



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 September 23, 2026

This week I thought we might have a little fun. I've been asked to provide a picture for my bio for Hope, but I'm having trouble picking the right one! So I thought you fine folks might help me this week! I am going to share a few pictures in this article and tell you the story behind it and maybe you can help me choose which works the best! I'll go from oldest to newest.



This picture is of me with some Pastoral colleagues from the Ashland/Bayfield Area. We went to a protest to support a teacher who was facing conflict at the local school because of his support and hosting of a Gay Straight Alliance club at the middle school.

The image to the right is of me in a borrowed stole and alb visiting friends and getting to go to a surprise (to me) ordination in North Dakota. I was ordained during Covid, which was unique in its own Spirit filled way.

I did miss the experience of a room full of pastors blessing me on this journey, so I enjoy going to ordinations when I can!



I wanted to show you the full photo of this stole from Quilted with Prayer, one of my favorites, and which you'll hopefully get to see this winter. I don't get many photos of myself in the pulpit or presiding. You can thank my dad, Bob Giese, for this picture from one advent season or another. It may not be the best photo of the stole, but it's a pretty good photo of me.

This Week at HOPE September 23, 2026



One of the crazy fun and amazing things I got to experience as a Pastor in Ashland was being invited to Bless the Fleet, a yearly event done in Bayfield for all those who boat on Lake Superior. Extra special are the years the Coast Guard lets us bless their cutter!



This is a picture of me in a less formal setting, but doing one of the things I love to do- travel and explore! This is a photo of me at the Morning Glory Springs in Yellowstone National Park, where my husband and I celebrated our 10th anniversary.

And last, but not least, we have a picture of me at HOPE! This is from this last weekend, when Pastor Diane House installed me. I wore red because I see installations as similar to ordinations, plus, only about 10 people got to see my ordination dress because of Covid! Of course I wanted to share it with the lovely people of Hope.



I hope you can help me narrow down the options some! – Pastor Rachel

This Week at HOPE September 23, 2026

**Photos from
God's Work Our Hands Sunday**



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The Green Team had a great turnout for our habitat improvement session around the pond!



Many thanks to those who were able to come out!

We enjoyed beautiful weather and each other's company as we celebrated the space we share with so many other living things.

This Week at HOPE September 23, 2026



Trunk or Treat!
Wednesday, October 28th
5:30—7:00

Trunk set up 5:00—5:30

Treater 5:00—7:30

Sign up with your trunk team on the table in the back of the church.

If you have questions call
Sue Schuettpelz at 920-855-2551
Vicki Siebold at 612-877-0039

This Week at HOPE September 23, 2026



Remember to take the “CAT” (Church Assessment Tool) Survey!

The online survey is now open and ready for your participation. This is your opportunity to add your voice to our congregation-wide effort to formulate plans for Hope’s future and help in the process of transitioning to a new pastor.

Here is the link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/HOPELCRIVERFALLAWI>

We want every member of our congregation 16 and older to participate in the “CAT” online survey. It takes about 25 minutes & needs to be completed in a single sitting. For those without online access or familiarity with computers, assistance can be provided by friends or family members. The survey doesn’t require a unique IP or email address so the survey can be completed by more than 1 person on the same computer. Help can also be provided by the church. Please contact Olive Olson at Hope ([715-425-9750](tel:715-425-9750)), Email: [hopelutheranoffice.rf@gmail.com](mailto:hopolutheranoffice.rf@gmail.com)) and we’ll arrange a time to assist.

The survey will close on Sunday Oct. 4th so please take it as soon as possible. Your responses are completely anonymous. You can read more about the CAT at holycowconsulting.com. Thank-you!



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

October 4th

Worship Assistant
Reader/Prayer Leader
Usher/Greeters
Acolyte
Flowers
Coffee/Fellowship

October 11th

Usher/Greeters
Flowers
Coffee/Fellowship

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](#)

Noisy Offering Alert! Sunday, Sept. 27



Take your commitment to renewable energy
one > step > further

The average River Falls home uses 9,229 kilowatt-hours of energy per year.
This is equivalent to burning 3.5 tons of coal.

Will you take it one step further? Will you go all the way?

Without renewable energy blocks commitment:	Take the next step (Purchase first or add an additional block)	Go all the way! (Purchase enough blocks to go 100% Carbon Dioxide free!)
Burn 2.5 tons of coal annually	Reduce the burning of 1 ton of coal annually	

Purchasing 1 block prevents 1 ton of coal from being burned.

