

2023



HOPE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

# Hope Scope

*Then turning to the disciples, Jesus said to them privately, “Blessed are the eyes that see what you see! For I tell you that many prophets and kings desired to see what you see, but did not see it, and to hear what you hear, but did not hear it.”*

**Luke 10:23-24 (NRSV)**

You and I are blessed. This is true in many ways, of course, but look at Jesus’ words here in Luke’s Gospel. Jesus’ disciples are given eyes to see things that others do not see. That means that they (we!) can see things others cannot. We have seen things that many in the history of the world longed to see, but never did. Even Kings and prophets sought to see what we see, but never did.

Every time we see the Spirit at work in the world—every time we see the light of Christ shining, every time we see the love of Christ passed on to another, we are seeing something that some cannot see, and that others had longed to see. It is a gift.

And we know that God gives us gifts out of love, for sure. But also, God has God’s own purposes. And so what, besides love, does God hope to achieve in granting us these eyes that see?

Our theology tells us that God’s grace and goodness always come first, and that our good works arise out of our thankfulness for that grace and goodness. We love because God first loved us. (1John 4:19) We serve because we have been served. We give because we have been given to. We forgive because God has forgiven us.

It finally seems like we are (maybe) done with winter, though as I write this, frost is predicted up north! But can we look out at beauty and glory of a Minnesota springtime? Can we see the love we all share together on Sunday mornings? Can we see how great it is when the children of this church seem to begin grasping the idea of Jesus’ love and all that has been done for them? Can we see God’s blessings in our own families, our circle of friends, our safety and security, our earthly possessions? Can we see these things? We can, because God has given us eyes to see them.

The only danger is that we could become so accustomed to having blessing after blessing laid in our lap, that we will fail to notice. And that is the same as not having eyes to see.

I hope you can find a way, every day, to celebrate all the goodness God has shown to you, and I hope you can find ways to live out your gratefulness for all of God’s goodness.

Blessings,

***Brian Jones***

At its May 1st meeting, the Session approved the following:

- \* Reviewed the Seven Marks of Vital Congregations from the Presbyterian Mission Theology, Formation & Evangelism, Vital Congregations Revitalization Initiative;
- \* Was informed that if each active member gave \$36.27 per week, the church would meet its budget;
- \* Received and accepted the 2022 Financial Records Review performed by Bill Schurman and Gaylord Lind;
- \* Approved collecting a \$200 damage deposit for anyone using the River of Hope Youth Center, to be returned if no damage occurs;
- \* Approved the following Mission Statement for the Christian Education, Youth and Families Committee:  
 Through Christ, at Hope Presbyterian, we meet people where they are, to provide opportunities for faith formation and growth, to help transform individuals to become who God created them to be.
- \* Made a recommendation to the Property Committee that it create a long-term facility maintenance plan.

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**FINANCE REPORT**

|  | Year to Date<br>April | Year to Date<br>04/30/2023 | Monthly Average |
|--|-----------------------|----------------------------|-----------------|
| Income   | \$21,288.43           | \$77,655.50                | \$19,413.88     |
| Expenses   | \$23,503.23           | \$100,897.36               | \$25,224.34     |
| Net Profit (Loss)                                | (\$2,214.80)          | (\$23,241.86)              |                 |
| Income Needed to Cover Monthly Budgeted Expenses |                       |                            | \$24,895.98     |
| Per Capita Assessment for 2023                   |                       |                            | \$8,494.08      |
| Per Capita Paid by Members Through 4/30/2023     |                       |                            | \$2,329.70      |

Jerry Bents, Treasurer

## **HOPE'S HAPPENINGS!**

### **JEWELRY DONATIONS NEEDED**

The Accessory Sisters would like jewelry donations for the Fall Harvest Festival on Saturday, October 14th. Please place them in the blue tote by the library.

### **GRADUATION PARTY**

Zac Schandorff's graduation party will be held at the River of Hope Youth Center on Saturday, June 3rd 1-4 pm.

### **ANNUAL MEATBALL SUPPER!**

Save the date! Our Annual Meatball Supper, a fundraiser for the youth attending Clearwater Forest Camp this summer, will be held on Friday, June 9th 4-7 PM. Cost is \$15 and Children 6-10 years old \$10. Menu includes meatballs, mashed potatoes & gravy, corn, coleslaw, homemade bread, homemade bars, lemonade, coffee and water.

