

HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH
Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ

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NOVEMBER 2025

Tidings of Hope

Our purpose is to glorify God by worshipping, witnessing, teaching, loving and serving our Lord, Jesus Christ.

Dear Hope Family:

Winter is upon us, and soon. My drive from and to Winnipeg may get interrupted. I am ready for it, but still. I showed Shauna how to use the snowblowers at home – an electric-start Cub Cadet. I am ready with the snowblower in the parsonage garage. I have the hats, coats, boots, gloves, neck warmers and long johns. Cold, blowing, freezing, snowy winter is coming, and I don't like it one bit.

I have never liked the cold. And yet I was born in a Michigan snow belt, grew up in Toronto, where it's a "wet cold," spent time in Finland, land of the midnight sun and the noon-time dark. I lived in northern Alberta for 12 years, 1004 kms (about 625 miles) north of Glacier National Park, where we had a month of minus 40 weather. And I live in Winnipeg, which is best described in a song by native son, Randy Bachman: "Portage and Main, 15 below."

And yet. And yet, even the snow is a servant of God. Psalm 148:7-8 says:

Praise the LORD from the earth,
you great sea creatures and all deeps,
fire and hail, snow and mist,
stormy wind fulfilling his word!

Along with the Humpback Angler Fish and the bioluminescent Tomopteris, the hail, snow, and even fire – all praise God and are used by Him, fulfilling His word. The land rests under snow, moisture replenished. Some seeds only germinate after a cold season. Some only after fire. It's cold for a reason. I don't like the cold, but God uses it. And snow? It's a wonderful picture of how God cleanses us from our sins. And though we are stained by sin like deep, deep red, he makes us white as snow.

Isaiah 1:18:
Come now, let us reason together, says the LORD:
though your sins are like scarlet,
they shall be as white as snow;
though they are red like crimson,
they shall become like wool.

This is why we celebrate Christmas. The God who makes the fire and hail, snow and mist, the stormy wind fulfilling his word - yeah, that God - treats us better than we deserve. Paul wrote this to the Colossians, in chapter 1:13: For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, ¹⁴in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

Jesus rescued us by taking our sins upon Himself in this massive gift-exchange. We give our sins, and He gives us forgiveness, His goodness, His sinlessness, His love, His life.

(Continued on p. 6)

| December 2025 | | Bible Readings |
|---------------|------------|----------------|
| 1 | Judges 15 | 11 1 Samuel 8 |
| 2 | Judges 16 | 12 1 Samuel 9 |
| 3 | Ruth 1 | 13 1 Samuel 10 |
| 4 | Ruth 2 | 14 WORSHIP |
| 5 | Ruth 3 | 15 1 Samuel 15 |
| 6 | Ruth 4 | 16 1 Samuel 16 |
| 7 | WORSHIP | 17 1 Samuel 17 |
| 8 | 1 Samuel 1 | 18 2 Samuel 5 |
| 9 | 1 Samuel 2 | 19 2 Samuel 7 |
| 10 | 1 Samuel 3 | 20 2 Samuel 11 |
| | | 21 WORSHIP |
| | | 22 2 Samuel 12 |
| | | 23 1 Kings 1 |
| | | 24 1 Kings 2 |
| | | 25 1 Kings 3 |
| | | 26 1 Kings 8 |
| | | 27 1 Kings 9 |
| | | 28 WORSHIP |
| | | 29 1 Kings 10 |
| | | 30 1 Kings 11 |

Gifts and Memorials for November

Gifts were given to the Fellowship of Christian Athletes Fund in memory of Ordean Sundrud from the Terry Halvorson family.

Special gifts were given in memory of Ordean Sundrud and Robert Ball from Bennett Osmonson.

Gifts were given to the Preservation of Properties Fund from Susan K. Lockwood, and in memory of Robert Ball from Joan & Roy Dufault.

We are very thankful.



