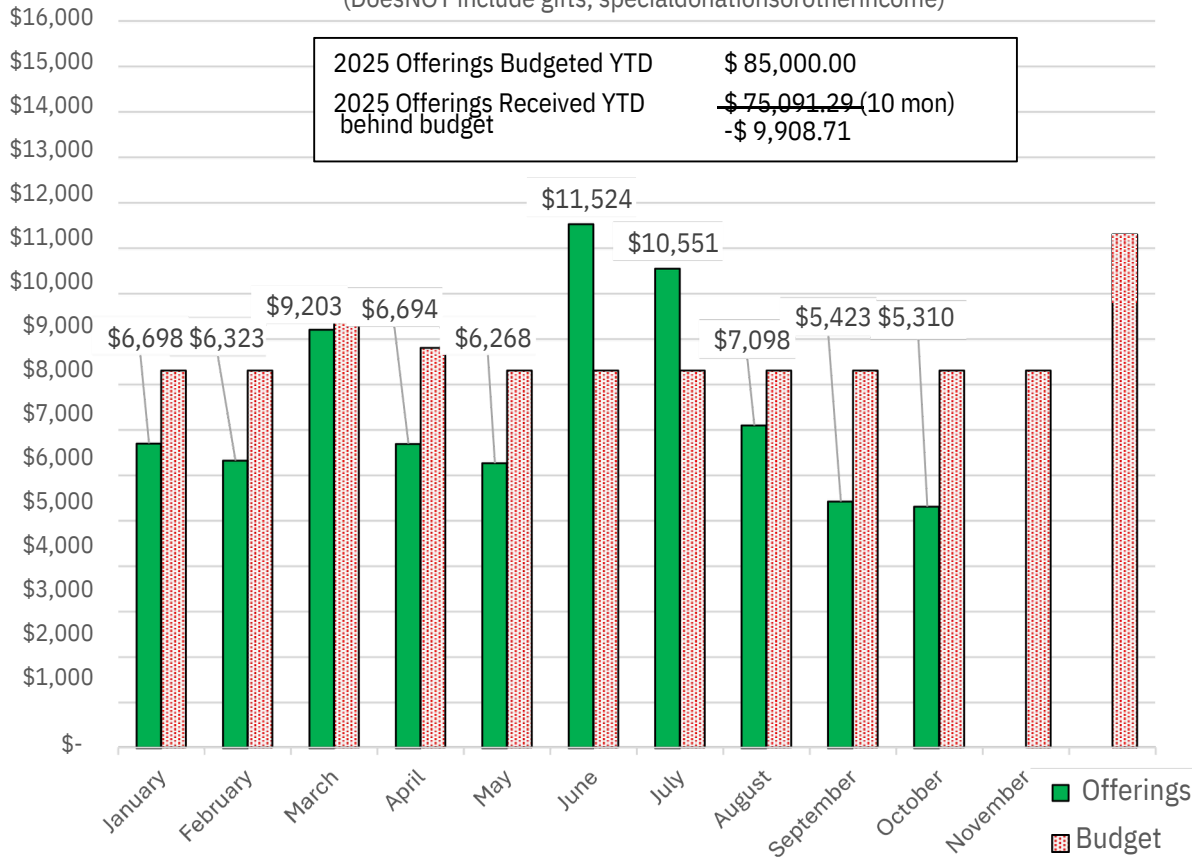
# Hope Lutheran Church Offerings and Expenses 2025