Simply purchasing a \$27 block of renewable energy is the easiest and cheapest way for you to pollute less and do your part in combating climate change.

River Falls is the most renewable-friendly city in Wisconsin!

For more information about the Block Program, please contact: riverfalls@powerfulchoices.org or visit riverfalls.org/block

It's time to start rounding up those pennies, nickels, dimes, and quarters! **Sunday, September 27**, as we continue to celebrate the Season of Creation, we will have a special GREEN AND NOISY offering to fund HOPE's commitment to choosing cleaner, sustainable electricity sources by purchasing Renewable Energy Blocks (REB) from the River Falls Municipal Utility. HOPE has been "100 % Renewable" since 2022. Last year your generous gifts enabled us to purchase 37 REB per month for 2026. That's enough energy from renewable sources to supply 100% of HOPE's electricity needs, as well as that of about 12 other typical households in our neighborhood!

If you are a RFMU customer, you can also participate in the REB program as an individual household. Find more information at <https://www.rfcity.org/FormCenter/Utilities-11/Renewable-Energy-Program-Sign-Up-Form-44>



**RUSH RIVER
LUTHERAN CHURCH**

79th Annual

Harvest Dinner & Country Store

September 27th, 2026

Serving 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Adults \$18 | Kids \$10

Cafeteria Style Meal that includes:
Hand-rolled Meatballs, Ham,
Lefse, Rommegrot and other
Traditional Norwegian Treats

Rush River Lutheran Church
N8623 Cty Rd Y River Falls

SCAN HERE
FOR UPDATES
& EVENT DETAILS!





Congregational Life Upcoming Events

You are invited to join in any of the upcoming activities hosted by Congregational Life. Members and visitors can register on the clipboard on the table in the sanctuary or you can call the host of the event or the church office (Olive) 715-425-9750 or email hopelutheranoffice.rf@gmail.com to register

Registrations are due by August 5th for the Golf Outing and August 15th for the play at the Guthrie. The hosts will contact those registered for the dates and fees for the events.

Karen Brohaugh	Guthrie play and dinner	715-220-6488
Nancy Sailer	Asian Dinner/Social	715-307-3298
Ed Paulson	Grief Group/3 rd Wed of the month	715-381-8708

This Week at HOPE September 23, 2026



Please lift up the following people in prayer

David Anderson (Brother of Karen Brohaugh)
Jeanie Anderson (Sister in law of Karen Brohaugh)
Naomi Brandt
Corey Heaton & Family (Friends of Nancy Sailor)
The family of Jeff & Ann Rosenthal
Dr. Wendolyn Slattery (Friend of Linda Jacobson)
Mary Lynn Wisderschen & Family (family friends of Faye Perkins)
Chuck Reid (Friend of a Carl Warren)
Caitlyn Huls (Granddaughter of Olive Olson)
Kjersti Olson Duncan (Family friend of Diane Clark & Karen Rodewald)
Steve Stocker (Friend of Karen & Jeff Rodewald)
Jerry Gibson (Father of Karen Rodewald and Diane Clark)
Lisa Perlman Farley (Friend of Faye Perkins)
Sam Morrisette (Friend of Jeff & Karen Rodewald)
Doug Rudesill
Rev. Ron Johnson (Friend of Karen Rodewald)
Sue Tarr (Friend of Faye Perkins)
The Family of David Boock
Mary Klacan
Leslie Randall (Sister of Vicki Siebold)
The Family of Jill Siebold (Daughter of Gary Siebold)
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)
Brent Larson (Friend of Bill & Kay Montgomery)
Bob Schuder (Father of Sarah Bondhus)
Marcus Stack (Friend of Steve & Karen Kaste)
Rhannon 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)
Daryl Kleeman (Brother of Darcy Boock)
Gary Siebold
David Hendrickson



September Birthdays

Sarah Bondhus	3-Sep
Garrett Larson	8-Sep
Dale Wogleitner	8-Sep
Jane Terkelsen	10-Sep
Jeff Rodewald	12-Sep
Dan Rodewald	27-Sep
Morgan Porten	29-Sep
McKenna Brill	30-Sep
Vicki Siebold	30-Sep



September Baptisms

- Lanelle Baernwald
- Ryan Leitch
- Keith Ruehlow
- Nancy Sailer
- Vicki Siebold
- Dale Wogleitner



September Anniversaries

Celebrating
Years

Ed & Pam Quinn	21-Sep	41
Keith & Cara Getschel	16-Sep	37
James & Debra James	27-Sep	24

This Week at HOPE September 23, 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 September 23, 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!