



For The JOURNEY MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

2233 Golf Road, Eau Claire, WI 54701
www.hope-eauclaire.org
715-835-5310
hopeumcec@yahoo.com



With Christ as our center, we are called to reach out and share God's love with all.

Volume 31, No. 1

January 2024

Entering the New Year

There is nothing like a sea of lit faces on Christmas Eve. Candle light is passed from person to person and Silent Night wafts through the Sanctuary and we are as present to life and hope as ever we are. Here at Hope UMC we welcomed so many faces- new and known- to give witness on Christmas Eve. I am still full of the power of that shared light. Advent and Christmas of 2023 were rich in joy, depth, and blessing. And, a new year commences.

What are you looking forward to this year? The new year is traditionally a time to make New Year's Resolutions, to start new habits, have dreams for how things might be different. In recent years, however, I am hearing the question, "are you dreading this coming year?" a little more often. It's understandable. We've had some nasty surprises that seemed to come out of nowhere.

Plus, the predictable news doesn't seem to get much better. Add to that that negative news sells, and we are often inundated with information that builds a sense of dread in our souls. This new year, I want to encourage a practice of soul-building. What brings joy to your soul? What gives you a sense of peace? What things do you dream of? What are you eagerly anticipating? Let's do those things, build on those things, practice those things. Let's engage in the practices that give our souls depth and resilience. Let's engage in the practices that help us see God's Spirit in every person, every place, including ourselves.

And sure enough, the New Year is bringing some "surprises" to my life. Some of you may have heard that I will be having surgery on January 19th. Unfortunately, that's not a rumor. I'm anticipating being out of the pulpit for four Sundays. Fortunately, you are in great hands with all

(Continued on Page 2)



ONLINE WORSHIP LINK - Sundays at 9:00am & Special Services

We have moved our online worship platform from Zoom to FACEBOOK.

<https://www.facebook.com/Hope-United-Methodist-Church-116517175038771.10>

SCAN
for more
info and
LINKS



(Continued from Page 1)

of our church leaders, Kristen and the wonderful people that are ready to share their gifts for preaching and leading worship. Below, you'll find the January into February worship plan. I will be working from home with limited hours beginning January 29th. You can contact me by email or phone.

♦ **January 7th - Epiphany/Baptism of our Lord- Holy Communion**

"And There Was Morning" / Genesis 1:1-5, Mark 1:4-11

We're officially on the other side of Advent, Christmas, and New Year's Day. After all the preparation, the complex emotions, and the celebrations in December, the allure of the return of the ordinary (and Ordinary Time) in January is probably all too real. But we don't want to put those festive decorations away quite yet! We begin the new calendar year in the season of Epiphany, a time when we focus on the revelation that Jesus is fully God and fully human, God Incarnate among us.

♦ **January 14th - Sharon Fortune**

"Fearfully and Wonderfully Made" / Psalm 139: 1-8

♦ **January 21st – Michelle Pride (from Feed My People)**

♦ **January 28th - Brenda Jones- Lay Speaker**

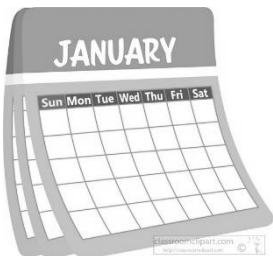
♦ **February 4th - Pastor Peace Kim, District Superintendent**

♦ **February 11th - TBD**

Praying for peace, health, joy, and a few wonderful surprises for the coming year for each of us!

In Christ,

Jen



For questions/concerns while Pastor Jen is out January 19-26th, contact:

- Ad Council Chair, Renee Marino
- SPRC Chair Cheryl Muller
- Trustees Chair, Renee Marino
- Or a member of the Nurture Team: Connie Jacobsen, Judy Ganong, Jan Lorentz, Kay Lee, Barb Rude

Pastoral care updates will be added the weekly bulletin and email as available.



