



Hope Scope

*The LORD is my light and my salvation;
whom shall I fear?*

*The LORD is the stronghold of my life;
of whom shall I be afraid?*

~ Psalm 27:1 (NRSV)

We are just about to begin a roller coaster ride. I write this just a couple of days before Palm Sunday - a day of celebration. But just a few days later, we will find ourselves at the Communion table, remembering Jesus' Last Supper with his disciples. And then, on Friday, we will remember the horrific torture and death of our Lord Jesus. And then?

Well, then, as if we could take any more of this roller coaster ride, we will gather on Sunday morning to celebrate the very core of our faith. We will celebrate the way our God chose to show us the power of love - a power so great it overcomes even death. This is the best good news we have. It's the best good news anyone anywhere has. God is indeed our light and our salvation. We are blessed.

I want to say that if you come to church on Palm Sunday, and then not again until Easter, then you miss some very important parts of this very important week of ups and downs, and part of the miracle of Easter will be lost. This is because what makes Easter special is not just the words and thoughts associated with it, but the feelings as well. And who better to feel these things with - who better to ride a roller coaster with - than your brothers and sisters at Hope Presbyterian?

So we will gather on Maundy Thursday at 7:00 pm for a Communion service, and at 7:00 pm again on Good Friday. I hope you can be there. At this time of this particular year, it seems like we should be together.

~ Blessings, Brian Jones

At its March 23rd meeting, the Session:

- o Approved holding a Good Friday service on April 3rd at 7:00 pm
- o Was informed the county building inspector met with the church's representatives and informed them the building plans are ready to be submitted for approval; construction is planned to begin after the meatball supper on Friday, April 24th
- o Discussed the net loss of income and ways to encourage members to give regularly each month
- o Approved two pictures formerly in the nursery being declared as surplus and donating them to the HPW to sell at the Fall Harvest Festival
- o Approved the date for the meatball supper
- o Recommends the congregation amend the Bylaws at the next annual meeting to reduce the number of Ruling Elders from nine to seven over the next two years
- o Approved a wedding request for August 8th in the Hopewood Chapel followed by a reception in the Fellowship Hall
- o Approved hosting a Light of the World service for the evening of Sunday, April 19th at 7:00 pm



The following volunteered to serve communion on Thursday, April 2nd during the 7:00 pm worship service: Brooke Appleby, Larry Bratsch, Deb Ficek, Kelli Haglund, and Jody Leason.

April offering counters: Deb Ficek and Brooke Appleby

FINANCE REPORT

	Month of Feb 2026	Year to Date Monthly Avg.	Year to Date Feb 2026	Prior Year to Date Feb 2025
Income	\$ 16,979.87	\$ 19,057.16	\$ 38,114.32	\$ 43,611.14
Expenses	\$ 25,947.32	\$ 23,829.22	\$ 47,658.44	\$ 50,664.19
Net Profit (Loss)	(\$ 8,967.45)		(\$ 9,544.12)	(\$ 7,053.05)
Income Needed to Cover Monthly Budgeted Expenses				\$ 27,674.40
Per Capita Assessment for 2026				\$ 7,144.00
Per Capita Paid by Members Through 02/28/2026				\$ 1,904.00

Report prepared by Kristene King, Treasurer

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

61st ANNUAL MEATBALL SUPPER

Fundraiser for the youth attending
Clearwater Forest Camp this summer!



Friday, April 24th

4:00 – 7:00 p.m.

**Hope Presbyterian Church
7730 North Shore Drive – Spicer**

Cost: \$15.00 Adults
\$10.00 Children 6-10 years

Menu: Meatballs, Mashed Potatoes/Gravy,
Corn, Coleslaw, Bread, Homemade Bars & Beverage

Take outs are available!

