

This Week at HOPE February 24, 2022



FAITHFULLY ENGAGING BLACK HISTORY MONTH: Week 4

By Pastor Annie Ladnier

Welcome to the fourth and final week of Black History Month! Over the last three weeks I have shared a bit about my own journey of intercultural development and anti-racism work, and then have shared some resources I have found particularly helpful. Each week I have shared things to read, things to watch, and things to listen to (you can find the archived TWAH editions on the church website to see the resources I named over the last 3 weeks).

You have likely noticed that all the resources I have shared so far have centered on black voices, or in gaining awareness of black experiences and contributions. Certainly, there are other groups of people whose stories we were not taught, who have faced oppression, and felt the direct impact of the sin of racism. But *this month is Black History Month, so I have centered on those resources. This week I lift up my "Final 5"--a small selection of some of my favorite resources for your continued exploration.*

On Wednesday we had the gift of participating across generations for an evening centered on Racial Equity and Faith. Together, we explored the wider meanings of racial equity. Who does it involve? What difference does it make? Why should it matter to us as people of faith? How do our generational perspectives influence this? The discussion expanded beyond "black and white" and did so once again centering on Jesus and what he invites us into: The Kingdom of God. Led by Jesus, we hold the word of 1 Corinthians 13 in the forefront as we do this important work: "Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things."

Here are my final 5 things to check out for Black History Month:

1. Read: *Read Until You Understand* by Farrah Jazmine Griffin. *This book came to me by way of another HOPE member. She writes, "She discusses literature, poetry and art influence from black artists since the 1800's. It's a compelling read. She also covers contrasting views of black notable writers or preachers. There is a section on the church and love.*
2. Read: *The Bluest Eye* by Toni Morrison. *This book has been in headlines lately for being banned in some school districts. As you read it, consider the implications of why some people think this should be banned? What do you think?*
3. Watch: *Hidden Figures* Tells the story of a team of female African-American mathematicians who served a vital role in NASA during the early years of the U.S. space program.
4. For Children-Book (ages 4-8): *The Day You Begin* by Jacqueline Woodson. *This story and art reminds us that we all feel like outsiders sometimes-and how brave it is that we go forth anyway. When we reach out and begin to share our stories, others will be happy to meet us halfway.*
5. For 13+ Book/Movie: *The Hate U Give* by Angie Thomas. *Inspired by the "Black Lives Matter" movement, Thomas writes about sixteen-year-old Starr Carter. She moves between two worlds: the poor neighborhood where she lives and the fancy suburban prep school she attends. The uneasy balance between these worlds is shattered when Starr witnesses the fatal shooting of her childhood best friend Khalil at the hands of a police officer. Khalil was unarmed...*

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**SATURDAY
FEBRUARY 26TH
6-7:30PM**

HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH
3337 KINGSBARN AVE

ALL ARE INVITED!
ENJOY COCOA & COOKIES

Lighting Hope
WINTER LUMINARY WALK

A smaller version of the HOPE Lutheran Church logo is located in the bottom right corner of the graphic.

WHO: EVERYONE! Family, friends and neighbors!

WHAT: Enjoy a winter snowshoe/hike around our luminary-lit pond followed by a hot cocoa and cookie pick-up in Winds of the Spirit afterward!

WHEN: Saturday, February 26, 6:00 -7:30 pm

WHERE: HOPE *Winds of the Spirit* & Pond trail

WHY: A safe & family friendly activity during this socially distant time, chance to see & connect, get some exercise, and enjoy the beauty of nature at nighttime!

Please wear a mask and stay socially distanced from other families.

Volunteers are needed at 3PM to help set the luminaries out!
This is a great service project for younger families!
Contact Pastor Annie or Karen Brohaugh if you can help!

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Our 2022 Lenten journey begins with Ash Wednesday next Wednesday, March 2 this year! Our theme is *Full to the Brim: An Expansive Lent*. “The origins of Lent were that one was to leave their old life behind to fast and prepare to be baptized into a new way of living. In essence, this was a practice of stepping away from corrupt power, scarcity mentality, and empty rituals in order to live a more expansive and full life of faith. And so, our Lenten theme, Full to the Brim, is an invitation—into a radically different Lent, into a full life. It’s an invitation to be authentically who you are, to counter scarcity and injustice at every turn, to pour out even more grace wherever it is needed. When we allow ourselves to be filled to the brim with God’s lavish love, that love spills over. It reaches beyond ourselves; like water, it rushes and flows, touching everything in its path.” Be on the look-out for more information on this year’s Lenten theme!

