

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.*

November 17, 2011

Tonight!!

Gospel Music Benefit Concert

Gospel Music Benefit Concert: The River Falls Community Gospel Choir together with students from the University of Wisconsin-River Falls, and members from the Minnesota Chapter of the Gospel Music Workshop of America, under the direction of Dr. Camilla Horne, a Lecturer of Music at UWRF will put on a free gospel music benefit concert for Our Neighbor's Place, a day center serving the homeless in River Falls. **The concert will take place at 7 p.m. Thursday November 17th at the Newman Center/Thomas Moore Chapel at 5th and Cascade in River Falls.** This mass gospel choir will be performing many gospel standards and there will be several well-known Gospel soloists from the Twin Cities and the St. Croix Valley.

Submit your 2012 Pledge Cards: Sunday, November 20

It's time to submit your pledge for 2012! During worship services this Sunday (November 20), special envelopes and an offering will be available to receive your 2012 pledge. The procedure for making your 2012 pledge is as follows:

1. Bring your completed pledge card to church either Sunday: November 13 or November 20.
2. Obtain a special envelope from an usher when you get your hymnal and bulletin.
3. Insert your pledge card in the special envelope.
4. Place your envelope in the designated offering plate available during communion distribution.

Thank you for your thoughtful and prayerful support of Hope. Your gifts allow the church to effectively plan for 2012. Pledge Cards are still available if your household has not yet received one. Please see an usher if you need a Pledge Card.

Nurture News

HS Youth: November's Breakfast on Hope

Come get together, share stories, and make plans for Advent. Meet at the South Fork Cafe on Main Street at 10:45 or as soon as you can get there Sunday, November 20. Bring a friend!

Next Breakfast on Hope: December 18 at Ms. Loudon's house. RSVPs appreciated!

College Students

Hope will once again be sending holiday treat boxes to our college students before final exams. **We're asking parents of college students to provide us with names and addresses.** You'll find a sheet for that purpose on the Hope Table. Next week we'll have a list of items to include in the boxes for those who would like to make a contribution.

Leading Us in Worship			
	November 20	November 27	December 4
Presiding Minister	Pastor Sandra Johnson	Pastor Sandra Johnson	Pastor Sandra Johnson
Assisting Minister	Elissa Zoerb	Carl Warren	Bill Warner
Pianist	Phil Klacan	Phil Klacan	Betty Lou Oppegard
Reader & Prayers	Lisa Ziebarth	Julie Schmidt	Faye Perkins
Ushers	Ed & Gwen Paulson	Jeff Rodewald Kendra Lesmeister	Doug & Susie Rudesill
Communion Preparation	Susie Rudesill	Susie Rudesill	Margaret Anderson
Communion Assistants	John & Karen Hamilton	Doug & Susie Rudesill	
Acolyte	Need a Volunteer	Aaron Schmidt	Erik Eaton
Special Music	Camryn Shea	Elissa Zoerb	
Coffee	Mike & Nancy Miller	Need a Volunteer	Need a Volunteer
Flowers	Nancy Peters & Karen Brohaugh	Need a Volunteer	Need a Volunteer
Bread Bakers	Karen Rodewald	Karen Rodewald	Jed Reiten

Sunday, November 13th

General Fund - \$2,598.85

Building Fund - \$727.00

Youth Ministries (Fundraiser) - \$650.00

Our Neighbors Place - \$20.00

Food Shelf - \$10.00

Attendance - 96



“The Remnant”

Jed R., Carl W., Cara G., Lexy G., Carly W. & Cathy W.

HOPE Confirmation News

Our confirmation class was engaged with Luke's gospel and the Christmas story. There was very good conversation about incarnation, outcasts and the anointed one.

Many thanks to the parents who provided a tasty dessert which we used as leverage for the evening's lesson but thoroughly enjoyed as the evening came to a close.

There will be no confirmation class on Wednesday, November 30th but we'll meet on Wednesday, December 7th to pack gift boxes for college students and members of the military.

May this time of Thanksgiving also be a time of sharing.

HOPE Cottage Gatherings

Questions to consider at Cottage Gatherings

- What brought you to HOPE Lutheran?
- What do you sense God's call is for HOPE?
- How would you describe our congregation to someone new?
- What are the strengths of this community of faith?
- Where are the gaps?
- What is God saying to us ...about us...and through us?
- What other questions are important to consider?



CANCELLED The gathering schedule for Saturday, November 19 at 9:30 has been cancelled.

If you have not had the opportunity to attend one of the Cottage Gatherings, please sign up for one of the following dates.

Tuesday, November 29 6:30 – 8:00 pm Host: Sammy Brill

Thursday, December 1 6:30 – 8:00 pm Host: Jeff Carlson

Carols and Candles: Sunday, December 11, 4:00 PM

No Christmas season would be complete without a lessons-and-carols service.

This year's Carols and Candles will be on Sunday, December 11, at the usual 4:00 PM hour.

Please save this date and invite your family and friends to this hour of inspiring music, thoughtful readings, and quiet time for reflection.

