

# HOPE HERALD



September 2025-November 2025

## **HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH**

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## **PASTOR'S CORNER:**

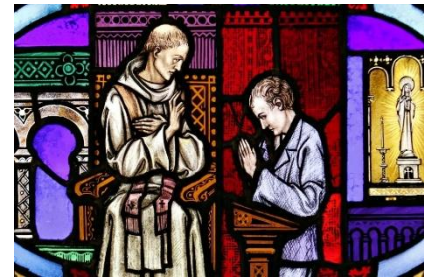
How many people tell you what to do?

If your life is anything like mine, your life is full of almost nothing else! The doctor wants me to take these medicines. The dietician says stop eating these foods. The dentist says floss more. The IRS says “send your quarterly estimated payments.” The garage says “clean me.” The dog says “feed me.” The mechanic’s postcard says “overdue for service.” Microsoft wants me to update. A flood of emails each day have something that I really must read. Pull the weeds. Iron the shirt. Don’t speed. Don’t forget the appointment. Dawn is after me to . . . well I guess the point’s been made.

And into your life of laws, demands, requirements, restrictions, expectations – there is the voice of your preacher – “come to church,” “go to bible study,” “help with this event,” “get your priorities straight,” etc.

There is one big difference, however. Along with the many divine rules which, ironically, I am commanded to tell you, I also tell you something, quite the opposite of a command, which you may not hear anywhere else. “I forgive your sins for Christ’s sake.” Your doctor cannot tell you that. Your psychologist has no authority to pronounce that. Your mom and dad may inform you but cannot officially as part of divine worship “tell” you. Certainly no one in the government has any business saying it. You can’t buy it at a store or get it online. Your Pastor, however, is called specifically by God to speak that truth to you on God’s own behalf.

Jesus said “If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven;” and “whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.” We call this the *Office of the Keys* because Jesus said “I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven.” It is as though the pastor unlocks the locked door of heaven with the key so that you may enter.



God has given this authority to His whole church, but in the public exercise of the church’s duty, He has appointed certain men to perform this role. So your Pastor has this job, not because he is a better man in any way, nor because the church voted on him as if anyone whom they choose could do it, but because Christ selected him for this task. “He gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers.”

How much should I charge you for this? What else in your life compares to this in value or will matter by any comparison a million

years from now? What is it worth to you? God forbid that I would do anything but give this free gift freely to all to whom Christ offers it - those who are sorry for their sin. Nevertheless, though it is absolutely and entirely free and without cost, regard it as the greatest treasure you have. At the moment in the Divine Service when the Pastor, pronouncing the Absolution, says "I forgive you all your sins," let it be to you as if the treasuries of the world were suddenly wired into your account. Let it be to you as though the doctor just told you "we don't know what happened, the cancer is entirely gone." Let it be to you as though your heart's beloved just said "I do." With all the people in your life who tell you what the requirements are, here you are told of what was done for you with no effort, no obligation, no price-to-pay on your part. In that declaration your birthright is heaven itself, and eternal and blissful unity with the one true God.

### **CELEBRATION OF OUR UKRAINIAN GUESTS**

Last year, Hope supported the sponsorship of a family from Ukraine to come to the United States for two years and escape the perils of constant warfare. They are staying in our parsonage. We hope all of you have had a chance to meet and speak with this wonderful family, Vasyl, Iryna, Arsen, and Viktoriia. On **Sept 21<sup>st</sup>**, in place of our usual Sunday School time, they will give a presentation to tell us about their country followed by lunch with indigenous recipes that Iryna wished to make for us. We hope you will stay and get to know them better.



The "United for Ukraine" program under which they came to the U.S. is currently not processing requests for renewals. At this meeting, Pastor will explain the situation and you will be invited to contact your congressman to push for this program continuation so our family might remain here longer if they wish.

## BIBLE STUDY AND SUNDAY SCHOOL SCHEDULE

Pastor Oswald says- “I’d shave my head!” “I’d eat worms!”  
 “I’d hang upside down and sing the Green Bay Packers fight song!”

What wouldn’t I do if only I could get more people to attend Bible studies?

But fortunately, my trump card is this - Jesus said “my words are spirit and life.”

What did He do to get you to study His words?

