

2024



HOPE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

# Hope Scope

*They went on from there and passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know it; for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, "The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again."*

*But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him.*

**Mark 9:30-32 (NRSV)**

You may be receiving this Hope Scope during Holy week with Easter yet to come. This week is arguably the most important for Christians around the world, as it involves not only Jesus' betrayal and suffering and death, but also, the most hopeful sign Christians can point to: The resurrection of Jesus from the dead.

But I am struck by the final words of this passage from Mark. The disciples did not understand what Jesus meant, and they were afraid to ask him. Especially in Mark's Gospel, but elsewhere as well, Scripture paints a less than flattering picture of the disciples. Here, they just can't understand what Jesus is saying, but I think the far greater failing was their being afraid to ask.

First of all, Jesus is frequently heard to say to them that they should not be afraid. But maybe more importantly, if the truth is important to us, then we have to seek that out. Being afraid to seek the truth is a real problem for the disciples, or for any Christian.

I wonder if you have questions and are afraid to ask them. Maybe you are afraid of the answer. Maybe you feel foolish. Maybe you think any good Christian should probably know the answer already. Maybe you think you know the answer and it seems wrong.

Please never be afraid to ask me. I certainly do not have all the answers, but together we can try to find answers, or at least get started in the right direction. One of the reasons you have a full-time pastor is so that you have a sort of theologian-in-residence. Part of my job is to help us think about how and when our faith intersects with our lives in the world. Don't hesitate to make use of this. If I can be a resource or a help, then that's what I am here for.

In this deeply important week, let us all remember the gift that Jesus has been to us. His life, his death, and his resurrection all bear great weight in our lives. We will continue to celebrate that gift this week, and every week.

And if you have questions about any of that, don't hesitate to ask!

Blessings,

Brian Jones

At its March 4th meeting, the Session approved the following:

- \* Hope Church paying \$560 of the Tier III level per baptized member (or child who regularly attends weekly Christian Education activities at Hope), who attends Clearwater Forest Camp or Grands Camp in 2024 with funds being paid according to the meatball supper guidelines with each attendee paying the \$100 deposit required to register.

- \* Camp Sunday on April 21; honoring Christian Education leaders on April 28 during worship; meatball supper May 2; participating in Clearwater Forest Camp work weekend May 17-19; holding Family Fun Festivals on June 12, July 10 and August 7; and a Tag Mission Trip August 13-17 (Not participating due to scheduling conflicts)

- \* WOW going to Glen Oaks on May 1.

- \* TAG going shopping for the CARE Pantry on a date to be determined.

- \* Participating in the July 4 parade in Spicer and the New London Water Days parade.

- \* Treasurer Kristene Foreman and Tim Block as signors on Hope Presbyterian Church's Endowment and Scholarship Fund accounts at Lake Region Wealth Management.

- \* Holding spring cleanup on April 27, 2024.

- \* Directed the Property Committee to obtain a second bid to repair the church chimney.

- \* The Restroom Task Force remodeling the restrooms by the Jack Anderson Fire-side Room.

- \* To obtain an appraisal of the property requested to be sold to a developer who has purchased neighboring property.

The following volunteered to serve communion on Maundy Thursday: Deb Ficek, Jody Leason, Bob Sampson, Dee Schurman and Sandy Wersal.

The following volunteered to serve communion on Easter Sunday, March 31: Steve Barney, Deb Ficek, Greg Mulder, Alisa Taatjes and Sandy Wersal.

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	FINANCE REPORT		Kristene Foreman, Treasurer
		Year to Date	Year to Date
	February	02/29/2024	Monthly Average
Income	\$25,716.15	\$43,698.34	\$21,849.17
Expenses	\$23,701.54	\$46,987.99	\$23,493.99
Net Profit (Loss)	\$2014.61	( \$3,289.65)	
Income Needed to Cover Monthly Budgeted Expenses			\$26,118.65
Per Capita Assessment for 2024			\$7,425.00
Per Capita Paid by Members Through 02/29/2024			\$1,603.48

## **MOVING SALE HOSTED BY HPW**

Kathy Jansen's home has been sold! HPW will be selling the remaining household items at her house, 130 Pine St. NW in New London, on Saturday, April 6th 9 am till 3 pm. The proceeds will support the mission projects supported by HPW, of which many are local. She has a large variety of items including baking and cooking items, casseroles, food storage containers, small appliances, a Keurig, home décor, vases, lamps, crocks, end tables, sofas, a large flat screen TV, entertainment center, Armoire, nightstand, bedding and much more! We need people, men and women, to work on Thursday and Friday to prepare for the sale and also for 3 shifts on Saturday. Please see the sign-up sheet in the library area.

