
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.

March 3, 2011



**Jamaica Mission trip donations
are still being accepted through March 5th.
Contact a mission team member for more information.**



Mark your calendar and join your HOPE family for a

Mardi Gras potluck Sunday, March 6 @ 11:30 a.m.

There will be food, music, fun, and of course, beads!

Mardi Gras (French), Fettisdagen (Swedish), Fastnacht (German), Carnaval (Dutch), Shrovetide (Great Britain), Fat Tuesday, or Shrove Tuesday all refer to the day before Ash Wednesday, which is the beginning of the Lenten Season, a traditional period of fasting, abstinence, self-examination, and confession.

Fat Tuesday refers to the last night of eating richer, fatty foods before ritual fasting begins. In the U.S., many people associate Mardi Gras with the wild celebration, parades and partying held in New Orleans.

You can choose to bring whatever you like to the potluck (Swedish meatballs are always a good choice!), but fun dishes you may want to consider include gumbo, jambalaya, dirty rice, red beans and rice, or beignets.

Check websites like www.cooks.com, www.foodnetwork.com, www.allrecipes.com, or other pages dedicated to Cajun and Creole cooking.

Ash Wednesday Worship - March 9th, 7:00 p.m.

HOPE **WILL NOT** have midweek Lenten services but we will have services on **Maundy Thursday and Good Friday in April.**

ADULT ED - FORUM

Theme of this series is "CALL TO COVENANT"

3-6-2011 Lesson 20 - Creative Transformation

No Adult Education on March 13th & 20th

3-27-2011 Lesson 21 - Embracing Mystery

Lesson 20 – Creative Transformation

	Tex Semple:	Michelangelo's prayer--self
2'	Matt Fox:	Meditation is prayer, focusing, creativity brings forth wisdom, a form of prayer; our passion for justice, our work is creativity; evil depends on creativity.
6'	McKenna:	We read for information and confirmation; a story is for shifting your view of the world.
7'	Bruggeman:	Mark 8: "beware of junk food!"
10'	Flunder:	To lose everything--what would we surrender for what we believe?
11'	John Bell:	The example of Jesus.
12'	Spong:	Jesus calls us to be whole, not religious; the mark of Jesus' disciples is to be loving.
15'	Roger Strom:	Spiritual Practices: Pottery & Glazing--aggressive kiln firing.

Sunday, February 27, 2011

Offering:**Attendance: 62**

General Fund - \$907.25

Building Fund - \$190.00

Jamaica Trip - \$590.00

Jamaica Mittens - \$250.00

Leading Us in Worship – March 6th

Presiding Minister: Pastor Carol Peterson

Pianist: Phil Klacan

Ushers: Doug & Susie Rudesill

Communion Preparation: Anne Anderson

Assisting Minister: Gorden Hedahl

Reader & Prayers: Ethel Johnson

Acolyte: Alex Martin

Communion Assistant: Helen Traynor & Joe McIntosh

Calendar

March 5, Saturday	9:00 a.m. Jamaica Team Packing Day
March 6, Sunday	9:30 a.m. Worship (Food Shelf Sunday)
	10:30 a.m. Sunday School & Adult Education
	11:30 a.m. Mardi Gras Potluck @ Rocky Branch Elementary
March 7, Monday	4:00 p.m. Congregation Life Mtg. @ Dish & Spoon Café
	5:30 p.m. Communications Mtg. @ Office
	6:30 p.m. Worship Mtg. @ Dish & Spoon Café
	6:30 p.m. Nurture Mtg. @ Dish & Spoon Café
March 9, Wednesday	6:30 p.m. Confirmation Students arrive at church
	7:00 p.m. Ash Wednesday Service
March 12, Saturday	Mission Team Heads to Jamaica!
March 13, Sunday	9:30 a.m. Worship
	10:30 a.m. <i>No Sunday & No Adult Education Classes</i>

Prayers are requested for:
 Zora Anderson (HOPE member), Carrie Benson (niece of Gorden Hedahl), Fred Benson, Amanda Brown, Jody Fink, Avery Gallagher, Katy & Ken Giske (friends of Jerry & Naomi Brandt), Marlys Hammer, Jodi Hauk (HOPE member), June Hirsch, Cindy Hogan, Mike Jacobson (Linda Jacobson's brother), Sandy Kurth (friend of Lisa Rydland), Pat Lubich (Jeff Rodewald's aunt), Helen Perkins, Patrice Rasmussen (friend of Anne Anderson), SFC Gerardo Viera (adopted son of the Carlson family) and Steve Winters (Troy Lesmeister's uncle).

