

# HOPE



141 S 12<sup>th</sup> Ave  
Sturgeon Bay, WI 54235  
920-743-2701

***A Caring Community with a Progressive Tradition***



**Hope Church UCC  
January 25, 2026 @ 10:30 AM**

We are grateful that you chose to worship with us today. If you are visiting, we extend an extra warm welcome to you and hope you will relax and enjoy worship! Come forward at any time during the service to light a prayer [votive] candle on the communion table. **Joys & Concerns are broadcast online so please use discretion when sharing prayer concerns.** Everyone is invited to Fellowship Hall for coffee hour following worship today!

### PRELUDE 1

### \*WELCOME & GREETING

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

### CHORAL INTROIT

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

For all that is our life, we offer thanks and praise.  
For all life is a gift, which we are called to use,  
to build the store of common good.

**May we know once again that we are not isolated beings  
but connected, in mystery and miracle,  
to the universe,  
to this community, and  
to each other.**

~[Epiphany3A.25.1.2026 — Rex A E Hunt](#)

### \*OPENING HYMN

VU 567 *"Will You Come and Follow Me,"* V 1-4

### 1<sup>ST</sup> READING

Matthew 4:12-23 (The Message, slightly adapted)

<sup>17</sup>When Jesus got word that John had been arrested, he returned to Galilee. He moved from his hometown, Nazareth, to the lakeside village Capernaum, nestled at the base of the Zebulun and Naphtali hills. This move completed Isaiah's revelation:

*Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali,  
road to the sea, over Jordan,  
Galilee, crossroads for the nations.  
People sitting out their lives in the dark  
saw a huge light;  
Sitting in that dark, dark country of death,  
they watched the sun come up.*

This Isaiah-prophesied revelation came to life in Galilee the moment Jesus started preaching. He picked up where John left off: “Change your life. God’s kingdom is here.”

<sup>18-20</sup> Walking along the beach of Lake Galilee, Jesus saw two brothers: Simon (later called Peter) and Andrew. They were fishing, throwing their nets into the lake. It was their regular work. Jesus said to them, “Come with me. I’ll make a new kind of fisherman out of you. I’ll show you how to catch people instead of perch and bass.” They didn’t ask questions, but simply dropped their nets and followed.

<sup>21-22</sup> A short distance down the beach they came upon another pair of brothers, James and John, Zebedee’s sons. These two were sitting in a boat with their father, Zebedee, mending their fishnets. Jesus made the same offer to them, and they were just as quick to follow, abandoning boat and father.

<sup>23</sup> From there he went all over Galilee. He used synagogues for meeting places and taught people the truth of God. God’s kingdom was his theme—that beginning right now they were under God’s government, a good government! He also healed people of their diseases and of the bad effects of their lives.

## **CHILDREN’S TIME**

### **BLESSING THE CHILDREN**

*Go now in peace. Go now in peace.  
May the Spirit of Love surround you  
Everywhere, everywhere, you may go—you may go.*

## **2ND READING**

"I Follow the Religion of Love," Andrew Harvey, Eryk Hanut

My heart has become capable of every form:

It is a pasture for gazelles,

And a monastery for Christian monks,

And a temple for idols,

And the Ka'aba of the pilgrims,

And the tablets of the Torah,

And the book of the Koran.

I follow the religion of Love:

Whatever path Love's camel takes,

That is my religion and my faith.

~ Andrew Harvey, Eryk Hanut: *Perfume of the Desert: Inspirations from Sufi Wisdom*. Newburyport, MA: Quest Books, 1999.

## **THE MESSAGE**

### **\*LITANY**

*"Traveling On..."*

**One** When hope invites us to journey  
elusive, beckoning onward  
but never in our grasp:

**ALL** **May we have the wisdom and the courage to travel on.**

**Right Side** *When dreams glimmer in the distance,  
fading, clouded and hidden  
or shining with new brightness:*

**ALL** **May we have the wisdom and the courage to travel on.**

**Left Side** When established patterns collapse  
into the uncertainty of the unknown  
and security dissolves into a memory:

**ALL** **May we have the wisdom and the courage to travel on.**

**Right Side** *When the illusion of success  
threatens to divert us  
and silence our souls' yearning:*

**ALL** **May wisdom and imagination inspire us to travel on.**

**Left**            **When we think our journey has ended**  
**Side**            **in the star-lit glow**  
                         **only to find the end is a new beginning:**

**ALL**            **May wisdom and imagination inspire us to travel on.**

~Duncan, G. (ed). *Shine On, Star of Bethlehem. A Worship Resource for Advent, Christmas and Epiphany.* Norwich, UK: The Canterbury Press, 2001, adapt. Jan Berry.

