



HOPE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Hope Scope

Volume 1, Issue 1

January 2012

Pastor's Pen by Rev. Dr. Candace Adams

It seems like only yesterday that we were welcoming in a new Millennium. In reality, a dozen years have passed and we are saying hello to 2012. If your life is anything like mine there have been significant changes over the last twelve years. Some of the changes were anticipated; others were most unexpected. Some of the changes were pleasant and others were painful and heart rending. Yet, in the midst of all the things that occur in our lives this we can rely on, "God is the same yesterday, today and tomorrow." There isn't one single event in our lives that goes unnoticed by God.

As you journey through 2012 know that God is with you. We read in Hebrews 13:5, "I will never leave you nor forsake you." As you look back over the past twelve years there may well have been times when you thought God had abandoned you. There may be periods of times when it was difficult to understand what God was doing in your life. I want to encourage you and remind you that "God's ways are not our ways" (Isaiah 55:8). This you can be assured of, God loves you and desires to draw you into deeper fellowship with God.

It is my contention that God allows certain things to happen in life that we might seek God above all else. I firmly believe that it is God's will that we would draw closer to God. God is the lover of our souls. In 2012, it is my prayer that each person would fall deeper and deeper in love with God.

When a person falls in love it is nearly impossible to keep such love a secret. In the New Year, I will preach a sermon series on making disciples. This is territory often avoided by Presbyterians. I think it is imperative, however, that we share the love of Christ with others. Is it not the love of Christ that has allowed us to journey through the good and the bad with hope and joy? Isn't this something that we want others to experience? God loves all people. We are called to spread his love.

Twelve years from now, I suspect there will be many more changes in our lives. What I hope will be one of the greatest changes is that we will have shared the good news with many individuals who never knew Christ. May God grant us the ability to spread the good news!

2012 Per Capita

Per Capita apportionments for Minnesota Valleys Presbytery in 2012 will be \$31.10. Per Capita dollars help support the ministries of the work of our Synod of Lakes and Prairies, and the General Assembly. Each church is asked to pay \$31.10 per active member in its congregation. This money is then used to support the work and mission of the larger church. Members may pay their per capita by check in the amount of \$31.10 per member in your household.

Please write "2012 Per Capita" in the memo line of your check.

Session Highlights from December 12, 2011

- * Approved accepting into membership of Hope Presbyterian Church Traci Dengerud & Scott Dengerud by transfer from Harrison Presbyterian Church and Kenneth West & Barbara West by reaffirmation of faith.
- * Rev. Dr. Adams reported she will have 27 days of unused continuing education days to be carried over to 2012 and the unused funds reported at year end. There were a total of 56 days available of which she used 29 in 2011.
- * Approved consolidating designated fund categories as presented to allow more flexibility in using funds where needed. (see article in newsletter)
- * Approved allowing the Property Committee to obtain at least three bids to reroof the sanctuary and the gabled roof above the Fellowship Hall with 30-year shingles and to replace the windows and trim at the roof line in the sanctuary.
- * Approved pledging \$825 to The Link for 2012 upon consent of the Deacons' contributing \$180.50 of that pledge.
- * Approved the Alaska Mission trip participants holding a potato bar in April 2012 and using the funds raised toward food and extra costs incurred by the participants.
- * Approved the Alaska Mission trip participants working at a Willmar Stingers baseball game and using the funds raised toward individual participant's deposits, if needed.
- * Rev. Dr. Adams reported the church received a \$1,000 grant from the Presbytery that will go toward the Alaska mission trip.
- * Health Ministries reported the committee is buying two safety kits and installing a new bulletin board.
- * Approved the sexual misconduct/sexual harassment policy as presented.

Deacon's Report by Karen Bents

We are now supplying envelopes for your donations to the Deacons. This offering is taken on Communion Sundays so the Deacons are able to assist those in need with financial gifts. The offering envelopes will be found in the pews and placed in the regular offering plates. So therefore, there will not be a second offering plate passed for the Deacons, but will all be placed in the regular offering plates. You may also place your donations in the offering plate on any Sunday using these envelopes. These envelopes will be in the pews starting in January. Also, if any of you are unable to be with us on Sunday mornings but would like a bulletin sent to you, please let Sandy in the office know so she can get one in the mail. It is also found on the website, if you have access to a computer.

