

SEPTEMBER 2026

Hope is the Anchor of the Soul – Hebrews 6:19

■ Interim Pastor: Rev. Bryan Schmidt

■ Administrative Assistant: Regina Matz

CONTACT US

Office Hours

Mon – Weds 8:00 am – 2:00 pm
Thurs - Friday Closed
Telephone: 920-787-3920
E-mail:
office@hopelutheranwautoma.com

CHURCH COUNCIL

President: Mary Kunasch
Vice President: Chris Hawlish
Treasurer: Julie Berger
Secretary: Jan Grenier
Members:
Chris Hawlish | Bill Elliott |
Char Stratton | Carol King |
Jon Kuehl | Mary Kunasch | Sue
Grimm | Sophie Klimke (Youth)

MISSION STATEMENT

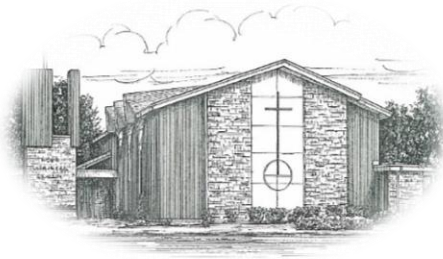
*We of Hope Lutheran Church,
Share God's Word,
Show God's Love, and
Serve God's World.*

Prayer † Requests

In order to maintain privacy, the list will not be electronically published. Please pick up the Prayer/Birthday lists from the church. Please seek the Spirit's help in your commitment to intercede for parishioners, family, and friends in need of prayer. Thank you.

COME WORSHIP WITH US

Sunday at 9:00 a.m.
Holy Communion:
1st & 3rd Sunday
2nd Sunday Praise Team
Fellowship Coffee Hour



301 E. Mt. Morris Avenue
PO Box 57
Wautoma, WI 54982



FOLLOW US

Website:
www.hopelutheranwautoma.com
Facebook:
Hope Lutheran
A congregation of
 Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

EVENTS

SEE CALENDAR FOR MORE

September

7th Labor Day (Office Closed)
11th Patriot Day
13th Grandparents Day
15th Adventures in Reading the Bible starts again
22nd First day of Fall

October

17th Backpack Packing
25th Reformation Sunday
31st Halloween

**OFFICE HOURS WILL RETURN TO MON,
TUES AND WEDS 8:00 AM TO 2:00 PM.
REGINA WILL BE OUT SEPTEMBER 23
UNTIL SOMETIME IN OCTOBER SO
HOURS MAY VARY A BIT.**

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VOICE OF HOPE NEWSLETTER

† PASTOR'S PAGE †

“May There Be Hope”

From the Desk of Pastor Bryan
September 2026

As I write this article, I am still buzzing with excitement from the polka service that we had at the end of August. It was a wonderful time to gather and sing familiar hymns in a different, dynamic way. Many thanks to the Larry Albright band for joining us once again this year!

It was also shared in worship that the Call Committee has been engaged in interviewing a prospective candidate to serve as Hope's next settled pastor. I urge you all to continue to keep all involved in the call process in your prayers as their journey continues to unfold. My covenant with you as Interim Pastor has been extended through the end of November, and I am blessed to continue to accompany you in this stage of the call process. In so many ways, there is hope for what the future of the church has in store.

As we enter the fall season, I invite you all to reflect on the moments and activities in your life of faith that have brought you hope. What made those experiences so memorable? How have you found ways to carry that energy into your regular routine?

Blessings to you as we enter the month of September!

Grace and peace,
PB

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CHURCH COUNCIL

August 11, 2026 Church Council Minutes

Meeting called to order by President Mary Kunasch at 6:34.

Council members present: Char Stratton, Chris Hawlish, Carol King, Jan Grenier, Mary Kunasch, Pastor Bryan Schmidt, Julie Berger **Excused:** Jon Kuehl, Sue Grimm, Bill Elliott and Sophie Klimke.

Agenda was approved.

Approved the Minutes from July 14, 2026 meeting.

Julie Berger presented balance sheet and profit and loss overview. General giving's are similar to last year at this same time. Report was approved by motion, motion carries.

