



2026

Hope Scope

*I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart;
I will tell of all your wonderful deeds. I will be glad and exult in you;
I will sing praise to your name, O Most High.*

Psalm 9:1-2 (NRSV)

It's not a bad idea to read through the Psalms every now and then. It is thought that the Psalms are probably something like a hymnbook for worship in the temple and synagogue. And if you read the Gospels, you will see that Jesus quotes from them pretty regularly.

Psalm 9 starts with a thanksgiving. In difficult or uncertain times, thanksgiving can be really helpful. Giving thanks reminds us of God's gifts and God's care for us in the past. It is the easiest thing in the world to forget about the good things of the past and present when we are worried about the future.

One thing I am really grateful for - and I hope you are too - is Hope Presbyterian Church. I read the other day that about 4,000 churches close in the US each year. Many observers believe that number will remain high, so that in the next 25 years, perhaps 100,000 churches will close.

Think of the heartache and loss all those closures must bring about. We cannot overstate how important this church of ours is. It is a haven when we are feeling battered. It is a source of constancy and reassurance. It is a place to gather with family and friends. It is an avenue that allows us all to share the love of God, by being involved in the mission of Christ in the world. It is a sanctuary where we can gather to hear and remember the Good News of God's love for us. It is the place we go to take part in the sacraments of Baptism and the Lord's Supper. It is the place where the next generations will learn about God, God's love, and God's will for them and for all creation.

(Continued to next page...)

We could go on and on about how important Hope Church is to us, but I wonder if you ever think about how important it is to others. Not only do we carry out really significant mission projects to the community and the larger world, but this church also forms us to go out into that world as a certain sort of people - people for whom love for God and neighbor are the highest priorities.

If you have ever wondered whether the money, time, and energy you pour into this church matters, I will tell you that it does. It matters to the community, and to the world, and I feel confident in saying that it matters to God.

Great work, everybody! Let's keep it up.

~ Blessings, *Brian Jones*

Due to the way the Session meeting landed on the calendar, there will be no Session highlights for the month of April. Please stay tuned to June's Hope Scope for April's Session meeting highlights.



FINANCE REPORT

	Month of March 2026	Year to Date Monthly Avg.	Year to Date March 2026	Prior Year to Date March 2025
Income	\$ 23,731.27	\$ 20,615.20	\$ 61,845.59	\$ 65,426.89
Expenses	\$ 26,356.83	\$ 24,673.22	\$ 74,019.66	\$ 72,057.00
Net Profit	(\$ 2,625.56)		(\$ 12,174.07)	(\$ 6,630.11)
Income Needed to Cover Monthly Budgeted Expenses				\$ 27,674.40
Per Capita Assessment for 2026				\$ 7,144.00
Per Capita Paid by Members Through 03/31/2026				\$ 2,468.00

Report prepared by Kristene King, Treasurer

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



April 2026 Impact Report

BE THE LIGHT
BE THE LINK
Matthew 5:16



THE LINK APPAREL IS OFFICIALLY FOR SALE!!!!

WEAR THE MISSION. SHARE THE HOPE
A SMALL PURCHASE THAT MAKES A BIG DIFFERENCE



\$20/ea

Sz: XS-5XL

When you wear this shirt, you're doing more than showing support- you're helping connect families in the community to food, resources, and hope.

CALLED TO SERVE. DESIGNED TO GIVE BACK

SAVE THE DATE:



**JUNE 6,
2026**

2PM-5PM

**TICKETS SALES START MAY 1ST
AT THE LINK & ONLINE & WILL BE
AVAILABLE THE DAY OF THE EVENT!**

SILENT AUCTION - RAFFLE DRAWING-LIVE MUSIC

DELICIOUS RIBS & PIE

RIB TEAMS NEEDED!

If you enjoy smoking ribs, grab your friends and smoke them for a cause at The Link's biggest fundraiser of the year!

