



**2025 HOPE ANNUAL MEETING THIS SUNDAY**  
**JANUARY 26, 2025**  
10:45AM  
Online & In Person

**ZOOM LINK**

The finalized Annual Report, including updated financial information and QR codes for voting, has been sent as an attachment in this week's TWAH email.

**YOU WON'T WANT TO MISS IT!**

Join as we celebrate all God has done through HOPE in 2024 and prepare our hearts for what God is calling us to in 2025!

**NEW THIS YEAR: ANNUAL POT LUCK CONTEST**  
Don't forget your **BEST HOTDISH** or **BEST BROWNIE** to enter to win our inaugural Annual Meeting Potluck Contest!

- Each dish will be assigned a number for voting
- Please remove all identifying information on your dish/pan (or make sure it cannot be seen)
- Prizes will be given and bragging rights bestowed!

# This Week at HOPE January 22, 2025

## A Weekly Word: The Rejection of Prophets Pastor Annie Ladnier

This week brought us the inauguration of President Trump and the celebration of Martin Luther King Jr. Day. As we mark these two occasions together this year, I am reminded of one of MLK's speeches delivered on April 25, 1957, nearly 11 years before his assassination. The speech was titled, "The Role of the Church in Facing the Nation's Chief Moral Dilemma," and was delivered to the Conference on Christian Faith and Human Relations in Nashville the day after receiving the Social Justice Award from the Religion and Labor Foundation in New York.

The moral dilemma at such a time was racial segregation and the violence that was interwoven. King spoke to an audience of about 300 Christian ministers, imploring them to be leaders in their time. He spoke these words:

"We must make it clear that it is injustice which we seek to defeat and not persons who may happen to be unjust. We have before us the glorious opportunity to inject a new dimension of love into the veins of our civilization. Our motto must be, "Freedom and justice through love." Not through violence; not through hate; no not even through boycotts; but through love. As we struggle for freedom in America it may be necessary to boycott at times. But we must remember as we boycott that a boycott is not an end within itself;.. **But the end is reconciliation; the end is redemption; the end is the creation of the beloved community.** It is this type of spirit and this type of love that can transform opposers into friends. The type of love that I stress here is not eros, a sort of esthetic or romantic love; not philia, a sort of reciprocal love between personal friends; but it is agape which is understanding goodwill for all men. It is an overflowing love which seeks nothing in return. It is the love of God working in the lives of men. This is the love that may well be the salvation of our civilization."

As I re-read his speech I was of course reminded of the words of Isaiah, quoted by Christ in the fourth chapter of Luke, which is this week's assigned lectionary reading:

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,  
because he has anointed me  
to bring good news to the poor.  
He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives  
and recovery of sight to the blind,  
to set free those who are oppressed,  
to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."

Jesus quotes these words when he is in Nazareth, his home town, and immediately afterward the crowd begins to question just who Jesus thinks he is. They reject what he is saying and physically threaten to throw him off a cliff. Of course, we know what the outcome ultimately was for Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. He too was rejected by many and his message was often met with violence. There is not much reception for the words of God's justice and mercy in our world.

What is it about the prophetic call to care for the oppressed, to heal others, to bring good news to the poor, to proclaim freedom for God's children, that causes us to reject it so violently? I wish I knew.

What I do know is that the voice of God, the very will of God, is the one we encounter over and over and over again by the prophets in scripture. It is one that we've heard in voices like MLK Jr.'s, Dietrich Bonhoeffer, Maya Angelou's, and plenty of other modern day prophets. It is the voice to love the neighbor.

Just love the neighbor.

Just lead in love.

Even if and when that love is rejected.

We, the disciples of Jesus are called into that love. We are called to heed the prophets before us and the ones in our midst. And while it is true, that our stubborn nature will likely resist them, God's overwhelming grace will only continue to come for us again and again and again.

Thanks be to our God.

**This Week at HOPE January 22, 2025**



**OPEN WORSHIP ROLES FOR THIS SUNDAY  
JANUARY 12:**

**USHERS  
ALTAR FLOWERS**

**IF YOU CAN SERVE PLEASE  
SIGN UP HERE!**

# This Week at HOPE January 22, 2025



Join us for our annual bowling outing!  
This is a FREE event for all who make a donation and SIGN UP.

Bowling and shoes are included, snacks/drinks are available for purchase & we encourage you to support St. Croix lanes!

This year's Mission Partners:

1. Lutheran Disaster Response- to support the continuing recovery efforts from Hurricanes Helene and Milton.
2. Neighbor to Neighbor (Vecino a Vecino)- A ministry of the Northwest Synod of WI (ELCA) building meaningful relationships between Anglo ELCA congregations and the Latin American community across our synod. This ministry helps provide health fairs, education, racial justice training, bilingual worship services and more!