Our Expansive Lent begins with these Ash Wednesday opportunities:

12:00-1:00PM: Drive Up Ashes

7:00PM: Traditional Ash Wednesday Service both in person and livestream*

AT HOME LENT KITS! Will be available beginning THIS SUNDAY, 2.27.22 on the back table in the sanctuary. They will include devotional material, some worship props, and ashes for those who need them. Please contact Pastor Annie if you need these brought to you!

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Wednesdays in Lent: Filling Wiley's Wardrobe from Full Tables!

Join us each Wednesday evening from the comfort of your own dinner table (or couch, or wherever you are!) for an interactive, relational, and contemplative [Zoom worship experience!](#) Phil Klacan will lead us in music, our children and families will lead us in stories lifting up our mission theme, and we'll take intentional time to connect with one another.

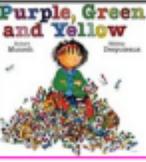
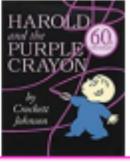
We WANT you to see this as a time for being “filled to the brim”- in whatever space is comfortable for you, gathered with your family in your home and gathered with your larger faith family! We hope that by worshipping via [Zoom](#), you don't have to worry about the rush and hustle of getting one more place on a busy evening! This is our 3rd year of worshipping this way during Lent because the time together in small groups is truly wonderful. Join us at 6PM to be filled with peace, filled with praise, and filled with God's love and grace!

40 Days of Lent

Wiley's
Wardrobe

River Falls
High School

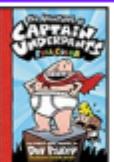
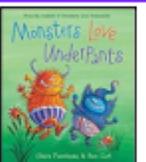
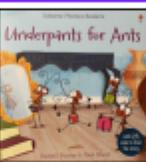


Week 1
March
2 – 12

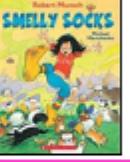
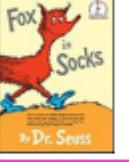
Hats | Gloves/Mittens | Mechanical Pencils | Pens | Colored Pencils | Fine Line Markers | Notebooks | Folders

Week 2
March 14 – 19

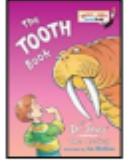
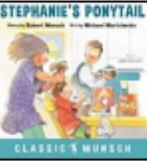
Briefs/Boxers – Guys XS – XXL
Bikini Cut/Briefs – Gals XS – XXL

Ankle or Low Cut Socks for Guys and Gals

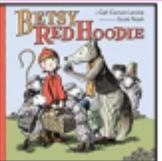
Week 3
March 21 – 26

Week 4
March 28 – April 2

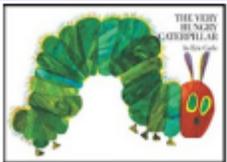
Toothbrushes | Toothpaste | Ponytail Holders
Shampoo | Conditioner | Body Wash
Deodorant | Feminine Hygiene Products

T-Shirts | Long-Sleeved T-Shirts | Hoodies
Sweatshirts | Pants/Jeans | Joggers

Week 5
April 4 – 9

Week 6
April 11 – 16




Granola/Protein Bars | Applesauce | Beef Jerky
Instant Oatmeal | Mac 'n Cheese Cups |
Ramen Noodles/Microwavable Soup Cups
Juice Boxes | Water | Peanut Butter & Crackers

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SUMMER CAMP REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!

Luther Point Bible Camp, located in Grantsburg, WI has opened their registration! WONDERFUL camp experiences for children, youth, and entire families are available this summer! Day camp options for our youngest friends, half-week overnights, full-week overnights, and some awesome FAMILY/Grandparent Camps too! Jr. High and High School camps also exist and for our 10-12 grade youth, the opportunity to be a camp B.U.D.D.I.E for 2 weeks is also an option! I highly encourage families to check this out!

