This Week At HOPE - October 7, 2020

Join us this Sunday for worship as we continue our "Delivered" worship series. This is our 8th week of a nine week series. "Delivered" focuses on the stories of Exodus. We will explore how God continues to fulfill God's promises in calling and equipping Moses to bring the people out of slavery and into the promised land. We'll discover the similarities we have to God's early people and work to reveal how God's past action might help us discover and live into God's current movement in the world today. Join us on Sunday mornings at 9:30 as we learn just what it means to be "Delivered."

IN-PERSON in the Outdoor Worship Space at Hope Lutheran

ONLINE: https://www.youtube.com/c/hopelutheranriverfalls

Midweek Manna: A Weekly "Delivered " Devotion

"Do not put any other gods in place of me.
Do not make silver or gold statues of them for yourselves."

Read: Exodus 20:22-26 (open your Bible or click HERE)

This Sunday we make a significant jump in the Exodus text from chapter 20 to chapter 32, where we encounter Aaron and the others making a golden calf. Here, at the end of chapter 20 God explicitly says not to do that (in addition to the giving of the first commandment). What follows is 10 chapters of Moses' conversation with God on additional laws, instructions for establishing justice, and a very detailed description of the ark of the covenant, the tabernacle and all of its furnishings, and the priesthood. And when I say detailed, I mean *detailed. It's so detailed that Moses spends 40 days and 40 nights on top of the mountain with God. When the Israelites sent Moses to talk to Glod (because they were too afraid to be in God's presence) they had no idea it would take so long. Much like any of us, when things don't go as they expect, they grow fearful, and start filling in the blanks with what they had on hand.*
For us, right now, things are definitely not going as we expected. Even as pandemic living has become somewhat of a new normal, we still resist the rules we've been given to live under during this time, rules intended to help us love one another. While we are not taking off our fine jewelry and molding it into a golden cow, we are allowing our fear to create other gods.

I wonder about a few of them. I wonder about the ways we turn our political party or preferred candidate into a god. I wonder about the ways we turn our own church home into a god- be it the building or the community. I wonder about the ways we turn our own self-righteousness into a god. None of these things save us. Not a single one of them grants us salvation. Only Jesus Christ does that.

When God, through Jesus, enters into relationship with us we are promised whole and redeemed life. When this relational, incarnational God comes to us, we are knit into that redeeming work. Jesus pulls us like threads of a fine garment into the woven fabric of love for all creation. This is who we are. This is what we are to do. Anything less is no better than a statue made from the rings of our fingers. It does not love people. It does not save people.

Reflection Questions:

1. When was a time (pre-pandemic) that something took longer than you thought and you were left wondering just what to do? How did God show up during that time?
2. What is one golden calf you can see yourself making right now?
3. What spiritual discipline are you engaging during this time to help you connect to Jesus?