There will be a **New Officers Training Day** on Monday, January 30th, at 7:30 p.m. in the Jack Anderson Fireside Room. All new elders and deacons should plan to attend this meeting.

New Designated Fund Categories

New designated fund categories have been approved by Session. Over the past few years, the number of designated accounts has grown significantly. The following list is a reconfiguration of accounts. Please know that **all** previous designations will be honored. The broader categories will allow for greater flexibility to assess funds for ministries. If you have questions or concerns please contact an elder or Pastor Adams.

Designated Fund Categories

1. Break Free (renamed Hooked On Hope)
2. Music Department: Choral and hand bell music, choir robes and instruments
3. Youth Discipleship Trips: Mission trips, Christian conferences, Triennium, retreats, etc.
4. Youth Ministries & Mission Projects: Youth group
5. The Big Give
6. Camp Scholarships
7. Property: All long-term building improvements- Gazebo, ROHYC, Hopewood Chapel, and the main building structure
8. Library
9. Christian Education: Nursery, Children's Church, Wednesday night educational program, Bible Club, VBS, Bibles and Confirmation
10. Community Outreach: Easter Egg Hunt
11. Volunteers in Mission: Mission trips
12. Clearwater Forest Work Crew
13. Community Care: Adopt a family, Care Pantry, Hope Garden Club and Birthday Kits
14. Compassion Care: Hope to Home Meals, Compassionate Baskets, Bear Ministry, Hopes Hands, Grief Kits, Prayer Shawls and Care Teams
15. KGLH
16. Prayer Garden
17. Undesignated Adult Mission Projects
18. Technology: Computers, copiers, projectors, etc.
19. Adult Fellowship and Education: Chatterbox, Hopespiration, etc.
20. Health Ministries
21. Staff Support
22. Undesignated Memorial Gifts

Endowment Fund by Howard Jones, Chairperson

What is an Endowment? It is something you give as a gift, it is revenue that is permanently appropriated towards a specific cause. Our church has an Endowment Fund. It was established to provide financial support for special religious, charitable, educational and benevolent projects and capital expenditures. This fund shall not be used for the support the general church budget!

The gifts received in this fund are invested and only the accumulated income from the investments can be used for Mission Outside Hope Presbyterian Church, Mission Inside Hope Presbyterian Church, Special Capital Needs, or Reinvestment.

For the year 2011, we have designated, with Session approval, a portion of income earned to go towards the upcoming Mission trip to Alaska in honor of Pastor Jack.

Children & Families by Cathy Plucker

2nd-8th Grade Lock-in at the Youth Center

On January 20th- 21st we will be having a lock-in at the Youth Center for 2nd - 8th grades from 7:00 pm - 9:00 am. If your child is in kindergarten - 1st grade they can come for a couple of hours on Friday night to play games and have pizza. Everyone is encouraged to bring along a snack to share with everyone. Pizza and beverage will be provided. Bring along a friend.

****Attention parents and children:** There will be a bed time so parents talk to your children about this before they arrive.

Birthday Kit "Fun"draiser

During the months of January and February the Preschool - 8th grade classes will be having a Birthday Kit Fundraiser. A display is set up in the fellowship hall near the Christian Education entrance. The birthday supplies will be put into kits and given to children who would not be able to have a birthday party because of financial burdens.

The class who brings in the most supplies will be having a "birthday party" in their classroom in March. Children's Church children are encouraged to participate in the fundraiser also. They can put their supplies with the preschool - 1st grade supplies.

Birthday supplies needed to go into the kits are: napkins, party plates, candles, balloons, cake mix, frosting, birthday table cloth, streamers, and disposable cake pans.

This is a wonderful time of year to gather birthday supplies, after remembering the birth of Jesus and putting on such a wonderful Christmas program.