**In-Person Worship
9:00am
Sunday Mornings**

Online Worship Options



- ❖ Link to the Church Facebook Page for ONLINE WORSHIP (Sundays at 9:00am & Special Services)
<https://www.facebook.com/Hope-United-Methodist-Church-116517175038771>
- ❖ Zoom Link Option for ONLINE WORSHIP
<https://zoom.us/j/94890292077?pwd=ekxnau5THc2eEdLK1ZpRIIKYUZ4QT09>
Meeting ID: 948 9029 2077 /Passcode: 512603
Dial by your location +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

LAY PASTORAL CARE TEAM CONTACT INFORMATION



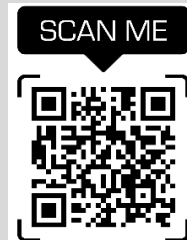
If you could use support, or if you know of someone who might, please contact a member of our Lay Pastoral Care Team

Judy Ganong	715-514-0258
Connie Jacobsen	715-838-9594
Jan Lorentz	608-886-0668



Hope Virtual Church
A great place to make connections

Look for us on Facebook



Hope Virtual Church

GIVING OPTIONS

We can continue our ministries whether we are meeting in-person, or online. The church is not about the building, but WE are the church.



MAIL: Please feel free to send your offerings in mail:
Hope United Methodist Church
2233 Golf Road
Eau Claire, WI 54701



ELECTRONIC GIVING:
Call or email the church office to request an Authorization Form for Automatic Withdrawal.
Phone: 715-835-5310 (leave a message)
Email: hopeumcec@yahoo.com



ONLINE GIVING
Coming Soon

HOPE UMC LEADERSHIP - 2024

<u>Administrative Council</u>			
	Renee Marino		Chairperson of Ad Council
	Lynne Larabee		Lay Leader and Chair of Finance Committee
	Sharon Fortune		Lay Member to AC
	Judy Shuck		Church Treasurer
	Cheryl Muller (chair)		Chair of the SPRC
	Renee Marino (elected by 2023 Trustees)		Chairperson of the Board of Trustees
	Sharon Fortune		Chairperson of the Outreach Committee
	Judy Ganong & Connie Jacobsen		Chairperson of Nurture Committee
	Jan Lorentz		Chairperson of Faith Formation Committee
	Bill Zabel & Mark Hysell		Members at-large
<u>Hope Staff-Parish Relations Committee</u>	Cheryl Muller (chair)	Joey Bohl	
	Cindy Peterson	Sharon Fortune	Becky Gochanour
<u>Finance Committee</u>	Lynn Larabee (chair)	Judy Shuck/treasurer	Joey Bohl/treasurer
	Doug Fortune	Bob Schwartz	
<u>The Board of Trustees (not to exceed nine persons)</u>	Renee Marino (chair)	Dan Shuck	
	LeeAnn Richards	Mike Larabee	Rich Swanson
<u>Faith Formation Committee</u>	Jan Lorentz	Sandi Hysell	Ben Kittilstad (pianist)
	LeeAnn Richards	Jill Myers	Lacie Weatherholt
	Alberto Larabee		
<u>Outreach Committee</u>	Sharon Fortune (Chair)	Dan Shuck	Joey Bohl-Beacon House
	Cheryl Muller - Feed My People		Joanne Mellema
<u>Nurture Committee</u>	Connie Jacobsen (Co chair)	Judy Ganong (Co chair)	Jan Lorentz
	Kay Lee	Barb Rude	
<u>Care Team</u>	Judy Ganong	Jan Lorentz	Connie Jacobsen
<u>Committee On Lay Leadership (Nominations)</u>	Pastor (chair)	Lynne Larabee (Lay Leader)	
	Renee Marino	Rich Swanson	Dan Shuck
	Sharon Fortune	Jan Lorentz	
<u>Wills, Memorial and Gifts Committee</u>			
	Joanne Mellema		Judy Ganong
<u>Website Development & Maintenance Team</u>	Joey Bohl	Bob Schwartz	
	Kristen Kirchman		
<u>Funeral Serving and Kitchen Care Team</u>	Jan Lorentz(chair)	Judy Ganong	
	Kay Lee	Lois Nelson	Connie Jacobsen
	Dan Shuck	Judy Shuck	Linda Higgins
<u>Endowment Fund Committee of Directors</u>	Lynne Larabee (Finance Chair)		
	Gary Gochanour	Irv Nelson	Dan Shuck
	Rich Swanson	Pastor	Renee Marino

Note: The Administrative Council is granted the authority, on behalf of the charge conference, to make any needed changes to our leadership between charge conferences.