**Cash, check, or online giving options will be available. Please make checks payable to Hope Lutheran with memo line of the organization you'd like to support.**

You may reserve your spot on the sign-up sheet at church OR HERE if you have issues please contact Olive in the church office to assist you ([hopelutheranoffice.rf@gmail.com](mailto:hopelutheranoffice.rf@gmail.com)). Please be on time as they are generous to reserve enough lanes. REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS FEBRUARY 5TH so we can assure we have reserved plenty of lanes.

All are welcome, even if you don't want to bowl but just socialize! No need to RSVP if you are coming for fellowship!

This Week at HOPE January 22, 2025



**Event Tickets \$60**

Purchase online at [www.ourneighborsplace.org](http://www.ourneighborsplace.org)  
or at the ONP Day Center M-F 10-4 (cash or check)  
122 W Johnson St \* 715-426-9000



**Our Neighbors' Place**

February 1, 2025

**Casino Night**

**Kilkarney Hills Golf Course**  
**6:00-9:00 PM**

Drink Ticket

50/50 Raffle

Table Games

Live Music by  
Half Shebang



Hors d'oeuvres  
& Desserts

Buy 50/50 Raffle Tickets:  
**\$5/ticket or \$20/5 tickets**  
from a board member or at the Day Center 122 W Johnson St  
715-426-9000  
NEED NOT BE PRESENT TO WIN!

Silent  
Auction

Thank You Corporate  
Sponsors!







**SAVE THE DATE:**

Northwest Synod of WI's "Walking Together" event:

*"Go! Make Disciples!"*

Saturday, March 22, 2025

8:30-4:00 at Bethany Lutheran, Rice Lake, WI

Join lay and rostered leaders across our synod for a day of fellowship and learning together! This year offers fifteen workshops planned on this theme including workshops on Fresh Expressions, Lay Leadership, Cooperative Ministries, Equipping Witnesses,

Community Church and more!

This Week at HOPE January 22, 2025



**WINTER SESSION: January 8th-February 26th**  
**Exploring: New Testament stories, Parts of Worship, Souper Bowl, and BINGO**

All K-10+ children and youth are encouraged to register and attend!

Friends are always welcome!

3 Sessions throughout the year:

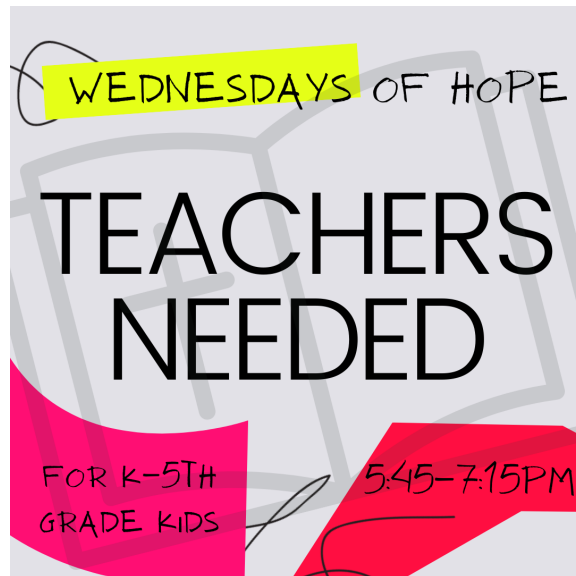
Spring Session: April 30-May 21

**MEALS NOW PROVIDED EVERY WEEK!**

Click below for more info & to register:

**[2024-2025 WEDNESDAYS OF HOPE REGISTRATION](#)**

**This Week at HOPE January 22, 2025**



[TEACHER SIGN UP HERE](#)



**WEDNESDAYS OF HOPE MEAL HOSTS NEEDED!  
[SIGN UP HERE AT THIS NEW LINK!](#)**

This year we would like to provide a SIMPLE, kid-friendly meal each Wednesday evening for our Wednesdays of HOPE ministry. This helps families participate in our ministry with one less thing to worry about on a busy weeknight, helps our youth and mentors connect over a meal, and provides an opportunity for other HOPE adults to engage with our children and youth!

Meals need to be ready at 5:45 and we expect to serve 15-20 people total. *Free Will donations will be collected to offset expenses. Donations of money for pizza nights are also being accepted.*

Please prayerfully consider if you/your ministry team would like to host a meal this year! Fall session is currently our biggest need!

