

2023

HOPE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

FEBRUARY

Hope Scope

The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, ¹³until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ.

Ephesians 4:11-12 (NRSV)

The Apostle Paul is here writing to the church in Ephesus about the gifts bestowed upon them. And it is a helpful lesson on how Presbyterians do things. The list of gifts above does not include all of God's gifts. But think about the people you worship with on Sundays. Can you see what gifts they have? Can you see what gifts you have?

Some are teachers, some are singers, some can lead, some can preach, some can console others, some are good at bringing people together, some are good listeners. Sometimes we grow up knowing our gifts, while sometimes, gifts only show themselves later in life.

But please notice how Paul doesn't say that some gifts are a lot more important than others. Our tendency is to believe that some people outrank others because they are more gifted. Not in the church. Nobody outranks anybody in the Presbyterian Church. We are all blessed by a calling and with gifts, and nobody is qualified to say whose gifts are more or less important. This is why we don't have committee chairs, but instead have moderators, whose job it is to moderate committee discussions.

Elders, deacons, readers, pastors, moderators, musicians—these people have duties in the church, but they outrank no one. Sometimes the rest of the world tries to live out the idea that nobody is better than anybody else. And that is great. But in the Presbyterian Church, it's how we live every day.

Maybe next Sunday you can look around the room and begin to identify the gifts of others—try to see the value in every other person there. And then do the same thing for yourself.

Blessings,

Brian Jones

At its January 9, 2023 meeting, the Session approved:

- * moving four members to Other Participant and sending letters to two others;
- * making changes to the Policies and Procedures Manual relative to the Endowment Committee;
- * replacing the lighting behind the sanctuary cross;
- * revising policies and forms for use of the River of Hope Youth Center;
- * installing new members during worship on January 22;
- * installing new officers during worship on January 29;
- * Communion schedule for 2023; and
- * Holding a potluck meal following the annual meeting on January 22.

In addition, the Session:

- Was informed of funds being received from a deceased member’s estate;
- Was informed that Bob Hinderks will perform custodian duties during the summer of 2023;
- Appointed Nancy Birkeland to serve as Clerk for 2023 and Jerry Bents to serve as Treasurer for 2023; and
- Assigned Elders to serve on the following committees:
 Christian Education, Youth and Families—Deb Ficek and Allison Johnson
 Finance—Greg Mulder and Liz Windingstad
 Mission Engagement—Dee Schurman
 Personnel—Kristene Foreman
 Property—Steve Barney and Bob Sampson
 Technology—Wally Titus

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FINANCE REPORT

	Year to Date	Year to Date	Monthly Average
	December	12/31/2022	
Income	\$39,625.55	\$270,734.40	\$22,561.20
Expenses	\$21,275.75	\$276,853.55	\$23,071.13
Net Profit (Loss)	\$18,349.80	(\$6,119.15)	
Income Needed to Cover Monthly Budgeted Expenses			\$25,277.35
Per Capita Assessment for 2022			\$8,256.00
Per Capita Paid by Members Through 12/31/2022			\$4,216.00

Jerry Bents, Treasurer

HOPE'S HAPPENINGS!

****The Bathroom Remodeling has begun, on January 30th! They will be doing the bathrooms by the offices, so plastic will be up and traffic will be limited to workers only. So therefore, we will have the outside door by the offices locked on Sunday mornings due to safety for everyone. Please enter using the front door of church or the side door leading to the Fireside Room. During the week, the door will be open for the workers, but everyone else should enter thru the Fireside Room door also. The remodeling will take at least three weeks.**

****"Light of the World" will be held at 7:00 pm on Sunday, February 5th. This is an ecumenical evening prayer service written and composed by Carol Meier from the Eagle Lake Lutheran Church by Willmar. Stay and enjoy coffee and treats after the service.**

****Fat Tuesday Pancake Supper, February 21st, 5:30-6:30 pm, followed by a Presentation by Earl Knutson on "Presbytery Climate Change". All men and women are invited to stay!**

**** Ash Wednesday service will be at 7:00 p.m. on Ash Wednesday, February 22nd.**

****Soup-n-Bread suppers will start on March 1st at 5:45 pm with Group 1 in the kitchen, March 8th Group 2, March 15th Group 3, March 22nd Group 4 and March 29th all groups.**

****HPW will be having a Table Setting fundraiser event on Saturday, April 15th in the Fellowship Hall. This event will be replacing the Rummage Sale this year, so the money raised will be used for mission projects. Volunteers are needed to provide dishes, silverware and napkins for 8 place settings, plus a centerpiece. White lace tablecloths are available for the round tables. You may team up with a friend or relative and sign up in the Fellowship Hall. The goal is to have 8-10 tables. Group 4 is responsible for the kitchen and all service groups will assist with donations for food. Please be thinking about this event—a sign up sheet will be available later this month.**

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To our Church Family,

Shar and I would like to Thank You for all the cards, phone calls and prayers for us when we had our previous medical problems.