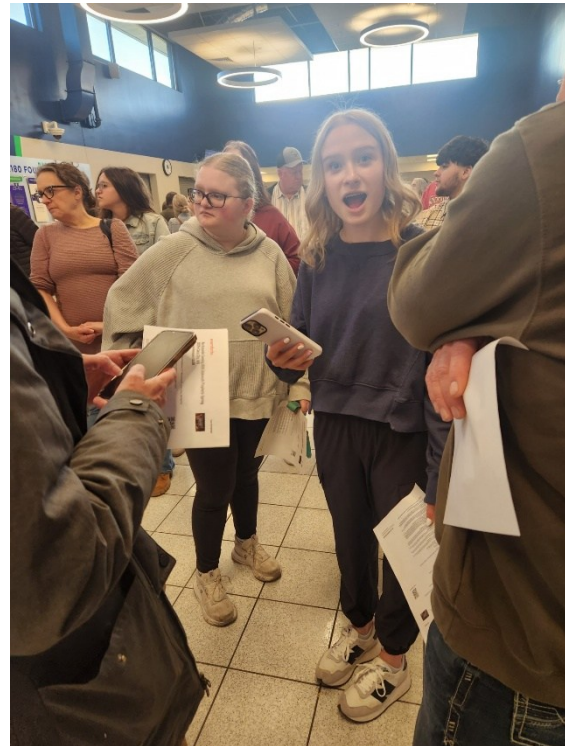
Christian Education Youth & Families

Respectfully submitted by Tyann Jones

“He is Risen! He is not here.” ~ Mark 16:6b

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A group of our young people and adults attended the Sidewalk Prophets concert in Clara City on March 11th. It was an evening filled with inspiring stories, music, and a powerful message of Jesus' love.



Thank you, Hope Presbyterian, for helping sponsor this outing!

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Camp Sunday – April 12



Summer Camp | Clearwater Forest Camp & Retreat Center

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

The kids of the church had an opportunity to serve as they hosted the soup and bread meal on March 25 prior to the Lenten service. The TAG group, under the tutelage of Liz and Jason Windingstad, and Kelli and Matt Haglund, also provided "Food that Jesus might have eaten."



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



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On Sunday, April 26th, we will be honoring and thanking our Christian Education Leaders during church.

Thank you for helping us learn about all the ways that Jesus Lights our way!



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Also, on Sunday, April 26th, we will be honoring our high school graduates during coffee before church at 9:30 and during church at 10:00! Baccalaureate is at 7:00pm at The NL-S PAC.





**Grace Gau,
a BBE graduate,
plans to attend
Focus House
in Willmar next year.**

**Blake Sampson,
an NLS graduate,
has been accepted to
NDSU, Fargo, ND
and plans to enter the
Business Administration
program there in the fall.**





**Isaac Taatjes,
an NLS graduate,
plans to attend
SDSU, Brookings, SD
in the fall
and study under their
exploratory program that
focuses on the areas of
engineering,
science, and math.**

CONGRATULATIONS AND BEST WISHES, GRADUATES!

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Fridge Bridge

April

- 1** Family meal 5:30
Worship 6:00-6:20
- 5** Easter!! He is Risen!
- 8** Family meal 5:30
Worship 6:00-6:20
Classes as usual
- 12** Camp Sunday
- 14** CEYF Committee meeting 6:30
- 15** Family meal 5:30
Worship 6:00-6:20
Classes as usual

- 22** Family meal 5:300
Worship 6:00-6:20
Classes as usual
- 24** Meatball supper 4:00-7:00
- 26** Honor HS graduates
Honor CE leaders
Kids sing in church
Baccalaureate 7:00 at the NL-S PAC
- 29** Family meal at 5:30
All youth to Glen Oaks for a time with the residents in the apartments
6:15-7:15
- May**
- 6** Last Wednesday night of classes
Congregational potluck: Cookout, so families bring salads or desserts
quiz bowl, fun activity with ALL youth



The Presbytery of Minnesota Valleys cordially invites you to attend the Installation Service of

Rev. Scott Thomas Prouty

to the congregations of First Presbyterian Church of Brewster,
First Presbyterian Church of Round Lake, and
Westminster Presbyterian Church of Worthington.

The service will be held on April 19th, 2026 at 4:00 pm at
the First Presbyterian Church in Round Lake, 301 Rohrer Street.

A meal will be served after the service.



Join CentraCare for
Camp GK Bear on
Saturday, April 25th at 10:00 am at
the Lakeland Auditorium.
Please register at
www.CentraCare.com/CampGKBear
by Friday, April 10th.



Linking People.
Building Community.