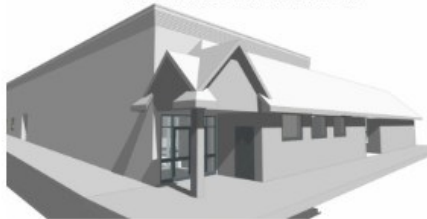
SILENT AUCTION

ITEMS NEEDED

If you would like to donate a basket, an item for a basket or monetarily for The Link staff to purchase items to fill a basket, please email director@youarethelink.org

**JOIN THE LINK'S
CAPITAL CAMPAIGN**

The Link Renewed



The Link has launched its capital campaign for building renovations! The estimated cost for these much needed renovations is \$365,000! The Link's goal is to raise \$200,000 to go toward these renovations!

DONOR WALL OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE!

To be a part of The Link's Legacy, contact Ashley at 320-354-5465

YOUR IMPACT

219

families served in the Food Pantry

14,348

pounds of food distributed

167

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

382

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

62

families provided with household needs, including:
clothing, dishes, furniture

18

provided with financial support to families facing hardships. This support includes, but is not limited to: medical bills, prescription costs, utility bills, rent/mortgage payments and other basic needs.

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

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR
CONTINUED SUPPORT!!!!**

YOU are The Link!

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

- Silent Auction donations for Ribfest
- Household essentials (dishes, sheets, small furniture items, etc.)
- Gently used clothing (any size)
- Unexpired food donations
- Monetary donations to The Link's general fund
- Donations to The Link's Capital Campaign for needed building renovations
- Pray for The Link & your community
- Invite The Link's staff to attend a business or church meeting, book club or any group event to help spread awareness of The Link's programs

MORE NEWS:

The Link will soon have "Link" apparel for sale at Community Revival!!!

Please stay tuned for more fun ways to support The Link's mission!

The 2025 annual report is off to the printers and will be mailed out as soon as they arrive!

The Link now has a video describing each of our programs! It will be posted on our website soon!

To purchase your tee, to register a rib team, for more info on The Link or to donate, scan the QR code and visit us online!



Christian Education Youth & Families

Respectfully submitted by Tyann Jones

“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to give you hope and a future.” Jeremiah 29:1

Congratulations to our high school graduates:

Blake Sampson, Grace Gau, and Isaac Taatjes

They were honored in church on April 26th.

Isaac Taatjes spoke at the Baccalaureate Service. He recited the scripture verse, 1st John 4:19 “We love because God first loved us.” Isaac told what the verse meant to him on the 2025 Belize mission trip and how it continues to affect his life.



**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.**

**Graduation Party information:
Sunday, May 24th from 4-7pm
At 10460 North Shore Drive, Spicer**



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

**Graduation Party information:
Saturday, May 30th from 2-5pm
At 4801 Hwy 9 NE, New London**

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

**Graduation Party information:
Saturday, May 30th from 12-3pm
At the River of Hope Youth Center
7730 North Shore Drive, Spicer**



Christian Education Leaders 2025-2026

W.O.W.

Preschool- Second Grade

Wally Titus, Sue Schiro

Substitutes: Alisa Taatjes, Larry Bratsch

Third Grade – Sixth Grade

Joni Lamphere, Sarah Sampson

Pre-confirmation

Jonelle Foreman

T.A.G.

Seventh Grade – Twelfth Grade

Jason and Liz Windingstad

Kelli and Matt Haglund

Subs - Pastor Brian and Tyann Jones

Adult Bible Studies

Pastor Brian Jones

Christian Ed. Director and Opening Exercises

Tyann Jones

Music

Maggie Harp

Substitutes

Tyann Jones, Deb Ficek

Christian Education Youth & Families Committee

Tyann Jones, Deb Ficek, Allie Johnson, Alisa Taatjes, Joni Lamphere,

Melissa Mangen, Amanda Titus, Pam Sigafos, Maggie Harp,

Jonelle Foreman, Stephanie Bents, Brooke Appleby

Food Committees

Members of the Christian Education Youth and Families Committee,
Carol Sampson, Pam Sigafos, Dee Schurman, Robin Mulder
Liz and Jason Windingstad, Kelli Haglund

Secretary/Sound Booth

Stephanie Bents

Thank you!

