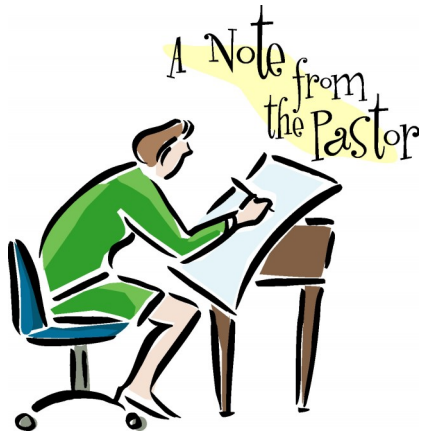


The Hopeful

Pastor Laura Kline
pastorlaurakline@gmail.com

Hope Lutheran Church
Long Grove, Illinois



Dear Hope Family,

As we head into November, the season of Thanksgiving is a perfect time to reflect on gratitude—not just as a feeling, but as a daily spiritual discipline. When we practice thankfulness intentionally, it does more than lift our mood or help us focus on the good things in life. It deepens our faith and transforms the way we see God at work in the world.

I'm especially thankful for our Hope community. Week after week, I see how God is moving through each of you—whether in acts of service, caring for one another, or showing up with your time and resources to support the work we're doing together. It's inspiring to be part of a community where gratitude and generosity are so intertwined.

When we take time to pause and give thanks, we become more aware of how much we've already been given.

(Continued on page 2)



Come and Be Fed Reformation Sunday October 27



**Worship with
Holy Communion**
8:30 & 11:00 a.m.

**Continental
Breakfast**
Between services



The Church Office will be closed November 28 & 29 in observance of the Thanksgiving Holiday.

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That awareness strengthens our trust in God, reminding us that He’s providing for us every day, often in ways we don’t even realize. Gratitude deepens our faith by helping us see that God’s grace is always present, even in the ordinary.

It’s from a place of thankfulness that generosity naturally flows. When our hearts are full of gratitude, we want to share what we’ve been given. That’s why thankfulness and generosity go hand in hand—one leads to the other. Giving becomes not just something we do because it’s the right thing, but because we truly want to give. We want others to experience the same love and grace that we’ve received.

As we kick off our stewardship campaign this month, I’m excited to think about how God will continue to work through our generosity. Stewardship is an opportunity to respond to God’s goodness with thankful hearts, offering back what we’ve been entrusted with. I’m so grateful to be part of this community, and I’m thankful for the ways each of you continues to reflect God’s love through your giving, your service, and your faith.

May our hearts continue be filled with gratitude, and may that gratitude inspire us to give and serve in ways that reflect the abundant grace of God.

With a thankful heart,
Pastor Laura



Interfaith Thanksgiving Service

Sunday, November 24th

7:00 p.m.

St. Mary Parish
10 N. Buffalo Grove Rd.
Buffalo Grove



Sunday worship schedule:

- 8:30 a.m. Traditional Worship, with hymns and sung liturgy
- 9:45 a.m. Education Hour
- 11:00 a.m. Contemporary Worship, music with the Praise Team



“**CHILDREN’S CHURCH**” will be held during the 11:00 a.m. worship service each Sunday. The children will stay with their parents in the beginning of the service and then be dismissed to their class (returning for communion).

There will be one class with multiple age students (ages 4-12).



Stewardship Reminders

1. *Commitment Sunday, November 17*
Bring pledges to worship.
2. *How can Hope can reach its goals?*
See emails and respond.

On October 5, we gathered for our Blessing of the Animals service and celebrated the ways our pets enrich our lives.



November Membership Anniversaries



NAME:

YEARS AS A MEMBER OF HOPE:

Jerry & Ellen Allen & family	36
Jim & Sherry Hoesly & family	33
Bill & Janice Peterson	23
Lynne Schneider & family	36
Craig & Debbie Sincora	28
Andie Van Spankeren	46

Council Corner

You will be hearing a lot about our Church Goals in the upcoming months. For your reference, we presented these goals in the Annual Report to the Congregation and they are listed here as well.



