

The Anchor Line

December 2025

Hope Lutheran Church

Anchored in Jesus | Living with Joy | Reflecting His Love

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www.hopedepere.org | "Hope Lutheran Church" on Facebook | "Angels of Hope" on Facebook

From the Pastor's Desk...

***But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, he saved us...
Titus 3:4-5a***

If you were to go around the world and ask people of various faith traditions to name some of the attributes of the god or gods they worship, you may hear some shared themes. "_____ is powerful... _____ is eternal... _____ is wise..." I wonder, though, how many would be able to say that their god is *kind*? Many would likely say that their god is *able to be* kind, but that kindness is often conditional. "If we are good, if we obey, then God is kind..." But what if we fail? What if we disobey? No kindness.

But the message of the Gospel is different! It reveals to us a God whose kindness toward us comes without any prior conditions. Paul writes to Titus that God saved us out of His goodness and loving kindness – not because of anything we had done. In fact, what we had done made the saving necessary! This month, we remember and celebrate God's gift of Jesus, born to be our Savior and King. John begins his Gospel by saying that Jesus came into the world He had made, but it did not recognize Him. Jesus came to God's chosen nation, the children of Abraham, but they did not receive Him. And yet, He came. He lived. He served. He suffered. He died. All to demonstrate the overwhelming kindness of God to people who don't deserve it – people like you and me.

Now, the same God who has saved us through His gift of unconditional kindness gives us His Holy Spirit, who works the fruit of kindness in us. Interestingly, the Greek word in Galatians 5:22 that we translate as "kindness" sounds a lot like "Christ." Perhaps this is a great reminder for us that people see Christ at work in their lives through the kindness of His followers. As I write this, our Hope family remembers and gives thanks for Helen Osen, our beloved sister in Christ and dedicated servant of God, who was recently called home to be with the Lord. Helen trusted in Jesus and dedicated decades of her life to serving those around her with kindness through music, baking, phone calls, food collections for those in need, and so much more. What a gift! I pray that we as a congregation will continue to embrace Helen's legacy of kindness and service as we seek to reflect the loving kindness that God has shown us in sending us His Son.

May God bless us this month as we stare into the face of His kindness incarnate, revealed in the Baby of Bethlehem!

His peace and joy,
Pastor Baye



Angels of Hope Preschool Christmas Program

"Christmas in Our Jammies"
Wednesday, December 10th at 6:30 PM
Come join us!



Advent Services

Wednesday, December 3rd
Worship Service at 6:30 PM

Wednesday, December 10th
Angels of Hope Christmas Program at 6:30 PM

Wednesday, December 17th
Service of Readings and Hymns at 6:30 PM

Worship and Sunday School Christmas Program

Sunday, December 21st at 9:00 AM

Christmas Eve

4:00 PM Worship (no communion)

7:00 PM Worship (communion)

Christmas Day

9:00 AM Worship (communion)



Community Engagement Ministry

Submitted by Kim Thompson

Mission of the Community Engagement Ministry – To be Jesus' servants to meet physical, spiritual, and relational needs of the community.

Sunday, November 30th, is the first Sunday of Advent. On this day, the Community Engagement Ministry will be sharing devotions for both adults and families. We invite you to take one and begin your preparation for Christmas. The Community Engagement Ministry will also sponsor the coffee hour.

Senior Laundry Love Meal: Hope will be sharing some love as we partner with Laundry Love Brown County on December 10th to provide a warm meal to seniors in our area. How can you help?

1. Chicken Pesto Pasta: Please see the display in the narthex and sign up to make this dish. The recipe and a container to place it in will be provided. Please return the prepared dish (please DO NOT bake the pasta) to the Hope refrigerator before December 10th.
2. We are looking for a volunteer to deliver the meal (3 pasta dishes, some donated fruit cups, and some bread) to the Senior Love Event at Fort Howard Apartments, 141 N. Chestnut Avenue in Green Bay, at 9:30 a.m. If you can help with delivery, please sign up at the display and Kim Thompson will be in touch with you.

Remembering Hope's college students as they prepare for their exams: Do you remember that stressful time as a student when final exams were on your schedule? We will be reaching out to our college students to provide them with a word of encouragement and a special treat.

The Community Engagement Ministry reaches out to our neighbors at Foxview Intermediate School with Random Acts of Kindness for the students that cross our sidewalk or get picked up in our parking lot. We will be planning a holiday treat to be handed out on December 17th after school.

