

HOPE LUTHERAN ELCA

Hope Journeys Forward


*HOPE is called by God to look beyond ourselves.
We walk together in faith, treasuring all people and sharing
with them the love, hope and acceptance that is in Christ.*

January 27, 2012

The Annual Meeting of the Congregation was held last Sunday, January 22 after the worship service. Thanks to all who attended and showed your support of HOPE. We are excited about the good things that God has in store for HOPE during 2012. Special thanks goes to Sammy Brill for her service as President during the transition to a new pastor. The election results are in.....

- | | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| President | Jerry Brandt |
| Vice President | Faye Perkins |
| Secretary | Phil Klacan |
| Treasurer | Milo Opegard |
| Synod Assembly | Sammy Brill and Jerry Brandt |
| Nominating Committee | Faye Perkins, Cara Getschel, Jim Pratt, Linda Jacobson |
| Audit Committee | Jane Terkelsen, Lisa Rydland |

| Leading Us in Worship | | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| | January 29 | February 5 | February 12 |
| | Setting #4 | NTF | NTF |
| Presiding Minister | Pastor Carol Peterson | Pastor Sandra Johnson | Pastor Sandra Johnson |
| Assisting Minister | Gorden Hedahl | Bill Berndt | Mike Miller |
| Pianist | Phil Klacan | Phil Klacan | Phil Klacan |
| Reader & Prayers | Bill Berndt | Linda Jacobson | Dave Peters |
| Ushers | Joe McIntosh & John Hamilton | Mark & Laura Anderson | David Hendrickson & Steve Koecher |
| Special Music | | Here's HOPE Folk | |
| Communion Preparation | Helen Traynor | Darcy Boock | Helen Traynor |
| Communion Assistants | Darcy Boock & Karen Brohaugh | John & Karen Hamilton | Nancy Miller & Volunteer |
| Acolyte | Kaye Anderson | Jack Stang | Quinn Huhnke |
| Coffee | Jean Loudon | Kathy Scott | Melissa Kolb |
| Bread Bakers | Karen Hamilton | Jan Gerber | Jan Gerber |
| Altar Flowers | Nancy Peters | | Melissa Kolb |



Sunday, February 5th, is Food Pantry Sunday

We ask that each member bring one (or more!) non-perishable food items to church and place them in the red bins. Monetary contributions are always welcome too!

Pastor's Letter

It is in my nature to see the events of life unfold in positive ways; I am a glass half full kind of a gal. But I am frustrated. A recent conversation with family members left me dreading the upcoming election year, and that is why I am frustrated.

This note comes on the morning of the State of the Union Address so without knowing how the evening will unfold I still have an idea of how it might. There will be displays of partisanship that, to some degree, are completely understandable. After all, we are a people with diverse backgrounds and points of view. The issues with which I struggle on both sides of the aisle are a seeming unwillingness to listen to or consider the perspective of another, left or right, young or old, gay or straight, rich or poor, black, white...

So I will face this frustration with prayer. Through prayer God will shape me and realign my frustration in such a way that healthy and helpful change can begin to take place within my own being, within my circle of family and friends, within the community in which I live, and beyond.

I pray that we, as individuals who make up this remarkable nation, will turn the corner that leads away from conflict-ridden conversation to caring and constructive communication. With God's help change can begin with me and in God's way my actions can impact others in compassionate ways.

Please join me in prayer. Even without sitting together we can still pray together. In your daily prayer, as you begin or end your day, pray for fair and helpful discourse in our political lives, and in all areas of our lives, as we journey forward in faith.

Pastor Sandy

HOPE Confirmation News

This past Wednesday Pastor Frank of our host church, Servant of the Shepherd, joined us to share the story of their ministry to the community. We learned, from their stories of experience, that sharing God's good news doesn't stay put but makes its way to distant places. That is as it should be. Good news of God's love should travel.

It was good to have parents join us for this class. It is our hope that caring conversation will come out from what we all learned. We are grateful to Pastor Frank and Servant of the Shepherd for their compassionate leadership.



Listening!!

Thinking!!



