



Hope Lutheran Church

May 2025—Opening New Doors

May 2025

www.hopechurchec.com



Sundays in

May

- May 4 Our praise team will lead our worship music this morning. We also recognize our high school seniors who are graduating. Thank you Pastor Dave Whelan for sharing the word with us today. It's name tag Sunday, wear your name tag today! And enjoy caramel rolls today from Board of Outreach!
- May 11 On this Mother's Day we give thanks for mothers and the people who have been like mothers to us. Joyful Noise, Choir and Bells will share their musical gifts with us. We welcome Pastor Eric Nielson as our worship leader today.
- May 18 Melissa Johnson will share her beautiful voice with us today. Thank you to Pastor Janelle Harrison for leading worship today.
- May 25 As the Sunday before Memorial Day, we give thanks to the veterans who have served our country. We welcome Pastor Nate Aasing as he leads our worship service today.

Mortgage Milestone

With great excitement, the Board of Trustees wishes to share a recently achieved mortgage milestone. As of the end of March, the outstanding principal on our mortgage has dropped below \$300,000. Our remaining balance is \$294,795.33! With a monthly payment of \$6646, our anticipated payoff date is February of 2029. However, to shorten our payoff period, we have committed to paying an additional \$348 each month which goes directly to the principal. Often we are able to make a larger additional payment. If we continue to do so, we could be making our final mortgage payment in the fall of 2028! Thank you for your ongoing generosity to both the general fund and in paying down the mortgage. God is good – All the time! All the time - God is Good!





Green Team Plant Sale

Calling all gardeners and plant lovers! The Green Team is having a plant sale May 11 and 18. If you have indoor or outdoor plants you are dividing, please bring these to church on either of those Sundays. We will sell them and share the proceeds with the Youth Group.

Note: We will have identification stickers to put on the pots.

Add some green to your garden or house this spring by finding your next plant at the Green Team Plant Sale!



Beacon House/Family Promise of the Chippewa Valley

Our next opportunity for Hope members to provide groceries and evening meals for the guests staying at Beacon House is coming up in early June. Our dates will be Thursday, June 5th through Saturday, June 7th. Watch the Gathering Area in early May for sign-up sheets for volunteers to provide a main dish, side dish, or dessert each evening, as well as donations of fruit, bread and milk. If you have any questions - please reach out to Bridgit Mazuk 715-225-4496.

or bmazuk@gmail.com



Women's Retreat at Luther Park

2025 Christian Women's Retreat at Luther Park Bible Camp is on Wednesday, June 4 and Thursday, June 5. Ask, Seek, Knock is the theme with Destiny Jackson as our presenter.

Come and enjoy the fellowship of Christian women and the beautiful setting of Luther Park.

Registration forms are available on the kiosk in the Gathering Space. Early bird registration is due by May 10.

Grace's Greetings:

Hello Hope Family,

Welcome to May! This Spring has sure gone by quickly! This month we end our normal education programming and transition to Summer! I'd like to extend a special thank you to our JAM teachers, Confirmation small group leaders, mentors, soup and song kitchen captains and cleaner-uppers, event volunteers, and all those who have helped guide and lead our youth and children this school year. We are grateful for all the gifts you've shared with us!



This month our Youth and Family Ministries transitions to Summer mode! On May 4th we'll bless and celebrate our High School Seniors as they prepare for graduation. On the 11th we pay special recognition to our Mothers for all they do, and enjoy a Plant Sale put on by Green Team. JAM teachers are invited to attend an end-of-year thank you meal and meeting to get feedback and make plans for next year on May 21st.

During the month of May we ask at least one parent from each Hope Family to complete the [2025 Family Survey!](#) We thank you for taking the time to complete this. This survey and your opinions will help inform our programming for the upcoming year!

Summer is right around the corner, and registration is still open for both Vacation Bible School and Summer Stretch! We've added some new solo Summer Stretch days for youth that can't make the full week or want some extra!

Our high school seniors who are now preparing for graduation are the first group of high schoolers I encountered here when I first arrived at Hope! It is truly wild that nearly four years have passed since then. Please join me this month and lift up in prayer and celebration our seniors Celie, Meghan, Lilianna, Brynn, Kyle, Caylee, CJ, Ally, Jordan, Brynn, and Maddy as they cross this milestone in life!

