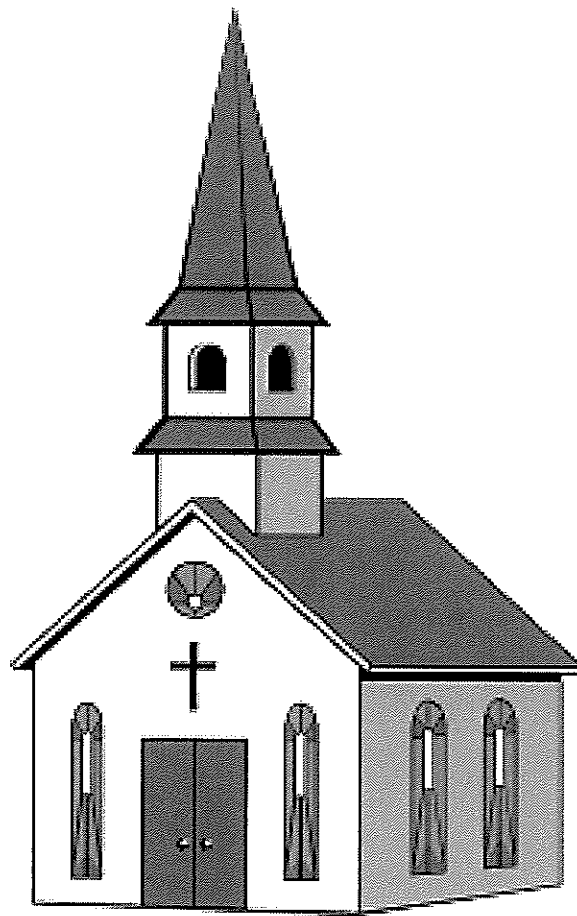


HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH ANNUAL MEETING

January 28, 2024



**Hope Lutheran Church – Annual Congregational Meeting
January 28, 2024**

Greetings Announcements

Opening devotions and hymn #813 "Faith of Our Fathers"

Passing of the Peace

Offering

Hope Lutheran Church Annual Meeting January 28, 2024

I. Welcome and opening meeting from Vice President Dustin Holt

II. Reading of Minutes from 2023 Annual meeting

III. Treasurer Annelies Seffrood's Reports & Financial Reports

A. Cemetery account report

B. Sunday School Account report

C. Youth Group Account report

D. Campership Account report

IV. Pastor Janet Miller's Report

V. Other Reports:

A. Statistical Reports

B. Church Council President's Report

C. Quilter's Group

D. Kitchen Fund

E. Ministry Partners reports

1. South Dakota Synod

VI. Other Business

A. Cemetery Board

VII. Mission Plan for 2024 - Budget and Challenges

VIII. Election of 2024 Officers- Thanks to all who served in 2023

VIII. Closing with the Lord's Prayer

January 29, 2023
Annual meeting

Welcome and opening by President Tim Gapp

M-Laurie, 2nd – Dustin to continue without a quorum. Passed

Reading of the 2021 Annual meeting. M-Beth, 2nd-Earline. Passed

Treasurer report and financials-Cemetery update, Sunday school-money spent of VBS props and activities. Noisy offerings will be taken every 2nd children's church each month. Youth-2024 youth gathering. Because it was rescheduled the youth hadn't been doing much fundraising. Camp-3 youth went this year. Lent/Easter breakfast fundraising. Anne encouraged kids to sign-up for camp and young adults to apply as camp counselors.

Pastor report-M-Kathy, 2nd-Tamijo. Passed

Other reports-Read and approved

Tim discussed how worship has changed since Covid and what we can do. Mentioned how the contract with Florence has been going and how they appreciate having a pastor to share with us. Carroll expressed that all are invited to help with quilting too. Pastor encouraged anyone with Thrivent cards to consider donating to the quilters. M-Laurie K, 2nd-Becky. Passed.

*Tim thanked Anne for her work as treasurer

Mission plan for 2023- Anne reviewed the past and future budget. M-Bruce, 2nd-Beth. Passed.

Thank you to Bruce, Earline, and Beth for their work as financial secretaries. M-Bruce, 2nd-Jim A. to approve the 2023 budget. Passed.

New council elections-M-Earline, 2nd-Diane to elect Dustin Holt, Ben Graf, Tamijo Bronson, Maddie Hinkelman, and Levi Whempner.

Prairie Coteau Conference-Pastor, Michael, and Anne will be attending. All are invited.

Closed with Table prayer.

When my kids were growing up, the boys had a favorite "red neck" comedian whose favorite phrase was, "Get 'er done!"

I thought of this phrase when I looked back on our year 2023 in the church. Some years have lots of pretty celebrations or fancy plans. Some years you just have to dig deep and work together for a common goal- you just have to "get 'er done". That was 2023 for our congregation.

We have known for several years that a big job of siding the church was coming up. We also knew that we needed to update some big projects inside the church. We set ourselves a pretty big task to raise the money for all our projects and the congregation has stepped up to the job! People from around the community have also donated and helped us raise money for our beloved building.

I am always amazed by the generous people in Hope Lutheran. But, this year has surprised even me! You really know how to, "Get 'er done" when you need to.

Thanks to your generosity, we were able to baptize 10 people this year in Summit, Florence, at NeSoDak and even at a hospital. We helped 9 children take their first Communion here at Hope this year. I officiated at 10 funerals this year- five of them were here at Hope Lutheran. Working with all the joys and the hard times together makes us a family.

We are working on the Christian Education for our Confirmation age students. We have two groups that meet three Wed. nights a month. We have a great youth group which meets on the 2nd Wed of each month. (Once a month I also do Wed. nights and youth group at Florence.) Becky Pies and a lot of parents are working to get our little ones educated each Sunday morning during the school year. Thanks to all those who stepped up to get things done here too.

We have a group of high school students who will make the trip to the National Youth Convention in New Orleans this summer. They will still have to do a little fundraising for their extra expenses, but I know this will be answered with the same generosity Hope Lutheran always has.

Fundraising years are never easy and rarely fun. However, the congregation along with its family and friends stepped up and "got it done". We have two new beautiful sliding doors in the sanctuary and fellowship area. We expect to begin siding the church within the next month or so.

Our congregation goes into the year 2024 with excited hearts and great expectations. Together, you and I can follow our God and "Get 'er done!"

