This Week at HOPE April 13, 2022

MAUNDY THURSDAY

Full to the Brim { *Take off your shoes*

Water Marks

Jesus probably kneeled down.
He probably took Peter's heel
in his hands
to wash his feet.
And I wonder if they both thought of Jacob—
the heel-grabber,
the trickster who wrestled
with God.
I wonder if it felt like a do-over,
a fresh start for creation.
I wonder if the basin overflowed
when Jesus poured the water out.
I wonder if it splashed,
leaving water marks on the floor—
proof that love was really there.
I wonder if I would have let Jesus do the same.
Would I have been like Peter and said,
"Not just my feet but my head and my hands"?
I suppose I can look at my life today
and answer the question.
Have I allowed myself to be loved?
Are there water marks on the floor?

Maundy Thursday Prayer by Rev. Sarah A. Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

This Week at HOPE April 13, 2022

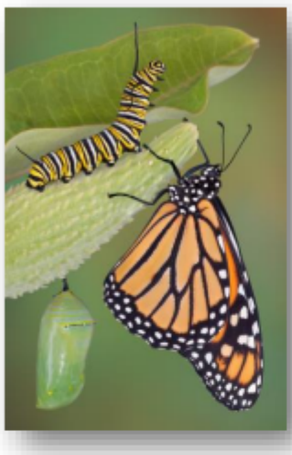
It is Finished

One day,
one day
we will say,
"It is finished"
and *not* in reference to
the suffering that took place
in a school shooting,
in a police raid,
in a boat of immigrants
packed too tightly.
One day we will say,
"It is finished,"
but *not* in reference to
a fight against addiction,
another catastrophic storm,
a broken marriage that got
lost along the way.
One day,
one day
we will say,
"It is finished"
and only mean the
book we just read,
the cake we just baked,
the song that made us sing,
the meal around the table,
the familiar drive back home.

Until then
I will say,
"I am thirsty,"
but I still believe
in one day.
One day.

Good Friday Prayer by Rev. Sarah A. Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

This Week at HOPE April 13, 2022



Easter Message from Bishop Laurie Skow-Anderson
April 2022

2 Corinthians 5:17 So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

Dear Northwest Synod of Wisconsin,

Christ is Risen! He is Risen Indeed! This is the good news of Easter. By God's power death is reversed and Christ is raised from the dead. Jesus' resurrection from the dead changes everything! Everything is made new.

Change is good news after two years of a pandemic, right? We are ready for a change. But are we really? Do we want everything to become new like we read in 2 Corinthians 5 or do we want the change to be a return to the old and familiar?

If Jesus' resurrection from the dead changes everything, then what has changed in your life? What difference does Jesus make in your life?[1] What has Jesus made new?

- What difference does Jesus make to my 35 year old nephew whose brain tumor came back, faces radiation treatments and is struggling with his ex for visitation of their three year old son?
- What difference does Jesus mean to our siblings in Malawi who are often threatened by drought, flood and famine or to Ukrainians whose homes were destroyed by a Russian bomb?
- What difference does Jesus make to a stable congregation deciding what their next most faithful step might be or to a declining congregation wondering if their next most faithful step is to close?

As Lutherans we believe that we are baptized into Christ's death and resurrection, we go under the water as a sinner and we are resurrected with Christ, lifted out of the water, a saint. We are changed for sure and we are reborn children of God! Theologically that's beautiful, but in real life, what difference does Jesus make in your life?

Christ Has Risen While Earth Slumbers

Christ has risen and forever lives,
to challenge and to change.
All whose lives are messed or mangled,
all who find religion strange.
Christ is risen, Christ is present,
making us what he has been:
evidence of transformation
in which God is known and seen.

As human beings, Christ's resurrection from the dead challenges us to live into that change. As broken sinful humans, whose lives are "messed or mangled"[2] we live into Easter reality that Christ is present and daily working in our lives. Jesus challenges and changes us. Those of us who doubt our faith and question its relevance are challenged by Easter's promise to see and know God in the transformed lives around us.

Friends we know that Jesus changes our weeping into laughing, our mourning into dancing, our despair into hope, our winter into spring and our death into life. Jesus changes things and makes all things new.

[1] Challenge: In 24 words or less, answer this question, "What difference does Jesus make in your life?"

[2] Inspired by the Hymn, *Christ has Risen While Earth Slumbers*, vs 4. All Creation Sings #938, ELW Supplement, Augsburg Fortress, 2020.

We are challenged to see the transformations around us and in us. We are challenged to be the change, evidence of the transformation, for the world to see and know God through us.

