

WORDS OF *Hope*

Dec. 2023/Jan. Vol. 23 Issue 10

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Advent is a profoundly meaningful and holy time of the year. Sometimes, in the hustle and bustle of parties, events, wrapping paper, and Christmas lights we can miss its profound implications. It is a season of anticipation and waiting. As Mary waited for the time to be right for the birth of her firstborn, we too are waiting in eager and restless anticipation for the coming of our savior.

I remember, as a child, marking the days to opening gifts with an advent calendar. Each day we would open a tiny chamber, with a sweet treat inside, learning about the cast and characters of the advent story. As I have grown, the waiting has changed. Gifts are nice but the things my soul eagerly awaits are healing for those that I love, peace in places of conflict, reconciliation of relationships broken, and for all things to be made new when Jesus comes again to restore and redeem all of creation.

In an impatient world, I have learned that a prayer filled posture of holy anticipation and trust is exactly the place where the Holy Spirit teaches us the magnitude of His promise. The backdrop of our sin stained and shattered world stand in sharp contrast to the Holiness and Love of God. The implications of the incarnation, God made man, found in helpless innocent approachable babe, resonates anew each year in our souls. God's answer to our angst filled anticipation, our messy world, is to show up-for you, for us, forever.

In the hustle and bustle of Advent, as we wait, I would invite you to pause, to stop, and take time to join us on Wednesdays and Sundays for worship for a sermon series called, "Come, Lord Jesus." To remember the God who answers our eager anticipation with the beauty of His love.

Peace in Christ,



Pastor Paul

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

Christmas Worship at Hope 2023

Join us at Hope Lutheran Church for Christmas worship this year!

EARLY CHRISTMAS (DEC 23)

North & South Campus | 6:00pm

CHRISTMAS EVE (DEC 24)

North Campus | 9:30am, 10:45am, 2:30pm, 4:00pm, 5:30pm, 10:00pm* (Traditional Candlelight)

South Campus Sanctuary | 9:30am, 10:45am*, 2:30pm, 4:00pm, 5:30pm, 10:00pm (Contemporary Candlelight)

South Campus Chapel (Traditional) | 9:30am, 2:30pm (Candlelight), 4:00pm (Candlelight)

West Campus | 9:30am, 10:45am, 2:30pm, 4:00pm (Contemporary Candlelight)

CHRISTMAS DAY (DEC 25)

All Campuses | 10:00am (North Campus: Traditional, South* and West Campuses: Contemporary)

WORSHIP IS ON BREAK DECEMBER 27

*Livestreamed Service



Letter from the Editor

People of Hope,

When I look back into the archives at North Campus, the earliest issues of Words of Hope are from 1981. That's 42 years of newsletters from Hope Lutheran Church, a long and beautiful history of the many worship services, events and programming we've hosted over the years! The cover of this issue is a collage of just a few of those issues over the decades.

For many of those 42 years, a printed monthly newsletter served us well. But the world changed. Websites, social media, and email made it possible for us to connect with people instantly. Never was this capability more essential than during the pandemic, when we all became aware that events and details could change drastically with little notice. We adjusted by leaning into our monthly email subscriptions to keep in better contact with our members.

Over the past two to three years, it has come to my attention that the time and cost associated with printing Words of Hope in its current format as a monthly newsletter for events no longer best serves our congregation. We can accomplish the same result more efficiently with our monthly Words of Hope email newsletter, and a more basic print out of an events calendar that will be available for pick up monthly at each campus beginning in February 2024. Both are a better use of Hope's time and money.

I also began dreaming about what Words of Hope could become, a quarterly magazine sharing and celebrating the stories of mission and ministry at Hope Lutheran Church. Articles that would celebrate the work God is doing in the lives of people at Hope and inspire you to reach out, root deep, and love one another. I have no doubt that this reformat of Words of Hope, beginning in February 2024, will serve our congregation well and will both inspire and equip our members. I am excited for the possibilities!

