

New Hope Lutheran November Newsletter



Remember the Time Change

Daylight Savings Time goes into effect
Sunday, November 2nd.
Set your clocks back one hour.

***Tuesday, November 4th is the last day
to order Lefse!***

Call:

Jean Christen 608-574-1175
John Thronson at Hollandale Grocery
608-967-2115
Church Office 608-523-4239



The
Fall Dinner & Auction
was another
successful event
thanks to your
support.
Whether you worked,
donated, bid or ate
we are thankful for
you.

It's always fun to bring together our New Hope community and the greater communities we serve to share a meal and some entertaining bidding.

Thanks again and see you next year!

Join Pastor Chris Thursday, ***November 13th***

*"Coffee with the Pastor" from 8:30am to 9:30 am in
Blanchardville at "Bistro on Main".*

This coffee hour, usually on the 1st Thursday of every month, is meant to be a time of informal fellowship — anyone who wants to stop by for coffee & conversation is welcome!



It's time to order **Poinsettias**

\$15 per 6" pot—white or red

There are forms at each church.

Use this link to order on-line:
[Poinsettia Order Form.](#)



Mark Your Calendars for these Upcoming Events

Sunday, December 6: Christmas Piano Concert
by Becky Johnson
Tuesday - Friday, December 9 - 12: Lefse
Making / Sales
Saturday, December 13: Holiday Bake Sale
Saturday, December 13: Secret Santa Holiday
Bazaar
Saturday, December 20: Sunday School
Christmas Program
Wednesday, December 24: Christmas Eve
Service

From the Pastor's Desk

by Pastor Chris Strohm

November for me is a time to stop and reflect on the past year giving thanks for the many blessings in my life. It's a month that begins with the colors of October fading away symbolizing the loved ones that we have mourned for during the last year so we begin celebrating All Saints Day on November 2nd. On that day we pray for and lift up all the loved ones we have lost especially those who have passed away during the last 12 months. As we move forward into November it quickly becomes a month of thanksgiving and reflection on all that we have been blessed with throughout our lives. We end the month transitioning from reflecting and giving thanks for what we have to the hope and joy of Advent and the promise that Jesus brings us.

In the past I have taken a challenge where through the month of November you post one thing every day what you are thankful for. Taking the time to reflect on our blessings and naming them, giving thanks to God for the things that have enriched our lives throughout the year is a good spiritual practice. What better way to start this practice than by remembering all the saints who have come before us, touching our lives in a special way and enriching our faith journey.

Here are a few of the many things I am thankful for. I am thankful for the people of New Hope that have made me feel so welcome, I am thankful for the warm greetings on Sunday mornings, I am thankful for Michele and all the work she does, she has the hard job of keeping me from making too many mistakes. I am thankful for the people I visit who as we talk demonstrate to me a strong, quiet faith that has sustained them throughout their lives. I thank God daily for the blessing of Rhia in my life, and also for my kids and grand-kids. There are many more things that I am thankful for but most of all I give thanks for Jesus, who in spite of all my shortcomings, still says, "You are worthy to be called a child of God." So if you see me around and I am smiling it is because I am counting my blessings and giving them back to God in prayers of thanks.

God's peace be with you,
Pastor Chris



A red background with a green starburst graphic. A green tag with white text reads "SECRET SANTA Donations Welcome". A green banner across the middle lists items: "Bakeware - Chocolates - Lotions - Grilling Utensils - Bakeware - Jewelry". A vertical green banner on the left lists items: "Tools - Flashlights - Makeup - Perfume - Candles - Coffee Mugs - Crafts".

It's that time of the year where we begin collecting donations for the Annual Holiday Bazaar held at the Pecatonica Elementary School.

