

The Anchor Line

July 2026

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...

*God bless our native land;
Firm may she ever stand
Through storm and night.
When the wild tempests rave,
Ruler of wind and wave,
Do Thou our country save
By Thy great might.*

This month, the United States of America celebrates a special milestone—the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence (or if you prefer a term to throw around at your backyard barbecue, the *semiquincentennial*). As we quickly approach this commemoration, I'd like to take some time to consider what it might look like for a Christian to care about his or her nation. Can we be "proud to be an American" (thanks, Lee Greenwood...)? I think we can, even as we confess the enduring truth that we are citizens of a greater country led not by an elected president but a resurrected King. We can certainly say that there is much for which we can give thanks. Our constitution and form of governance allow us freedom that many in the world covet. We can speak our minds and gather to worship God without interference. We have experienced material abundance in a way that most of the world can only dream about. And in general, most of us live our days in relative peace and security. We are blessed!

In light of all these blessings, we owe God our thanks and praise. But what do we owe our country? Here are a few thoughts...

1. We owe those in leadership our respect and prayers (Romans 1:1-7, 1 Timothy 2:1-4). This is true whether we agree with those leaders or not. We should remember that Paul was writing these words during the time of the Roman Empire, when many of the emperors were hostile to Christians. Paradoxically, our submission to governing authorities flows not out of powerlessness, but out of the true power and authority that we have as those who belong to the King of Kings. In the grand scheme of things, your position as a child of God is far higher than that of the president. Trust in God and be a blessing to those in leadership.
2. We owe our neighbors our love and generosity (Romans 12:9-21). Love and generosity have been hallmarks of the Christian witness for the last 2,000 years. Consistently, Christians have blessed their communities by caring for their neighbors, especially the poor and needy. We do this because Christ has cared for us. On one hand, this care might look like advocating for policies that bless millions of people in our country. But on the other hand, most of the work of love to which God calls us will be very

local. Love your neighbors, and begin with those on your block.

3. We owe all people God's truth (Matthew 28:16-20, 2 Corinthians 5:20-21). The greatest gift we can give to our country is to point others by our words and example to the One who has the power to save us. The greatest gift we can give to those around us is Jesus. We love our country best by being the church, the redeemed body of Christ, declaring the praises of the One who has called us out of darkness into His marvelous light.

May God bless our country at 250 and beyond, and may He bless us to shine His light as citizens of this land—even more, as citizens of the heavenly country.

*So shall our prayers arise
To God above the skies;
On Him we wait.
Thou who art ever nigh,
Guarding with watchful eye,
To Thee aloud we cry:
God save the state!*

Christ's peace and joy,
Pastor Baye

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.

Summer is here and we all enjoy the Independence Day celebrations on July 4th. In addition to celebrating our freedom as a nation, we also celebrate those who fought for the freedom and the formation of our country. A national holiday is hardly enough to show our veterans our gratitude and respect. We can't undo anything they've been through, but we can do what the Bible tells us to do – **love them** and **pray for them**.

"There is no greater love than to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command. This is my command: Love each other."
John 15:13-14, 17 NLT

Lord Jesus, you are not a stranger to war and know the stress our veterans have felt. Please comfort and strengthen them with your Holy Spirit. Meet each of them right where they are today and speak to their souls. You've brought them through many trials. Help them see your mighty hand at work in their lives and know how much you love them. Heal their hearts as well as their bodies. Help

us to show our sincere thanks to them and help us all never to forget the sacrifices that they've made. Help us to love them just as you have loved us. Amen

Veterans Salute: In years past, Hope has coordinated a cookout and bingo at the Veterans Manor in Green Bay. Due to changes in organization, we are unable to offer this event this year. Instead, we will be preparing some small veteran gift bags of appreciation that we will distribute to the Veterans Manor. If you would like to assist with the assembly of the bags, watch for a bag with instructions on the upcoming display at Hope.



Granola Bar Collection: We will be collecting granola bars during the month of July for the area schools to help them get ready for back to school. Watch for a display coming to the narthex soon.



Peanut Butter and Jelly

Collection: The Family Christian Radio 91.5 is once again sponsoring a drive to collect peanut butter and jelly to help stock the shelves at Paul's Pantry. Last year, almost 6,000 pounds of peanut butter and jelly were collected across Wisconsin,

which is enough PB&J to make over 96,000 sandwiches and reach a height of 1.38 miles when stacked on top of each other!

The PB&J collection will run during the month of August. A collection box will be found in the narthex during this time. We realize that Hope also serves the De Pere Christian Outreach Pantry all year round. When you are out shopping, please consider 2 jars of each for each collection in August. Serving those in need is being Jesus' hands and feet.

