

HOPE LUTHERAN ELCA

Hope Journeys Forward

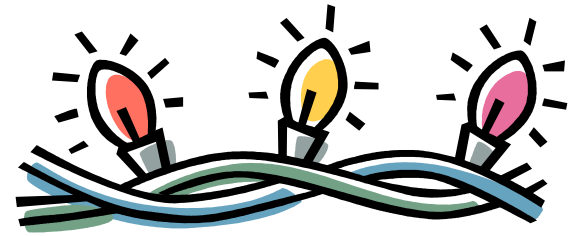
*HOPE is called by God to look beyond ourselves.
We walk together in faith, treasuring all people and sharing
with them the love, hope and acceptance that is in Christ.*

November 22, 2011



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.



ONE MORE SUNDAY

Submit your 2012 Pledge Cards: Sunday, November 27

If you weren't available to make your pledge over the past two weeks, don't worry – there's still time. Please help Hope plan their 2012 budget by pledging your gift. Pledge cards and envelopes are available at church on Sunday. If you're out of town and you still wish to pledge, please email your pledge to the church office at secretary@hopelutheran-riverfalls.org. The process for pledging on November 27 will be:

1. Bring your completed pledge card (or fill out a card at church) on November 27.
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 regular offering.

Thank you for your thoughtful and prayerful support of Hope. Your gifts allow the church to effectively plan for 2012.
-- *The Executive Committee*

CARE Boxes for College Students

- * HOPE will once again organize treat boxes to send to our college students before final exam week.
- * You can help by making donations of food items or money to help pay for postage and mailing supplies.
- * Names and addresses of college students are needed and can be sent to Karen.rodewald@gmail.com

Please limit food donations to the following: Rice Krispy Bars, Special K Bars, Microwave Popcorn, Packages of Cocoa Mix and Mini Candy Bars.

Please bring your donations to church by Sunday, November 27.

Thank you for thinking of Hope's College Students!



How can I keep from singing?

In times of joy, in times of frustration, in times of fear and in times of hope I find myself singing. In this dedicated time of thanksgiving I also find another reason to sing. I am thankful!

I am thankful for the gifts God gives and the greatest gifts come in the relationships we have with one another. With that in mind there is much for which I am thankful!

The community of faith that is HOPE Lutheran is a reflection of the richness of relationships; all that we are and all that we do is grounded in God's guidance and God's call to be today's disciples. It has become apparent in the Cottage Gatherings that have taken place over the last couple of weeks that HOPE is attentive to God's lead.

Thanks to the people of HOPE who share themselves with this faith community as well as the wider world. You are God's blessings to Jed and to me.

Pastor Sandy

Sunday, November 20th

General Fund - \$1,370.00

Building Fund - \$1,147.00

Youth Ministries (VBS) - \$100.00

Donut Money - \$50.33

Attendance - 67

Leading Us in Worship			
	November 27	December 4	December 11
Presiding Minister	Pastor Sandra Johnson	Pastor Sandra Johnson	Pastor Sandra Johnson
Assisting Minister	Carl Warren	Bill Warner	Bill Berndt
Pianist	Phil Klacan	Betty Lou Oppegard	Phil Klacan
Reader & Prayers	Julie Schmidt	Faye Perkins	Dan Wunrow
Ushers	Jeff Rodewald Kendra Lesmeister	Doug & Susie Rudesill	Jerry Brandt & Jed Reiten
Special Music	Elissa Zoerb Carrie Hendrickson & Betty Lou Oppegard	Lindsey Getschel	John Hamilton
Communion Preparation	Susie Rudesill	Margaret Anderson	Margaret Anderson
Communion Assistants	Doug & Susie Rudesill	Need a Volunteer	Need a Volunteer
Acolyte	Aaron Schmidt	Erik Eaton	Luke Stang
Coffee	Mike & Nancy Miller	Need a Volunteer	Jan Gerber
Bread Bakers	Karen Rodewald	Jed Reiten	Jed Reiten

HOPE Confirmation News

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.



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 Oppegard, 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.

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?

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!

Prayers are requested for:
Kris Allen (friend of Linda Jacobson & Bill Warner), Zora Anderson (HOPE member), Gordon Brandt (Jerry's brother), Amanda Brown, Grace Coggio & family (friends of the Lesmeister family), Mary Conroy-Johnson (friend of Karen Rodewald), Jody Fink, Avery Gallagher, 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), Derrick Ricketts (Latidra Lesmeister's Grandfather), 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.



Sunday, December 4th, is Food Shelf Sunday

We ask that each member bring one (or more!) non-perishable food items to fill our red food shelf bins that will be available at the altar or in the lobby.

Calendar

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 (No 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 @ Oppedgard'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
Thursday, Dec. 1	6:30 – 8:00 pm	Cottage Gathering (Jeff Carlson hosting)
	7:00 pm	Mission Committee meeting @ Global M.A.D.E.
Sunday, Dec. 4	9:30 am	Worship & Sunday School (<i>Food Pantry Sunday</i>)
	10:30 am	Coffee Hour
	5:00 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**
- **Saturday, December 24th** – Christmas Eve Services at 5:00 pm & 10:00 pm
- **Christmas Day Service @ 9:30 am**



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 Heinselmann
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	Annisia 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	11/30	Karen & Bernie Brohaugh
11/20	Jennifer & Scott Elsesser		

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

Community Announcements

Restorative Justice

Community Presentation, River Falls Library, lower level

December 5 @ 6:00 pm

Please join us! Open to the public, volunteer in-service. Learn more about Restorative Justice, meet the volunteers, board & staff of SCVRJP. Hear from these panelists: Municipal Court Judge June Cicero, Circuit Court Judge Howard Cameron, River Falls Police Chief Roger Leque, District Attorney John O'Boyle and UWRF Assistant Director for Student Rights & Responsibilities Thomas Pederson. Light refreshments served.

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



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

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

