

2026



# Hope Scope

I have come in my Father's name, and you do not accept me;  
if another comes in his own name, you will accept him.

*John 5:43 (NRSV)*

It doesn't seem like the new year has brought us any more peace. It doesn't seem like we, as a nation, are any more prepared to love our neighbors than we were in 2025. This seems both tragic and predictable.

The divisions in our culture - in our nation - were brought very close to home in January. They were on display in the streets of Minnesota. The price for our refusal to be reconciled to each other has been far too high. Some have paid a very dear price.

So I ask you to do something. As Christians, I ask you to listen to the voice of Jesus. Please stop listening to the voices that tell you that you should hate this one, or that that one is garbage. See the passage from John's Gospel, above. Jesus knew about our tendency to listen to the wrong voices. Put those voices where they belong and hear the words of the one we call Lord. I ask you to hear the one who blesses the peacemakers and the meek. I ask you to hear the one who blesses the merciful and those who mourn. I mean, if we are not all mourning to one degree or another, then it should be obvious to us that something is very wrong.

Folks, we are the ones the world is counting on to get this right. We are the ones called to a way of life where we love each other and we love our neighbors - even when our neighbors are wrong. We do that. And if we don't, there's truly no one left to do it. We have all we need in order to show the world and our nation and our state and our community a better way. Because we know the way.

It will take some courage on our part, and faith in God. But, see, we already have those things. It's up to us. If not us, then who? It's time.

Let's just put our energy where Jesus told us it should be put - into loving God and our neighbors. Then see what kind of miracle happens.

~ Blessings, *Brian Jones*

At its meeting on January 26th, the Session approved:



- Approved the following requests by the Christian Education, Youth & Families Committee: doing a sock ministry in December 2026 for the CARE Pantry; youth going shopping in Willmar for the CARE Pantry on February 10; and holding a class for parents of WOW children on when to have their children begin taking communion.
- Revised the Tables and Chairs Lending Policy
- Scheduled ordination and installation of new officers to be held during worship on February 15
- Approved holding officer training on Saturday, March 14, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- Approved reinvesting the principal on a CD held at United Prairie Bank and withdrawing the interest
- Retroactively approved payment of the property and workers' compensation premiums totaling more than \$14,000
- Approved inviting Zion Lutheran Church and Harrison Presbyterian Church to join Hope Church's soup and bread suppers and Lenten services
- Re-appointed Nancy Birkeland as Clerk of Session and Kristene King as Treasurer
- Approved the purchase and installation of hanging wall cabinets to be installed in the hallway on the north side of the kitchen wall

## FINANCE REPORT

	Month of Dec 2025	Year to Date Monthly Avg.	Year to Date Jan - Dec 2025	Prior Year to Date Jan - Dec 2024
Income	\$51,644.70	\$23,683.37	\$284,200.47	\$293,461.85
Expenses	\$23,632.90	\$22,756.68	\$273,080.12	\$283,267.81
Net Profit	\$28,011.80		\$ 11,120.35	\$ 10,194.04
Income Needed to Cover Monthly Budgeted Expenses				\$26,748.96
Per Capita Assessment for 2025				\$7,500.00
Per Capita Paid by Members Through 01/30/2025				\$4,998.00

Report prepared by Kristene King, Treasurer

**In 2026, Per Capita has increased to \$47.00 per active member.**

# February's CARE Pantry Challenge products are..... Shampoo, Conditioner, and Body Wash for Adults!

Please place your donations on the table in front of the mailboxes or in the CARE Pantry box by the mailboxes. Thank you!



## Mission Trip Informational Meeting

Were you inspired from our trip to Belize in March of 2025? Or regretted not going with us? Well, here is your second chance to join us!

We are planning on going back to see our friends in Orange Walk, Belize in 2027!

(And do the Lord's work and spread the good news of Jesus!)



Join us on Sunday, February 8th at 9:30 am in the Fireside Room to get the sign-up details. Can't attend but are interested? Talk with Steph to get the details! We hope you can join us this time!