UPCOMING EVENTS



UPCOMING COMMITTEE MEETINGS



- January 8 1:30pm Nurture
- January 17 6:00pm Finance
- January 22 6:00pm Ad Board

Committee Meetings ZOOM Link:

<https://zoom.us/j/94890292077?pwd=ekxnau5THc2eEdLk1ZpRIIKYUZ4QT09>

Meeting ID: 941 9785 3095 / Passcode: 078279

2024 BEACON HOUSE DATES



March 6-8, Wednesday - Friday

May 21-24, Tuesday - Friday

October 9-11, Wednesday - Friday

December 3-6, Tuesday-Friday

Join us for Our Next Packing for
Feed My People Food Bank
Thursday, January 11th 1:00pm - 3:00pm



Feed My People
FOOD BANK

Click on the link and sign up when you can.

https://www.cervistech.com/acts/console.php?console_id=0381&console_type=event_list&res_code=NC2y6k&ht=1

Please contact Cheryl Muller

(clmuller1212@gmail.com) with any questions.



Rehearsals:

7:00pm Tues, Jan 9

7:00pm Tues, Jan 16

7:00pm Tues, Feb 13

7:00pm Tues, Feb 20

Sing for Worship:

Sunday, Jan 14

Sunday, Jan 21

Sunday, Feb 18

Sunday, Feb 25

REMINDER OF 2024 ELECTION DATES

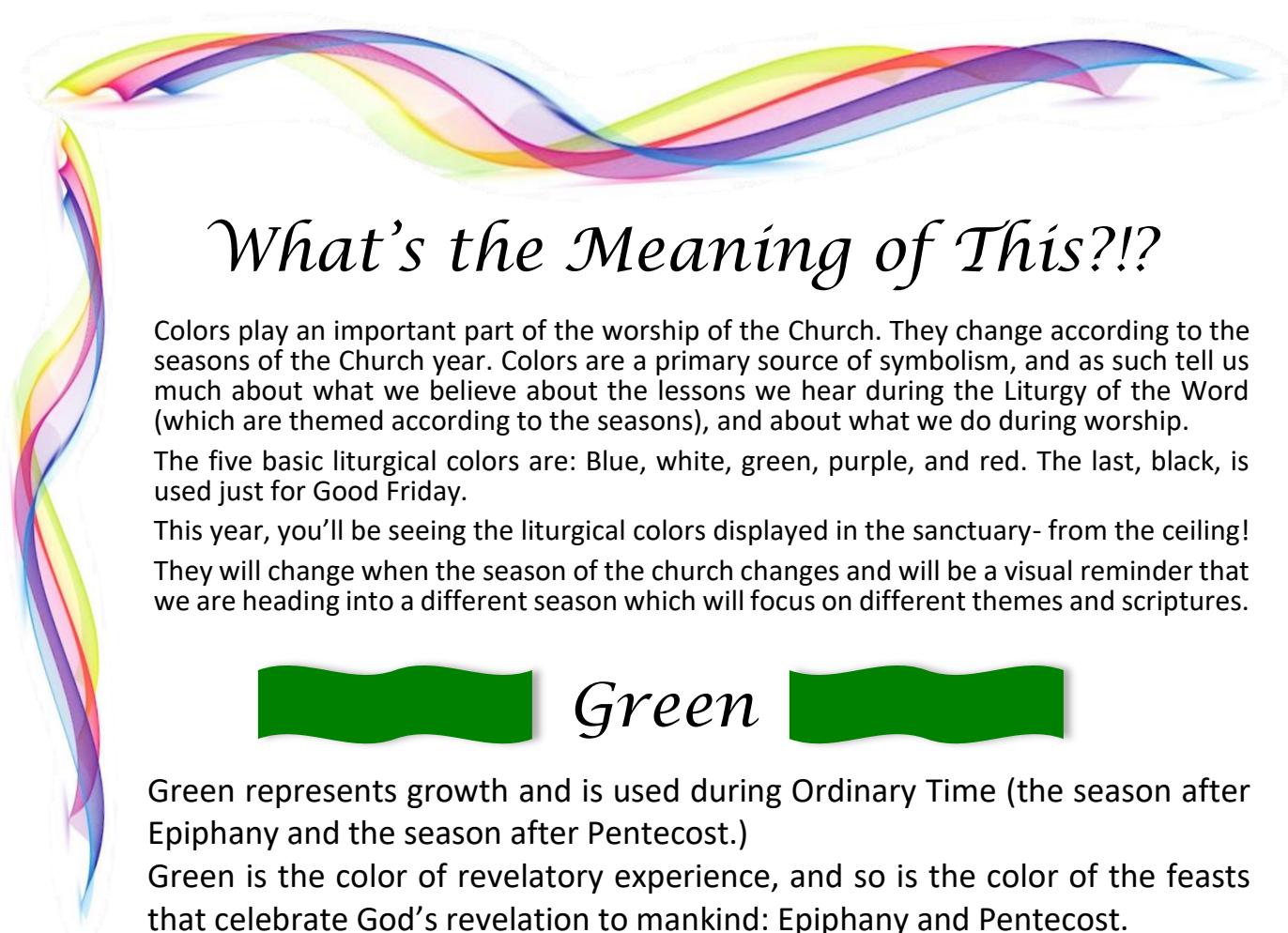


Hope UMC is a polling site for the city of Eau Claire. Activities will not be scheduled at the church on the following dates:

- February 20, 2024 – Possible Primary
- April 2, 2024 – Spring Election
- August 13, 2024 Partisan Primary
- November 5, 2024 General Election



Regular Office Hours: 9:00am-1:00pm Tues, Wed, Thurs
(Office hours may change occasionally, please call before you visit)



What's the Meaning of This?!?

Colors play an important part of the worship of the Church. They change according to the seasons of the Church year. Colors are a primary source of symbolism, and as such tell us much about what we believe about the lessons we hear during the Liturgy of the Word (which are themed according to the seasons), and about what we do during worship.

The five basic liturgical colors are: Blue, white, green, purple, and red. The last, black, is used just for Good Friday.

This year, you'll be seeing the liturgical colors displayed in the sanctuary- from the ceiling!