CALLING ALL AT-HOME READERS, GREETERS, & PEACE SHARERS!

As we continue to celebrate our new reality of hybrid worship and faith community we are hoping to engage more of our at-home audience! **We are looking for those willing to record the Sunday readings, good morning/welcome greetings, and messages of sharing the peace!** These recordings will be shared in our livestream service! Video recordings are preferred, but audio recordings of the readings will also be accepted! Participants can record themselves using their own device or set-up a time to be recorded at HOPE. This is a GREAT way for families with children to participate as well! We'd love to see more of our at-home faith family!

You can [SIGN UP HERE](#) if you are interested! You will be contacted with further instructions!

Afghan Refugee at Camp McCoy

HOPE Mission Ministry is inviting members to support Afghan refugees from Camp McCoy with a special financial donation on the third Sundays of February, March, and April. Because of the lack of public transportation and our geographical location, it will not be possible for River Falls agencies to resettle any Afghan neighbors in River Falls. However through the agencies of Lutheran Refugee Immigration Services (LIRS) and Lutheran Social Services, our gifts will go directly to support refugees being resettled in Eau Claire with personal needs including dental care.

Thank you for your hospitality and generosity.

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Relay For Life of River Falls-Pierce County has returned to an in-person event scheduled Friday, April 1, 2022 (no fooling)! This community event, open for all, will be held at River Falls High School (schedule below).

We encourage family, friends and co-workers to create or join a team to raise funds for the American Cancer Society. **Fighting cancer takes a team!** Funds help those battling cancer, help with life-saving research, service programs, free rides and/or lodging to treatment, education and advocacy. Team sign up, secure donations and additional information about the event is found at www.RelayForLife.org/RiverFallsWI

If you prefer to write a check, please make checks payable to: American

COFFEE & CONVERSATION TUESDAYS @ 11AM!

Join with others from HOPE online via [Zoom](#) every week for a time of prayerful sharing and Bible study of our upcoming Sunday scripture texts! All are welcome!

Pastor Annie is back and hopes you join us every Tuesday at 11!

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February Birthdays

Name	Birth Date
Mason Filarsky	02-Feb
Bill Montgomery	04-Feb
Gwen Paulson	05-Feb
Susie Rudesill	05-Feb
Lisa Ziebarth	07-Feb
Michelle Hansen	10-Feb
Kyle Rudesill	10-Feb
Teresa Ginn	11-Feb
Connie Kurten	11-Feb
Dan Wunrow	15-Feb
Ryan Leitch	19-Feb
Diane Clark	20-Feb
Nikida Sandberg	22-Feb
Ryan Brill	23-Feb
Charles Eaton	24-Feb
Richard Jackson	25-Feb
Rosemary Nelson	25-Feb
Michael Hansen	26-Feb
Eric Rydland	27-Feb
Darcy Boock	28-Feb
Jody Rahn	28-Feb



February Baptisms

Cecelia Bernard
Kevin James
Grete Rebein

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Please lift up the following people in prayer

Kathy Granquist (Karen Brohaugh's niece)

Jerome Rodewald (Jeff Rodewald's father)

Barbara McIntosh (Joe McIntosh's mother)

Linda & Jesse Annoye Family (Relatives of Debra James)

Greg Rosenthal (Relative of Karen Brohaugh)

Gordon Hendrickson (Mary Thompson's brother)

Boyd Huppert (Rodewald family member)

Family of Darcy Livingston (Naomi & Jerry Brandt's Daughter)

Teajai Schmidt (Boock family friend)

Tom Roycraft (Grant Klacan's Father-in-Law)

Katie Drablos (cousin of Linda Jacobson)

Rev. Sarah Mayer-Flatt (Friend of Pastor Annie)

Dave Hallquist (Friend of Bill Montgomery)

Kris Miner (Friend of Faye Perkins)

Lee Hill (friend of Naomi & Jerry Brandt)

Duane Hall (friend of the Brohaughs)

Judy Karshbaum

Gary Siebold

David Hendrickson

Jim and Ila June Pratt

Jerry Brandt

Jon Boyce

Jay and Jeri Jorgenson (friends of the Bohnerts)

Fred Schmidt and family (Relatives of the Boocks)

Rod Cina (son of Mary Solum)



KIDS & TEENS IN GRIEF

AGES 5-18

YOU'RE NOT ALONE

When kids and teens hurt, we hope a band-aid and a hug will rid them of their pain. While this may work for a scraped knee, youth experiencing the death of a family member or close friend have wounds that go much deeper. With the help of a support group for kids and teens, families can work through their feelings of loss with the help of others in similar situations.