As we at Hope continue to navigate our leadership transition, I've noticed how blessed we are to have an abundance of gifts in our congregation. I am so grateful for this whole community and our council, our boards and committees, and my peers on staff who have shown up above and beyond the normal call to keep our Hope community running well in this in between time. Thank you to each of you who have checked in, stepped up, and contributed in some way! This has been a great witness to the body of Christ.

Finally, I wanted to extend an invite to all our children and youth to join us this summer! VBS and Summer Stretch registration is open now and closes at the end of this month, I hope you'll join us!

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VBS - Vacation Bible School

June 9th - 12th, 9:00am - 12:00pm at Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd

Children in K - 5th grade are invited to join us for a fun and faithful week. This year we'll be using the theme "Lion King" and sermon on the mount bible story! Each day children will go through bible story, craft, game, and snack stations. On our final day parents, families, and supporters can join our closing session for a short program! Older youth and adults are also welcome to volunteer with us!

Summer Stretch

Week Long - July 7th - 10th, 9:00am - 3:30pm*

Single Days - June 26th and August 26th, 9:00 - 3:00pm

Summer Stretch is a highlight for our middle school and high school youth each year! Youth in 6th - 12th grade are invited to join us for this fun Summer ministry! In the morning we serve the community at places like the humane association, food banks, nature sites and more. In the afternoon we have fun together like swimming, seeing a movie, or adventuring. On our final day we head to Valley Fair! Join us and make memories at Summer Stretch! *schedule may vary

You can register for Summer on the Hope Website under the "faith formation" tab, or by using the QR code found on the slides or flyers in the gathering space, you may also just email me and I will get you signed up!

Wishing you all a lovely month ahead!

In Peace,
Grace



Youth & Family Ministry May 2024 Schedule:

May 4th - Worship 9:00am, Senior Sunday Celebration, Board of Ed 10:15am

May 11th - Worship 9:00am*, Mothers Day, Plant Sale, *Joyful Noise Sings!

May 18th - Worship 9:00am, Plant Sale, JAM Teacher End-of-year Meeting

May 21st - JAM Teacher End-Of-Year Meeting

May 25th - Worship 9:00am



Caramel Roll Sunday, May 4th

Join the Board of Outreach as they serve up the most wonderful Caramel Rolls you will ever eat. Stop in Olson Hall after church, visit with friends and have a roll. There will be a free will offering today for this event.



Congratulations Seniors!

Join us on Sunday, May 4th as we celebrate our graduating Seniors. We wish them well on their next adventure that life brings to them. We hope your faith carries you along and you remember that each of us at Hope Lutheran are praying for your success.

Streaming Sunday Worship

We continue to stream our Sunday worship services over Facebook or through our website for those that can't make it in-person with us. It is amazing how many people we can reach with our streaming worship services. Hope's worship is streamed live on Sunday's via our Facebook page or through our website, Hopechurchec.com.



Summer Office Hours start May 23

The church office will start the Summer Office Hours on Friday, March 23rd.

The hours will be as follows.

Monday—Thursday 8:30—3:00

Closed on Friday's.

Glimpses from the Past – From the Archives Committee

With May, our thoughts turn to summer programming and Luther Park Bible Camp. The “Herald of Hope” newsletter from May 1951 featured the following article:



BIBLE CAMP DAYS WITH CHRIST. Luther Park, Chetek, Wis. Senior camp – June 17-23 (for those confirmed before Jan. 1, 1951) Junior Camp – June 24-30 (for those confirmed this spring or to be confirmed next fall). A fine faculty has been secured. Pastor Axel Blom of Strum will speak at Junior Camp and Pastor Art Wigdahl will speak at Senior camp. Each camp will have a missionary. Senior – Rev. Joe Walla, missionary to South America and Junior camp – Rev. E.H. Dahle, missionary to Alaska. Register with any of the local pastors, but register as from Hope. Cost of camp - \$1.50 registration and \$7.00 upon arrival in camp. No other camp will offer you a week for so little money. No other camp can give you so much for eternity. Plan to attend.



