



Mission & Values

MISSION

**HOPE is called by God to look beyond ourselves.
We walk together in faith,
treasuring all people and sharing with them
the love, hope and acceptance that is in Christ.**

HOPE VALUES

**All people without exception
Serving Generously
Spiritual Nourishment
Our Connection with Creation**

This Week at HOPE February 4, 2026

WEEKLY WORD: “Fumbling Our Way In the Dark toward Repair” By Pastor Annie Ladnier

Last Sunday we heard these words as part of our first reading from Micah 6:

*He has told you, O mortal, what is good,
and what does the Lord require of you
but to do justice and to love kindness
and to walk humbly with your God?*

The verse comes to us after a pretty sarcastic exchange of the prophet to God’s people. What could we possibly have to complain to God about? Is it that God brought us out of the land of Egypt and out of slavery into freedom? No? And just what is it that we think the God of the universe really wants or needs from us? Does God need us to sacrifice thousands of rams? Of course not! Everything that God has done for us is in the hope of justice, and love, and a holy humble walk together with us. So that is all God wants us to do.

As always, this seems and sounds simple yet, our reality- the complexities of human relationship, our desires and wants, our celebrations and our shortcomings, all tend to complicate the work set before us. So every day we have before us a new opportunity to walk a bit more humbly, to do a bit more justice, and to serve in more loving kindness than the day before.

This Sunday we will hear the next part of Jesus’s “Sermon on the Mount” in Matthew 5. Jesus will give us these words:

*You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored?...
You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid...let your light shine before others,
so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.*

God has made us to be difference-makers. Salt adds dimension and flavor to what we eat, but it also tenderizes and preserves it. To be a salty people means that we add flavor to the world’s bitterness. In the midst of complete and utter darkness, even the light of one match can illuminate an entire room. In fact, that light shines brightest in contrast with total darkness. Shining our one little light of Christ, is actually quite powerful work for those living in whatever darkness life has rendered.

One thing I have been praying and thinking about in light of our current global and political climate is the holy work of repentance. A few Sundays ago we heard a bit about the call to repentance: *Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near. I believe that the work of repentance is salty and light-bearing work. The work of repentance imagines a new way of being, a change of heart, a re-entry point with the other people, places, and circumstances from which, one way or another, we have been separated. And in the Kingdom of Heaven, things are made whole, renewed, reunited. Part of that reunification is for each one of us to have our hearts so illumined by the love of God in Christ Jesus, that they serve as the engines of our “doing justice, and loving kindness, and walking humbly with God.” I think there is a tremendous emphasis on that humble walk when we consider repentance. It will take a good bit of humility in order to repair what has been broken, to sew it back together, to make it anew. It is tender work, but it is beautiful and holy.*

So as I live and breathe and engage in ministry in the living of these days, I am simmering on the holy work of repentance. I am wondering how we are called into that holy work and what beautiful kingdom of heaven we will encounter on the other side of that work, if we are salty enough to dare to enter into it. **This prayerful blessing poem, “For Repentance,” written by Rev. Meta Herrick-Carlson has been a light to me and I extend that light to you:**

This Week at HOPE February 4, 2026

It is a dangerous luxury
to give up on one another,
to announce some things
beyond forgiveness—
not just personally and today,
but for everyone and always.

It is a dangerous luxury
to declare zero tolerance
because it will be broken.
It always gets broken,
and then what?
Intolerance has a pass.

The world does not need
more grace restricted,
more exasperated sighs,
more backs turned against one another,
more detailed accounts of their wrongs.

It needs you
and the soft courage
that looks others in the face long enough
to wonder if trust can be made
and it's safe to try again
differently.

This Week at HOPE February 4, 2026



We still have the following roles open in the next 2 weeks!
Please consider signing up:

February 8th Needs:

Ushers
Acolyte
Altar Flowers
Help hosting coffee (Donut Sunday)

February 15th Needs:

Ushers
Reader/Prayer Leader
Communion Assistant
Altar Flowers
Coffee Fellowship Host

IF YOU CAN SERVE PLEASE [SIGN UP HERE!](#)

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

This Week at HOPE February 4, 2026

If you missed the information Tiny Home Summit on January 29th, but are interested in helping make a Tiny Home community a reality in River Falls or want to learn more, check out this interest form:

River Falls Tiny Home Summit Interest Form

Scan this code to enter your volunteer information if you are interested in making Wellspring Village a reality!

**SCAN
ME**



This Week at HOPE February 4, 2026

BINGO
NIGHT

February 11th
5:45 Meal
6:15 Bingo

HOPE
LUTHERAN
LCA

Fellowship, Prizes, & Fun for ALL AGES!

