



Hope Scope

*Those of low estate are but a breath,
those of high estate are a delusion;
in the balances they go up;
they are together lighter than a breath.*

Psalm 62:9 (NRSV)

We get pretty excited about people sometimes: celebrities, musicians, politicians, influencers of various kinds. It might be good to read this passage every time we encounter one of those. These people are human beings, and their thoughts and actions are probably less important than they (and we) often think they are.

People are able to wield various degrees of power and influence for some limited time, and then their time is over. As Christians, part of our job is to refuse to be too influenced by anybody, because we know that everybody—even the smoothest, most beautiful, most talented types, have all fallen short of the glory of God. We know this. They are all flawed.

Whatever your feelings about the machinations in our nation's capital and across the country, please remember that neither the president nor the most vociferous of his critics is sinless. They are all flawed, just as we are.

So, if we want, we can join in all the screaming and shouting. Maybe that would feel satisfying in some way. But things seem to be changing pretty rapidly in these days, and as we see things changing in our country, it might be better if we were to see who it is that benefits from the changes, and make note of that, and see who suffers from the changes, and find a way to serve those ones.

As I have thought about the best way for a Christian to live in our time, this is the plan that seems to be the closest to what I think Jesus would have us do. If you agree, maybe you could give some thought to how we as individuals, or as a church, could be about the business of bringing healing and relief to people who suffer.

In these interesting times, we dare not lose sight of who we are and who God calls us to be. We dare not lose sight of our leader and Savior, Jesus.

At its February 3rd meeting, the Session:

- Approved renewing a Certificate of Deposit for six months
- Approved the 2024 Church Statistical Report submitted to the General Assembly
- Received notice of two zoning hearings to be held on February 10th for the plat of The Nest for a planned unit development on the property East of the church owned by RAK Construction, LLC.
- Approved holding a Fat Tuesday meal on March 4th, an Ash Wednesday service on March 5th, and Lenten services each Wednesday from March 12th through April 9th following the soup 'n' bread suppers

The following volunteered to serve communion on Sunday, March 2, 2025 at the 10:00 a.m. worship service: Steve Barney, Larry Bratsch, Deb Ficek, Dee Schurman, and Alisa Taatjes.

FINANCE REPORT

	JANUARY	Year to Date 1/31/2025	Year to Date Monthly Average
Income	\$27,160.36	\$27,160.36	\$27,160.36
Expenses	\$28,541.66	\$283,250.14	\$28,541.66
Net Profit (Loss)	(\$1,381.30)	(\$1,381.30)	
Income Needed to Cover Monthly Budgeted Expenses			\$26,748.96
Per Capita Assessment for 2025			\$ 7,500.00
Per Capita Paid by Members Through 1/31/2025			\$ 625.00

Kristene Foreman, Treasurer

In 2025, Per Capita has increased to \$46.00 per active member.



Thank you, my dear friends, for all the hugs, well wishes, cards, and gifts you gave me when I retired from the Ministry & Staff Assistant position here at Hope. Sunday's cake and "party", the skit during worship was awesome, and all was kept in secret!! Not even my family told me, who were "just" coming to celebrate Jerry's birthday!!

This was the best job I ever had, so it was a very hard decision I made. Stephanie will fill my shoes very well as I am very grateful to her for adding this job to her work load. These past 12 years have gone quickly! I've worked with the best staff there is, so I will really miss all of them! And also with the best pastors - Pastor Brian and Pastor Candace. And also the best congregation!! Thanks so much!!

Love, Karen Bents

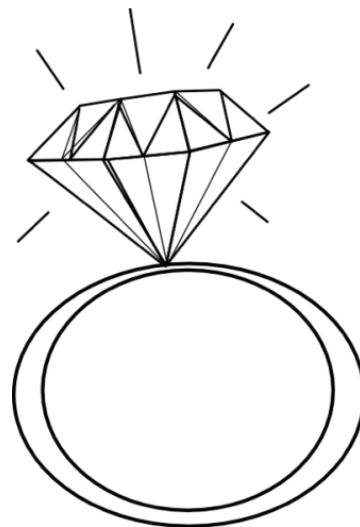
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You are invited to a bridal shower
For Kristene Foreman,
Bride-to-be of Skylar King

Saturday, March 22nd, 2025

2:00 - 4:00 pm

At the River of Hope Youth Center



Couple is registered at Amazon, Target, and online at:
theknot.com/kristeneandskylar/registry

Christian Education Youth and Families

“We love because God first loved us.”

- 1st John 4:19



[Clearwater Forest Camp & Retreat Center](#)

REGISTRATION for summer camp is now OPEN!!

Check out all the retreats!!

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|----------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Women's Chrysalis | February 21-23, 2025 |
| 2. Couples Retreat | February 28-March 2, 2025 |
| 3. Seeds of Service | April 11-13, 2025 |
| 4. Campus Ministry | April 25-27, 2025 |
- Ages 18-25

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Our Youth Funday scheduled for February 2nd had to be postponed.
Save the date for Sunday, March 23rd!!

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2025 Presbyterian Youth Triennium
is THIS summer, July 28-31
in Louisville, KY.

It is a wonderful opportunity for
Fun and Spiritual Growth.
Contact Tyann to register.