Statistical Reports Hope Lutheran Church 2023

Worship Statistics

Worships 42

Total Sunday Attendance 2507

Average Sunday Attendance 60

Lenten Worships 5

Total Lenten Attendance 249

Average Lenten Attendance 50

Baptisms 2023

Henry Lukas Fisher

Hudson Kent

Kaysen Lang

Mackenzie Kazanovicz

Viola Skadsen

First Communion 2023

Emery Christofferson

Braxton Urban

Montana Crandall

Skylar Crandall

Stetson Sumner

Peyton Sumner

Orienna Adolph

Presley Zubke

Shaelyn Zubke

Confirmations 2023

None this year

Marriages 2022

None from our congregation this year- 1 from Florence

Funerals and Burials 2023

Greg McKane (non member at funeral home)

Lois Monohan (Florence)

Darlene Gudmunson (Crocker)

DeAnne Gjenvick (non member at Hope)

Keth Scharf (burial)

Judy Everson (at Watertown)

Harold Binde

Omar Halvorson

Fred Strasser

New Members Received

Vicky Gleason

Aspen Gleason

Transferred to other Congregations

Sophia Seffrood

Merlyn and Bonnie Drake

Donna and Denny Jensen

Membership Totals

2022 totals

2022 baptized Members 353 2022 Confirmed Members 246

2023 New Members 2

 Baptisms 5

 Confirmations 0

Sub-Totals	360	250
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Deaths	4
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Out Transfers 2022	5
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Total Membership 2022	Baptized 351	Confirmed Members 245
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Hope Lutheran Church President's Report – January 2024

As a new year begins, we reflect on the past. 2023 was a blessed year at Hope Lutheran! We saw a living breathing church. Old traditions such as the Easter breakfast, Lenten Suppers and communion at the rail returned. Friends and family were in the pews, children were active in Sunday School, confirmation and Youth Group. We gathered for fun activities such as the Paint and Pour and the Generations Lefsa Day. Sometimes it is hard to remember the days of Covid when we could only gather for Car church!

We continued our partnership with Florence in 2023 and into 2024. This partnership continues to benefit both churches. Pastor Janet provides pastoral services for both locations and it helped Hope to meet our yearly budget.

This was the year we turned attention to our beautiful building. We had a very successful start to the fundraising campaign for improvements. These improvements are important as the church serves not only our congregation, but the community as well. One example is when the daycare needed an emergency location to continue services. Our church was the perfect answer.

Improvements for 2023:

- Boilers were serviced and remotely controlled thermostats installed
- New Hot water heater installed
- Sanctuary sliding partition and Sunday School door replaced
- Carpets cleaned
- New Website

I am grateful for those that kept the church moving forward during 2023. A big thank you to all that have served as Sunday School Teachers, Church Council members, Finance committee, Nominating Committee, Church Staff and of course Pastor Janet. Thank you to all who said yes when asked to usher, read, prepare and serve communion as well as prepare and serve food at funerals. I can't forget all who brought treats to share for coffee also! There are many people that do great work for our church that often goes unnoticed as well. The quilting ladies continue to amaze me with how hard they work. Our organist Val deserves a huge thank you for both her time and talents! I also want to thank you for the opportunity to serve as Council President during 2023.

As we look toward the future, our focus is on the 3 Ts of Stewardship, time, talents and treasures. The regular giving, Thrivent Choice Dollars and special fundraisers continue to contribute to the treasures of the church. These treasures allow the Council to begin our 2024 projects including the new Siding and windows. The Council is looking toward future projects as well such as sidewalks, a new sign and cemetery improvements. We are also planning for the eventual replacement of our aging boilers.

We are blessed with an active congregation that is giving with time and talents. I hope you will say yes when asked to serve as Sunday School teachers, worship helpers, communion setup, Church council and other activities. Please consider how you can share your gifts to help our church to continue to grow and flourish in 2024.

Sincerely,

Traci Ellingson

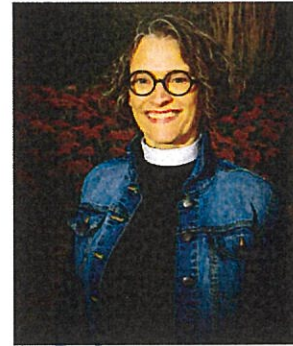


South Dakota Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Dear South Dakota Synod,

Grace and peace to you in the name of our Triune God!

On behalf of your close to 200 partners across the South Dakota Synod I come to you to say *thank you*. *Thank you* for your generosity! Your benevolence to the ministry of the South Dakota Synod doesn't just keep the lights on and pays salaries, but mainly supports ministry on the ground. Please take a look at the "2023 South Dakota Synod Ministry Celebrations" insert included in this annual report. You will notice that YOU showed up in many and various spaces. Sometimes your presence was felt close to home through a grant you may have received or a synod staff that came to visit. At other times your presence impacted ministry in other parts of the world, such as our companion partners in the Lutheran churches in Nicaragua and Cameroon. *Thank you* also for your generosity above and beyond your benevolence. Our partners in Cameroon appreciated the synod's \$52,000 gift to support putting roofs on churches. The generosity of the congregations in the synod never ceases to amaze me, and I give thanks for your continued generosity as we journey together in Christ!



While many places celebrated an abundant year of ministry, I also want to acknowledge that for other ministry sites 2023 has not been as hoped for. Our mission statement commits us to "Journeying Together in Christ" and is based on Luke 24:13-34. Two disciples are on the road post resurrection and ponder in disbelief all the things that have happened before their eyes. They were overwhelmed and didn't know what to make of it all. I have heard from many ministry sites a similar account about 2023. "Bishop, things in 2023 were not as we had expected and hoped for. What do we do now?" In Luke's story Jesus, unrecognized by them, joins them and walks alongside to listen and remind them of the promises in scripture. But it isn't until they sit down at the table, and Jesus breaks bread that their eyes are opened. They recognize who he is and that the 'holy heartburn' they had experienced along the way was a sign that their love for Jesus and the way he calls them to live has changed them forever.

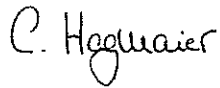
How about your community of faith? Where do you hear the promises of scripture assure you that God's got a plan for you and your ministry? Where are you called to follow the 'holy heartburn' God's Spirit ignites in you as you are fed at the table of love? I pray that your annual meeting will be an experience where you can voice what you had wished for as well as lament the unmaterialized hopes. And at the same time, you can hear where God promises new life and renewed faith in your very own midst.

Your South Dakota Synod staff and partners across the church are committed to accompany you in your ministry ventures, whether it means to take small courageous steps or giant leaps of faith. We are here to journey with you in Christ. Therefore, it is with great joy and delight that I am announcing to you that we, the South Dakota Synod, are a recipient of a \$1,137,384 grant Endowment Inc. through its Thriving Congregations Initiative. Details about the grant can be accessed through the synod's website www.sdsynod.org as well as through the synod office. The STAR (Small Town and Rural) Table also offers two types of grants, which are only possible

through the generosity of the people and congregations of the SD Synod when we gather for rural ministry fundraisers. Again, details about the grant opportunities, and how you can apply for a grant are found on the synod's website www.sdsynod.org.

Last but not least, I would like to invite you to the 2024 Synod Assembly on May 31st and June 1st at Our Savior's in Sioux Falls, SD. We will gather under the theme of "(Re)Connect." It will be a celebration of the partnerships we share across the synod and the wider ELCA. Stay tuned for more information about the business coming before the assembly and the fun opportunities. I hope to be able to welcome you to the assembly in person, be in conversation with you and hear about ministry in your world and how you might best be accompanied as well as accompany your fellow members of the SD Synod and the ELCA.

Journeying with you in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "C. Hagmaier". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Rev. Constanze Hagmaier
Bishop of the South Dakota Synod, ELCA



South Dakota Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Dear Members of the South Dakota Synod,

The season of Advent has been a meaningful part of my faith life since a child. While once merely the countdown to Christmas and Jesus' birth, as my faith matured came the recognition of our hope of his return. We celebrate what God has done and keep watch together to see the power of grace and forgiveness to build God's kingdom. To be watchful is to be prayerful of God with us in the days ahead. I hope you will find these resources helpful as we look for 2024 and the ministry we share.