Tell me 
something
good

Grounding ourselves in
the good news this Lent
Beginning Ash Wednesday
February 18, 2026

This Week at HOPE February 4, 2026



WALKING TOGETHER
Church Without Walls

March 21, 2026
8:00 - 4:00
\$25 Per Participant
Bethany Lutheran Church - Rice Lake, WI
Keynote Speaker: Natalia Terfa

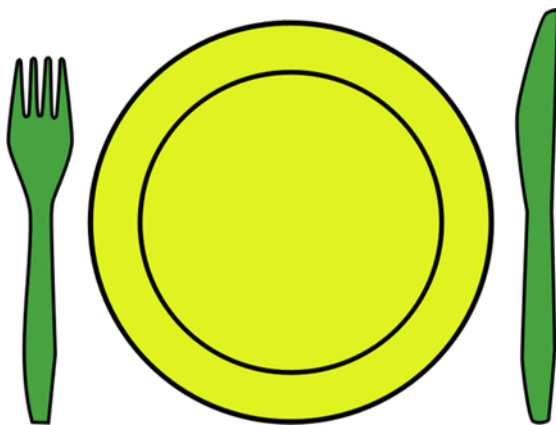


Register and Details Here:
<https://nwswi.org/walking-together-event>



Northwest Synod of Wisconsin
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

This Week at HOPE February 4, 2026



MEAL HOSTS NEEDED FOR Wednesdays of HOPE

Please consider hosting a meal for, "Wednesdays of HOPE"
WOH is our midweek faith formation night for K-high school youth!
[Winter Session runs through Feb. 11th \(BINGO Night\)](#)

[Spring Session: April 8-May 13](#)

Simple, kid-friendly meals are needed to feed 15-20 people
Hosts help serve and clean-up the meal (parents will help too)
\$40/meal is available if needed to make hosting possible!
This is a great way to get to know our youth and a chance to partner with
other HOPE members to co-host! Fun for everyone!

[**SIGN UP HERE TO HOST**](#)

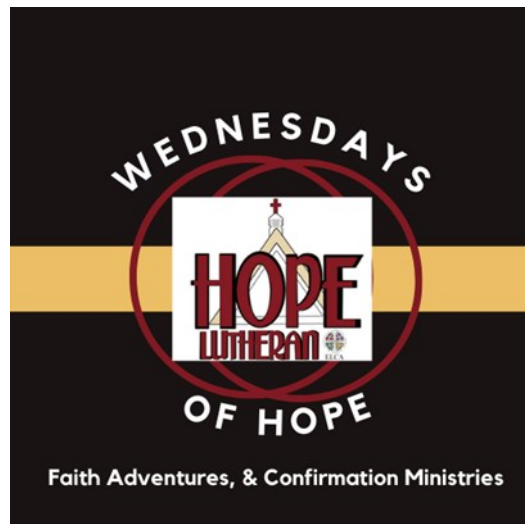


Faith Adventures Instructor Sign-Up

We welcome anyone interested in helping lead our K-5th grade students Wednesday evening lessons. All materials are provided easily through our online curriculum through Sparkhouse.

Please [**SIGN UP HERE**](#) to teach a winter or spring lesson.

This Week at HOPE February 4, 2026



WINTER SESSION JANUARY 14-FEBRUARY 11TH

All K-5th grade children are invited for “Faith Adventures!”
This winter we dig into some of our favorite Old Testament stories like:
“The Battle of Jericho,” “David & Goliath,” and “Jonah & the Big Fish”!

All 6th- 10th+ youth are invited for our Confirmation Ministry!
Join us this winter for a deep dive into Lutheran History & Theology, The
Creed, and The Lord’s Prayer

Thank you to tonight’s Meal Hosts: Ann Rosenthal & Nancy Sailer

5:45: Meal & Fellowship
6:15-7:15: Games & Learning

Spring Session:

April 8-May 13

[LEARN MORE & REGISTER HERE](#)

This Week at HOPE February 4, 2026

blusea
PHILANTHROPIA

february 28, 2026

❄️

🧣

across the
country,
close to home.

A winterrific family-friendly fundraising walk in support of local charities serving people experiencing hurt, hunger, and homelessness... because it's cold out there.

walk | fundraise
donate | volunteer
team up with friends
cnoy.com

Registration is free:
www.cnoy.com/hudson

February 28, 2026
Walk starts at 5 pm

CELEBRATING 30 YEARS

Community Local Stability

in One Year
Habitat for Humanity

Foundations of Hope:

30 Years of Building Together

SATURDAY, MARCH 28 • 5:30-9:30 PM
KILKARNEY HILLS GOLF CLUB
163 RADIO ROAD, RIVER FALLS

We're celebrating our 30th anniversary and 5th annual gala, and raising funds to build a home for a healthcare worker! Registration is open now. Join us for cocktail hour, a silent auction, heavy appetizers, our Dessert Dash, live auction, & more!