Christmas Program Reception on Sunday, December 21st: The Community Engagement Ministry will help to provide a reception for Hope Families following the 9:00 a.m. Christmas Program Worship. We are looking for volunteers to help with

set-up and clean-up for this event. Please see the display in the narthex to sign up.

Community Engagement Ministry will also provide "THANK YOU" gifts to our Sunday School Students that worked so hard on the Christmas Program Worship. These gifts were possible due to a Thrivent Action Team Card provided by Thrivent.



Hope's Health Corner

As we enter this festive season, decorating, baking, wrapping, and attempting to keep pace with Santa (who manages it all in one night... with no coffee!) we *should remember* good practices to keep ourselves safe, steady, healthy, and upright.

Winter loves to test our balance. A little snow, a little ice, and suddenly we're performing an interpretive dance down the driveway. To reduce the chance of falls, keep your walkways salted, clear your steps of snow and ice, and keep your lights on, especially those midnight kitchen lights. Watch for loose rugs in your home along with sneaky cords, and unexpected obstacles.

When spreading Christmas joy, remember to spare your back. Whether it's a grocery bag that looked lighter than it was, or a mystery package that "felt fine" until you picked it up, your back is counting on you to use proper form. Bend at the knees and keep the load close (Santa hugs his sack for a reason!) Pivot with your feet instead of twisting your hips. And if a box seems too heavy or too awkward,

don't be afraid to ask for help - even Santa's elves work in teams! Ecclesiastes reminds us: "Two are better than one... If either of them falls down, one can help the other up" (4:9-10).

Remember: our bodies are wonderfully made, and wonderfully made things need care. God entrusts us with these earthly vessels, and tending to them, especially during the "slip season", is an act of gratitude.

Scripture gently reminds us, "In returning and rest you shall be saved; in quietness and in trust shall be your strength" (Isaiah 30:15). Translation: slow down. Even Mary and Joseph didn't rush to Bethlehem - they traveled at donkey speed, which is probably healthier for all of us.

May Christ our steady Rock guide your steps, brighten your paths, and keep your celebrations joyful and safe. And if a slip, strain, or holiday oopsie does happen, please reach out - we are here to help, encourage, and share a laugh with you (after making sure you're okay).

Bryan Carlson, BSN, RN and Leighann Heling, BSN, RN
Hope Lutheran Parish Nurses

Sunday School and Youth News

Submitted by Kaitlyn Gregory, DCE

Sunday School:

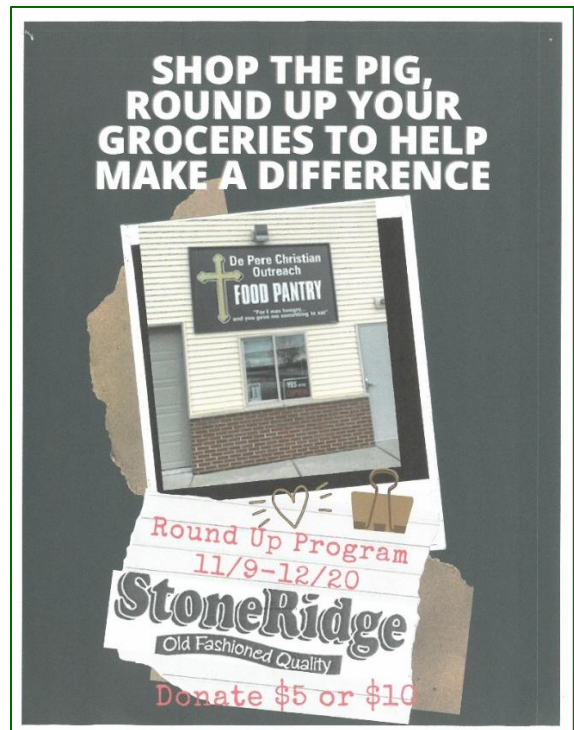
- Our verse of the month is Luke 2:11 "For unto you is born this day in the city of David a savior, who is Christ the Lord."
- Our offering this month will go to the Salvation Army.
- Our student led worship, Christmas with Sunday School, will be Sunday, December 21st at 9:00 a.m. **Join us afterward for a reception.**
- We have rehearsals on Saturday, December 6th, Saturday, December 11th, and Saturday December 20th, all from 9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

Vacation Bible School: Mark your calendars for Rainforest Falls VBS July 13-17, 2026!

