



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**

Weekly Word by Pastor Annie Ladnier



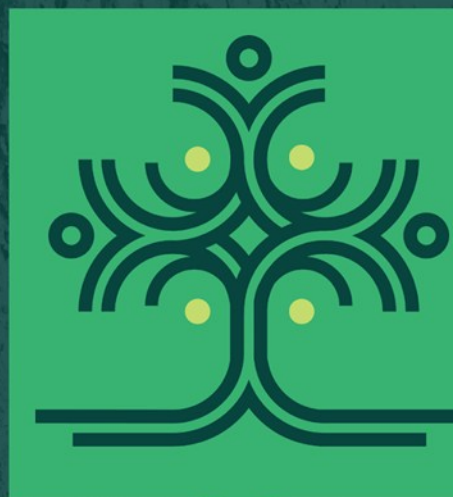
If God Lived Next Door

If God lived next door,
I'd drop off a loaf of bread.
I'd use my mom's best recipe.
I'd wrap it in parchment and ribbon
and place it on the front stoop.
If God lived next door,
I'd leave a note with my phone number.
Call anytime you need anything!
I'm always happy to help!
If God lived next door,
I'd keep sugar on the shelf,
just in case she needed a cup.
I'd put a picnic table in the front yard
and begin taking my coffee there.
Whenever God passed by with their gaggle of rescue dogs,
I could say, *Want to sit for a moment? Want to rest your legs?*
I'd keep a jar of dog treats and water by the mailbox
and change my doormat to one that says:
All are welcome here.
I'd invite God over for dinner.
She'd bring bread and juice.
I'd host a block party,
so that everyone could meet her.
I'd start a community garden
so that the kids could run between rows of squash and tomatoes
while we adults put our hands in the dirt.
We'd share stories while we weeded,
and eat harvest meals at the end of the season.
If God lived next door,
I'd want to build something beautiful.
Then again,
who says she doesn't?

This Week at HOPE March 4, 2026

Midweek Worship This Lent

Grounding Ourselves in the
Good News
through
Art
Centering Prayer
Communal Song
& Holy Conversation



5:45 Meal
6:30 Worship

PLEASE JOIN US TONIGHT IN PERSON

(Midweek services are not livestreamed)

**ASH WEDNESDAY, MAUNDY THURSDAY & GOOD FRIDAY
WILL BE LIVESTREAMED**

Tonight's Artwork: "We Are Small, We Are Numerous, We Are Deep"
by Carmelle Beaugelin Caldwell

ANNOUNCING THE NEXT

ALL TEAM

MEETING

6:30PM

APRIL 13TH 2026

MAIN TOPIC:
**Anniversary Planning
& Future Dreaming**

All Ministry Team members are encouraged to attend!
Interested in joining a team? Join us!

The graphic is a promotional flyer for an All Team Meeting. It features a white background with a dark red diagonal corner at the bottom right. Text is arranged in a vertical stack of dark red and white boxes. A red arrow points from the 'ALL TEAM MEETING' box to a white box containing '6:30PM'. The HOPE LUTHERAN logo is positioned in the bottom right corner. There are decorative dotted patterns in the top right and middle right areas.



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 March 4, 2026



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

Wednesday, March 4th Needs

Reader
Acolyte

March 8th Needs:

Acolyte
Communion Assistant

Wednesday, March 11th Needs

Acolyte
Reader

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 March 4, 2026

**THANK YOU TO ALL WHO BOWLED FOR HUNGER
IN SUPPORT OF THE RIVER FALLS FOOD PANTRY!**

If you'd like to donate but couldn't make the event you can give directly here:
<https://thrivent.cotribute.co/events/1296914/donate>



So far we've raised: \$450










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.

This Week at HOPE March 4, 2026

2911 PROJECT PRESENTS

 the 2911 project

Laughter Returns!



CELEBRATE RESILIENCE. SUPPORT RECOVERY.

Laughter is one of the first signs of a life being reclaimed. Join The 2911 Project & Stevie Ray's Improv Company (from Chanhassen Dinner Theatre!) for a night of community, a delicious dinner, and unscripted comedy as we celebrate the joy found in recovery. All proceeds provide safe, stable housing for those building a new future.



improv company

04.22.2026

5:00 - 7:30 PM
Juniors Restaurant
River Falls, WI



SCAN QR CODE
TO PURCHASE



Tickets \$45

AN EVENING SUPPORTING SOBER LIVING

YOUTH NEWS



LIGHTHOUSE

Middle School Youth Gathering

"Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go." - Joshua 1:9

5th - 8th
Grade



\$60
Per
Participant



11 APRIL

9:00 AM - 4:15 PM

BETHANY LUTH.