## **JOYS & CONCERNS**

### **SILENT PRAYER**

### **PASTORAL PRAYER**

### **THE ABBA PRAYER**

*You're invited to pray in the spirit of the Abba/Lord's Prayer, and in your own language, as appropriate.*

**O Birther! Father-Mother of the Cosmos  
you create all that moves in light.  
Hear the one Sound that created all others,  
in this way the Name is hallowed in silence.**

**Your rule springs into existence  
as our arms reach out to embrace all creation.  
Let all wills move together  
in your vortex, as stars and planets  
swirl through the sky.**

**Grant what we need each day in bread and insight:  
subsistence for the call of growing life.**

**Lighten our load of secret debts as  
we relieve others of their need to repay.**

**Keep us from hoarding false wealth,  
and from the inner shame of  
help not given in time.**

~Matthew Fox: *One River, Many Wells. Wisdom Springing from Global Faiths.* New York: Tarcher/Penguin Publishing, 2000.

## **PRESENTATION OF GIFTS & OFFERINGS**

## Invitation to Generosity

### OFFERTORY

### PRAISE RESPONSE

*Praise God whose dawn transfigures night,  
Whose daystar shines for us on high.  
Whose Spirit brings into our sight  
The hope, which to our world draws nigh.*

### \*Unison Prayer of Dedication

Holy One,  
You call us to leave behind our preoccupations  
and to follow you into the future.  
Sometimes we find your call challenging.  
We are comfortable, maybe even complacent, where we are.  
May this act of giving be a gesture of our willingness  
to follow where you lead.  
Amen.

[~http://www.umfmichigan.org/offerprayers.html](http://www.umfmichigan.org/offerprayers.html) (adapted)

\***ALLELUIA** *We join hearts, hands, and voices to sing an 8-fold Alleluia.*

### \*CLOSING HYMN

VU 578 "As a Fire is Meant for Burning," V 1-3

### \*BENEDICTION

### POSTLUDE

## To this week's worship helpers:

- Liturgist

Greg Bauman - Trustee

Mary Ames and Don Tighe - Deacons

Claire Minahan - Nursery Attendant`

Ann Jenkins - Slide Presenter

- Coffee Hour

## We truly appreciate all of you!



Our worship services are shared live on Vimeo and are available for viewing on the Internet. If you do not want your image shown, sit at the rear of the sanctuary or immediately beneath the camera. If you want to view what is shown, <https://vimeo.com/event/4958968>

This sanctuary is equipped with Hearing Loop technology. If your hearing aid has the T-coil feature, activate the T-coil and your hearing aid becomes a personal receiver, part of the sound system of the church. If you have trouble hearing our speakers, but don't have hearing aids or they're being repaired, you may hear better with Loop headphones. Ask a deacon about them or find them in the basket by the Loop sign.



Resources are available to help occupy young children attending Sunday services. Children's books and jigsaw puzzles are available on the small bookcase at the far north wall of the sanctuary. Books, crayons, and coloring sheets are in the "Hope for Kids" busy bags on the stand in the narthex. Our Hope nursery is available for children aged five and under. The screening process for attendants includes a background check and Safe Conduct training.

Pastor: Rev. Carol Reynolds

Moderator: Eric Vollrath

Choir Director: Mary Hall

Organist/Accompanist: Cheryl Pfister

AV Manager: Beth Mitchell

Office Manager: Brenda Curtis



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Sturgeon Bay WI 54235

Phone: 920-743-2701

[www.hopechurchdc.org](http://www.hopechurchdc.org)

[hopeucc@hopechurchdc.org](mailto:hopeucc@hopechurchdc.org)