Hope Lutheran Church Goals (2023)

1. To spread the Good News of the Gospel of Jesus and salvation by providing meaningful worship services and Christian growth while following ELCA guidance; with a variety of worship opportunities.
2. To identify and implement strategies for membership growth and to be a welcoming and caring congregation to people of all ages and backgrounds. Pursue both current and future technology (marketing, advertising, social media, etc.) in efforts to attract and gain members.
3. To encourage and maintain positive energy in our church; to have a continuing presence and visibility in our community; to be a place where people feel a sense of fellowship in our congregation and with our community.

Annual Hope Elections

Annual elections for Hope leadership positions are held at the annual meeting. The next annual meeting will be held on January 26, 2025. There are three church boards with elected positions:



Church Council

These six positions are up for election in 2025: Vice-President, Treasurer, Worship Director, Stewardship Director, Mission (Membership-Outreach-Mission) Director and Youth Director.

- The current Treasurer and Stewardship Director are term-limited by the Hope Constitution.
- Of the remaining four positions,
 - Three incumbents are willing to continue to serve,
 - One incumbent is considering continuing to serve.

Board of Trustees

There are six positions on the Board of Trustees. Four are up for election in 2025. Of the four open positions:

- One is term-limited,
- One incumbent is willing to continue to serve,
- Two incumbents are considering continuing to serve.

Hope Fund

There are five positions on the Hope Fund; two are up for election in 2025. Of the two open positions:

- Two incumbents are considering continuing to serve.

Nominating Committee

Don Eggert, Lynne Schneider, and Gina Vera are members of the nominating committee.

Please prayerfully consider your talents and whether they might be expressed through service to God through the open positions at Hope. If you like more information on the specifics of any of these positions, please contact Don Eggert at (847) 438-4841.



Treasurer's Report September 2024

YTD Budget

Income \$183,828
Expenditures \$209,368

YTD Actual

Income \$182,472
Expenditures \$192,427
Capital Expenditures to date \$10,900

Hope Lutheran Church is looking to fill a part time housekeeping position later this fall. Schedule will be Monday through Thursday evenings 6:30 - 9:30 pm. Training and all supplies and equipment provided. If you or someone you know may be interested in this position please contact Rich Schoeneman at Rich.schoeneman@gmail.com to begin the application process.



I was thinking about music the other day, and I came across a number of items that struck me and seemed to fit together. Usually when this happens it's the Holy Spirit talking to me, so I am reluctant to ignore the connection.

First of all, I saw a devotion for worship leaders that said that the function of the musicians in a worship service is to "lift the room." Second, I saw a quote from the great author Victor Hugo, that said: "Music expresses that which cannot be said and on which it is impossible to be silent." Then, I saw another quote from the great philosopher Mickey Hart (the drummer for the Grateful Dead) that said: "There's nothing like music to relieve the soul and uplift it."



These thoughts help express my feelings about music generally, and worship music specifically. Music is an integral part of my life, and I do not think I would be here today if not for music. The effect of music is uplifting and exhilarating; the soul soars when good music is heard. (This is true for most music...I could definitely do without "The Night Chicago Died.") But as the quotes above describe, music allows a person to feel emotions that words may not be sufficient to express. And in the context of worship, music is intended to lift our eyes to the cross, and help us feel focused on God. Importantly, the worship-leader devotion quoted above pointed out that the focus is not on the performers; "people are not coming just to hear you, but coming to be inspired and meet with God." Our job as worship leaders is to help you all to forget everything that is bothering you from the outside world, hear the inexpressible beauty of a relationship with our Lord, and focus on His love for you. Martin Luther once said: "Beautiful music is the art of the prophets that can calm the agitations of the soul; it is one of the most magnificent and delightful presents God has given us."

On behalf of all your worship leaders, I hope our music helps you experience a more intimate connection with God in the worship experience, and that your souls will be uplifted as you go on your ways.

Peace,

Chuck Johnson, Director of Worship and Music †🎵

Community Relations

With the holidays just around the corner, Community Relations is gearing up for one of our busiest times of the year.