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. And for the children, staff, directors and their families of Robin's Nest Children's Home, the orphanage Hope's team will be serving.

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

Happy Birthday to the following Hope members & friends
 who celebrate their birthday in March!



3/3	Grant Klacan	3/11	Sue Katelhut
3/3	Madison Ziebarth	3/13	Linzie Gienau
3/4	Nicholas Snyder	3/13	Steven Koecher
3/5	J.P. Eaton	3/15	Amber Carlson
3/7	Braden Johnson	3/17	Carly Wunrow
3/9	Matthew Schmidt	3/23	Dave Peters
3/9	Eric Opegard	3/23	Lee Getschel
3/9	Amanda Robinson	3/31	Ben Wunrow
3/10	Sharon Paulson		

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

HOPE Evening Book Group

March 21, 2011 7 - pm

Marcus Borg's book, "Putting Away Childish Things" will be discussed. Borg is a gifted teacher, biblical scholar, and writer of nonfiction, but also a master of storytelling. In "Putting Away Childish Things", Borg weaves his insightful teachings on Christianity into a new form - fiction. **We will meet at Carol Poff's home, 231 North Wasson, River Falls.**

April 25, 2011 7 - pm

Malcolm Gladwell's book, "Outliers" will be discussed. In this provocative and inspiring book, Gladwell examines everyone from business giants to scientific geniuses, sports stars to musicians, and reveals what they have in common. He looks behind the spectacular results, the myths, and the legends to show what really explains exceptionally successful people.

Book for May will be decided later.

All are welcome.

Daytime Book Group



Monday, March 28 at the West Wind at 12:00 p.m.

We will discuss *Cutting for Stone* by Abraham Verghese. Twin brothers, who are orphaned by their mother's death and their father's disappearance, are bound together by a preternatural connection and a shared fascination with medicine. They come of age as Ethiopia hovers on the brink of revolution.

Additional Book Selections:

April 25 - Comfort Me with Apples by Ruth Reichl

May 23 - The Three Weissmanns of Westport by Cathleen Schine

June 27 - I Still Dream About You by Fannie Flagg

All are welcome to attend the discussions. The group will not meet in July and August.

Community Announcements

Twin Cities Bronze, an auditioned professional handbell ensemble, will be performing a concert Sunday, March 20, 2011 at 1 pm at Central Presbyterian Church in St. Paul. The concert is free and open to the public (freewill donation). There is free parking in the World Trade Center ramp across the street from the church. Hope to see you there!



The River Falls Public Library will accept submissions for its annual quilt show on March 15th & 16th. The show dates are March 20-April 17, and there will be a reception from 1-3pm on March 20th to celebrate the opening of the show. Finished pieces of any size will be accepted. Many people exhibit in this show, so the library reserves the option of limiting the number of pieces per artist. For more information, please call Carol at 715.425.0905 x123.



Interfaith Volunteer Program

Current Volunteer Needs

To volunteer, contact Nancy at 800-372-2333 or email nancya@co.saint-croix.wi.us.

Volunteers determine amount of time and type of service.

Supported in part by the United Way

River Falls

- ◆ Light housekeeping for a woman in her apartment
- ◆ Home meal delivery once a month in town
- ◆ Light housekeeping for a woman with asthma
- ◆ Light housekeeping for a couple in a rural home

Dear Hope Community Members:

The Budget Repair Bill has been at the top of Wisconsin News and I have been puzzled on why this topic has not been included in our community prayers over the last two weeks. Members of our community support and oppose this bill. There are concerns about separation of church and state. This has become a personal issue for many and a potentially divisive issue within our faith community and the River Falls community as a whole. Social justice is at the core of Jesus' ministry. Just listen to our gospel lesson from last week – and I paraphrase - the most important commandment is to love God and the second of equal importance is to love our neighbors as ourselves, for how else do we live as Christ/God/Holy Spirit and walk and talk the ministry of Jesus? It is so important to talk about the issues raised in this bill that have captured the media's attention. We all know that there is a problem and that there needs to be changes and sacrifices to solve the problems – how can this be solved in a compassionate and sustainable way? Please see me after church or at the Marti Gras celebration if you are interested in being part of this discussion. I have included a link to the ELCA Social Statement on Economic Life: Sufficient, Sustainable Livelihood for All below, as well as information from the Wisconsin Council of Churches.

