HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH

# FYI

**September 2026**

Our Mission: To be a living example of the love of Jesus Christ.

## LOOKING AHEAD

**Lunches with Luther Returns**
Tuesday Sept 8th

**Adult Choir Practice Begins**
Wed Sept 9th, 7pm

**Jazz Worship in the Park**
September 13, 10am

**Disciples in Training Begins**
September 20th, 10am

**Confirmation Begins**
September 20th, 12pm

Hope is a Stephen Ministry Congregation.




Anyone who has worked with children or youth as a parent, grandparent, teacher or coach has experienced the exasperated cry "No Fair!" In Matthew, Jesus' parables and teachings led those around him to a similar visceral response. While we might cry out when things are not fair, we are also reminded that we are not promised fairness.

Instead, we are given absolute, undeserved, and unearned grace.

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|---|---|---|
| 09/06/26 | Why? | Matthew 18:15-20 |
| 09/13/26 | How Many? | Matthew 18:21-35 |
| 09/20/26 | How Much? | Matthew 20:1-16 |
| 09/27/26 | Which One? | Matthew 21:23-32 |

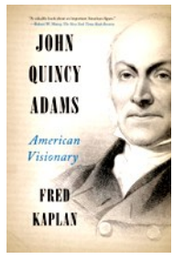



### Lunches with Luther Begins Again

**September 8th** our study group led by Pastor Kevin returns! Bring your lunch to eat together at 11:30am, and the study itself starts at noon. We'll be studying "The Bible With and Without Jesus," looking into how Judaism and Christianity look at the same stories differently.

### Book Club

Book club returns again on **September 8th at 1pm** after Lunches with Luther! This time around we'll be reading *John Quincy Adams: American Visionary* by Fred Kaplan, which is a heavy tome so we wanted to let you know as far in advance as possible! We'd love to have you join us!







### Adult Choir returns!!

Adult choir practice returns Sept 9th at 7pm and meeting weekly after that! Feel free to join us!




### Cards for Caregivers

Our caregivers tend to our homebound members, those who can't visit in person but still want to be involved in the church. One of the ways that they do this is by sending "Thinking of You" cards. If you have any "thinking of you" cards, we'd greatly appreciate donations! Small things like this let our homebound members know that they're still loved and cared for.

Hope is booked to volunteer for **Food for Thought Friday September 11th from 6 to 7 p.m. at Lott Industries** (3350 Hill Ave, near Byrne Rd). Here we pack bagged lunches that another volunteer group will hand out to those who need them the day after! This is a meaningful way to show up for your neighbor even if you may never see them. You can park in the circle drive or bus lane on the right side of the building.




We are looking forward to another year of partnering with Old Orchard Elementary and providing food for children with food insecurity on the weekends. The first bags should be going home on the third week in September. Right now, we need help to **restock our food pantry** after the summer. You can bring the items to worship and leave them on the white shelves (or in the grocery cart during the outdoor service). Financial contributions will help us purchase other needed items.

Current needs:

- Boxes of Macaroni & Cheese
- Cups of Applesauce or Fruit
- Cans of soup
- Cans of Pasta
- Cans of Vegetables
- 16oz Jars of Peanut butter




At Hope, faith formation for preschool and elementary school children is called Disciples in Training or DIT. We will kick-off a new year on September 20. Children aged 3 through 6th grade gather downstairs on Sunday at 10am for an opening with music and prayer. Parents or family are invited to join for the opening as well. Then we split children into age groups for Bible lessons and activities. Parents should then pick them up downstairs between 10:45 & 10:50. To register your child or with questions, contact Pastor Kristin (pastorkristin@hopetoledo.net)




Our Guardian Angel Ministry is being re-imagined this year! For years, this ministry has matched DIT children with an adult in the congregation who will pray for them and send them notes throughout the year. This year, we will be re-imagining it to find ways for children and adults to form stronger relationships and connections throughout the year. More information will be available in October




We will be starting our first communion class in late September. If you have a child in 2nd or 3rd grade that has not taken First Communion or a younger child who is interested in receiving communion, please contact Pastor Kristin.




Our high school youth group calendar for the fall is being finalized. We have exciting service projects, fun activities, and faith formation planned for the coming year. Make sure to contact Pastor Kristin if you are not already on the youth group email list!




Confirmation at Hope is a 2-year faith formation program for our junior high students. The first gathering of the year will be Sunday, September 20 from noon – 2pm. If you have a child interested in starting this year, please contact Pastor Kristin.




**ELCA Youth Gathering - Save the Date**

Next summer the ELCA will hold the next youth gathering in Minneapolis, MN. This event occurs every 3 years. All youth currently in grades 8-12 will be eligible to attend. The dates of the event are June 28-July 2, 2027, however with travel, our dates could be June 26-July 3. More information will be available soon and registration will be later this fall! This is a fantastic opportunity for youth to see just how big the greater church is and experience a faith event with thousands of other youth and adults.