



Hope Scope

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

*Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change,
though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea,
though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble with its tumult.*

- Psalm 46:1-3 (NRSV)

As I write this, I am hearing the initial reports of the shooting at the Annunciation Catholic Church in Minneapolis. It is probably beyond most of us to be able to understand how anyone could do such a thing, or would think such a thing should happen. But with alarming regularity, in this country, people do decide that mass murder is their best option.

Here we have a faith community attacked. The children of faithful families were wounded and killed. It is hard to know how to think about such a thing. So many questions arise. There is so much pain and so much suffering.

One question that many might rightfully ask is: If this can happen to little children of faithful families, then is there even a God who makes a difference? Is there anything like a God that matters?

Jesus says that "[God] makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good and sends rain on the righteous and on the unrighteous." (Matthew 5:45) It is maybe not how we would have organized things had we been in charge.

And this is a hard time for us to begin to accept that over the centuries, what Christians have come to understand is not that good things happen to faithful people and bad things happen to everybody else, but that good and bad happen to everyone, and our God is with us through it all.

My hope is that this truth can bring you comfort. There is so much we humans could do to make the world a better place for children and adults, faithful and otherwise. We humans aren't all that steadfast or reliable. But our God is, and as little comfort as it might bring us, we do sleep tonight in the faith that God holds those little ones lost to violence in the palm of God's hand, even at this very moment.

I encourage you to pray for healing, not only for the wounded children and the devastated families, but also for a society that witnesses these horrific acts over and over again, and chooses to do nothing about them.

~ Blessings, Brian Jones

At its August 25th meeting, the Session:

- Received a report from Tyann Jones as the Presbytery's registrar for the Youth Triennium, along with thank you notes from the youth and adult chaperone who attended;
- Discussed the church's finances and a decline in envelope giving;
- Received and discussed three bids to remodel the East entry into church and how to move forward;
- Approved the curriculum, teachers, substitute teachers, schedule, and potluck meals to be held Wednesday evenings in 2025-2026;
- Approved selling the children's metal folding chairs and adult workout video/equipment found in the basement at the Fall Festival with the funds going to HPW; and
- Changed the Session meeting date for September to the 29th and changed the regular monthly meeting to the fourth Monday of each month starting October 27.



The following volunteered to serve communion on Sunday, September 7, 2025, at the 10:00 a.m. worship service: Steve Barney, Larry Bratsch, Deb Ficek, Jody Leason, and Liz Windingstad.

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FINANCE REPORT

		Year to Date	Year to Date
	July	7/31/2025	Monthly Average
Income	\$20,785.81	\$147,564.41	\$21,080.63
Expenses	\$22,655.56	\$163,919.89	\$23,417.13
Net Profit (Loss)	(\$1,869.75)	(\$16,355.48)	

Income Needed to Cover Monthly Budgeted Expenses	\$26,748.96
Per Capita Assessment for 2025	\$7,500.00
Per Capita Paid by Members Through 04/30/2025	\$4,068.00

Kristene King, Treasurer

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

September's CARE Pantry Challenge products are..... Baby Items!

Baby Wash, Baby Lotion, Baby Wipes, Diapers, and Pull-ups

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

Thank you!



A huge THANK YOU to all who helped take down the old sign and tear out shelving in the basement. We truly appreciate your help with these projects!

~ Property Committee



Christian Education Youth & Families

Respectfully submitted by Tyann Jones

Mission statement:

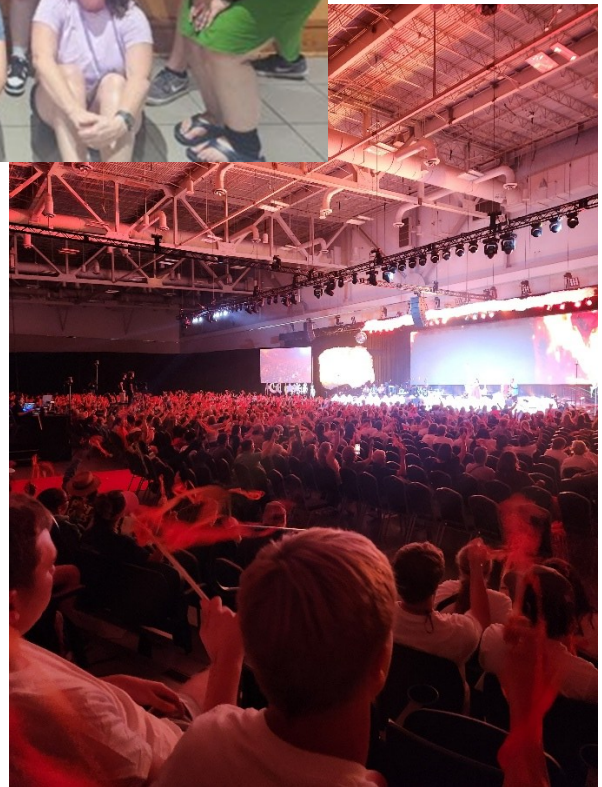
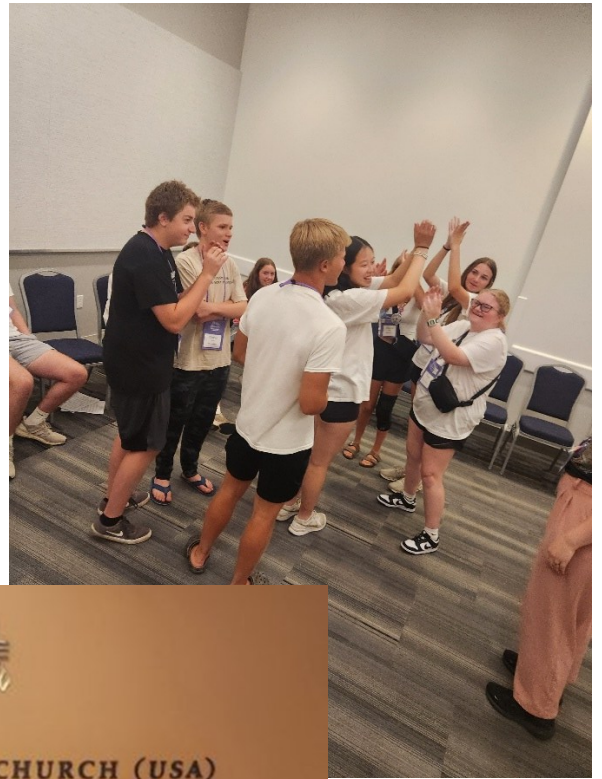
Through Christ, at Hope Presbyterian, we meet people where they are to provide opportunities for faith formation and growth to help transform individuals to become who God created them to be.

2025 Presbyterian Youth Triennium in Louisville Kentucky July 28-31
Theme: “As if We Were Dreaming”

Thank you to Hope Presbyterian Church for sponsoring our participants and to Minnesota Valleys Presbytery for sponsoring the transportation costs! It was a life-changing, fun and faith- filled week of connecting with God and other youth from all over our nation and world!



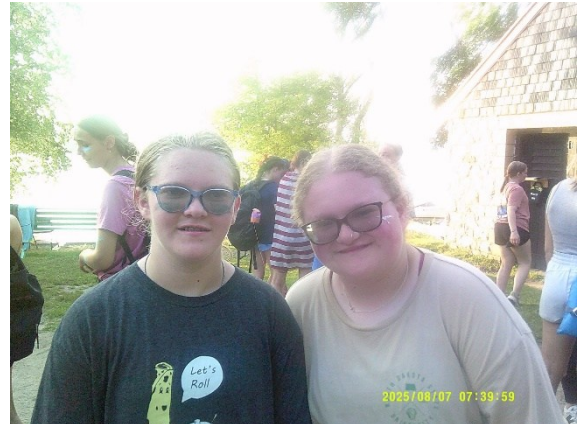
Participants:	Brooke Appleby, Blake Sampson, Isaac Taatjes, Shayla Sampson, Savannah Appleby, Evelyn Titus, Tyann Jones
Dream Team:	Alisa Taatjes, Tyann Jones
Com. Leader:	Brooke Appleby
Drivers to airport:	Alisa Taatjes, Amanda Titus, Pastor Brian Jones
Presbytery Registrar:	Tyann Jones
Candy man:	Tim Block – THANKS!!



Clearwater Forest Camp August 3-8, 2025

Theme for this year: "Born to Trust"

Thank you to Hope Church and all who assisted with the annual Meatball supper for helping send our kids to camp – a life changing, faith affirming adventure!



2025 Campers:

Isaac Taatjes, Shayla Sampson, Evelyn and Madelyn Titus, Eli Twernbold

Camp Liaison: Alisa Taatjes

You are invited to:
Hope Presbyterian Church Education Classes
where we will learn how

"Jesus Lights our Way!"



September 7- RALLY DAY

1. Hand out second grade Bible
2. Introduce students and teachers
3. Kids sing in church - "This Little Light of Mine"
4. Commission Christian Education Leaders during church
5. **Potluck** Meal and games after church
(Don't forget to bring an item to share for the meal!)
6. Kids' table and photo opportunity with the lighthouse

September 10

Return to Wednesday night classes with some exciting additions!!