Hope United Church of Christ

# Events Calendar

Day	Date	Time	Activity/Meeting
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Jan 25</b>	<b>10:30 AM</b>	<b>Sunday Worship and Faith Formation</b>
Tuesday	Jan 27	7:30 AM	Rotary Breakfast
Wednesday	Jan 28	3:30 PM 6-8 PM 7:00 PM	Pastoral Support Committee Confirmation via Zoom Choir Practice
Thursday	Jan 29	8:30 AM 3:00 PM 7:00 PM	Romeo's Breakfast Racial Justice Committee Board of Ed Meeting
Friday	Jan 30	10:30 AM	Meditation in the Sanctuary
Saturday	Jan 31	2-3 PM	Coffee w/Carol @ 5&J
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Feb 01</b>	<b>10:30 AM</b>	<b>Sunday Worship with Communion and Faith Formation</b>
Tuesday	Feb 3	7:30 AM	Rotary Breakfast
Wednesday	Feb 4	10:30 AM 2:00 PM 7:00 PM	Membership Committee Aging Discussion Group Choir Practice
Thursday	Feb 5	8:00 AM 6:00 PM	Romeo's Breakfast Council Meeting
Friday	Feb 6	10:30 AM	Meditation in the Sanctuary
Saturday	Feb 7	2:00 PM	Coffee w/Carol @ 5&J
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Feb 8</b>	<b>10:30 AM</b> <b>11:30 AM</b>	<b>Intergenerational Sunday Worship Souperbowl of Caring</b>
Tuesday	Feb 10	7:30 AM	Rotary Breakfast
Wednesday	Feb 11	7:00 PM 6-8 PM	Choir Practice Confirmation via Zoom
Thursday	Feb 12	8:30 AM	Romeo's Breakfast
Friday	Feb 13	10:30 AM	Meditation in the Sanctuary
Saturday	Feb 14	2-3 PM	Coffee w/Carol @ 5&J
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Feb 15</b>	<b>10:30 AM</b>	<b>Sunday Worship and Faith Formation</b>

For PASTORAL CARE EMERGENCIES, please call or text Pastor Carol at 508-282-9511 or to schedule an appointment. Her office hours are Wed. – Thu, 10:30 AM – 1:00 PM

*Please contact the church office to report calendar corrections, additions, or changes Office Hours: Tuesday - Friday 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM*

# Prayer List

Jana Mitchell  
The Bender Family  
Jim & Karen Ebbeson  
Janice McMahon  
Vivian G  
June S  
Kim H  
Shawn M  
Adam H  
Maetta C  
Janelle H  
Dolly M  
Cynthia R (DIL of Imelda)  
Carol M

Yvonne Siira & Family  
Brenda Veldboom  
Anna Herdina  
George Weis  
Peter  
Lael C  
Darlene P  
Chris (Friend of June K)  
Guy (Brother of Geri Lynn)  
Ann G (Niece of June K)  
Gavin L  
Dolly M  
Mark (Nephew of June)

Anna  
Char Shinktgen  
Adrian "Ade" Webber  
Baby William  
Dave L  
Debbie C  
Sarah W (Sister of Allison)  
Amelia B  
Nikki P (Friend of Ricki)  
Kathy B and Greg B  
John H  
Tom B (Husband of Penny)  
Eric (Son of Sharon M)

## Everyone in our nation who is frightened, losing benefits, and/or grieving

Federal Workers  
Incarcerated persons

LGBTQ+ youth & adults everywhere  
Victims and survivors of gun violence  
L.E.A.F. Families

People who are missing or in harm's way

The people of and from Congo, Ukraine, the Caribbean, Gaza, Venezuela, and Minneapolis

## ...And especially the family and friends of

Thomas Foster (Father of Tom)  
Bob Berkley (Father of Kent)  
Beth Anne W (Daughter of Olive S)  
Jendean and Dan Olson (Parents of Angela)  
Phyllis T (Friend of Ricki)  
Kathy M  
Henry G  
David B

Sasha H  
Pat H (Sister of Ken)  
Phil Sweet  
Hope B  
Eugene H  
Tim S (Brother of Nancy F)

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**Please make a note on a yellow pew card or contact the church office to update the prayer list.**

# **Hope Church Mission Statement**

*People come together at Hope Church for the following purposes:*

- To worship God.
- To promote personal and spiritual growth.
- To develop a religious community which encourages tolerance and openness of thought and accepts diversity of thought and action.
- To search for meaning in life, and for understanding of ourselves through the teachings of Jesus and other great teachers.
- To understand how all things are related to each other, and to learn how we may best serve our local community and our world community.
- To celebrate with joy, the richness of ourselves and our religious community.

## **Hope United Church of Christ (UCC) Relational Covenant Created 1-30-2021**

We, of Hope United Church of Christ, make an intentional choice to embrace this covenant as an essential part of our faith journey. The following are ways in which we will work together to reach our highest potential as individuals and as a community.