Hope's Health Corner

"This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it." — Psalm 118:24

July can be one of the most active months of the year for Wisconsin. Families gather for picnics and cookouts, children enjoy time in pools and lakes, communities come together for festivals and concerts, and fireworks illuminate the night sky. This year, as our nation celebrates America's 250th anniversary, we have an opportunity to reflect on blessings of freedom, community, and faith.

Summer fireworks bring wonder and excitement to people of all ages so a little preparation can help keep everyone safe. Be sure to designate an adult to handle them, keep water nearby, and provide plenty of space for spectators. For many families, attending a community fireworks display offers a fun way to celebrate together while leaving the show to trained professionals.

Swimming in pools, lakes, and beaches are excellent ways to create fun memories while staying active and keeping cool. Designate a "water watcher" for these activities to supervise so everyone can relax and enjoy their time in the water. With a little planning and common sense, water activities can be refreshing and rewarding for all ages.

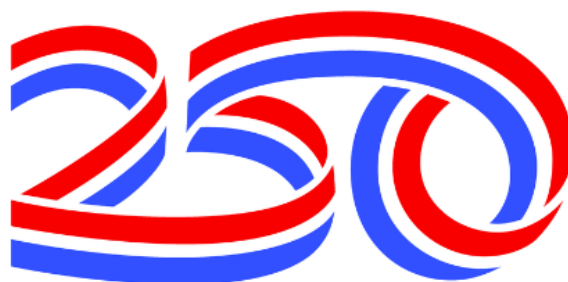
Summer is also the perfect season to enjoy God's creation through gardening, hiking, outdoor

concerts, farmers markets, and neighborhood gatherings. As with all time outdoors, remember to stay hydrated, seek shade during the warmest hours of the day, and apply sunscreen to protect your skin. Comfortable clothing, insect repellent, and regular breaks can help make outdoor adventures enjoyable and safe.

As we celebrate 250 years of independence, we also give thanks for the freedoms we enjoy and the communities that enrich our lives. May this summer be filled with laughter, meaningful connections, and many moments of gratitude!

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

AMERICA



Youth News

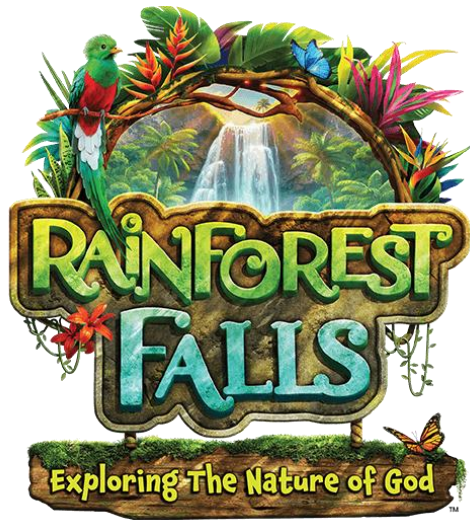
Submitted by Kaitlyn Gregory, DCE

On June 14th through 19th, we had 3 students attend a weeklong service event in Weston, WI. To help fund this event, and future summer missions, we have started a Youth Missions Scholarship Fund. If you would like to donate to this cause, please contact Kaitlyn.

The youth will be hosting a Brat Barn at Festival Foods in West De Pere on Saturday, August 1st.

Please come support our youth by purchasing a brat or burger!

The Youth Room will be undergoing renovations over the summer. Improvements include new ceiling tiles and lights, new paint, new games, and new furniture! Renovations will hopefully be completed by the time Sunday School starts in the fall.



July 13-17, 2026
9:00 AM to 11:30 AM
Registration Open!

We have 43 volunteers! Thank you to everyone that has signed up to help! You are greatly appreciated.

Registration is still open and we currently have 65 students registered. Please tell your friends as we have plenty of space for more kids to participate! You can register at:

<https://vbspro.events/p/hopedepere>

The Mission for VBS will be Lutheran World Relief. We will be partnering with Lenore Swalheim and the quilting group to create 2-3 quilts to be donated. We will also be collecting fabric for the quilting group to use to make more quilts and will be packing personal care kits to be donated.

We still have many leaves up on our donations display for our hygiene kit packing project on Friday of VBS. Please consider grabbing a leaf and bringing back the needed items. You can also

donate to VBS through Thrivent Action Cards, or by purchasing items on our Amazon Wishlist:
<https://a.co/0ehYRhHU>.