## **CAMP GK BEAR**

CentraCare Hospice will be holding Camp GK Bear on Saturday, April 13th. Registration can be done online at [www.CentraCare.com/CampGKBear](http://www.CentraCare.com/CampGKBear). The registration deadline is Friday, April 5th. Camp GK Bear will be offered from 10:00 am until 3:00 pm at the Lakeland Auditorium (lower level of the Lakeland Health Center) in Willmar. There will be an adult educational session from 10-10:45 am. There is no cost to attend. Lunch, snacks and beverages will be provided. Please pass this on to anyone you feel might benefit from the grief camp for kids, grades K-6. If you have any questions, please contact either Gina Jacobs or Kathy Tweten at (320)231-4450.

## **MISSION TRIP MEETING**

We will be having a Mission Trip meeting Sunday, April 14th immediately after worship. We are planning to go to Belize. If interested at all, please attend this meeting to start planning.

## **FALL HARVEST FESTIVAL**

The HPW's Fall Festival & Home Décor Sale will be on Saturday, October 12th. Just a reminder to start going through your jewelry while Spring cleaning and bring in any donations for the Accessory Sisters booth and also as Spring planting will start, to put a row of vegetables in for the Garden & Produce area.

## **THANK YOU!**

To my Hope Family, I want to express my gratitude to all of you for the cards, gifts and well wishes given to me on my retirement as church treasurer. I also want to thank the Session for the retirement cake, gift certificate and recognition given to me at the worship service. It has been a pleasure to work with you all. I know our new treasurer will do a great job! Thanks again! Jerry Bents

## FEBRUARY 2024 IMPACT FROM THE LINK

**IT'S MN FOODSHARE TIME!** The 43rd Annual FoodShare Campaign is officially underway! Food and monetary donations are proportionality matched from MN FoodShare from now through April 6th to further your donation! This is a great time to spread your donation even further.....especially with the significant increase in need for food and outreach services over the past few months!

**The Food Pantry** continues to see an increase in need. In February, The Link served 180 families (including 306 adults, 191 children and 61 seniors). Even with the shorter month, numbers increased from January-- serving 11 more families than last month and distributing 667 more pounds of food.

**Wildcat Backpack and Snack Pantry.** The Link is currently serving **96 children** each week from NLS schools! This is an ability to supplement children's food for the weekend when they are not in school. The Link is also currently connecting **31 teachers** with snacks for students in their classroom.

**Client Outreach.** Each month, The Link is able to provide support to a number of families facing hardships, such as (but not limited to): job loss, chronic illness, unexpected change in family dynamics and increase in the cost of living. In February, your donations were able to support **31 families** by helping with medical bills, gas, utility bills and rental payments along with providing budgeting support, networking and referrals for additional basic needs.

**Household Exchange.** The Household Exchange Program was able to provide **17 families** with much needed clothing, furniture and other household necessities in February.

**Tuesday's Table.** A free community meal the 1st Tuesday of the month: Our Lady of the Lakes (Spicer), 2nd Tuesday: Evangelical Covenant (New London), 3rd Tuesday: Faith Lutheran (Spicer), 4th Tuesday: Peace Lutheran (New London), 5th Tuesday: Crossroads Community Church (Spicer)

**HOW CAN YOU HELP?** Pray for The Link and the community--Help us spread awareness by talking about The Link to your friends and family and sharing on social media-- Donate unexpired food items to the food pantry or organize a food drive--Volunteer at the thrift store or in the food pantry--**Donate financially** (Remember for every \$1 donated, The Link can purchase \$10 in food through Second Harvest)

**SPRING CLEANING?? DON'T FORGET ABOUT COMMUNITY REVIVAL BOUTIQUE AND THRIFT!! Donate your gently used clothing and household goods to Community Revival!!** - (all proceeds kick back into The Link's programs)

**CURRENT NEEDS:** Gently used adult and kids clothing. Any unexpired food items--for a list of ideas, please contact Ashley at 320-354-5465 or email [director@youarethelink.org](mailto:director@youarethelink.org)

Donations made easy Monthly giving at The Link is convenient. You can set up online giving directly through your bank or by visiting The Link's website at [www.youarethelink.org](http://www.youarethelink.org). You can also mail your donation to P.O. Box 823, New London, MN 56273, drop off your donation in person or leave your check in the drop box outside of The Link's door at 20 Central Ave E, New London.

**SAVE THE DATE!!! Ribfest 2024 planning is officially underway!!!! Mark your calendars for June 8, 2024 from 2pm-5pm! If you are interested in sponsoring the event OR if you have a silent auction item you'd like to donate, please reach out to Ashley at 320-354-5465! Thank you for your support! YOU are The Link!**

## Christian Education Youth and Families

“Whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable-if anything is excellent or praiseworthy- think about such things.”