The following new or gently used items would be appreciated:

- Small, Medium, and Large Gift Bags
- Adult Men and Women's Gifts
- Middle School & Younger Child Gifts

Contact Micah Busser with questions

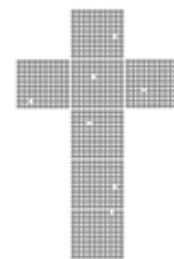


**Saturday, December 13th at
the Pecatonica Elementary
School in Hollandale**

Sign up to Volunteer here:
<https://evite.me/hmpXWE8j9x>

Use this link/list on Amazon if
you wish to virtual shop:
[NHL Secret Santa](#)

BECAUSE OF GOD'S GREAT MERCY



a stewardship program for our congregation

"Because of God's Great Mercy" is the title of our stewardship emphasis this year. The scriptural basis of this focus on our stewardship of all that God has entrusted into our care is I Peter 2:9, **"But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness and into his marvelous light."**

We begin by proclaiming all that God has done for us, hence the title "Because of God's Great Mercy." God has made us God's own people. We will also consider how generous giving is an important part of every Christian's life, and how our combined generosity can make even greater things possible through our congregation.

We will think together about how our giving to New Hope is an important part of our Christian faith, and how New Hope uses our offerings to do God's work within the congregation's walls, in our community, and around the world.

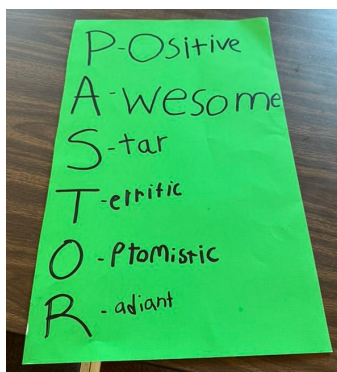
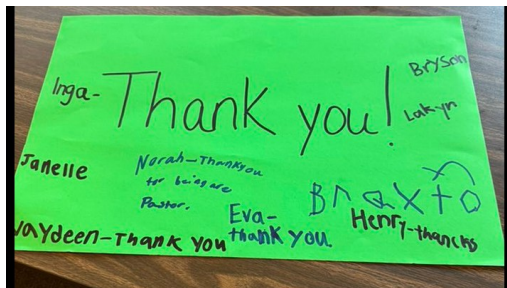
"Because of God's Great Mercy" will ask you to do two things. First, you will be asked to increase your giving to New Hope by at least $\frac{1}{2}$ of 1% of your household income. Second, you will be asked to consider giving electronically either through Tithe.ly or through your bank by using an EFT.

"Because of God's Great Mercy" will use mail, e-mail, and time in worship to share information with you. Please make a special effort to watch for material during this important time in our congregation's life.

God's blessing be upon you as you prayerfully consider this request.

Pastor Chris Strohm

Pastor Chris shows off the cards from the Sunday School kids and the t-shirt he received from the Congregation for *Pastor Appreciation Sunday*.



Sunday Worship 8:30 in Hollandale and 10:30 in Blanchardville November 2025

Worship Assistants

November 2

Greeters/Ushers: (B) The Burkeland Family (H)
Communion: (B) Chelsea Burkeland (H) Cindy & David Whitford
Readers: (B) Julia Meyer (H)
Acolytes: (B) (H) Dawsyn Vogel

November 9

Greeters/Ushers: (B) The Burkeland Family (H) Flo Griffiths
Communion: (B) Chelsea Burkeland (H) Vicki Chrostowski
Readers: (B) Margie Barnes (H)
Acolytes: (B) (H) Evan Olson

November 16

Greeters/Ushers: (B) The Burkeland Family (H)
Communion: (B) Chelsea Burkeland (H) Kaye Gilbertson
Readers: (B) Ellen Syse (H)
Acolytes: (B) (H) Evan Olson

November 23 — *Guest Speaker* — *No Communion*

Greeters/Ushers: (B) The Burkeland Family (H)
Readers: (B) Dawn Doran (H)
Acolytes: (B) (H) Evan Olson

