

Hope United Methodist Church  
12080 - 380th Ave  
PO Box 125  
Blue Earth, MN 56013

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### Address Service



OPEN HEARTS. OPEN MINDS. OPEN DOORS.

### SUNDAY SERVICE: 10:00AM WORSHIP

A pre-recorded message airs at 9:30am on  
KBEW 1560 AM. Visit [behopeumc.com](http://behopeumc.com) to stay updated  
with current events, bulletins & newsletters.

#### Staff:

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Office hours are Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 8:15AM to 3:00PM.

Newsletter items are due by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month.

Please send announcements for the bulletin and the newsletter to the above office email address or call the church office. Also, please notify the church office of any changes in names, addresses, incorrect birthdays or anniversaries, or if you'd like to receive this newsletter via email.



# Hope United Methodist Church NEWSLETTER



JULY 2026



This year the United States of American celebrates 250 years! Since the nation is made up of many people from different countries, we are often called “the melting pot of the world.” One of the first things people see when they come to our northeast shore is the Statue of Liberty Enlightening the World. This was a gift of friendship from France in 1885 to our nation. In the early 1950s when my family lived in Rhode Island, I climbed a good share of the statue’s insides as a child.

This huge monument called “Lady Liberty” is a living symbol of American freedom, democracy, and “open door” policy. Between 1892 and 1955 millions of European immigrants were greeted on their arrival to the “new country” by this immense statue before being processed at Ellis Island. Perhaps some of your family saw the Statue of Liberty when they arrived here seeking a new life.

Engraved upon the base of the 151-foot copper statue are words by Emma Lazarus entitled “The New Colossus”: *Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free, the wretched refuse of your teeming shore. Send these, the homeless, tempest-tossed, to me. I lift my lamp beside the golden door.*

Christ’s words in Matthew 11:28 are a remarkably similar invitation: *Come to me, all you who are weary and carry heavy burdens, and I will give you rest.* (New Living Translation) I believe Jesus was not just talking to those who are tired at the end of the day, but he was speaking specifically to those who are oppressed and need a new place to call home. Thus, we and our nation are open to the refugee, the immigrant, the least, and the left out.

The United Methodist Church has a similar invitation. It’s the slogan of “Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors.” Do we believe these words? Do we live them? To be the bearer of God’s love, the Church (that’s us!) must be open to serving all our neighbors in the name of Christ. The colossal challenge of this day and age is to become even more open-minded as we minister to the *huddled masses yearning to breathe free* when they come looking for refuge in our country.

When we say our denomination practices “open hearts, minds, and doors,” we mean open for all. Think about the people who you might not know yet, but with whom you are called to share God’s love! Every one of us in invited to witness to Christ’s truth by the way we live in community and by our relationships with other people, especially those who do not look or talk like us. Every day we have opportunities to do something about poverty, hunger, wretchedness, and homelessness. Every day we are challenged to witness our faith through our words and actions.

Re-read the parable of the Good Samaritan in Luke 10:25-37. Take note that the Jews and Samaritans were enemies. Yet who offered help? That’s radical hospitality! We do not merely “open our doors” to save our church or our denomination, but because that is what Jesus called us to do, and that is where we will find him – with and in our neighbors. Lady Liberty still boldly proclaims this invitation: *Send these, the homeless, tempest-tossed, to me...* no matter where they originally come from.

That’s my perspective as our great “melting pot” nation celebrates 250 years this month.

Blessings, Pastor Judy Clark

*Hope UMC, a faith community growing in Christian love, through discipleship, the inclusion of all, and fellowship.*

### Mission Committee

#### Save the Date!

Thanks to all of you, Hope UMC is continuing our existing mission projects like Bundle Up, Bucc-y Bags, Mat Weaving, Baby Hugs, Lord's Acre, and more. But here's another way, similar to our first time last fall. On **Saturday, August 29** the plan is to prepare **400 Meal Packs called Blessing Bags** right here at Hope. The Blessing Bags will go to Midwest Mission Depot Center (MMDC) in Jefferson, Iowa, for disaster relief. Each Meal Pack feeds six people, so this goal of packing 400 actually will feed 2,400 people. If you need a visual, just imagine feeding the flood victims and volunteer workers in both storm and war ravaged areas where UMCOR helps.

