

# Agenda

## January 27, 2013

Call to Order

Pastor Joel Prayer and Sharing

Reading and Approval of Minutes  
from the last congregational meeting

President's Remarks

Treasurer Report for 2012

2013 Budget

Lord's Prayer and Adjourn

## **2012 President's Report**

**January 27, 2013**

2012 was a successful year at Hope Lutheran Church. We began our 3DM training and are looking forward to great blessings and growth as a result of this focus on discipleship.

We are continuing our partnerships with Rock of Faith and Thanksgiving Tabernacle. I think all will agree that all parties have been blessed by the relationships we have formed as a result of their sharing our building.

Our VBS was also very successful this year as we partnered with Rock of Faith, Thanksgiving Tabernacle and Good Shepherd. We had some wonderful guest speakers from all over the country. Pastor Buba was able to be with us and we were all blessed by his message.

As a result of Pastor Buba's visit with us, we have been partnering with him on his Ethiopian ministry. We have asked members of Hope to sign up to sponsor one week of his televised broadcast for \$50. His message is reaching millions in Africa each week and it is my hope we can continue to partner with him and be a part of his ministry and outreach.

We ended the year positively with regards to our finances. We finished the year with approximately \$10,000 to carry over to 2013. Several items came in under budget due to the diligent efforts of our members to be good stewards of our property and finances.

It has been a pleasure to work with this Church Council, Pastor Joel, Scott Rushbrook, Ty Roberson, Carrie Hamilton, Janice Wessa, Bryan Pender and Nancy Yedlowski. Thanks to Lezlie Pender for serving the remainder of Scott Rushbrook's term. I thank you for all your hard work and dedication to Hope Lutheran Church.

I pray God will use our family here at Hope to do His will and to be His hands and feet. May it be our greatest joy and blessing to be able to tell others about His love for all of his children.

Tammy Hill

President 2012-2013

## ***The Door Before Us***

***“These are the words of him who is holy and true, who holds the key of David. What he opens no one can shut, and what he shuts no one can open.”*** Revelation 3:8

Jesus opened a new door for the world nearly 2000 years ago. The door was to a goal, *“Go therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Teaching them to observe all I have commanded them. And lo I am with you always, to the end of the ages.”* Matthew 28:19-20

In 2012 this long opened door had new light cast upon it at Hope. Not only does Jesus want us to become disciples. Jesus wants us to make disciples who in turn make disciples.

I asked a number of people in our congregation, *“What would you say if I told you to go make disciples for Jesus?”* The answer always came back, *“How would I do that?”* It was an interesting response. These people who responded this way are in fact disciples of Jesus. Do not disciples of Jesus know how to make disciples? The apparent answer is not unparalleled.

I have spoken to many people who learned a foreign language when they were young. They have told me it is two different things to learn to understand a language and learn to speak a language. In fact, many people, having grown up in a home where a second language was spoken, can understand that language years later. But often these very same people cannot speak that same language. Understanding a language and speaking a language, it seems, are two separate operations of the brain.

In a similar way, many in the church understand the things of the faith. They believe the things of faith. They have been deeply ministered to by the truths of the faith. But ask them to speak those same truths and immediately they become anxious. Why? Because understanding and speaking are slightly different operations.

The tragic response to this reality has too long been, *“Well, ok, we’ll have special people be the speakers.”* We call them pastors, professional church workers, and or highly spiritual somebody-or-anothers. This has been tragic because the task is too big for such a small number of people. Amplifying speaking-persons with pulpits, microphones, or even highly watt-ed radio and TV towers has been tried. But these amplified messengers have not been able to make up for the shortfall of people-to-task-ratio. (In the west the ratio is getting larger and larger all the time.)

What is the solution to reaching the growing number of people in the west who need to be touched by the gospel of Jesus Christ? The solution is to make disciples who can make disciples. This *disciples-making-disciples* process is more than information dispensing. (If a person can understand a language but not speak it, the speaking problem will not be solved by just listening more and more. The speaking problem will be solved by *speaking-training* and then *speaking-practice*.) Similarly, disciples need to be trained to speak, not only understand, the language of discipleship. The goal is not to make more pastors, etc. The goal is to make disciples who will learn a language they can speak and pass on to other followers of Jesus, who will in turn speak this language in a way that can be passed on to other followers of Jesus, who will in turn... (you get the idea).