Rice Lake, WI

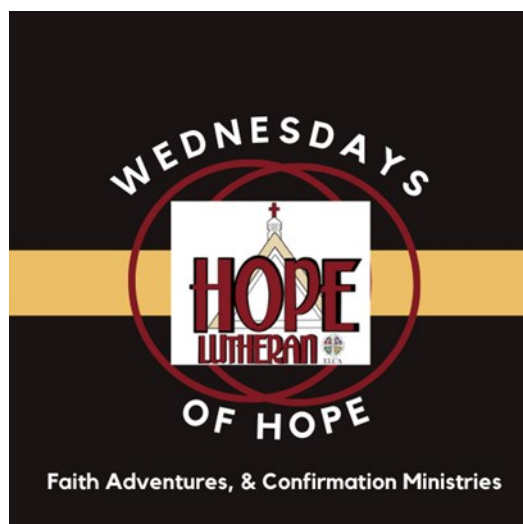
- WORSHIP
- WORKSHOPS
- GROUP DEVOTIONS
- GUEST SPEAKER
- SERVICE PROJECT

<https://nswi.org/synod-youth-board>



Northwest Synod of Wisconsin
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

This Week at HOPE March 4, 2026



**WOH does not meet during Lent!
You're invited to attend Lenten midweek meals & worship!**

**Spring Session:
April 8 - May 13**

[LEARN MORE & REGISTER HERE](#)



WE ARE SEEKING GIANT CLASSIC GAMES

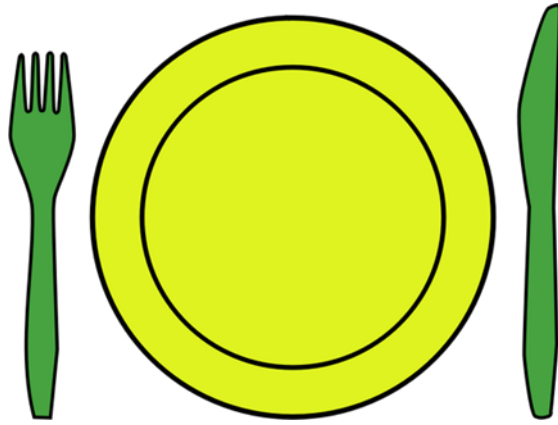
Do you have a giant Jenga, Connect 4, Yahtzee, or Checkers?
(or other large scale versions of classic games)

We would like to borrow them for a fun activity on April 12th.

Please email Pastor Annie if you do!

hopelutheranpastor.rf@gmail.com

This Week at HOPE March 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 March 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



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



Platinum Sponsors



Gold Sponsors



Silver Sponsors

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

Event Partners

Fladeboe 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 March 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 March 4, 2026



Please lift up the following people in prayer

The Family of Ted Bauer (Friend of Olive Olson)
Robb DeSmith (Family friend of the Rodewalds)
Jerry Gibson (Father of Karen Rodewald and Diane Clark)
Lisa Perlt Farley (Friend of Faye Perkins)
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 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)
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 March 4, 2026



March Baptisms

Darcy Boock
Samatha Brill
Richard Jackson
Debra James
Mallory James
Connie Juaire
Katherine (Klacan) Schilling
Morgan Leitch
Susie Rudesill
Dean Simpson



March Birthdays

| <i>Name</i> | <i>Birth Date</i> |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| Carl Warren | 3-Mar |
| Madison Ziebarth | 3-Mar |
| Grant Klacan | 3-Mar |
| Jan Wegleitner | 3-Mar |
| Addyson Wolfe | 9-Mar |
| Sharon Paulson | 10-Mar |
| Dean Simpson | 21-Mar |
| Karen Ottney-Kaste | 22-Mar |
| Joseph Kurten | 22-Mar |
| Margaret Anderson | 23-Mar |
| David Peters | 23-Mar |
| Andrea Boock | 31-Mar |
| Leonard Juaire | 31-Mar |
| Roger Tweiten | 31-Mar |



Celebrating

Mark and Sarah Bondhus 15-Mar 46 Years

This Week at HOPE March 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!