Youth:

- Advent by Candlelight will be December 2nd at 6:30 p.m. for all ladies! Come join Leighann and Kaitlyn for delicious dessert, singing, and fellowship.
- Winter Blast: January 9-11, our 5th-12th grade students will be attending Camp Luther's Winter Retreat. Forms are due back to Kaitlyn ASAP.

- Ignite (5th-12th grade) is the first Sunday of each month from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. This month it will be December 7th. We have begun a new curriculum called "Spiritual Conversations" where we discuss what spiritual conversations are and how to have them.
- Embers of Hope (7th-12th grade Bible Study) is on break for advent and will return January 7th from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.





Advent by Candlelight

Tuesday
December 2nd
6:30 PM

**See the display in the
narthex to sign-up**



ANNUAL COOKIE WALK!



FRIDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2025
3:30 PM – 7:00 PM

PILGRIM LUTHERAN SCHOOL
1731 ST. AGNES DR. GREEN BAY. WI 54304



Come join us for a sweet start to the Christmas season!
Choose from a wide variety of homemade Christmas cookies,
candies, and goodies — all beautifully displayed and sold by the

♦ \$13.00 per pound ♦

Fill your box with your favorites — perfect for holiday parties,
gifts, or just a festive treat for yourself!

Holiday music • Warm fellowship • Sweet memories

WED. DEC 10^{27TH} ANNUAL LIVE NATIVITY

120 S. Henry St. Green Bay, WI 54302
by the manger next to the car port.

Join us as we share the Christmas story
using live actors, live animals and song.
Stay for soup and cookies in the gym.

Presentation times are:
5:30pm, 6:00pm & 6:30pm

**Please consider
donating to the
Manna for Life food
pantry collection.**

Boxed Cereal,
Hamburger Helper,
Mac & Cheese,
Chunky Soups,
Canned Ravioli



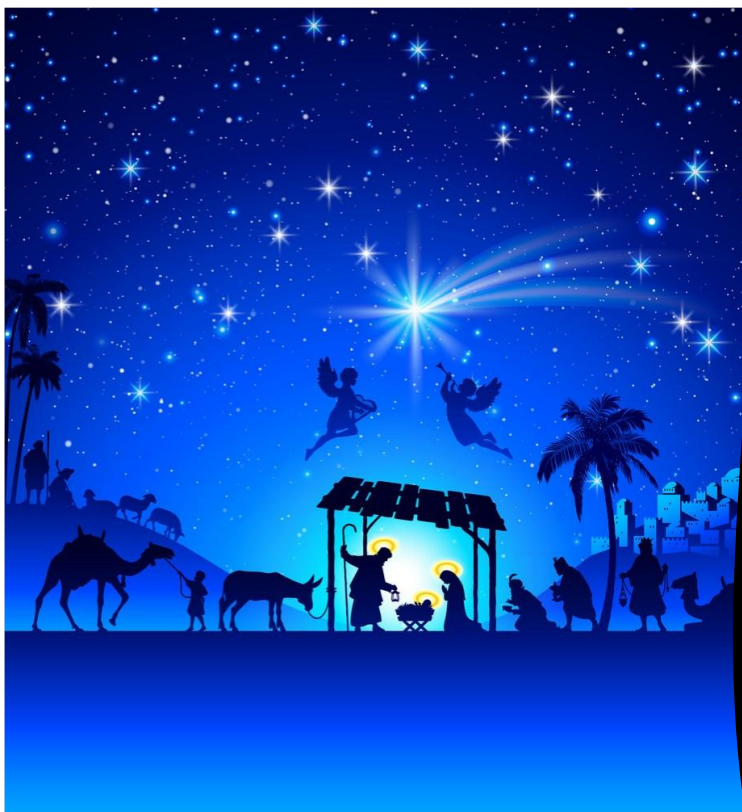
www.oslc-gb.org

Sunday School Christmas Program

Practices:

- Saturday, December 6th from 9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
- Saturday, December 13th from 9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
- Saturday, December 20th from 9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

**Program will be during the 9:00 a.m.
worship service on Sunday,
December 21st.**





Happy Anniversary!

Charles & Amanda Novitski	12/7
Mike & Rhonda Rusch	12/27
Dennis & Judith Strey	12/30

To all those who served at Hope in November, we thank you for your gifts of time and talent. Whether you take care of lawn or building maintenance, usher, share the gift of music, serve on a board or ministry group, take care of communion needs, or represent Hope by reaching out to the community, you are needed and appreciated.