November 30 — *First Sunday in Advent*

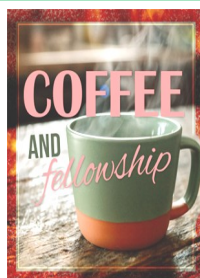
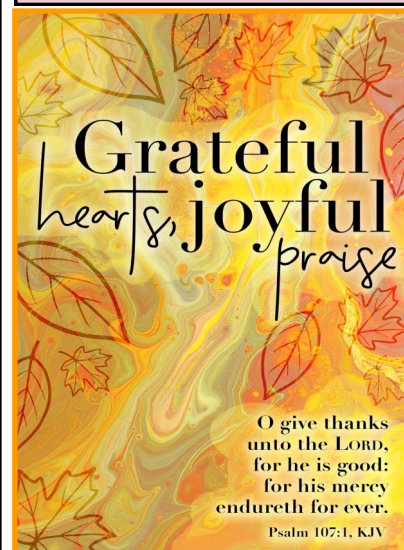
Greeters/Ushers: (B) The Burkeland Family (H) Lisa Toay
Communion: (B) Chelsea Burkeland (H)
Readers: (B) Judy Watrud (H) Bryan Lisser
Acolytes: (B) Sawyer Kundert (H) Gage Terrill

Musicians:

Bev Lien
 Becky Johnson
 Cinda Hittesdorf
 Marlys Hittesdorf

Altar Committees:

(B) Ellen Syse
 (H) Jean Christen



Please sign-up on the sheets at each site if you'd like to volunteer to organize and/or bring treats and coffee, etc. for **Fellowship** after church.



Come make a joyful noise! Join the Choir!

Rehearsals are every Wednesday,
 7pm at the Blanchardville site.

Congratulations to the family of Emersyn Chandler!

Emersyn was baptized on Sunday, October 26 at the Blanchardville Site of New Hope Lutheran.

Parents: Brooks and Hannah (Kittleson) Chandler
 Sponsors: Cayla and Nick Allen



"Let the children come to me, and do not stop them, because the kingdom of God belongs to such as these." MARK 10:14

ANNUAL LEFSE SALE

hosted by New Hope Lutheran

Place your orders by Tuesday November 4th by calling:

Jean Christen 608-574-1175
John Thronson at Hollandale Grocery 608-967-2115
Church Office @608-523-4239

Orders need to be picked up at the Hollandale Site of New Hope Lutheran 407 Main Street, Hollandale, WI at any of the following times:

Tues. Nov. 11th: 12:00 pm to 4:00 pm
Wed. Nov. 12th & Thurs. Nov. 13th: 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Fri. Nov. 14th: 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 am
(any orders not picked up by 11:00 am Friday will be put in the freezer at church)

**COST IS
\$8 FOR
3 LARGE
ROUNDS**



Sign up at the link below to volunteer or donate. There are also sign-up sheets at each church. <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050D48A8A829ABFE3-52176809-lefse>
Contact Jean Christen with questions.

**15TH ANNUAL CENTURIANS
BOWLING FOR FOOD
8 PIN TAP TOURNAMENT**

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6TH
At Dodger Bowl Lanes (318 King St • Dodgeville, WI)

**\$80 PER 5 PERSON TEAM
SHIFTS START AT 11AM AND 2PM
ALL PROCEEDS GO TO LOCAL PANTRY'S
BRING FOOD ITEM FOR CHANCE
TO WIN RAFFLE PRIZE**

**CALL OR VISIT
DODGER BOWL
TO SIGN UP 608-935-2595**



Shannon Marion will be our
guest speaker

on Sunday, November 23rd.



Confirmation Class Schedule for November 2025



5: Blanchardville site for New Testament Learning
 12: Blanchardville site for Mission Work; plastic mat weaving and other projects
 19: Blanchardville site for New Testament Learning
 26: No Class

We will be asking for the students to help out with the Secret Santa sale on December 13th.