Important Dates: Carpet & Pew Cleaning!

All of the pews and carpets on the first floor of the entire building will be cleaned on Thursday, July 23rd, and Friday, July 24th. It will take a good 24 to 48 hours for each area to dry, so please plan to stay out of the building until Sunday morning Worship Services on July 26th. Thank you!

Physical Donation Reminder

If you wish to donate a physical item to Hope that is not part of a current collection, please check with the church office or a Trustee first. Many volunteers worked very hard to re-organize the building last year, and we would like to keep the building tidy and organized going forward. Thank you!

VBS Decorating Dates!



- **Thursday, July 9th, at 6:00 PM**
- **Sunday, July 12th, at 10:45 AM**



To all those who served at Hope in June, thank you for offering your time and talents in service to the Lord. We praise Him for giving you the gifts you possess and the heart to share them. Thank you for being Jesus' hands and feet among us. You are needed and appreciated.

Happy Anniversary!

Barbara & John Kimmeth	7/8
Paul & Nicole Klevesahl	7/8
Todd & Roberta Hengel	7/15
Paul & Nancy Mittelstaedt	7/15
Ryan & Nicole Lemke	7/18
Tom & Tammy Schrank	7/20
Chad Welch & Shana Atkinson-Welch	7/20
Chad & Emily Zadnik	7/22
Nate & Abby Green	7/23
Darryll & Sharon Hillmann	7/25
Ryan & Nicole Lemke	7/28
Pastor & Megan	7/29
Jack & Judy Lewis	7/29



Happy Birthday!

Michael Rusch	7/1
Pat Hochstein	7/2
Liz Bordeleau	7/4
Faith Kohn	7/4
Jazz Vang	7/5
Ryne Lambert	7/7
Andrew Novak	7/7
John Danner	7/8
Nicole Fawcett	7/8
Evan Polkinghorne	7/8
Francis Schuette	7/8
Sam Cieslewicz	7/10
Colleen Cummings	7/11
Mia Zadnik	7/12
Ethan Jordan	7/13
Alan Schrank	7/13
Aubrey Muniz	7/14
Jason Baierl	7/15
Jeff Stafford	7/15
Jean VandenLangenberg	7/15
Carol Shroll	7/16
Ava Klevesahl	7/17
David Mellem	7/19
Wayne Makela	7/20
James Helein	7/21
Jack Lewis	7/21
Judy VandenPlas	7/21
Stacie Kohn	7/23
Nancy Tennant	7/23
Annika Dugenske	7/25
Nathan Carlson	7/26
Bob Carlson	7/27
Lyla Vande Hey	7/27
Mike Ebeling	7/28
Everett Green	7/28
Evelynn Sebo	7/28
Ruby Zeamer	7/29
Gracie Green	7/30
Bryanna Laurent	7/30
Brynley Dombrowski	7/31

July 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 6:30 PM Worship	2	3	4 
5 8:00 AM Worship 9:30 AM Worship	6 6:30 PM Praise Team	7 7:30 AM Oak Street Bible Study 8:00 AM Bulletin Submissions Due	8 6:30 PM Worship	9 6:00 PM VBS Decorating	10 Church Office Closed	11
12 8:00 AM Worship 9:30 AM Worship 10:45 AM VBS Decorating	13 6:30 PM Praise Team	14 7:30 AM Oak Street Bible Study 8:00 AM Bulletin Submissions Due	15 6:30 PM Worship	16	17	18
Vacation Bible School 9:00 AM to 11:30 AM						
19 8:00 AM Worship 9:30 AM Worship	20 6:30 PM Praise Team	21 7:30 AM Oak Street Bible Study 8:00 AM Bulletin Submission Due 8:00 AM Newsletter submissions Due	22 6:30 PM Worship DPCO Food Pantry Collection	23 Carpet & Pew Cleaning Begins at Church – Please stay out. Thank you!	24 Church Office Closed Carpet & Pew Cleaning Ends at Church – Please stay out. Thank you!	25 Carpets & Pews Still Drying – Please stay out. Thank you!
26 8:00 AM Worship 9:30 AM Worship DPCO Food Pantry Collection	27 6:30 PM Praise Team	28 7:30 AM Oak Street Bible Study 8:00 AM Bulletin Submission Due	29 6:30 PM Worship	30 4:30 PM-10:00 PM Fellowship Hall Reserved	31	
Publication Information: Bulletin information is due Tuesdays at 8:00 a.m. Newsletter information is due by 8:00 a.m. on the 3 rd Tuesday of the month. Please call the church office or email office@hopedepere.org .						