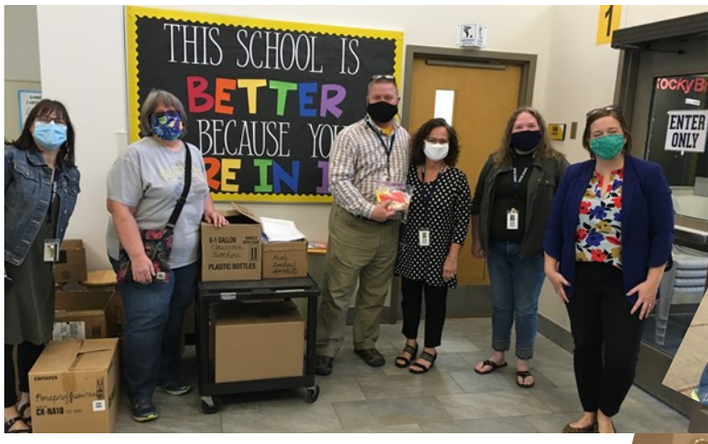
Prayer

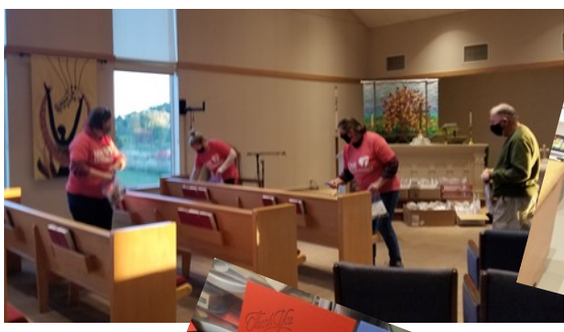
Delivering God, you spent quality time with Moses in order to provide your covenant with us, but our impatience led us away from you into worship of something far less worthy. Help us to remain faithful in times of unexpected waiting and guide us into practices that help nurture our relationship to you. Amen.

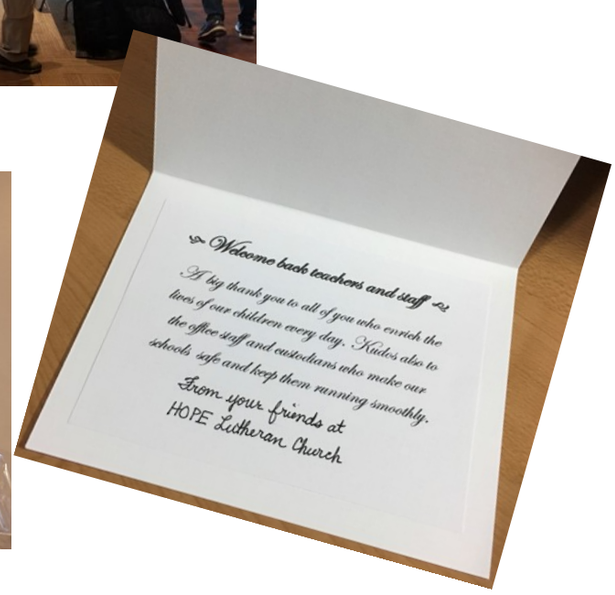
GOD'S WORK, OUR HANDS 2020: TEACHER CARE KITS

Thank you to all who donated items for our Teacher Care Kits! These kits were delivered this morning by the Mission Ministry to Rocky Branch Elementary and to teachers of HOPE. 70 kits have been delivered to teachers, aids, paraprofessionals, custodians, and administrators!

This was our 2020 GWOH project! Thanks to your generosity, we are able to support our local educators in a time of added stress and weariness. You are doing God's work in our community!







Faith Adventures Pumpkin Painting Event

Thank you to everyone who came out for our Pumpkin Decorating last week! We had such a great time! Thank you to Jean Louden, Karen Rodewald, Karen Brohaugh and Janet Gerber for all of the set-up and for hosting such a wonderful event! Thank you to Maple Leaf Orchard of Spring Valley, WI for donating all of our pumpkins! Make sure to check them out for delicious apples, the best cider donuts around, and all of your fall goodies!

NAMING HOPE's OUTDOOR WORSHIP SPACE

Thanks to all who submitted names for our Outdoor Worship Space!
The following names were selected for a congregational vote:

THE GATHERING
GATHERING PLACE
HOPE'S OASIS
WINDS OF THE SPIRIT

Voting begins today, October 7 and ends at noon on October 21.
Please take a moment to use this link to submit your choice via SURVEY MONKEY
(control & click to follow the link)

Sunday, October 25 during worship, the winning name will be announced. We will also do the drawing of all who submitted names, one ticket for each idea. If you submitted three, you'll have three chances to win. The prize will be given at Outdoor Worship

Global MADE Is Closing

After 18 years of helping people around the world by selling their crafts and art at a fair price, Global MADE will be closing. The pandemic and health issues have made this move necessary.