Hope's **Thanksgiving Basket Ministry**, benefitting families from the Eugene Field Elementary School in Wheeling is underway thanks to Pam and Gary Kennedy. They are currently collecting through November 14th. There's still time to shop for an entire family or make a monetary donation that will go toward providing all of the fixings for either a traditional or Hispanic Thanksgiving dinner. Please refer to Hope's website for all of the details: <https://www.hopelutheran-elca.org/page/thanksgiving-baskets>

Our **Coats for Vets** collection continues. Thanks to Zengeler Cleaners in Libertyville for sponsoring this worthwhile event. If you have any gently used coats or winter accessories you'd like to donate, please add them to our box in the Narthex through the end of October.

Get ready for our **2024 Holiday Gift Drive** that will be getting underway toward mid-November. Vernon Township will be providing us with families' ages and sizes along with their wishlist of items needed and wanted. Please consider giving to this amazing ministry either by shopping for items on families wish lists or making a monetary donation. Watch for details coming soon!

Save the date! **Braver Angels** is an organization leading the nation's largest cross-partisan, volunteer-led movement to bridge the partisan divide for the good of our democratic republic. On **Saturday, January 11 at 10:00 a.m.** they will be joining us at Hope in a discussion to learn how to speak in a civilized manner to people who have views different from our own. This will be a 90 minute program with breakout sessions. Please watch for upcoming information about this very interesting program.

COMMUNITY



RELATIONS

GOT CANDY? GOT A COLLEGE STUDENT?

Do you have a college student who you think would like to receive a care package? During finals week, we will be sending out college care packages filled with all sorts of goodies to help students get through all the studying they do for finals!

If you don't have a college student but have extra candy...feel free to donate your leftovers to our college care package ministry. Any extra candy can be brought into the church office.

You can reach out to me with your college student's information at Jennie Pankiewicz (jennie.pankiewicz@gmail.com or (847)927-6437).

Care Packages
FOR COLLEGE STUDENTS



Thanksgiving Baskets

Hope Lutheran Church is once again sponsoring one of our most successful ministries, the Thanksgiving Food Drive to assist needy families in the local area. As in the past years, we are asking that you consider sponsoring an entire family by purchasing all of the items on the menu, or providing monetary donations (in the form of gift cards or money - Checks can be made out to Hope Lutheran Church). We would prefer that you do not donate incomplete baskets (only purchasing some items on the menu), as this requires us to identify what items are missing and then make additional visits to the grocery store to complete baskets.

Please be on the look out for an email or letter containing information on the Traditional and Hispanic menus. Please bring your completed Thanksgiving baskets to the church by no later than November 14, 2024, as the baskets will be picked up on the morning of November 15th.

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact Pam or Gary Kennedy at garyandpam@aol.com or 847-362-7225.

Thanksgiving
Baskets



Operation Christmas Child ... Good News ... Great Joy ... Begins with a Shoebox

The mission of Operation Christmas Child is to demonstrate God's love in a tangible way to children in need around the world.

Crayons. A doll. A toy truck. A toothbrush. Every item lovingly added to an Operation Christmas Child shoebox gift has the potential to impact a child. When they open their shoe box gifts, for many their first gift ever, the harsh world around them fades and their hearts fill with wonder and joy. Felisha (Trinidad), Alex (Rwanda), Athena (Philippines), Nanor (Middle East), Romina (Ecuador) and Elvina (Ukraine), are just a few of the children who have received one of the over 220 million shoe boxes donated to Operation Christmas Child by Hope and thousands of other churches and organizations since 1993. The shoe boxes are distributed to children in over 170 countries that have endured war, poverty, natural disasters and other difficult circumstances. The treasures and personal letters inside communicate that someone cares for them and gives them an opportunity to experience the love of God.



It is easy to participate.