# Christian Education Youth & Families

Respectfully submitted by Tyann Jones

“I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.” Isaiah 43: 19

**Fun Day for all the Youth**

**Sunday, February 22<sup>nd</sup> 1:00-3:00**

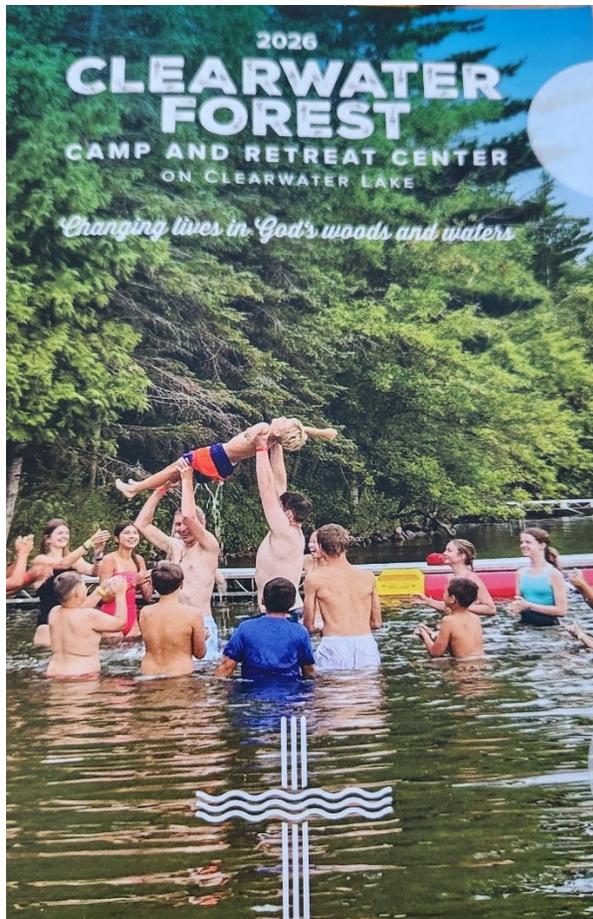
**Younger students are going swimming at the YMCA**

**Older students are going to Willmar Indoor Golf**



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**It is not too early to plan for summer camp at  
Clearwater Forest Bible Camp!!**



**Look Who's on the cover  
of the brochure!!!**

**Our very own Camp Kid,  
Eli Twernbold, himself!!!**

Clearwater Forest Summer Camp

Summer 2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	June 1	2	3 First day of Day Camp	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Counselor in Training						
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Session 1: Grands and Family Camp			Session 1: Discovery, Adventure, Senior High Camp			
Counselor in Training						
28	29	30	July 1	2	3	4
Session 2: Grands and Family Camp			First Timers Camp			
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Session 3: Grands and Family Camp			Session 2: Discovery, Adventure, Senior High Camp- MOUNTAIN BIKE MANIA!			
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Session 4: Grands and Family Camp			Session 3: Discovery, Adventure, Senior High Camp- TRIENNium REUNION WEEK!			Forest Fest and Adventure-A-Thon
10 Day Senior High and Sailing Camp						
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Session 4: Discovery, Adventure, Senior High Camp			10 Day Senior High and Sailing Camp			
26	27	28	29	30	31	Aug. 1
Session 5: Discovery, Adventure, Senior High Camp						
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Session 6: Discovery, Adventure, Senior High Camp - ENDLESS!						



**Don't miss out!!**

Summer Camp | Clearwater Forest Camp & Retreat Center

<https://www.clearwaterforest.org/summer-camp/>

# Fridge Bridge

- February 4      **Congregational/Family Meal- Potluck-5:30**  
Worship 6:00  
Classes as usual
- February 10**      **TAG mission work for CARE Pantry. Meet at the church at 3:30.**  
CEYF committee meeting
- February 11      Congregational/Family Meal – 5:30  
Worship – 6:00  
Classes as usual
- February 17      Fat Tuesday - men serving a meal 5:00-6:30
- February 18      Congregational/Family meal at 5:30  
Regular classes starting at 6:00, will end at 6:55  
**Ash Wednesday Service 7:00**
- Sunday**
- February 22**      **All Youth Fun Day- 1:00-3:00**  
**Willmar Indoor Golf**  
**YMCA**
- February 25      Soup and Bread meal at 5:30  
Lenten Service at 6:15  
WOW at 6:15  
TAG may choose to attend the Lenten service or  
have class as usual at 6:30





## Shrove/Fat Tuesday Pancake Supper

Tuesday, February 17

Serving 5:00 - 6:30 pm

Menu: Pancakes, Sausages, Eggs

Stay after for a program with  
Pastor Candace sharing about The Compassionate Way!

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Wednesday, February 18th

7:00 pm

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## Soup 'n' Bread Suppers

Starting Wednesday, February 25th at 5:30 pm

Lenten Services to follow at 6:15 pm

Sign-up in the Fellowship Hall  
with what you would like to bring

February 25th - Work Group 1 in the kitchen

March 4th - Work Group 2 in the kitchen

March 11th - Work Group 3 in the kitchen

March 18th - Work Group 4 in the kitchen

March 25th - Kids and families in the kitchen



# Retirees, want to save tax dollars allowing you to give a little more to your favorite charity?

(We know what our favorite is..)

