

2023



HOPE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Hope Scope

Now the LORD came and stood there, calling as before, “Samuel! Samuel!”

And Samuel said, “Speak, for your servant is listening.

1Samuel 3:10 (NRSV)

This is an important time for our church. In many ways, what happens here in the coming months will determine our direction for a good while. I think I notice that people are getting a bit tired. There are many people in this church who do so much. I have always been a believer in doing fewer things, but doing them the best we can, rather than doing more things and letting the quality of our work slide a bit, all the while exhausting everybody in the church.

So, in 1Samuel, the young Samuel is being called by God, and at first he’s not aware of it, but then the priest, Eli, tells him how to respond to God’s call. And the words above are what Eli tells Samuel to say when God calls: Speak, for your servant is listening.

Presbyterians have long believed that we are called to certain work, in our lives, in our families, and in the church. And it is important for us to respond to that call in something like the way young Samuel was taught: Speak, for your servant is listening. But what if we are just tired? What if we just finished some big project at the church and there is a call, from God, or from the pastor, or from a committee, to do some more work? It can become a problem for us.

We are embarking on an effort with our denomination to try to plot a course for our church over the next years. It is called the Vital Churches Initiative. There are just a handful of churches in the country doing this, and the session and I think the program may hold great promise for us.

One thing that is nice about focusing our efforts is that we may be able to let some things go that have been consuming resources, but that may no longer be helpful for a church in our position. Letting things go can be freeing, but it can also be difficult—sometimes very difficult.

One thing that we hope can come out of this program is that we will be limiting our work to the things that really move our mission and our ministry forward. So, possibly, your phone will ring less often with someone asking for your help, and possibly we can focus our energy and imagination on the most important things. And maybe when your phone does ring, you will be inclined to respond as Samuel did: Speak, for your servant is listening.

Blessings,

Brian Jones

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.

PARADE FLOAT, DECORATORS, RIDERS, WALKERS NEEDED!

The dates of the parades are Tuesday, July 4th in Spicer and Saturday, July 22nd in New London-both in the morning, so you will be done by noon. We also need decorators, riders and walkers! Please call Stephanie (320-220-1504) with any questions or to volunteer your help in any way. Everyone who participated last year had a blast!

DONATIONS FOR OUR BLESSING BOX NEEDED

Bibles, Children's Bible story books and non-perishable shelf stable pantry items (no expired items please) are needed for the Blessing Box (outside, by the Christian Education Entrance sign). If the box is full, please place your items in the tote underneath the mailboxes in the Fellowship Hall.

SUMMER CHRYSALIS 2023 August 17-20 Clearwater Forest

"HERITAGE OF WOMEN" will be presented by Sue L. Hamilton, who will share her personal story of hope, from being set free of alcohol and drugs, how God loves us and needs us to pass on our skills and talents to the next generation. Please see the information on the Community Events board by the offices. Register on the Clearwater website under "Summer Registration."

Thank You to everyone for the prayers, cards and well wishes! I appreciate your kindness and concern! I am on the mend! Karen Hagemeyer

Thank you all for your prayers, hugs and concerns during the very difficult year. We know without you it would be hard to make it through! The Family of Gary Anfinson



Christian Education Youth and Families

“What does the Lord require of you but to do justice, love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God. “Micah 6:8

This was the verse we learned and tried to live out on our mission trip to the Twin Cities June 11-13. We stayed at New Life Presbyterian Church in Roseville and did some service work in their community garden. We visited George Floyd square, helped cook and serve a meal for 150 people at Loaves and Fishes, had a fun afternoon and evening at Valley Fair, briefly visited Como Park Zoo and finished up with packaging food for Haiti at Feed My Starving Children. It was a fun time of learning, serving, and bonding together!



THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

to all who helped with the annual Meatball supper. This is a fundraiser that helps send our youth to Clearwater Forest Camp (11 attending this year). It was a huge success!



Advertising on the radio at
Lakeland Broadcasting
in Willmar!





Come to **Adventure Island** and join our quest for God's Great Light!
We will have a meal, Bible lesson, activities, and games.

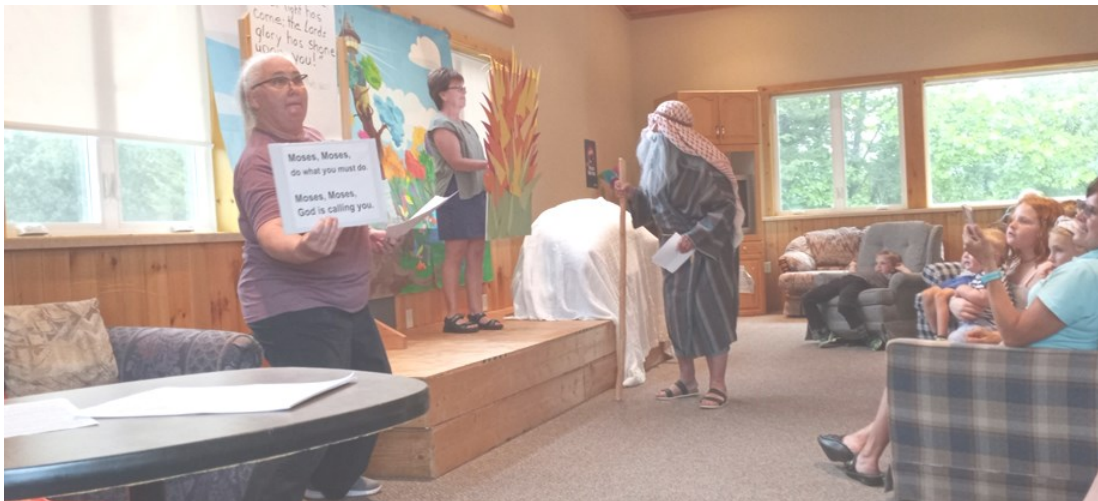
Everyone is welcome!

Next Family Fun Festival: Wednesday, July 12th 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Bible Lesson: "Faith through the Roof" from Luke's Gospel

RSVP: Call the church

Pictures from Family Fun Festival in June





Fridge Bridge

July 4th Parade in Spicer

Look for the “Fun Under the “Son” float – that’s us!!

July 12 Family Fun Festival 6:00pm-8:00pm

RSVP by calling the church

July 22 Water Days Parade in New London

Look for “Fun Under the “Son” float

July 23 Stingers game at 5:05 pm-sign-up by July 9th

July 25 CEYF meeting 6:30 pm

Saturday, July 15, is an **Adventure-A-Thon and LuWow** at Clearwater Forest Camp. It looks like a ton of fun!

Plan to check it out!

Report is respectfully submitted by Tyann Jones

June 2023 Updates



RibFest 2023 was a HUGE success! The Link raised over \$27,000 to help families and children in need- right here in your community! The weather was perfect and the turn-out was amazing! Thank you to all who came out to support The Link during it's biggest fundraiser of the year! We couldn't have done it without you!

Best of the Best!!! The Link and Community Revival Boutique and Thrift were voted "Runner-Up" for Best of the Best 2023! We are humbled and grateful for all of the support!

Deb Ostlund has been hired for the new Support Staff position! Deb worked for over 24 years for Kandiyohi County. She has 2 adult daughters and has lived in the NL-S/Willmar area for many years-so she is very familiar with the community! She shares our love to serve others and we are excited to have her join the team! Stop in and introduce yourself if you're in the neighborhood!

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 320-354-5465.

In May, The Link was able to serve 10 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 124 households in May (including: 200 adults, 108 children and 35 seniors) and distributed a total of 6000.1 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 finished up the school year serving 93 children weekly at NL-S. Each week, students from the NL-S High School pack bags to each school to ensure our students nutritional needs are met on the week-ends. Summer packs will be available for families if they stop in at The Link and request them. 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 10 families in May by helping with transportation, medical bills, utility bills and rental payments. This program also provided advocacy for 7 families, In-depth budgeting support for 10 families, networking for 8 families and provided 10 families with referrals for additional assistance to meet basic needs.

