

Hope Lutheran Church

5088 Hwy 21, Embarrass MN 55732



*2014 Annual Congregation Meeting
February 9, 2014*

Dear Members of Hope Lutheran:

2013 was a time of transition for our members here at Hope Lutheran. We have gone through changes and challenges that many of us did not foresee back in January of last year. I would like to take this time to reflect on the events of the year that was and give the congregation a sense of where we are heading in the future.

We began the year with optimism and the formation of a new building committee whose goal was to explore opportunities for the possible renovation/expansion of our church. Along with Pastor Ben, the members toured various churches in the area to come up with possible ideas to improve our existing facility. We took these ideas back to our council and discussed them at length trying to find the right fit for our building and its members. This is a topic that is still being discussed to this day.

Although many of us new that the day might come, our members were still shocked when we found out in late June that Pastor Ben had made the difficult decision to move on with his professional career. We want to take this opportunity to thank him for his nearly five years of service to the church. His youthful optimism, quick wit, and can-do spirit will be missed. Best of luck, Pastor Ben, at Zion Lutheran in Grand Rapids.

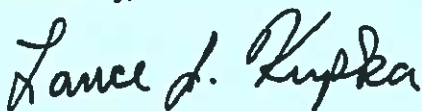
Fortunately, we were quickly able to land back on our feet. Through much hard work and cooperation with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Babbitt, an interim pastor was soon found to continue the work of our congregations. We want to thank Pastor Dorothy for stepping forward in our time of need. Your continuing efforts to help us move through the process of finding a new pastor are much appreciated. Your unflinching confidence and willingness to try new ideas will no doubt help us find someone eminently qualified to move our membership into the future.

The coming year will bring many challenges. The council will focus intently on ways to improve our present troublesome financial situation. In addition, the process of forming a call committee and ultimately choosing a new pastor will move forward. Finally, we will continue to work with the council of Evangelical Lutheran in a mutually-beneficial manner to help provide opportunities for the growth of both congregations. Your thoughts and prayers during this time will be greatly appreciated.

Thank you to all of the volunteers who have so graciously given their time here at Hope over the past year. Our church would not continue without you.

In closing, I would like to thank our outgoing council members, Ed Kuehl and Rocky Roggenbuck, for their service to our church. Your contributions to the business of the council were much appreciated. I would also like to thank the continuing members of our council for their selfless service. I greatly appreciated your willingness to make tough decisions and the wide array of ideas you put forth for the betterment of our church. Working with all of you was a blessing.

Sincerely,



Lance Kupka
Council President
Hope Lutheran Church

**HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH
AGENDA FOR THE 2013 ANNUAL MEETING**

I. Call to order

II. Devotions

III. Adoption of Agenda

IV. Declaration of of a Quorum

V. Appointment of Tellers

VI. Report of Nominating Committee--Nominations from the floor

--Bill Krueth, Virgil Roggenbuck, Rocky Roggenbuck, & Ed Keuhl are completing their terms

--All four are eligible for reelection. Bill has agreed to serve another 3-year term.

Virgil has agreed to serve another term if no other congregation member is interested. Ed and Rocky have chosen not to run for reelection.