The hours for the shop will be

- ⇒ Thursdays and Fridays from 10 to 5 & Saturdays from 10 to 3 starting this week.
- ⇒ Next week Wednesday evenings it will also be open from 5 to 8.

The hope is to stay open until Christmas or until all inventory is gone. There are many interesting and beautiful items for sale.

Everything will be 50 percent off.

Coffee & Faithful Conversation!

Join Pastor Annie and others every Tuesday morning at 11AM for "Coffee & Faithful Conversation." This time has proved to be incredibly fruitful as many of us remain socially distanced from others. We spend time each week checking in on one another and engaging a series of faith-based questions/topics as we grow in faith together!
*****Please note a TIME CHANGE FOR 10/06: 11:30 start time!*****
So brew your own cup and join us via Zoom meeting:
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/424556345?pwd=TlIRQTlKY1dDdkkvK3RHdnl6a0Jjdz09
Meeting ID: 424 556 345

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CONFIRMATION MINISTRY MEETING TONIGHT!!

Current 10th grade youth: The Affirmation of Baptism (Confirmation) will be celebrated on Sunday, October 25th. Pastor Annie will be in direct contact with you on the details. **Please prepare to block off some time on your Wednesday evenings from 6:30-7PM beginning October 7! (please note we will stay on until 7:30PM on October 7th only)**

Current 6-9th grade youth: TONIGHT Wednesday, October 7 @ 6:30PM Zoom parent and student meeting. We will go over our new Confirmation curriculum plan and share some resources with you. You will NOT want to miss this meeting as it will include lots of important info. We are NOT expecting families to participate in a weekly zoom, so we appreciate your attendance at this one session.
Confirmation ZOOM Meeting
Meeting ID: 873 7175 5500

Please mark your calendars for
Wednesday, October 28th for our 2nd annual,
but first-ever **Drive Thru Trunk or Treat!**
ALL are welcome to join the fun from 5:30-7PM!
Social distancing, masks, and safety measures will be taken!
Want to host a trunk?! Sign up HERE!!
We look forward to providing a safe and fun night of generosity and merriment with our neighborhood families! Stay tuned!

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DRIVE-THRU COMMUNION DATES!

For those worshipping from home, you are invited to participate in drive-thru communion directly following the worship service on the following dates from 10:30-11:30: **10/11, 10/25.**

If preferred, Pastor Annie is also happy to provide an at-home driveway communion visit for you! Please contact her directly to schedule a visit! (hopelutheranpastor.rf@gmail.com, 309-781-0509) OR call the church office! She looks forward to these visits, so please do not hesitate to ask!

All elements are prepared safely using masks and gloves.
Pastor Annie will be masked when you arrive or during her visit!

We Need Worship Assistants!

The Worship Ministry is seeking volunteers to assist with in-person worship. If you are available for the following roles, please use the same Sign-Up Genius link as you do to register for worship each week!

Please see the attached updated usher roles to learn about these roles. This week's LINK:

- ✞ Reader & Prayer Leader
- ✞ Altar Flowers
- ✞ Communion prep*
- ✞ Ushers*

**these roles have some new protocols that we will train you on!*

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Virtual Talk!
Monday, October 12th
6:00—7:30 pm
River Falls Public Library
Facebook Live or Youtube Channel

River Falls Municipal Utilities invites business and residential customers to: Public Power 2020 Fall Events as follows:

Fall Cleanup is October 5-10, 4pm - 8pm Mon-Fri, 8am-1pm Sat.: car seats, carpeting, furniture, mattresses, minor construction debris and miscellaneous garbage etc. are accepted.

Electronics Recycling is October 17, 9am-1pm. Computers, TVs, cell phones, batteries, lightbulbs etc. are accepted.

Both events are FREE and contactless at the River Falls Public Works garage 950 Benson St. . Bring a form of ID and copy of recent River Falls Municipal Utilities bill. Questions call 715-425-0900.

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HOPE for CREATION
Communities of faith partnering for a sustainable future.