I hope you’ll agree that we have another wonderful slate of study topics for 2025/26 and that you will plan to be a part of whatever you can.

### SUNDAYS 10:20 to 11:00 a.m.

Sept 7	Lg Catechism: Art II
Sept 14	No Class: Voter's Meeting
Sept 21	Ukraine Presentation
Sept 28	Lg Catechism: Art III
Oct 5	Lg Catechism: Lord's Prayer
Oct 12	Lg Catechism: Lord's Prayer
Oct 19	Lg Catechism: Lord's Prayer
Oct 26	Guest (Pastor Vacation)
Nov 2	Lg Catechism: Lord's Prayer
Nov 9	Lg Catechism: Lord's Prayer
Nov 16	Lg Catechism: Baptism
Nov 23	Lg Catechism: Infant Baptism
Nov 30	Lg Catechism: Sacrament of the Altar
Dec 7	Lg Catechism: Sacrament of the Altar
Dec 14	No Class: Voter's Meeting
Dec 21	Is There a Reason to Be Lutheran? Theology
Dec 28	Reason to Be Lutheran? History
Jan 5	Reason to Be Lutheran? Passive vrs active
Jan 11	Reason to Be Lutheran? Justification

### WEDNESDAYS 6:00 to 6:45 p.m.

Sept 24	Selected Stories from Genesis
Oct 1	Selected Stories from Genesis
Oct 8	Selected Stories from Genesis
Oct 15	Selected Stories from Genesis
Oct 22	Selected Stories from Genesis
Oct 29	No Class: Pastor Vacation
Nov 5	Selected Stories from Genesis
Nov 12	Selected Stories from Genesis
Nov 19	Selected Stories from Genesis
Nov 26	No Class: Thanksgiving Eve
Dec 3	No Class: Advent 1
Dec 10	No Class: Advent 2
Dec 17	No Class: Advent 3
Dec 24	No Class: Christmas Eve
Dec 31	No Class: New Year's Eve
Jan 7	Differences Between the Lutherans
Jan 14	Differences Between the Lutherans

Jan 18	Reason to Be Lutheran? Law and good works
Jan 25	Reason to Be Lutheran? Word and Sacrament
Feb 1	Video: Rosa Young
Feb 8	Video: Rosa Young
Feb 15	Guest (Pastor Vacation)
Feb 22	Witness: Beginning a Spiritual Conversation
Mar 1	Witness: Beginning a Spiritual Conversation
Mar 8	Witness: Listening to an Unchurched Person
Mar 15	<b>No Class: Voter's Meeting</b>
Mar 22	Witness: Listening to an Unchurched Person
Mar 29	Witness: Simple Statement of the Gospel
Apr 5	Witness: Simple Statement of the Gospel
Apr 12	Witness: Defending the Resurrection
Apr 19	Witness: Defending the Resurrection
Apr 26	Book of Ephesians
May 3	Book of Ephesians
May 10	Book of Ephesians
May 17	Book of Ephesians
May 24	Book of Ephesians
May 31	Guest (Pastor Vacation)
Jun 7	Book of Ephesians

Jan 21	Differences Between the Lutherans
Jan 28	Differences Between the Lutherans
Feb 4	Differences Between the Lutherans
Feb 11	<b>No Class: Pastor Vacation</b>
Feb 18	<b>No Class: Ash Wed</b>
Feb 25	<b>No Class: Lenten Service 2</b>
Mar 4	<b>No Class: Lenten Service 3</b>
Mar 11	<b>No Class: Lenten Service 4</b>
Mar 18	<b>No Class: Lenten Service 5</b>
Mar 25	<b>No Class: Lenten Service 6</b>
Apr 1	<b>No Class: Holy Week</b>
Apr 8	Psalms, Hymns, and Spiritual Songs
Apr 15	Psalms, Hymns, and Spiritual Songs
Apr 22	Psalms, Hymns, and Spiritual Songs
Apr 29	Psalms, Hymns, and Spiritual Songs
May 6	The Lord's Supper
May 13	The Lord's Supper
May 20	The Lord's Supper
May 27	The Lord's Supper



## **CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL**

Hope is excited about the start of the new Sunday School Year for our children on Sept 28<sup>th</sup>. We are grateful for our

teachers, co-teachers, assistant teachers, and substitute teachers who will impart the good news of Jesus to our children through songs, lessons, crafts, memorization, and activities. This year, we will have three classrooms – Nursery Roll for three and under, Early Child Ed. for ages 4-7, and Elementary for ages 8-11. All three classrooms are downstairs but sometimes Sunday School will begin with all grades singing together at the front of the sanctuary before going to class. Time is Sundays, 10:20-11:00. If you have neighbors, grandchildren, nieces and nephews, invite them to come, or better yet, bring them!