Sharing God's good news of love



Prayers are requested for:
 Kris Allen (friend of Linda Jacobson & Bill Warner), Zora Anderson (HOPE member), Gordon Brandt (Jerry's brother), Amanda Brown, Jody Fink, George Field (HOPE member), Avery Gallagher, Thomas Gresen (Amber Carlson's Uncle), Ruth Hilleren (Sue Warren's mother), June Hirsch, Cindy Hogan, Gloria Jacobson (Linda Jacobson's mother), Mike Jacobson (Linda Jacobson's brother), Lynn Jermal (friend of Linda Jacobson), Tammy Johnson (friend of Tonja Lesmeister), Living Water Lutheran Church (Cameron, WI), Pat Lubich (Jeff Rodewald's aunt), Hannah Manche & the Manche Family (friends of Teresa Ginn), Chris Pageant (friend of Jeff Carlson), Elaine Peterson (Sharon Paulson's mother), Patrice Rasmussen (friend of Anne Anderson), Ervin Schmidt (Lisa Rydland's father), the Schoen family (Jeff Rodewald's cousins) and Matthew Schultz (Pastor Carol's brother).

We pray for our sister parish, the Mwanza Mission Area in Malawi that they may grow in Spirit and grace. We also pray for our sister synod Sinodo Centro Campanha Sul in Brazil. We also pray for Robins Nest Children's Home & Melody House Home for Girls.

**Prayer requests can be sent at anytime.
 Please notify HopeNotes when you would like a prayer request removed.**

January 22, 2012
 General Fund - \$665.00
 Building Fund - \$259.00
 Donut Money - \$54.00
 Grace Place - \$50.00

Attendance 62

Calendar

| | | |
|-----------------|----------|--|
| Sunday, Jan. 29 | 9:30 am | Worship & Sunday School |
| | 10:30 am | Coffee Hour |
| Monday, Jan. 30 | 7:00 pm | Evening Book Group @ Bill & Kay Montgomery's House |
| Sunday, Feb. 5 | 9:30 am | Worship & Sunday School |
| | 10:30 am | Coffee Hour & Adult Forum |
| Monday, Feb. 6 | 4:30 pm | Congregational Life meeting @ Dish & Spoon Café |
| | 7:30 pm | Executive Meeting @ office |



Evening Book Group The Evening book club will meet next at 7:00 pm on January 30th at Bill & Kay Montgomery's home. They will discuss The Lord is My Shepherd by Rabbi Harold Kushner.

Adult Forum will start Sunday, February 5, using the video lessons from Living the Question. The series will run through February and March, with 45 minute sessions ending at 11:30.

Save the Date

Sunday, April 1, 11:00 am

Congregational Life will be serving a **PALM SUNDAY PANCAKE BREAKFAST** at Rocky Branch Elementary. Please mark your calendars.

Look for more information in the coming weeks.

Lay School of Ministry

Check it out -

I am in my fifth year at our synod's Lay School of Ministry. Once a month, beginning on Friday evening and concluding Saturday at noon, I am a part of engaging faith-focused lecture and discussion. This month we were blessed to hear from Bishop Mark Hanson. His stories of faith-in-action were inspirational. You can read more about the lay school experience at <http://www.layschoolofministry.org> and on our synod web site <http://www.nwswi.org> you can learn about all of the ways we are working and walking together with other people of faith. If you have questions about Lay School I would be glad to try and answer them.

Jed Reiten

The keys at the chapel and for the Newman House have been rekeyed. For those of you that have keys, please contact the church office and we will see that a new key is provided to you. The chapel will be open on a daily basis from 8:00 a.m. 'til 10:00 p.m.
Pr. Sandy



Happy Birthday to the following Hope members & friends

| | | | |
|------|------------------|------|------------------|
| 1/1 | Mark Anderson | 1/20 | Sarah Parks |
| 1/2 | Gorden Hedahl | 1/21 | Mason Shea |
| 1/6 | Kenna Frisch | 1/21 | Sue Warren |
| 1/8 | Jason Egerstrom | 1/23 | Makayla Ziebarth |
| 1/11 | Katherine Klacan | 1/24 | Andrew Parks |
| 1/11 | Camryn Shea | 1/24 | Sarah Egerstrom |
| 1/12 | Kaye Anderson | 1/27 | Cathryn Katelhut |
| 1/13 | Kyle Cosgrove | 1/28 | Amanda Ziebarth |
| 1/15 | Jan Malaney | 1/31 | Allen Nelson |
| 1/18 | Samantha Brill | | |
| 1/19 | Dennis Sylte | | |
| 1/19 | Stella Theisen | | |