VOTING and CARE for CREATION

A message from River Falls Hope for Creation
Communities of faith partnering for a sustainable future

Election Day is quickly approaching: Tuesday, November 3rd
Our vote matters. We have a chance and responsibility to cast votes for candidates who are working toward increased care for creation.

As you prepare to vote, please ponder these statements from the ELCA (Evangelical Lutheran Church in America):

> We of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America are deeply concerned about environment, locally and globally, as members of this church and as members of society. Even as we join the political, economic, and scientific discussion, we know care for the earth to be a profoundly spiritual matter. (A Social Statement on: Caring for Creation: Vision, Hope, and Justice: Prologue)
>
> As members of this church, we commit ourselves to personal life styles that contribute to the health of the environment. Many organizations provide materials to guide us in examining possibilities and making changes appropriate to our circumstances.
>
> We challenge ourselves, particularly the economically secure, to tithe environmentally. Tithers would reduce their burden on the earth's bounty by producing ten percent less in waste, consuming ten percent less in nonrenewable resources, and contributing the savings to earthcare efforts. Environmental tithing also entails giving time to learn about environmental problems and to work with others toward solutions. (A Social Statement on: Caring for Creation: Vision Hope, and Justice: V. Commitments of this church, A. As individual Christians)
>
> For further information please contact either Bill or Kay Montgomery, HOPE Lutheran Church representatives to Hope4Creation-River Falls.

Thank you for committing to vote.

This Week At HOPE - October 7, 2020

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IN-PERSON WORSHIP PRE-REGISTRATION FAQs

1. Who needs to register? Anyone planning to attend the in-person Sunday morning worship option.
2. What do I need to do? As we resume in-person worship services, **we ask that you please pre-register** to help us prepare our space and ensure that we stay at a safe number for gathering! Abiding by this recommendation aids our local health department officials in being able to conduct contact tracing within 24 hours in the event of an outbreak.
3. When is the registration deadline? **There is no deadline to register.** You can register all the way through Sunday morning, *as long as there are still slots available*. The only thing that would block you from registering is if all slots are already filled.
4. Where? **Here are the links to the next 3 Sunday registrations (they can also be found on the church website):**
    a. **October 11th Pre-registration link:**
    https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040448A4A82DA5F49-october1
    b. **October 18th Pre-registration link:**
    https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040448A4A82DA5F49-october2
    c. **CONFIRMATION SUNDAY October 25th Pre-registration link:**
    ******Please note a special sign-up block for families of confirmands******
    https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040448A4A82DA5F49-october3
5. How?
    a. Click on the link of the Sunday you are registering for
    b. Click the “sign up” box
    c. Cliick “submit and sign-up”
    d. Enter any necessary comments and make sure to update the “quantity” column if you are signing up additional members of your family or bringing a guest.

Click “sign-up now” and you are all set!

If you need assistance registering, please contact the church office Mon-Thurs. 8:30 -3:00.

Please see “Hope Lutheran Church Resuming In Person Ministry Plan” for further details.

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Asylum Family Sunday-Sunday, September 20th

Hope Mission Ministry Team is inviting Hope members to give generously in support of our Asylum Family from Guatemala, Heidi and her four children, and other future refugee needs the third Sunday of each month. Hope members have this opportunity and invitation to join with other River Falls congregations in this special offering. Your gift can be given directly to Hope Lutheran, designated for the Ecumenical Asylum Committee, which will then be forwarded to the families through the committee. Thank you for your support!

OWS (Outdoor Worship Service) Weather Plan:

For the next few Sundays in October, here is our plan for communicating with you about any potential Sunday morning OWS weather related cancellations. In this event *only the YouTube online service will be available.*
The following will be the process:

- If the weather looks iffy, a quick call prior to 6pm will be held between Pastor Annie, Exec and Worship ministry to make the decision.
- The decision will be made **by 6pm** the night before (Saturday)
- **IF** the decision is to cancel the OWS for that Sunday, we will post a notification on the Facebook page and on the Hope Luther website after 6pm.
- If the plan is to hold the service, there will be no posting. We will only post IF the OWS is cancelled and we will only be holding the YouTube on-line service.