VII. Election of Council Members

VIII. Election of Synod Delegates and Alternates (May 2-4 at Breezy Point Resort in Brainerd)

IX. Appointment of Audit Committee

X. Minutes of the 2013 Congregation Meeting

XI. Reports

--Pastor's

--Committees

XII. Old Business

----Church building committee update

XIII. New Business

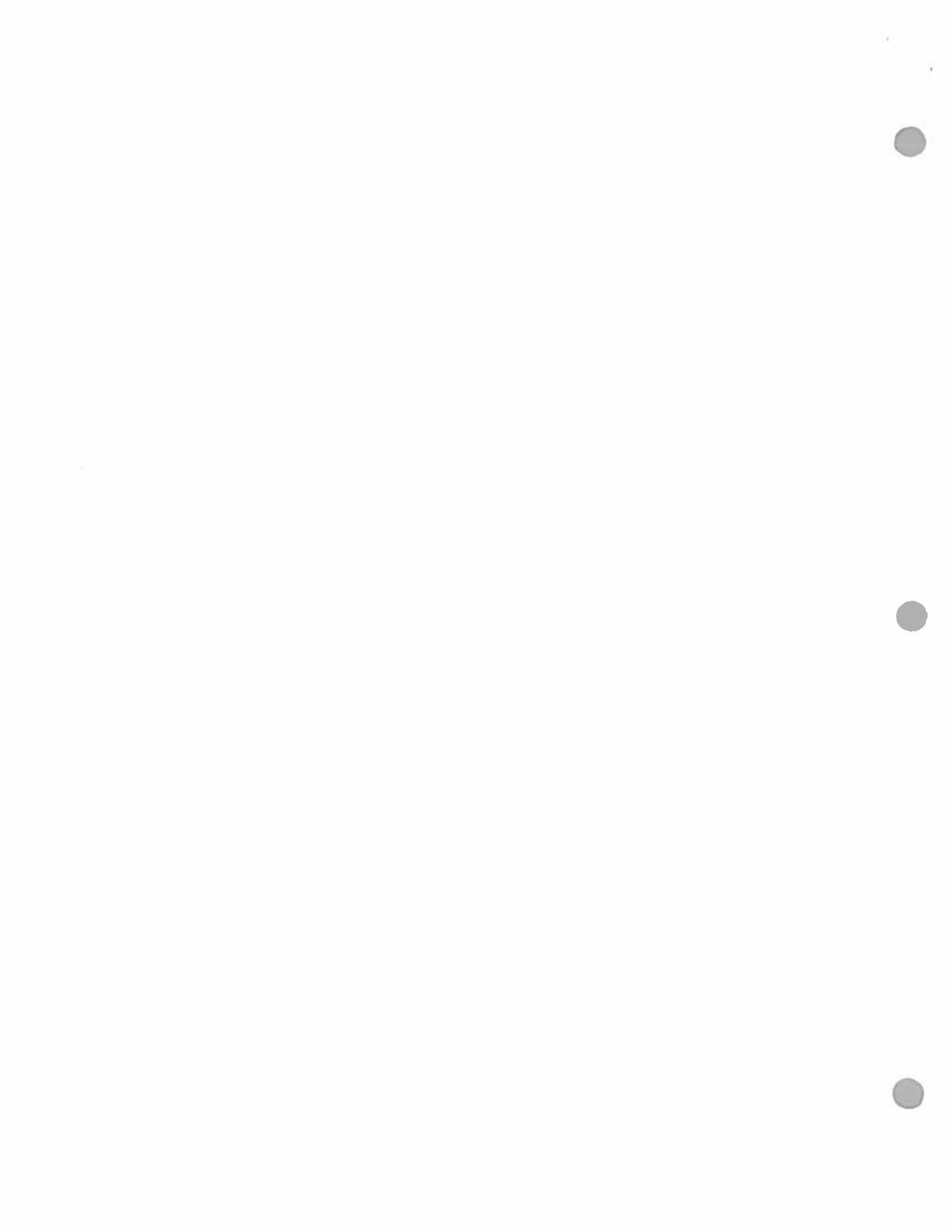
--Call process update

XIV. Consideration of 2014 Budget

XV. Motion of Adjournment

XVI. Closing Prayer

XVII. Benediction



**Annual Congregational Meeting
Hope Lutheran Church, Embarrass, MN
February 17, 2013**

Call to Order and Devotions

The annual meeting of Hope Lutheran Church was called to order at 11:14 AM by Council President Lance Kupka. Pastor Ben Buchanan led in devotions and prayer.

Agenda

Motion made by Gary Rantala; second by Bill Krueth to adopt the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

Quorum

A quorum was declared with 32 voting members present.

Tellers

Audrey Kuehl, Roxanne Wright and Liisa Lamppa were appointed tellers.

Nominating Committee and Election of Council Members

Thanks to Sharon Rantala, Naomi Ranisate and Lance Kupka for serving on the council for the duration of their terms. Sharon Rantala and Naomi Ranisate have completed the maximum term of six consecutive years on council. Lance Kupka is up for reelection, willing to serve another term. Gary Rantala and Marlyn Grunwald were presented as nominees to the council. Request for further nominations made three times. Motion made by Roxanne Wright; second by Virgil Roggenbuck to close nominations. Motion carried. Motion made by Gary Rantala; second by Ed Kuehl to cast a white ballot of acclamation. Motion carried.

