



For The JOURNEY MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

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

Volume 32, No.6

June 2025

Dear Hope Family,

Summer has a way of shifting everything. The pace changes. The schedules loosen. The sunlight lingers. It can feel like the world exhales a little. And yet, even as our daily rhythms bend toward rest or recreation, the deeper rhythms of faith carry on—quietly, steadily, inviting us to keep growing.

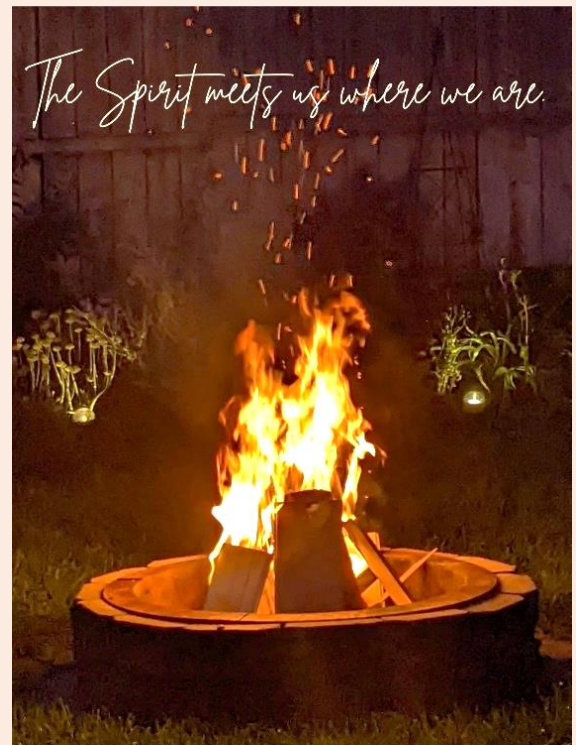
At Hope, we've been walking a resurrection road for weeks now, tracing the ripple effects of Easter morning and asking what it means not just to celebrate new life, but to live it. And here's what we're discovering: resurrection is not a single event. It's a way of being. It roots us in love, draws us into community, and reminds us that our transformation is always connected to the flourishing of others.

And yet, I know so many of us are tired. Not just busy-but soul-tired. Life has felt heavy in ways that are hard to name. So many are carrying burdens—worries about their health, their children, their future, their neighbors. Some feel like the world is spinning too fast and leaving people behind. Others feel unseen or overwhelmed by decisions that shape daily life but feel far beyond their control.

If you're in that place, you are not alone.

And here is the good news: God doesn't wait for us to be well-rested or spiritually energized to move among us. The Spirit meets us exactly where we are—whether in fire and wind, or in a whisper. Pentecost reminds us that God breathes power and purpose

(Pastor Jen's Message - Continued on Page 2)



ONLINE WORSHIP available on our Facebook Page

Sundays at 9:00am & Special Services

https://www.facebook.com/Hope-United-Methodist-Church-116517175038771_10

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for more
info and
LINKS



(Pastor Jen's Message - Continued from Page 1)

into weary people. The Spirit doesn't just descend into perfect conditions, it breaks in when the doors are closed, and hearts are heavy, and the future feels uncertain.

That breath is still moving.

And as we breathe it in, we begin again. We remember who we are and whose we are. We rediscover that our belonging is not based on how strong we feel, but on the grace of the One who holds us together. We're reminded that freedom isn't just a lofty ideal—it's the Spirit-led capacity to love well, live with intention, and bear fruit even in difficult seasons.

So, whether your summer takes you far away or keeps you close to home, whether you feel full of energy or barely holding on, I pray you'll remember you are not alone. The Spirit is still stirring. Resurrection is still unfolding. Even in weariness, grace is near.

With love and deep gratitude,

Pastor Jen

Stay Updated & Connected

We have a couple regular email distribution lists. Please let Kristen know if you would like to be included on any of the following lists, if you aren't already, or if you need to update the email address you prefer to receive these emails at. You can also be removed from any email distribution list. Just reach out.



- 1) **Weekly Email List:** This distribution list is mainly used on a weekly basis for the Saturday morning "Worship & News" email with updates for Sunday worship and announcements for the week. It is also used occasionally when there is a big announcement to be shared, a special gathering coming up, or a prayer request for the full congregation.
- 2) **Monthly Newsletter List:** Even though our newsletter is always available online at our website, or through the link in the weekly email, we do send out a monthly email specific to the newsletter.
- 3) **Prayer Chain List:** This is a smaller group of people who have chosen to be part of a prayer team. These emails are not scheduled, but rather are sent out when a prayer request comes in.

JUNE 2025 WORSHIP THEMES

June 1, 2025 – Rooted in Resurrection- “Becoming One”

Scripture: Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21

On this final week in the series, we recognize how interdependent we are with creation, and we celebrate that when we benefit, we also benefit others.