WE CAN HELP

Through participation in a support program, kids, teens, and caregivers alike learn they are not alone in coping with the painful reality of death.

Our trained facilitators will address each young person's needs, according to their age, maturity, and the complexities of their loss. They help the youth:

- Experience the pain of grief
- Accept the reality of their loss
- Discover new ways to cope in the absence of their loved one
- Reinvest energies in everyday activities
- Learn to love and trust again

ACKNOWLEDGE, PROCESS AND HONOR YOUR GRIEF

Each session focuses on specific objectives and offers activities that are educational and supportive. The five-week program encourages kids and teens with opportunities to express their grief through art, music, photographs, and group discussion.

 Lakeview Hospital
927 Churchill St W
Stillwater MN 55082

**TUESDAYS, JAN 25 –
FEB 22, 2022**

**VIRTUAL THROUGH
ZOOM**

6:00PM – 7:15PM

Free, preregistration
required in link below.
Registration deadline
January 20, 2022

<https://forms.gle/Zsx2XKgt5TDeF3qb6>

For more information contact:
Monique Dossall
Grief Group Coordinator
stcroixchaplaincvassoc@gmail.com

PROGRAM ACTIVITIES:

**Session 1: Welcome,
Getting Acquainted**

*What is death and why
do people die?*

**Session 2: Keeping
Memories Alive**

What are grief feelings?

**Session 3: Learning
Coping Skills**

*Finding comfort and
support*

**Session 4: Coping with
Role Changes and
Special Days**

*Expressing and
communicating feelings*

**Session 5: Sharing Our
Memories &
Celebration!**

*Remembering through
memorials*

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Dear HOPE,

As we get into the swing of indoor worship, please remember that our Ministry Council is requiring that ALL worshipers wear masks before, during, and after the service. The only exception is for the worship leaders or those making announcements - while they are up front. You may also drop your mask for taking communion from your seats. Remember to thank your friends if they happen to need to remind you. I appreciate your attention to this detail as we try our best to protect our whole faith community.

Sincerely,
Ryan Brill
HOPE President



HOPE COVID POLICY

Updated 10.05.21

Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. (Philippians 2:3-4).

On the advice of our local county health departments and the CDC, due to both St. Croix and Pierce counties being in "High Transmission" levels, our Worship and Exec ministry teams have currently updated our policy for indoor gatherings at HOPE due to increased infection numbers caused by the Delta variant of Covid-19.

1. **We are now requiring masks for all indoor gatherings/meetings, regardless of vaccination status.** We hope this requirement will be for a limited time until infection numbers decrease and vaccination numbers increase. With the beginning of another school year, we are particularly concerned for the well being of our youngest members, those who cannot yet receive a vaccination. Masking will help prevent sharing viral loads with children as well as parents and caregivers of little ones. It will also better serve those among us who are immunocompromised.

2. **Masking is not required for our outdoor gatherings,** but please continue to honor social distancing by family unit.

3. **Pastor Annie strongly encourages everyone who is eligible to do so, to receive a vaccine.**

a. Contact your family health provider for free vaccination for anyone 12+ **OR**

In St. Croix County: Vaccination clinics are held every Wednesday from 1-3PM at the St. Croix County service center in New Richmond, for everyone 12 and up. More info [HERE](#)

In Pierce County: Anyone 18+ who lives, works, or studies in WI is eligible. Appointments are at the Pierce County Public Health Department. You can schedule a vaccination [HERE](#)

*Please be prepared that depending on the severity of infection rates at that time, our singing and communion practices may be altered. Masks will be enforced indoors until we are out of the St. Croix advisory zones of red and orange.

We acknowledge these steps are inconvenient and feel like a step back from some of the progress we made! Unfortunately it is a necessary inconvenience at this time so that we can continue to gather safely in person and protect those most vulnerable in our midst. We appreciate your patience, prayerfulness, and understanding.