Thanksgiving Offering
The offering collected at the Community Thanksgiving Service this year was \$537 and was donated to the Loaves and Fishes Food Shelf.

DECEMBER SERVING SCHEDULE

USHER SCHEDULE:

7th Rod Olson
14th Lee Rudie
21st Tom Kleinwachter
28th Terry Halvorson

ACOLYTES:

7th Hatty Quam
14th Hannah Fonder
21st Kaden Wohlhuter
28th Emilee Rudie

HOLY COMMUNION: December 14 & 21 servers: Kim Kleinwachter, Ken Hove, Laurie Rustad and Tom Kleinwachter

ALTAR GUILD: Willow Christen and Mary Steinbrenner

READERS:

7th Allison Carlin
14th Kim Kleinwachter
21st Tom Kleinwachter
24th Joan Dufault
28th Michelle Solsten

COFFEE SERVERS:

7th Sylvia Munter
14th Sylvia Munter
21st Roxanne Hove & Tracy Ware
24th No Coffee
28th Richard & Keni Evje

USHER HELPERS: Dan Carlson, Taylor Carlson, Scott Christen, Paul Curfman, David Dahl and Richard Evje

Hope Church Staff

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Hope Office: 218-435-6765
Email: hopezion268@gmail.com
Office Volunteer: Tues: (12-4pm)
Keni Evje 218-533-0409
A/V: Ryan Hanlon
Cell: (612) 910-9436
Musician: Diane Boucher
Choir: Charity Salmonson
Custodian: Michelle Venem

H.E.L.P. is Here!

Our Health Equipment Lending Project room has a selection of home health equipment. If you are in need of a loan of this kind of equipment, please call the church office. The intent is that this ministry would be the hands and feet of Jesus to anyone in need of this kind of assistance.

Donations are welcome!.

Please remember Hope Church when you are planning your end-of-the-year giving.

Broadcast Ministry

Our worship service is broadcast on KKCQ 96.7FM & telecast on City Cable channel 67 & Garden Valley TV channel 31 every Sunday at 9:30 am. A live broadcast of the worship service is also available on the internet. Just search: "Hope Lutheran Fosston" to reach our website. You can also find us on Facebook at: hopelutheranchurchfosston!

Please Remember the Following in Your Prayers



Nancy Andree
Gene & Kay Sistad
Elizabeth Barrineau
Berniece Carlin
Greg Gubrud
Oskie & Mary Hanson
Joe Lindberg
Ilene & Dennis Sistad
Hazel Trogstad
Dean Vikan
Inez Bakken
Fritz Frethem
Vera Pearson
Donna Thomas
Beverlee Ostenaar
George Benson
Ruth Schroeder

Missionaries:

- † The Schroeder's in the Philippines
- † Siimon Haamer and the Ukrainian refugees in Estonia
- † The Neller-moe's and others in China Service Ventures
- † Tom & Eunice Olson in the Congo

To keep our prayer list current, please inform the church office of the status of loved ones for continued prayers. Thank you!

Thank you for supporting the work of the church.
Average weekly attendance for 11/2-11/24 was 80.
Average weekly giving was: \$4,117.
Budget needed for each week is: \$3,768.

Electronic giving offers convenience for individuals and provides much needed donation consistency for our congregation. As you contemplate future contributions, think about giving electronically. Contact the church office with any questions or to sign up.

(pastor's letter, continued)

Pastor Tim Keller wrote this: "The gospel is this: We are more sinful and flawed in ourselves than we ever dared believe, yet at the very same time we are more loved and accepted in Jesus Christ than we ever dared hope." Merry Christmas, indeed!

God bless your Christmas and your long winter days, and may He bless your deeds with His mercy, grace and peace.

- **Pastor Peter**

By the way, use the internet to see pictures of the bioluminescent Tomopteris and the Humpback Angler Fish. Amazing!

And many, many thanks for your volunteering, your prayers, and your giving to the work of Hope Lutheran Church. God bless you!