No correspondences this month

Update on call committee report by Mary Kunasch. Questions have been reviewed for the candidates, and a mock interview will be held this week. This will be a great process to get the committee ready for interviews when we receive candidate(s) from the synod, as the first interview with candidates(s) will be by Google Meets. Everything is confidential until ready for approval to present to congregation. The process will take a couple of months.

Requesting that committees get reports for a three-year plan for their Capital Improvement projects that could be facing Hope. Turn into the finance committee to aid them in preparing the 2027 budget.

Polka Service is scheduled for August 30, 2026 with the Albright Family. Would like to have some fellowship afterwards. Mary will check with Coffee Hour servers that week. Motion to keep fellowship light with snack like cookies and coffee vs a meal.

Pastor's Report: Today was Pastor's 14th year orientation anniversary. The synod office has agreed to extend his time at Hope for up to three additional months. September through November depending on how the call is going. Regina is scheduled for shoulder surgery on September 23rd and will need some outside support for 2 to 4 weeks. Mary Luebben and Mary Kunasch will help fill in as needed. Julie Berger will help

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with the finance reports as needed and some work can just wait to be done later. Hope Lutheran will host the ELCA Oshkosh Conference September monthly meeting. Meeting is Sept. 8, 2026. Mary K and Carol K will help with refreshments, and Pastor will check with Linda B to see if she is available for the music service portion. We need to form a committee of 2-3 people to review the constitution with Pastor Bryan this fall. Anyone interested should speak with Pastor soon. Adventures in Reading the Bible group will resume in September since Pastor Bryan will still be available.

Committee Reports:

Music & Worship- No report this month

Personnel Committee- No report

Finance Committee- Meeting monthly and soon will be working on annual budget. Looking forward to capital improvement reports from other committees. Attempting to update the Excell sheet to show better comparisons from year to year.

Property Committee- Working on finding lighter weight tables for fellowship hall. Will try ordering one from Amazon to see if that is what we want before ordering all.

Stewardship Committee- no report

Old Business/ New Business/Input from Council- The Christmas swags that have been on the walls during the holidays are seeing their better days. Brenda Walker agreed to looking into replacing these. Now would be a good time while Hobby Lobby has their sales already on. Motion made and approved for these to be updated. Update from HLCW- Hope Lutheran Church Woman group. There has been limited involvement and currently do not have a Vice President position and President position will be ending in Oct. Encourage all to be involved at the annual meeting in October to discuss outcome of this group. Currently looking at taking a different route and having committees for each service project done throughout the year.

Approved motion to adjourn at 7:29 followed by the Lord's Prayer.

Next meeting, September 8, 2026 at 6:30

Respectfully submitted,

Janice Grenier

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🎵 MUSIC MINISTRY 🎵

Let's get off on the right foot this year! Anyone interested in getting involved with Hope Lutheran Church music ministry are all invited to my home on Sunday, September 27 at 11:00 for a potluck picnic in my backyard. Some current members may even be reaching out to you to join us! Please let me know if you would like more information or reach out to a current member of the bells & choir. This would include anyone who has an interest in our A/V ministry.

Praise team will play for Sunday, September 13 (rehearsal to be announced)

Full bells (at least those who are available for September) will rehearse on Wednesday, Sept 16 for playing on Sept 20.

Our first choir rehearsal will be on Wednesday, September 23 at 6:30 in preparation for Sunday, September 27.

Please consider getting involved even if you can't make it all the time.

I am looking forward to seeing you!

Musically His,

May McKinney

Consider Joining Music Ministry

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☐ HOPE BOOK CLUB ☐

Book club meets every third Tuesday of the month at 1 PM in the Hope library. Come and join us!

September 15th “Nineteen Minutes” by Jodi Picoult

October 20th “The Borrowed Life of Frederick Fife” by Anna Johnston

LIBRARY NEWS

New Books in the Library

Fiction:

The Orphan Collector, by Ellen Marie Wiseman

Peaches and Screams, by G.A. McKeve

Tidings of Peace, by Tracie Peterson

Where We Belong, by Emily Giffin

Girl From the South, by Joanna Trollope

Sweet Revenge, by Fern Michaels

The Garden Angel, by Mindy Friddle

Mrs. Mike, by Benedict Freedman

A Paris Apartment, by Michelle Gable

Still Life, by Louise Penny

Of Literature and Lattes, by Katherine Reay

Just Above a Whisper, by Lori Wick

Nathan's Christmas, by Gary Kriesel

Twenty Wishes, by Debbie Macomber

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Non-Fiction:

The Biology of Belief, by Bruce H. Lipton, PD.