They will change when the season of the church changes and will be a visual reminder that we are heading into a different season which will focus on different themes and scriptures.

Green

Green represents growth and is used during Ordinary Time (the season after Epiphany and the season after Pentecost.)

Green is the color of revelatory experience, and so is the color of the feasts that celebrate God's revelation to mankind: Epiphany and Pentecost.

Epiphany, the season after Christmas, celebrates Christ's revelation as the Incarnate God to the Gentiles. Pentecost occurs after the Easter season and includes Trinity Sunday (return to white), which celebrates the revelation of the One Eternal God as revealed in the persons of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. The season falls within the late Spring and Summer months, when we see the natural world grow green with leaves, vines, and crops. Therefore, green symbolizes our own spiritual growth in



WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Our next gathering will be January 22nd at 1:00pm. Please contact Linda Larson with questions.

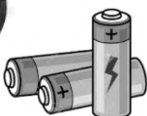


Women of Hope will meet on January 20th at 9:00am at Sweet Driver for coffee, tea, and/or breakfast. Please sign up by January 18th on the board in the entry to the Sanctuary.



**FOOD PANTRY
SUNDAY
Third Sunday
of the Month
DECEMBER 17TH**

Don't Throw Your Batteries in the Trash!



Place your old batteries in the box in the hallway at church, and we'll make sure they are disposed of appropriately and can keep them out of the landfill.

There are many opportunities to share your gifts and talents:

- Reading
- Greeting
- Sunday Fellowship
- Mowing (Summer/Fall)
- Running PowerPoint
- Help to Prepare/Serve Communion
- and many more!

**Please let
Pastor Jen
know if you are
interested, or
if you have
questions.**



MAGAZINE EXCHANGE

Finished with a magazine, or want to read something new? Check out the magazine exchange rack in the library.