We are so fortunate to belong to a church family like ours!

Also, Thank You to Pastor Brian for his visits and prayers.

It's good to be back!!

Eldy Williams



Christian Education Youth and Families

“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

A New Thing

Is God doing a new thing in us, now? I think in some sense, God is doing a new thing in us constantly.

Many, if not most churches in the Midwest are struggling right now. They are struggling with being relevant, numbers in the pews, “young” people in church, finding pastors to serve churches, and the list goes on. These struggles come with furrowed brows and worry. This is understandable. But change is not always a bad thing. Sometimes it is a good, exciting thing.

There is a Presbytery-wide youth retreat planned for Feb. 10-11. This is a new thing for us. There is excitement and also a fair amount of trepidation as the event is planned. The hope is that young people in our Minnesota Valleys Presbytery will gather together to learn and grow in their faith and to share that faith with their peers. Maybe they will meet new friends or connect with old friends from camp or other events. Perhaps kids who feel alone in their churches either figuratively or realistically will find kinship and be bolstered and renewed. This new thing is exciting!

Minnesota Valleys Presbytery Youth Retreat

February 10-11, 2023

Friday 7:00pm to Saturday at 1:00pm

Grab a friend and COME ON!

It will be very

COOL!



Who: Current 6th-12th graders

**Where: First Presbyterian Church
312 6th St. SW Willmar, MN**

Cost: \$15/person, \$30 max. for families

Contacts: Paul Snyder- psnyder100@gmail.com

Tyann Jones-chred.hopepc@outlook.com

Jill Boeyink – jill.fpcwillmar@gmail.com

CEYF Goings On:

January 25 All the youth went to Rockin' Wednesday at Prairie Woods Environmental Learning Center for a 2- hour program on team building and rock wall climbing.

January 29 WOW students joined the choir in singing "Count Your Blessings" during church.

Fridge Bridge

(hang this schedule on your refrigerator)

February 1 Family Meal – 5:45 pm

February 10-11 Presbytery Youth Retreat

February 21 Fat Tuesday Pancake Supper 5:30-6:30 pm

February 22 Ash Wednesday - Fish banks handed out – due back on Palm Sunday

Saturday Christian Education Youth and Families Committee

March 11 Retreat from **8:00-10:00 a.m.** at the River of Hope Youth Center-**Coffee** and breakfast provided

Thursday Family/Congregation movie night from 6:00-8:00 or so

March 16 River of Hope Youth Center – pizza and popcorn provided

Friday No School

March 17

March 22 No Wednesday night classes – spring break

April 2 Palm Sunday – fish banks are due

WOW students singing in church

Note: NO Family Meal on March 1 or April 5

Respectfully submitted by Tyann Jones



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!



LISA BOWLAND

Lisa lives in Waite Park and is an Intake Specialist at the Central MN Mental Health Center. She has 3 children: Jacob, Justin & Mackenzie. She is Mike Carlson's significant other and comes to Hope by Profession of Faith.

TOM GJERDE

Tom lives in New London with his wife, Sandy Ardoff. He has 2 children: Troy & Monte. He is retired and comes to Hope by Certificate of Transfer from Mamrelund Lutheran Church in Pennock.



KAREN HAGEMEI

Karen lives by Spicer with her husband Lloyd. She has 2 children: Minda & Tige. She is retired and comes to Hope by Profession of Faith.



DAVE & KATHY TERPSTRA

Dave & Kathy live by Brooten. They have 2 children: Lisa & Jan. They are both retired and come to Hope by Certificate of Transfer from Harrison Presbyterian Church.



JASON WINDINGSTAD

Jason lives by Lake Andrew with his wife Liz.

He is self-employed and comes to Hope by Profession of Faith.

Chili Cook-off Fundraiser

(Proceeds go towards the restrooms remodel project)

**Sunday,
February 19th
After Worship
Free-will donation**



Sign up in the Fellowship Hall to bring a pot of chili!
(We also need people to sign up to bring
a pan of cornbread or a dessert.)

Amazing prizes for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place will be awarded!