Here are some important planning items for participants:



Carols and Candles Choir: This ensemble always sounds great because at HOPE we love to sing – but this ensemble does need to rehearse, so mark these dates/times/locations:

Choir rehearsal #1: Wednesday, November 30. 7 PM Newman

Choir rehearsal #2: Sunday, December 4, 5PM Newman

Choir rehearsal #3: Wednesday, December 7, 7 PM Newman

Choir/Readers/Musicians Dress Rehearsal: Saturday, December 10, 9:30 AM – Noon

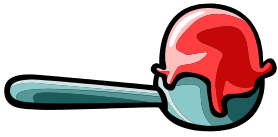
Call Time for all participants on December 11: 3:00 PM.

The choir is always looking for additional singers. If you'd like to be a part of this great service, just show up on November 30 or contact Phil Klacan.

Don't miss Carols and Candles this year! Give your Christmas spirit some tender loving care, and plan to come to the program. As always, handheld candles are provided!

Parking at the Chapel & Newman Center

A reminder to members – Please do not park in any of the alley parking spaces behind the church during services, events, practices, etc. Those spaces are reserved.



If you were designed to be an ice cream scoop, then scoop ice cream :)

Matthew 25

Visiting with the children on Sunday mornings is a highlight for me. Last Sunday we talked about the gifts God gives us, the talents we have to share, and if we were created and designed for something in particular, then we can and should celebrate that. I am grateful for the ways this congregation of caring adults participated last week, sharing their God-given gifts with the children. I would like to share a sample of the offerings you made.

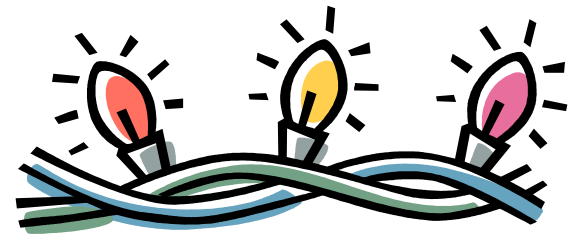
Using God's gifts you offered to share your:

sewing skills to give to others, support and participation, energy, baking skills, time as a Sunday morning participant, financial gifts, abundance with those in need, singing, music, speaking talents and time.

Many of you also offered your prayers for:

HOPE, our soldiers' safe return, the ELCA and its leaders, the health of others, the pastor, parents, for guidance, as well as prayers of gratitude for the people of HOPE.

Thank you for the ways you care for God's children. May we continue to set an example of discipleship for our youth with the ways we employ our God-given gifts.



River Dazzle Fun

Friday, November 25

River Falls will welcome the holiday season by celebrating *River Dazzle* on Friday, November 25. **The festive parade begins at 6:30 pm and HOPE will once again have a float!** We're in need of carolers to ride the float and walkers to hand out candy canes. Phil Klacan, along with his accordion, will lead the singing. Line up begins at 6:00 pm on Pine and Second St. or by Bo Jon's, the Food Pantry and Leitch Agency. Wear some battery operated Christmas lights and help HOPE Lutheran light up River Falls. Thanks to Hartlebens for providing the truck and trailer. Prior to the parade, check out the Wearable Art Style Show at Global MADE/Gallery 120 and so some chili tasting at many of the local businesses. You'll have a chance to vote for your favorite chili.

Daytime Book Group

We will meet Monday, November 28 for noon lunch at the River Falls Bowling Alley. Note the change in location. The book to be discussed is Zeitoun by Dave Eggers. This is a work of nonfiction, based on the accounts of the Zeitoun family. It is their experiences before and after Hurricane Katrina. All are welcome.

Evening Book Group

On November 28th, Monday Evening book club will meet at Betty Lou and Milo Opegard, 1068 River Drive, River Falls at 7 pm. We will discuss First Christmas by Borg & Crossan. It can be purchased at Amazon for about \$6.

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, Avery Gallagher, Ken Hauggard, Ruth Hilleren (Sue Warren's mother), June Hirsch, Cindy Hogan, Mike Jacobson (Linda Jacobson's brother), Tammy Johnson (friend of Tonja Lesmeister), Living Water Lutheran Church (Cameron, WI), Pat Lubich (Jeff Rodewald's aunt), Chris Pageant (friend of Jeff Carlson), Elaine Peterson (Sharon Paulson's mother), Patrice Rasmussen (friend of Anne Anderson), Ervin Schmidt (Lisa Rydland's father) 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.**

