

Hope United Methodist Church  
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### Chuckles

**Jacob:** What do road crews use at the North Pole?

**Jason:** I don't know.

**Jacob:** Snow cones!

**Travis:** Where do polar bears vote?

**Anthony:** Where?

**Travis:** The North Poll!

**Will:** Where do snowmen keep their money?

**Bill:** Beats me.

**Will:** In a snow bank.

**Santa:** Knock, knock.

**Elf:** Who's there?

**Santa:** Olive.

**Elf:** Olive, who?

**Santa:** Olive the other reindeer.





## RAINBOW NOTES

Hope United Methodist Church

December 2020

### From The Pastor's Desk

Advent is perhaps one of the most misunderstood seasons in the church year. We meet it every year, and yet every year it seems like the world around us rolls straight from Thanksgiving to Christmas. There is no waiting, we move straight to the joy and the celebration. Of course this makes total sense. Christmas songs, movies, and traditions can bring light and cheer to our lives.

Advent is about waiting. One of those certainly sounds a lot more fun than the other. But Advent is what grounds Christmas in reality. Because the truth is that in many moments in our lives we are waiting. We are waiting for hope in a world that often feels full of uncertainty. We are waiting for love in places where we carry hurt and shame. We are waiting for our world to reflect God's dreams, for it to be a place of safety, freedom, peace, and justice for all. We are waiting for the pandemic to pass. We are waiting to meet with our families again.

Advent meets us where we

are, in the midst of the darkness and in the midst of the waiting, and reminds us that waiting is not a barrier to God. It reminds us that God acts in the midst of waiting, in the mist of the mess and the broken. It reminds us that we look not for a big, triumphant flourish of light and hope that will neatly wrap all our problems up with a bow.

Hymn writer Charles Wesley, brother of John Wesley, penned eighteen Christmas songs, but he was never happy with simply painting the picture of the manger scene. In this hymn, he begins by alluding to scriptural prophecies of Christ. Moving on to personal application, he continues: Christ is not only the "desire of every nation"; He is the "joy of every longing heart." He is not only the child born with the "government... on his shoulders" (Isaiah 9:6); He is "born to reign in us forever." Such personal application was a hallmark of the Wesleys' ministry. Charles and his brother John challenged the staid Anglican traditions of their time. The church of their

day had great scholarship; its theology was orthodox. Christians sang hymns straight from Scripture. But the Wesleys seemed to ask, "Does this mean anything to you? Is the biblical story about long-ago events or about what is going on in your life?" They urged people to meet Christ and to include Him in every part of their lives—even their hymn singing.

As we move through these dark times we can know that God is with us, and in our stories and in our lives. God comes to us and Charles wrote in the Hymn Come thou Long Expected Jesus.

Come, Thou long-expected Jesus,  
 Born to set Thy people free;  
 From our fears and sins release us;  
 Let us find our rest in Thee.

Israel's strength and consolation,  
 Hope of all the earth Thou art;  
 Dear desire of every nation,  
 Joy of every longing heart.

Pastor Dana  
 Born Thy people to deliver,  
 Born a child and yet a King,  
 Born to reign in us forever,  
 Now Thy gracious kingdom bring.  
 By Thine own eternal spirit  
 Rule in all our hearts alone;  
 By Thine all sufficient merit,  
 Raise us to Thy glorious throne.



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## Financial Statement October 31 2020

Checking Account Balance		30,409.84
Building Maintenance Fund		4,833.93
Total 2020 Apport bnments (Note 1)	7,647.00	
Amount Received to Pay Out	<u>(1,320.00)</u>	
Apport bnments Balance Due		6,327.00
Edward Jones Opportunity Fund Balance (as of 10/30/2020)		71,040.98
Xcel Energy Shares Account Balance (3/5/2020)		1,135.49
Building Fund Balance (Since 6/17/2015)		19,845.00
FOCUS Dollars Balance (Since 6/21/2015)		22,170.00
50% Designated for Building Fund Maintenance	11,085.00	
25% Designated for Discret bnary Fund	5,542.50	
25% Designated for Grow	5,542.50	
Piano Fund Balance*		2,500.00
Checking Account Balance	30,409.84	
Minus Building Fund Balance	(19,845.00)	
Minus FOCUS Dollars Balance	(22,170.00)	
Minus Missions/Designated Funds *	<u>(2,377.00)</u>	
<b>Actual Checking Account Balance</b>	<u><b>(13,982.16)</b></u>	
Missions/Designated Funds (*Funds Due)		
Cinderella's Closet (1/1/2020 to present)		130.00
*Discret bnary Funds (1/1/17 to present)		400.00
St. Vincent De Paul Food Shelf (Paid Quarterly)		100.00
Feed My Starving Children (Paid Quarterly)		146.00
Honey (1/1/2020 to present)		64.00
*Prom Dress Donat bns(4/5/2015 to present)		1,157.00
Salvat bn Army (Paid Quarterly)		20.00
*Roof (10/7/2018 to present)		140.00
UMCOR (Paid Quarterly)		70.00
Camp Koronis (Paid Quarterly)		
Misc - Easter Since 1/1/2020 & Misc. 7/19/2020		150.00