Thank you for being a **“LIGHT”** for Hope Presbyterian Church!
Your hard work, dedication, and love for the Gospel and our Hope Family
is noted and appreciated!

Jesus Lights Our Way!

“I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in
darkness but will have the light of life.” John 8:12

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Thank you to the “Holy Rollers” who came to wrap silverware and set
tables for our Meatball Supper on April 24th. Charlotte DeLong had to
leave early. More meatball supper pictures will be coming.



**We did a new thing this year.
We had a meal and a short worship service every
Wednesday before the kids went to
regular classes.**

**We had a wonderful time of
good food, fellowship, and
an extra mid-week faith boost!**

**Pictured are the Three Musketeers:
George Appleby, Jack Cronen,
Eli Twernbold**

Fridge Bridge

MAY

- 6 Last day of Wednesday night classes. Meal at 5:30
Food committee will grill hot dogs and hamburgers
Congregational Potluck: The families bring the side dishes and desserts
to go with the grilled food.
Quiz bowl for students; Fun outside activity for ALL
- 10 Mother's Day
- 12 CEYF Committee meeting at 6:30
- 15-17 Clearwater Forest Work Weekend
- 17 NLS Graduation
- 25 Memorial Day

JUNE

- 9 CEYF meeting at 6:30pm
- 14 Church picnic at Games Lake – potluck meal at 12:30
EVERYONE WELCOME!
- 21 Father's Day

NEW WINE PRESENTS



A JOYOUS AND INSPIRATIONAL MUSICAL ABOUT PARENTS, CHILDREN AND FAITH... NOT TO MENTION CENTURIES OF UNRESOLVED FAMILY BUSINESS!

**PERFORMANCE: SATURDAY, JUNE 6, 2026 AT 6:30 PM
AT PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH - NEW LONDON
COST: FREE WILL DONATION**

Grandchildren of Jerry & Karen Bents, Jeremiah and Ashlyn, will be performing in this musical.

New Wine is sponsored by Zion Lutheran Church located in Cloquet, MN (about 15 miles south of Duluth). New Winers are high school students grades 9-12 from area schools and area churches of all Christian backgrounds. Starting in January, they meet on Sunday afternoons to work on that year's musical. In May, they begin performing for area churches, and in June, they embark on a 10 day, cross country tour performing at churches along the way. This year, there are 30 members who will be touring and performing from Minnesota to West Yellowstone, WY. This year marks the 34th year of New Wine youth ministry at Zion; you can see more about the group on Zion's website: <https://zioncloquet.org/ministries/new-wine-musical> Please invite your family and friends to attend!



Coffee & Conversation

Join us on Monday mornings at 10:00!
It's always a celebration and a great time together!



Light of the World

For the past few years, the Light of the World evening service has been rotating among area churches, usually one Sunday evening a month. On April 19th, we hosted the gathering. It was well attended, and much enjoyed. It was a great occasion to engage in meaningful song and prayer and also to worship and visit with people from other churches. And the snacks afterward were terrific!



Light of the World Fellowship - April 19, 2026

May's CARE Pantry Challenge products are..... Birthday Kit items!

These items include: disposable 9x13 cake pan with cover, cake mix, frosting, plates, napkins, tablecloth, balloons, candles, medium sized birthday gift bag, and a can of pop. Please place your donations on the table in front of the mailboxes or in the CARE Pantry box by the mailboxes. Thank you!



A huge thank you to all who attended the dinner theater fundraiser. Everyone seemed to have a fun time and enjoyed the food and comedy. We made just over \$3300.00 for our trip! Thank you so much for your support!

~ The Belize 2027 Mission Trip team

Thank you to the congregation of Hope for collecting 90 lbs of food for our clients. We can't help feed the hungry without your support!