2 Corinthians 5:17-21

So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself,[a] not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

Kaleidoscope

Change Happens at the Speed of Trust

This Week at HOPE April 13, 2022

NEW THIS WEEK: Holy Week Listening

There are 2 great options for your continued devotional listening as delve into the Great Three Days of this Holy Week:
You can continue listening to the “Full to the Brim” Playlist: https://open.spotify.com/playlist/1FfRMbGJRTmrpzklUcJQ8R?si=157a93dc66f44850
A Special Holy Week Playlist curated by “Sacred Ordinary Days”:
https://open.spotify.com/playlist/7pjDiVVxdmEI072egE1Vzb?si=27b138b3c1ff4928

Looking for signs of Spring?

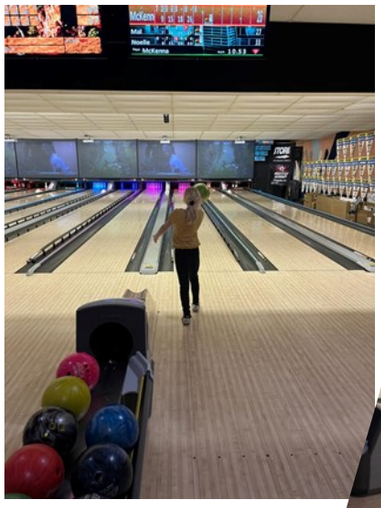
Come celebrate May Day with Lynda Meyers leading a Sunday morning bird walk on HOPE's property, May 1 at 8:15 am.

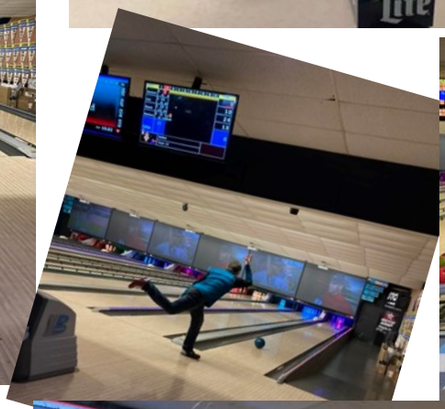
We will finish up by 9:15 giving time to prepare for worship at 9:30. No experience necessary!

Bring binoculars if you have them, and wear shoes or boots good for walking on un-even, unpaved trails. There will be a pot of coffee made for the finish of the walk.

Sponsored by Congregational Life.

This Week at HOPE April 13, 2022





HOPE raised $700 during our
Bowling for Ukraine Event!
Thank you everyone who helped make this event a success!

This Week at HOPE April 13, 2022

Since the beginning of the war in Ukraine on February 24, millions of people have fled the country and are seeking refuge in neighboring countries including Hungary, Moldova, Poland, Romania and Slovakia. There are major humanitarian concerns for both internally displaced people and refugees. Many of these Ukrainians fleeing their homes need shelter and such basic necessities as food, water and toiletries. Care for people also includes pastoral and psychological support to address the trauma they've endured.

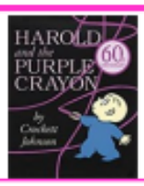
Lutheran Disaster Response is accompanying our companions in Ukraine, Hungary, Poland, Romania and Slovakia, as well as such ecumenical partners as Lutheran World Federation and Church World Service, in their humanitarian responses to the crisis. These partners provide refugees with immediate support and supplies such as food, blankets, water and hygiene kits.

Your gifts will support people impacted by this crisis. Gifts designated to "Eastern Europe Crisis" will be used in full (100%) for direct response to assist those affected.

This Week at HOPE April 13, 2022

40 Days of Lent — Wiley's Wardrobe

River Falls High School



Week 1

March 2 – 12

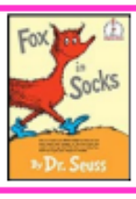
Hats | Gloves/Mittens | Mechanical Pencils | Pens | Colored Pencils | Fine Line Markers | Notebooks | Folders

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

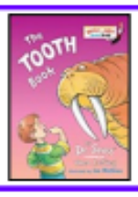


Week 3

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

This Week at HOPE April 13, 2022

PASTOR ANNIE OUT OF OFFICE

Pastor Annie will be out of the office Wednesday, April 20-Friday, April 22 while she attends her next learning retreat for the WI Synods Missional Leadership Cohort. She'll be traveling to Cedar Valley Church Camp in West Bend, WI. Please still call her with any pastoral emergencies and she will reply as soon as possible.

HOPE's Office will be closed on Monday, April 18th.

JOURNEY HOUSE CAMPUS MINISTRY BLOCK PARTY!

MONDAY, MAY 2, 2022
4-7PM
ALL ARE INVITED!
Set-up helpers needed!
Dessert Bakers needed!