As partners in mission, our role as a generous congregation is two-fold. One is to fund these Blessing Bags which cost \$2.00 each, meaning we are challenged to raise \$800 for this packing. (Again, imagine feeding 2,400 people.) Label your monetary gifts "Meal Packs" or "Blessing Bags" anytime between now and August 29. Simply place them in our Sunday morning offering plate or on-line. The second part is the need for volunteers to help set up and clean up on that Saturday morning. Any age is welcome to help! It's fun to watch 2400 meals packed in an hour.

To get a good visual of this, google "Blessing Bags" and watch this video:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QixtL-wR7Ok>

The MMDC truck will arrive Saturday about 9:00 a.m. with all the materials needed. Some of the food boxes weight between 25 and 50 pounds and will need to be carried inside to our fellowship hall for setting up the lines. At 10:00 a.m., workers will be at four tables, some seated, some standing, so there's actually something for everyone to do. Afterwards, volunteers will wash and repack the equipment. **Look for signup sheets in the Narthex during July and August Contact Bob Toland or Megan Goshorn for more information about this mission.** Volunteer and/or contribute to this new, exciting way to express our faith!

***"For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in." Matthew 25:35***

**If there is a need for an emergency like a hospitalization or funeral. Or if there is something you wish to discuss, please reach out to Pastor Judy.**



**Pastor Judy's phone number (218) 251-1939  
 email: classicalgal49@gmail.com**

### *July Birthdays*

1- Lois Ankeny  
 Rebecca Nagel  
 3- Craig Johnston  
 Mackenzie Krame  
 4- Cheryl Nesheim  
 Keith Steinke  
 6- Don Nickel  
 7- Eleanor Franke  
 8- Brandon Farnham  
 10- Kory Kaiser  
 Cory Milbrandt  
 11- Nathan Bailey  
 13- Lindsay O'Brien  
 Lori Grathwohl  
 14- Dale Russell  
 15- Gary Keck  
 16- Chad Hill  
 Nancy June Noah  
 17- Pam Krebsbach  
 Wyatt Jones  
 18- Tucker Bottin  
 19- Petra Steinke  
 Kurt Steinke

21- Avery Teubner  
 22- Bailee Burns  
 23- Seth Becker  
 Laura Borris  
 24- Melanie Farnham  
 Parker Meyers  
 Lue Nimz  
 26- Sara LaRow  
 28- McKinley Hanson  
 Shauna Lunz



### *July Anniversaries*

1- Allan & Nancy Thompson  
 Terry & Kathy Goodwin  
 2- Gary & Joy Agren  
 10- Brian & Tiffany Ankeny  
 13- Justin & Jasmine Schaefer  
 16- Aron & Megan Goshorn  
 24- Greg & Diane Holland  
 Kory & Carolyn Kaiser  
 26- Shane & Laura Becker  
 27- Collin & Susan Salisbury  
 Ryan & Laura Borris  
 28- Kenneth & Marlys Breen  
 Ben & Jessica Eckmann  
 30- John & Donna Roper  
 31- Brandon & Jennifer Spencer

As camp ambassadors for Hope UMC, we are here to promote, provide information and answer any questions you may have about church camps. A few weeks ago we spoke at church about camping and it was fun to hear from church members tell about their camp experiences. There are several camps available from traditional summer camps for youth to specialty camps to family camps. Camping is for everyone. Please feel free to reach out to us if you have any questions. There are camping brochures and pamphlets on the bulletin board and if you have any questions, feel free to reach out to us.

Don (507)402-7057 & Wendy Nickel (507)402-1107



**Pictorial Directory:** Sorry for the delay in publishing the Church Directory. We hope to have something printed soon. ~Membership/History Committee



Administrative Assistant, Jaymee Nelson, will begin her summer hours of ***Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 8:15AM-3:00PM.*** I look forward to serving the church. Have a great Summer!

### KIDS KORNER

*Faith Doesn't Take a Summer Vacation!*



At Rainforest Falls VBS, kids explore the nature of God—discovering who God is and how much he loves them! Kids participate in memorable Bible-learning activities, sing catchy songs, play teamwork-building games, make and devour yummy treats, experience one-of-a-kind Bible Adventres, and experience a week they'll never forget. Plus, kids will learn to look for evidence of God all around them through something called God Sightings. Each day concludes with a Canopy Closing that gets everyone involved in living what they've learned. Family members and friends are encouraged to join us Friday evening for a family event!

