



HOPE UNITED  
CHURCH OF CHRIST  
the church by the lake

## DIGITAL NEWSLETTER

Issue 0323 - March & April 2023



**CONNECT. NURTURE. PRACTICE.**

210 Michaels St | PO Box 28 | Cochrane, WI 54622

[hopeunitedcochrane.org](http://hopeunitedcochrane.org)

the church by the lake

608.248.2481

We are excited to announce our  
official web site!

**LET US KNOW WHAT YOU THINK**



Keep up to date on events, worship changes, and access newsletters. We will be adding more information and photos, archiving past newsletters, and linking with our facebook page (hopeucccochrane) in the coming months. Let us know what you think.

**HOPEUNITEDCOCHRANE.ORG**



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## Pastor's Letter:

We have entered the season of Lent. As a child I saw Lent as seven weeks I had to give up something I liked, usually chocolate and later Diet Pepsi, and meatless Fridays. When I was in my mid-twenties in the UCC, I switched to trying to give up what I viewed as bad habits, such as swearing, or too much time watching TV. Most ended in failure, and even if I did somehow hold out until Easter, I would usually go back to the way things were before Lent began. I feel that the reason these attempts didn't last beyond Easter was because I viewed Lent through a distorted lens. I dreaded the approach of Lent. I thought I had to spend the next seven weeks feeling guilty and ashamed about how bad I was that Jesus had to die. It was a time of penance for my mistakes and failings, a psychological flogging to echo the flogging Jesus would take on Good Friday.

Now I view Lent differently. Lent comes from the Old German word for "springtime" or "new beginnings." So now I see Lent as a time for some "spring cleaning." Just as each year we go into those hidden corners of our homes to clear out all the dust bunnies and whatever else has accumulated there unseen, Lent is a time set apart to look at ourselves and our lives, see what has accumulated that is hindering relationship with God and with others. Fasting, praying, and giving during this time isn't penance. They are Lent's tools to free up our spirit and lives by turning our attention from "me" and "ours" towards God and service in love (not servitude) towards others.

Lent is intended to impact the rest of the year. These seven weeks can help us to see where "death" has crept into the way we live our lives, and then provide ways to let go of it, trusting God will lead us in the next steps. Steps that bring us closer to God and to each other. Through these tools God works to reconcile us with God, with each other, and even with our true selves. They prepare us to receive the joy and abundance of love that God offers us on Easter.

When Lent is over, well, sometimes we may be a little more diligent in getting those spiritual dust bunnies out of the corner every week. Or we may forget or decide it's too much trouble. But Lent will come again, and maybe that will be the year you can let go of what blocks you, even just a small piece. Know that even before you do, you are always held in the love and care of God, who longs to draw all Creation closer, so came to us in Emmanuel, Jesus.

God's grace and peace.

**Pastor Deb Kunkel**

# Bible Study

## Jesus' Journey Towards The Cross

Lent itself is a time of spending time with the story of Jesus' journey towards the cross, as well as the impact his ministry still has today. As part of diving deeper into that story, I am offering a 6-Week Bible Study at St. John's Church on the story of the last week of Jesus' life as told through the Gospel of Matthew. I hope you will join me. ~ Pator Deb

Tuesday, February 28, 2023  
Tuesday, March 07, 2023

Tuesday, March 14, 2023  
Tuesday, March 21, 2023

Tuesday, March 28, 2023  
Tuesday, April 04, 2023

### ST. JOHN'S CHURCH

Starts @ 1:00pm  
303 S Hill Street  
Fountain City, WI

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# Mission

## CONNECT. NURTURE. PRACTICE.

We extend hospitality to all as a sign of God's inclusive love. No matter who you are, or where you are on your spiritual journey, you are welcome here!

We CONNECT through shared life experiences and search for a spiritual presence in our lives.

