



# 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 March 18, 2026**

**Weekly Word by Pastor Annie Ladnier**



## Unwritten Agreement

We have this unwritten agreement,  
us members of humanity.  
When the toddler at the coffee shop runs round the corner,  
when her mom, at the register, looks up in panic,  
we, the adults in the room, will pledge,  
with quick smiles and silent head nods, to keep watch.  
We will lean out of our seats.  
We will put down our phones.  
We will stand at the ready  
to scoop up,  
to offer words of comfort,  
to make silly faces,  
to keep an eye on the door.  
And we will do this,  
because we cannot ignore the instinct to care.  
We will do this,  
because we cannot ignore the child right in front of us.  
We will do this,  
because love always includes the least of these.

### **PLEASE NOTE:**

**TONIGHT'S MIDWEEK LENTEN WORSHIP  
WILL BE LIVESTREAMED!**

Our worship tonight will be an adapted version of what we **WOULD** have done last Sunday before cancelling for weather.

We hope you can join us either in-person or online at: <https://www.youtube.com/@HOPELutheranRiverFalls>

This Week at HOPE March 18, 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  
& TONIGHT'S SERVICE WILL ALSO BE LIVESTREAMED!!!**  
(Midweek services are not regularly livestreamed)  
**ASH WEDNESDAY, MAUNDY THURSDAY & GOOD FRIDAY  
WILL BE LIVESTREAMED**

## Holy Week 2026



Palm Sunday, March 29 9:30AM



Maunday Thursday, April 2 6:30PM

Good Friday, April 3 6:30PM



Easter Sunday, April 5 , 7AM Sunrise, 9:30

**Come Hear Something Good**



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/](https://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 18, 2026**



**Wednesday, March 18th Needs**

Acolyte  
Reader

**March 22nd Needs:**

Assisting Minister  
Acolyte

**Wednesday, March 25th 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 18, 2026

## 2026 Easter Garden

All are invited to bring an offering of Easter flowers for our Easter Garden!

Please drop off flowers/plants to the Eidskog Room **Between 4/1 - 4/4 NO LATER THAN 9AM on 4/4.**

To include your offering as a memorial/honorarium please email the details to Olive by 3/31.



## **Easter Choir at HOPE**

Easter Sunday, April 5, 9:30 AM

### Easter Choir Rehearsals

30 minute rehearsals immediately follow mid-week 6:30pm worship services

Wednesday, March 11

Wednesday, March 25

Wednesday, March 18

Thursday, April 2

The Easter Choir welcomes all singers of all abilities, high school age and up. Attend as many rehearsals as your busy schedule allows. Join the choir this year and bring a friend! We will prepare one anthem and a choir-only verse for one or two hymns.

# This Week at HOPE March 18, 2026



## PUZZLE PARTY AT HOPE, SUNDAY APRIL 12, FROM 1-3 PM

Enjoy a "No Contest" social event by piecing together puzzles with other members of all ages, Simple to mildly challenging, you can also engage in conversation and consume snacks. There will be ample opportunity for fun and laughter

Volunteers: If you want to help set up and take down tables for the event email [marythompson4@gmail.com](mailto:marythompson4@gmail.com)

We would like helpers to notify us on or before April 1.

**ANNOUNCING THE NEXT**

**ALL TEAM MEETING**

**6:30PM**

**APRIL 13<sup>TH</sup> 2026**

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

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

**HOPE LUTHERAN**  
ELCA

A promotional poster for a weekly event. At the top, it says "JOIN US FOR" in a simple font, followed by "COFFEE & CONVERSATION" in large, bold, green, distressed-style letters. Below the text is a white coffee cup on a saucer with a heart-shaped latte art. To the left of the cup, a green arrow points to the text "NOW ON MONDAYS". In the bottom right corner of the poster is the "HOPE LUTHERAN" logo, which features a stylized church steeple. At the bottom of the poster, a dark green banner contains the text "10:00AM EVERY MONDAY ON ZOOM".