Bible Club for January

Patience and Kindness will be the character traits of the Fruit of the Spirit that we will be discussing at Bible Club in January. We will learn about Abraham and his patience as he and Sarah waited for a child. We will play a couple of games that will test our patience.

We will also be learning about the kindness of Boaz towards Ruth and Naomi. We will practice their kindness by working on a mission project to show their kindness towards others. We will be packing some food bags with ingredients to make a spaghetti meal.

Attention parents: Please bring a can of spaghetti sauce to church to be used in the meal bags.

Bible Club for February/YMCA

On February 1st the Bible Club children should ride the bus to church after school where we will be having our snack and then loading up into cars and traveling to the YMCA for swimming. We will be returning to church by 5:50 pm for supper.

Things they should bring along: swimsuit, towel and \$5.00 to help cover the cost of the YMCA. **I am in need of additional chaperones who can help drive the children into Willmar. Please contact me as soon as possible to let me know if you are able to drive.**



Youth Ministries and River of Hope Youth Center by Cathy Plucker**XTRA Mission Projects**

XTRA Mission is the theme for the youth groups mission project this year. We get ideas from reading the New London-Spicer paper for people who are in need in our area. On December 7th, we had our first xtra mission adventure. The youth gathered in the youth center to make a tie blanket, a prop pillow, and supper for Tenley Thompson, the little girl who was highlighted the month before in the paper. After we finished our projects we headed out, way out, to Tenley's home. We were greeted by a very loving family and welcomed into their home to meet Tenley, and the youth gave her the things we had made and a very large stuffed puppy. She gave us all a smile and then we posed for a picture with Tenley and her parents. It was a meaningful night for everyone involved and we are looking forward to our next xtra mission project.

(Picture of group with Tenley)

New Bibles for Youth

We have ordered and received new Bibles for the youth to use during their youth nights. We ordered a parallel Bible, NIV and the Message. This will be a wonderful Bible for the youth to be able to use that will have the scripture in NIV and then right next to that will be a paraphrase of the same verse. Sometimes certain scriptures are hard for some youth, and adults, to understand so having the paraphrase will be very helpful and meaningful.

Now when we do devotions during youth group each youth will have the same Bible and can look up the scriptures and hopefully take turns reading.

We are looking for someone who would be able to sew some new Bible covers for these Bibles. They are hard cover and we would love for them to be "comfortable." We have 15 Bibles to cover. If you are interested in making these covers please talk with Cathy.



“... I will be clean; wash me,
and I will be whiter than snow”

Psalm 51:7



January Care Pantry Fundraiser

Please help support the Care Pantry by bringing in the following items for the month of January:

**Shampoo, bar soap, dish soap
and laundry soap**

Place the items on the sleds below the snowflake display in the fellowship hall. Watch the thermometer rise and snowflakes fill the board in January.

Thank you for your support.



Missions by Cathy Plucker

Jack Anderson Alaska Mission Trip/Softener Salt Fundraiser

We will be selling 50 pound bags of softener salt beginning in February. We will be taking pre-orders for the salt and delivery will take place in March. You may choose to pick up your salt here at church or we will deliver it right to your home and help carry it in. Dates on delivery will be available in the February Hope Scope.

Cost of the salt will be 5 bags for \$30.00 or 1- 4 bags for \$6.50 a piece. Please support the Alaska crew by pre-ordering your softener salt. Proceeds from this fundraiser will be used for our food costs while in Alaska.