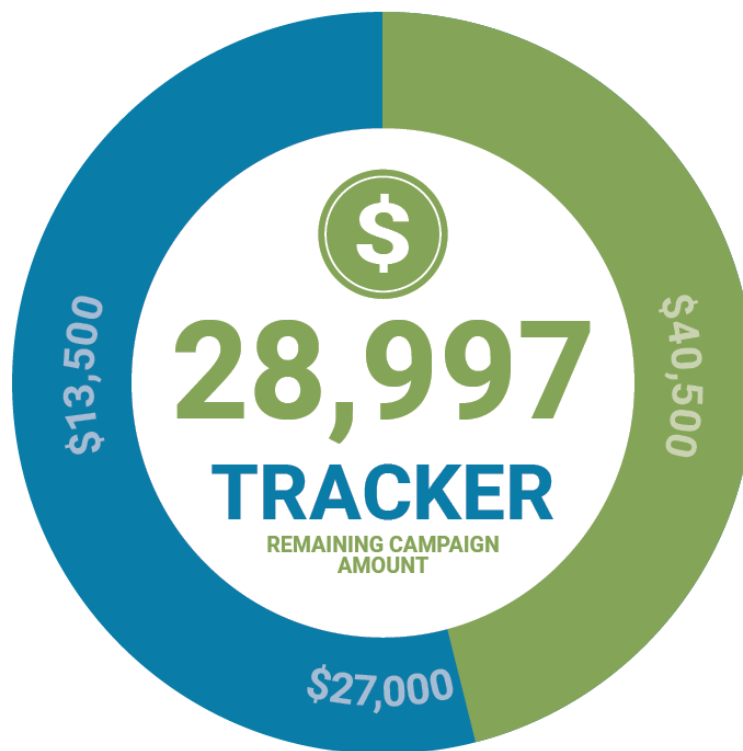
We NURTURE spiritual growth for all ages by encouraging curiosity about Jesus Christ's message and how it relates to our world today.

The Spirit invites us to PRACTICE the language of hope.

# Lifting Up Hope For All

## Here Is Your Chance To Help

While the Capital Campaign has ended we are still working to pay for Lifting Up Hope for All accessibility addition. If you are interested in helping any donation amount is appreciated for this ambitious undertaking.



**LAST UPDATED**  
**03.21.23**

# Roast Beef Fundraiser

**Saturday, March 18, 2023**

Hope United Church will hold a Roast Beef Dinner Fundraiser on Saturday, March 18, 2023 from 4:00pm to 6:00pm in Cochrane, WI. Dine-in or take out. Tickets will be available and at the Church. Cost per meal is \$15.00. The dinner includes roast beef, mashed potatoes, gravy, corn, dinner roll/butter, beverage and dessert. Proceeds from this fundraiser will go towards Lifting Up Hope. This was a successful event last year and we have high hopes that it will be even bigger this time. You may order tickets in advance by calling Debra at 715-495-5085 or Hope United Church 608-248-2481. Blessings.

HOPE UNITED CHURCH

4-00pm to 6:00pm  
210 Michaels Street  
Cochrane, WI

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# One Great Hour of Sharing

**Saturday, March 19, 2023**

Theme: It's Time to Share: One Great Hour Of Sharing (OGHS) – Is a special UCC offering during Lent. Gifts to One Great Hour Of Sharing provide immediate aid and long term support to people experiencing hunger, thirst, disaster, or crisis around the world. OGHS envelopes will be in Sunday bulletin.

HOPE UNITED CHURCH

Starts @ 10:30am  
210 Michaels Street  
Cochrane, WI

# Pizza Fundraiser

## Order Your Pizzas Today!

Hope United Church FAMOUS pizzas will be on sale! All pizzas will be made fresh and packaged. We will again be offering the deluxe pizza option with sausage, pepperoni, mushrooms, onions, green, red, yellow peppers. NEW THIS YEAR - BREAKFAST PIZZAS IN 12". This is one of our BIGGEST fundraisers that helps support activities at Hope United Church.