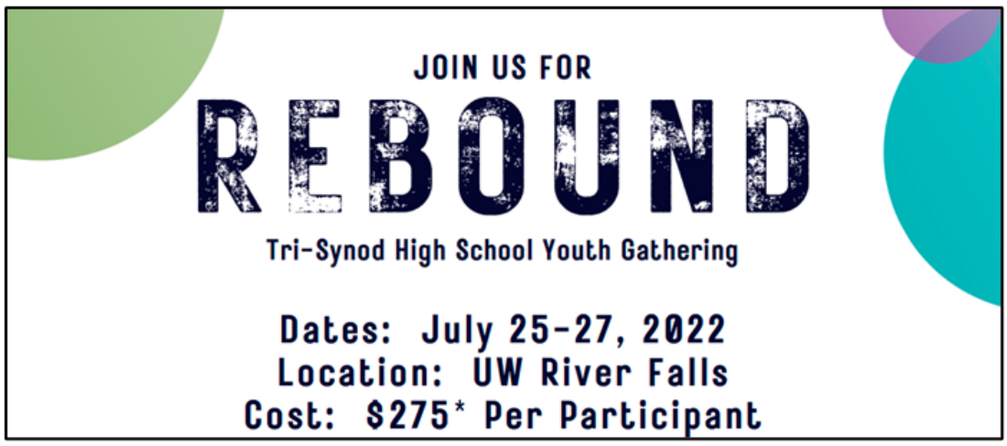
This Week at HOPE April 13, 2022

HOPE's Easter Garden

HOPE is planning to display an Easter Garden around the alter on Easter morning. If you would like to donate plants or flowers to the Garden, please drop yours off on the church kitchen island anytime from Palm Sunday (April 10) to Easter Saturday (April 16) at 9:00 am. We will be building our Garden at 9:00 am Saturday morning. Olive will check all plants and flowers that may need watering while she's in the office (through Wednesday). There will also be a sign-in sheet on the kitchen island. You can donate your Garden gift to be in celebration and/or in memory of loved ones.

This Week at HOPE April 13, 2022

April 20th	Cross Gen Night on Mission Partners in Malawi!	OPEN TO WHOLE CONGREGATION
April 27th	All About Holy Communion Lesson 1	Learning geared for both age groups
May 4	All About Holy Communion Lesson 2 (with bread baking!)	Learning geared for both age groups
May 11	MOVIE NIGHT: All ages viewing of *Encanto*	Wear your jammies, bring blankets/stuffies!
May 18	End of Year Celebration!	Art & mission projects, pizza, Sundae bar, & more fun!



All **CURRENT 8-12TH GRADE YOUTH & FRIENDS** are invited to this fantastic event in lieu of the ELCA Youth Gathering (which was canceled due to Covid complications). A $100 deposit and medical release form are due to Pastor Annie by **Sunday, MAY 22!** Youth who DID NOT initially sign-up for the Gathering now have the opportunity to attend this event! Youth families should check email for further details!
Individual HOPE member cost will not exceed $175 (hopefully less)
All youth previously signed up for the ELCA Youth Gathering have already made their deposit, but must verify that you plan to still attend!

This Week at HOPE April 13, 2022

HOPE's Community Garden

Interested in organic gardening? HOPE Garden has plots available (10'x50' or 10'x25'). Garden Rules are on the HOPE website main page under announcements. If interested, contact psrudesill@gmail.com by April 15th.

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!

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.

This Week at HOPE April 13, 2022

River Falls Municipal Utilities Business and Residential Customers

Electronics Recycling Event

APRIL 23, 2022 (SATURDAY) | 9AM-1PM

PUBLIC WORKS GARAGE, 950 BENSON STREET

(***Enter the event from Quarry Road***)

Items accepted at this free, contactless event:
Ballasts, Batteries, Cables & Wires, Cell Phones,
Computers, Dehumidifiers, Holiday Lights,
Light Bulbs, Monitors, Printers, TVs and more!

FREECYCLE

New!

Have an electronic that works, but you no longer need it?

Freecycle is an area to drop off working electronics that someone else might use.

No computers at the Freecycle drop off.

Customers are limited to one trip for the event.

Please present a form of identification and a copy of a recent River Falls Municipal Utilities bill.

Website: www.rfcity.org/recycling

City of River Falls

POWERFUL CHOICES

This Week at HOPE April 13, 2022

Volunteer Opportunity! Earth Fest, a family-friendly sustainability event planned for Sunday, April 24, 2-5pm is in need of volunteers to help with set-up, clean-up and other tasks.

If you are interested please use this Sign Up Genius link https://tinyurl.com/EarthFestRF2022 to let organizers know.

For more information contact hope4creationRF@gmail.com

This Week at HOPE April 13, 2022

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

As we continue to celebrate our new reality of a hybrid faith community we are hoping to engage more of our at-home family! **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 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!