Election of Synod Delegates and Alternates

The Synod Assembly will take place on May 3-5, 2013. Lance and Kathy Kupka were selected as delegates and Gary and Sharon Rantala were selected as alternates. Motion by Ed Kuehl; second by Roxanne Wright. Motion carried.

Audit Committee

Audrey Kuehl and Gary Rantala were appointed to audit the books for the 2014 Annual Meeting.

2012 Minutes

Motion was made by Bill Krueth; second by Ed Kuehl to accept the minutes from the 2012 Annual Meeting. No additions or corrections necessary. No further discussion; motion carried.

Committee Reports

Motion made by Audrey Kuehl; second by Roland Fowler to approve the committee reports as presented. Motion carried.

Old Business

A closing worship service was held, and the Pike Worship Center was handed over to the Pike Township in June 2012. The parsonage was sold and moved in July 2012. Brief conversation had regarding payment of taxes for upcoming year. Responsibility falls on congregation, since ownership was held at the beginning of the year. Budget line will zero out in 2014.

New Business

Building team has been assembled to begin discussion of future possibilities to improve church building. Goals are to address maintenance of current structure and possibility of an expansion for handicap accessibility.

2013 Budget

The proposed budget is presented in the congregational handout, included in the 2013 Annual Meeting packet. Motion made by Gary Rantala; second by Ed Kuehl to adopt the 2013 budget as presented. Motion carried.

Adjournment

With no further discussion or new business, motion made by Kathy Vraa; second by Ed Kuehl to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 11:30 AM.

Pastor Ben gave benediction and dismissal.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathy Vraa

Dear Members of Hope Lutheran Church,

Here we are already in the middle of January and the Annual Meeting is on the horizon. Since I have been serving you for only the last 4 months, my report will be concentrated on these months, September through December, 2013.

The four months have surely passed by rather quickly. We have had some changes and updates, as I have altered some things in worship, as well as how the bulletins are set up. These changes mostly have helped me in doing both churches on Sundays as well as offered some new things for you the congregation to experience. Both Jay and Wanda have been extremely helpful in coordinating all this.

The coming months will see a few more changes as well as a consistency in the worship of these two churches. As we enter Lent in March, I hope for more participation between the two churches.

Your two congregations are surely different and have needs specific to each. However you are all God's Holy People, you are all Lutheran and so my feeling is that more events, additional participation between each church can enhance and develop each one's growth in faith.

The Transition Teams from each church have done an excellent job discerning from the surveys who we are and what God may be calling us to do as his disciples here in Northeast Minnesota. From here we have put together a call committee who will now work with Pastor Vicki Taylor from our NE MN Synod. She will help each church progress through this process for calling a new and permanent pastoral leader for the combined churches.

During the past four months my role as pastor has also had me busy with confirmation and Sunday School changes, as well as one funeral for Tom Vraa, the baptism of Carter Ray Winger, monthly council meetings, participation in both the local pastor's monthly meeting and the Interim Pastor's Meetings in Duluth. I was also honored to teach First Communion Classes for 5 children. I attended the WELCA Bazaar in October eating a wonderful lunch and socializing with church members and people of the community. On All Saints Sunday we remembered those who have died in this previous year, praying and lighting candles remembering their light as well the light of Christ continuing to shine on us. Advent also highlighted this truth as well as reminding us that with this light, with our Lord and Savior, we have his words always whispering to us, "Fear Not, I AM with you, always".

We celebrated the birth of our Lord with a vibrant Christmas Eve worship Service with special music from Sonia Hartline.

As we continue to do the work of the church, surrendering to the call, guidance and leadership of Jesus, my prayers are for these two churches, the members of each, the youth and children, the council and of course the to be formed Call Committee. May the the light of Christ shine forth in each of us as we do good works and glorify our Father in Heaven. Amen.

