



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 32, No.11

November 2025

It is nearing the end of October, and as the leaves start falling and the light grows softer, I find myself reflecting on all the ways God has been moving among us at Hope. Through our MCCI learnings, we've been reminded again and again that God's mission is not something we create, but something we *join*. That we are part of a spiritual movement. And what a joy it is to witness that unfolding!

In just the past few months, Hope has been alive with activity; serving at Beacon House, feeding our neighbors, gathering for fellowship, welcoming new faces, deepening relationships, and exploring new ways to pray and grow. Every one of these moments is a small act of faith, a seed of the kingdom planted right here in Eau Claire.



As we move into November's worship series, "Surely Coming: Promises of Hope and Renewal," we'll hear words from the prophets that call us to imagine what's next, to see beyond what is, into what God is making possible. That vision is sustained by gratitude... the kind that doesn't just say "thank you" but lives as if we truly believe God is still doing new things.

All Saints Sunday will open the month with remembrance and renewal honoring those whose faith shaped us and celebrating the saints still among us, building the kin-dom of God here and now. From there, we'll hear the ancient words of Haggai, Isaiah, and Jeremiah, who spoke to weary people in hard times and reminded them that God's glory, God's peace, and God's justice are *still unfolding*.

In the same way, Hope continues to unfold. We are not who we were a year ago, and we are not yet who God is calling us to become. But we are on the way- together - and for that, I am profoundly grateful.

(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

SCAN
for more
info and
LINKS



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

This month, may we practice gratitude not as a feeling but as a movement: gratitude that builds, serves, prays, and trusts. Gratitude that remembers the saints. Gratitude that looks forward with hope. Gratitude that believes, even now, that the days are surely coming.

I invite you to take a few minutes this month to listen for where gratitude is already stirring in you.

- What or who are you deeply grateful for in this season?
- How has that gratitude changed the way you see the world?
- What might grow if you tended that gratitude, with a prayer, an act of service, a word of encouragement, or a generous gift?

When we nurture gratitude, it multiplies. It becomes the soil where hope takes root and where the promises of God begin to blossom in us and through us.

With hope and thanks,

Jen

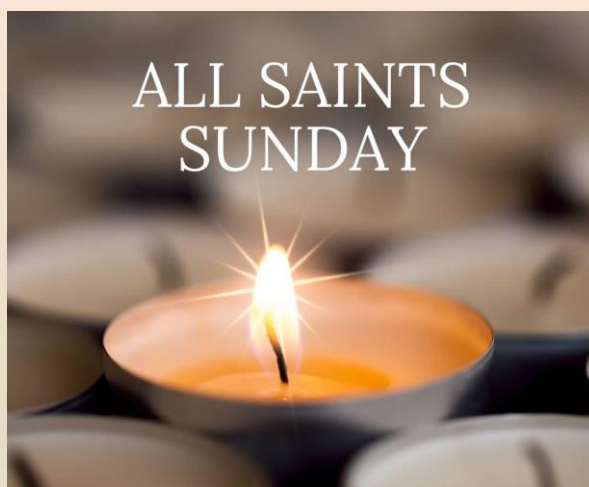
All Saints Sunday – November 2nd

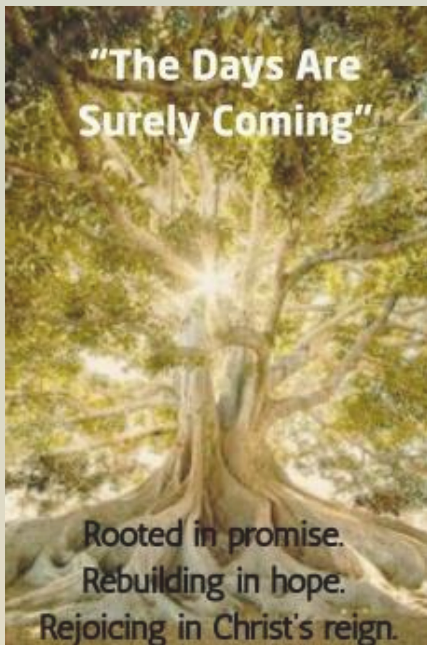
On Sunday, November 2nd, we'll celebrate **All Saints Sunday**, a sacred time to remember those who have gone before us in faith and love.