Happy Anniversary to the following Hope members & friends

(No January Anniversaries)

***Please contact the church office if a birthday/anniversary has been missed!**

Community Announcements

COMMUNITY PANCAKE SUPPER

Monday, February 13th, St. Bridget Catholic Church, 211 E. Division Street, River Falls, will have a pancake supper to benefit the River Falls' homeless. Serving will be from 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm in the church Dining Hall. Menu includes homemade pancakes, eggs, ham, fresh fruit, coffee and milk. Cost: donation.

Event: Church Ladies' Cook-Off and Author/Humorist Janet Martin

Speaker Topic: Hot Dishes, Hot Pads & Hot Flashes

Date: February 16, 2012

Time: 6pm Cook-Off; 7pm Speaker

The River Falls Public Library is once again sponsoring a River Falls Reads program, which periodically designates a specific book for community-wide reading. This program encourages community connection through opportunities for gathering, reflection and dialogue. The current book choice for the period from February 1 - March 7, is *Grand Opening*, by Jon Hassler, in which a city family moves to a small town to run a grocery store. The book raises many value questions, some of them involving long-standing conflict between church denominations.

As part of the fun, eight area churches are participating in a Church Ladies' Cook-Off in which they will compete in two categories: Hot Dish/Entree and Jello. Tickets for attendance will be \$1 (with an additional option to make a goodwill donation at the event), and all proceeds will go to the community food pantry in the name of the winning church. Following the cook-off, speaker Janet Martin will regale the audience with stories of small town church life and the ladies in those kitchens.

Tickets and information are available at the library and at the following participating churches: First Congregational, Hope Lutheran, Abundant Life, Luther Memorial, United Methodist, The River, St. Bridget's and Ezekiel. Books are also available for borrowing and sharing, and the library invites the community to participate in all related events, and encourages book groups to use the book for their discussions during this time. Questions may be directed to Nancy Miller, library director, at 715.425.0905.

Interfaith Volunteers assist those over 60 and currently need transporters for errands in River Falls, companionship for a woman in town, companionship for a man, transportation to the YMCA in Hudson once a week, and an activity helper substitute Thursday at the Hudson adult day program (fun). For information and to volunteer contact Nancy at 715-381-4360 or email Nancy.Abrahamson@co.saint-croix.wi.us

Nancy Abrahamson, Caregiver Support Coordinator
Aging and Disability Resource Center, 1101 Carmichael Rd, Hudson, WI 54016
715-381-4360 phone, 715-381-4308 fax



HOPE Lutheran Church
Pastor Sandy Johnson

P.O. Box 287
River Falls, WI 54022
715-425-9750

Office address:
117 E. Maple St., Suite C
(Entrance behind
Travel Leaders/Suntime Travel)

The HOPE office is staffed
Tuesday, Thursday & Friday
10:30 – 12:30 a.m.

Feel free to contact Pastor
Sandy to schedule an
appointment!

HOPE's website:
hopelutheran-riverfalls.org

Pastor Sandy's email:
pastor@hopelutheran-riverfalls.org

Teresa's email:
secretary@hopelutheran-riverfalls.org

Facebook:
[hopelutheranchurchriverfallswi](https://www.facebook.com/hopelutheranchurchriverfallswi)

Skype:
[hopelutheranchurchriverfalls](https://www.skype.com/people/hopelutheranchurchriverfalls)

Quick Links - Please click on the following links to visit these suggested sites:

NWSWI

Synod Resource Center

ELCA

Living Lutheran

Cherish Our Children

Lay School of Ministry

Robins Nest Children's Home

Announcement Deadlines

Send announcements to secretary@hopelutheran-riverfalls.org

Website by 9:00 a.m. on Tuesdays
Hope Notes by 9:00 a.m. on Thursdays
Bulletin by 9:00 a.m. on Fridays