Tuesday's Table's 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.

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.

Clearwater Forest Adventure-a-Thon & LuWow!

On July 15th, Clearwater will be hosting a community-building event you won't want to miss!

Schedule of the Day

11 am - Campers leave or are joined by parents

11:30 am - Lunch for sale for families who came to join/pick up campers

12:30 pm - Everyone can show up! Come prepared for a fun race, volunteer to help, or just enjoy the show!

2 pm - And...they're off! The race begins!

3:30 pm - Awards

4 pm - Clean up

5 pm Dinner - Pig Roast and Live music (Rusty Crayfish Brass Band)

Adventure-a-Thon

Adventure-a-Thon Participant Guide

- Paddle, biking, and running/walking
- Can compete as individual, relay, or team (if you want more than one person to canoe for the paddle, for example)
- Kayaks, canoes, and mountain bikes are available from the camp on a first come, first served basis.

LuWow!

- The traditional pig roast (with an apple in its mouth!) with a variety of fun, delicious side dishes!

Live music on the lake will be provided by the Rusty Crayfish Brass Band!

Silent Auction - contact Emma at office@clearwaterforest.org if you would like to donate

Please contact Emma at office@clearwaterforest.org if you would like to volunteer, donate, or participate in this exciting event in any way. You can also contact Emma to make lodging reservations for the event. You won't want to miss it!

Lay Readers:

- July 2: 8:30 am Jeff Wersal
10:00 am
- July 9: 8:30 am
10:00 am Sue Block
- July 16: 8:30 am
10:00 am
- July 23: 8:30 am
10:00 am
- July 30: 8:30 am
10:00 am

July CARE Pantry Challenge is..... “Stuff the Bus” School Supplies



HPW

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

- July 11th
- August 1st

Coffee Servers

- July 2: Karen & Jerry Bents
- July 9: Wendy & Bob Barr
- July 16: Jackie Wahl & Gaylord Lind
- July 23: Melissa & Lyle Mangen
- July 30: Carol & Bob Sampson





Members with Health Concerns:

Darlene Thompson, Bob Sietsema, Bob Hinderks, Dick Lindahl

Family and Friends with Health Concerns:

Johnie Lee Larson (Virginia McKean's great grandson)

Bob Dieken (Karen Bents' brother) Erica (Sherry Bratsch's dau-in-law)

Ethan (grandson of John Hafner-Stephanie Bents' boss)

Pastor Jeff DeYoe Vernon Dean

Joleen (Doreen Mitchell's daughter) Dale Jones (Arlos' son)

Kim (Friend of Sherry Bratsch) Sandy Aalderks

Grieving:

Family of Jill Ellingson Hegstrom (Julie Ehrlich's cousin), Family of Ed Johnston, Family of Ronald Thompson (Liz Windingstad's Dad), Family of Jerry Hunter (Friend of Pastor Brian & Tyann), Family of Ken West, Family of Audrey Dean (Funeral Wednesday, July 12th at 11:00 am), Family of Phyllis Allen (Funeral Saturday, July 1st at 2:00 pm at Peterson's Funeral Home in Willmar)

Care Facilities:

Kathy Jansen (Bethesda North Pointe), David Carlson (Bethesda North Pointe), Jeanette Gault (GlenOaks), Betty Harder (Bethesda North Pointe), Arlos Jones (GlenOaks Apts.), Bob Sietsema (GlenOaks), 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 those living in Ukraine & Russia

July Deacons of the Month: Kathy Terpstra & Eileen Helmstetter

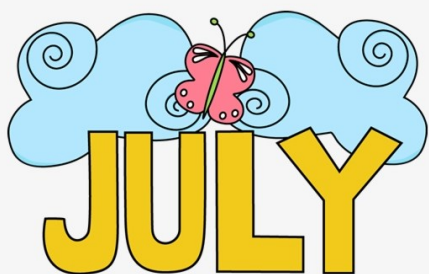
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E-MAIL: hopepres@gmail.com

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