Thank You Notes & Address Changes

Leslie and I would like to say "Thank You" to our Hope Family. Both of us have been blessed with such a caring and thoughtful "family". We wish to Thank all for the prayers, phone calls, support and visits during this trying time for us. Leslie is progressing well after her knee replacement and is working hard on her therapy. I have had to switch to an injection form of medications and will be learning to give the injections each week to myself. We both believe that God and our Hope family are with us during our healing. We would also like to say a big thank you to the folks for the meals and a special thank you to the gals who came Christmas Caroling to our home tonight. We both will continue to heal and are so blessed to have such a wonderful Hope Church. God Bless you all. *Mark & Leslie Radabaugh*

Thank You to everyone who makes Hope Church such a wonderful place to worship. Pastor Candace, the staff, session, deacons, choir, bells, HPW, committees, lawn mowers, Jack's garden, Holy Rollers and the many other volunteers of willing workers. What a joy to be a part of the "Family of Hope." Blessings, *Don & Hilda Grosklags*

Address Change
 Glenn & Sheri Bundy
 6737 Northwest 7th Ave.
 Willmar, MN 56201

Address Change
 Dawn (Bundy) Navarro
 P.O. Box 4
 Pennock, MN 56279

E-mail & Phone Change
 Ralph & Kathy Jansen
 Ralph: 320-220-0405
 Kathy: 320-241-2334
 E-mail: ralphkathyj@charter.net

Temporary Address Change
 Wayne & Shirley Block
 Sunrise Village Independent Living
 1015 Willmar Ave. SE, #216
 Willmar, MN 56201

Address Change
 Danny & Elizabeth Fischer
 6890 Long Lake Road
 Willmar, MN 56201

News from The Link

January 2012

Creating a community where neighbors share the love of God through service to each other.

From the Director

Thank you to everyone who participated in The Link's Christmas Concert, *Child of Joy, Child of Peace*. It was a wonderful evening of music and fellowship and we raised over \$2400 in our offering to help our neighbors in need.

This past month we have helped families with basic needs such as help with the electric bill in order to keep the heat on, we have helped with emergency car repairs and we have helped a few families be able to buy some Christmas presents.

One client came in to ask for gifts for her sons. When I asked her what she wanted, she paused, choked up a bit and said, "No one has asked me what I wanted for Christmas in 20 years!" When I pressed her she said, "Well, maybe some new shoes for work because I'm on my feet all day." Your generosity gives hope and support to people in our community in many different ways! Thank you so much for remembering The Link this season and for all that you share!

Naomi Mahler

Director, The Link

Don't Forget...TUESDAY'S TABLE

Free Community Meal Every Tuesday night at 6pm!

Tuesday's Table is a great way to enjoy some fellowship and conversation. Invite a friend! Volunteer to help!

1st Tues @ Our Lady of the Lakes, Spicer

2nd Tues @ Evangelical Covenant, NL

3rd Tues @ Faith Lutheran, Spicer

4th Tues @ Peace Lutheran, New London

5th Tues @ Hope Presbyterian, Spicer

Check out our new website: www.thelinknls.org

Like The Link on Facebook!

Let's Make 2012 the Year Minnesota Resolves To End Homelessness.

Homeless advocates are embarking on a year-long campaign to engage Minnesotans of every walk of life, from every county, every city, in pledging to do their part to end homelessness. We know we cannot end homelessness in one year, but we can significantly move public will.

Will you make a resolution to do your part in 2012?

Here's how it works: Record a short video that includes the words "I resolve..." with your personalized message. Email your video clip to videos@mnhomelesscoalition.org and we will share it through social media and other sources.

Instructions & Tips

Please keep video to one minute or less.

Title your video - consider using your city/region or resolution theme.

Please consider resolving to do actions that truly get at ending homelessness. Think about where you have influence. What can you do with that influence to help end homelessness?

Email your video to videos@mnhomelesscoalition.org

Examples of actions you might consider taking:

I resolve to have my business contribute volunteers and financial resources to build and sustain housing.

I resolve to give my employees the option to participate in employee giving.

I resolve to participate in Homeless Day on the Hill on March 8, 2012.

I resolve to dedicate a percentage of my rental units to housing people who are transitioning out of homelessness.

I resolve to raise \$1,000 to help homeless advocacy and/or The Link.

I resolve to greet warmly every homeless person I meet.

I resolve to meet with my legislators to share facts about homelessness.

I resolve to visit my local homeless program to educate myself about homelessness.

