

Hope Lutheran Church

2021—A Year Abounding in Hope

November 2021

www.hopechurchec.com

Gathered Worship in November

Here's what's happening:

November 7 – All Saints' Sunday – Today we remember those who have completed their number of days on this earth and have entered the glory of God. Worshipers will have an opportunity to light a candle for deceased loved ones. After worship, "stick around" for Caramel Rolls in Olson Hall! Proceeds from the sale support our El Salvador ministries.

November 14 – Today we celebrate a "blessing of the orange" for all of our gun deer hunters. Wear your blaze orange or pink to worship as we send you off with a blessing for a safe hunting season. We will also celebrate the baptism of Reegan Kulesa. After worship, head down to Olson Hall for some venison snacks.

November 21 – We worship God in word and sacrament.

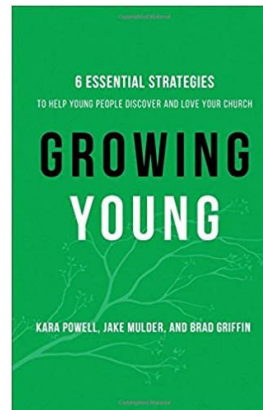
November 28 – This Sunday we'll begin a new church year calendar with the first Sunday in Advent. We will light the first candle on our Advent wreath during worship.



Daylight Savings Time

On Sunday, November 7 our clocks will "fall back" one hour. Remember to set your clocks before you go to bed on Saturday night!

*The church office will be closed on
Friday, November 12th and 26th.*



Sunday Forum

Pastor Mary will lead a forum in the Fireside Room following worship on November 7 and 14. The theme is the book "Growing Young." Our church council has been studying the book and we want to educate the

greater congregation to it as well. The authors of the book extensively studied dozens of congregations that are attracting and engaging 15 to 29-year-olds in their worship and church life. As they researched, they discovered six key elements that surfaced over and over again. Congregations growing young have these six attributes in common. The book points out ways that congregations like Hope can strengthen and develop in these key areas.

Dear Friends,

Here's a good story I read:

A church goer wrote a letter to the editor of a newspaper and complained that it made no sense to go to church every Sunday. "I've gone to church for 30 years now," he wrote, "During that time I've heard something like 3,000 sermons. But for the life of me, I can't remember a single one of them. So, I think I'm wasting my time. The preachers are wasting theirs by giving sermons at all."

This letter started a lively exchange of opinions in the Letters to the Editor column. Much to the delight of the editor, it went on for weeks until someone wrote this clincher:

"I've been married for 30 years now. In that time my wife has cooked some 32,000 meals. But, for the life of me, I cannot recall the entire menu for a single one of those meals. But I do know this: They all nourished me and gave me the strength I needed to do my work. If my wife had not given me these meals, I would be physically dead today. Likewise, if I had not gone to church for nourishment, I would be spiritually dead today!"

We have many opportunities to nurture and develop our faith: reading the Bible, prayer, daily devotionals, Bible study, journaling. Regular gathering with others in worship is definitely one of the biggest opportunities we have. Friends, whether you gather with us in person or virtually online, I invite you to incorporate this regular practice in your life. God's word is a light unto our pathway!

Peace and all good to you, my friends.
Pastor Mary



Thanksgiving Service & Pie Fellowship

Join us on Wednesday evening, November 24 as we gather to thank God for the abundant blessings in our lives through our annual Thanksgiving Eve worship service. The service will begin at 6:30 p.m. Come for the worship – stay for the pie! After the conclusion of the service we'll reassemble in the Welcome Area for fellowship and to enjoy pies made by various members of our congregation.





Remember to Turn in Your Stewardship Info

If you haven't dropped off your Giving Intent card or your Time and Ability sheet, it's not too late. Just drop it off in the large red offering vase as you come to worship on Sunday morning, or bring it to the office during the week, or mail it to us. We thank you for your prayerful deliberation as you consider how you will be involved in our ministries in the coming year.



Luther Park – Building and Rejoicing Campaign
Luther Park Bible Camp has been blessed with their new worship center. This past summer the basement space also functioned as a storm shelter

for campers!