June 8, 2025 – Pentecost

Guest Preacher- Steve Spina

**The doors are open. That’s what Pentecost has done. In this moment, in this event, we are empowered to realize the promise that was offered at Easter.
(Pastor Jen & Sharon Fortune will be at Annual Conference)**

June 15, 2025 – Trinity Sunday

Scripture: Psalm 8, Romans 5:1-5

The celebration continues. Perhaps it is hard to see much to celebrate in what is essentially a doctrinal observance. Yet, the writer of Psalm 8 finds much to enjoy in the contemplation of who God is.

"Dear Children of God: OMG! Living the Letter"

**A sermon series on Galatians, where we open the “texts” of St. Paul and ask:
What is the urgent, liberating, Spirit-filled message for us now?**



June 22, 2025 – OMG, You Belong (Now That Faith Has Come)

Scripture: Galatians 3:23–29

In Christ, distinctions of status, gender, and identity dissolve. The radical belonging we’re offered isn’t theoretical - it changes everything.

June 29, 2025- OMG, You’re Free (Called to Freedom)

Scripture: Galatians 5:1, 13–25

Freedom in Christ isn’t permission to do whatever we want - it’s the Spirit-led capacity to love deeply, live boldly, and bear fruit.

ONLINE GIVING is NOW AVAILABLE!



Scan the QR Code, then scroll down to the GIVE NOW option to set up or modify online giving. You can even download Hope's Church Connect Page as a "web app" to your phone or mobile device to make it easier to access. (For tips on setting this up on your phone visit: <https://www.churchtrac.com/support/connect/install-church-connect-app>) This is a great way to stay connected with Hope UMC!

Why use online giving?

- Convenient & Secure
- Allows you to view your contribution history (regardless of how you made the contribution)

How does online giving work?

You can either set up your contributions through secure ACH (bank account) or with a credit card, whichever is more convenient for you.

Are there fees?

You will not be charged any fees and will receive credit for your full contribution. The church will be assessed processing fees. You will have the option to make a donation to help offset these fees, but it is not required.

- ACH (US ONLY): \$0.25 flat rate per transaction
If the contributor chooses to use instant verification, there is a one-time \$1.50 fee for each bank account that a donor connects. After this initial fee, ACH transactions have a flat rate of \$0.25/transaction.
- Credit Card Processing Fees: 2.2% + \$.30 per transaction (3.5% for Amex)

GIVING OPTIONS



OFFERING PLATE on Sunday morning



US MAIL: Hope United Methodist Church
2233 Golf Road, Eau Claire, WI 54701



ONLINE GIVING – Now Available

Scan the QR Code, then scroll down to the GIVE NOW option to set up or modify online giving.

You can even download Hope's Church Connect Page as a "web app" to your phone or mobile device to make it easier to access.



ELECTRONIC GIVING:

1. You can set up automatic electronic payments through your individual financial institution. For example, RCU has a Bill Pay option where you can designate the church as a payee and decide how often you'd like them to mail a paper check to the church or make an electronic payment to the church.
2. We will be phasing out our current ACH Electronic Giving option with Vanco and transitioning to the new Online Giving option through ChurchTrac, our church management software. If you are currently using the VANCO system, there is no need to make any changes if you'd like to continue using this form of payment, but we will not be creating any new accounts.



Still have questions? Please contact Kristen in the office:
Phone: **715-835-5310** (leave a message) / Email: **hopeumcec@yahoo.com**

UPCOMING EVENTS



UPCOMING COMMITTEE MEETINGS

- June 2 1:00pm Nurture
- June 3 4:30pm Outreach
- June 10 5:30pm Trustees
- June 16 6:00pm Ad Board

NEW UPDATED Committee Meetings ZOOM Link:

<https://zoom.us/j/3994452832?pwd=zQLiteVM7017VFggxPRg4q5wPwmd1p.1&omn=97039744985>

Save the Date:
All Church Picnic
on July 23
Food, fun and good
conversation. More
information to come.



Everyone is Invited to LUNCH
at Altoona Family Restaurant
on June 23rd at 11:00am

BREAKING: JESUS CALLED. HE WANTS YOU AT LUNCH!

Okay, maybe not literally—but if we were walking around Altoona, there's a good chance you'd find him at a corner booth, breaking bread with friends. So let's follow his example! Join your Hope UMC crew for lunch at Altoona Family Restaurant on Monday, June 23 at 11 AM. We're talking real food, real conversation, and the sacred art of mid-morning pie.

- Yes, you need to sign up—either at church or by calling Judy Ganong (a.k.a. Keeper of the List)
- Come for the fellowship, stay for the fries.

Because faith isn't just preached—it's practiced around tables.