You are invited to bring a **photo or special memento** of a loved one who has passed away to place on our **Remembrance Tables** during worship. These tangible reminders help us give thanks to the great cloud of witnesses who have shaped our lives and continue to surround us in spirit.

Together we'll light candles and celebrate the ways their light still shines through us.

Come, remember, and give thanks for the saints, both those in heaven and those walking beside us today.





"The Days Are Surely Coming: Promises of Hope and Renewal"

As we approach the end of the Christian year and prepare for the season of Advent, we pause not to dwell on endings, but to look ahead with anticipation. This November, our worship invites us to listen again to God's promises—promises of restoration, of peace, and of a new reality where Christ's love reigns. We begin with All Saints Sunday, remembering those whose faith shaped us and whose light continues to guide us. In honoring their lives, we also celebrate the living saints - all of us - who are working to create God's kingdom of love and justice here and now. Together, we stand in the long line of witnesses who trust that "our God will make us worthy of God's call". From there, we turn to the prophets Haggai, Isaiah, and Jeremiah, whose words speak powerfully to our own time. They remind us that God is not done with creation - that in ruins, God builds again; in sorrow, God plants joy; and in the scattering, God gathers us back into beloved community. This

season is a kind of pre-Advent anticipation (Advent pregame if you will)—a time to remember that Christ's reign is both our present hope and our future promise. The days are surely coming when all things will be made new, when every knee shall bow and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord. Join us in worship this November as we remember, rebuild, and rejoice in the God who is making all things new.

November 2 – All Saints Sunday: "Made Worthy of God's Call" (Communion & Children's Time) 2 Thessalonians 1:1–4, 11–12

On this sacred day, we remember those who have gone before us — the saints who showed us how to love, how to serve, and how to hope. But we also recognize that we are part of that same communion of saints. God continues to call and empower us to live lives worthy of that holy calling — to reflect God's goodness and grace in our daily living.

November 9 – "The Glory Yet to Come" / Haggai 1:15b–2:9

In the rubble of the temple, God speaks a word of promise: "The latter splendor of this house shall be greater than the former." When our faith feels weary or our work seems small, God reminds us that divine glory is still unfolding. We'll reflect on rebuilding — in our lives, our communities, and our world — trusting that God's Spirit fills even the unfinished places.

November 16 – "A New Heaven and a New Earth" / Isaiah 65:17–25

Isaiah imagines a world without weeping, where children thrive and peace reigns. This vision invites us to dream alongside God — to be co-creators of renewal, hope, and justice. What does it mean to believe in a future where "the wolf and the lamb shall feed together"?

November 23 – "The Shepherd King" (Reign of Christ Sunday) / Jeremiah 23:1–6

As the Christian year concludes, we celebrate the reign of Christ — the righteous Branch who gathers the lost and rules with justice. Christ's kingship looks nothing like worldly power; it is rooted in compassion, mercy, and reconciliation. This is the culmination of all God's promises, the kingdom of love that has no end.

UPCOMING EVENTS



UPCOMING COMMITTEE MEETINGS

- November 3 5:00pm Faith Formation
- November 4 4:30pm Outreach
- November 10 11:30am Finance
- November 11 5:30pm Trustees
- November 17 6:00pm Ad Board

NEW UPDATED Committee Meetings ZOOM Link:

<https://zoom.us/j/3994452832?pwd=zQLjteVM7017VFggxPRg4q5wPwmd1p.1&omn=97039744985>



ANNUAL CHARGE CONFERENCE

**Saturday, December 13th
at 10:00am in the Sanctuary**



**Fall Back and
Hour for
Daylight Savings
Sunday, Nov 2nd**



the COMMUNITY TABLE

On Monday, November 3, we're gathering around more than just a table. At **Community Table**, we're offering dignity, warmth, and a hot meal to neighbors who need to know they're not forgotten.