The camp was blessed by the generosity of Dave and Carolyn Cleveland, who pledged a \$500,000 matching grant towards the building campaign. Much of those funds have been matched, but about \$120,000 unmatched funds still remain. The matching period will conclude at the end of this calendar year. These matching funds were designed to run through area congregations. If you would like to make a final offering to be matched by the Cleveland challenge, you can make out a check to Hope Lutheran, and indicate on the memo line that it's for the Luther Park capital campaign. We'll forward it to Luther Park and your funds will be matched.

Collecting Plastic Film

WE NEED YOUR HELP – Our FUSION confirmation youth will be collecting plastic bags, plastic outer-wrap, plastic film, cereal bags, etc., that are clean and dry. This is a service project to help our environment. After 500 pounds of plastic film have been collected, the plastic will be converted into a neat park bench which will be donated to Luther Park.



Please bring your plastic materials and deposit them in the recycling containers in the welcome area. Thanks for your help on this project and for helping us make the world a little cleaner place.

**INCLEMENT
WEATHER
INFORMATION**



Snow Policy

If the Eau Claire schools close due to snowy/bad weather, activities scheduled that day at Hope Lutheran will also be cancelled. This is the policy for Hope activities and does not include Rachel's Place.

What's Happening with the Board of Outreach.....?

Hats & Mittens Needed!

Sam Davey has requested a supply of hats & mittens so they may be prepared for the upcoming winter season. Many of their students are in need of these items when the weather changes. SO, if you happen to see hats & mittens on sale, would you please be so kind as to donate a pair or two? Please place them in the box labeled "Hats & Mittens" in the Gathering Area. We will be collecting these items through December. Thanks again from the Board of Outreach!



Hope Remembrance Tree

Remembrance Tree - YES it will SHINE

The Remembrance Tree will shine at Hope Lutheran Church again this year! It is still \$5.00 per bulb - What a deal! You can buy your bulbs in the Gathering Area starting Sunday, November 14th, you can stop in the office or you can fill out this form and send it to us.

Name giving _____

In Honor of : _____ (white bulbs)

In Memory Of: _____ (Blue Bulbs)

These funds support Hope's commitment to the Community Table which we provide the meal for those in need every 4th Wednesday of the month, 9-11ish. If you would like or be able to volunteer at serving, please contact Roger Churness. 715-720-905.



Caramel Rolls coming up November 7th

The smell of freshly baked caramel rolls will once again fill Olson Hall and the Gathering Area (I can smell them all ready). On Sunday, November 7th, the Board of Outreach will be hosting Coffee Connections and will be treating us with their wonderful Caramel

Rolls. These yummy rolls will be available to take home after everyone has gone thorough "the line." A free will donation will be accepted with money going to support El Salvador Mission Trip. Please give generously.

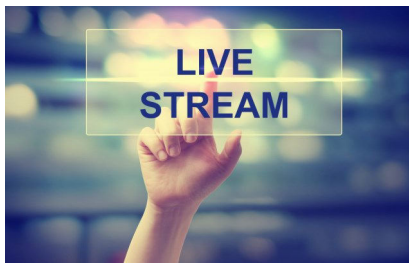
Hope's Happenings

Thrivent Choice Dollars

Don't forget to direct your Thrivent Choice Dollars for 2021. Additional Thrivent Choice Dollars build in your account each quarter and you have until March of 2022 to donate everything that accumulated during the 2021 calendar year.

By directing your Choice Dollars, Thrivent members can recommend where Thrivent distributes part of its charitable funds each year. Hope Lutheran Church is one of the many places that can receive your donation.

Just a reminder that the money you designate is Thrivent's money and you are telling Thrivent where you



Streaming Sunday Worship

We continue to stream our Sunday worship services over Facebook even as we also gather for in-person worship. It's surprising how many people have viewed our worship – far more than our average in-person worship attendance! Hope's worship is streamed live on Sundays via our Facebook page. You can also find services posted on Hope's YouTube channel. If you go to the main page of YouTube and type in "Hope Lutheran Church Eau Claire" you will see a link to our page which includes our videos. You can also click on the red "subscribe" to receive notifications of new publications.