Included in this package are several important documents:

- **Annual Report from Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton and the ELCA**
- **Annual Report from Bishop Constanze Hagmaier**
- **2023 Ministry Celebration**
- **5 Year Vision of the South Dakota Synod: "Journeying Together in Christ"**
- **South Dakota Synod Mission Plan**
- **Annual Report from Lutheran Planned Generosity**
- **Statement of Intent for 2024 Mission Support***
- **Congregational Leadership Form***

These resources are but a few tools available to help celebrate our ministry together and explore how we will continue to journey together to proclaim the hope of the resurrection.

The Statement of Intent for 2024 Mission Support is extremely important in helping the Synod Council plan for the year ahead. Please prayerfully consider with your congregation the ministry to which we are called. The **Congregation Leadership Form** updates your congregation's leader so we can continue to pass along information and resources. **Please return both forms to the synod office following your annual meeting.** Both can be found at sdsynod.org/yearend. Please contact the synod office at 605-274-4011 or synod@sdsynod.org with any questions.

We are thankful for the ministry that you are doing in your community. You have been called and empowered by the Holy Spirit to share the Good News of Jesus Christ with the world. We are thankful to be your partners in that work!

Peace and blessings to you as we Journey Together in Christ.

Rev. Jonathan Vehar
Associate to the Bishop and
Director for Evangelical Mission

2023 MINISTRY CELEBRATION



Our Synod's vision of Journeying Together in Christ has continued to focus our work. We invite you to take a few moments to review the list below which celebrates some of the ministry we shared together in 2023. **Journeying together in Christ as the South Dakota Synod, in 2023 we:**

- Applied for and received a grant of **\$1,137,384** from Lilly Endowment Inc. through its Thriving Congregations Initiative for new initiatives that are not included the Synod's Mission Plan. Please reach out to Synod Staff for **more information!**
- Completed explorations for two new potential church plants, with plans to start a worshipping community in **Box Elder** and **Shepherd's Table in Sioux Falls**.
- Walked with the **40** people in various stages of **Candidacy** and have **4** new entrance interviews scheduled in 2024!
- Received **3 new first call candidates**.
- Completed **23 Ministry Site Studies** and extended **28 calls!**
- Ensured that nearly every congregation has a called pastor, interim pastor, Synod Authorized Minister, or lay leader to care for God's people (thank you to all of you who are helping out with area congregations and filling in!).
- Distributed **\$77,137** to date through the Seminary Debt Reduction Program.
- Granted **\$123,000** in scholarship funds to seminary students, **\$11,400** in internship site assistance, and **\$82,990** to Luther and Wartburg Seminaries, for a total of **\$217,390** in support of seminary education.
- Created a **pilot rural J-term** program with Wartburg Theological Seminary, which will begin in January 2024.
- Received **\$113,635** in grants from ELCA Christian Community & Leadership.
- Held a **Synod Assembly**, where we gathered again as a community to conduct the business of the synod.
- Hosted **Spring** and **Fall Theological Conferences**, where we continued to support the continuing education of our Rostered Ministers either online or in-person.
- Supported the congregations and ministries of the synod through **visits** by synod staff, both **digital** and in-person.
- Hosted a **"Lay Leader Night"** to support congregational lay leaders and supported rostered leaders with regular **in-person and virtual meetings**, such as monthly rostered minister virtual check-ins, Synodically Authorized Minister, Senior Pastor, and Interim Pastor check-ins, and a First Call and Senior Pastor Retreat.
- Pr. Alan Blankenfeld, Synod **Rural Ministry Liaison** continued to journey with our rural ministry sites. In the past year, Pr. Alan has worked directly with **34 communities and congregations in transition**.
- Continued the work of the Rural Ministry Table, which is currently working on **Small Town and Rural (STAR) grants**, grants funded by the generous donations to rural ministry in the Synod.
- Partnered with **Bergen Lutheran** to hold a **Threshing Bee** which resulted in gifts of **\$51,324** to support rural ministry in South Dakota.

Thank you for all the ways you have supported the ministry of the South Dakota Synod this past year! God has called us to be the body of Christ together, and this is an active and healthy body. We look forward to continuing our journey with you in 2024 and beyond!

South Dakota Synod, ELCA
Proposed Mission Plan
02/01/2024 - 01/31/2025

	Adopted 2023	Revised 2023	Proposed 2024
Revenue			
Mission Support			
Undesignated Mission Support	1,870,465	1,750,576	1,803,094
SD Synod Mission Support	25,000	28,675	28,675
Total Mission Support-Congregations	1,895,465	1,779,251	1,831,769
Program Ministry Income			
Pine Ridge Reconciliation Center Income	45,000	45,000	45,000
Total Program Ministry Income			
Other Income			
DEM Support Staff Income	10,000	10,000	10,000
Interest Income	10,000	10,000	10,000
SDS Travel LLC Income	5,000	5,000	5,000
Misc Income	1,000	50,000	1,000
Total Other Income	26,000	75,000	26,000
Total Revenue	1,966,465	1,899,251	1,902,769
Expenses			
Churchwide Ministries	43%	43%	41%
Churchwide Support	804,300	752,748	739,269
Region III			
Region III Support	7,260	8,004	8,004
South Dakota Ministries			
South Dakota Partnership Ministries			
SD Ministries Support	10,750	12,330	11,757
Luther Seminary	74,492	69,925	71,989
Church Colleges (ELCA Pool)	6,445	6,049	6,228
Lutheran Social Services	74,492	69,925	71,989
Campus Ministry	131,356	123,302	126,942
Lutheran Outdoors	37,151	34,873	35,903
South Dakota Supported Ministries			
Heartland Ephphatha	6,445	6,049	6,228
Youth Ministry	3,600	9,600	7,200
Campus Ministry Capital	1,030	1,030	0
Good Samaritan Society	1	1	1
Chapel in the Hills	1	1	1
Woyatan Lutheran/Wambli Ska	19,000	19,000	19,000
Lutheran Planned Generosity	58,300	58,300	58,300
Total Shared Ministries	423,063	410,385	415,538

South Dakota Synod, ELCA
Proposed Mission Plan
02/01/2024 - 01/31/2025

	Adopted 2023	Revised 2023	Proposed 2024
Executive Leadership			
Bishop	96,675	99,034	102,005
Assoc/Director of Ev Mission	6,375	10,533	10,849
Assoc-Mobility/Candidacy	79,909	82,132	84,596
Executive Staff Benefits	106,192	86,940	89,546
Exec Travel/Continuing Ed	34,800	36,800	36,800
Program Ministries			
Pine Ridge Reconciliation Center-Director	98,872	96,302	99,257
Youth Gathering Synod Coordinator	6,959	0	0
Companion Synod Coordinator	15,839	18,008	18,521
Support Staff and Office			
Support Staff Salaries/Benefit	167,359	171,874	176,980
Synod Office Expenses	69,264	70,681	66,791
Augustana University Occupancy Fee	27,876	30,108	30,108
Synod Committees			
Synod Council	3,000	6,000	5,000
Support to Ministries Committee	2,100	3,100	3,100
Candidacy Committee	2,250	7,000	6,000
Multi-Cultural Ministry Committee	1,550	1,000	1,000
Companion Synods Ministry Committee	200	200	200
Evangelical Outreach Committee	1,500	1,500	1,500
Mission & Outreach			
Mission Congregation Start-up	4,000	4,000	4,000
Mission Strategy Table	2,000	2,000	2,000
Contingency	5,122	902	1,705
Total South Dakota Ministries	731,842	728,114	739,958
Total Expenses	1,966,465	1,899,251	1,902,769
Net Total	0	0	0

"How Much Is Enough?"