The TAG group helped buy and package items for our CARE Pantry on February 11th. Thanks Jill, Grace, Pastor Brian, Melissa, Karen, Blake, Shayla, Madelyn, and Isaac for your help in our church's on-going Mission!

One Great Hour of Sharing Fish Banks will be distributed to our students. They **should be brought** back to church on **Palm Sunday which is April 13.**

The money is collected globally and used for 3 Presbyterian Projects:

- 1. **S**elf-Development of People
- 2. Presbyterian **H**unger Fund
- 3. Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (**E**mergencies)

Remember the word, "**SHE**"



Fridge Bridge

- March 5 NO Family meal - Ash Wednesday
- March 8-15 Belize Mission Trip - **YES, there are still Wednesday night classes** on March 12
- March 18 CEYF committee meeting at 6:30pm
- March 19 NO Wednesday night classes - Spring break at NLS

Respectfully Submitted by Tyann Jones



Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

Tuesday, March 4th

Serving 5:00 - 6:30 pm

Menu: Pancakes, Sausages, Eggs

Stay after for a program featuring Elaine Boyd!



Wednesday, March 5th

7:00 pm

Soup 'n' Bread Suppers

Starting Wednesday, March 12th at 5:45 pm

Lenten Services to follow at 6:15 pm

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

March 12th - Work Group 1 in the kitchen

March 19th - Work Group 2 in the kitchen

March 29th - Work Group 3 in the kitchen

April 2nd - Work Group 4 in the kitchen

April 9th - Kids and families in the kitchen





Saturday, March 8th, our Mission Team is flying off to Belize bright and early at 6:30 am for a week of spreading God's love. Please hold them in your thoughts and prayers that week as they will be the hands of God. Pray for safety in travel, in their work they do, and all to stay healthy. Thank you to everyone who has helped raise funds by donating money, purchasing items being sold, and eating at the Chili lunch and Souper Bowl lunch. We couldn't have made this trip happen without the loving generosity of our congregation!

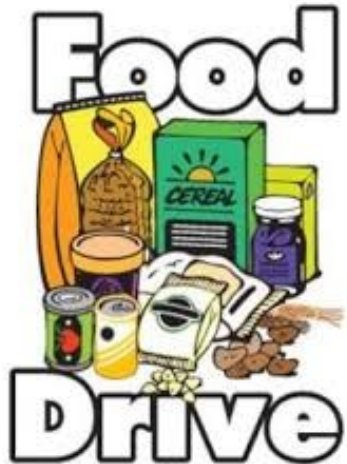


Going are: (front row) Joni Lamphere, Jill Gau, Tyann Jones; (2nd row) Isaac Taatjes, Lauren Bratberg, Allie Johnson, Pastor Brian Jones; (3rd row) Devory & Danny Fischer, Sue Block, Stephanie Bents, Anakin Haglund; (Back row) Duane Taatjes, Carter Taatjes, Alisa Taatjes, Grace Gau, and Matt Haglund; Not Pictured: Zach Fischer & Rylan Altermatt



Thank you all so much for your donations to Special Olympics Minnesota! With registration fees and extra donations, a total of \$1125 was raised with \$825 going to a local team.

Hope Presbyterian Plungers!!



March's CARE Pantry Challenge is.....

Food for the Link

Please place your donations on the table in front of the mailboxes.

Thank you!

MARCH COFFEE SERVERS

March 2: Joni Lamphere

March 9: Jody & Jerry Leason

March 16: Karen Hegemeier, Lisa Thorson

March 23: Tyann Jones

March 30: Kathy Terpstra & Sherry Bratsch



Prayer Requests



Members with Health Issues:

Wayne Thompson, Sharon Jones, Frank & Shelly Peralta, Velda Jones, Elroy Jones, Darlene Thompson, Bob Hinderks

Family and Friends with Health Issues:

Etta Holmgren (Charlotte DeLong's neighbor) Lisa Swanson
Kim (Friend of Jeff Lamphere) Dale & Barb (Friends of Karen Hagemeyer)
Dick Bratsch (Larry's brother) Dakota Rich (NLS athlete)
Joanna Hanson (Helmstetter's niece)

Grieving:

Family of Verona Thompson, Family of Tommy Griffith (Gospel singer), Family of Christine "Chris" Johnson

Care Facilities:

Jerry Gault (Prairie Senior Cottages, 1705 19th Ave. SW-Willmar),
Shar Williams (Carris Health Care Center, 1801 Willmar Ave. SW),
David Carlson (Bethesda North Pointe), Jeanette Gault (GlenOaks),
Betty Harder (Bethesda North Pointe), Barb Morris (Copperleaf in Willmar),
Mary Lou Swart (Bethesda North Pointe)

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 those affected by natural disasters, COVID-19

March Deacons of the Month: Jeff Wersal

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WEBSITE: <http://hopechurchspicer.org>

RADIO: KGLH 96.9 FM



Office Hours

Monday thru Friday

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

SUNDAYS

9:15 A.M. Coffee

10:00 A.M. Worship in Sanctuary

Also on Facebook Live & on Radio 96.9 FM

TV - Channel 18 or Channel 181

Sundays 2:15 pm

Tuesdays 11:30 am & 3:00 pm

Thursdays 8:00 am & 5:00 pm