- Find a shoe box or similarly sized plastic container, it can be wrapped or unwrapped. (If you decide to wrap please wrap the top separately.) We have preprinted boxes. They will be available in the narthex or see Debbie Duffy if you would like one.
- Choose boy or girl and age category (2-4, 5-9 or 10-14).
- Fill the box with a variety of small, fun, quality gifts.
- Gift ideas include; toys, stuffed animals, school supplies, personal care items, slippers, socks and other items that will put a smile on a child's face. There is a list of suggested gifts and items that cannot be sent in the narthex. You can also visit the website www.samaritanpurse.org/operation-christmas-child for a list of items that cannot be included (such as candy, toothpaste, liquids, lotions, gum, chocolate, food or anything that will expire within 6 months, used or damaged items or anything breakable).
- A personal note can also be added.
- Pray for the child that will receive your gift,
- * Lastly, drop off your gift at church.

Brochures, preprinted boxes and labels to indicate if the gift is for a boy or girl and the age group are available in the narthex. Boxes must be returned to the church no later than November 22. If you have any questions, please contact Debbie Duffy.

GIFT CARD PROGRAM



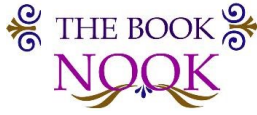
Last chance to shop for Thanksgiving – and it's definitely time to do some Christmas shopping! And then there are always Target, Jewel, Mariano's, Walgreen's, Shell, Fannie May, Lettuce Entertain You – the list goes on and on.

The proceeds from the November Gift Cards will be going to **Hope's Thanksgiving Baskets** and I know I don't have to explain what a blessing our Thanksgiving Baskets are to so many families. Gift cards are the perfect opportunity to purchase items for the Thanksgiving Baskets as well as your own Thanksgiving celebrations AND earn money for a charity at the same time – win/win!!

There are hard copies of the Vendor List on the info table at church. You may call or email either of us or Ann and NOVEMBER orders are due on **Sunday, NOVEMBER 3, 2024**. If you are not able to attend church in person, give us a call. AND if you are unable to get to church to pick the cards up, we will be happy to deliver them to you.

Questions? Give us a call – we will be happy to answer them.

Jan Sirabian – 847-537-7926 – janet.sirabian@gmail.com
Gina Vera – 847-439-0561 – gvera0908@gmail.com



Next meeting:

When: Thursday, November 14 at 10:00 a.m.

Where: Small Fellowship Hall at the Church

Book: "The Seamstress of New Orleans:
A Fascinating Novel of Southern Historical Fiction"
by Diane C. McPhail

Set against the backdrop of the first all-female Mardi Gras krewe at the turn-of-the-century, the acclaimed author's mesmerizing historical novel tells of two strangers separated by background but bound by an unexpected secret—and of the strength and courage women draw from and inspire in each other.

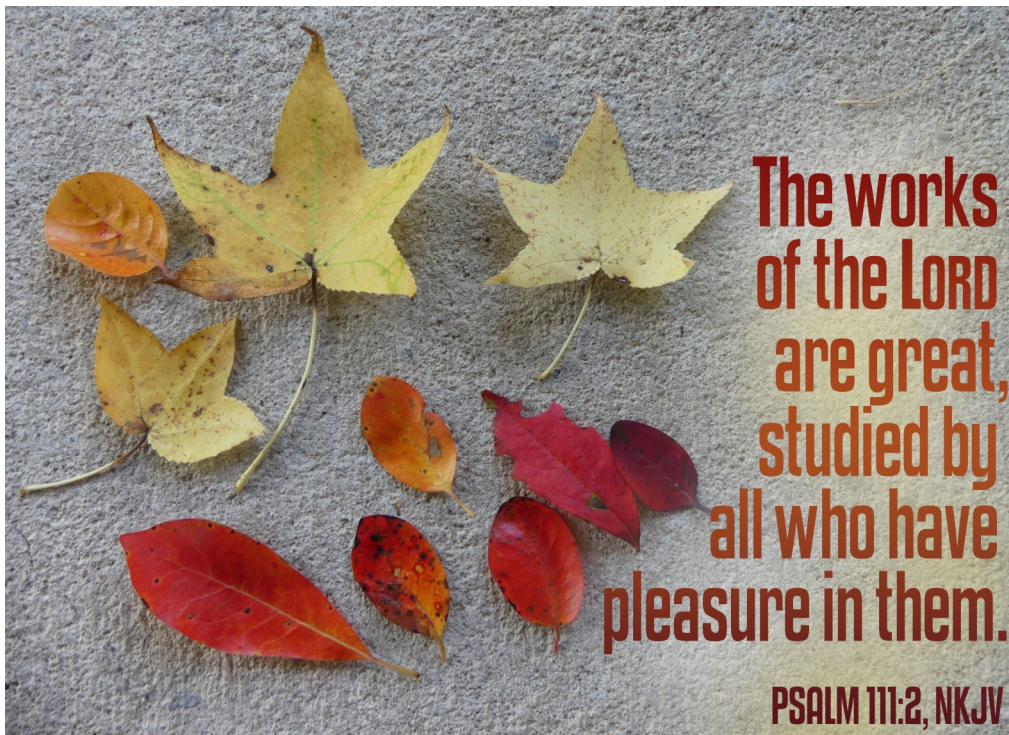
Everyone is welcome to join us.



