

Good Pleasure A Note from Pastor Annie

This Sunday we continue in Luke's Gospel keeping our attention on what Jesus has to say about possessions, worry and fear, and God's abundance. Each of our lectionary readings point to a God who desires nothing more than to reveal goodness to us. How do we trust that goodness? How do we cope when God's goodness seems to be in cognitive dissonance with our own sense of "goodness"? When we follow and abide in this kind of God, just *what* do we have to fear, little flock?

This week we begin sharing links to the readings for the upcoming Sunday, so you have some additional time to ruminate and pray over them. What is God revealing to you through these words this week?

[First Reading: Genesis 15:1-6](#)

[Second Reading: Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16](#)

[Psalm 33:12-22](#)

[Gospel: Luke 12:32-40](#)

For your additional reflection, here is a poem written by Steve Garnaas-Holmes of *Unfolding Light*:

Nothing held back

You read a story once about a miserly king
high in his tower, counting his gold,
grudgingly generous only to his most noble courtiers—
someone said it was about God.
But they made that up. It's not true.

Here's what I've seen:
the Grandmother of the Realm,
so happy for her little ones,
she spoils them rotten.
The mother who will die to shield her children.
The father who moves into the single-wide out back
so you can have the house.
The Lover of Heaven
who is so smitten by you
he gives everything to you, everything,
spends it all for one evening with you,
so in love he gives his own self away
every morning and every night.
There is nothing left over, nothing held back. Nothing.
Whenever the Beloved finds a new treasure—
a sunset or forgiveness or the blossoming of the pear,
or the best seat at the table—
they can't wait to put a bow on it and offer it to you.

Do not be afraid, little flock,
for it is your Mother-Father's good pleasure
to give you the Realm.

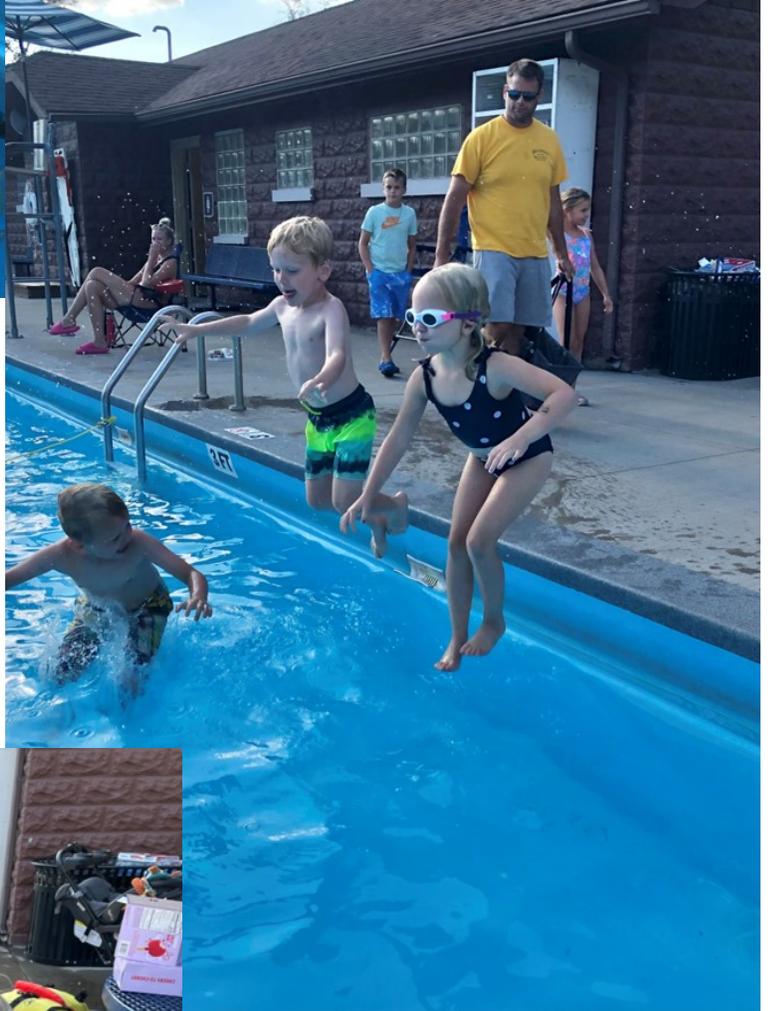
—Luke 12.32



Last Week's Pool Party Fun



This Week at HOPE August 3, 2022



This Week at HOPE August 3, 2022



It's that time of year again! We are once again partnering with local congregations and businesses to sponsor this important annual event in our community! Below is a list of items the program is in special need of, though all school supplies are welcome. **Items will be collected through Wednesday, August 10th here at HOPE.**