Pastor Dorothy

2013 Hope Lutheran Youth & Family Financial Report

Submitted by Laura Rosendahl 984-2706

Checking #50: as of 1/1/13 \$667.04

Expenses:

Chili Feed (Rental fee) \$ 50.00

Donations

-AEOA Food Shelf \$ 100.00

-Habitat for Humanity \$ 100.00

Sunday School \$ 184.77

(Spark Lect. books, banner, offering envelopes)

Confirmation Program

-Confirmation breakfast \$ 84.36

-Swim & Gym (2 visits) \$ 206.71

-Bowling \$ 98.51

-Class picture \$ 25.00

-BBQ \$ 57.65

-Highway cleanup \$ 14.56

-Here We Stand curriculum \$ 112.00

-Middle School Gathering \$ 657.00 (incl. deposit, pizza, Stan-gas)

Misc. \$ 471.15

-Blu Ray player, DVD, printer ink, stamps, Pastor Ben's going away gift

VBS 2013 (food, misc) \$ 611.00

VBS (dep. For July 2014) \$1,050.00

Total expenses **\$3,822.71**

Deposits:

Transfer from #01 Savings \$3,100.00

Swim & Gym donation \$ 119.00

Sunday School offering \$ 223.66

Misc. \$ 372.00

Total deposits **\$3,814.66**

End Balance 12/31/2013 **\$ 626.61**

Savings #01: as of 1/1/13 \$ 2,596.78

Expenses:

Transfer to #50 \$3,100.00

Deposits:

Sunday School offering \$1,326.41

Chili Feed \$ 296.00

VBS (donations) \$1,270.00

Dividend \$ 8.28

Total **\$2,900.69**

End Balance 12/31/2013 **\$2,389.77**

Women of E.L.C.A. ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT – 2006

Janet Lamppa, Treasurer

INCOME

DISBURSEMENTS -- 2006

CHECKING ACCOUNT:

Balance 1/1/2006 \$3,847.14

Balance 12/31/06 \$4,271.44

SAVINGS ACCOUNT:

Balance 1/1/06 \$1,313.29

Dividends 7.36

Withdrawals -0-

Ending Balance 2006 \$1,320.65

PENNIES:

Income \$ 49.77

Disbursed \$-200.00

COMBINED BAZAAR AND:

Income \$1,179.00*

LUTEFISK & MEATBALL SUPPER:

Income \$2,904.00

Expenses: -1,501.17

 Advert. \$ 66.60

 Falkowski 387.07

 Fraboni 997.50

 Rental 50.00

PROFIT: \$1,402.83* plus

Thrivent Donation \$ 400.00*

Total \$ 2,981.83

DECORATED CAKE PANS:

Income \$ 902.00

Expenses \$ -820.00

Profit \$ 82.00

FUNERALS: \$1,350.00

COFFEE OFFERINGS:

Total \$1,346.00

Paid to Church for

Fuel Oil -\$1,487.00

DISBURSED TO MISSIONS:

Voyageur's Ministries \$ 100.00

Salvation Army \$ 150.00

Soup Kitchen \$ 150.00

WELCA/World Hunger \$ 250.00

LSS/Homeless Appeal (R. \$100) \$ 500.00

Coats for Kids, AAL (R. \$270) \$ 600.00

Food Shelf [Tower/Babbitt] \$ 585.00

(Rec. \$185.00 in envelopes)

Range Respite (poinsettia drive)

Habitat for Humanity \$ 400.00

WELCA Pennies \$ 200.00

Range Women Advocates \$ 100.00

Project Comfort (shipping \$ 40.00

(of mission gifts)

DISBURSED TO WELCA

Spring Gathering \$ 50.00

Convention Offering \$ 100.00

Convention Expenses \$ 100.00

Convention \$ 500.00

Churchwide (Thankoffering & Pennies) \$ 100.00

Fall Gathering \$ 50.00

DISBURSED TO CHURCH:

Propane/fuel from coffee \$1,487.00

money \$ 73.00

Telephone for church

RECAP OF DISBURSEMENTS:

Missions \$ 3,075.00

WELCA \$ 900.00

Church (Hope Luth.) \$ 1,560.00

2013 Altar Guild

Savings Account	
Balance January 1, 2013	\$3,129.30
Income:	
Memorial Candle	\$104.50
Gifts	\$150.00
Easter Breakfast	\$284.00
Dividends	\$8.08
Total	<u>\$3,675.88</u>
Less Expenses	- \$397.65
Balance December 31, 2013	<u>\$3,278.23</u>