Rainforest Falls VBS is **Aug 3-6th from 2-4:30pm daily and Friday, Aug 7, family night is at 6:30pm!** For more information, reach out to Megan Goshorn. Scan the QR code to register online or paper registration is available in the church narthex.

Seeking volunteers to help with VBS. This is a great way to invest in the kids of our church and community! It's a very rewarding 1 week commitment. See Megan for details.

*~Megan Goshorn, Kids Coordinator*

#### Playground Update!

The playground has been ordered! We anticipate it's arrival in 4-5 weeks and will be installing at that time. More info to follow. Some additional expenses to complete the project fully include:

- Underlayment mulch/sand-\$4,000
- Proper border pieces-\$900
- Installation misc. expenses (including concrete for posts)-approx. \$5000
- Certified playground safety inspector after completion-TBD

\*Please consider a financial donation to a specific need in order to get the playground project completed. Thank you to all who have supported this ministry project. Questions, please reach out to Megan Goshorn.



### *Please lift up in prayer....*



- Members and Friends in Health Care Centers and those at their homes including:
 

|                |               |                   |
|----------------|---------------|-------------------|
| Mae Hove       | Mike Rubatt   | Terry Hassing     |
| Jean Nelson    | Mary Ochs     | Muriel Hanna      |
| Cindy Steinke  | Scott Steinke | Lillian Kohlmeyer |
| Fran Fenske    | Todd Olson    | Damian Prescher   |
| Layne McCleary | Jake Shope    | Bethanee Stith    |
  - Armed Services personnel and their families including: Eric Becker, Hunter Spencer & Cole Steinke.
  - All those that have a lost a loved one recently.
- Please help us update this list if you have names to be added or omitted.

#### **Need Prayer?**

*We have created a form on our website so that you can submit your prayer requests. You can choose to be anonymous or not, and you can even choose how your prayer is shared. Whether you want just Pastor Godfrey to know or the entire church is up to you! So go to our website: [behopeumc.com](http://behopeumc.com) and click at the top on the tab that says "prayer request."*

#### **United Women in Faith (UWF)**



United Women in Faith

*No Meeting!*

#### **Circle Meetings:**

*Joy Circle: No meeting!*

*Faith Circle: Thursday, July 16th at 9:30am*

"And the second is like it. 'Love your neighbor as you love yourself.' Matthew 22:39 NIRV

If we look at a garden as a metaphor for growing in Christ, we will be given our seeds of truth (scripture), instructions for planting (taking it to heart), and watering (application) that seed. The lord will grow a beautiful garden of his character in our heart!

Summer is a time for tending our gardens, let us do so with care!

Be Blessed!



Nancy

There are no UWF meetings in July or August.



# HOPE UMC ~ July 2026

"New month, new goals, new mindset, new focus, new intentions, new results."

| Sunday                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Monday                                                             | Tuesday                         | Wednesday                       | Thursday                                         | Friday                           | Saturday                                                                                 |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                    |                                 | 1                               | 2<br>1-3PM: Mat Weaving:                         | 3                                | 4<br> |
| 5 <b>6th Sunday after Pentecost</b><br>10AM: Worship & Communion Service<br>11AM: Bible Study                                                                                                                           | 6                                                                  | 7<br>2PM: St. Luke's Communion  | 8                               | 9                                                | 10                               | 11                                                                                       |
| 12 <b>7th Sunday after Pentecost</b><br>10AM: Worship Service<br>11AM: Bible Study<br>2-4PM: St. Luke's Pie and Ice Cream Social<br> | 13                                                                 | 14<br>9-11AM: Group Bible Study | 15<br><b>Jaymee on Vacation</b> | 16<br>9:30AM: Faith Circle<br>1-3PM: Mat Weaving | 17<br>2PM: Parker Oaks Communion | 18                                                                                       |
| 19 <b>8th Sunday after Pentecost</b><br>10AM: Worship Service<br>11AM: Bible Study<br>→                                                                                                                                 | 20<br>1-3PM: Interfaith Caregivers Bingo<br><b>Meals On Wheels</b> | 21                              | 22                              | 23                                               | 24                               | 25                                                                                       |
| 26 <b>9th Sunday after Pentecost</b><br>10AM: Worship Service<br>11AM: Bible Study                                                                                                                                      | 27                                                                 | 28                              | 29                              | 30                                               | 31                               |                                                                                          |

*[Galatians 5:13]: "You, my brothers and sisters, were called to be free. Serve one another humbly in love".*