That's a bold question to open an annual report to all of those congregations whose generous mission support is an essential reason that planned giving ministry recognized its **40th anniversary** in the South Dakota Synod this year. We celebrated all of those who have been a part of Lutheran Planned Generosity and its predecessor organizations at the 2023 Synod Assembly, and issued a challenge to identify **40 gift plans to honor 40 years of generosity**. It's not too late for you to be a part of the celebration--just contact us and let us know that you have made a gift in your will or through a beneficiary designation, or would like to do so. For all of those who are a part of this history and continue to generously support ministry in the Synod and around the world, **thank you!** You are making a difference!



Back to that opening question. Relax and breathe a sigh of relief. We're not going to give you rules or scripture verses to calculate the expected size of your gifts. Rather, it's an invitation to each of us to better understand **"How much is enough FOR ME?"** In a world that tells us we should constantly strive for a bigger bank account, a larger home, a newer car, a longer vacation and the next promotion, it's easy to get lost and overwhelmed in the striving and never know when we've reached the point that we have enough. Because God entrusts us as stewards and caretakers, not owners, of all that we have, maybe an understanding of what that number is would be helpful for each of us. **What if** God continues to place more resources under our management to allow us to **simplify our lives by supporting ministry and serving our neighbors** instead of adding another zero to the balance sheet?

If you've never thought about your "enough" and how God might be calling you to make a difference through generosity, **we're inviting you to the conversation**. LPGSD is here to help you think about how your life can make a difference for your loved ones, your church, your community and all of those in need around the world.

It might be a gift in your will, or as a beneficiary designation from your IRA or investment account or life insurance policy. Or maybe using a tool that creates tax savings and income for you today AND a gift to ministry later.

In addition to this work with individuals and families, LPGSD also walks alongside congregations hoping to create or revitalize their own legacy through an **endowment fund**, offering members the opportunity to share in the ministry and outreach of their Christian family. Did you know that **more than \$650,000** was distributed to ministry from South Dakota endowment funds held at the ELCA Foundation in 2023? Your personal legacy plan might even include a family endowment or a gift to establish an endowment at your own congregation.

How much is your ENOUGH? If you discover that God is calling you to generosity beyond that number, LPGSD would be honored to explore the options and help you design a plan that takes advantage of the right tools to benefit your family and support God's work.

Contact Kathy McHenry at **605.274.5030** or **kmchenry@sdsynod.org**.
Visit our website at **www.lpgsd.org** or find us on Facebook.

your life can make a difference

Hope Lutheran Church
2023 Actual vs Budget and 2024 Budget
 January - December 2023

	2022 ACTUAL	BUDGET 2023	2023 ACTUAL	BUDGET 2024
INCOME: OFFERINGS, GIFTS, OTHER				
41100 · Regular (Sunday) Offerings	\$ 87,201.27	\$ 90,000.00	\$ 87,717.10	\$ 90,000.00
41200 · Special Services Offerings	\$ 5,078.00	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 4,549.00	\$ 6,000.00
42100 · Gifts & Memorials	\$ 10,851.47	\$ 10,500.00	\$ 4,471.45	\$ 32,000.00
43000 · Florence Parish Contribution	\$ 36,000.00	\$ 42,000.00	\$ 42,000.00	\$ 42,000.00
44440 · Special Offerings to Pass On	\$ 770.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00
44350 · Christmas Greenery Income	\$ 773.45	\$ -	\$ 50.00	
44300 · Special Event Donations	\$ -	\$ 80,000.00	\$ 68,953.32	\$ 20,000.00
44100 · Interest Earned	\$ 81.02	\$ 73.75	\$ 571.66	\$ 60.00
44200 · Thrivent	\$ 425.00	\$ 1,100.00	\$ 1,195.00	\$ 1,000.00
44600 · Amazon Smile	\$ 56.21	\$ -	\$ 64.05	\$ -
44000 · Other Income - Other	\$ 1,823.25	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 1,862.39	\$ 1,666.00
Total Offerings & Gifts & Other Income	\$ 143,059.67	\$ 233,673.75	\$ 211,683.97	\$ 192,976.00
EXPENSES				
71100 · HSYG National Gathering Exp	\$ (150.00)			
66110 · Pastor Salary	\$ 40,636.83	\$ 43,040.00	\$ 43,039.93	\$ 44,000.00
66120 · Pastor Housing Allowance	\$ 20,000.04	\$ 22,000.00	\$ 21,999.97	\$ 23,000.00
66150 · Pastor Social Security	\$ 4,625.25	\$ 4,975.56	\$ 4,975.58	\$ 5,125.56
66160 · Pastor Benefits	\$ 32,565.72	\$ 34,687.80	\$ 34,848.48	\$ 35,750.00
66191 · Relief Pastor Salary		\$ 350.00	\$ 250.00	\$ 900.00
66192 · Relief Pastor Mileage/Housing		\$ 50.00	\$ 90.00	\$ 200.00
66310 · Secretary Salary	\$ 4,200.00	\$ 4,500.00	\$ 4,500.00	\$ 4,500.00
66320 · Janitor Salary	\$ 2,365.00	\$ 2,760.00	\$ 2,760.00	\$ 3,000.00
66330 · Organist Salary	\$ 2,400.00	\$ 2,520.00	\$ 2,160.00	\$ 2,280.00
60200 · Auto/Mileage Expenses	\$ 1,391.50	\$ 1,450.00	\$ 1,648.64	\$ 1,200.00
61800 · Continuing Ed & Conferences	\$ 789.56	\$ 900.00	\$ 389.86	\$ 900.00
63300 · Insurance Expense	\$ 3,601.26	\$ 3,849.00	\$ 3,877.29	\$ 4,437.96
63130 · Confirmation / Adult Ed	\$ 398.91	\$ 350.00	\$ 444.86	\$ 600.00
63120 · Sunday School Materials	\$ 74.20	\$ 250.00	\$ 357.58	\$ 600.00
63110 · Worship Materials	\$ 1,363.61	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 2,150.97	\$ 1,800.00
63200 · Fellowship Expenses	\$ 180.00	\$ 220.00	\$ 345.66	\$ 300.00
62800 Website			\$ 406.45	\$ 636.00
62200 · Office Supplies	\$ 43.65	\$ 750.00	\$ 1,565.18	\$ 1,800.00
62300 · Printing and Reproduction	\$ 1,736.07	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 2,253.03	\$ 2,400.00
62500 · Dues and Subscriptions	\$ 176.92	\$ 150.00	\$ 174.89	\$ 225.00
62600 · Postage and Delivery	\$ 777.26	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 908.01	\$ 780.00
62000 · Office Expenses - Other	\$ 204.59	\$ 461.84	\$ 197.12	
67500 · Church Decorations	\$ 91.47	\$ 250.00	\$ -	\$ 600.00
67100 · Landscaping Expenses	\$ -	\$ 5,100.00	\$ 79.65 *	\$ 5,600.00
67200 · Repairs and Maintenance	\$ 2,132.88	\$ 81,000.00	\$ 6,207.85	\$ 20,000.00
67210 Siding & Glass Partition			\$ 19,500.00 **	\$ 65,000.00
67300 · Small Tools and Equipment	\$ 18.05	\$ 500.00	\$ 268.50	\$ 300.00
67410 · Propane/Heat	\$ 6,467.33	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,789.92	\$ 4,000.00
67420 · Electricity	\$ 1,619.68	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 1,728.14	\$ 1,565.00
67430 · Water/Sewer	\$ 888.00	\$ 960.00	\$ 928.00	\$ 1,020.00
67440 · Telephone & Internet	\$ 1,388.76	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,148.70	\$ 1,140.00
61410 · Synod Mission Support	\$ 7,347.09	\$ 7,200.00	\$ 7,017.37	\$ 7,400.00
61420 · Good Samaritan Fund	\$ 144.17		\$ 292.58	\$ 250.00
61450 · Special Offerings Sent On	\$ 770.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00
61470 · Thrivent Share	\$ 500.00	\$ 150.00		
69000 · Miscellaneous Expenses	\$ 653.75	\$ 820.00	\$ 573.25	\$ 180.00
Total Expenses	\$ 139,562.11	\$ 233,624.20	\$ 173,127.46	\$ 241,739.52
NET OFFERINGS & INCOME OVER EXPENSES	\$ 3,497.56	\$ 49.55	\$ 38,556.51	\$ (48,763.52)
	2023 Fundraising (carryover)		\$ (49,453)	\$ 49,453
	Net Cash Flow		\$ (10,897)	\$ 689.80