**SIGN UPS ARE NOW AVAILABLE THROUGH MAY!**

This Week at HOPE January 22, 2025



**A CONVERSATION ABOUT  
CLIMATE CHANGE...  
AS IT RELATES TO OUR FAITH**

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 25TH - 10:00 AM**

JOIN US FOR A THOUGHT-PROVOKING PRESENTATION AND CONVERSATION ON THE PRESSING ISSUE OF CLIMATE CHANGE. LET'S COME TOGETHER TO ASK QUESTIONS OF AN EXPERT AND TO SHARE IDEAS AND EXPLORE SOLUTIONS TO ADDRESS CLIMATE CHANGE. DON'T MISS THIS OPPORTUNITY TO BE PART OF THE CONVERSATION AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN OUR COMMUNITY.

REFRESHMENTS AND SNACKS WILL BE SERVED.

**PRESENTED BY: DR. JAMES BOULTER**

Dr. James Boulter is a professor of chemistry and chair of the department of Public Health and Environmental Studies at the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire. There, he teaches and collaborates with students and colleagues in research that emphasizes issues of air pollution, climate change, and sustainability.



To register for FREE:



**ENGLISH LUTHERAN CHURCH OF BATEMAN**

20588 COUNTY HIGHWAY X, CHIPPEWA FALLS, WI 715.723.4231

## This Week at HOPE January 22, 2025



### **Please lift up the following people in prayer**

Bob Schuder (Father of Sarah Bondhus)

Harriette Bondhus (Mother of Mark Bondhus)

Missy Brown (Neighbors of Jeff & Karen Rodewald)

Lisa Ruehlow

Caleb Armerding & Family (Family friends of Linda Jacobson)

Mavis Wegleitner (Family of Dale *Wegleitner*)

Steve and Diane Meyer

Ethan Sailer (Family Friend of Faye Perkins)

Family of Rosina Hendrikson (Family of Mary Thompson)

Ellen Roose

Andy Haugen (Relative of Ellen Roose)

Derrek Lettich (Relative of Karen Brohaugh)

The Family of Teresa Jonas (Friend of Kay & Bill Montgomery)

Connie Juaire

Scott Urling (Friend of Jeff & Karen Rodewald)

John Cain (Family friend of Olive Olson)

Robb Scott

The Family of Woody Fangmeier (Friends of Jeff & Karen Rodewald)

Family of Kermit Paulson

Marcus Stack (Friend of Steve & Karen Kaste)

Family of Teajai Schmidt (relative of the Boocks)

Jacob Dan and family (Friends of Jeff Rodewald)

Patricia Miller (Sister of Carl Warren)

Rhiannon Bondhus (Niece of Bondhus family)

Lori Snyder (Friend of Nancy & David Peters)

Ed and Gwen Paulson

Randy Dopkins (Family friend of Olive Olson)

Eden Annoye (Relative of Debra James)

Fatma Aljarrah (Friend of Faye Perkins)

Beth Lindgren Family (Dan Malaney)

Michael Jacobson (Brother of Linda Jacobson)

Barb Carmichael (Friend of Nancy Sailer)

Dennis & Sandy Schultz (Friends of Bill & Kay Montgomery)

Nancy Miller (Friend of Paula & Phil Klacan)

Linda Shurden (Friend of Nancy Sailer)

Hannah Forward

Ella Conover (Phil & Paula's Klacan's Niece)

Daryl Kleeman (brother of Darcy Boock)

David Boock (Relative of the Boocks)

# This Week at HOPE January 22, 2025



Mark Bondhus  
Wendy Tokheim  
Lisa Ryland  
Karen Rodewald  
Susan Schuettpelz  
Bruce Schuettpelz  
Greta Wunrow  
Jason Neuhaus



Hallie Neuhaus	1-Jan
Jill Fritz	3-Jan
Hannah Hoglo	3-Jan
Katherine (Klacan) Schilling	11-Jan
Camryn Glaubitz	11-Jan
Mary Thompson	13-Jan
Jan Malaney	15-Jan
Connie Juaire	16-Jan
Samantha Brill	18-Jan
Sydney Wolfe	19-Jan
Mason Shea	21-Jan
Sean James	22-Jan
Makayla Ziebarth	23-Jan
Amanda Ziebarth	28-Jan
Jeremy Wolfe	31-Jan

# This Week at HOPE January 22, 2025



All are invited & needed  
to participate in the leading of worship!  
Please prayerfully consider sharing y  
our time and talents!

**SIGN UP HERE**

Want to help but not sure what the job entails?  
Learn more in our [Worship Volunteer Guide](#)



**Did you know HOPE is on Facebook in TWO places??**

**Public HOPE Facebook Page**

For public information, events, and Gospel sharing

**Private HOPE Facebook Group**

For private events, picture sharing, sharing joys & prayer concerns,  
and living out our faith together

**Make sure to like, follow, and join both to stay up to date!**