I resolve to sponsor one family transitioning out of homelessness by helping to stock their apartment with kitchen and bathroom necessities.

I resolve to volunteer on one Habitat for Humanity house.

I resolve to include people experiencing homelessness in my daily prayers.

I resolve to have my students do a book/research report on homelessness.

I resolve to provide a free ride to a homeless person who needs a ride to shelter.

I resolve to donate food from my farm to somebody transitioning out of homelessness to stock their fridge/freezer.

I resolve to offer a free haircut to a homeless person at my salon.

I resolve to listen to the facts without preconception.

I resolve to learn how I can make a difference.

Thank you for your commitment to ending homelessness!

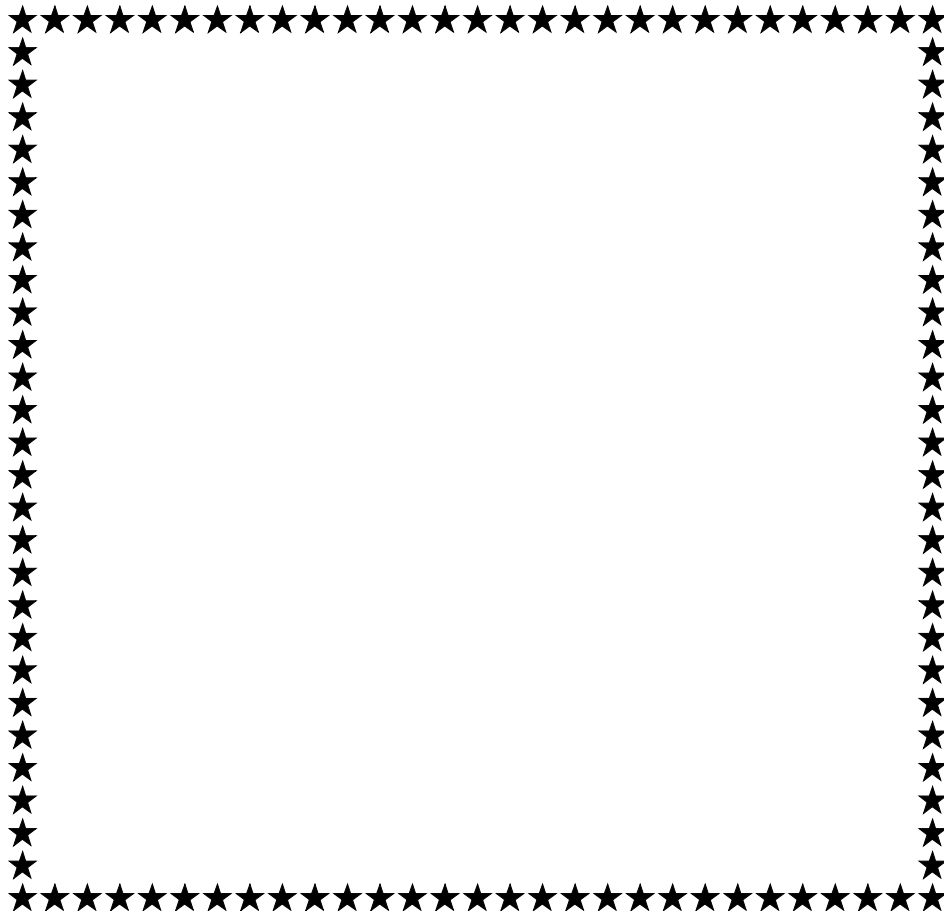
New Family Bio

Name: Ken & Barb West

Children and ages: Ken has 3 kids and 4 grandchildren. Barb has 2 kids and 8 grandchildren.

Tell us about yourself: We have been married for 10 years. Both of us retired in 2009. Ken was a machinist and Barb a school secretary. We are enjoying living on Nest Lake. Ken is remodeling the home where we live (Barb's dad built the house in 1949).

What brought you to Hope Presbyterian Church? Barb was confirmed at Spicer Presbyterian Church and attended Hope Church until 1977 when she moved to Cambridge. Ken's church background is Lutheran. We both attended Cambridge Methodist.