February
2026

Impact
Report

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

The Food Pantry



189
households served

12,585
pounds distributed

332 adults

189 children

64 seniors

Household Exchange



68

families provided with household needs including, but not limited to:
clothing
dishes
furniture

Client Services & Outreach



13 households

provided with financial support to families facing hardships, such as: job loss, chronic illness, homelessness & increased cost of living. This support includes, but is not limited to: medical bills, prescription costs, utility bills, rent/mortgage payments and other basic needs.

18 referrals given

13 families provided with budgeting support

13 families provided with advocacy support

13 families provided with networking support

Wildcat Backpacks



167

students currently enrolled from the NL-S Schools to receive food for the weekend.

IT'S MN FOODSHARE MONTH!
STRETCH YOUR DONATION!!! DONATE NOW-APRIL 6TH AND YOUR DONATION WILL GO EVEN FURTHER!!

How can you help?

- Donate unexpired food items to The Food Pantry OR organize a food drive;
- Help us spread awareness about The Link's by talking to your friends and family and sharing on social media;
- Volunteer at The thrift store or in the food pantry;
- Invite The Link's staff to attend a business or church meeting, book club or any other group events to help spread awareness of The Link's programs;
- Pray for The Link & your community
- Ask us about the building remodel campaign

Foster Stitches

2

children in foster care provided with clothing

Volunteer Hours

358

hours donated by generous community members to keep The Link's programs running smoothly



Tuesday's Table

Tuesday's Table Schedule:



- 1st Tuesday: Our Lady of the Lakes
- 2nd Tuesday: Evangelical Covenant
- 3rd Tuesday: Faith Lutheran
- 4th Tuesday: Peace Lutheran
- 5th Tuesday: Crossroads Community

Current Needs

- Household essentials (i.e. dishes, towels, sheets, small furniture items, etc.;
- Household goods and clothing donations for the Thrift Store
- Gently used clothing of any size;
- Unexpired food for The Food Pantry
- Monetary donations to a program of your choice OR to The Link's general fund.
- Donations to The Link's capital campaign for building renovations

For more information on The Link's programs OR to make a monetary donation, please scan the QR code or visit www.youarethelink.org

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT!!!! YOU are The Link!!!



director@youarethelink.org



320-354-5465



www.youarethelink.org

April's CARE Pantry Challenge product is..... Dish soap!

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



Thank you, Hope Family, for your prayers, your many calls of concern, and thoughtful cards sent to my family after Shane's passing. I truly felt wrapped in your loving care at such a difficult time so many miles away. We sometimes have no answers to the why. But, we know that God has a plan. We just have to lean on our faith.

Thank you again,
~ Kathryn Frazee and family

A huge THANK YOU to the Presbyterian Women for granting Clearwater Forest **\$50,000 to purchase a camp van** for our Camp for ALL project. The goal of Camp for ALL is to eliminate the transportation barrier that is a challenge for many campers so that a more diverse audience can enjoy meaningful and powerful experiences at Clearwater Forest! Thank you, Presbyterian Women!!

~ Clearwater Forest Camp staff

Offering Envelopes

Deacons, Per Capita, and other special offering envelopes are now located on a table in the Narthex next to the large print hymnals and Bibles rather than in the pews. Please see an usher or Steph if you need help finding them. Thank you!

Office Hours

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

Sunday Schedule

9:15 A.M. Fellowship Hour
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, or Thursdays 8:00 am & 5:00 pm

Members with Health Issues:

Mark Radabaugh, Myron Ficek,
John & Conny Williamson

*Prayer
Requests*



Family and Friends with Health Issues:

Shelly Krossman (friend of Sherry Bratsch)

Sarah Sampson's grandma

Carl (Laura Norling's uncle)

Grieving:

Family of Joann Ryks, Family of Jane Hedin (Don Heath's sister-in-law),
Family of Baylor Sietsema (infant son of Brennen & Courtney (Edwards)
Sietsema – friends of Larry & Sherry Bratsch)

****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.

April Deacons of the Month: Lisa Thorson & Karen Bents

April Coffee Servers

April 5th: Session members

April 12th: Sandy & Jeff Wersal, Connie Swanson

April 19th: Tim & Sue Block, Heather & Charlie Carver

April 26th: Leslie & Mark Radabaugh
Brooke & Savannah Appleby