Empty Bowls

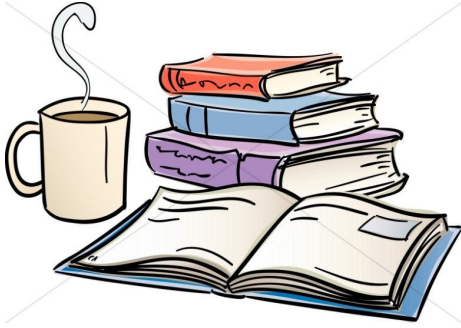
Feed My People will hold their annual Empty Bowls event on **Thursday, May 15 from 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.** at Feed My People Food Bank, 2610 Alpine Road, Eau Claire. With the community's support, this fundraiser is on track to raise enough groceries for over 200,000 meals for children, seniors, and families experiencing food insecurity in West Central Wisconsin.

Enjoy a meal from a variety of onsite food trucks. Select & take home a handcrafted ceramic or wooden bowl donated and made by local artists and students. Browse an online and in-person silent auction featuring artwork, experience packages & more. Enjoy a tour of the food bank

Tickets for the event are: \$25 for One Bowl & Meal (Includes 1 bowl voucher and 2 food vouchers)

\$15 Meal Only (includes 2 food vouchers); \$10 Bowl Only (includes 1 bowl voucher)

Tickets for the event are available online at www.fmpfoodbank.org.



Hope Lutheran Church Women's Book Club

Our next meeting is Monday, May 19th at 6:30pm at Hope. Everyone is invited to read along and/or come to the meetings!

Upcoming Books:

May - "The Forest of Vanishing Stars"
by Kristin Harmel

Please feel free to browse our book stand in the Gathering Area. There are lots of great books to read!

Recycle Your Mattress and Boxspring Event

August 3, 10:00 am-2:00pm

Calvary Baptist Church

3036 Epiphany Ln, Eau Claire

\$25/unit

Hosted by Kersten Family Junk Removal

Ecjunkpickup.com/mattress-recycling-drop-off-event

Ways to Give

Our congregation offers a variety of means by which you may make an offering. Besides bringing your offering in person or mailing it, Hope has several ways you can give electronically:

Through Our Website – Hope's website address is www.hopechurchec.com. Once there, hover over the "About Us" page. The drop-down menu will include "Give." Click on that. Then click on the icon "Fast and Easy Giving." That will take you to our Subsplash site.

Hope Phone App – Hope has a free phone app which will give you access to Subsplash where you can access information. From here you can click on the "Give" tab.

Text Your Gift – Text the message "give2hope" to the phone number 206-859-9409. Follow the steps to set up an account and you're on your way.

Simple Giving – You can set up an automatic, pre-authorized withdrawal from your bank account. Forms are available in the church office and also on the church website.

If you're looking on the App Store for our phone app, the icon looks like this:



2024 Women's Retreat Information

This June there will be a Synod retreat for all women. This retreat is held at Luther Park Bible Camp in Chetek on June 5 & 6. Please use this link to sign up and see all the information.

[file:///C:/Users/ann/Downloads/WELCA%20RETREAT%20FORM%20JUNE%205-6 J%202024.pdf](file:///C:/Users/ann/Downloads/WELCA%20RETREAT%20FORM%20JUNE%205-6%20J%202024.pdf)

If you have other Questions, please talk to Joan Moe.



We always have room for more volunteers at Hope!

Thank you to each of you who give their time to help us at Hope. It takes a village to make everything run smooth. We are always looking for more volunteers to add to our tech team, it's an easy thing to do and a great view for worship. Please come and join us in the balcony some Sunday and check it out.

We would love to add some new people to our Communion Serving team, please stop in or call the church office if you could help with serving.

Lastly, we are emailing out the volunteer schedules now, so if you do not use your e mail, please pick up a schedule in the Narthex.

New schedules will start in July!

Thank you again for all of your time you give to Hope!





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Mon—Thur: 8:30 am–3:00pm
Fri: 8:30 am-12:00 pm

Hope Lutheran Staff

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Brian Petersen	Buildings and Grounds		
Carol Mohr	Church President		

Hope Lutheran is a handicapped accessible congregation providing barrier-free and elevator access, marked parking spaces, large-print materials and accessible restrooms



Download the Hope Church App on the
Apple "App Store" or Android "Google Play" platforms!