- **Quake! Weekend Youth Event for Confirmation Students**
- February 13-15, 2025 — Wisconsin Dells
- Sign-up by November 9th for Early Bird Registration \$99
- Talk to Pastor Chris with questions and to sign-up



The **Pecatonica Food Pantry** is open these dates in November:

Saturday, 11/1 9-10:30am

Wednesday, 11/12 6-7pm

Saturday, 11/15 9-10:30am

At the Blanchardville Church site

Donations can be dropped off anytime at either church site. If questions, please contact Tiffany Bethke at 608-212-9028 or Jean Christen at 608-574-1175 or email

The Pecatonica Food Pantry is being used more heavily than ever and we're asking for volunteers as well as food/monetary donations. We need additional volunteer workers to staff. We are open the 1st and 3rd Saturdays from 9:00 to 10:30 a.m. and the 2nd Wednesday of each month from 6-7 pm. Please contact Jean Christian (608-574-1175) or Tiffany Bethke 608-212-9028 to learn more about how you can volunteer. The food pantry could use the following specific items. They may be dropped off at either church site.

Pancake mix	Ramen noodles	Canned Potatoes	Dish Soap
Peanut butter and jelly	Spaghetti sauce	Hamburger Helper	Meat - beef, pork or chicken - we have a freezer
Canned Tuna	Canned Chicken	Instant Potatoes	
Juices	Laundry Soap	Toilet paper	
Small containers of vegetable oil and holiday baking items			

Attendees: Pastor Chris, Teri Green, Micah Busser

Agenda items discussed:

- Gathering Expedition - no one is able to attend the event, so we will not be in attendance.
- Quake - February 13th - 15th; Early Bird Registration until November 13th. Confirmation students interested in attending should contact Pastor Chris.
- Confirmation - 11 students this year
- Sunday School has kicked off and is going well.
- The Secret Santa event is coming up on December 13th.
- Instead of seeking a Youth Leader, we are looking for individuals interested in being the point of contact/lead person for various events (i.e. Youth Gathering, Mission Trips).
- We are looking for 2 individuals to join the Board of Education

FINANCIAL REPORT September 2025**Submitted by: Becky Johnson**

God's glorious abundance allows us to continue providing helpful ministries like Sunday worship, Sunday School, and Confirmation. Our recent resources for continuing these ministries include:

- August 's income of \$13,977.49 and expenses of \$13,473.83 – a surplus of \$503.66
- YTD Income of \$145,698.62 and expenses of \$153,038.55 – a need of \$7,339.93

BOARD OF TRUSTEES REPORT October 13, 2025**Submitted by: Jay Massey**

All in attendance were Pastor Chris Strohm, Dan Hittesdorf, Neal Klassy, Jay Massey.

Minutes of Discussion.

- The Eastside Door has been installed, with an outside Awning roof. This was a long project in the making with people working real hard on it to have it come to a near completion.
- We have Received a Bid from B & B Quality Building Restoration with an itemized Job description Tuck Pointing of Bl. Ch. Estimates for Tuck Pointing can be hard to get and will be looking into others to come.
- We talked about Stained Glass Window Repairs and looking to have a Meeting with Willet Stained Glass Studios at the end of this Month to talk about Stain Glass Window
- Repairs we have for Blanchardville and Hollandale Luth. Churches along with ¼" Acrylic Covering for Storm Protection.
- Continuing Discussions of other Ch. Projects.