Here's what you need to know:

We split the day into two shifts:

9:00–11:30 AM (Prep crew) and 11:15 AM–2:00 PM. (Serve & clean-up crew)

Pick one. Bring a friend. Show up ready to serve with a smile.

Why now?

Because someone is walking into that space on Monday wondering if they matter. And you might be the answer to that question.

Ready to serve?

Talk to Joanne Mellema to get added to our amazing crew! Or sign up on the Clipboard this Sunday. Let's set the table together.

**Sat, December 6th
9:00am - 11:00am**



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

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**

FINANCE NEWS

FINANCIAL REPORT-SEPTEMBER 2025		
	<u>MTD</u>	<u>YTD</u>
<i>Contributions</i>	\$11,893	\$93,549
<i>Expenses</i>	\$13,568	\$98,852
	(\$1,675)	(\$5,304)

CONNECTIONAL GIVING (APPORTIONMENTS)	
<i>Conference Assigned</i>	<i>We Have Paid</i>
<i>Amount for 2025:</i>	<i>As Of 9-30-25:</i>
\$16,980.00	\$14,247.00



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.

**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

Women of
HOPE Saturday,
November 15th
9:00am

We will be decorating cookies
in Fellowship Hall.



**Bible
STUDY**
Join us!

Our next
gathering will
be Nov. 24th
at 1:00pm.

Collection For Meadowview Students

**During
November, we
will be collecting
the following
clothing and
winter items for
students at
Meadowview
Elementary.**



- **PANTS OR LEGGINGS:** Boys & Girls, sizes 6-8. Elastic waistband, pull on type only



- **HATS**

- **SNOW MITTENS & GLOVES:** Lined only, intended for playing in the snow (please no unlined knit mittens or gloves)



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

- Saturday, November 22
- Saturday, December 20

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
	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	
<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)	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.

November 2025

Hope United Methodist Church

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26-Oct	27-Oct	28-Oct	29-Oct	30-Oct	Oct 31	1
<i>Daylight Savings</i> 2 9:00am WORSHIP Communion Food Pantry Sunday	3 9:00am-2:00pm Serve at Community Table 5:00pm Faith Formation 6:00pm Ad Board Meet w/Sue	4 4:30pm Outreach 5:30pm Zumba (FH)	5 9:00-10:00am JONAH (FH)	6 10:00am-1:00pm MAKE COOKIES - (FH & K)	7 9:00am Women of Hope Decorate Cookies (FH)	8
9 9:00am WORSHIP	10 11:30am Finance	11 5:30pm Trustees 5:30pm Zumba (FH)	12 Noon-4:00pm MAKE COOKIES - (FH & K)	13 9:00-10:00am JONAH (FH)	14	15
16 9:00am WORSHIP	17 6:00pm Ad Board	18 5:30pm Zumba (FH)	19	20 9:00-10:00am JONAH (FH) *Newsletter Deadline*	21	22 10-11:00am Pop-Up Pantry
23 9:00am WORSHIP	24 1:00pm Bible Study Pastor Jen MCCI Noon-2:00pm (Zoom)	25 5:30pm Zumba (FH)	26	27 THANKSGIVING Office Closed	28	29
30 9:00am WORSHIP ADVENT Week 1	1-Dec	2-Dec	3-Dec	4-Dec	Dec 5	6-Dec

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				
	November 2	November 9	November 16	November 23	November 30
Greeters	Ruby & Jerry Wilkie	Ruth & Ray Nyland	Joey Bohl	John & Merry Weiland	Connie Jacobsen
Online Greeter	Renee Marino	Connie Jacobsen	Renee Marino	Connie Jacobsen	Renee Marino
Scripture Reader	Ryan Stepp	Linda Norton	Sharon Fortune	Cindy Peterson	Sharon Fortune
Children's Message	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Prayers of the People	Pastor Jen	Jan Lorentz	Pastor Jen	Jan Lorentz	Pastor Jen
Audio Visual	Cindy Peterson	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

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.