Individuals aged 70½ or older can make "[Qualified Charitable Distributions](#)" directly from tax deferred retirement accounts (IRA or SEP) to a qualified charity, excluding the amount from taxable income. This tax-free transfer satisfies Required Minimum Distributions (RMDs) without increasing Adjusted Gross Income (AGI), which helps lower taxes on Social Security and reduces Medicare premiums.

## Important Guidelines & Considerations

**Age Requirement:** You must be at least 70½ years old at the time of the distribution.

**Direct Transfer:** The funds must go directly from your IRA custodian to the qualified charity; they cannot go to you first.

**No Double Tax Benefit:** Because the gift is excluded from income, it cannot also be claimed as an itemized deduction.

## 401Ks

While you cannot make a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) directly from a 401(k), you can roll over funds to an IRA to make a tax-free QCD (up to \$100,000 annually) after age of 70 1/2. This satisfies the RMD requirement without increasing your adjusted gross income (AGI).

**Estate Tax Benefits:** Designating a charity as the beneficiary of an IRA can reduce the income and estate taxes for heirs, as charities do not pay taxes on these distributions.

*Note: Always consult a tax professional before making significant changes to your retirement and charitable giving strategies.*

~ Submitted by Kathy Terpstra

## 21st Anniversary of Radio For Relief Thursday, March 26, 2026



March is Minnesota Food Share Month and  
YOU can make a BIG difference  
on Thursday, March 26, 2026 with Radio For Relief!

The Kandiyohi County Food Shelf can take your \$20 cash donation and purchase almost \$200 worth of food through Second Harvest Heartland. Because of generous people like you, \$944,109 in combined cash and food donations have been collected since Radio For Relief started. Let's make this 21st broadcast another success!

**IMPORTANT REMINDER - 2026 broadcast is on a Thursday**

In 2025, the Kandiyohi County Food Shelf helped an average of 625 families a month and distributed over 485,137 pounds of food

Leading up to Radio For Relief, if you prefer to send a check to the Kandiyohi County Food Shelf, you should put Radio For Relief on the memo line of the check so it is included in the total. We'll also be encouraging listeners to donate online. Any in-person Radio For Relief donations can be dropped off that morning at the Kandiyohi County Food Shelf (enter through donation door). For large groups and amounts of food, please schedule a time with them in advance to ensure there are enough volunteers there to help you.

Learn more at [willmarradio.com](http://willmarradio.com) and [kandiyohicountyfoodshelf.com](http://kandiyohicountyfoodshelf.com)

Listen for Radio For Relief on 102.5 Q102, 1340 AM and 96.3 FM KWLM, 100.1 Big Country, 106.5 The Train, 94.1 The Loon, 93.5 Country Legends and on the Lakeland Media App on Thursday, March 26, 2026 from 7 am to 10 am

## Office Hours

Monday thru Friday  
7:30 a.m.- 5:00 p.m.

TV - Channel 18 or Channel 181 - Sundays 2:15 pm, Tuesdays 11:30 am & 3:00 pm, or Thursdays 8:00 am & 5:00 pm

## Sunday Schedule

9:15 A.M. Fellowship Hour  
10:00 A.M. Worship in Sanctuary  
Also on Facebook Live &  
on Radio 96.9 FM



Thank you all for your cards, thoughts, and prayers given to me because of my surgery and recovery.

~ Jerry Bents

### Members with Health Issues:

Greg Swenson, Gaylord Lind, Conny & John Williamson, Arlos Jones

*Prayer Requests*



### Family and Friends with Health Issues:

Joanne (Larry Bratsch's sister), Jan (Terpstra's daughter), Randy Dahlberg (Lisa Thorson's cousin's friend), Kim (Joni's sister)

### Grieving:

Family of Shane Illies (Kathryn Frazee's daughter), Family of Barb Morris

**\*\*Please Note** If you have a prayer request, please fill out a prayer request card found on the table by the mailboxes in the Fellowship Hall and return it to an usher or Pastor Brian.

**February Deacons of the Month:** Gaylord Lind & Jackie Wahl

## February Coffee Servers

**February 1st:** Sherry & Larry Bratsch

**February 8th:** Lisa Thorson

**February 15th:** Kathy & Dave Terpstra

**February 22nd:** Tyann & Brian Jones