	October	September	YTD: Jan-Oct
Offerings & Income			
41120 · Traditional Offerings	\$4,380.25	\$4,417.50	\$59,656.29
41130 · Auto / Online Offering	\$700.00	\$700.00	\$6,853.00
41140 · Venmo Offerings	\$230.00	\$305.00	\$5,020.00
41200 · Lent & Christmas Eve Offerings			\$3,562.00
42100 · Gifts & Memorials	\$100.00	\$120.00	\$9,451.45
44310 · Building Project Donations	\$5,300.00 *1	\$525.00	\$14,034.00
43000 · Florence Parish Contribution	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$24,500.00
44100 · Interest Earned	\$2.59	\$2.37	\$321.44
44200 · Thrivent			\$1,938.00
44440 · Special Offerings to Pass On		\$10.00	\$42.80
44450 · Facility Rental			\$29.10
44000 · Other Income - Other			\$1,001.59
Total Income	\$10,712.84	\$6,079.87	\$127,846.06
Expense			
66110 · Pastor Salary	\$2,373.34	\$0.00	\$28,039.96
66120 · Pastor Housing Allowance	\$1,390.00	\$0.00	\$16,836.72
66150 · Pastor Social Security	\$277.19	\$0.00	\$3,423.28
66160 · Pastor Benefits	\$0.00 *2	\$0.00	\$21,791.14
66191 · Relief Pastor Salary	\$450.00	\$900.00	\$2,700.00
66192 · Relief Pastor Mileage/Housing	\$92.40	\$288.40	\$858.73
Total 66300 · Other Church Payroll	\$1,028.13	\$1,187.23	\$6,331.83
60200 · Auto/Mileage Expenses	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$428.80
61800 · Continuing Ed & Conferencs	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,176.03
63300 · Insurance Expense	\$973.18	\$486.59	\$4,865.90
63130 · Confirmation / Adult Ed	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$33.93
63120 · Sunday School Materials	\$289.42	\$0.00	\$1,062.92 *3
63110 · Worship Materials	\$246.11	\$33.22	\$859.15
63100 · Worship & Education - Other	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$11.98
63200 · Fellowship Expenses	\$107.41	\$0.00	\$216.81
62200 · Office Supplies	\$0.00	\$37.00	\$212.85
62300 · Printing and Reproduction	\$124.04	\$107.47	\$1,318.67
62500 · Dues and Subscriptions	\$148.20	\$0.00	\$284.78
62000 · Office Expenses - Other	\$0.00	\$17.70	\$153.06
67100 · Landscaping Expenses	\$1,661.90	\$1,200.00	\$7,111.90 *4
67200 · Repairs and Maintenance	\$0.00	\$89.50	\$1,164.78
67210 · Major Building Projects	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$8,415.31
67300 · Small Tools and Equipment	\$0.00	\$26.28	\$26.28
67410 · Propane/Heat	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,952.96
67420 · Electricity	\$48.46	\$76.96	\$1,248.94
67430 · Water/Sewer	\$84.00	\$84.00	
67440 · Telephone & Internet Expenses	\$96.47	\$96.47	\$840.00
61410 · Synod Mission Support	\$1,794.14	\$0.00	\$964.70
61450 · Special Offerings Sent On	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,245.96
63402 · Venmo fees	\$5.03	\$7.07	\$418.29
63402 · Venmo fees	\$4.95	\$4.95	\$14.10
69000 · Miscellaneous Expenses	\$11,194.37	\$4,642.84	-\$258.81
Total Expense	-\$481.53	\$1,437.03	\$120,750.95
Net Ordinary Income	\$481.53	\$1,437.03	\$7,095.11
Net Income			\$7,095.11
Net without Building Donations or Expenses	-\$5,781.53	\$912.03	\$1,476.42

## 2025 Monthly Offerings vs Budget

(Does include Lent Services&ChristmasEve)

(DoesNOT include gifts, specialdonationsorotherincome)



## AccountBalances

	<u>Oct 31, 25</u>	<u>Nov 10, 25</u>
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Current Assets		
Checking/Savings		
11102 · General Fund Checking	\$15,066.56	\$15,871.67
11201 · Building Fund Saving	\$18,013.00	\$18,013.00
11113 · MWBank MC - Pastor Janet	\$5.42	\$0.47
12004 · CD 710143990	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>\$48,084.98</b>	<b>\$48,885.14</b>
Current Liabilities		
Outstanding Credit Card Charges	-\$615.39	\$0.00
11300 · HS Youth Group Checking Acct	\$3,540.61	\$3,540.61
11400 · Sunday School Checking Acct	\$1,166.72	\$1,166.72
11500 · Campership Checking Acct	\$1,433.92	\$1,433.92

# Hope Happenings

Youth Group will be have a gift exchange this Wednesday.  
Please have your child bring a \$10 gift to exchange

Bible Study will start Wednesday, January 7<sup>th</sup>, 2026  
- More details to follow

There is a sign up sheet for Memory Wreaths at the church. We have extra wreaths available for purchase.  
- \$30 a wreath

During this time of transition, the Church council has broken into 2 groups. One of the groups formed is a "day-to-day operations" team. It includes Tamijo B, Nicole E, Sarah H, Traci E, Annelies S, and Pastor Kari. One of the tasks assigned to this team is to update Hope Lutheran's Membership and Contact Lists. Our current software program is out of date. We will need to choose a new software package and enter information for everyone. We will be reaching out to our current Membership List in the next 2 months to verify membership and contact information. It is not our intention to "remove" anyone from the list at this time. We simply need to update our records.

Merry Christmas



# December 2025

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3 Confirmation 5:30 Youth Group 7 \$10 Gift exchange	4 Quilting	5	6
7 Sunday School 9:30 Worship w/ Communion 10:30	8	9	10 Confirmation 5:30	11	12	13
14 Christmas Program during Worship at 10:30	15	16	17 Confirmation 5:30	18 Quilting	19	20
21 No Sunday School Worship w/ Communion 10:30	22	23	24 No Confirmation	25	26	27
28 No Sunday School Worship 10:30	29	30	31 No Confirmation			