Thank you,
~ The staff at the Link

Thank you to our family at Hope for all the cards, thoughts, and prayers following the passing of my sister, Kim, and my daughter's father-in-law, Paul. It truly means the world to us.

~ Joni, Jeff & Eli

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!



What Presbyterian Women Do

Presbyterian Women understands that scripture asks us to be the hands and feet of Christ in the world. As such, Presbyterian Women provides information about justice and peace and ministry to inform mission and community-building work. [LEARN MORE](#)



Nurture Faith



Support Mission



Work For Justice and Peace



Build Community



Develop Leaders

Our Purpose:

Forgiven and freed by God in Jesus Christ, and empowered by the Holy Spirit, we commit ourselves

to nurture our faith through prayer and Bible study,
to support the mission of the church worldwide,
to work for justice and peace, and
to build an inclusive, caring community of women that strengthens the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and witnesses to the promise of God's kingdom.

Hope Presbyterian Circle II Group

As the first commitment of the PW Purpose states: “we are to nurture our faith through prayer and Bible study.” To further align with this purpose, Hope Church has a PW Bible Study or “Circle” group that meets 6 months during the year at the church at 7:00 pm.

This year we are using the PW/Horizons Bible Study, the first six lessons. Handouts are available for anyone wishing to join us.

Circle Dates for 2026:

Meetings are held at the church at 7:00 pm in the Fireside room

May 7 - Lesson One: Mary Magdalene, the Tower

June 11 - Lesson Two: Mary “of a Certain Village”

July 9 - Lesson Three: Jesus Is Tested

August 13 - Lesson Four: The Prodigal Child, the Eldest Child, and the Devoted Parent

September 10 - Lesson Five: The Gift of the Woman Who Was Poor

October 8 - Lesson Six: Finding Our Joy in Christ: I Will Say It Again, Rejoice

All are invited to join in on the Circle II Bible Studies!



Construction will start sometime during the month of May (hopefully sooner rather than later), so just a little update on the plan of how things will work during construction. Since the Fellowship Hall is the main area of construction, there will be temporary construction walls put up. Please do not go behind these walls, as you may get hurt if something falls on you.

On Sunday mornings, we will still have coffee in the Fellowship Hall, but it will probably look a little different than normal. You will enter the church using the green side door that is by the Fireside room or the main door up by the sanctuary. The back door by the choir robes will probably remain locked during construction, since that is right by the construction area.

During the week, please use the far door up in the Christian Ed wing to enter the church. Pastor Brian and Steph will be moving their offices up by Tyann's office, so this door will become the main door during the week.

All entrances will be marked. If you aren't sure what door to use, just call the church office, and we will guide you in. Thank you for your cooperation while we spruce up the entrance to the church.



We will be sprucing up the church and yard from the winter and getting the chapel ready for the summer worship season on Saturday, May 9th from 8:00 am - 12:00 pm. There will be snacks provided! Please come ready to work! We have lots to do! Many hands make light work!

Office Hours

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

Sunday Schedule

8:30 A.M. Outdoor Worship in the Chapel
9:15 A.M. Fellowship Hour
10:00 A.M. Indoor Worship in the 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:

Dick Lindahl, Velda Jones, Wayne Thompson,
Celia Evenson, Arlos Jones, Elroy Jones,
Jason Bents

*Prayer
Requests*



Family and Friends with Health Issues:

Bev Gunther (Dick Lindahl's sister)

Grieving:

Family of Dan (Kyle Salvatora's uncle)

****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.

May Deacons of the Month: Sherry Bratsch & Jason Windingstad

May Coffee Servers

May 3rd: Pam Sigafoos & Nancy Birkeland

May 10th: Skylar & Kristene King

May 17th: Bob & Julie Ehrlich

May 24th: Harold & Jonelle Foreman

May 31st: Tim & Sue Block family (Tim's 70th birthday!)