We would like to keep the available magazines fairly current, so please only bring in recent magazines dated within the last 3 months.



SAVE YOUR INK CARTRIDGES

Please save your Empty (not-previously re-filled) cartridges for Hope!

Please do not throw your empty inkjet, laser, or printer cartridges in the trash! We have a way to turn those cartridges into cash. Simply place your empty cartridges in the basket near the main entrance.

FINANCE NEWS

FINANCIAL REPORT - NOVEMBER 2023

	<u>MTD</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Contributions	\$9,977	\$119,924
Expenses	\$8,802	\$115,250
	\$1,175	\$4,674

CONNECTIONAL GIVING (APPORTIONMENTS)

<i>Conference Assigned</i>	<i>We Have Paid</i>
<i>Amount for 2023:</i>	<i>As Of 11-30-23:</i>
\$16,493.00	\$12,365.00

J.O.N.A.H. News & Updates

(Joining Our Neighbors Advancing Hope)



JONAH DEAD HORSES CONCERT FUNDRAISER RESCHEDULED

JONAH has a concert fundraiser (this was rescheduled from November) with Dead Horses and Nick Foytik on Saturday Jan 13 at 7pm at Trinity Lutheran. This folks band from Milwaukee has meaningful lyrics and a sweet blend of sound. Tickets are \$30 online or at the door.

<https://volumeone.org/events/2024/01/13/441657-jonah-fundraiser-dead-horses-concert>

JONAH mission statement:

JONAH exists to deepen relationships within and among faith communities and partner organizations to empower people in addressing the root causes of social injustice in the greater community.

Visit the JONAH website
for updates and
more information

www.jonahjustice.org

JOIN A TASK FORCE - Consider attending one of JONAH's task forces to see if you would like to get involved:

- Environmental Task Force
- Immigration Task Force
- Chippewa Valley Child Poverty Coalition
- Affordable Housing Task Force
- Transportation Task Force
- Chippewa Valley Justice Action Team
- Mental Health Group



Good Neighbor Team Request

Items Needed for Helping Refugee Individuals/Families Get Settled In Eau Claire

A group of individuals from Hope have decided to take on the privilege /responsibility of sponsoring a refugee individual/family to the Eau Claire area. To help them transition to Eau Claire, we will be getting an apartment/home ready for them. Here is a list of what we need for their new home. We are sharing this list with our congregation to see if any of you might have some of these things listed to contribute to our new neighbors. **Anything donated must be clean and in working order.**

All donations need to be coordinated through Joanne Mellema. Please contact her at jomellema@gmail.com OR 715-523-0447 if you have any articles or items to share.

Thank you!

Furniture

- Bed Frame (WR will take care of this)
- Box Spring (WR will take care of this)
- Mattress (WR will take care of this)
- Dresser/Clothing Storage
- Kitchen table
- Kitchen chairs
- Coffee Table (optional)
- Floor lamp
- Couch / love seat / arm chair

Kitchen

- Silverware
- Silverware Tray
- Plates
- Bowls
- Cups (preferably plastic)
- Mugs
- Pots and pans (sauce pan, frying pan, soup pot) 1 Set (approx. 2 frying pans and 3 pots of various sizes)

Kitchen (continued)

- Large Stock Pot (16 - 20 quarts)
- Stove top or electric kettle (optional)
- Knives
- Baking dishes
- Mixing bowls 1 Set of various sizes (4-5 bowls)
- Kitchen utensils (spatula, ladle, wooden spoons, can opener, kitchen scissors etc.)
- Cutting boards
- Dish Rack
- Tupperware
- Kitchen hand towels

Linens

- Sheet sets (Twin and full ONLY)
- Pillows
- Comforters
- Bath towels
- Wash clothes
- Hand towels