This is what we have begun to do at Hope. Last January you voted to invest money in a training process. Some perhaps thought we would have a big program in place in a short year to move forward a disciple-making army. This is not how this works. The goal was to take a few people and train them to not only work on discipleship concepts, but learn these concepts in a simple language that can in turn be taught to others. Eventually we will have a host of people moving in this army. But this is a slower process than a short year. Five were trained in South Carolina to catch the vision of *disciples-making-disciples*.

Pastor Wendy and I were taken into a weekly training process. Eight others were, four months later, brought into the training. Months later we split the group and we doubled. The slow multiplication process is underway.

What is this language we are learning? We are learning eight key concepts that are communicated in the language of eight shapes: a circle, a semi-circle, a triangle, a square, etc. As we learn, for instance, to experience what Jesus preached ("*Repent and believe the gospel!*") by learning to work our way around a "*repentance and belief*" circle, each person not only experiences the powerful process of continual "*repentance and belief*" but also learns it in a language that is easily remembered and easily reproduced for others.

That doesn't seem so hard does it? You can learn eight concepts with the help of eight shapes. Once you experience the Word of God touching you in a living way ("The Word of God is," after all, "living and active.") and you speak the Word in a simple easily remembered shape language, then we will be well on our way toward the goal of being "*disciples who can make disciples*."

This is very much in keeping with our call-driven process. But instead of being called "to know, follow and serve," as we have continually communicated to be our goal for ten plus years now, we are now laser-beaming the calling down to the "*call to follow*" (understanding that if we follow Jesus who knew

his Father we will “know,” and if we follow Jesus who served we will also “serve.” – So *know, follow, serve* is implied in “follow”. ) And in addition to the call seminars we have taught at Hope we are now taking each person by the hand and walking them through this call process in a *disciples-making-disciples* training movement. In short, we are simplifying and personalizing what we have been doing before.

Everything done before has been foundational. Now we are poised to build *up, in and out*.

Over the next year we will split the groups again and the multiplication process will become more apparent.

I couldn't be more hopeful and excited about what I see coming down the pike. We are doing what much larger churches are not doing. Much larger churches make disciples. But do those disciples know how to in turn make disciples who will be able to in turn make disciples? We are in the process of making more of this second type than places which have a much larger pool of people. The road we are going down will prove to be quite fruitful. And fruitfulness, after all, is the goal: *disciples making disciples, who make disciples, who make...* This door will not be closed.

“Follow me,” he continues to say.

In Christ,

*Pastor Joel*

## Membership 2012

	Baptized	Confirmed
<b>1. Membership end of 2011</b>	416	314
<b>2. Members received during 2012</b>		
a. By Baptism: Children 15 + under		
<b>Sydney Rodriguez 6/10/12</b>	1	
<b>Tatum Rodriguea 6/10/12</b>	1	
<b>Juan Rodrigues Jr. 6/10/12</b>	1	
<b>Peyton Elizabeth Thompson 7/15/12</b>	1	
b. By Baptism: Children 16 + older		
c. By affirmation of faith		
d. By transfer		
g. From other sources & statistical adjustment		
h. Total members received this year	4	0
<b>3. Baptized youth - confirmed- 2012</b>		0
<b>Total add by baptized &amp; confirmed</b>	4	0
<b>Sub-total</b>	420	314
<b>6. Members removed during 2012</b>		
a. By death		
<b>Janet Dinwiddie 1/1</b>	1	1
<b>Richard Snow 2/14</b>	1	1
<b>Brenda Kyle 4/27</b>	1	1
<b>George Milyo 5/2</b>	1	1
<b>Jackie Milyo 5/2</b>	1	1
b. By transfer		
<b>Mark Jones</b>	1	1
<b>Melanie Jones</b>	1	1
<b>Gordon Jones</b>	1	1
e. For other reasons & statistical adjustment		
<b>f. Total members removed</b>	8	8
<b>6. Membership, end of 2012</b>	412	306