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:



YOUTH HAPPENING'S

Grace's Greetings:

Greetings Hope Lutheran! Thank you so very much for the warm welcome. I'm happy to be here and am honored to guide, foster, and build programming for youth and family. I ask for your support in participation, contribution, and prayer to champion this piece of the Hope community. We cannot thrive without you! Each month here in the newsletter, I'll be sharing a reflection, and a resource that can be used in the home to facilitate a family faith moment. While activity is created for our children and families I invite you all to read, reflect and participate each month!

With Thanks,

Grace

November Reflection:

In the month of November we are reminded to give thanks. Gratitude is a practice that can anchor us into the love of God. As we practice casting our eyes on the abundance all around us, we can remember what a gift it is to be alive and a part of God's creation.

Recently my family moved away from my childhood home. One our last day there together, I asked my parents and siblings to create a circle and sing thanks to the house. We're a musical family so this was easy enough. Then I invited them to place their hands on the walls or floors of the house while we sang one last round, and everyone paused and retracted. It seemed a bit too out of the comfort zone for them to physically give thanks to the house. To me it felt meaningful to physically thank the walls that held us. I believe there is a spiritual bond to places and spaces that hold us. The materials and effort that created these spaces holds the essence of God's creation, just as we do. Just as the land on which we choose to live and grow holds the spirit of God, as well as the stories of the people's and generations who lead to our existence here.

Psalm 147 verse 7 exclaims "Sing to the Lord with thanksgiving, make melody to our God on the lyre." Rolf Jacobson in his Commentary on Psalm 147 explains that these verses are a praise hymn that includes a call to praise and then continues with a petition of reasons for praise. Meaning, the call for praise literally asks for a response. In the psalm, we are invited to sing our praises and thanksgiving in our community. With this in mind, I invite you now to reflect on praises, and share your thanksgiving about God and God's creation with your family!

I invite you to participate in the following activity:

Youth & Family Ministry Resource:

Read: Psalm 147 vs 1-7 out loud as a family. This psalm asks for our response. Let us respond:

Give thanks to your dwelling - Look around your living space. Touch your feet to the floor, put your hands on the walls. Give thanks for the structure, give thanks to the materials. Give thanks to the efforts, hands, and time that resulted in this space.

Give thanks to the land - feel the floor beneath your feet, or even better, go outside, and touch your bare feet to the ground. Feel the land below you. Give thanks for its support. Give thanks for its nourishment.

Give thanks to the original stewards of the land - Hope Lutheran Church was built on Sioux, Menomonie, and Asishinabewaki land. Visit <https://native-land.ca/> to find out what land you inhabit. Give thanks for their stewardship of this land. As we give thanks, we also need to take a moment to reflect and grieve the pain that has transpired on this land. Reflect together on the longstanding history including the genocide, ethnic cleansing, forced

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Hope's Happenings

YOUTH HAPPENING'S

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removal, and colonialization of the indigenous people that has brought us to reside on this land. Consider taking action to support the indigenous communities whose land you inhabit. Visit <https://nativegov.org/a-guide-to-indigenous-land-acknowledgment/> for further resources on land acknowledgment. Give thanks for these resources, and give thanks for the ongoing work to create a just and peaceful world.

Finally, I invite you to close with this ritual where we give thanks to the moment and the support and abundance that exists. As you face each direction take in with all your senses the glory of all that is here and now.

Face the north and say "Thank you north."

Face the south and say "Thank you south."

Face the east and say "Thank you east."

Face the west and say "Thank you west."

Bring your hands up to the sky and say "thank you clouds, sky, and the stars above."

Gesture your hands towards the ground and say "thank you to the ground and the sky and the stars below."

Thank you to God the beginning and the end.

Amen.



Youth & Family Ministry November Schedule:

Nov 3 - ICE 6:15-7:15

Nov 7 - Sunday School 10:00-10:45

Nov 10 - FIRE 6:15-7:15

Nov 14 - Sunday School

Nov 17 - Meet your Mentor Dinner (8th Grade ONLY) 6:30 - 7:30 No ICE or FIRE

Nov 21 - 10:00-10:45 Sunday School

Nov 24 - 6:15-7:15 No Class - Thanksgiving Break

Nov 28—No Sunday School





W.O.W. in November

WOW Our next WOW gathering will be Friday November 12th Featured program will be Ken Anderson the "Mayberry Guru" presenting Mayberry RFD slide show. Lunch will be hot turkey sandwiches, tater tots, cranberry fluff and pumpkin bars for dessert. The big party starts at 11:30 and will be done by 1:30. Call the church office to make your reservation today.