2024 Church Council Members			
<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Term Ends</u>	<u>Phone #</u>
Dustin Holt	Member	January 2025	949-2370
Ben Graf	Member	January 2025	949-0351
Tamijo Bronson	Member	January 2025	350-2375
Maddie Hinkelman	Youth	January 2025	924-0755
Billi Whempner	Member	January 2025	467-9402
Traci Maag	Member	January 2026	881-4410
Vicky Gleason	Member	January 2026	880-0267
Nicole Ebsen	Member	January 2026	690-9227
Cooper Ebsen	Youth	January 2026	949-9011
Vacancy			

Anne Seffrood	Church Treasurer		949-5658
Dawn Wright	Church Secretary		881-4377

- The following have been nominated for 2-year Council Positions:
 - Traci Maag
 - Vicky Gleason
 - Nicole Ebsen
 - Cooper Ebsen (youth)
 - One vacancy to fill
- (We are allowed 2 layperson delegates and 1 youth (16-21) delegate to attend the following meetings.)
 - Prairie Coteau Conference Assembly –
 - South Dakota Synod Assembly – Anne Seffrood
- The 2024 Nomination Committee will be: Brittany Graf, Kaitlyn Christofferson, and Jacob Gapp and two council members.
- The 2024 Auditing Committee will be: Lori O’Farrell, Tim Gapp, (1 vacancy to be filled)

2024 Servant Teams

Stewardship discussions often refer to the “Three T’s: Time, Talent, & Treasure.” The use of Servant Teams is an example of giving your time in service to Hope Lutheran. Congregation members have been assigned to a team that serves 3 months a year.

Each worship service needs 2 ushers and a reader. Communion services require 2 people to assist Pastor Janet during the service. (Communion set-up has been removed from Servant Teams – see info elsewhere). Coffee/fellowship treats are also needed each Sunday.

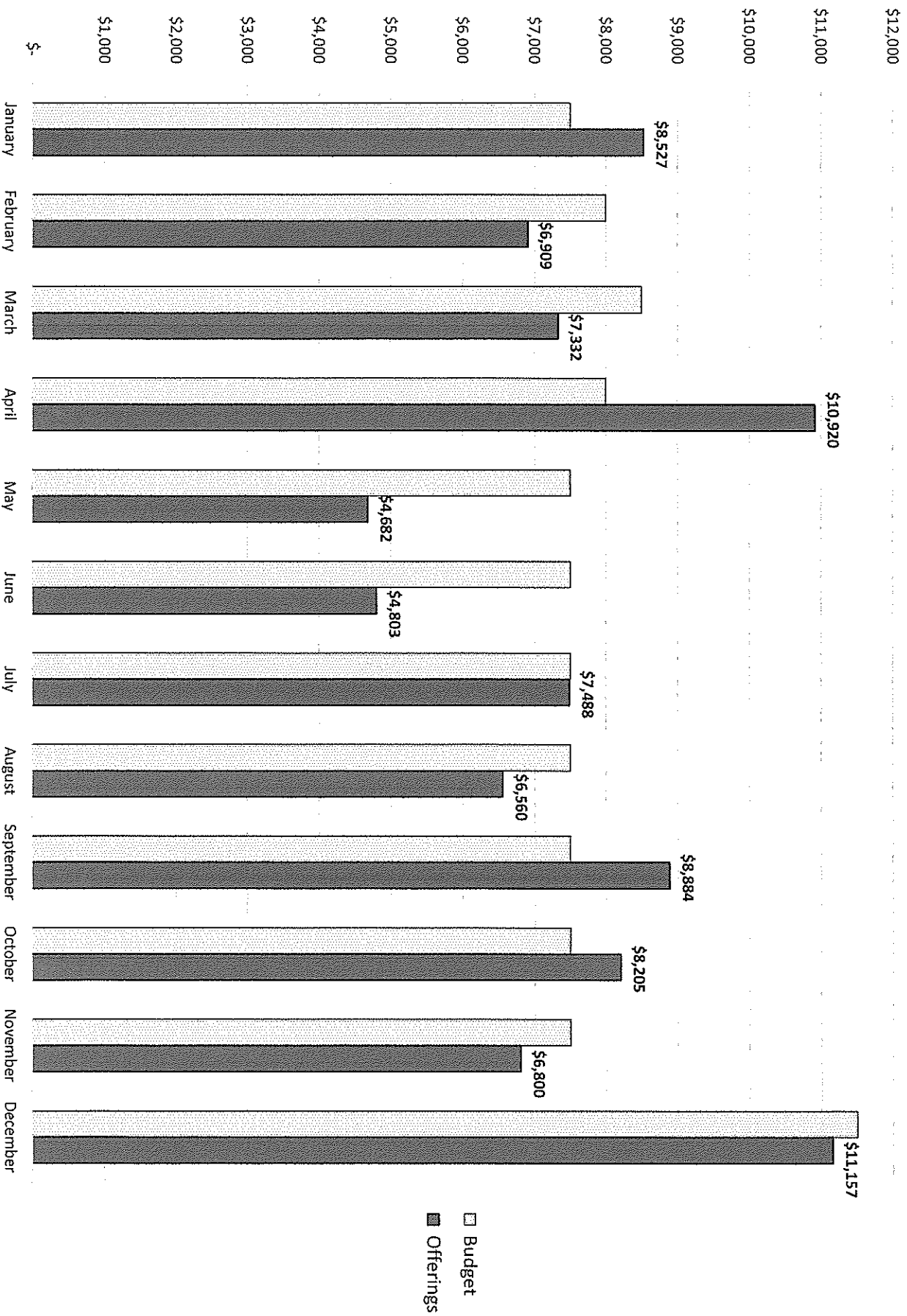
Teams 1 & 4 need leaders to coordinate the schedule.