16" PIZZAS - \$14.00/EA					12" PIZZAS - \$10.00/EA					
CHEESE	PEPPERONI	SAUSAGE	PEPP/SAUS	DELUXE *	BREAKFAST*	CHEESE	PEPPERONI	SAUSAGE	PEPP/SAUS	DELUXE *

**DELUXE:** CHEESE, PEPPERONI, SAUSAGE, MUSHROOMS, ONIONS, GREEN, RED, YELLOW PEPPERS.  
**BREAKFAST:** SAUSAGE GRAVY, EGGS, BACON, SAUSAGE, CHEESE.

**NEW THIS YEAR - BREAKFAST PIZZAS IN 12" | BUY 10 PIZZAS GET 1 FREE.**  
**PIZZAS ARE ALL SHRINK WRAPPED FOR FREEZING.**

[hopeunitedcochrane.org/pizza.php](http://hopeunitedcochrane.org/pizza.php)

### PIZZA ORDERS DUE:

Sunday, April 9, 2023

### PIZZA PICKUP:

Saturday, April 22, 2023

3:00pm - 4:00pm

Hope United Cochrane

210 Michaels Street

Cochrane, WI



# Palm Sunday Worship

**Sunday, April 2, 2023**

Hope United Church will be having Palm Sunday Worship in Cochrane, Wisconsin on Sunday, April 2, 2023 at 10:30am.

HOPE UNITED CHURCH

Worship @ 10:30am

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# Maundy Thursday

**Thursday, April 6, 2023**

Hope United Church is invited for a Group Worship with St John's Church in Fountain City, Wisconsin on Friday, April 7, 2023 at TBA.

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH

Worship @ TBA

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# Good Friday

**Friday, April 7, 2023**

St John's Church is invited for a Group Worship with Hope United Church in Cochrane, Wisconsin on Thursday, April 6, 2023 at TBA.

HOPE UNITED CHURCH

Worship @ TBA



# Eagle Valley Church

**Sunday, April 9, 2023**

There will be an open invitation for all members of St. John's Church and Hope United Church to attend on Sunday, April 9, 2023 @ 6:30am.

The Church in Eagle Valley was historically preserved and donated to St. John's in 2003. Friends of Eagle Valley Community Church, an independent ecumenical committee, manages its use and maintains the restoration. As it is now named, this Community Church is available for any church to use for worship services, memorials, or weddings. In 2011 a pavilion with tables was added on the church grounds to accommodate gatherings of church or family.

## EAGLE VALLEY COMMUNITY CHURCH

Worship @ 6:30am  
S2664 Co Rd G  
Fountain City, WI

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# Easter Sunday Worship

**Sunday, April 9, 2023**

Hope United Church will host the Annual Potluck & Egg Hunt after the Easter Worship Service on Sunday, April 9, 2023 at 10:30am. All are welcome to join us for all activities.

## HOPE UNITED CHURCH

Worship @ 10:30am  
Potluck & Egg Hunt  
Cochrane, WI

# Fifth Sunday

**Sunday, April 30, 2023**

St. John's Church is invited to join Worship Services with Hope United Church on Sunday, April 30, 2023 at 10:30am in Cochrane, Wisconsin.

HOPE UNITED CHURCH

Worship @ 10:30am

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# God2L Education

**Children's Christian Education**

Children from 4 years old to 6th grade meet weekly during the school year on Wednesdays after school. Each week they play, enjoy a snack, pray, study a Scripture lesson aided by our "Picture the Bible" materials and learn with fun hands on activities.

SEPTEMBER 2022 THRU MAY 2023

Starts Wednesday, September 7, 2022

Every Wednesday | Starting 3:15pm to 5:00pm

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# Online Calendar

**Keep Informed**

Visit us online for up-to-date information on special events and Hope United Cochrane news.

[hopeunitedcochrane.org/calendar.html](https://hopeunitedcochrane.org/calendar.html)