Feed My People Volunteers

We continue to ask for volunteers for Thursday mornings at the Feed My People Food Bank. We meet at 10 am and are done by noon. We have sit down and stand up jobs available. It's a great group of people but we always have room for YOU! Feed My People is always so appreciative of the many volunteers they get from Hope Lutheran Church. Just come to Door 17 at the Feed My People Food Bank and follow the signs for volunteers. **Do to inventory there will be no volunteering on Thursday November 11 and 25th.**



We want to see your Nativity Set

Something NEW at Hope for the holiday season. We are asking people to bring their Christmas nativity sets for us to display in the Gathering Area for the month of December. Tables will be set up to assemble your set or Les will be glad to help you set up your special nativity. Please write up a little history of your nativity set and give it to Les. We will start collecting sets the first week in December.

See the Holiday Lights in Comfort

In middle of December, Hope Church will be sponsoring a heated bus to tour the area to see the many Christmas lights and decorations on display in Eau Claire and surrounding areas. There will be a small fee to ride the Christmas Light Tour Bus. More details will be announced soon.

Questions talk to Les

Encounter Hope

Please join us every Thursday night at 6:30 for our contemporary worship service Encounter Hope. Just go to our web page or face book page to watch the recorded service .

Themes for the month of November are:

November 4th – "Giving God Our Best" John 12: 1-8

November 11th – "Hero's and Zero's" Luke 4: 21-30

November 18th - "In His Hands" John 6: 1-15

November 25th – Thanksgiving Service- Matthew 6: 25-34



November 2021

Thank you to everyone who donated girls' underwear for the **Days for Girls** project! We reached, and even exceeded, our goal of 400 pairs. We had a gathering of team members on October 14 and assembled 113 kits using the new method without plastic bags. We have more to assemble, so we'll meet again on November 18 in Olson Hall to try and complete another 100 kits.



Buckley children preparing size labels



Hard at work in Olson Hall, a job for everyone!



There's always time for a coffee break

The **Mission of Healing in El Salvador 2022** is happening! We will be doing a modified event for 2 weeks in February entitled: Teach the Teachers. A small group from the US is joining a small team in El Salvador to work with health education leaders from 16 congregations to develop 4 community-based workshops (digestive, cardiovascular, respiratory and reproductive health). Each congregation team will receive all of the didactic materials, handouts, and healthcare items which they will need to repeat the 4 workshops during 2022 in their own communities. You can support this effort by donating:

- Boxes of regular-size (about 5/8 - 1" x 3") band aids
- Boxes of large size (about 2" x 4") bandages
- Face masks (boxes of child or adult)

Funds for purchasing teaching posters and making copies as well as purchasing vitamins with iron, which are badly needed in our sister community Los Héroes (mark offering for El Salvador Mission of Healing)

Prenatal vitamins are our biggest and most valuable purchase for the MOH. Our hope is to give them to all menstruating girls and women in Los Héroes, as anemia is very common in this group. We hope to provide enough for these women with extra for those who are pregnant or nursing, as we are treating two people with one pill that way.

Our caramel roll fundraiser at Hope on 11/7 will be to raise money for this project. The more we raise, the more vitamins we can purchase from the pharmaceutical company in El Salvador. Please be as generous as you are able and know that you are helping improve the health of people who consider you their brothers and sisters in Christ.

Paz y Bendiciones (peace and blessings), Deb Adams 715-559-9888



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715.832.1414

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E-mail

office@hopechurchec.com

Fax

715.832.3922

Address

2226 Eddy Lane
Eau Claire, WI 54703

Office Hours

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

Hope Lutheran Staff

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Scott Olson	Custodian	2107	
Brian Petersen	Buildings and Grounds		
Mark Larson	Church President		mlarson@market-johnson.com

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!