We know that schedules get busy, and people are often out of town. If you are unable to serve during your month – everyone has permission to serve a different month. ☺

Team 1	Team 2	Team 3	Team 4
April, August, Dec	January, May, Sept	February, June, Oct	March, July, Nov
Mike & Jackie Adolph	Annelies* & John Seffrood	Traci* & Shawn Ellingson	Corey & Stacey Amdahl
Mark & Lisa Amdahl	Jim Amdahl	Marvin & Lynn Amdahl	Kevin Christofferson
Arlo & Shelly Anderson	Penny & David Cardwell	Mary Anderson	Steve & Kaitlyn Christofferson
Kathy & Todd Brink	Heather & Gary Crandall	Jim & Donna Arten	Sandra Christofferson
Tamijo & Kris Bronson	Barb Frankenhoff	Shirley Binde	Kelly Faeth
David & Jennifer Lewandowski	Tim & Laura Frankenhoff	Nicole & Jonathan Ebsen	Janice Halverson
Sandra Lowry	Gary & Carol Miller	Frank (Pete) Eccles	Rebecca Pies
Tracie & Jeremy Maag	Val Moen	Tim & Andrea Gapp	Dustin & Sarah Holt
Jessica Moe	Lori O'Farrell	Jacob & Brittney Gapp	Joe & Jolene Johnston
Savanna Moe	Brad & Ashley Olson	Ben & Brittany Graf	Bruce & Diane Kneeland
Harlan & Donna Olson	Nicole & Wyle Pays	Beth & Randy Hills	Myla Kneeland
Mike & Dawn Schmidt	Royce Strasser	Earline & Randy Holt	Scott & Laurie Kneeland
Roger Smith	Dawn & Tom Thuringer	Molly Kent	Frank & Brenda Redlin
Eugene & Rhonda Steinocker	Michelle & Brent Urban	Michael & Sherry Larson	Sheryl Steinocker
Shenia Steinocker	Billi & Todd Whempner	Robin & Bonnie Moe	Chad & Becky Steinocker
	Margie Wright	Becky & Calvin Pies	Cody & Lisa Sumner
	Vicky Gleason	Lee & Dawn Wright	

2023 Monthly Offerings vs Budget

(does not include memorials, special gifts, other income)
2023 Total Offerings were \$3,734 below budget



Hope Lutheran Church

Current Assets

As of December 31

	December 31, 2021	December 31, 2022	December 31, 2023
CURRENT ASSETS - General Fund			
11102 - General Fund Checking	\$ 25,939.73	\$ 22,258.07	\$ 22,884.64
12001 - Undeposited Funds	\$ -	\$ 7,321.96	\$ 1,911.02
11112 - MWBank MC -Dawn	\$ 330.24	\$ 515.29	\$ 133.97
11113 - MWBank MC - Pastor Janet	\$ 1,773.83	\$ 960.04	\$ 15.06
11114 - MWBank MC - Sarah		\$ 486.00	\$ 149.85
11201 - Building Fund Saving Acct			\$ 45,003.33
12110 - CD 27566	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 15,000.00
TOTAL Current Assets	\$ 43,043.80	\$ 46,541.36	\$ 70,097.87

Statement of Cash Flow

General Fund Opening Balance	\$ 3,286.19	\$ 25,939.73	\$ 22,258.07
Plus Undeposited Fund Dec 31 prior year	\$ 8,292.00	\$ -	\$ 7,321.96
Net Change in Prepaid Mastercards	\$ (1,453.92)	\$ 142.74	\$ 1,662.45
Plus Offerings, Gifts & Other Income	\$ 147,126.76	\$ 143,059.67	\$ 211,683.97
Plus Transfer from HS Youth Group*		\$ 154.09	
Net to/from Building Saving Acct			\$ (45,000.00)
Less Interest deposited to other accts			\$ (3.33)
Less Expenses	\$ (131,311.30)	\$ (139,716.20)	\$ (173,127.46)
Plus SBA PPP Loan		\$ -	
Less Undeposited Funds Dec 31	\$ -	\$ (7,321.96)	\$ (1,911.02)
General Fund Closing Balance	\$ 25,939.73	\$ 22,258.07 ok	\$ 22,884.64 OK

12/31/2021	Bank Statement Balance-General Fund	\$ 32,518.46	
	Less Outstanding Checks 12/31	\$ (6,578.73)	
		\$ 25,939.73	ok

12/31/2022	Bank Statement Balance-General Fund	\$ 27,184.33	
	Less Outstanding Checks 12/31	\$ (4,926.26)	
		\$ 22,258.07	ok

Outstanding Checks 12/31/22	
#1004 Rev Janet Miller	\$ 275.39
#1012 SD Synod	\$ 1,882.32
#1013 John Seffrood	\$ 40.00
#1014 MinnWest Bank	\$ 200.00
#1015 Hope Lutheran WELCA	\$ 520.00
#1017 Florence Parish YLO	\$ 1,622.05
transfer Rev Janet Miller FICA	\$ 386.50
	\$ 4,926.26

12/31/2023	Bank Statement Balance - General Fund	\$ 29,483.81	
	Less Outstanding Checks 12/31	\$ (6,599.17)	
		\$ -	
		\$ 22,884.64	ok

Outstanding Checks 12/31/23	
#1065 HS Youth group	\$ 54.00
#1067 Traci Ellingson	\$ 250.00
#1066 1517 Media	\$ 290.52
#1068 Comfort Plus	\$ 928.20
#1069 SD Synod	\$ 1,868.49
#1070 HS Youth Group	\$ 480.00
#1071 HS Youth Group	\$ 520.00
Pastor Payroll - ach	\$ 1,793.33
Pastor FICA - ach	\$ 414.63
	\$ 6,599.17

TOTAL

9:15 AM
01/11/24
Cash Basis

Hope Lutheran Church Profit & Loss by Class January through December 2023

	TOTAL
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
41000 · Offerings	
41100 · Regular Offerings	
41130 · Auto / Online Offering	12,000.00
41120 · Traditional Offerings	73,854.10
41140 · Venmo Offerings	1,863.00
Total 41100 · Regular Offerings	87,717.10
41200 · Special Services Offerings	4,549.00
Total 41000 · Offerings	92,266.10
42100 · Gifts & Memorials	4,471.45
43000 · Florence Parish Contribution	42,000.00
44000 · Other Income	
44100 · Interest Earned	571.66
44200 · Thrivent	1,195.00
44310 · Special Project - Siding	68,953.32
44350 · Christmas Greens Income	50.00
44440 · Special Offerings to Pass On	250.00
44600 · Amazon Smile	64.05
44000 · Other Income - Other	1,862.39
Total 44000 · Other Income	72,946.42
Total Income	211,683.97
Expense	
71000 · HS Youth Group Expenses	
71100 · HSYG National Gathering Exp	0.00
Total 71000 · HS Youth Group Expenses	0.00
66000 · Payroll Expenses	
66100 · Pastoral Payroll	
66110 · Pastor Salary	43,039.93
66120 · Pastor Housing Allowance	21,999.97
66150 · Pastor Social Security	4,975.58
66160 · Pastor Benefits	34,848.48
Total 66100 · Pastoral Payroll	104,863.96
66190 · Relief Pastor Expenses	
66191 · Relief Pastor Salary	250.00
66192 · Relief Pastor Mileage/Housi...	90.00
Total 66190 · Relief Pastor Expenses	340.00
66300 · Other Church Payroll	
66310 · Secretary Salary	4,500.00
66320 · Janitor Salary	2,760.00
66330 · Organist Salary	2,160.00
Total 66300 · Other Church Payroll	9,420.00
Total 66000 · Payroll Expenses	114,623.96
60200 · Auto/Mileage Expenses	1,648.64
61800 · Continuing Ed & Conferencs	389.86
63300 · Insurance Expense	3,877.29
63100 · Worship & Education	
63130 · Confirmation / Adult Ed	444.86
63120 · Sunday School Materials	357.58
63110 · Worship Materials	2,150.97
Total 63100 · Worship & Education	2,953.41
63200 · Fellowship Expenses	345.66