In addition to your donations, please prayerfully consider donating your time to this wonderful event! Volunteers are needed to help set-up and to accompany students with their shopping and shoe selection! K-12 volunteers are welcome but can only help with set-up and tear down, as this is a sensitive event for their peers! All adults are welcome! **You can sign-up to volunteer Sundays at worship OR by emailing Olive in the church office M-W 8:30-3pm ([hopelutheranoffice.rf@gmail.com](mailto:hoperlutheranoffice.rf@gmail.com)).**

Stacia Johnson is serving as HOPE's liaison and you can direct all questions her way: staciarjohnson@gmail.com

Items Most Needed:

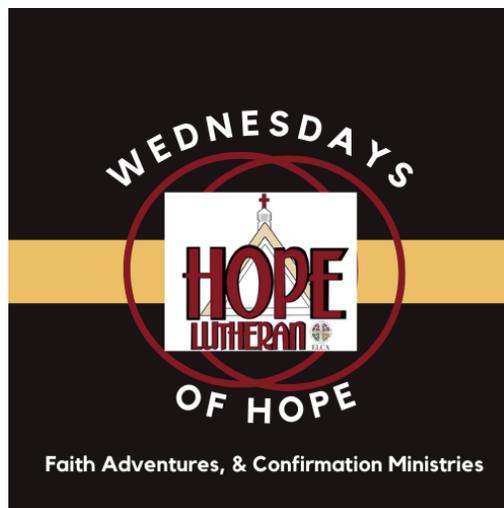
- Backpacks
- 3 Subject Notebooks
- Scissors (pointed for teen/adult)
- 3 Ring Binders (both 1" and 3")
- Sharpies (black fine and ultra fine point)
- Soft** pencil cases
- Crayons
- Earbuds

Volunteers are needed

- Monday, August 15th 10-11AM (set up help)
- Monday, August 15th 4-7PM (accompany students)*
- Tuesday, August 16th 9:45AM- 12PM (accompany students)

*If this is your first time, please arrive at 3:30PM

This Week at HOPE August 3, 2022



“Wednesdays of Hope,” our midweek faith formation opportunity, resumes next month! All K-10th+ grade youth (members AND friends) are invited to participate in either Faith Adventures (K-5) or Confirmation (6-10+). Additional parents and adults are needed to assist with teaching, projects, and outings! We are using a session format for this year. Families will be able to register for 1, 2, or all 3 sessions!

Mark these important dates!

- ✝ Monday, August 15: Online Registration Opens! (more info to come)
- ✝ 9.11.22: God’s Work, Our Hands Kick-Off Sunday & in-person registration (9:30AM)
- ✝ 9.14.22: Opening Campfire Cook-Out & Orientation (6-7PM)
- ✝ 9.21.22: First night of Session 1 learning (6-7PM)
- ✝ Session 1: September 21- November 16
- ✝ Session 2: January 18- February 22
- ✝ Session 3: April 19-May 10

In addition to our main sessions we will have additional service learning, art, milestone, and fun event nights throughout the year! All are welcome!



**HOPE IS HOSTING A 3RD
AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE ON
MONDAY AUGUST 8, 2022
SET UP 12 NOON
BLOOD DRIVE 1-6 PM
TAKE DOWN 6-7 PM**

SIGN UP SHEET (at church or call Kathy)

12-7 pm: Kathy Scott, 651-442-5189

_____ (name/phone)

Check people in and help with snacks:

1-3 pm: _____ (name/phone)

_____ (name/phone)

3-6: _____ (name/phone)

_____ (name/phone)

To sign up to give blood go to: <https://www.redcrossblood.org>

This Week at HOPE August 3, 2022



Summer Stretch
FOR BODY, MIND & SPIRIT
WEDNESDAYS, 6:30PM
JUNE 15-AUG 10
FREE!
Outdoor yoga, meditation, & reflection
bring a yoga mat, water bottle, & yourself!
3337 KINGSBARN AVE
WINDS OF THE SPIRIT PAVILION

WHAT DOES THE CHURCH SAY ABOUT...?
A SUMMER SERIES ON THE ELCA SOCIAL STATEMENTS
Sundays @ 10:30
June 12: Abortion
JULY 10: RECENTLY ADDED- Abortion Follow-Up
July 17: Community Violence
July 31: Civic Engagement
August 14: Next Steps
www.hopelutheranrf.com
@HOPElutheranriverfalls

REDO OF JULY 31 CONVERSATION: SUNDAY, AUGUST 14

“GOVERNMENT & CIVIC ENGAGEMENT” & Next Steps for HOPE

Here are some additional resources for discussion :