## **HOPE'S OUTREACH AND EVANGELISM COMMITTEE**

Next year, the committee will make the recommendations to the congregation for Hope's benevolence funding (gifts for Synodical needs and Missions. There are so many worthy causes and needs. What a blessing that God has enabled Hope to be a sending/mission-minded church. Please pray for them as they make these important considerations.

**Pastor Tim**

## **WOMEN OF HOPE**



**Women of Hope (WOH) updates.** All women at Hope are already members, any friends are welcome anytime. We are part of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League nationwide. We are District 21 for Southeast WI. Feel free to explore their website, [www.lwml-swd.org](http://www.lwml-swd.org) We meet quarterly for our business meetings. Activities are provided throughout the year for fellowship and community service. Let us know what your passions are and how we can direct you to what we offer.

**WOH Quarterly Meeting-** We will meet on Tuesday, September 2, at 4:30 pm (instead of September 9) in the church lower level. We welcome all Women at Hope, so you can hear what we are doing and planning for.

**Monthly Mites** will be on September 6 & 7 Saturday/Sunday worship. All Hope members and friends can contribute their loose change into our large Mite box. Small boxes you are welcome to take what you need to collect your loose change at home. All

donations are sent to our District that will help fund District and national mission grants. Monthly Mites in October will be October 4 & 5 Saturday/Sunday worship.

**Saturday, September 20 at 10:45 am** we invite all ladies and their daughters to our annual luncheon held in the church lower level. Join us for a meal, fellowship and fun. If you need a ride, let me know. (There will be NO Ladies luncheon at The Local Folks in September.) Looking forward to our time together. Friends are welcome as well. Any questions, contact **Beth Schneider** **262-351-6578** or **paul\_beth\_schneider@msn.com**. We are looking forward to having you here.

**Beth Schneider**

### **LADIES BIBLE STUDY**

The Women's Bible study took a break from meeting this summer; however we were encouraged to continue the readings in our book, Jesus Knows, 90 Days Through the Gospels. The remainder of the reading schedule is below.

We will resume gathering on **THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, at 5:30** in the fellowship area upstairs. Our plan will be to go through Days 63-66 in our study together. I look forward to meeting with you all again to pray and study God's Word together.

Note: If you do not have a book, but would like to join us, please let me know and I will order one for you. Everyone is welcome.

### **Reading schedule:**

**Tuesday, September 2: Matthew 22:23-32**

**Wednesday, September 3: Matthew 22:33-46**

**Thursday, September 4: Mark 12:28-40 and Luke 20:41-47**

**Tabra Gomski**



## **PASTOR APPRECIATION AND** **CHURCH PICNIC**



Just a reminder to place October 5 on your social calendar. We will celebrate Pastor Appreciation Day and have our annual Church Picnic. Enjoy Mexican food from the Pina Mexican Eats Food Truck and play Bingo afterward.

**Paul Trettin**

## **OUTREACH NOTES**

*Hope's Mission Statement:*

*Dedicated to knowing Christ and making Christ known to others.*

*Rev Dr Walter and Robyn Steel serving now in the Philippines  
(Hope gave \$1000 for their support this year)*

*We are settling into our home, awaiting the arrival of our household goods from Kenya. Kindly pray they show up soon.*

Walter has been assisting the pastor at St. Stephen Lutheran Church, with communion and Bible Study. He is also scheduled to teach a Luther Seminar at the seminary to the 4th Year students in October.





I begin my Fall Quarter of deaconess classes this month. Next month we both are to fly to Bohol, the Philippines, for the International Lutheran Council meeting. Please pray for safe travel there and back.