2025 Council Members:

President:	Vacant Position		
Vice President:	Marcie Domine	608-220-4272	marcie.domine@yahoo.com
Secretary:	Michele Kittleson	608-574-5247	kittleson2@tds.net
Treasurer:	Becky Johnson	608-523-1507	rbljcpa@gmail.com

Trustees:

Dan Hittesdorf	608-558-7338	premiermarlys@yahoo.com
Jay Massey	608-967-2189	ghrbsjm@gmail.com
Neal Klassy	608-558-7171	nsklassy@gmail.com

Deacons:

Judy Watrud	608-523-4795	rewjaw@tds.net
Lisa Toay	608-574-1489	ltoay6@gmail.com
Vacant position		

Board of Education:

Amanda Anderson	608-235-0886	ahughesfamily@yahoo.com
Teri Green	608-214-8904	green5@tds.net
Micah Busser	608-636-9102	richtermi2812@gmail.com

Council meets once monthly, the 4th Monday of each month at 7 p.m. alternating between both sites. If you have an item you'd like added to the agenda, please talk with any Council member.

New Hope Lutheran Council Meeting
October 27, 2025 7:00 p.m.
Blanchardville Site

- Becky Johnson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Present were Becky, Pastor Chris, Chuck Meyer, Judy Watrud, Jay Massey, Neal Klassy, and Michele Kittleson. As there wasn't a quorum, no business could be approved.
- Pastor Chris lead us in devotions based on a reading from 2nd Timothy.
- Approval of the minutes of the September meeting was tabled until November.
- Becky gave the treasurer's report. A member gave an offering specifically to Portico of \$1000. Another member gave a no interest loan of \$9000 so the amount owed to Portico is current. She also stated that our payment to the Synod is behind three months.
- There were no comments on the Board reports.
- Pastor reported that there are eleven students in confirmation. They went to Dodgeville for an event on food scarcity. In November they will be working in Mission Central one week. December will be helping pack Cheer boxes and a field trip to Temple Beth El in Madison.
- He is planning on a Stewardship program for the month of November. There will be email and snail mail letters to all members with a start date of November 9. Commitment cards will be collected on November 30.
- There was no correspondence, no transfers and no visitors attending the meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Due to lack of a quorum the Lefse Sale Profit Donation was tabled to November.
- The Congregational Meeting will be at 11:00 a.m. on Sunday, December 14 at Blanchardville.
- The agenda will be election of Council members; approval of the 2026 Budget and finding delegates to the Synod Assembly.
- Shannon Marion will be guest speaker on November 23.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Positions to be filled on Council are President, Vice President, 2 Deacons, 1 Trustee and 2 Board of Education members.
- Changes to the Mission and Vision Statement was tabled for lack of quorum.
- Capitol Projects Report: Pastor said one of the new boilers isn't working correctly. The Company they were purchased from is ordering parts at no charge.
- Chuck reported that Kevin Erickson will be finishing painting. The final detail is the push bar which is still not in. He will continue to look for someone to do the tuck pointing next summer.

The next meeting will be November 17th which is the 3rd Monday.
Closed with the Lord's Prayer.



Lost at the church supper, my wire whisk that has a wooden handle with my initials JW on it. If found, please bring it back to the Blanchardville site and I will pick it up from there.
Thanks, Judy Watrud.

GIVE
thanks
TO THE
Lord;
FOR HE IS GOOD.
PSALM 107:1, NIV

WHAT IS ACH GIVING?

It is a system for automatic withdrawal from your checking/savings account and deposited automatically into the church account. ACH (automated clearing house) forms are available in the church office and online. Monthly withdrawal options are available.. Ask the office for more details!



Weekly Bible Study with Pastor Chris every **Tuesday from 8-9 am** at the River Bend Café in Blanchardville. The Bible Study focuses on the upcoming readings for Sunday. This is open to anyone who would like to dive a little deeper into the Bible. Bring your Bible. Bring your thoughts. Bring your questions.