Cleaning

- Multipurpose kitchen cleaners
- Multipurpose bathroom cleaners
- Hand soap
- Dish soap
- Laundry detergent
- Laundry softener (optional)
- Dryer Sheets (optional)
- Laundry baskets (optional)
- Large Trash can
- Small trashcans (optional)
- Mop
- Mop Bucket
- Mopping solution/surface cleaner
- Broom
- Paper Towels
- Toilet paper
- Vacuum
- Cleaning rags/Clorox Wipes
- Sponges
- Tissues (optional)
- Trash bags (Large)
- Shower Curtain rings
- Shower Curtain
- Plunger & toilet brush

Personal Hygiene

- Shampoo
- Body wash (bar of soap is preferred)
- Toothbrush
- Toothpaste
- Floss (optional)
- Comb
- Hair brush
- Female Hygiene Products
- Deodorant

Personal Hygiene (continued)

- Razors and shaving cream
- Body lotion
- Other as needed

Misc Items

- Winter jackets/hats/gloves (WR take care of)
- Alarm clocks
- Lightbulbs
- Carseat – tbd (WR will take care of this)
- Pens and Pencils
- Pencil sharpener
- Plug in Night Lights
- Hangers
- Kids Items (optional) Coloring books, puzzles, basic toys, sippie cups
- First Aid Kit (optional)
- Diapers/wipes

January 2024 Hope United Methodist Church

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Dec 31	NEW YEAR'S DAY	5:30pm Zumba (FH)		5:00-7:45pm (Sanc.) Mindfulness		
7 9:00am WORSHIP	8 1:30pm Nurture	5:30pm Zumba (FH)	Pastor Jen Vacation	1:00-3:00pm Feed My People	12	13
14 9:00am WORSHIP CHOIR Sharon Fortune	15	5:30pm Zumba (FH)	6:00pm Finance		19	20 9:00am Women of Hope 9:30am CONFIRMATION at Hope
Pastor Jen Vacation		7:00pm CHOIR			Pastor Jen - Out of Office (Surgery)	
21 9:00am WORSHIP CHOIR Food Pantry Sunday Michelle Pride	22 1:00pm Women's Bible Study 6:00pm Ad Board	NEWSLETTER DEADLINE 5:30pm Zumba (FH)	6:30pm InterFaith Prayer		26	27 Pastor Jen - Working Remotely (Limited Hours)
Pastor Jen - Out of Office (Surgery)						
28 9:00am WORSHIP Brenda Jones	29	5:30pm Zumba (FH)	31			
Pastor Jen - Working Remotely (Limited Hours)						

SERVING SCHEDULE	View the most current Serving Schedule, by following this link, or scanning the QR code at the bottom of the page: https://hopeumceauclaire.churchtrac.com/card/34				
	Jan 7	Jan 14	Jan 21	Jan 28	Feb 4
Greeters	Kay Lee & Elsie Bartlett	Judy Ganong	Ray & Ruth Nyland	Joey Bohl	Linda Larson
Online Greeter	Renee Marino	Connie Jacobsen	Renee Marino	Connie Jacobsen	Renee Marino
Scripture Reader	Linda Norton	Cindy Peterson	Sharon Fortune	Joey Bohl	Ryan Stepp
Children's Message	n/a	Sharon Fortune	n/a	n/a	n/a
Prayers of the People	Jan Lorentz	Jan Lorentz	Becky Gochanour	Pastor Jen	Jan Lorentz
Audio Visual	Alberto Larabee	Renee Marino Cindy Peterson	Alberto Larabee	Renee Marino Cindy Peterson	Alberto Larabee

SUNDAY MORNING SCHEDULE

9:00am Sunday Worship

We will have both In-Person Worship and Online Streaming of the service on our Facebook Page.

HOPE UMC OFFICE HOURS

Tues, Wed, Thurs 9:00am- 1:00pm
Office hours may change occasionally, please call before you visit.

HOPE UMC STAFF

Pastor Rev. Jen Barnet
Office Manager . . . Kristen Kirchman
Pianist Ben Kittilstad

HOPE UMC website:
www.hope-eauclaire.org



Visit and "LIKE" the Hope UMC Facebook page

From our website,
click the "Like Us on Facebook"
button just above the map
showing our location

SCAN HERE 
for more info and LINKS



FOR THE JOURNEY Newsletter articles and updates should be submitted to the church office by the **20th** of each month. Contributions are welcome.