Growing Up Lutheran, by Janet Letnes Martin

Lutheran Church Basement Women, by Janer Letnes Martin

A Life in Stitches, by Rachael Herron

Biblical Forgiveness, by Rev. Randy Julson

100 Voices, by Anne Christian Buchanan, compiler

The Be-Happy Attitudes, by Robert Schuller

Reminder to return library books when you have
finished enjoying them so others can enjoy them too.
Thank you.



BABY CARE KITS

- 2 light weight cotton t-shirts (no onesies)
- 2 long or short sleeved gowns or sleepers (no feet)
- 2 receiving blankets 36" and 52" square medium weight cotton, flannel, or crocheted or knitted with lightweight yarn.
- 1 jacket, seater or sweatshirt with hood or with baby cap
- 2 pair socks
- 1 dark hand towel
- 2-3 8 or 9 oz. Bath-size bars of gentle soap

The HLCW will provide the diaper pins and diapers

SCHOOL KITS

- 4 70 sheet notebooks of wide or college ruled no loose leaf paper
- 1 30 centimeter ruler, or a ruler with inches on one side and centimeters on the other – put inside the notebooks
- 1 pencil sharpener
- 1 pair of blunt scissors
- 5 unsharpened #2 pencils with erasers – rubber banded
- 5 black or blue ballpoint pens, (no gel ink) – rubber banded
- 1 box of 16 or 24 crayons
- 1 2 1/2" eraser

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Volunteers - September 2026 Calendar		
Greeters Organized by Mary Kunasch		
	Volunteer Positions	Volunteer Names
	Altar Guild >>	Kay Christensen Stacey Gravunder
6	Greeters	
	Scripture Reader	Johanna Olson
	Assistant Ministers	Johanna Olson
	Communion Assistants	Johanna Olson Mary Kunasch Julie Berger Sandy Bartels Barb Simonson Juanita Zernia
	Coffee Hosts	Barb & Clyde Simonson
13	Greeters	
	Scripture Reader	Trudy Mattice
	Assistant Ministers	Trudy Mattice
	Coffee Hosts	Karen & Lloyd Tschurwald
20	Greeters	
	Scripture Reader	Anne Dorwaldt
	Assistant Ministers	Anne Dorwaldt
	Communion Assistants	Anne Dorwaldt Helen France Mary Kunasch Peggy Klimke Bridgette Tschurwald
	Coffee Hosts	Julie Berger & Janice Thrasher
27	Greeters	
	Scripture Reader	Mary Kunasch
	Assistant Ministers	Mary Kunasch
	Coffee Hosts	Corale & Dave Magnus

Thank you for your service to the Lord.

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BIRTHDAYS &
OFFERINGS

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

To ensure your information is not compromised by cyber threats, the birthday list will not be electronically published.

Please pick up the Birthday /Prayer Request Lists from the church.

May the Lord Bless and
Keep you through another
year.



7.26.2026	\$1,142.
8.2.2026	\$3,970.
8.9.2026	\$3,182.
8.16.2026	\$820.
8.23.2026	\$1867.

Food Pantry Donation
70 Pounds
Thank You.



Mission of the Month

AUG The A + After School Program
SEPT TBA

World Hunger

2026 total for year

\$3416

CONSIDER VANCO SIMPLY GIVING

The Lutheran Church invites you to consider electronic giving, as a way to automate your regular weekly offerings from a checking or savings account. Electronic giving is convenient for you and provides much-needed consistency for our church. There is no cost for you to participate. If you are currently giving on a weekly basis, you will no longer need to write out 52 checks a year or prepare 52 envelopes. And when travel, illness or other circumstances prevent you from attending services, this program will allow your weekly offerings to continue on an uninterrupted basis. To get started, complete the authorization form from the church office or homelutheranwautoma.com website Stewardship Electronic Giving (download form), and return it to the church office. All information is confidential.