Grounds for Hope Café

Adult Bible Study Group meets
Sunday mornings during the
Education Hour—9:45-10:45 am

Beginning September 15, join us for an inspiring journey through the Book of Acts during our Adult Education time, Sundays from 9:45–10:45 AM, whether you're new to the Bible or a seasoned reader. No prep needed—just bring yourself! Come any Sunday you're free and explore what it means to build community and be Christ's Church in the world. As we dive into the early Church's story, we'll find powerful lessons on faith, unity, and living out God's mission. Don't miss this opportunity to grow in faith between services! For more information, contact Pastor Laura.





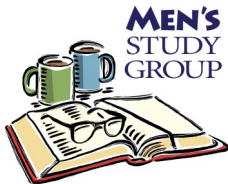
Pub Chats

Wednesday evenings at 7:00 p.m., a couple of times a month
 At **Vin 90 Kitchen & Bar**
 401 Half Day Rd., Buffalo Grove—at the Arboretum Golfcourse

Upcoming Study Schedule:

October 30:	“Lessons From the Crusades”
November 13:	“Counterculturally Relevant”
November 27:	No study—Thanksgiving Holiday
December 11:	“The Incarnation”
December 25:	No study—Christmas Day

Study materials are available in the church narthex.
 If you have questions or would like to join the group, please contact Ann in the church office.



Thursday evening Men's Study:

The Hope Men's Group meets twice a month...the 2nd Thursday for Burgers, Brews (OK, maybe one or none), and Fellowship...the 4th Thursday for a Zoom Bible study. However, we have a strict rule: No homework and no tests. We would LOVE to have more guys join us.

The Burgers, Beers, and fellowship speaks for itself. We will send out an email with the location the week of the outing. Below will give you a sense of our study events...intriguing topics...always lively discussions.

The Men's Group is currently studying "What Happens Next – A Traveler's Guide Through the End of This Age" by Max Lucado. Max has some views about the "End of This Age" that differ from what most ELCA Lutheran theologians believe which makes this study even more interesting. So far, we have covered Session 1: "Made to Reign" and Session 2: "God's Plan for the Ages." The November study will be Session 3: "The Rescue and the Rewards." Please join us for this Bible study and see the various views on this important subject.

Because in November, the 4th Thursday is on Thanksgiving, the next Men's Study will be on Thursday, November 21st.



Hannah Circle will meet
 Tuesday, November 19

7:00 pm
 In the small fellowship
 hall
 at church.

Continuing the study:
 "New Testament Characters"
 All women are invited to join us.

For more info contact
 Debbie Duffy
 Duffyde626@aol.com

SAVE THE DATE!

Christmas ACTIVITIES

You are invited



**ADVENT
POTLUCK & STUDY**

Wednesday, December 4
 Dinner 6:00 p.m.
Bring your favorite dish
 Advent Study 7:00 p.m.
Explore the meaning of Advent



Join us to prepare our church for the holiday season!

Lots of hands welcome to help decorate our trees.