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Fat Tuesday Pancake Supper with sausages & scrambled eggs

**Tuesday,
February 21st
5:30 p.m.**





January 2023 Updates

2022 brought big change as we said goodbye to our Executive Director, Chasity Ommodt. Chasity served The Link as the Outreach Director for 6 years before becoming the director in 2019. She moved with her family to sunny Arizona, but continues to provide support and answer questions to ensure a smooth transition. We miss her, but wish her the best on her new adventure and know her passion and love for The Link will always remain and her connection to our community will always be strong.

In 2022, The Link was able to serve 60 families with common household needs with our **Household Exchange Program**. The Household Exchange program takes in donations to provide families when they are getting back on their feet.

On average throughout 2022, **The Food Pantry** served 64 households monthly (including, on average, 95 adults, 52 children and 25 seniors) and distributed a total of 40,481 pounds of food. The need of food has increased significantly the past couple months, requiring The Link to increase their food budget to meet the needs of the people served.

The Wildcat Backpack Program is currently serving 84 children. Each week, students from the NLS High School pack the bags and deliver them to each school to ensure our students nutritional needs are met on the weekends when they are not in school. If you know a family that could benefit from this program, please have them call Ashley at 320-354-5555 or Vicki Mickelson at NLS schools at 320-354-2252 ext. 2607.

The Link's **Client Outreach** program served 86 families in 2022 by helping with medical bills, utility bills and rental payments. This program also connected families with financial resources outside of The Link to help with bigger bills and necessities, including housing for homeless families. With the communities support, we were also able to help 78 families with our Christmas Joy program.

Tuesday's Table: Tuesday's Table is officially back! The schedule is as follows: 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: Rotating (call 320-354-5555 for more information)

As always, a HUGE THANK YOU to those who have donated food and/or monetarily and to those who have prayed for and with us here at The Link! With the increased need for food and in client outreach, we are asking for your continued support- financially and prayerfully.

Volunteer Opportunities: In 2022, our amazing and dedicated volunteers put in over 4,620 hours to keep our programs running smoothly. If you are interested in volunteering (on-call or on a more consistent basis), there are many opportunities available. Please call Ashley at 320-354-5555 for more information! Our wonderful volunteers are the center of our mission and we could not do what we do without them. Many relationships have been built through volunteering (there is never a lack of laughs and fun with them and their support in and outside of The Link is something we are forever grateful for.)

Monthly Giving Opportunities:

The Link makes monthly giving a convenient option for our donors. You can set up online giving through The Link's website at www.youarethelink.org or directly through your bank. If you would like to make a one time donation, you can send a check to P.O. Box 823, New London, MN 56273 or via Venmo @The-Link-1. Please contact Ashley at 320-354-5555 or email her at ashley@youarethelink.org for more information.

Lay Readers:

February 5: Open

February 12: Sue Block

February 19: Larry Bratsch

February 26: Open

HPW News

We will be having a HPW meeting on Tuesday, February 7th at 6:30 pm. Please come and join us! Also, all women and men, please join us as we have Earl Knutson giving a presentation on "Presbytery Climate Change" after the Pancake Supper on Feb. 21st.

FEBRUARY CARE PANTRY DONATION CHALLENGE!

Body Wash for Adults



Body Wash for Kids



Coffee Servers

February 5th: Joni Lamphere & Eli

February 12th: Jody & Jerry Leason

February 19th: Sherry & Larry Bratsch

February 26th: Pat & Bob Hinderks



**Members with Health Concerns:**

Arlos Jones, Judy Heath

Family and Friends with Health Concerns:

Josh Gravley

Kaitlyn (Lisa Thorson's niece)

Kim (Friend of Sherry Bratsch)

Joanna Hanson (Helmstetter's niece)

Sandy Aalderks

Grieving:

Family of Jerry Harder, Family of Julie Evans (Joanne Ryks' Daughter)

Care Facilities:

Gary Anfinson (Bethesda-Willmar), David Carlson (Bethesda North Pointe), Jeanette Gault (GlenOaks), Bob Sietsema (Bethesda North Pointe), 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, violence in schools, mass shootings

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

For those affected by natural disasters, COVID-19 pandemic

For those serving in the military in Ukraine and elsewhere

February Deacons of the Month: Bob & Julie Ehrlich

**HOPE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
7730 NORTH SHORE DRIVE
SPICER, MN 56288**

PHONE: 320-796-2650

E-MAIL: hopepres@gmail.com

WEBSITE: <http://hopechurchspicer.org>

RADIO: KGLH 96.9 FM

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



2023

Office Hours

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

***Monday thru Thursday**

SUNDAYS

9:15 A.M. Coffee

10:00 A.M. Worship

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