- We aspire to be open, affirming and to encourage everyone to travel their own spiritual path. We are committed to building trust, advocating for justice, and celebrating diversity.
- We treat ourselves and each other with patience and love by listening with compassion and speaking with authenticity.
- We affirm all emotions, take responsibility for our own words and actions, and trust the good intentions of others.
- We affirm that every voice has equal value. In our verbal, written and online communication (email, texting, Facebook, etc.), we speak directly to any individual with whom we have a concern in caring, clear, honest, and respectful ways. Substantive issues that require discussion may be better handled in-person. We refrain from gossip and honor confidentiality.
- We uphold our faith community by participating actively and responsibly in the decision-making process and work of the church, as we are able. We reach out to meet the needs of each other and the wider community. We are accountable to each other.
- We create a safe environment for self-disclosure and healthy relationships. When harm is experienced, we acknowledge it, promptly take responsibility, and work to make amends. We practice forgiveness and kindness.

Endorsed by Hope UCC Council on February 23, 2021

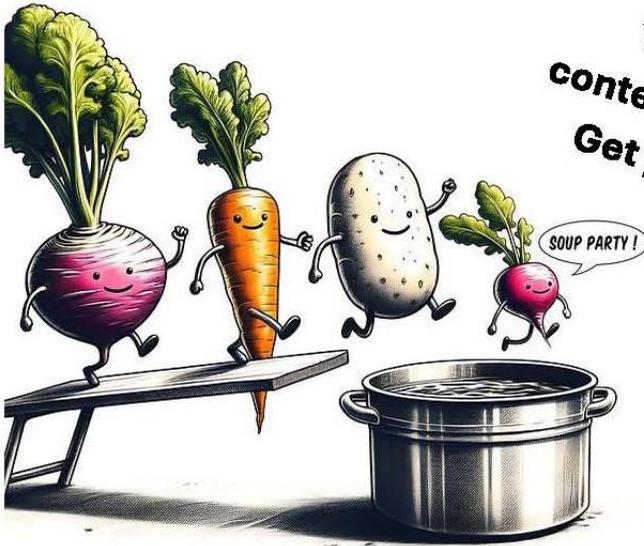
This is a living document. It is our intention to revisit and refine this covenant.

Updated by Hope UCC Council on 11-6-25

# SOUPERBOWL OF CARING SOUP COOK OFF

Sunday February 8, 2026

After Sunday Worship Service in the Fellowship Hall



The sign-up sheet to be a  
contestant will be in the Narthex.  
Get your soup pots warming!

Proceeds go to the Food  
Pantry at Lakeshore Cap  
in Sturgeon Bay.



Helping People; Changing Lives

## LAKESHORE CAP

COMMUNITY ACTION PROGRAM



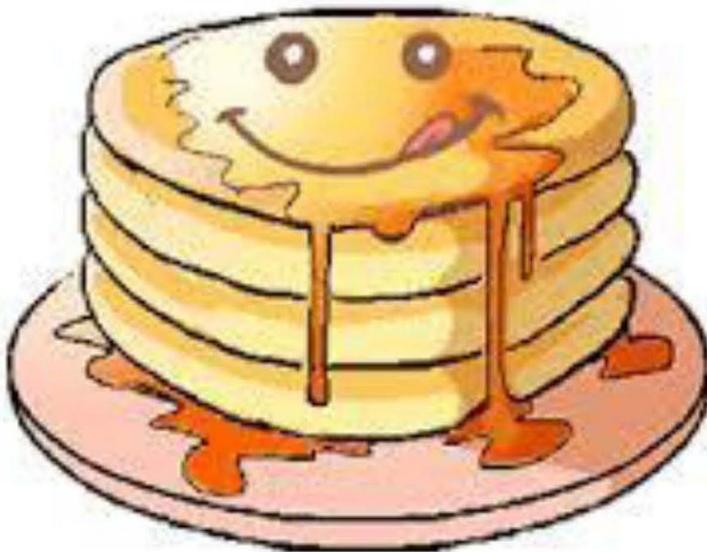
# **SAVE THE DATE**

Tuesday, February 17

Entertainment provided by the SBHS Jazz Band

starting at 5:30 PM

Check the narthex for a sign-up sheet soon to come.



*Shrove Tuesday*