IN-PERSON WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Did you know that you can volunteer to help with parts of worship
AT ANY TIME!!!
Use **THIS GOOGLE DOC LINK** to sign-up to assist with our in-person worship!
Greeters, readers, communion set-up & servers, acolytes, ushers, Assisting Ministers & coffee fellowship hosts are all needed!
We pray you seriously consider serving your faith family in this way!

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!

This Week at HOPE April 13, 2022

Please lift up the following people in prayer

Leonard Sylte (Nancy Sailer's uncle)
Thomas & Dawn Wirth (Tessa Van Overbeke's parents)
Sherry Lubich (Jeff Rodewald's aunt)
Nicholas Simpson (Boock family friend)
Chuck Eaton
Linda Hidding (Nancy Sailer's cousin)
Ruth Sylte (Nancy Sailer's cousin)
Kathy Granquist (Karen Brohaugh's niece)
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)
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)

This Week at HOPE April 13, 2022

April Birthdays

Name	Birthday
Will Bohnert	2-Apr
John Hamilton	2-Apr
Sawyer Filarsky	4-Apr
Michael Stang	5-Apr
Jean Loudon	11-Apr
Traci Wolfe	11-Apr
Cathy Wunrow	11-Apr
Faye Perkins	14-Apr
Erik Eaton	25-Apr
Rougan Roquette	26-Apr
Jerry Brandt	27-Apr
Lori Leitch	29-Apr

April Baptisms

Margaret Anderson
Louis Bernard
Charles Eaton
Hazel Ladnier
Erik Oppegard
Sharon Paulson
Paul Perkins-Mcintosh
Jack Stang
Maxwell VanOverbeke
Erik Warner
John Warner
Kaija Warner
Ben Wunrow
Amanda Ziebarth

		Celebrating
Brian & Crystal Roquette	02-Apr	20 Years
Gary & Vicki Siebold	21-Apr	21 Years
Eric & Lisa Rydland	30-Apr	17 Years

This Week at HOPE April 13, 2022

UPDATE TO HOPE'S COVID GUIDELINES

3.16.22 Update

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his steadfast love endures forever!This is the Lord's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes. This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. -Psalm 118: 1,23-24

On Tuesday, March 15, the HOPE ministry council met and discussed our next most faithful steps in responding to Covid-19. Early in the pandemic, we committed to following the advice put forth by our local health department professionals, specifically that of the St. Croix County Health Department. So, today we are excited to announce an update to our Covd protocols, in alignment with the St.Croix County Health Department's update effective on March 7, 2022!
You can find the SCCHD most recent information at the following links:

Current Covid-19 Guidance
Current Coivd-19 County Level to determine current guidance

HOPE will follow the county's active recommendations based on this chart:

Level	Stay up to date on vaccines	Get tested if you have symptoms	Wear a mask
Low (Green)	Strongly Recommended	Strongly Recommended	Optional
Medium (Yellow)	Strongly Recommended	Strongly Recommended	Encouraged. Those at high-risk should talk to healthcare provider.
High (Orange)	Strongly Recommended	Strongly Recommended	Strongly Recommended

We are currently in a LOW (Green) level in our county, so **HOPE is currently making masks optional inside our building.**

As we move forward, we definitely enter a "new normal." We trust God to offer new ministry possibilities as we continue faithfully navigating this unique season! As we make this next faithful step, we encourage you to keep the following in mind:

1. While masks are optional as of TODAY, our masking policy WILL LIKELY CHANGE BASED ON RISK LEVEL. Please be prepared to be flexible as needed.
2. Please be respectful of the individual/family choice to wear or not wear a mask. There is no need for additional commentary about someone's choice. Trust that every person is making the best choice for themselves. Please still be respectful of people's personal space. This is a big adjustment for some people, and a simple, "is it ok if I hug you?" or "Is it ok for me to sit by you?" goes a long way. It is ok to tell someone you are not yet comfortable with close contact.

A few other notes:

1. **Holy Communion:** We began processing forward for the celebration of Holy Communion. Pastor will once again distribute the elements to you, with some offered for you to pick up if you prefer. As always, the pastor can come to you as needed! For those worshiping from home, please remember the Eucharist is intended to be celebrated in Christian community, within the context of worship, and at-home communion is being practiced only until we can all safely return together. Pastor is always available for homebound communion visits.
2. **Offering:**We will resume passing the offering plate for in-person worship as soon as we have ushers to assist. Online giving opportunities remain in perpetuity and you are encouraged to sign up!

Fellowship Time: We have been able to have fellowship for many weeks now, but have not had people willing to serve it. We would LOVE to resume this practice. You can sign up to host this time on our **HOPE Worship Volunteer Sign-Up**

1. **Hand Hygiene**: In light of updates for Holy Communion and Offering, please continue to practice good hand hygiene, taking advantage of the hand sanitizers placed around the sanctuary.

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