For those of you who are receiving Words of Hope by print, you will not receive another issue by mail until February 2024. In the meantime, please sign up for our email Words of Hope, which will continue to contain a monthly list of events, at fargohope.org/about. If you prefer not to receive email, please plan to pick up a printed copy of a monthly events calendar from the Information Desks at all campuses beginning in February. These printed calendars will not be mailed but will be available on our website at fargohope.org/about.

Working at Hope is one of my greatest blessings. I am so grateful to be able join with you in pursuing Hope's mission to encourage all people to know the love of Christ!

In Christ,



Kelly Bischof
Director of Marketing and Communication



SALVATION ARMY VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES:

Hope is again partnering with The Salvation Army to distribute holiday food boxes and collect toys for families in need. Volunteers are needed to greet people, distribute boxes as families come in, and other tasks. Register at fargohope.org/adults.

TOY DRIVE AND TOY SHOP



Angel trees will be in the hallways again this year. Take a tag and purchase a gift for a child in need. Unwrapped gifts can be dropped off at all campuses.

Toy Shop is Dec 18 & 19 from 9:00am-5:00pm at South Campus. Looking for setup/take down volunteers as well as volunteers to help shop with families as they come in to pick out toys for their children.

FOOD DISTRIBUTION



Christmas Food Box distribution is December 15 from 9:00am-4:00pm at South Campus (Morning and afternoon shifts available.)



February 9 | 6:00-9:00pm | South Campus

Hope Lutheran is once again proud to be an official host church for Night to Shine, sponsored by the Tim Tebow Foundation. Night to Shine is an unforgettable prom night experience, centered on God's love, for people with disabilities (ages 14 and up).

GUESTS: Registration opens **December 1**. Register at fargohope.org/specialneeds or contact Donna Atherton: 218.233.0853, donnaatherton@arcminnesota.org. *Space is limited to the first 150 guests.*

VOLUNTEERS: Register online at fargohope.org/specialneeds. Over 250 volunteers are needed to make this event happen, so consider volunteering today!



Alpha is for everyone who wants to explore life's big questions.

Sundays, January 7 – March 10

South Campus | 5:00–7:00pm
Zoom | 6:30–7:30pm

Register at fargohope.org/alpha



JOIN A SMALL GROUP TODAY!

These groups are a powerful way to do your Soul Business with God. Now is the time to start praying and thinking about small group ministry for your journey of faith. Joining an existing group or starting a new group is simple. Just visit **fargohope.org/adults** and click “Find a Small Group” or “Start a Small Group.”



MAN TALK BREAKFAST

December 14 | 6:30am | South Campus

Come enjoy food and fellowship with other men of Hope, along with a speaker to help deepen your faith.

MEN'S MORNINGS

Wednesdays at 6:30am South Campus.
We will have several study options for men including 33 the Series.



CHRISTMAS VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Here at Hope, we are called to show the love of Jesus through Hospitality, and we need your help. We are still in need of volunteers to help make our many Christmas services run smoothly – from the parking lot to the pew – we need YOU! Please connect with us at volunteer@fargohope.org or by calling the church directly at 701.235.6629. We look forward to hearing from you!

THANK YOU

Hope is so grateful for the outpouring of support and assistance during our Deck the Halls Event in November. Thank you for sharing your time, talents, and enthusiasm by decorating Hope for the Holidays! Blessings to you and your loved ones as we ring in the New Year!

HOPE YOUTH

✦ **YOUTH PROGRAMMING IS ON BREAK
WEDNESDAY DEC. 20–JAN. 2.**
Programming will resume on Wednesday, January 3.



Confirmation Expectations

- A – Attendance: Confirmands attend youth programming ten times per semester
- B – Baptism: Confirmands are baptized in the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.
- C – Conversation: Confirmands recite Apostle's Creed and why they believe in 1-on-1 conversation



✦ **Hopekids Children Will Sing in Church!**
Children will sing during their Hopekids Hour. Please join us in worship to celebrate Jesus' Birth!