Kathy Scott, 715-426-3510; kathy.scott@sbwireless.net.

ELCA Economic Life: Sufficient, Sustainable Livelihood for All social statement:

<http://www.elca.org/What-We-Believe/Social-Issues/Social-Statements/Economic-Life.aspx>

Emergency E-Alert

An urgent message to Wisconsin's religious community
from Scott Anderson
Executive Director of the Wisconsin Council of Churches

Over the last week at the State Capitol, we have been witnesses to extraordinary events concerning our state's budget deficit and the right of workers to organize and collectively bargain.

While the immediate public debate revolves around the status of public employee unions, we know that Governor Walker's proposed budget, to be released in a few weeks, will contain massive cuts to public education, Medicaid, Badger Care, School Breakfast and Lunch programs, and a number of other longstanding public services that impact the lives and well being of low income families.

The WCC will be coordinating advocacy efforts where possible and posting developments on its website through the coming months. This is the first in a series of E-Alerts over the coming months to keep the religious community informed and to provide resources to congregations on budget-related issues before the state legislature.

Public Statements: Several of our religious leaders have stepped forward to issue pastoral letters, public statements, and letters to the Governor and legislative leaders raising the voice of the faith community concerning the right of workers to organize. Public statements include those from:

[Catholic Archbishop Jerome ListECKI.](#)

[United Methodist Bishop Linda Lee.](#)

[ELCA Bishop Bruce Burnside.](#)

[John Knox Presbytery.](#)

[UCC Conference Minister David Moyer.](#)

[Episcopal Bishop Steven Miller.](#)

We anticipate there will be more public statements over the next weeks and months and will post them on our website as they become available.

Media Coverage: We will also be posting media coverage of the religious community's response to the state budget crisis. See the [first article](#) on this subject published in the *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel* this past week.

Denominational Resources: Most if not all of the member denominations of the WCC have public policy statements on workers' rights, collective bargaining, and the role of government in meeting the needs of "the least of these". Go to your denominational website and use the search function to locate yours.

Prayers and Sermons: The WCC will be collecting prayers and sermons from Wisconsin pastors on state budget related issues. Please send appropriate sermons and prayers to us at wcoc@wichurches.org. We already have some liturgical and sermon resources on our [website](#).

Write your legislators to express your views. Go to our [Legislative Action Center](#) where you can email the Governor and your state legislators with your views.

Attend Advocacy Day March 15: The religious community will gather on Tuesday, March 15 at Bethel Lutheran Church near the State Capitol for a budget briefing and visits with legislators. [To register](#). Religious leaders have also requested a meeting with Governor Walker that afternoon

We also anticipate having buses leaving from 5 locations for Madison on March 15th. If anyone wants to hop on one of the buses, please the appropriate phone number below. (We are still finalizing exact locations and times of departure.)

Green Bay: Call JOSHUA, at 920-362-1511

Appleton: Call ESTHER, at 920-216-0891

Milwaukee: Call MICAH at 414-264-0805

Racine: Call RIC at 262-635-9532

Eau Claire: Call JONAH at 715-579-1186

Thank you for your faithful response to our state's current crisis.

Sincerely,

Scott D. Anderson

Executive Director

Wisconsin Council of Churches

Announcement Deadlines

Send **Website** announcements to secretary@hopelutheran-riverfalls.org by 9:00 a.m. on Tuesdays.
Send **Hope Notes** announcements to hopenotes@hopelutheran-riverfalls.org by 9:00 a.m. on Thursdays.
Send **Bulletin** announcements to secretary@hopelutheran-riverfalls.org by 9:00 a.m. on Fridays.

HOPE Lutheran Church
P.O. Box 287
River Falls, WI 54022
Office: 715-425-9750

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

HOPE's website: <http://www.hopelutheran-riverfalls.org>
Teresa's email: secretary@hopelutheran-riverfalls.org
Facebook: hopelutheranchurchriverfallswi

The HOPE office hours are : Tuesday, Thursday & Friday 9:00 – 11:30