9:15 AM
01/11/24
Cash Basis

Hope Lutheran Church
Profit & Loss by Class
January through December 2023

	TOTAL
62000 · Office Expenses	
62800 · Website Fees	406.45
62200 · Office Supplies	1,565.18
62300 · Printing and Reproduction	2,253.03
62500 · Dues and Subscriptions	174.89
62600 · Postage and Delivery	908.01
62000 · Office Expenses - Other	197.12
	<hr/>
Total 62000 · Office Expenses	5,504.68
67000 · Church/Building Expenses	
67100 · Landscaping Expenses	79.65
67200 · Repairs and Maintenance	6,207.85
67210 · Siding & Glass Partition 2023	19,500.00
67300 · Small Tools and Equipment	268.50
67400 · Utilities	
67410 · Propane/Heat	5,789.92
67420 · Electricity	1,728.14
67430 · Water/Sewer	928.00
67440 · Telephone & Internet Expen...	1,148.70
	<hr/>
Total 67400 · Utilities	9,594.76
Total 67000 · Church/Building Expenses	35,650.76
61400 · Charitable Contributions	
61410 · Synod Mission Support	7,017.37
61420 · Good Samaritan Fund	292.58
61450 · Special Offerings Sent On	250.00
61400 · Charitable Contributions - Ot...	100.00
	<hr/>
Total 61400 · Charitable Contributions	7,659.95
69000 · Miscellaneous Expenses	473.25
	<hr/>
Total Expense	173,127.46
	<hr/>
Net Ordinary Income	38,556.51
	<hr/>
Net Income	38,556.51
	<hr/> <hr/>

Financial Statements

High School Youth Group Fund

1/1/2023	Checking Account Opening Balance	\$9,079.64	
	Income		
	48100 · HSYG Greenery Income	\$3,253.50	
	48200 · HSYG Lent Supper Income		
	48300 · HSYG Organist Donation Income	\$1,000.00	
	48900 · HSYG Misc Fundraisers	\$100.00	
	Expense		
	71100 · HSYG National Gathering Exp	-\$1,999.98	
	71200 · HSYG Greenery Expenses	-\$229.00	
	71300 · HSYG Fellowship Expenses	-\$9.90	
	71400 · HSYG Fundraiser Expenses	\$9.90	
	Undeposited funds	<u>-\$1,054.00</u>	
12/31/2023	Checking Account Closing Balance	<u>\$10,150.16</u>	ok
12/31/2023	Bank Statement Balance	\$10,150.26	ok

Sunday School Fund

1/1/2023	Checking Account Opening Balance	\$104.82	
	Income		
	Sunday School & Noisy Offerings	\$596.09	
	Donation	\$400.00	
	Expense		
	VBS & SS Teaching Materials	<u>-\$832.14</u>	
12/31/2023	Checking Account Closing Balance	\$268.77	ok
12/31/2023	Bank Statement Balance	\$668.77	
	Outstanding check #1002	<u>-\$400.00</u>	
		\$268.77	ok

Campership Fund

1/1/2023	Checking Account Opening Balance	\$393.92	
	Income		
	Donations	\$1,200.00	
	Lent Suppers	\$587.00	
	Easter Breakfast	\$356.00	
	Expense		
	5 Camperships	-\$1,250.00	
	1 Counselorship	-\$500.00	
	bank error (corrected 1/5/2024)	<u>-\$600.00</u>	
12/31/2023	Checking Account Closing Balance	<u>\$186.92</u>	ok
12/31/2023	Bank Statement Balance	\$186.92	ok
1/5/2024	Bank Statement Balance - after correction	\$786.92	

Hope Lutheran Campership Fund
Financial Statement
January - December 2023

1/1/2023	Checking Account Opening Balance	\$393.92	
	Income		
	Donations	\$1,200.00	
	Lent Suppers	\$587.00	
	Easter Breakfast	\$356.00	
	Expense		
	5 Camperships	-\$1,250.00	
	1 Counselorship	-\$500.00	
	bank error (corrected 1/5/2024)	-\$600.00	
12/31/2023	Checking Account Closing Balance	<u>\$186.92</u>	ok
12/31/2023	Bank Statement Balance	\$186.92	ok
1/5/2024	Bank Statement Balance - after correction	\$786.92	

9:17 AM
01/11/24
Cash Basis

Hope Lutheran Church
Profit & Loss by Class
January through December 2023

	TOTAL
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
47000 · Campership Income	2,143.00
Total Income	2,143.00
Expense	
77000 · Campership Expenses	2,350.00
Total Expense	2,350.00
Net Ordinary Income	-207.00
Net Income	-207.00

*

\$ 407.00
without error

* includes \$600 Bank error
= corrected 1-5-2024

Hope Lutheran High School Youth Group
Financial Statement
January - December 2023

1/1/2023	Checking Account Opening Balance	\$9,079.64	
	Income		
	48100 · HSYG Greenery Income	\$3,253.50	
	48200 · HSYG Lent Supper Income		
	48300 · HSYG Organist Donation Income	\$1,000.00	
	48900 · HSYG Misc Fundraisers	\$100.00	
	Expense		
	71100 · HSYG National Gathering Exp	-\$1,999.98	
	71200 · HSYG Greenery Expenses	-\$229.00	(2023 paid 1/8/2024)
	71300 · HSYG Fellowship Expenses	-\$9.90	
	71400 · HSYG Fundraiser Expenses	\$9.90	
	Undeposited funds	<u>-\$1,054.00</u>	
12/31/2023	Checking Account Closing Balance	<u>\$10,150.16</u>	ok
 12/31/2023	 Bank Statement Balance	 \$10,150.26	 ok

9:20 AM

01/11/24

Cash Basis

Hope Lutheran Church
Profit & Loss by Class
January through December 2023

	<u>TOTAL</u>
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
48000 · HS Youth Group Income	
48600 · HS Youth Gathering Deposits	100.00
48100 · HSYG Greenery Income	3,263.50
48300 · HSYG Organist Donation Inco...	1,000.00
	<u> </u>
Total 48000 · HS Youth Group Income	4,363.50
	<u> </u>
Total Income	4,363.50
Expense	
71000 · HS Youth Group Expenses	
71100 · HSYG National Gathering Exp	1,999.98
71200 · HSYG Greenery Expenses	229.00
71000 · HS Youth Group Expenses - O...	9.90
	<u> </u>
Total 71000 · HS Youth Group Expenses	2,238.88
	<u> </u>
Total Expense	2,238.88
	<u> </u>
Net Ordinary Income	2,124.62
	<u> </u>
Net Income	<u>2,124.62</u>