North Campus:

Wed., December 6: 2nd–5th Grade
Wed., December 13: Pre–1st Grade
Sun., December 17: Pre–5th Grade*

South Campus:

Wed., December 6: 2nd–5th Grade
Sun., December 10: 2nd–5th Grade
Wed., December 13: Pre–1st Grade
Sun., December 17: Pre–1st Grade

West Campus:

Wed., December 6: 2nd–5th Grade
Wed., December 13: Pre–1st Grade
Sun., December 17: Pre–5th Grade*

Please plan to arrive early. We would like everyone in their classrooms at the start of Hopekids and Worship.

*NC & WC Sunday will sing: *Angels We Have Heard on High, I Adore You/O Come Let Us Adore Him (Pre-K–1st version) & This Little Light of Mine/Go Tell it on the Mountain*

➤ Hopekids Christmas Songs Online:
Families, you can practice Christmas Songs with your Hopekids at Home!
fargohope.org/children

✦ **Hopekids learned about King David in the month of October.**
“A Good Leader Serves God and the People”
David's gifts were given to him so that he could make the world a better place. He was anointed or set aside for that purpose. Each of us has been given special gifts too, and a purpose that only we can fulfill.



✦ **Praise Crew Prepares for Christmas Singing!**
“Praise Crew helps kids and praises God. You should join because it shows people you care. So please join to show you care.”
– Reese

“I think people should do Praise Crew because it's such an amazing environment where you get to come in on Wednesdays and/or Sundays... This team is inviting and is a group of people that will love and accept you, this team is also just a fun group of people that love God.”
– Kailyn



Feed My Starving Children

January 10 | Scheels Arena | Grades 6-8 | 6:00-8:00pm

This will be our evening programming for this particular week in January. We ask that you save the date and plan to drive your student to and from the Scheels Arena for this evening of programming as we will be partaking in the Mobile Pack together. More details to come.



9th Grade Retreat

January 26-28, Inspiration Point- Vining, MN
Cost: \$150 Non-Refundable
Registration closes Wednesday, December 20

All 9th graders are invited to attend our annual retreat as they prepare for their Confirmation in May. This is a great opportunity to both take in the fun of a retreat weekend at camp and dive deeper into reflection of how God is working in their lives.

Youth Trips Pancake Feed

Jan. 14 | 9:00am–11:30am | West Campus
Free-will offering

Have breakfast at church and support our high school students fundraising for their church trips.



Mission Jamaica 2025

Although Summer 2025 seems ages away, planning starts now! All high schoolers (grades 9-12 for 24-25 school year) are invited to join us on a week long mission trip to Jamaica (likely end of June 2025)! This impactful trip will not only be a great opportunity to serve, but grow in relationship with God and peers. Be on the lookout for informational meetings later this winter and visit our webpage at fargohope.org/highschool for more details.

WOMENS MINISTRY

READING TOGETHER



December book:
The Dressmaker's Gift by Fiona Valpy
Tuesday, Dec. 5 | 7:00pm
North Campus Fellowship Center
Monday, Dec. 11 | 11:00am
South Campus Library

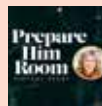


January book:
One Hundred Years of Lenni & Margot
by Marianne Cronin
Tuesday, Jan 2. | 7:00pm
North Campus Fellowship Center
Monday, Jan. 8 | 11:00am
South Campus Library



February book:
The Children's Blizzard by Melanie Benjamin

BIBLE STUDIES



"Prepare Him Room" a virtual event with Kristi McLelland, hosted by Karen Moore
December 13 | 7:00–8:30pm
North Campus Lounge
Bring a treat to share with others!