Please help us welcome **Michelle Venem** as our new custodian at Hope Church!
Michelle, we are so glad to have you!



Please join us for the
Hope Family Christmas Party
Wednesday, **December 17th** at 5:30pm in the
Fellowship Hall. This will be a pot-luck meal
with worship, games and celebration.

Hope Lutheran Church
will be having Christmas
Eve service on
December 24th at 5pm.
All are welcome!



December

| SUN | MON | TUE | WED | THU | FRI | SAT |
|---|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|--|---|---------------------------|-----|
| | 1 | 2 | 3 6pm Choir | 4 7:30 am FCA 1:30 Bible Study | 5 Friday School | 6 |
| 7 9:30 am Worship 10:30 Coffee hour Sunday School - Christmas Program practice | 8 10 am-Women of Hope Board | 9 12-4pm- Office open | 10 6 pm Choir 6:30 Trustees 7:30 Council (FULL) | 11 7:30 am FCA 1:30pm Bible Study | 12 Friday School | 13 |
| 14 9:30 am Worship/ Holy Communion/ Choir Cantata 10:30 Coffee Hour Sunday School- Program Practice | 15 | 16 12-4pm- Office open | 17 No Choir 5:30-7:30 pm-Hope Family Christmas Potluck | 18 7:30 am FCA 1:30pm Bible Study | 19 No Friday School | 20 |
| 21 9:30 am Worship Holy Communion/ Sunday School Program 10:30 Coffee hour | 22 <i>Tidings Deadline</i> | 23 12-4pm- Office open | 24 No Choir 5 pm—Christmas Eve Service | 25 <i>CHRISTMAS DAY</i> | 26 No Friday School | 27 |
| 28 9:30 am Worship 10:30 /Coffee hour No Sunday School | 29 | 30 12-4pm- Office open | 31 No Choir | | | |

Hope Lutheran Church Executive Council Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, October 8, 2025 at 7:30 PM

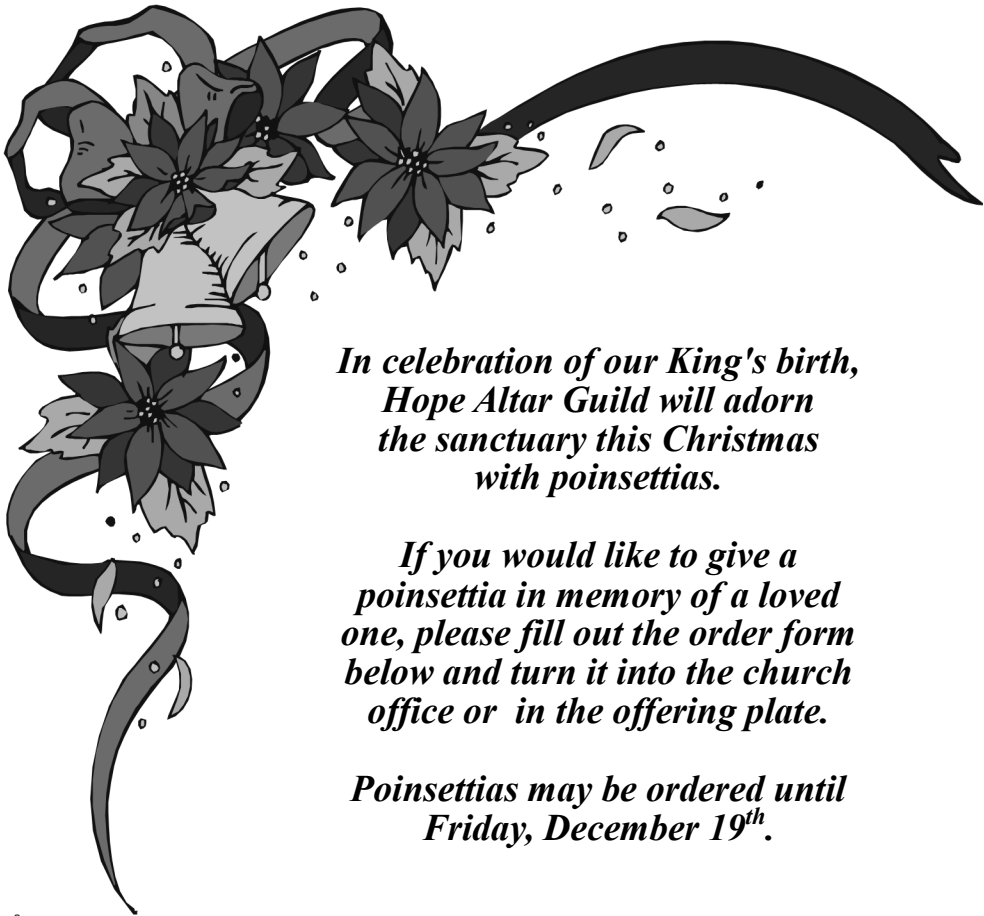
Present: Tom Kleinwachter, Kim Kleinwachter, Jon Rustad, Brad Norland, Kristen Norland, Bonnie Albright, and Sarah Johnson via telephone.