Thank You To Our Sponsors:

Future Foundations Sponsor

WESTERN WISCONSIN HEALTH

30th Anniversary Sponsor

ANDERSEN
WINDOWS & DOORS

Platinum Sponsors

CLIQSTUDIOS thrivent

Gold Sponsors

sfb STEINER WESTconsin

Silver Sponsors

Kraus-Anderson, Krumm Exteriors, Pillar Bank, Royal Credit Union

Event Partners

Fladboe Advancement, Kilkarney Hills, Mason Jar Marketing, OneCause

Register at onecau.se/Celebrate30 by Sunday, March 15



Grief Support Group

Bakken-Young Funeral & Cremation Services offers both virtual and in-person grief support groups. This six-week grief support group is for adults who are grieving the death of a loved one. We ask that you participate in all 6 sessions, as possible.

Grief Group held in person in New Richmond

Mondays, 6:00-7:00 pm

April 6, 13, 20, 27, May 4, 11, 2026

New Richmond United Methodist Church

209 E Second Street, New Richmond, WI 54017

RSVP by Sunday, March 29, with your name, phone number, and email.

Anyone is welcome to participate in the group, and the sessions are free.

Group Facilitator:

Julia Rajtar, M.A.P.S., BCC, Grief Support Specialist
Bakken-Young Grief Support Coordinator

To register, RSVP with your name, phone number, and email at:

julia@bakken-young.com

For more information, call or text Julia at 715-781-4003.

Visit "Grief Support" at www.bakken-young.com
for additional groups and other grief support resources
or join us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/bakkenyoung

This Week at HOPE February 4, 2026



DON'T FORGET! MISSION TEAM HAS YOUR KWIK TRIP GIFT CARDS & CAR WASH CARDS!

HOPE's Mission Ministry reminds you that Kwik Trip Gas cards and Car Wash cards are available to you as part of our fundraising for Our Neighbor's Place!

Gas Cards: \$25/\$50 amounts

Car Wash Cards: \$36 for 5 Ultimate Washes

*Portion goes directly to ONP!

Cards available every Sunday and Mon-Wed, 8:30-3:00 in the church office.

Checks payable to "Our Neighbor's Place," cash also accepted.

Office Admin, Olive Olson, Pastor Annie, or any member of our Mission Team can assist you in getting a card.

Thank you for your continued support of Our Neighbors' Place!

This Week at HOPE February 4, 2026



Please lift up the following people in prayer

Family of Betty Pierce (Friends of Mary Thompson)
Doug Rudesill
Mary Lynn and Len Wiskerchen (Friends of Faye Perkins)
Rev. Ron Johnson (Friend of Karen Rodewald)
Sue Tarr (Friend of Faye Perkins)
The Family of David Boock
Mary Klacan
Jean Lemire Anderson (Sister-in-law of Karen Brohaugh)
David Anderson (Brother of Karen Chantel Ashton (Friend of Olive Olson)
Lois Rosenthal (Mother of Jeff Rosenthal)
Leslie Randall (Sister of Vicki Siebold)
The Family of Jill Siebold (Daughter of Gary Siebold)
Ed Paulson and family
Gwen Paulson and her son Chad Sequin (Friend of Bill & Kay Montgomery)
Amanda Olson (Olive Olson's daughter)
Jim Deming (friend of Marc & Martie Guthrie)
Cathy Hjersjo (Friend of Darcy Boock)
Sylvia Secrist (Friend of Paula & Phil Klacan)
Carol Prince (Friend of Betty Lou Oppegard)
Brent Larson (Friend of Bill & Kay Montgomery)
Bob Schuder (Father of Sarah Bondhus)
Mavis Wegleitner (Family of Dale *Wegleitner*)
Family of Rosina Hendrikson (Family of Mary Thompson)
Marcus Stack (Friend of Steve & Karen Kaste)
Jacob Dan and family (Friends of Jeff Rodewald)
Patricia Miller (Sister of Carl Warren)
Rhiannon Bondhus (Niece of Bondhus family)
Eden Annoye (Relative of Debra James)
Fatma Aljarrah (Friend of Faye Perkins)
Michael Jacobson (Brother of Linda Jacobson)
Dennis & Sandy Schultz (Friends of Bill & Kay Montgomery)
Hannah Forward
Daryl Kleeman (Brother of Darcy Boock)
Lee Hill (friend of Naomi)
Gary Siebold
David Hendrickson

This Week at HOPE February 4, 2026



February Birthdays

Name	Birth Date
Mason Filarsky	2-Feb
Bill Montgomery	4-Feb
Susie Rudesill	5-Feb
Lisa Ziebarth	7-Feb
Lisa Ruehlow	5-Feb
Marc Guthrie	10-Feb
Connie Kurten	11-Feb
Martie Guthrie	13-Feb
Dan Wunrow	15-Feb
Ryan Leitch	19-Feb
Pam Quinn	19-Feb
Diane Clark	20-Feb
Ryan Brill	23-Feb
Richard Jackson	25-Feb
Rosemary Nelson	25-Feb
Darcy Boock	28-Feb



February Baptisms

Cecelia Bernard
Kevin James
Grete Rehbein
Jill Fritz

This Week at HOPE February 4, 2026



All are invited & needed to participate in the leading of worship! Please prayerfully consider sharing your 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!