"When You Pray" by Lifeway Women, hosted by Karen Moore
Wednesday's Jan. 3–Feb. 14 | 7:00–8:30pm
North Campus Lounge



"Walking Wisely" by Charles Stanley, hosted by Karen Moore
Thursday's, Feb. 22–Apr. 25 | Noon–1:00pm
Back room of Atomic Coffee
(222 Broadway, Fargo)



"Sermon on the Mount" by Jen Wilkin, hosted by Lois Anfinrud
Wednesdays, Jan. 10–Mar. 6 | 1:00pm–3:00pm
North Campus Lounge



MOPS/MOMSNext
Meets monthly
Join us Saturday, December 9, 9:00–11:00am, South Campus; Christmas Party—White Elephant Gift Exchange and Share Treats. January 13 Health & Self Care—Yoga, wear workout clothes and bring mat. Find out what MOPS/MOMSnext is all about, enjoy some breakfast, and create relationships. RSVP for Daycare one week in advance at Hope Lutheran MOPS/MOMSnext Facebook group. Please join our Facebook group to stay up to date: Hope Lutheran MOPS/MOMSnext



KAMS (Kids and Moms)
Thursdays | 9:00-11:00am | North Campus Lounge
Moms at any stage of motherhood are welcome to join KAMS for morning snack and discussion of the book *Character Matters*. Childcare is provided with registration. Email adults@fargohope.org or call the Church Office at 701.235.6629.



❖ ANNUAL TABLES BY DESIGN ❖
Christmas Brunch
Saturday, December 2 | South Campus
Table viewing 9:00am | Brunch 9:45am | Program 10:45am
\$20 brunch and program | \$10 program only (at the door)

The program is "Celebrate the child," a one-man play featuring a combination of characters involved in the birth of Jesus.
TICKET SALES
Tickets will be sold online at fargohope.org/women and in person. Ticket Sales will be offered at the North Campus office during office hours 9:00am–4:00pm, Monday–Thursday, and at all Campuses during church services on Wednesdays and Sundays.
WOULD YOU LIKE TO DECORATE A TABLE FOR THIS FESTIVE EVENT?
Simply choose a theme and bring items to decorate a table for eight. Sign up as a Table Decorator when you purchase your ticket. Questions? Contact adults@fargohope.org



PAJAMA DRIVE
JANUARY 17-FEBRUARY 11
fargohope.org/hopecare

We are collecting pajamas of **ALL SIZES** for FM area organizations who help children and adults in crisis. Leave your donations in the Pack & Plays located in the hallways.



Please go to fargohope.org/hopecare for up to date information, you can also access divorcecare.org and griefshare.org for additional information and resources or contact Barb at 701.235.6629.



Mittens, hats, and scarves (Giving Tree)

URGENT Mission Needs:
Men's Winter Gloves
Men's Winter Hats
Men's Winter Coats
Chapstick
Men's T-shirts (All Sizes)
Men's Boxers (All Sizes)
Hygiene items
Donations can be dropped off at any Hope Campus or at New Life Center 1902 3rd Ave N., Fargo.

"Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ." - Galatians 6:2

Hope Lutheran Church is blessed with members who volunteer their time, talents, and treasure to help care for the hurting in our congregation and community, fulfilling Jesus' teaching, "whatever you did for one of the least of these brother and sisters of mine, you did for me." (Matthew 25:40) Thank you Stephen Ministers, Visitation Ministers, Quilters, Needleworkers, Care Card Ministers, Living Free, GriefShare and DivorceCare Facilitators, Operation Christmas Child Volunteers, and ALL who have served in Hopecare this last year! You are making a difference for the Kingdom of God!



BUILD PEOPLE SKILLS TO USE IN EVERYDAY LIFE

We have made changes to our Stephen Ministry Training class to make it easier to fit into your schedule! Take this new opportunity to attend training to build communication skills for better interactions at work, home, and anywhere in between. You will learn how to be a better listener, be assertive, set boundaries in relationships, identify if someone is depressed, and what to say or not say to someone going through a difficult situation.

A new training class starts on January 4, 2024, and we want you to be a part of it! Applications for training must be submitted before Friday December 29, 2023.

Check out the details of our new class by going to fargohope.org/stephenministry, by contacting Kim Youngquist at 701.235.6629, or by emailing hopecare@fargohope.org.