- 5:30 Family meal – **every Wednesday**
- 6:00-6:20 Worship service for everyone, not just the kids! - **NEW**
- 6:20 WOW (preschool-Gr. 6)
- 6:30 TAG (Gr. 7-12)
- TBA Preconfirmation/confirmation classes

Adult Class starting in October

We will continue studying the gospel of John with Pastor Brian.



EXCITING CHANGES FOR THIS YEAR!!



1. There will be a family meal every Wednesday starting at 5:30 pm!
2. We are adding a short worship service every Wednesday from 6:00-6:20pm for everyone to attend, not just the kids, parents, and teachers.
3. We will utilize the River of Hope Youth Center whenever possible. The family meals and worship services are planned to be at the Youth Center for September and October.

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Fridge Bridge

September

- 3 Teacher training with Tyann – 5:30pm; meal provided
- 7 **Rally Day** - Commissioning Christian Education leaders, Kids sing in church
“**This Little Light of Mine**”, Introduce teachers, Potluck meal after church, Kids table for dinner, Games after dinner
- 9 Mission opportunity- help with Kandiyohi County Food Dist. – Assembly of God parking lot at 3:30; Kids to be picked up at school at 3:00.
- 10 **First night of classes**
Family meal at the Youth Center at 5:30: meal: grilled hotdogs - **NEW**
Worship service at the Youth Center 6:00-6:20 - **NEW**
WOW 6:20-7:15
TAG 6:30-7:30
- 21 Hand bells rehearsal at 8:50am
- 19-21 Clearwater Forest Camp Work Weekend
- 28 Hand bells rehearsal at 8:50am

October

- Family meal at the Youth Center at 5:30
Worship at the Youth Center 6:00-6:20
WOW 6:20-7:15
TAG 6:30-7:30
- 5 Handbell rehearsal at 8:50am
- 12 Handbells play in church
- 14 Mission opportunity - help with Kandiyohi County Food Distribution - Assembly of God parking lot in Willmar at 3:30; Tyann will pick up kids at school at 3:00.



Members with Health Issues:

Dee Norling, Arlos Jones, Bill Schurman, Jo Holm,
Wayne Thompson, Conny Williamson,
Daryl Taatjes, Eileen Helmstetter, John Williamson,
Ruth Birkeland

*Prayer
Requests*

**Family and Friends with Health Issues:**

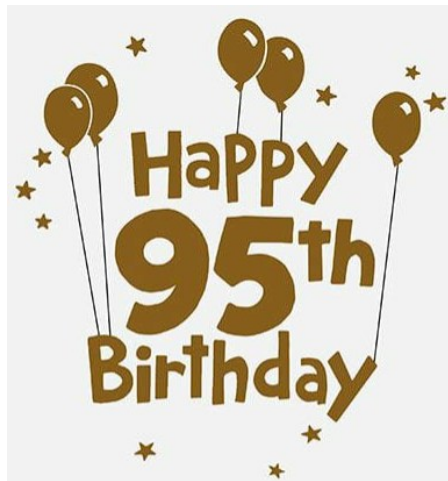
Greg Skinner (Virginia McKean's son-in-law)
Roxy Haugen (friend of the Leason's) Deb Sanderson (friend of Frank Peralta)
Tom Sand (relative of Bratberg's) Dan Dolan (Maggie's brother)

Grieving:

Families of the victims in the school shooting at Annunciation Catholic School, Family of Sandy Gregorson (friend of Steve Barney)

****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.

September Deacons of the Month: Gaylord Lind & Jackie Wahl

**Arlos Jones' 95th Birthday Party!!!**

Please join Arlos and his family in celebrating his 95th birthday on the afternoon of Sunday, September 21st from 2:00 - 4:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. He would love to have his church family celebrate his special day with him.

Happy birthday Arlos!

New Members Class

If you are interested in becoming a member of Hope Presbyterian Church or just want to see what it is all about, please join Pastor Brian on Sunday, September 21st and Sunday, September 28th after church for a new members class. Please let Pastor Brian know if you plan on attending the classes.

Office Hours

Monday thru Friday
8:30 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

Fall Clean-up date

Saturday, October 4th - 8:00 am to 12:00 pm
(or until all work is done)

Many hands make little work!

Please plan on coming to help! Thank you!

Announcement to All Committees

Due to the Session meeting moving to the 4th Monday of each month and Steph needing to get out the Session packets to the Elders a full week ahead of the meeting, Steph needs **ALL** committee reports and other materials for the Session packets, no later than 12:00 pm on the 2nd Thursday of the month.

Any questions, please ask Steph. Thank you for your understanding!

SEPTEMBER COFFEE SERVERS

September 7th: Liz & Jason Windingstad

September 14th: Brenda & Pete Bratberg

September 21st: Myron & Deb Ficek

September 28th: Alisa & Duane Taatjes