New Family Bio

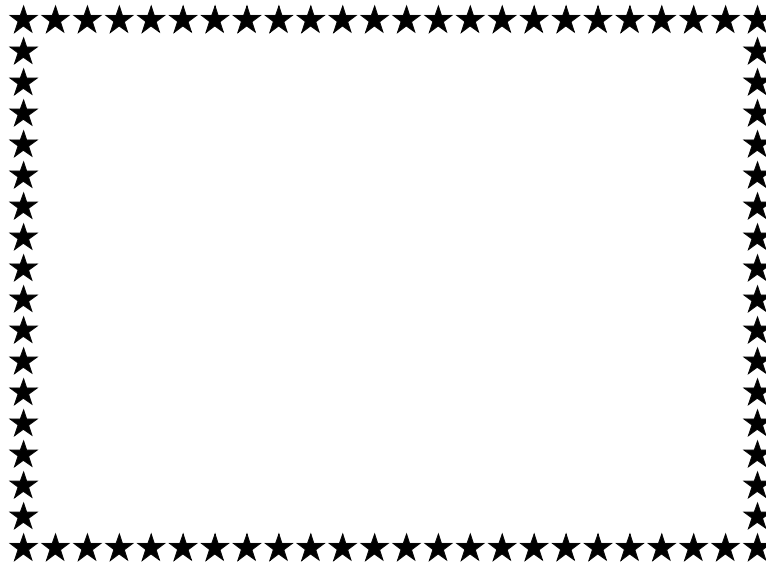
Name: Scott & Traci Dengerud

Children and ages: Chelsey 22, Dylan 19, Derek 14

Children's interests: Chelsey enjoys shopping and hanging out with friends. Dylan & Derek are avid hunters and also enjoy sports and video games.

Tell us about yourself: Scott enjoys hunting. He is employed at A & P Construction. Traci enjoys billiards. She is employed at White Clover. They enjoy going to sporting activities at school.

What brought you to Hope Presbyterian Church? Derek's confirmation. The people were very kind and considerate also. Really enjoyed the services as well.



Presbyterian Clearwater Forest Camp Work Weekends for 2012

Mark your calendars!

The dates for the Clearwater Forest Camp Work Weekends are:

Spring - May 18, 19, 20

Fall - September 14, 15, 16

Questions:

Contact Harold Foreman at (320) 796-2810



January Volunteer Schedule

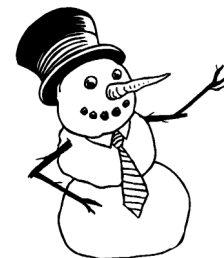
Lay Readers
1: Clara O'Connor
8: Kathy Taatjes
15: Greg Mulder
22: Gloria Benson
29: open

Children's Church Teachers
1: no class
8: Kim O'Malley
15: Becky Jasa
22: Alisa Taatjes
29:

Sound Operators
1: Harold Foreman
8: Pete Bratberg
15: Dan Fischer
22: Duane Taatjes
29: Daryl Taatjes

Coffee Servers
January 1: Harold & Jonelle Foreman; Jennifer Geer
January 8: Pam & Dick Lindahl; Robin & Greg Mulder
January 15: Marlys & Daryl Masters; Nancy & Rod Gjerde
January 22: Hilda & Don Grosklags; Sharon & Elroy Jones
January 29: Dawn Oie; Melissa & Lyle Mangen

Acolytes
 Lauren Bratberg; Kenzie Peterson



Ushers:
1: Dick & Pam Lindahl; Ralph & Kathy Jansen
8: Dick & Pam Lindahl; Glenn & Sheri Bundy & family
15: Dick & Pam Lindahl; Ralph & Kathy Jansen; Pat & Jan Saulsbury
22: Dick & Pam Lindahl: Glenn Bundy family; Pat & Jan Saulsbury
29: Dick & Pam Lindahl; Pat & Jan Saulsbury

Nursery Care
 A quiet room is available in the Christian Education hallway. If you need assistance, please visit with one of the ushers.