Calendar

Thursday, Nov. 17	7:00 pm	Gospel Choir Concert @ Church
Sunday, Nov. 20	9:30 am	Worship & Sunday School
	10:30 am	Coffee Hour
	10:45 am	HS Youth: Breakfast on HOPE – South Fork Café
Monday, Nov. 21	7:00 pm	Council meeting @ River Falls Library
Wed., Nov. 23		No Confirmation Class
Friday, Nov. 25	6:30 pm	River Dazzle Parade (Line up at 6:00 pm)
Sunday, Nov. 27	9:30 am	Worship & Sunday School
	10:30 am	Coffee Hour
Monday, Nov. 28	12:00 pm	Book Group @ River Falls Bowling Alley
	5:30 pm	Communications (Com Com) meeting @ office
	6:30 pm	Nurture meeting @ Dish & Spoon Café
	7:00 pm	Evening Book Group @ Oppegard's House
Tuesday, Nov. 29	6:30 – 8:00 pm	Cottage Gathering on Ponderosa Road (Sammy Brill hosting)
Wed., Nov. 30	6:30 – 8:00 pm	Confirmation @ Servant of the Shepherd
	7:00 pm	Carols & Candles Rehearsal @ Newman

Save the Date

- Sunday, Dec. 11, 4:00 pm – **Carols & Candles**
- Saturday, Dec. 17, 9:00 am - **Hope Lefse Day** in the First Congregational Church kitchen. Lefse, baked goods and possibly craft items will be sold after worship on December 18.
- Sunday, Dec. 18, 9:30 am – Children's Program

Stewardship Opportunity An opportunity to celebrate a special occasion in your life such as an anniversary, birthday, etc., or honor a friend or relative with a gift to Hope Lutheran Church is being made possible. A box containing envelopes is available for this purpose and can be found by the hymnal rack. Please list your name and occasion on the envelope and whether or not it is all right to announce the event in the bulletin. Thank you for participating!

HOPE recognizes the following special offerings:



Karen Brohaugh - in memory & thankfulness for her mother, Elsie Anderson



Happy Birthday to the following Hope members & friends

- | | | | |
|-------|------------------|-------|--------------------|
| 11/1 | Dianne Robinson | 11/14 | Karis Baerenwald |
| 11/2 | Lindsay Getschel | 11/16 | Wayne Augustin |
| 11/2 | Alexander Martin | 11/18 | Hattie Augustin |
| 11/3 | Lisa Benz | 11/21 | Kari Heinselman |
| 11/3 | Greta Wunrow | 11/22 | Phil Klacan |
| 11/7 | Linda Jacobson | 11/25 | Steve Baerenwald |
| 11/9 | Rachel Iverson | 11/26 | Andrew Pratt |
| 11/9 | Helen Carter | 11/29 | Deb Tokheim |
| 11/9 | Michael Miller | 11/29 | Annissa Lesmeister |
| 11/10 | Erik Warner | 11/30 | Alyssa Koecher |
| 11/10 | John Warner | | |



Happy Anniversary to the following Hope members & friends

- | | |
|-------|---------------------------|
| 11/20 | Debbie & Jeff Rotsaert |
| 11/20 | Jennifer & Scott Elsesser |
| 11/30 | Karen & Bernie Brohaugh |

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

Community Announcements

Basics for Local Kids

Basics for Local Kids is a local program created as a collection and distribution point for people to donate and help kids locally. We need your help collecting donations allowing us to help provide winter-wear to local kids in need. While we have been blessed with donations to assist over 150 local kids so far this season, we have over 42 kids living in Pierce County on a waiting list for some combination of boots, snow pants and coats. **For every \$30 we receive, we can meet the winter-wear needs for a child this winter with purchased second-hand or sale items.**

*Financial donations can be mailed to: Basics for Local Kids, PO Box 61, Ellsworth, WI 54011

*Gently used and new winter-wear items can be donated by contacting Kim Johnson at 715-273-6556 or emailing Kim at basicsforlocalkids@yahoo.com

ADRC - Aging and Disability Resource Center for St. Croix County

The ADRC is once again sponsoring a Secret Santa Program. The purpose of the program is to brighten the lives of older adults and persons with disabilities, who may be alone on the holiday, suffered loss, have limited means or no family in the area. Is there someone in HOPE's congregation who would benefit and enjoy receiving a little surprise around the holiday season? If so, please email tracyd@co.saint-croix.wi.us with the name, address and phone of the individual(s). Self referrals are also accepted.

Secret Santa gift bags will be put together the week of December 12th and be ready for delivery later that week. If you would like to contribute a monetary donation to the Secret Santa Program, that would be appreciated. Please call (715) 381-4360 for more information.

Good News Club

Good News Club is an exciting, fun-filled hour once a week that includes dynamic bible lessons, creative learning activities, inspiring missionary stories, meaningful songs and life-changing scripture memory. Your child will learn respect for authority, moral values, character qualities and biblical principles.

Where: Westside Elementary School, Room 157

Time: Dismissal to 5:00 pm

Date: Every Monday Sept. 19 – Dec. 5, 2011 and Jan. 9-April 30, 2012 (only on full days of school)

Who can attend? All boys and girls ages 5-12, regardless of religious background.

Who teaches the club? Specially trained Christians concerned for the spiritual well-being of your child teach the club. All club workers are screened as required by CEF's child protection policy to ensure your child's safety.

Sponsored by: First Covenant Church of River Falls

Contact: Trudy Jarosek (715) 273-6190 for more information

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

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



**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

Skype:
hopelutheranchurchriverfalls