MEMORIALS
October 1–October 31, 2023

Memorials Given to Hope Lutheran Church
Joyce Kloubec
Richard and Ruth Clarens
Al and Kay Jastram
Richard and Kathleen
Toomey
Linda Coons
Jerry and Celine Henning
Rupert Aman
Joan Larson
Al and Kay Jastram
Alice Dosland
Vernice Johnson
Eva Moilanen
James and Sharon Puppe
In Honor of Becky Barrus
Linda Coons

Memorials Given to Hope Lutheran Foundation
Joyce Kloubec
Elaine Fick
Andrew and Cindy McLean
Bea Paulson
James and Jean Jorgenson
Marlys Danielson
James and Jean Jorgenson
Nathan Hanson
Bea Priewe
Phyllis Solberg
Maryann Schoenheit
Doris Stubson
Maryann Schoenheit
In Honor of Carole Ann Stalheim
Larry and Marilyn
O’Callaghan

NEW MEMBERS
October 1, 2023

Beau & Kayla Billadeau
Bailey, Mila
James Cailao
Natalie
Cayla Herbert & Josh Sem
Beau & Sarah Larson
Sophie
Carol Leibhan
Brandon & Jennifer Marthaller
Elaina, Nora
Doris Moen
Vickie Nelson
Andrea & Cory Offerdahl
David & Holly Scott
Jada Storo & Isaac Meyer
Kathy & Dick Toomey

MILESTONES
October 10–November 6

Baptisms
Oliver Glen, son of Cameron & Erin Holland
Sophie Chase, daughter of Spencer & Mackenzie Hron
Asher Jack Nygaard, son of Jarred Nygaard & Brittany Anderson
Millie Rose Samuel and Skye Aurora Samuel, daughters of Walter Samuel & Tonja McKay
Griffin Arthur, son of Adam & Lana Barone
Preston Scott, son of Patrick & Melanie Fylling
Everett Ford, son of Matthew & Janna Koble
Capri Jae, daughter of Kevin & Danielle Buxa
Eleanor Lee McLister, daughter of Derek McLister & Jenna Weinhandl
Sarah Ivanell, daughter of Bret & Laura Jordahl
Noal Vonne, son of Jordan & Monica Linstad

Marriages
Hailey Larkin & Aaron Ramage 10/21/2023
Kelly Holand & Taylor Trenda 10/21/2023
Lexi Opheim & Jesse Vega 11/4/2023

Deaths
Mary Ann Remme 10/13/2023
Doris Alverson 10/21/2023
Jason Thielges 10/23/2023
Marjean Currie 10/25/2023
Shaina Adelman 10/29/2023
Lee Bonn 11/3/2023
Corrine Nygaard 11/4/2023

DEC. & JAN. PREACHING SCHEDULE

Sermon Series: Come Lord Jesus
Blessed is the Child • Luke 1:39-45
South: Dec. 3 Pastor Ben Jacobson
My Soul Glorifies the Lord • Luke 1:46-48
North: Dec. 3 Pastor Mike Toomey
West: Dec. 3 Pastor Stefanie Jordheim
The Heavenly Warrior • Revelation 19:11-16
South: Dec. 6 Pastor Sarah Seibold
Alpha & Omega • Revelation 1:4-8
North: Dec. 6 Pastor Steven Dunkel
West: Dec. 6. Pastor Ben Sullivan

The Great Things God Has Done • Luke 1:49-51
North: Dec. 10 Pastor Stefanie Jordheim
South: Dec. 17 Pastor Ben Sullivan
West: Dec. 10 Pastor Paul Nynas

Amen • Revelation 22:12-21
North: Dec. 13 Pastor Ben Jacobson
South: Dec. 20 Pastor Ben Jacobson
West: Dec. 13 Pastor Steven Dunkel

Exalting of the Humble • Luke 1:52-55
North: Dec. 17 Pastor Ben Jacobson
South: Dec. 10 Pastor Ben Sullivan
West: Dec. 17 Pastor Sarah Seibold

Everything New • Revelation 21:1-8
North: Dec. 20 Pastor Mike Toomey
South: Dec. 13 Pastor Mike Toomey
West: Dec. 20 Pastor Paul Nynas