Prayer Requests

Prayer requests for those with Health Concerns, Grieving or Other Concerns will be included in the bulletin for one month. If you or your loved one continues to need prayer, please contact the church office to remain on the list.

Health Concerns: Hazel Jones, Ashley Plucker, Fran Hamm (Dolly Colby's sister), Daryl Johnson, Tommy Swenson, Walter Gibson (stepbrother of Nancy Birkeland), Clinton Ilang, John Oman, Leslie Radabaugh, Kevin Thole (Dolly Colby's brother), Tenley Thompson, Judith Houdek, Dave Wohnoutka

Other Concerns:
For those dealing with depression
For all those who struggle with addiction

Grieving: The Family of Kelly Berghorst, The Family of Denise Wohnoutka (sister of Dave Wohnoutka), Darcy Olson and Family

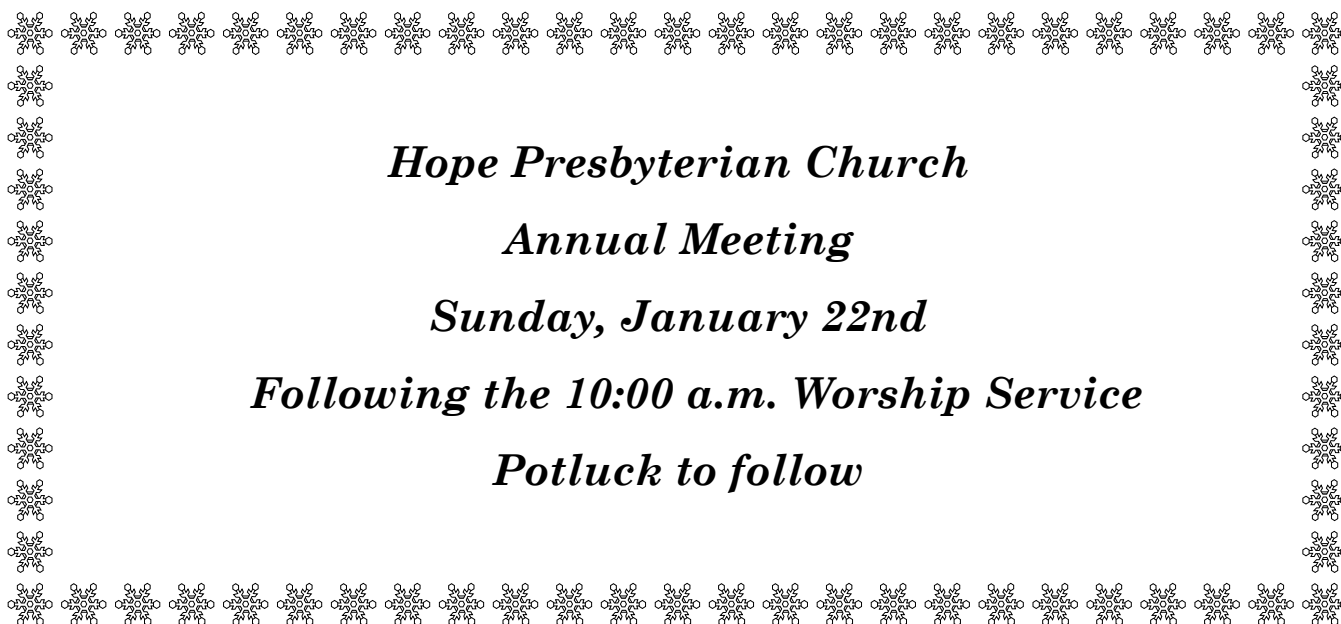
Military Serving in Kuwait/Korea: Adam Peterson, Josh Gehrke
Shut-ins/Nursing Home Residents: Elsie Walquist, Val Johanson, Dorothy Jones
Hospice: Dee Anderson

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Hope Presbyterian Church
Annual Meeting
Sunday, January 22nd
Following the 10:00 a.m. Worship Service
Potluck to follow