Hope Lutheran Church 2013 Budget

Category Name	2013 Budget	2012 Actual	2012 Budget	2011 Actual	2011 Budget
<b>Inflows:</b>					
Total Pledged/Anticipated Offerings	200,000	197,379	203,725	203,725	199,313
Prior Year Surplus Carryover	4,000	2,272	-	7,077	7,077
Call Inc.	20,256	14,264	20,256	20,256	20,256
Rental Income	18,300	18,300	18,300	9,200	10,053
Interest/investment income (loss)	60	70	98	97	120
<b>Total Inflows</b>	<b>242,616</b>	<b>232,285</b>	<b>242,377</b>	<b>240,355</b>	<b>236,819</b>
<b>Outflows:</b>					
<b>Missions:</b>					
Call Inc.	20,256	14,266	20,256	20,256	20,256
Wycliffe - Gaultney	9,000	9,000	9,000	10,900	6,000
China Service Ventures	2,000	2,000	2,000	0	-
LCMC	1,000	1,000	1,000	0	-
Hope Mansion	2,000	2,000	2,000	0	-
Debbie Buenting	2,000	2,500	2,000	1,000	1,000
Gerhards	2,000	2,000	2,000	500	500
Lutheran Church of the Way	-	2,272	-	-	-
Dr Buba	-	0	-	-	-
NALC	5,000	5,000	5,000	0	-
<b>Total Missions</b>	<b>43,256</b>	<b>40,038</b>	<b>43,256</b>	<b>32,656</b>	<b>27,756</b>
<b>Ministries:</b>					
Hospitality	456	226	456	284	456
Building Relationships	1,100	810	1,100	970	1,100
Worship and Music	2,135	1,803	2,135	1,309	1,635
Music compensation	7,068	7,013	7,068	5,580	9,640
Discipleship Education & Trng	14,292	10,478	13,792	531	785
Youth	4,869	1,359	4,869	3,678	3,942
Youth compensation	11,108	9,648	11,084	30,417	37,884
<b>Total Ministries</b>	<b>41,028</b>	<b>31,337</b>	<b>40,505</b>	<b>42,769</b>	<b>55,443</b>
<b>Pastoral Ministry:</b>					
Total Compensation + Benefits	98,221	97,365	95,003	96,411	98,091
Continuing Education	1,200	1,353	1,200	120	200
Travel/Mileage Reimbursement	2,600	2,007	2,400	1,559	2,400
Conventions	1,200	773	700	614	500
Stipend/Sub Pastor/Discretionary	1,750	973	1,550	900	900
<b>Total Pastoral Ministry</b>	<b>104,971</b>	<b>102,471</b>	<b>100,853</b>	<b>99,604</b>	<b>102,241</b>
<b>Administration:</b>					
Office Supplies	1,271	820	1,271	1,255	1,271
Postage	674	556	674	668	774
Copier	2,744	2,493	2,496	2,264	2,268
Telephone	840	740	840	1,212	2,124
Memberships	140	140	140	140	140
Internet/webpage	660	821	660	802	684
Software upgrades	422	643	422	974	422
FICA match-all staff	2,360	2,234	2,393	3,724	4,738
Background investigations	156	0	156	90	156
Member care cards	92	119	92	101	92
Offering envelopes	300	283	300	282	275
Synod convention		22	0	0	0
Administrative Staff	14,319	13,715	14,284	12,650	14,040
<b>Total Administration</b>	<b>23,978</b>	<b>22,586</b>	<b>23,728</b>	<b>24,162</b>	<b>26,984</b>
<b>Property Expenses:</b>					
Maintenance Building	4,669	883	8,360	551	720
Lawn and Landscaping	480	0	480	65	480
Repairs	2,492	3,697	2,492	2,397	1,992
Gas and Electric	11,023	9,682	11,023	10,367	11,023
Water and Refuse	600	683	600	710	600
Janitorial Services	3,840	3,535	4,800	3,320	3,300
Insurance	6,000	6,349	6,000	6,202	6,000
Alarm	280	480	280	280	280
<b>Total Property</b>	<b>29,384</b>	<b>25,309</b>	<b>34,035</b>	<b>23,892</b>	<b>24,395</b>
<b>Total Inflows</b>	<b>242,616</b>	<b>232,285</b>	<b>242,377</b>	<b>240,355</b>	<b>236,819</b>
<b>Total Outflows</b>	<b>242,616</b>	<b>221,741</b>	<b>242,377</b>	<b>223,083</b>	<b>236,818</b>
<b>Income (Loss)</b>	<b>(0)</b>	<b>10,544</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>17,272</b>	<b>0</b>