See Christmas Worship Schedule for Service Times & Details

Worship is on Break Wednesday, December 27

Sermon Series: Stronghold Pride • 1 Peter 5:1-11; Luke 14:4-14
North: Dec. 31 Pastor Ben Jacobson
South: Dec. 31 Pastor Ben Sullivan
West: Dec. 31 Pastor Stefanie Jordheim

Envy • James 3:13-18; Luke 15:25-32
North: Jan. 3/7 Pastor Paul Nynas
South: Jan . 10/14 Pastor Paul Nynas
West: Jan. 17/21 Pastor Paul Nynas

Glutton • Philippians 4:10-13; John 6:25-40
North: Jan. 17/21 Pastor Mike Toomey
South: Jan. 3/7 Pastor Mike Toomey
West: Jan. 10/14 Pastor Mike Toomey

Lust • 1 John 2:15-17, Matthew 5:28
North: Jan. 10/14 Pastor Sarah Seibold
South: Jan. 17/21 Pastor Sarah Seibold
West: Jan. 3/7 Pastor Sarah Seibold

Greed • 1 Timothy 6:6-10; Luke 12:13-21
North: Jan. 24/28 Pastor Ben Sullivan
South: Jan. 31 Pastor Ben Sullivan

Sloth • Hebrews 6:9-12; Luke 16:1-13
South: Jan. 24/28 Pastor Steven Dunkel
West: Jan. Pastor Steven Dunkel

Wrath • Numbers 22:21-34; James 1:20 & Matthew 5:21-26
North: Jan. 31 Pastor Ben Jacobson
South: Jan. 24/28 Pastor Ben Jacobson

WORSHIP TIMES

SOUTH CAMPUS
Wednesday: 6:00pm Contemporary
Sunday: 8:30am Traditional (South Campus in Chapel)
9:30am Contemporary
10:45am Contemporary
NORTH CAMPUS
Wednesday: 6:00pm Contemporary
Sunday: 8:30am Traditional (South Campus in Chapel)
9:45am Contemporary
10:45am Contemporary
WEST CAMPUS
Wednesday: 6:00pm Contemporary
Sunday: 9:30am Contemporary
10:45am Contemporary

WORSHIP ONLINE

If you are unable to attend in-person, we invite you to worship with us online! You can watch live or find the play-back on our website at fargohope.org/watch. You can also watch on Facebook and YouTube: search for Fargo Hope.

FACEBOOK & YOUTUBE
Wednesday 6:00pm
Sunday 8:30am Traditional, 10:45am Contemporary

A podcast of sermon audio is available the Monday following worship at fargohope.org/listen or on the iTunes store.

LOCATIONS

SOUTH CAMPUS
3636 25th St. S, Fargo
NORTH CAMPUS
2900 Broadway N, Fargo
WEST CAMPUS
2633 55th St S, Fargo
FARGOHOPE.ORG
CHURCH OFFICE 701.235.6629

HOPE LUTHERAN PASTORS

Paul Nynas
Senior Pastor
Michael Toomey
Executive Pastor

Steven Dunkel
Executive Pastor
Sarah Seibold

Ben Jacobson
Ben Sullivan

Stefanie Jordheim
Andria Messelt
Pastoral Intern

Kevan Smith
Visitation Pastor
Bill Ahlfeldt
Visitation Pastor

STAFF

For full list of Hope’s staff please visit fargohope.org/whoweare

Membership that Matters

Sign up at fargohope.org and a pastor will contact you to visit and welcome you to Hope’s family. It’s that easy. Questions? Email welcome@fargohope.org.

Words of Hope
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Fargo, ND 58102

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Stay informed by signing up to receive Hope's email notifications at
FARGOHOPE.ORG/ABOUT



MERRY CHRISTMAS

The staff and pastors of Hope Lutheran Church would like to wish each of you a very merry Christmas and a safe and happy new year. It is our great pleasure to serve you, and to serve alongside you, in this mission we share to "encourage all people to know the love of Christ."