***LCMS Sheboygan County Hispanic Outreach***  
**(Hope gave \$600 for their support this year)**



A new church with services and bible studies each week in Spanish – they are reaching out to the growing Hispanic community in Sheboygan County. They recently sent a card to us –

“Gracias! Thank you for your generous gift to our ministry. God bless you.”

Pastor Misionero David Blas  
<https://www.hispanicmission.org/>

## **2025 CAR SHOW**



What a beautiful day for a car show (despite a week of worry about rain!), complete with spaghetti/Sloppy Joe's dinners, silent auction, raffles, music and more. And, did we mention FUN?!

We voted to split the proceeds between LCC and to help the Morningside church in NC that was destroyed by hurricanes, and checks have been sent.

### **Car Show Proceeds Breakdown**

Food/Drinks – spaghetti dinners and Sloppy Joe's	\$ 708
Registrations	\$ 394
Big ticket raffle tickets (Solo Stove fire pit)	\$ 310
50/50 raffle	\$ 346
Silent auction	\$2,382
Cash donations	\$ 592

<b>Total</b>	<b>\$4,732</b>
<b>Expenses</b>	<b>(\$1,116)</b>
<b>Net Proceeds</b>	<b><u>\$3,616</u></b>

We had 65 cars registered, plus some that joined us later in the day without registering. Sold 87 spaghetti dinners and 63 Sloppy Joe's. Was a day full of fun, with raffles and the silent auction going on too. So many compliments were received on everything.

We were honored to have the Sharing Center, an LCC Comfort Dog, a Kenosha County Sheriff's Dept officer and a Twin Lakes police department officer. A Heart for Animals joined us again with some beautiful baskets and their silent auction expertise. The Outreach team had a great variety of resources and offered free water to keep everyone cool. Be sure to visit our website for a link to the YouTube video featuring some fabulous cars – and some shots of people enjoying the day.

A HUGE THANK YOU to the many people who made our car show such a success. Looking forward to **July 11, 2026!** Mark your calendars – planning will start in March.

**2025 Car Show Committee**

## **CHOIR NOTES**



Not quite sure where the Summer went, but . . . Welcome to a new choir year at Hope!

Our first practice will be on Sunday, September 7, and we will sing for the service on September 28. We will practice every Sunday at 8:15am through the 2nd week in June. We will sing every three weeks, to allow us more time to practice our regular music, plus hymns for the Thanksgiving Eve service, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, Ash Wednesday, Holy Week and Easter. This will also allow us to concentrate more on each voice/harmony. Practice for holiday services will be a ½ hour before the service and will be announced.

If you love to sing and/or play an instrument, we would love to have you join us – we are a caring group of friends who enjoy Christian fellowship and love to sing. All Hope members, as well as visitors, are welcome to join, including teens and children.

Schedules covering what we sing and when will be provided, as well as copies of sheet music. Suggestions and ideas for what you would like us to sing are always welcome.

Looking forward to another wonderful music-filled year of praising the Lord. May God bless your Fall and Thanksgiving.

***Come, let us sing for joy to the LORD; let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation Psalm 95:1***

**Gail Feick  
Director**

## **STEWARDSHIP NEWS**



THE FOOD TRUCK IS COMING! Now that I have your attention, I want to first of all thank you in whatever manner you contribute as a member of our congregation. This can be in offerings and tithes, time and talent in the form of singing in the choir, attending Bible study, ushering, AV, Building and Grounds, Altar Guild, serving on a congregation Board and other ways to be involved in service to Hope. I personally see congregation members serving the church not only on Sunday, but throughout the week. Some individuals come to church behind the scenes to do various tasks that need attention.

Our Stewardship Sunday with special worship, Annual Church Picnic and Pastor Appreciation Recognition will be held **Sunday, October 5**. A special emphasis will focus not only on financial contributions but on serving the Lord at Hope with our time and talents. Most people equate the word “stewardship” with financial contributions. However, stewardship is more like a triangle with three components of time, talent and treasure. Please join with your fellow members in attending this special day of praise and thanksgiving.

Three of the four Brat Fry dates have been held with wonderful success. Our fourth date is **Saturday, September 13**. Thank you to the Brat Crew. Please come and have a brat and support a way to send the proceeds to The Lutheran Hour.

May God bless you for your financial support and also your time and talent in serving our Lord.

**George Kelm**  
**Stewardship Chairman**