Sunday, November 2, 2025 — All Saints Sunday

(bible study Tuesday, October 28)

First Reading: Daniel 7:1-3, 15-18

Psalm: Psalm 149

Second Reading: Ephesians 1:11-23

Gospel: Luke 6:20-31

Sunday, November 9, 2025

(bible study Tuesday, November 4)

First Reading: Job 19:23-27a

Psalm: Psalm 17:1-9

Second Reading: 2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17

Gospel: 20:27-38

Sunday, November 16, 2025

(bible study Tuesday, November 11)

First Reading: Malachi 4:1-2a

Psalm: Psalm 98

Second Reading: 2 Thessalonians 3:6-13

Gospel: Luke 21:5-19

Sunday, November 23, 2025

(bible study Tuesday, November 18)

First Reading: Jeremiah 23:1-6

Psalm: Psalm 46

Second Reading: Colossians 1:11-20

Gospel: Luke 23:33-43

Sunday, November 30, 2025 — First Sunday of Advent

(bible study Tuesday, November 25)

First Reading: Isaiah 2:1-5

Psalm: Psalm 122

Second Reading: 13:11-14

Gospel: Matthew 24:36-44



We remember our members & friends, the sick and the homebound, those recovering or grieving, especially Joe Jameson (friend of Bev Lien), Andy Haffele, Maggie Cernek (daughter of Sara & Matthew Cernek), Mary Gobrecht (mother of Kim Watrud), Doris Haldiman, Steve Eastman, Ruth Vamstad, Lynette Stansfield, Sue Anderson, Rick Fredrickson, Roger Strohm (Pastor Chris's Dad), Stuart Vamstad, Josalyn Riha, Katie Herbert (niece of Pastor Chris), Lisa Hartz (daughter of Elaine & Marv Engelke), Bev Lien, Dave Hermanson, Karen Beecher, Vicki Hughes, Roger Kittleson, Donna Arneson, Lyle Klosterman, Mary Carr, Doris Hermanson, Carl and Patty Schneider, Richard & Peggy Gilbertson, Carole Zweifel.

If you know someone who'd like to be added to our prayer list, please contact the office at 608-523-4239

Mission Mondays

The Mission Room is open Mondays from 1-3 p.m. and again from 6-8 p.m. Mission opportunities are set up in Mission Central along with instructions on what needs to be done. People are encouraged to stop by when it works for them, to help with various missions.

Feel free to come whenever and as often as you'd like to be a part of "God's Work/Our Hands".

Please continue to bring in your clean plastic grocery bags which will be made into mats for the homeless.

NOVEMBER

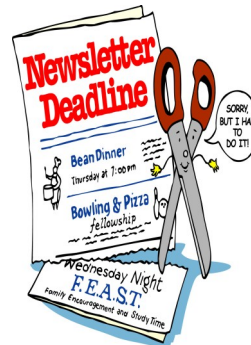
Birthdays and Anniversaries

Sue	Retrum	November 1
Jeffrey	Saether	November 5
Mary	Gilbertson	November 5
Aaliyah	Bedward-Pearson	November 5
Margaret	Gilbertson	November 6
Roger	Gilbertson	November 6
Evan	Olson	November 7
Robin	Gilbertson	November 9
Jeanne	Lisser	November 10
Kayla	Barnes	November 15
Elaine	Engelke	November 15
Aubree	Zweifel	November 15
Nancy	Meyer	November 18
Otto	Wyse	November 19
Keegan	Zweifel	November 20
Jordyn	Norton	November 20
Rhia	Strohm	November 20
Robert Jr.	Watrud	November 21
Andrew	Whitford-Holey	November 22
Rebecca	Johnson	November 24
Patricia	Schneider	November 24
John	Doyle	November 24
Brittney	Erickson	November 25
Chris	Gilbertson	November 26
Melissa	Legler	November 27
Reynold	Anderson	November 29
Carl	Olson	November 30

Dennis & Vicki	Powell	11/07/1970
Stephen & Linda	Dieckhoff	11/11/1972
Chuck & Nancy	Meyer	11/14/1992
Lisa & Dan	Toay	11/20/2004

The birthday and anniversary list is run from a report showing active members.

If we've missed a birthday, or anniversary, please contact the office at newhopeoffice@tds.net or 608-523-4239



Please submit information for the December Visitor to the church office by Thursday, November 13th.