[A Social Message on Government and Civic Engagement in the United States:](#)

[Discipleship in a Democracy](#)

[Study Guide](#)

[Development of Social Statement on Government & Civic Engagement Timeline](#)

[Info about Task Force Members for this new statement](#)



Kinnickinnic Church Ice Cream Social

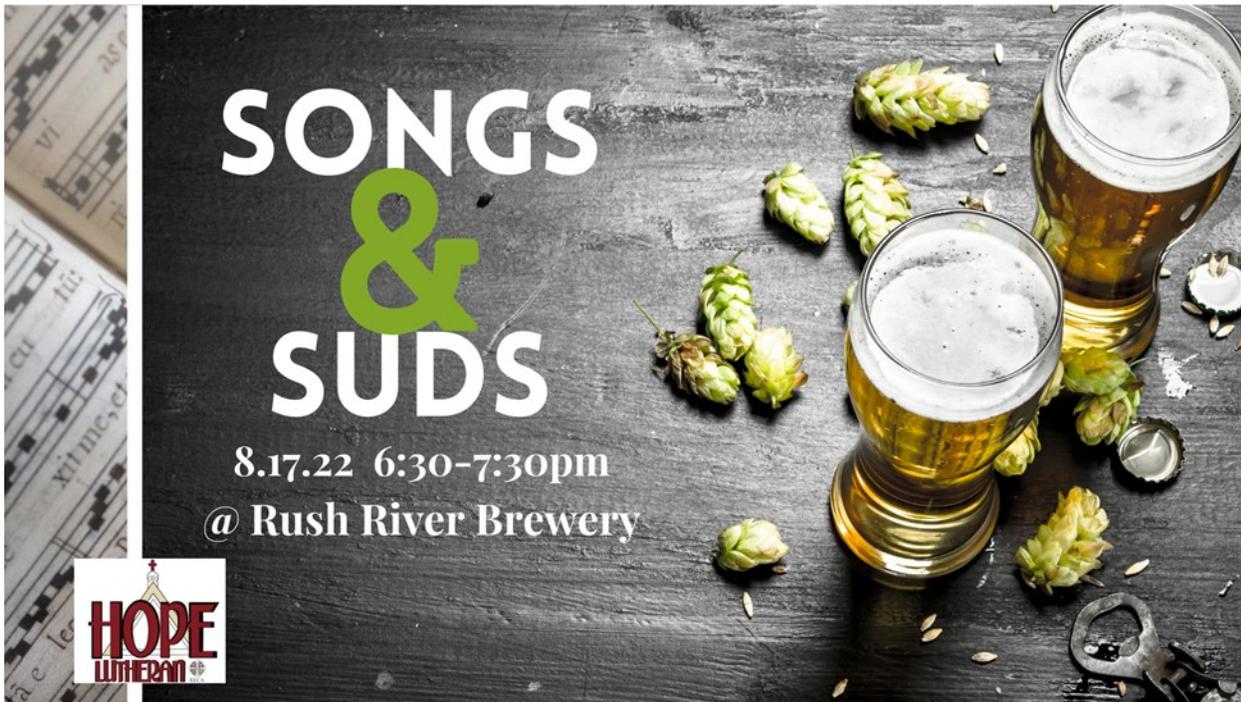
The Annual Ice Cream Social at the historic Kinnickinnic Church will be held this year on Sunday, August 7, from 2:00 - 6:00 p.m. in the churchyard.

The church is located on County J, less than a mile off of Hwy. 65, near River Falls.

Ice cream, homemade pie and root beer floats will be available, along with other beverages. Live music will entertain you as you socialize with neighbors and new friends.

Proceeds support the 150+ year old church, which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Check our Facebook page at Kinnickinnic Historical Association for more information.

This Week at HOPE August 3, 2022



Can You Donate...?

The worship ministry team is asking for the following donations to assist in creating hospitality in our Winds of the Spirit pavilion

- ✦ **New or gently used blankets for outdoor use** - to be placed in baskets for people to use if they get chilly!
- ✦ **New or gently used yoga mats** - for our guests to use during Summer Stretch for Body, Mind, & Spirit if they forget one!

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!

This Week at HOPE August 3, 2022



HOPE YOUTH KAYAK

WED, JUNE 15 6-7:30
TUES, JUNE 21 6-7:30
WED, JULY 13 6-7:30
WED, AUGUST 10 6-7:30

All HOPE youth are invited!
K-5th must be with a parent

Meet @ 249 State Rd 65N to kayak upper Kinni

**RSVP TO HOPELUTHERANPASTOR.RF@GMAIL.COM
BY DAY BEFORE**

A poster for an outdoor movie night. The background is black with a red abstract shape on the right side. There are yellow stars and a film reel icon. Two popcorn buckets with red and white stripes are shown. The text is white and red.