JOIN US FOR  
**COFFEE &  
CONVERSATION**

NOW ON  
MONDAYS

**HOPE  
LUTHERAN**

10:00AM EVERY MONDAY  
ON ZOOM

[USE THIS ZOOM LINK TO JOIN THE CONVERSATION](#)



### **COMMUNION BREAD BAKERS STILL NEEDED**

The Worship Ministry team is still seeking a few volunteers to bake our communion bread for worship during July, August, and December of 2026. No previous experience is needed! This is a great behind-the-scenes volunteer role and a great way to engage children or grandchildren!

Sign-up, recipe, and instructions can be found [HERE](#) or contact Cara Getschel ([caragetschel@gmail.com](mailto:caragetschel@gmail.com)) if you can assist or have questions.

## This Week at HOPE March 18, 2026



The Closet at Our Neighbors' Place is holding an indoor freewill donation garage sale March 9–20 to help clear out items before their temporary move downtown. Hours for both weeks are as follows:

Mondays 1-4

Tuesdays 10-6

Wednesdays 10-4

Thursdays 10-6

Fridays 10-4



### *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




### **Caring Kitchen**

The Mission Ministry decided to lift up another nonprofit the first Sunday of each month. In January we collected donations for the Food Pantry; in February it was the ONP Backpack Program; March 1 donations will be collected for Caring Kitchen. We will continue this rotation. Caring Kitchen began mid-November 2025 to provide free weekly meals for those in need here in River Falls, although the meals are open to anyone. Meals are served every Thursday evening 4-7 p.m. at Selah Vie. All food is provided through donations and prepared either by the owner, Darren Graves, or the nonprofit organizer Violet Davila. Please consider supporting this important community service.

This Week at HOPE March 18, 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

This Week at HOPE March 18, 2026



We need YOU to make our church directory complete!

It is free! Every family gets a free 8x10. And a free directory.

Family photos to be taken at HOPE.  
Tuesday May 5th and Wednesday May 6th.  
Both days 2:00 pm to 8:00 pm.

Schedule your time here: <https://schedule.ucdir.com/#/>

CHURCH CODE: wi461

CHURCH PASSWORD: hope

Scan  
Me



# 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 - 8<sup>th</sup>  
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

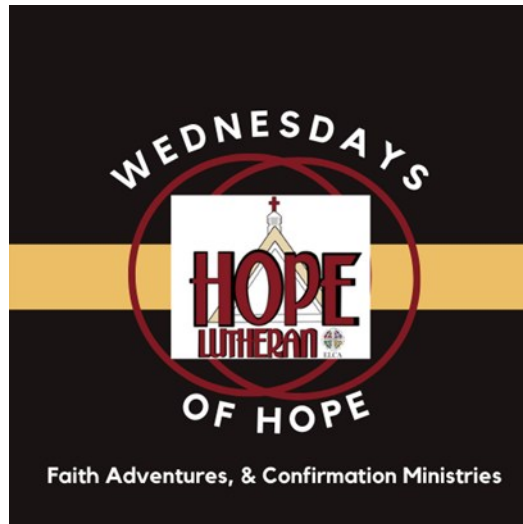


<https://nswi.org/synod-youth-board>



Northwest Synod of Wisconsin  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

**This Week at HOPE March 18, 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**

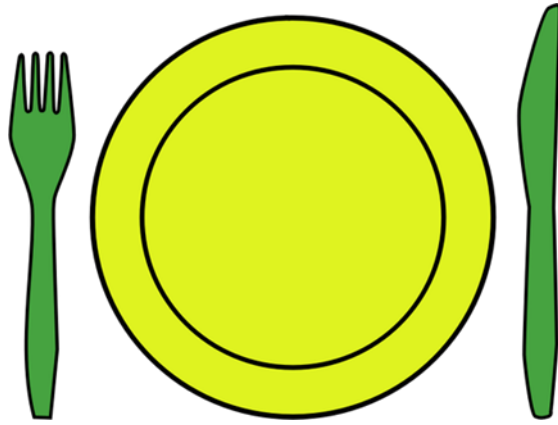
Do you have a giant Jenga, Connect 4, Yahtzee, or Checkers?  
(or other large scale versions of classic games)

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 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 March 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://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 30<sup>th</sup> 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](https://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](mailto:julia@bakken-young.com)

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

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

**This Week at HOPE March 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 March 18, 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 Hjernsjo (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 18, 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 18, 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!**