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**DANCING
QUEEN**
AN ABBA SALUTE

\$45

 **MCCOMB-BRUCHS PAC | WAUTOMA**
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12
7 PM

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MEN OF MOTOWN



MCCOMB-BRUCHS PAC IN WAUTOMA
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10

7 PM

\$40

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2026

SEPTEMBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30	31	01	02	03	04	05
9:00 AM Worship Communion Special Music 10:00 AM Coffee Fellowship 2:00 PM AA	06 Labor Day Office Closed	07 5:30 PM Music & Worship Committee 6:30 PM Church Council	08 7:00 AM Mens Breakfast Lakeshore 9:00 AM Knitting 1:00 PM Quilting 6:30 PM Hope Praise Team	09 10:00 AM - AA 1:00 PM - Grace Circle 7:30 PM - AA	10 6:30 AM - AA	11 6:30 AM - AA
13 9:00 AM Worship Praise Team 10:00 AM Coffee Fellowship 10:15 AM HLCW	14 10:00 AM CHEWS	15 10:30 am Adventures in Reading the Bible 1:00 pm Book Club	16 1:00 PM Quilting 6:30 PM Hope Bells ★Deadline for September VOH Newsletter Articles★	17 10:00 AM - AA 7:30 PM - AA	18 6:30 AM - AA	19
20 9:00 AM Worship Communion Hope Bells 10:00 AM Coffee Fellowship 2:00 PM AA	21 9:00 AM Knitting 10:00 AM CHEWS 1:00 PM Pieces of Hope Shawl Ministry	22 8:30 AM - 2:30 PM Dept of Aging Foot Clinic 10:30 am Adventures in Reading the Bible	23 1:00 PM Quilting 6:30 PM Hope Choir	24 10:00 AM - AA 7:30 PM - AA	25 6:30 AM - AA	26
27 9:00 AM Worship Hope Choir 10:00 AM Coffee Fellowship 2:00 PM AA	28 10:00 AM CHEWS	29 10:30 am Adventures in Reading the Bible	30 1:00 PM Quilting 6:30 PM Hope Choir	01	02	03

2026

OCTOBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27	28	29	30	01	02	03
9:00 AM Worship Communion Choir 10:00 AM Coffee Fellowship 2:00 PM AA	04 10:00 AM CHEWS	05 10:30 am Adventures in Reading the Bible	06 1:00 PM Quilting 6:30 PM Hope Praise	07 10:00 AM - AA 1:00 PM - Grace Circle 7:30 PM - AA	08 6:30 AM - AA	09 6:30 AM - AA
10 9:00 AM Worship Praise Team 10:00 AM Coffee Fellowship 2:00 PM AA	11 10:00 AM CHEWS	12 10:30 am Adventures in Reading the Bible 5:30 PM Music & Worship Committee 6:30 PM Church Council	13 7:00 AM Mens Breakfast Lakeshore 9:00 AM Knitting 1:00 PM Quilting 6:30 PM Hope Bells	14 10:00 AM - AA 7:30 PM - AA	15 6:30 AM - AA	16 9:00 am Backpack Packing
17 9:00 AM Worship Communion Bells 10:00 AM Coffee Fellowship 2:00 PM AA	18 9:00 AM Knitting 10:00 AM CHEWS 10:00 AM We Are In Christ 1:00 PM Pieces of Hope	19 8:30 AM - 2:30 PM Dept of Aging Foot Clinic 10:30 am Adventures in Reading the Bible 1:00 pm Book Club	20 1:00 PM Quilting 6:30 PM Hope Choir	21 10:00 AM - AA 7:30 PM - AA	22 6:30 AM - AA	23 6:30 AM - AA
24 9:00 AM Worship Choir 10:00 AM Coffee Fellowship 2:00 PM AA	25 10:00 AM CHEWS	26 10:30 am Adventures in Reading the Bible	27 1:00 PM Quilting 6:30 PM Hope Choir	28 10:00 AM - AA 7:30 PM - AA	29 6:30 AM - AA	30 6:30 AM - AA
						31