Hope Lutheran Sunday School
Financial Statement
January - December 2023

1/1/2023	Checking Account Opening Balance	\$104.82
	Income	
	Sunday School & Noisy Offerings	\$596.09
	Donation	\$400.00
	Expense	
	VBS & SS Teaching Materials	<u>-\$832.14</u>
12/31/2023	Checking Account Closing Balance	\$268.77 ok
12/31/2023	Bank Statement Balance	\$668.77
	Outstanding check #1002	<u>-\$400.00</u>
		\$268.77 ok

Hope Lutheran Church
Profit & Loss by Class
January through December 2023

	TOTAL
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
49000 · Sunday School Income	
49100 · Sunday School Offering	596.09
49000 · Sunday School Income - Oth...	400.00
Total 49000 · Sunday School Income	996.09
Total Income	996.09
Expense	
76000 · Sunday School Expenses	
76100 · SS Teaching Materials	832.14
Total 76000 · Sunday School Expenses	832.14
Total Expense	832.14
Net Ordinary Income	163.95
Net Income	163.95

Hope Lutheran Cemetery Account

Financial Statement

January – December 2023

1/1/2023	Checking Account Opening Balance	\$14,859.48
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Deposits:

Lori O'Farrell – Lots 3 & 4 B16	\$ 800.00
Myla Kneeland – donation	\$ 100.00
Janice Halvorson – B13 Lot R7 – 13 w	\$ 400.00
Janice Halvorson – Maint Fee	\$ 70.00
Interest checking	\$ 21.69
Interest c.d. #7623	\$ 4.99
Interest c.d. #26980	\$ 7.27
total deposits	\$ 1,403.95

Expenses:

Transfer to General Fund – Mowing	\$ 4,231.94
Total expenses	\$ 4,231.94

12/31/2023	Checking Account Balance	\$12,031.49
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Hope Lutheran Kitchen Account
Financial Statement
January – December 2023

1/1/2023	Checking Account Opening Balance	\$2,378.29
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Deposits:

June, 8th	\$ 300.00
June, 26 th	\$ 150.00
July, 11 th	\$ 150.00
December, 4th	\$ 250.00
total deposits	\$ 850.00

Expenses:

3/15	Cups and Lemonade #1003	\$ 75.00
6/23	Hy Vee	\$ 155.36
6/26	Hy Vee	\$ 226.90
12/4	Wal-Mart #1021	\$ 72.18
12/4	Check #1022	\$ 25.93
12/6	Check #1024	\$ 50.85
	Total expenses	\$ 606.22

12/31/2023	Checking Account Balance	\$2,622.07
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Sunday School Report

January 2024

The 2022-2023 Sunday school year we tried a new way of doing things. We had all of the kids in 1 group. We would still start with opening in the sanctuary and would then all be together in the open Sunday school room at the bottom of the ramp. When Kathy would make it she would pull the older kids away for a more in depth lesson which was great. I felt as though the oldest kids lost out a bit when they were all together since the lessons had to be simplified for the youngest kids. It was very hard to find teachers to help. When it would end up being only 1 teacher taking care of the whole group things did not work as efficiently as they should have been able to and certain areas were neglected.

The 2023-2024 Sunday school year we have gone back to in classroom groups. The youngest group is pk-kindergarten. The middle group is 1st through 3rd grade. The oldest group is 4th through 6th grade. We do opening in the sanctuary in the beginning before the kids go to their classrooms. We still do snacks and water and I believe that it helps the kids to focus. I switched to water this year since kids tend to spill a lot and water simply dries with no mess left behind.

The kids seem to be doing well with being broken up into classrooms. I believe that they are able to get more out of the lessons & discussions when in the smaller groups. There have been fewer behavior issues in the smaller groups. In the Sunday school classrooms kids are expected to behave and only leave if they need to use the bathroom. We are trying to enforce that you have to participate in all of Sunday school or none of it. Kids choosing to go in and out of the classrooms and opening is too disruptive for the other kids and leads to behavior issues with all. Sadly there have been some kids choosing to stay out of Sunday school and stay with the coffee group. I wish that there was a better solution and am up for suggestions if anyone has any. I am always up for suggestions for any of it!

We require 3 teachers each Sunday. We have been asking people to volunteer to teach on a monthly basis. Some people have been wonderful enough to volunteer for more than one month! Maddy has volunteered for the entire Sunday school year. It would be great to get some other teenagers involved. Maddy is a senior so we won't have her next year. It would be wonderful to see some other girls or boys get involved in teaching and helping. We have had good luck finding teachers through January. We are still looking for 1 teacher for February, 2 for March, 2 for April, and 2 for May. We could also really use some substitute teachers. Very often Maddy is called into work at the last minute and unable to make it. This usually isn't an issue since I can step in and teach her class, but there have been a few times that we have 2 teachers unable to make it at the last minute. We do need to give a huge shout out to all who have taught this year and assisted. It can be a lot of work and can sometimes be exhausting. All of the teachers have done great and I love the variety that each teacher brings to the classroom.

Sunday school attendance is always an issue. I understand that most families have many obligations. Life only continues to get busier every year. Oftentimes Sundays are the only day that a family can be at home. I really appreciate all of the families that manage to get their kids to Sunday school even if it is only occasionally. I also believe part of the problem is that kids are bored with Sunday school and bored in general. Kids sit in class in school all week and work on worksheets. I encourage the kids to go ahead and stand during opening if they want. I like to try to get each kid some sort of craft each Sunday that does not involve coloring or worksheets. The kids seem to enjoy different things. Some of the kids that are regularly coming to Sunday school seem to be enjoying it and wanting to be there. I will take that as a compliment.

Sincerely,

Becky Pies
605-237-0539

Updated

2024 Church Council Members

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Term Ends</u>	<u>Phone #</u>
Dustin Holt	Member	January 2025	949-2370
Ben Graf	Member	January 2025	949-0351
Tamijo Bronson	Member	January 2025	350-2375
Maddie Hinkelman	Youth	January 2025	924-0755
Billi Whempner	Member	January 2025	467-9402
Traci Maag	Member	January 2026	881-4410
Vicky Gleason	Member	January 2026	880-0267
Nicole Ebsen	Member	January 2026	690-9227
Cooper Ebsen	Youth	January 2026	949-9011
Kevin Christofferson	Member	January 2026	881-7747

Anne Seffrood	Church Treasurer		949-5658
Dawn Wright	Church Secretary		881-4377

- The following have been nominated for 2-year Council Positions:
 - Traci Maag
 - Vicky Gleason
 - Nicole Ebsen
 - Cooper Ebsen (youth)
 - Kevin Christofferson
- (We are allowed 2 layperson delegates and 1 youth (16-21) delegate to attend the following meetings.)
 - Prairie Coteau Conference Assembly –
 - South Dakota Synod Assembly – Anne Seffrood
- The 2024 Nomination Committee will be: Brittany Graf, Kaitlyn Christofferson, and Jacob Gapp and two council members.
- The 2024 Auditing Committee will be: Lori O'Farrell, Tim Gapp, (1 vacancy to be filled)