Expenses:	
Memorial Candles, Wafers, Communion Cups	\$166.15
Palms	\$42.00
Pentecost & Confirmation Flowers	\$81.00
Altar Candles	\$64.50
First Communion Flowers	\$14.00
All Saints Day Flowers	\$24.00
Money Orders	\$6.00
	<u>\$397.65</u>

Handicapped Access Fund	
Balance January 1, 2013	\$3,700.73
Dividends	\$9.26
Balance December 31, 2013	<u>\$3,709.99</u>

Donations: Food for Easter Breakfast
Wine, Grape Juice, Communion Bread

HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH ANNUAL REPORT 2013-2014

Income Statement

Income:

Sunday Offering	\$52,815.00
Special Food Shelf Offering	\$100.00
Special Offering for Payroll Purchase	\$400.00
Christmas Offering	\$1,442.00
Fuel Donations	\$2,985.00
Thrivent	\$76.00
Dividend Income	\$272.64
Babbitt Payroll	\$24,434.34
Babbitt Auto/Books, etc.	\$3,057.92
Babbitt Pension/Medical	<u>\$7,756.35</u>

Total Income \$93,339.25

Babbitt money \$35,248.61

\$58,090.64 HOPE 2013 INCOME

\$68,411.67 HOPE 2012 INCOME

Investments:	1/1/2013	Dividends	Misc Deposits	Transfers out	12/31/2013
Savings	\$4,144.69	\$47.38	\$30,638.73	\$9,000.00	\$25,830.80
6 month CD	\$10,183.31	\$17.27	\$0.00	\$10,200.58	\$0.00
2 Year CD	\$20,349.05	\$89.10	\$0.00	\$20,438.15	\$0.00
Mission Investment Fund	\$9,455.53	\$99.31	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$9,554.84
Building Maint Fund - 08	\$5,589.02	\$14.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,603.02
Building Fund-07	\$2,229.57	\$5.58	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,235.15
Total Investments	<u>\$51,951.17</u>	<u>\$272.64</u>	<u>\$30,638.73</u>	<u>\$39,638.73</u>	<u>\$43,223.81</u>

Transferred 2 CD's to savings per council in May 2013..

Offering Income by Month	Offering	Fuel	Misc	Totals
January	\$3,826.00	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$4,026.00
February	\$4,970.00	\$275.00	\$0.00	\$5,245.00
March	\$5,335.00	\$205.00	\$100.00	\$5,640.00
April	\$4,292.00	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$4,492.00
May	\$3,647.00	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$3,847.00
June	\$4,385.00	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$4,585.00
July	\$2,963.50	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$3,163.50
August	\$3,203.50	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$3,403.50
September	\$5,368.00	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$5,568.00
October	\$5,139.00	\$340.00	\$400.00	\$5,879.00
November	\$4,323.50	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$4,523.50
December	\$6,804.50	\$565.00	\$0.00	\$7,369.50
Total Offering	<u>\$54,257.00</u>	<u>\$2,985.00</u>	<u>\$500.00</u>	<u>\$57,742.00</u>

HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH PROPOSED BUDGET 2014

World Wide Outreach	2013 Budget	2013 Actual	2014 Budget
NE MN Synod/Missions	\$3,750.00	\$3,750.00	\$1,875.00
Total Outreach	\$3,750.00	\$3,750.00	\$1,875.00

Local Ministry	2013 Budget	2013 Actual	2014 Budget
Organist	\$4,600.00	\$4,365.20	\$4,600.00
Habitat 500	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$0.00
Miscellaneous	\$150.00	\$0.00	\$100.00
Total Local Ministry	\$5,050.00	\$4,665.20	\$4,700.00

