

Chippewa Falls Mission Coalition Minutes – Monday, October 5, 2026

PLACE: English Lutheran Church of Bateman, 20588 Co. Hwy. X, Chippewa Falls

TIME: 5:00 p.m.

* Introductions and Prayer Requests

* Opened Meeting With Prayer. Special prayer requests for Mark Ashley, Gayle Buhr, Bradley Ritger and the Sober October-Fest. (Tom Drehmel)

* **Guest Speaker:** Shauna Hanson with “Helping Hands For Our Children” was scheduled to present but was unable to attend due to a sick grandchild. We will reschedule Shauna for a future CFMC meeting.

However, Shauna did send us the following information about attempting to provide 100 Thanksgiving meals for families in need in our community. This will be the 13th year HHFOC has done this. **They will be giving the meals away on Nov. 23rd.**

Items Needed For The Thanksgiving meals

100 boxes of instant potatoes

100 pkgs. instant gravy

100 boxes of stuffing

75 cans of cranberries

100 turkeys (\$15 each)

OR Donations to cover the cost of these items

Products can be dropped off ...

Mondays 6:00 pm at 1201 S. Hastings Way, Eau Claire ...

OR, Burger King on Craig Rd., Eau Claire, Any Time ...

OR, Contact Shauna and she will make it happen ...

helpinghandsforourchildren@gmail.com ... 608-799-0178

Checks can be made out to:

HHFOC

Memo: Thanksgiving Dinner

P.O. Box 445

Fall Creek, WI 54742

OR PayPal ... Helpinghandsforourchildren@gmail.com

OR Venmo: @HHFOC

* **Mission Update:** Hope Village/Tiny Houses (Kyle Skipton)

-- We welcomed Kyle as the new Executive Director for Hope Village, replacing recently retired Mike Cohoon.

-- Indianhead/Hope Village Apartments ribbon-cutting was September 29th. It features 26 efficiency apartments with rents based on HUD affordable housing guidelines. They will start leasing these apartments within the next few weeks.

- Our Hope Village Resale shop will also be located in the Indianhead/Hope Village Apartments. (Stay Tuned)
- Two more Duplexes at Hope Village are scheduled to be completed this fall, with the new Six-Plex scheduled for completion in April of 2027.
- Currently no fundraisers are scheduled for the upcoming year. We are looking for ideas.
- Currently 9 of 11 Tiny Homes are filled, with a waiting list of 18.

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- * **Mission Update:** “Lighten Your Load” Family Laundry Mission. (Gayle Klitzke)
 - All volunteer spots are filled thru the end of the year. But, if you are new to volunteering for LYL, this is a good time to do it. You will be partnered with two experienced volunteers so you can learn the ropes. Contact Gayle if you’re interested ... gayleklitzke@hotmail.com
 - Volunteers do NOT do the laundry – just give the quarters and supplies. No limit to how many loads. Volunteers are also encouraged to visit with the guests. That social contact is just as important as doing laundry.
 - Facebook group: <https://www.facebook.com/lightenyour>

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- * **Mission Update:** Love Chippewa/Touched Twice Event -- Sept. 26th (Perry Polnaszek)
 - Love Chippewa almost didn’t happen this year until Dr. Lona Cook with Cook Chiropractic Center offered her building and her Chiropractic services to host Love Chippewa. We were also able to use the Hope Village Community Building located right behind Dr. Cook’s office.
 - In addition to Chiropractic services we also offered vision, medical, haircuts, prayers and lunch provided by Landmark Christian Church.
 - Because of the “last minute” nature of Love Chippewa this year our numbers were down. We touched the lives of 13 guests, which is always a positive. As was noted at the meeting, Christ started with just 12, and look what He was able to accomplish.

- * **Other Business/Announcements –**

- **Oct. 10th (Saturday) 3:00 -6:00 pm** -- Sober October-Fest at Phoenix Park, 330 Riverfront Terrace, Eau Claire. Alcohol-free event featuring an afternoon of live music with the Shillelagh Lads, dancing and powerful stories of lives being changed. Celebrate freedom, hope and a fresh start. Free Event. Contact Perry Polnaszek for more info ... ppolnaszek@me.com

- **Oct. 17th (Saturday) 7:00 pm** – “Rock The Dome” YMCA Fundraiser at Loopy’s Grill & Saloon. Music provided by Boogie and the Yo-Yoz. Food and Fun. Cost is \$25. Tickets are only available online ... <https://www.ymca-cv.org/rockthedome> All ticket sales and a portion of the bar sales go towards benefiting the Chippewa Falls YMCA Annual Campaign that provides scholarship memberships to individuals and families in the Chippewa Valley who need financial assistance.

-- **Oct. 20th (Tuesday) 9:00 am – 2:00 pm** – “Operation Winter Ready” at the Chippewa Falls Public Library featuring XCEL Energy’s Red Truck. There will be a number of community services there to provide information on preparing for the winter months.

-- **Oct. 22nd (Thursday) 3:30 – 6:00 pm** – Halloween at the Chippewa YMCA. This FREE outdoor event features inflatables, community booths, games, raffles, giveaways, and fun for all ages. Guests can also gather information on health, safety, and wellness from Chippewa Valley organizations.

-- **Oct. 23rd (Friday) 6:30 p.m.** – Landmark Christian Church, 4140 126th St., Chippewa Falls, cp will be showing Episode 1 of Season 6 of “The Chosen.” At this time they are just doing the one episode.

-- **Oct. 27th (Tuesday) 5:00 – 7:00 pm** – Community Foundation of Chippewa County “Seedlings to Shade Trees” Social at Fest Valley Event Center in Cadott. Celebrating 25 years of community impact and reflecting on the lasting difference that charitable giving and grantmaking have made throughout our region. \$35 donation per attendee. For more info ... <https://www.yourlegacyforever.org/events/>

-- **Oct. 28th – Dec. 16th (Wednesdays) 3:00 p.m.** – First Showing of the brand new 6th Season of “The Chosen” at First Presbyterian Church, 130 West Central St., Chippewa Falls. All Episodes.

-- **Nov. 7th (Saturday) 4:00 – 8:00 pm** – Everlasting Hope 7th Annual Awareness & Fundraising Event for Rescued & Redeemed, which provides wrap-around, trauma-informed services to survivors of sex trafficking in the Chippewa Valley. Silent auction, games, speakers, food trucks at the Eau Claire Event District – High County. Tickets \$15 online, \$20 at the door. For more info ... <https://www.rescuedandredeemed.org/everlasting-hope-annual-event>

* **Next Meeting – Monday, Dec. 7, 2026 ... First Presbyterian Church, C.F.**
Guest Speaker: Perry Polnaszek, The Alcohol Experiment and Celebrate Recovery
No November Meeting ... currently meeting every other month (Even Months)

* **Close with Lord’s Prayer/Our Father**

Respectfully Submitted,
Tom Drehmel

CFMC Mission Statement: “Faithful people joining hearts and hands to be God’s Love in action for our neighbors near and far.”

CFMC Bible Verse: Psalm 60:12 – “With God’s Help We Will Do Mighty Things.

WEBSITE: cfmissioncoalition.org -- **FACEBOOK:** facebook.com/cfmissioncoalition