OUTDOOR MOVIE NIGHT!
WED. AUGUST 24TH 7:00PM

For all middle & high school youth!
Friends welcome!

HOPE Lutheran Church
3337 Kingsbarn Ave, River Falls

The HOPE Lutheran logo is located in the bottom left corner of the poster.

This Week at HOPE August 3, 2022



Please lift up the following people in prayer

The Grant Family (Friends of Olive Olson)
Milo Oppegard
Kevin Rodewald & family (Jeff Rodewald's brother)
David Stageberg (Carolyn Jackson's brother-in-law)
Bill Warner and family
Carin Perkins (Faye Perkins sister)
David Boock (Relative of the Boocks)
Jerome Rodewald (Jeff Rodewald's father)
Thomas & Dawn Wirth (Tessa Van Overbeke's parents)
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)
Boyd Huppert (Rodewald family member)
Teajai Schmidt (Boock family friend)
Tom Roycraft (Grant Klacan's Father-in-Law)
Rev. Sarah Mayer-Flatt (Friend of Pastor Annie)
Dave Hallquist (Friend of Bill Montgomery)
Lee Hill (friend of Naomi & Jerry Brandt)
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 August 3, 2022



August Birthdays



Name	Date
Mitch Nelson	1-Aug
Verna Tweiten	1-Aug
Samuel Leisz	5-Aug
Morgan Leitch	9-Aug
Amelia Forward	10-Aug
Natalie Leisz	13-Aug
Brynn Leitch	13-Aug
Steve Kaste	18-Aug
Lucy Meier	20-Aug
Lauren Ziebarth	24-Aug
Angela Bohnert	25-Aug
Paula Klacan	25-Aug
Keith Getschel	26-Aug
Lisa Rydland	29-Aug



August Baptisms

Joseph McIntosh
Kay Montgomery
Betty Lou Oppegard
Camryn Shea
Tanner Heinselmann
Cameron Leitch
Alexis Rehbein
Avery Tokheim

August Anniversaries



Name	Date	Celebrating Years
Richard & Carolyn Jackson	2-Aug	61
Kermit & Sharon Paulson	26-Aug	61
David & Nancy Peters	26-Aug	61
Milo & Betty Lou Oppegard	10-Aug	54
Jeff & Karen Rodewald	31-Aug	37
Grete & Chad Rehbein	15-Aug	13
Russ & Keri Jiskra	24-Aug	3
Jeremy & Traci Wolfe	12-Aug	

This Week at HOPE August 3, 2022



SUMMER OUTDOOR WORSHIP

The HOPE Executive Ministry and Worship Ministry teams want to apologize for incomplete communication regarding our summer worship plan! Please note the following in regards to our summer worship services:

We plan to worship outside in the Winds of the Spirit pavilion from June 5-September 4, 2022.

- ◆ You do NOT need to bring your own chair, though you are welcome to if you prefer!
- ◆ Windscreens will be utilized as we are able and as the weather necessitates them. We do have a broken motor and we are waiting on the part. Supply chain issues continue to be a reason for our patience.
- ◆ All services will still be livestreamed except for in the event of an emergency.
- ◆ A blanket basket will be available as added hospitality, of course feel free to bring your own!
- ◆ This is worship in a relaxed pace for the summer- please feel free to dress comfortably (as always) and for the weather.
- ◆ In the event of severe weather, service will move inside (severe storms, excessive heat, frigid temps).
- ◆ Why are we doing this?
 - To celebrate God's beautiful creation and allow people the chance to be outside while the weather is nice! Oftentimes people skip worship when the weather is nice because they don't want to be "stuck inside." Our property lends itself as a tool to encounter God in nature!
 - To honor the stewardship of gifts made in order to make the WOTS pavilion possible, especially your generosity in providing funds for the windscreens!
 - To be a visibly gathered community for our neighbors as they drive by, walk our paths, or have their apartment windows open!
 - We have made the plan to move out for a set period of time due to the work it requires to move the AV equipment outdoors. We simply do not have the people-power to move in and out weekly nor do we have double sets of all the necessary equipment!
- ◆ We hope you look forward to worshipping in our beautiful space and we look forward to the ways the Spirit connects with us this summer! If you have further questions or comments, please feel free to contact Pastor Annie or any member of the HOPE Ministry Council!

This Week at HOPE August 3, 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 Covid 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 Covid-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.