Tuesday, November 26
 9:00 a.m. Tree setup
 10:00 a.m. Decorating

'Tis the Season Please join us
Sunday, December 15th

Crafts for Christmas
 Between Services

and

Cookie exchange
 Starting at 10:00 a.m.
 Bring 3 dozen
 Take 3 dozen





Tuesday, December 24:
 Christmas Eve Worship 4:00 pm and 11:00 pm
 Candlelight services

Wednesday, December 25:
 Christmas Day Worship 10:00 am.
 Traditional worship

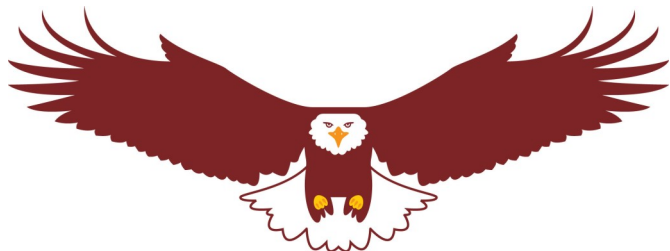


NOVEMBER

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><u>Sunday Worship Schedule:</u> at Church and on Facebook</p> <p>8:30 am Traditional Worship 11:00am Contemporary Worship and Children's Church</p> <p>1:00 pm Church of Eternal Hope 4:00 pm White Stone Church</p>					1	2
3 <i>Daylight Saving Time Ends</i> 	4 3:30 pm Bell Choir 6:30 pm Worship & Music Committee-Zoom 6:30 pm Scouts	5 7:00 pm Praise Team	6 7:30 pm White Stone Church	7	8 7:30 pm AA 8:00 pm White Stone Church	9
10	11 3:30 pm Bell Choir 6:30 pm Church Council 6:30 pm Scouts	12 7:00 pm Praise Team	13 7:00 pm Pub Chat at Vin 90 7:30 pm White Stone Church	14 10:00 am Book Nook 6:30 pm Men's Study - Burger and Beer Outing	15 7:30 pm AA 8:00 pm White Stone Church	16
17	18 3:30 pm Bell Choir 6:30 pm Scouts	19 7:00 pm Praise Team 7:00 pm Hannah Circle	20 7:30 pm White Stone Church	21 6:30 pm Men's Bible Study— Zoom	22 7:30 pm AA 8:00 pm White Stone Church	23
24 7:00 pm <i>Interfaith Thanksgiving Service at St. Mary's</i>	25 3:30 pm Bell Choir 6:30 pm Scouts	26 10:00 am Christmas Tree Decorating 7:00 pm Praise Team	27 7:30 pm White Stone Church	28 	29 7:30 pm AA 8:00 pm White Stone Church	30



1660 Checker Rd.
 Long Grove, IL 60047
www.hopelutheran-elca.org



Those who **hope** in the **LORD**
 will **renew** their **strength**.

They will soar on wings like eagles.

ISAIAH 40:31, NIV

*Declare God's love.
 Do God's will.
 Dance with the Spirit.*

Fall Worship Schedule:

Join us in person or remotely, to worship together.
 HOPE continues live-stream our worship services on Facebook live.
 The video messages will also remain on the page for later viewing.

Sunday mornings:

- 8:30 a.m. Traditional Worship, with hymns and sung liturgy
- 9:45 a.m. Education Hour
- 11:00 a.m. Contemporary Worship, music with the Praise Team
 "CHILDREN'S CHURCH" will be held during the
 11:00 a.m. worship service each week.

Holy Communion will be served at both worship services each week



Find Hope on-line at www.hopelutheran-elca.org
 Join Hope on Facebook by using the link on the website or by searching
 for 'Hope Lutheran Church—Long Grove, IL' and then clicking on the 'Like'
 button. The website and Facebook page have updates on events at Hope,
 pictures and other miscellaneous information.



To contact the church office: hopelutheran-elca@comcast.net, or call [847] 634-2070.
 Contact the church office to submit an article for the Newsletter, to send an announcement
 church-wide via e-mail and/or to have your e-mail address added to receive announcements.
 To send a prayer request and/or have your e-mail address added to receive prayer requests:
pmater@aol.com