Business Expenses	2013 Budget	2013 Actual	2014 Budget
Secretary/Treasurer Salary	\$10,000.00	\$9,786.03	\$10,000.00
Postage	\$700.00	\$550.00 (\$44 box rent)	\$600.00
Synod Assembly	\$500.00	\$344.00	\$400.00
Theological conference	\$0.00	\$268.00	\$300.00
Computer/Software/License	\$1,200.00	\$1,108.17	\$1,200.00
Office Supplies	\$700.00	\$347.55	\$350.00
Phone/Internet	\$1,300.00	\$1,324.30	\$1,000.00
Copy Machine	\$2,000.00	\$1,996.33	\$2,000.00
Offering Envelopes	\$200.00	\$162.71	\$200.00
Pulpit Supply	\$800.00	\$666.00	\$500.00
Advertising	\$350.00	\$215.00	\$200.00
FICA/Employer	\$1,500.00	\$1,043.65 (not Pastors)	\$1,500.00
Total Business Expenses	\$19,250.00	\$17,811.74	\$18,250.00

Pastoral Expense	2013 Budget	2013 Actual	2014 Budget
Pastor Salary	\$34,000.00	\$33,734.60	\$34,000.00
Mileage	\$4,000.00	\$5,340.34	\$4,000.00
Pension/Benefits/Disability	\$14,000.00	\$12,703.33	\$14,000.00
Housing	\$10,200.00	\$9,350.00	\$10,200.00
Books	\$400.00	\$400.00	\$400.00
Continuing Education	\$1,200.00	\$700.00	\$1,200.00
FICA	\$3,400.00	\$3,295.84	\$3,400.00
Cell Phone	\$600.00	\$350.00	\$0.00
Student Loan	\$4,800.00	\$2,800.00	\$0.00
Total Pastor Expense	\$72,600.00	\$68,674.11	\$67,200.00

1/2 of all Pastoral Expenses have been paid by Babbitt since July 1, 2010.

All Church Property Maintenance	2013 Budget	2013 Actual	2014 Budget
Electricity - Church	\$1,500.00	\$1,237.40	\$1,400.00
Fuel- Church	\$3,300.00	\$2,536.36	\$3,300.00
Insurance	\$3,300.00	\$2,820.00	\$3,300.00
Maintenance-Church	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Real Estate Taxes/Parsonage	\$700.00	\$725.06	\$0.00
Real Estate Taxes/ Garbage	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00
Real Estate Pike Church	\$240.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Custodian Salary	\$1,500.00	\$1,115.00	\$1,500.00
Contract Labor/plow/pump	\$350.00	\$336.00	\$350.00
Custodian Supplies	\$300.00	\$95.67	\$150.00
Total Church Property	\$12,240.00	\$8,915.49	\$10,050.00
TOTAL	\$112,890.00	\$103,816.54	\$102,075.00
Subtract Babbitt Money	\$38,000.00	\$35,248.61	\$33,600.00
Actual minus Babbitt money	\$74,890.00	\$68,567.93	\$68,475.00

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December 16, 2013

Babbitt Evangelical Lutheran Church Transition Team Report

The Transition Team met on Sunday December 15, at 12:15. We discussed the profiles, and analyzed the stories and responses. After much discussion and sharing the following are the Mission Statement (Who are we?) and the Mission Statement (Why are we here?) the team proposes.

Mission Statement – *We are a committed Body of Christ at Babbitt Evangelical Lutheran Church with a compassion for helping those in need in our community and with an emphasis on thanking and praising our Lord, through worship, learning and fellowship.*

Vision Statement – *Our Vision is to enhance and engage in additional , outreach to others, so that the Love, Joy and Wonder of God's presence in our world, through Jesus Christ is made known through community involvement, alternate worship styles, and continued fellowship sharing out faith lives together.*

December 16, 2013

Hope Evangelical Lutheran Church Transition Team Report

The Transition Team met on Sunday December 8, 2013 following worship. We discussed the profiles and analyzed the stories and responses from the survey. After much discussion and sharing the following are the Mission Statement (Who are we?) and Vision Statement(Why are we here?) the team proposes.

Mission Statement – *We are a struggling older congregation of believers in the Triune God who are presently in flux who dare to continue to worship and serve God's mission for the people in rural Minnesota, with a desire to welcome on another in Christ.*

Vision statement – *We are here in Embarrass Minnesota, to provide continuing worship of our Lord and Savior, surrendering to God's guidance as we seek to develop and maintain a deep faith and sharing with all those we meet according to the will of God for us.*

Gary Rantala

Lisa Lamppa

Charisse Salo

Pastor Dorothy L Sand