Happy Birthday!

Claude Haevers	12/1
Greg Ginnow	12/2
Kaitlyn Gregory	12/2
Linda Jilot	12/3
Al Radliff	12/5
Kody Sebo	12/5
Travis Gauthier	12/6
Fitz Klug	12/7
Al Schuettpelz	12/7
Korry Bertram	12/8
Sam Secor	12/8
Lucy Peters	12/10
Owen Gossen	12/11
Jason Jonet	12/11
Renae Maschke	12/11
Trent Simons	12/11
Mariah Bongers	12/13
Jaxson Novitski	12/15
Lyn Raddant	12/15
Landon Dickie	12/17
Brooke Flannery	12/17
Tammy Gossen	12/17

Matthew Schuette	12/17
Damen Hillmann	12/18
Alivia Muniz	12/18
Jonathan Egen	12/19
Megan Baye	12/20
Ezra Karbash	12/20
Grace McCauley	12/22
Roxie Miller	12/22
Holland Schmidt	12/22
Joshua Bongers	12/23
Sue Haegele	12/23
Emily Kaufmann	12/23
Ainsley Gossen	12/24
Happy Birthday Jesus!	12/25
Lauren Krainik	12/27
Brianna Hengel	12/28
Emily James	12/28
Nicole Klevesahl	12/28
Carson Habel	12/29
Brenda Krainik	12/29
Caleb Vanderpoel	12/29
Rachel Cunningham	12/30

December 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 6:30 PM Praise Team	2 7:30 AM Oak Street Bible Study 8:00 AM Bulletin Submissions Due 9:30 AM Ladies Bible Study 6:30 PM Advent By Candlelight	3 5:15 PM Choir 5:30 PM Confirmation 6:30 PM Worship 7:45 PM Elders	4	5	6 9:30-11:00 AM Sunday School Program Practice
7 8:00 AM Worship 9:15 AM Sunday School 9:30 AM Adult Bible Study 10:27 AM Worship 6:00 PM Ignite Youth Meeting	8 6:30 PM Praise Team 6:30 PM Council	9 7:30 AM Oak Street Bible Study 8:00 AM Bulletin Submissions Due 9:30 AM Ladies Bible Study 6:15 PM Men's Bible Study	10 5:15 PM Choir 5:30 PM Confirmation 6:30 PM Worship (Angels of Hope Christmas Program) Senior Laundry Love Meal	11	12	13 Hope's DPCO Thrift Store Intake Day 9:30-11:00 AM Sunday School Program Practice
14 8:00 AM Worship 9:15 AM Sunday School 9:30 AM Adult Bible Study 10:27 AM Worship	15 6:00 PM Angels of Hope Board 6:30 PM Praise Team	16 7:30 AM Oak Street Bible Study 8:00 AM Bulletin and Newsletter Submissions Due 9:30 AM Ladies Bible Study 6:15 PM Men's Bible Study	17 2:45 PM Foxview Handout 5:15 PM Choir 5:30 PM Confirmation 6:30 PM Worship (Service of Readings and Hymns) DPCO Food Pantry Collection	18	19	20 9:00-10:00 AM Fellowship Hall Set-Up 9:30-11:00 AM Sunday School Program Practice
21 9:00 AM Worship and Sunday School Christmas Program DPCO Food Pantry Collection	22 6:30 PM Praise Team	23 7:30 AM Oak Street Bible Study 8:00 AM Bulletin Submissions Due 6:00 PM Education Ministry 7:15 PM Men's Bible Study	24 Church Office Closed Christmas Eve 4:00 PM Worship 7:00 PM Worship	25 Christmas 9:00 AM Worship 	26 No Angels of Hope Preschool Church Office Closed	27
28 9:00 AM Worship	29 No Angels of Hope Preschool 6:30 PM Praise Team	30 No Angels of Hope Preschool 7:30 AM Oak Street Bible Study 8:00 AM Bulletin Submissions Due	31 No Angels of Hope Preschool Church Office Closing at 11:00 6:30 PM Worship	Publication Information: <i>Bulletin information is due Tuesdays at 8:00 a.m.</i> <i>Newsletter information is due by 8:00 a.m. on the 3rd Tuesday of the month.</i> <i>Please call the church office or email office@hopedepere.org.</i>		