



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 18, 2026

Ash Wednesday Service TONIGHT

Meal 5:45

Worship 6:30



JOIN US TONIGHT IN PERSON OR LIVESTREAM ON YOUTUBE:

<https://www.youtube.com/@HOPELutheranRiverFalls>

Tonight's Artwork: "There Is Still Room" by Lauren Wright Pittman



Inspired by Luke 14:15-24. Digital drawing with collage

This Week at HOPE February 18, 2026



Lent was originally a season for new converts to learn and prepare for their baptism on Easter. During that time, they would study what was central to Christianity. This series was created after asking, “what are the core, foundational concepts of Jesus’ life and ministry? What makes each of these good news? Can we trust that the good news is truly good, even when it challenges us?”

If we're being honest, we can easily distort or sanitize Jesus' teachings. Following Jesus leads to a richer, more expansive life, but it's not necessarily comfortable. We often describe Jesus' ministry as “radical” which comes from the Latin word “radicalis,” meaning “root” or “ground.” Therefore, the good news should bring us back to our roots, back to what grounds us: loving our neighbor, caring for the vulnerable, pursuing justice and mercy, and resting in God’s unending grace.

The good news is extravagant, untamed, illogical, and persistent. It is joyful—like fine wine saved for celebration. It grows like a mustard seed that flourishes rapidly into a tree to shelter the birds. It smells like expensive perfume poured from an alabaster jar and like crumbling bread passed endlessly through a hungry crowd. It sounds like children laughing and like stones dropped to the ground instead of violently thrown. It feels like feet washed with tender care. The good news is alive in the world.

My hope is for this series to provide fertile ground for conversation and worship, rooting our hearts and lives in the expansive goodness of God. This Lent, may the teachings of Jesus lead us forward. Let the good news ground us. And let that good news inspire us to take action in a world desperate to hear, see, and taste what is good!

Enhance your Lenten experience with these resources:

- Devotion: In addition to the hard copies available at church, our friends at A Sanctified Art have provided a special e-reader version of this year’s Lenten devotional, which you can access on your computer and mobile devices: online.flippingbook.com/view/546389771/ (*In order to protect their work, please refrain from sharing this link or posting it on social media.*)
- Read *The Moral Teachings of Jesus: Radical Instruction in the Will of God*, by David P. Gushee, (Eugene, OR: Cascade Books, 2024).
- Listen: [“Tell Me Something Good” playlist on Spotify](#)

This Week at HOPE February 18, 2026



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

February 22nd Needs:

Ushers
Acolyte
Coffee Fellowship Host

March 1st Needs:

Ushers
Communion Assistant
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 18, 2026



Journey to Easter: Feeding God's Children Together

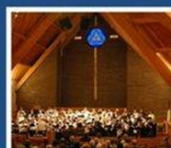
During the season of Lent, with the theme "Tell Me Something Good", HOPE Lutheran is partnering with other River Falls churches to provide nutritious meals for children around the world. The goal for our church is

\$2000 to bring Feed My Starving Children to River Falls in September 2026. If you can help with this cause, please make checks payable to HOPE with Feed My Starving Children in the memo line; of course, cash is always welcome. Look for a box labeled Feed My Starving Children on the back table and watch the progress to reaching our goal on the donation "thermometer" to appear soon. Each gift—large or small—moves us closer to feeding more children in need. Thank you for giving with a generous heart this Lent.



It Takes a Village

Sunday, February 22 at 4:00 PM
Ezekiel Lutheran Church
202 South 2nd St. | River Falls, WI



Featuring: Croix Chordsmen Chorus, Cross Lutheran Choir (Roberts), Ezekiel's Chancel Choir, First Congregational Church Choir, Pierce County Ecumenical, UWRF-University Community Chorus, and a mass choir number

Learn more about this nonprofit at HaitianRelief.org

This Week at HOPE February 18, 2026

Bingo Night at HOPE!



This Week at HOPE February 18, 2026



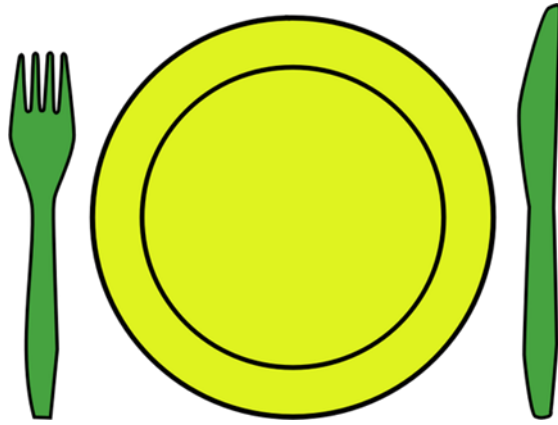
**BOWLING WITH HOPE
FOR FOOD!**

**@ St. Croix Lanes
Sunday, March 1st
1:00-3:00PM**

**FREE bowling & shoes with
FREEWILL DONATION
to the RIVER FALLS FOOD PANTRY
Register on FB or [@hopelutheranrf.com](https://www.hopelutheranrf.com)**



This Week at HOPE February 18, 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](#)

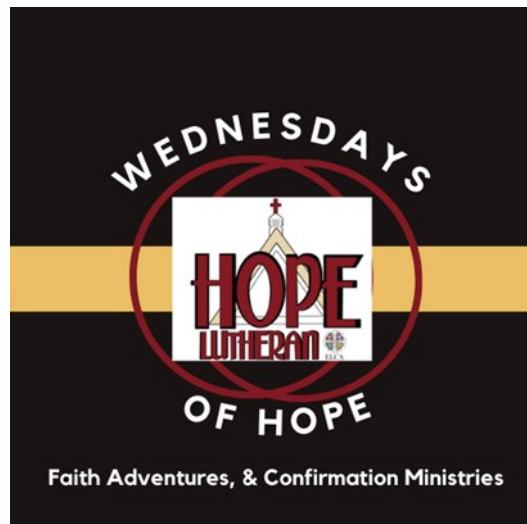


Faith Adventures Instructor Sign-Up

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 18, 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 18, 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://nswi.org/walking-together-event>



Northwest Synod of Wisconsin
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

This Week at HOPE February 18, 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 18, 2026



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




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 18, 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 18, 2026



Please lift up the following people in prayer

Sam Morrissette (Friend of Jeff & Karen Rodewald)
Mark Willink (Brother of Paula Klacan)
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 Hjernsjo (Friend of Darcy Boock)
Sylvia Secrist (Friend of Paula & Phil Klacan)
Carol Prince (Friend of Betty Lou Oppgard)
Brent Larson (Friend of Bill & Kay Montgomery)
Bob Schuder (Father of Sarah Bondhus)
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 18, 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 18, 2026



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!