Philippians 4:8



Confirmation Retreat with Pastor Brian on Saturday, March 2nd



The confirmands, Zach Fischer, Evelyn Titus, and Shayla Sampson officiated the worship service on March 3rd



The kids of the church hosted the bread and soup meal on March 13 prior to the Lenten evening service. The TAG group, under the tutelage of Liz and Jason Windingstad, also provided “Jesus” food. This was a whole counter full of food that would be similar to what Jesus ate with his disciples during his ministry.

## Confirmation Sunday is May 5<sup>th</sup>!

We will be honoring our 3 confirmands during coffee hour and they will be confirmed during the 10:00 worship service. Congratulations, Zachary Fischer, Evelyn Titus, and Shayla Sampson!!



**Thank you,** Harrold and Jonelle Foreman for our new "Foreman Grill." This is badly needed and greatly appreciated!!

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**One Great Hour of Sharing Offering** – Where does the money go?

Remember the word, "**S H E!**"

- S** Self-development of People
- H** Hunger Fund
- E** (Emergencies) Disaster Assistance Program



### Fridge Bridge

- April 1** Confirmands examined by the Session
- April 3** Family meal at 5:45
- April 13** CEYF Retreat at River of Hope Youth Center 8:30-10:30
- April 21** Camp Sunday
- April 28** Honoring Christian Education Leaders in church
- May 1** All youth going to Glen Oaks apartments during class time
- May 2** Meatball supper 4:00-7:00pm
- May 5** Confirmation Sunday
- May 8** Last family supper (5:45) and last night of classes until the fall
- May 17-19** Clearwater Forest weekend
- May 19** NLS graduation
- May 23** Last day of school at NLS

Respectfully Submitted by Tyann Jones

**Lay Readers:**

**April 7th: Jonelle Foreman**

**April 14th: Sue Block**

**April 21st: Open**

**April 28th: Open**

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**Deacons of the Month:**

**Robin Mulder**

**&**

**Sue Block**

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**HPW Meeting - Tuesday,**

**April 2nd 6:30 pm**

**Devotions: Jo Holm**

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**Circle II - Thursday,**

**April 4th 7:00 pm**

**Leader: Eileen H.**

**April CARE Pantry**

**Challenge is.....**

**DISHWASHING  
LIQUID**



**Coffee Servers**

**April 7: Joni Lamphere & Eli Twernbold**

**April 14: Tyann Jones**

**April 21: Kathy Terpstra**

**April 28: Lisa Thorson**







### **Members with Health Concerns:**

Barb Morris, Gwen Anfinson, Karen Hagemeyer, Sandy Ardoff, Jo Holm, Darlene Thompson, Dick Lindahl, Conny Williamson, Bob Hinderks

### **Family and Friends with Health Concerns:**

Deb Everson (Sandy Ardoff's sister-in-law)	Mary Mathieson (Friend of Pat Hinderks)
Daryl Niemeyer (Bents' brother-in-law)	Kevin Peterson (Greg Swenson's cousin)
Lori (Friend of Sherry Bratsch)	Mike Nielsen
Mike (Friend of Wade Swenson)	Aaron Cameron (Schurman's brother-in-law)
Dorothy (Eldy William's sister)	Chris (Doreen Mitchell's son-in-law)
Duane (Friend of Joni Lamphere)	Harlan Brace
Lennon Ludewig	Barb Knittel (Tyann's friend's Mom)
Ruth (Friend of Carol Sampson)	Vicky Mattson (Friend of Sharon Jones)

### **Grieving:**

Family of David (Karen Hagemeyer's nephew), Family of Randy Patton, Family of Steven Chapin (Karen Hagemeyer's brother)

### **Care Facilities:**

Jerry Gault (Prairie Senior Cottages, 1705 19<sup>th</sup> Ave. SW-Willmar), Shar Williams (Carris Health Care Center, 1801 Willmar Ave. SW), Kathy Jansen (Bethesda Grand, 901 Willmar Ave. SE, Room 103), David Carlson (Bethesda North Pointe), Jeanette Gault (GlenOaks), Betty Harder (Bethesda North Pointe), Arlos Jones (GlenOaks Apts.), Barb Morris (Copperleaf-Willmar), Mary Lou Swart (PCU's at GlenOaks)

### **Other Concerns:**

For those dealing with mental health issues and who struggle with addiction

For those deeply wounded by domestic violence

For those grieving the death and injury of a loved one due to violence and war

For the unrest in Israel and Gaza

For those affected by natural disasters, COVID-19

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RADIO: KGLH 96.9 FM



2024

### Office Hours

**8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.**

**\*Monday thru Thursday**

### SUNDAYS

**9:15 A.M. Coffee**

**10:00 A.M. Worship in Sanctuary**

Also Facebook Live & on Radio 96.9 FM

Also on TV - Channel 18 or Channel 181

Sundays 2:30 pm, Tuesdays 11:30 am &  
8:30 pm and Thursdays 8:00 am & 5:00 pm