We hope and pray that the weather continues to be nice on Sunday mornings thru October, as the plan is to hold OWS for each of the next 3 Sundays!

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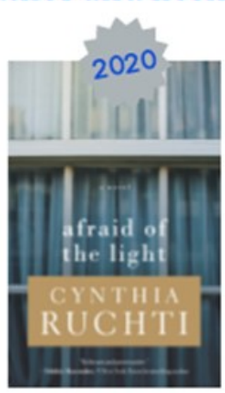
HEMMED in hope

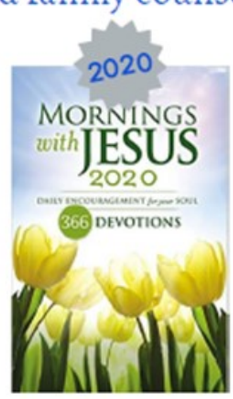
Virtual event with author

Cynthia Ruchti

"Cynthia Ruchti writes fiction (and nonfiction) that touches people's hearts. Her work is often as significant as what professional counselors do in their therapy sessions to heal people's emotional wounds. I highly recommend her novels."

Dr. Judith Rolfs, author and licensed family counselor





Thursday, October 8, 2020
6 PM – 7 PM

Facebook Live or YouTube

RIVER FALLS PUBLIC LIBRARY

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Please lift up the following people in prayer

Luke Stang
Pat Ingram (Friend of Karen Brohaugh)
Susan Traynor (Friend of Kathy Scott)
Carol Moenke
Dylan Nitti (Olive Olson's Grandson)
Nic Gutierrez
Gary Siebold
Oak Reiley (Nancy Sailer's Cousin)
David Hendrickson
Kelly Brenna Luckey (friend of Lisa Ziebarth)
Jim and Ila June Pratt
Ida Mae & Bud Ziebarth (Mark's mother & father)
Jerry Brandt
Lane Branson (relative of Boock family)
Susan Rehr (friend of Kathy Scott)
Lisa Sigfrids (relative of the Boocks)
Dorie (sister of Michelle Leisz)
Cody Castillo (friend of Linda Jacobson)
Debi Forsyth (friend of Linda Jacobson)
Jon Boyce
Jay and Jeri Jorgenson (friends of the Bohnerts)
Marilyn Schmidt (Darcy Boock's sister-in-law)
Nichole Bates (friend of Lizzy Rodewald)
Steve & Beth Pugh (friends of Karen & Jeff Rodewald)
Rod Cina (son of Mary Solum)

Krista Spieler thanks HOPE Lutheran and God for your prayers this year while she has been recovering from a stroke.

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October Birthdays	Date
Carolyn Jackson	2-Oct
Nancy Sailer	3-Oct
Connor Malaney	5-Oct
Karissa Bondus	7-Oct
Morgan Torntore	15-Oct
Kermit Paulson	16-Oct
Karen Brohaugh	18-Oct
Arol Thompson	20-Oct
Pastor Annie	22-Oct
Nathan Clark	22-Oct
Charles Pratt	28-Oct
Carrie Knudsen Hendrickson	29-Oct
Nick Johnson	30-Oct
Kristin Eaton	30-Oct

October Baptisms

Keith Getschel
Sarah Bondhus
Nancy Peters
Carolyn Jackson
Paula Klacan
Erin Nelson
Madison Ziebarth
Danielle Tokheim
Lillian Brill
Deb Tokheim

October Anniversaries	Date	Years to Celebrate
Roger & Verna Tweiten	21-Oct	59
Jerry & Naomi Brandt	26-Oct	57
Ryan & Samatha Brill	24-Oct	11