### **PARADE FLOAT, DECORATORS, RIDERS, WALKERS NEEDED!**

Now that summer is almost upon us, we need to start planning our float for the Spicer and New London parades! We are looking for someone that would be willing to provide (and drive) a vehicle and trailer/boat/pontoon for our float. We will do the decorating! The dates of the parades are Tuesday, July 4th and Saturday, July 22nd-both in the morning, so you will be done by noon. We also need decorators, riders and walkers to hand out fliers. Please call Steph (320-220-1504) with any questions or to volunteer your help in any way. Everyone who participated last year had a blast!

### **Thank You!**

Thank you to the Deacons for the Dairy Queen gift card! It is really appreciated as I finish up my first year at Ridgewater. Anakin Haglund

Thank you church family, for helping me celebrate my high school graduation with your cards, gifts and presence. It's great to know I have such a great church family praying for me as I enter the next chapter in my life. Also, thank you for the use of the Youth Center. Isaac Haglund

## Christian Education Youth and Families

“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you.”  
Matthew 28:19-20a

Our last night of Wednesday night classes was May 10th. We visited the apartment residents at GlenOaks. The students talked with the residents and did a craft project together. It was an evening of special blessings with our friends.





## Fridge Bridge



gg103580369 GoGraph.com

**June 9th  
4:00-7:00 PM**

**Annual Meatball Supper All hands  
on deck! We need volunteers to make  
this a successful fund raiser to help send  
kids to Clearwater Forest Camp.**

**June 11th -13th Mission Trip to Minneapolis for TAG  
students, with Pastor Brian and Tyann**



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**June 14th  
6:00-8:00 PM**

**The First of our Family Fun Festivals  
Everyone is welcome. Lesson: The Burning Bush**



**July 4th 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade in Spicer. We will have a float in  
the parade again this year!**





# Family Fun Festivals

Food, activities, Bible lessons, and games for the whole family.

Where: River of Hope Youth Center

When: 6:00-8:00 PM

Who: Our church family and anyone else from our community

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Come to **Adventure Island** and join our quest for God's Great Light through Bible stories.



**JUNE 14**

The Burning Bush

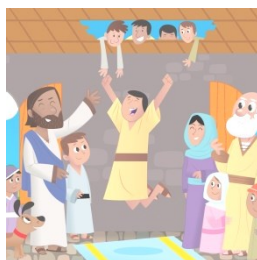
Exodus 3:1-20



**JULY 12**

Faith Through the Roof

Luke 5-17-26



**AUGUST 9**

The "Lost" Parables

Luke 15



# Thank you!



Thank you for signing up to help at the Meatball Supper to be held **June 9<sup>th</sup> from 4:00-7:00**. Your help is appreciated! The money raised helps send our youth to Clearwater Forest Bible Camp. Camp is an important part of our children's faith formation. It is a big job to host this fundraiser and we couldn't do it without YOU! If you want to help and have not signed up yet, please check the sign-up sheets in the Fellowship Hall.

**Meatball Supper Committee:**

**Stephanie Bents, Karen Bents  
Pastor Brian and Tyann Jones  
Amanda Titus, Sue Block  
Joni Lamphere**

**CEYF Report respectfully submitted by Tyann Jones**

## May 2023 Updates



**SAVE THE DATE!!!! RibFest 2023** is scheduled for **June 10, 2023** from 2pm-5pm in the large city parking lot behind The Link! If you are interested in having a Rib team, please contact Ashley at 320-354-5555! There will be volunteer opportunities for the day of RibFest! If you would like to volunteer, please let us know!

**TICKETS FOR RIBFEST ARE NOW ON SALE! They can be purchased at The Link or Community Revival or by going online: <http://youarethelink.org/ribfest> to place an order. There are 2 options: \$25 tasting ticket (5 ribs and a piece of pie) or \$50 VIP ticket (10 ribs, pie and a drink).**

**Silent Auction items still needed for RibFest!** We have decided to bring back the silent auction to RibFest this year! If you have anything you would like to donate to this, please call Shawna at 320-347-1047. We will also have chance drawings for 2 big ticket items and live music!

**Volunteer Opportunities:** If you or someone you know would like to be a part of The Link's mission and volunteer at the **Community Revival Boutique and Thrift**, we are looking for extra help on-call and on a consistent basis (mostly Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays). Our store hours are 10-3 Wednesday-Friday and 10-2 Saturdays. Our current volunteers are amazing and have a great time together building friendships. The Food Pantry is also looking for volunteers to help serve families and to help pick up food rescue food from Cashwise and ALDI (Food Rescue is picked up on Monday's). If you'd like to join the fun, call Shawna at 320-347-1047 or Ashley at 320-354-5555.