1. Call to Order: President Tom K. called the meeting to order.
2. Devotions: Jon R. (Trustees) read a devotion entitled, "Words of Encouragement" about building each other up. Encouraging one another is a source of support for others.
3. Approval of Agenda: Motion by Kim K., seconded by Kristen N. to approve agenda as presented. Approved unanimously.
4. Approval of Secretary's Report: Motion by Kim K., seconded by Jon R. to approve the secretary's report with correction of April minutes to August minutes. Approved unanimously.
5. President's Report: "Thank you to all."
6. Pastor's Report: Pastor is attending LCMC Gathering - No report
7. Brief Committee Reports:
 - 7a. Deacons: Kim K.: No report as they did not meet with Pastor Peter as he is attending the LCMC Gathering this week in Lakeville, MN.
 - 7b. Family/Youth/Education: Sarah J. reports:
 - i. Operation Christmas Child: They will ask for monetary donations via special offering on Sunday mornings in lieu of items. Items will be purchased by the committee. Boxes will be packed Nov. 2 during the Sunday school hour.
 - ii. Bibles for 3rd graders and preschoolers will be distributed in October during the Sunday Worship service.
 - 7c. Music & Worship: Kristen N. Reports: A discussion was held on the children singing during Sunday worship service.
 - 7d. Trustees: Jon R. reports:
 - i. Discussion on the needs for the church's furnaces.
 - ii. Trustees are working on the 2026 budget.
 - iii. Looked through design options for the outside church sign as the present one is in disrepair.
 - iv. Steve has resigned as custodian. He has written down a job description of all that he has taken care of in the church. The Women of Hope will review needs.
 - v. Motion by Kristen N. to approve September financial reports pending audit; seconded by Sarah J. Approved unanimously.
8. Old Business:
 - 8a. New Member class/installation tabled since spring. No new information.
 - 8b. Confirmation - No report at time of meeting.
 - 8c. Meatball Supper: October 22
9. New Business: October is Pastor Appreciation Month.
10. Next Full Council meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 12, 2025 at 7:30 pm. Devotions by the Deacons.
11. Adjournment: Motion was made by Brad N. to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Kim K. The Lord's Prayer was recited to adjourn.

Respectfully Submitted: Bonnie Albright, Secretary



The Hope Sunday School kids will present their Christmas program on Sunday, December 21st during the 9:30 a.m. worship service.



In celebration of our King's birth, Hope Altar Guild will adorn the sanctuary this Christmas with poinsettias.

If you would like to give a poinsettia in memory of a loved one, please fill out the order form below and turn it into the church office or in the offering plate.

Poinsettias may be ordered until Friday, December 19th.

POINSETTIA ORDER FORM

Your Name: _____

Number of plants ____ x \$12.00 each = \$ _____

Given In Memory/Honor of:
