

Tidings of Hope

October 2025



Hope Lutheran Church
Ladysmith, Wisconsin

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Confirmation

By Bonnie Billings

Confirmation Sunday here at Hope Lutheran is on Reformation Sunday, **October 26**. This year, four of our youth will be confirmed at the 9:00am worship service. Please keep Addison, Blake, Nolan, and Violet in your prayers as they prepare to take this important step in their faith journey.

Confirmation in the Lutheran Church is often referred to as Affirmation of Baptism. It is an opportunity for a person to affirm for themselves the promises that their parents, sponsors and congregation made for them at their baptism: *“to live with them among God's faithful people, bring them to the word of God and the holy supper, teach them the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments, place in their hands the holy scriptures, and nurture them in faith and prayer, so that your children may learn to trust God, proclaim Christ through word and deed, care for others and the world God made, and work for justice and peace.”* During the Affirmation of Baptism, those being confirmed profess their faith and their intention *“to live among God's faithful people, to hear his Word and share in his Supper, to proclaim the Good News of God in Christ through word and deed, to serve all people, following the example of our Lord Jesus, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth.”*

Each year as I watch the youth of our church affirm their faith, I can't help but remember my own Confirmation service—feeling sweaty under my robe, nervousness over having to speak in public, my godfather's big hand pressing on my head during the blessing, the love and support of the church family behind me. It's also a time when I think about whether I have kept those promises made for me at baptism and affirmed at my own Confirmation. I encourage you to do the same as we gather together on October 26 to worship our Lord Jesus and support Addison, Blake, Nolan, and Violet.



Hope Lutheran Church Women

Monthly Meeting: The HLCW will hold their monthly meeting on Thursday, October 16 at 9:30am. Hostesses are Cindy Albus and Jackie Buchholz.

Quilting: The quilting group will meet on Tuesday, October 21 at 9:00am. There are jobs for all skill levels. If you can stay for the whole day, please bring a sack lunch. Quilt squares are also available to be sewn at home. If you have questions, please contact Karen Skeels (715-452-5444).

Health Kits: The Hope Lutheran Church Women (HLCW) continue to collect items for NALC Disaster Response health kits. Items needed are bath towels, wash cloths, shampoo, toothpaste, combs, deodorant, and 2-gallon size Ziploc bags. Items can be dropped off at the church during office hours or placed in the bins in the narthex.

Adult Education & Fellowship Opportunities

Book Discussion: The book group will meet on Sunday, October 19 to discuss The Walk by Richard Paul Evans. The book group meets at 10:30am in the Fireside Room.

Meal of the Month: The Meal of the Month is an opportunity for members of Hope to enjoy a meal and time of fellowship while supporting a local business. The October Meal of the Month will take place on Thursday, October 9 at 11:30am at East Bay in Holcombe. If you have questions or wish to carpool, please contact Kathy Ducommun.

Walk for Life

Choices Health Network (formerly the CareNet Pregnancy Resource Center) held their annual "Walk for Life" Fundraiser on Saturday, September 20. Thank you to everyone who donated or walked. Hope's "Walk for Life" team raised over \$5,000.



GriefShare is a 13-week non-denominational, faith-based, grief support groups to help people deal with all the complex feelings after the death of a loved one. The lay people leading the classes have experienced grief themselves and have gone through special training. Each 90-minute session consists of a 10–15 minute check-in time, a 30-40 minute DVD presentation by experts in the field of grief, and 25-30 minutes to discuss the DVD topics. GriefShare meets on Wednesday from 6:00-7:30 at Hope Lutheran Church. If you, or someone you know, would like to register for the program, please call the Hope Lutheran Church office at 715-532-7739 and leave your contact information. A GriefShare leader will call you back. You can also register online at griefshare.org. Questions? Contact Aileen Tauchen.

Wednesday School

Wednesday School meets each Wednesday 3:00-4:30pm. Wednesday School is for children PK thru 6th grade. All children are welcome! Children can ride the bus from LES and will learn Bible stories, sing songs, play games, and have a snack.

Registration forms can be found on the church website (hlcladysmith.org/education) or by contacting the church office. If you have questions about Wednesday School, please contact Laura Johnson.

Hope Lutheran Food Pantry

The Hope Lutheran Food Pantry serves those in need throughout Rusk County. During the months of October, November, and December the Pantry will have extended hours on Mondays (12:00noon-3:00pm) and Fridays (9:00am-12:00noon). Much of the food that is distributed through the food pantry comes from the Feed My People Food Bank. Volunteers are needed on Mondays, October 6 & 20 at 9:15am to help unload this delivery and stock food pantry shelves. Donations of non-perishable food items can be left at the church during office hours or on Sunday mornings.

SUMMARY OF SEPTEMBER 16 COUNCIL MEETING

Call Committee Update: The church profile will be submitted when the video is complete.

NALC Ratification Vote: Ratification of NALC constitutional changes will be done at the annual meeting in January. The congregation's vote needs to be submitted by February 8, 2026.

New Christian School Presentation: Bev Dukerschein requested time to present information including a video about their new school, Firm Foundation Academy. Council voted to approve the presentation at the October 12 worship service.

Lay Communion: Pastor Simonson offered to conduct lay communion training on September 21.

Property Committee: The buttons for the handicapped access are being addressed. Procuring quotes for sealing the parking lot. A dishwasher for the parsonage has been purchased and installed. Volunteers will be needed for fall maintenance.

Worship & Music: The pedals on the organ are not working well and may need to be addressed. Servicing of the audio-visual system may be needed.

Youth Ministry: Youth were invited to a movie night at Glen Flora Lutheran. Discussed Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child boxes. Pastor Hailey Halmstad is teaching confirmation for the two 7th graders.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, October 21 at 6:30pm.

A copy of the complete Council minutes can be found in the narthex.

January thru August 2025 Giving & Expenses

Total Offerings Received	\$122,247.90
Total Expenses	<u>\$137,157.20</u>
Difference	(\$ 14,909.30)
08/31/25 Checking Balance	\$ 18,736.82
Average Sunday Attendance	48



Items for the weekly bulletin are due in the church office no later than noon on Wednesday. Items for the November newsletter are due in the church office by October 21.

The preferred method of submission is via email (hlcladysmith@gmail.com) or electronic file. Items may also be left in the office mailbox or dropped off at the office during office hours.

Change of Address and/or Phone Number?

If you have had a change in address or phone number, please notify the church office of these changes. Also, in an effort to improve communication we are seeking email addresses for members of the congregation. If you would like to have your email address added to the list, please email the church office at hlcladysmith@gmail.com.

CHURCH STAFF

Pastor

Church Secretary

Custodian

Organists

Bonnie Billings

Rosemary Warwick

Lisa Borman

Karen Tappan

Terry Wedwick

Hope Lutheran Church

320 First St. S.

P.O. Box 184

Ladysmith, WI 54848

Church Phone: 715-532-7739

E-Mail Address: hlcladysmith@gmail.com

Website: hlcladysmith.org

September Worship Assistants

- | | | |
|-----------|-----------|-----------------------------|
| 5 | Ushers | Charlie & Chris Holtebeck |
| | Lector | Irene Titera |
| | Comm Asst | Jer McEathron |
| | Acolyte | |
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 | | |
| 12 | Ushers | Irene Titera, Vinnie Jacobs |
| | Lector | Irene Titera |
| | Acolyte | |
|
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| 19 | Ushers | Don & Judy Soyring |
| | Lector | Irene Titera |
| | Comm Asst | Irene Titera |
| | Acolyte | |
|
 | | |
| 26 | Ushers | Jer & Pat McEathron |
| | Lector | Jana Nyhagen |
| | Comm Asst | Jer McEathron |
| | Acolyte | |

MANNA Meal

(Meals Available for the Nutritional Needs of All)

The October MANNA Meal will take place on Thursday, October 30 with serving from 5:00-6:00pm. This is a free meal providing both food and fellowship to those in need of either. This month's meal is sponsored by Faith United Methodist Church.

Mission Statement

Hope Lutheran Church is commissioned to make disciples, commanded to love God and others, and committed to serve.

Vision Statement

The Hope Lutheran Church family seeks to form disciples of Jesus in our daily relationships with Christ through weekly worship, daily prayer, and empowering them to develop their spiritual gifts to serve God and others.