In April, The Link was able to serve 14 families with common household needs with our **Household Exchange Program**. The Household Exchange program takes in donations such as smaller furniture, bedding, towels, kitchen utensils, pots and pans etc. to provide families when they are getting back on their feet.

**The Food Pantry continues to see an increase in need** and served 106 households in April (including: 158 adults, 110 children and 37 seniors) and distributed a total of 6403 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 93 children. Each week, students from the NL-S High School pack bags to each school to ensure our students nutritional needs are met on the weekends. 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 6 families in March by helping with transportation, medical bills, utility bills and rental payments. This program also provided advocacy for 6 families, In-depth budgeting support for 11 families, networking for 6 families and provided 14 families with referrals for additional assistance to meet basic needs.

**Tuesday's Table's** schedule is as follows: 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of the month: Our Lady of the Lakes (Spicer), 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday: Evangelical Covenant (New London), 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday: Faith Lutheran (Spicer), 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday: Peace Lutheran (New London), 5<sup>th</sup> 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.

### 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](http://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](mailto:ashley@youarethelink.org) for more information.



## “Blessing Box”

Some of you may have noticed a new small structure that has been placed by the Education Wing door. You might be wondering what this is all about. The Mission Engagement Committee, with the Session’s approval, has installed a Blessing Box.

**What is a Blessing Box?** This structure is intended to be a blessing to those who are struggling with food insecurities when The Link or the Food Shelf is not open. It is also an opportunity for our congregation and community to bless others.

**What goes into a Blessing Box?** Bibles, Children’s Bible story books and non-perishable shelf stable pantry items (no expired items please.)

**Anyone can contribute.** Simply place the items in the Blessing Box. If it’s full, there will be a tote under the mailboxes in the Fellowship Hall for you to place your items. Then, the Blessing Box can be filled whenever it gets low on products.

**Anyone can be blessed!** However, we are limiting the recipients to just three items at a time, since this is meant to be a temporary solution until The Link or the Food Shelf is once again open.

Please prayerfully consider participating in this exciting new outreach. It is definitely a great way to:

**“Bless or Be Blessed!”**



### Lay Readers:

June 4th 8:30 am & 10:00 am  
Kathryn Frazee

June 11th 8:30 am  
10:00 am Sue Block

June 18th 8:30 am  
10:00 am

June 25th 8:30 am  
10:00 am

### June CARE Pantry Challenge is.....

### Laundry Detergent



### HPW

Just a reminder that during the summer months, we will be having Craft Nights:

June 6th  
July 11th  
August 1st

### Coffee Servers

June 4: Tyann Jones & Joni Lamphere  
June 11: Sherry Bratsch  
June 18: Bev & Howard Jones, Kathy & Dave Terpstra  
June 25: Pat & Bob Hinderks



**Members with Health Concerns:**

Karen Hagemeyer, Audrey Dean, Bob Sietsema, Bob Hinderks, Ed Johnston, Dick Lindahl

**Family and Friends with Health Concerns:**

Jerry Hunter (Friends of Pastor Brian & Tyann)      Joleen (Doreen Mitchell's daughter)

Dale Jones

**Grieving:**

Family of Phyllis Allen, Family of Gary Anfinson (Funeral will be Friday, June 16th at 11:00 am with visitation June 15th 5-7 pm here at church plus 1 hour prior to the service)

**Care Facilities:**

David Carlson (Bethesda North Pointe), Jeanette Gault (GlenOaks), Betty Harder (Bethesda North Pointe), Ed Johnston (GlenOaks Apts.), Arlos Jones (GlenOaks Apts.), 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

**June Deacons of the Month: Julie & Bob Ehrlich**

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7730 NORTH SHORE DRIVE  
SPICER, MN 56288**

**PHONE: 320-796-2650**

**E-MAIL: [hopepres@gmail.com](mailto:hopepres@gmail.com)**

**WEBSITE: <http://hopechurchspicer.org>**

**RADIO: KGLH 96.9 FM**



**2023**

**SUNDAYS**

**Office Hours**

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

**\*Monday thru Thursday**

**8:30 A.M. Outdoor worship  
in the Hopewood Chapel**

**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