## Financial Statement Continued

<u>Cash Flow</u>	<u>Income</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Ending Balance</u>
January	11,476.69	16,188.02	(4,711.33)
February	6,639.28	6,898.38	(259.10)
March	4,765.00	6,730.19	(1,965.19)
April	7,587.79	5,356.94	2,230.85
May	4,623.46	4,075.87	547.59
June	12,429.46	10,441.30	1,988.16
July	3,456.93	5,574.68	(2,117.75)
August	12,053.03	16,704.70	(4,651.67)
September	4,744.70	5,731.47	(986.77)
October	6,840.28	5,220.89	1,619.39
November			
December			
	74,616.62	82,922.44	(8,305.82)

## Habitat for Humanity



Faith Builders (and wanna-be Faith Builders) sign up for a virtual meeting on Tuesday, December 8 at 6 pm. We are starting to make plans for our Faith Build 2021 and we want YOU to be a part of it! Sign up on our website for that meeting. The Zoom link will be e-mailed to you and will be on our website the day of the meeting.

Rice County  
 **Habitat for Humanity®**

204 7th Street West, PMB 128  
 Northfield, MN 55057

*Faith*   
**2021 BUILD**



Unit 1   Unit 2   Unit 3   Unit 4

We are building a quad (four units attached) on Cotton Lane and Ford Street in Northfield. Go to our website to learn more!

Know someone who would like to live here?  
 Call Cheri, 507-838-1913  
 or go to our website.

[www.habitatricecounty.org](http://www.habitatricecounty.org)

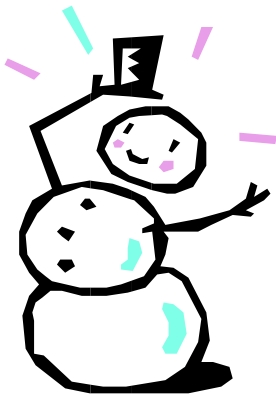


## Hope's Happenings

### Hope Church Worship Services

Due to the Coronavirus all activities and services in the church building have been suspended until further notice.

The Worship Services for Sunday are streamed live at 10:30 am. If you would like to watch and participate please contact Jenna Dahl at [jdahl60@gmail.com](mailto:jdahl60@gmail.com). We will also attempt to put the recording on the website and our Facebook page.



### Rice County Food Shelf "Food of the Month"

December: Rice

January: Soup

February: Beans

UMW has a quilt that will be used to raise money for the needs of children in our community. They will be partnering with Reliance Bank. The raffle for the quilt has been postponed until spring.

**We're on the Web!!**  
**[hopeumcfbo.com](http://hopeumcfbo.com)**



# The Gift That Keeps On Giving

Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God. John 1:12 (NIV)

Based on John 1:10-18 (NIV)



M Q M W C P F E X C E B E D Y  
W E T V V Y N J V C P Z F C B  
X O W N W V L Z L H G W A H E  
U E R O Q M H E L R P M J I L  
U J H D R D Y K R I C K M L I  
J P R T O L N I S S X I C D E  
F L F G T X D R M T H U Y R V  
Q X L U A D C F A T Q J K E E  
Y R E C E I V E U X Z T O N G  
L D S J E W G R A C E N N B R  
X N H D E Q T J E S U S J G A  
Y Z A M D W E L L I N G L L O  
W B D M N E X R W H A C L O L  
B Q G E E V W H X F C R B R L  
T S B J L B L E S S I N G Y O

CHILDREN  
GRACE  
GLORY

BELIEVE  
BLESSING  
CHRIST

DWELLING  
JESUS  
FLESH

TRUTH  
WORD  
WORLD

RECEIVE  
GOD  
NAME

# December 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

8 - Habitat For Humanity Faith Builders Zoom Meeting @ 6pm



## December Birthdays

1-Bev Witt  
6-Korrinne Kanne; Eric Miller  
17-Emily Strickler  
11-Gary Bartosh  
12-Kendra Kahnke  
18-Linda Gregg  
20 Buck Ennis  
29-Marge Saxton