Regular Office Hours: 9:00am-1:00pm Tues, Wed, Thurs

(Office hours may change occasionally, please call before you visit)



LAWN MOWING HELP NEEDED

Please sign up on our Sign-Up
Genius page at:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040A44AAA622A02-56431037-hope/41307228#/>



UPCOMING FOOD PANTRY SUNDAYS:

JUNE 1

JULY 6

AUGUST 3

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
Connie Jacobsen
Jan Lorentz

715-514-0258
715-838-9594
608-886-0668



FINANCE NEWS

FINANCIAL REPORT -APRIL 2025		
	<u>MTD</u>	<u>YTD</u>
<i>Contributions</i>	\$12,114	\$43,651
<i>Expenses</i>	\$12,165	\$47,603
	(\$50)	(\$3,953)

CONNECTIONAL GIVING (APPORTIONMENTS)	
<i>Conference Assigned Amount for 2025:</i>	<i>We Have Paid As Of 4-30-25:</i>
\$16,980.00	\$4,567.00

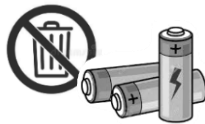
There are many opportunities to share your gifts and talents:

- 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.



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.



FRIENDS at the LAKE

OUTREACH OPPORTUNITY

Lake Street UMC is the host church for Friends at the Lake ministry. This is a program providing respite for those caring for individuals living with Alzheimer's disease and all other dementias. Volunteers will be provided with training. Some of the many activities include art, music, crafts, service projects and a meal. Contact Sharon Fortune for more information. szfortune@yahoo.com or 715-210-2989 (cell)



Women of Hope will not be meeting in June.

**Pop-Up Food Pantry
10:00am - 11:00am**

- Saturday, June 28
- Saturday, July 26
- Saturday, August 30

**POP-UP PANTRY
FUND DRIVE**



As we've noted before, Pope Francis' well-known quote was "You pray for the hungry. Then you feed them. That's how prayer works." And we have the opportunity to put that prayer to work by raising funds for the Pop-up Food Pantry. It takes about \$100 a month to stock the Pop-Up Food Pantry which is in demand every month. If just 10 people commit to \$10/month, we can make that a reality! Pop-Up Food Pantry envelopes will be available by the offering plate.

Or consider scheduling an online donation indicating the Pop-Up Food Pantry.

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

(Joining Our Neighbors Advancing Hope)

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



Feb 18	Apr 15	Jun 17	Aug 12
Becoming Kin: An Indigenous Call to Unforgetting the Past and Reimagining Our Future – By Patty Krewac	A More Perfect Union: A New Vision for Building the Beloved Community – By Adam Russell Taylor	Becoming Abolitionists: Police, Protests, and the Pursuit of Freedom – By Derecka Purnell	How We Show Up: Reclaiming Family, Friendship, and Community – By Mia Birdsong

Oct 14	Dec 9
We Who Believe in Freedom: Activism and the Struggle for Social Justice – By Alice P. Green	Hope for Cynics: The Surprising Science of Human Goodness – By Jamil Zaki

JONAH is proud to introduce our 2025 Book Club list, with all titles focusing on *hope*.

Come ready to discuss and get to know other JONAH members on the specified date at 6:15pm at Dotter's Books, 307 South Barstow in Eau Claire. Register [here](#).

HOPE UMC LEADERSHIP - 2025

<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 of the SPRC
	Mike Larabee		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		Dan Shuck
	LeeAnn Richards	Mike Larabee (Chair)	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)	Linda Higgins	Joey Bohl
	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		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.

June 2025

Hope United Methodist Church

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9:00am WORSHIP Communion Food Pantry Sunday	2 1:00pm Nurture Pastor Jen Out of the Office	3 4:30pm Outreach	4	5 Jen - Clergy Session	6 Annual Conference - Middleton	7
8 9:00am WORSHIP Annual Conference - Middleton	9	10 5:30pm Trustees	11	12	13	14
15 <i>Father's Day</i> 9:00am WORSHIP	16 K Office 9am-1pm 6:00pm Ad Board	17 K Office 9am-1pm Pastor Jen MCCI in Sun Prairie	18 Office Closed	19 K Office 9am-1pm	20	21
22 9:00am WORSHIP	23 11:00am Lunch @ Altoona Family Restaurant 1:00pm Bible Study Kristen Vacation	24	25	26	27	28 10-11:00am Pop-Up Pantry
29 9:00am WORSHIP	30	1-Jul	2-Jul	3-Jul	4-Jul	5-Jul

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				
	June 1	June 8	June 15	June 22	June 29
Greeters	Ruth & Ray Nyland	Linda Larson	Connie Jacobsen	Connie Jacobsen	Linda Larson
Online Greeter	Renee Marino	Connie Jacobsen	Renee Marino	Connie Jacobsen	Renee Marino
Scripture Reader	Sharon Fortune	Joey Bohl	Ryan Stepp	Sharon Fortune	Cindy Peterson
Children's Message	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Prayers of the People	Jan Lorentz	Becky Gochanour	Pastor Jen	Becky Gochanour	Pastor Jen
Audio Visual	Alberto Larabee	Renee Marino Cindy Peterson	Alberto Larabee	Renee Marino Cindy Peterson	Renee Marino Cindy Peterson

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.