



Dear sisters and brothers of HOPE,

I am again borrowing the words Paul wrote to the people of Thessalonica when I say,  
*“How can I thank God enough for you in return for all the joy  
that I feel before our God because of You.”*

I am so grateful for the eight years we have spent together serving God’s church, HOPE Lutheran. Thank you for receiving Jed and me so graciously. We treasure our time with you, and all that you have shared with us. Hindsight allows us all to look back and see that the journey has been filled with growth and change. The steps of faith we’ve all taken have been God-guided, and it is my prayer that we continue to take thoughtful, God-guided steps in all our moments to come.

Thank you for yesterday’s worship service, one where I had an opportunity to sing to my heart’s delight. And thanks to all the musicians that enriched our service, beginning with a call to worship, ukuleles for the children’s message, a duet where the pastor lost her place in the music...

Following worship, we were blessed by Congregational Life’s wonderful brunch! You display the kind of hospitality that “sets the table” for all of us at HOPE to invite others to be a part of this community of faith. The morning closed with a time of more music and laughter. (One can never have enough of either of those two things.) I received MANY useful gifts to enhance my biking, music, love for Zoe and creative crafting. The gift to us of time on the houseboat is delightful and so very generous. Thank you! Jed and I checked the calendar and have already begun to plan our Rainy Lake adventure.

In December, and the season of Advent, we will continue to worship, visit, sing and laugh together. In January I will be on to other ventures, some known and others unknown.

With that in mind words fail me *“so let me say before we part, so much of me is made of what I learned from you, you’ll be with me like a handprint on my heart.”*<sup>1</sup>

With love in Christ,

*Pr. Sandy*

Stephen Schwartz, “For Good”



**Please lift up the following people in prayer**

Jason Phillips (friend of Karen Rodewald)  
Bernie Abrahamson (Nancy Abrahamson's husband)  
Jody Testaberg & his Family  
Charles & Lucy Ramshaw (Gibson family friends)  
Dorie (sister of Michelle Leisz)  
Robert Bakke (father of Debra James)  
D'Marie Murray (relative of the Boocks)  
Cody Castillo (friend of Linda Jacobson)  
Jerry Kendall (Cara Getschel's father)  
Santos Family - Asylum family  
Gloria & Art Johnson and Family  
Debi Forsyth (friend of Linda Jacobson)  
Cheri Boock (relative of Boock family)  
Jon Boyce  
Lane Branson (relative of Boock Family)  
Nancy Hawkinson (relative of Paula Klacan,  
friend of Darcy Boock)  
Ardis Johnson (friend of Betty Lou Oppegard)  
Bekka Johnson (niece of Betty Lou Oppegard)  
Jay and Jeri Jorgenson (friends of the Bohnerts)  
Craig & Jane Olson and family  
Brian Roquette  
Marilyn Schmidt (Darcy Boock's sister-in-law)  
Valerie Wietzke (sister of Karen Ottney-Kaste)

**Sunday Worship Volunteers**

**Sunday, December 9th**  
**Second Sunday of Advent**

⇒ Presiding Pastor	Sandra Johnson
⇒ Assisting Minister	Carl Warren
⇒ Communion Prep	Susie Rudesill
⇒ Bread Maker	Kari Heinselman
⇒ Communion Server	Youth
⇒ Ushers	Youth
⇒ Acolyte	
⇒ Greeters	Youth
⇒ Reader & Prayers	Youth
⇒ Pianist	Betty Lou Oppegard
⇒ Fellowship	Nancy Peters Keith & Cara Getschel

**Looking Ahead at HOPE**

Monday 12:30 – Communication Ministry Meeting  
December 3<sup>rd</sup> 4:30 – Congregational Life Ministry Meeting

9:00 – Strings of HOPE  
Wednesday 4:00 – Faith Adventures  
December 5<sup>th</sup> 5:30 – Pizza & Fellowship  
6:00 – Midweek Worship

Thursday  
December 6<sup>th</sup>

Saturday 9:00 – 10:30 – Children's Program Rehearsal  
1:00 – Lefsa Baking Event

Sunday 9:30 – Children's Christmas Program  
10:30 – Bake Sale

**Please note: There will be no Confirmation this week Wednesday, December 5th**

- ◆ Group 1 will meet 12/12
- ◆ Group 2 will meet 12/19.



**HOPE's Children's Christmas Program**  
**The First Christmas**

9:30 Service Sunday, December 9th

*This Week At HOPE - December 3, 2018*



## **HOPE Lutheran's Midweek Advent Worship**



***HOPE's First Wednesday in Advent is December 5.  
Join us for a free meal at 5:30, followed at 6:00 by  
a contemplative service of  
worship with the beautiful liturgy of Holden Evening Prayer.***

## This Week At HOPE - December 3, 2018



### December Happenings at HOPE

Monday December 3 <sup>rd</sup>	12:30 – Communication Ministry Meeting 4:00– Congregational Life Ministry Meeting 7:00 – Worship Ministry Meeting
Tuesday December 4 <sup>th</sup>	7:00 - Property Ministry Committee Meeting
Wednesday December 5 <sup>th</sup>	9:00 – Strings of HOPE 4:00 – Faith Adventures 5:30 – Pizza & Fellowship 6:00 – Midweek Worship-Holden Evening Prayer Service <b>7:00 – Carols &amp; Candles Rehearsal</b>
Thursday December 6 <sup>th</sup>	7:00 – Mission Ministry Meeting
<b>Saturday December 8<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>9:00 – 10:30 – Children’s Program Rehearsal</b> <b>1:00 – Lefsa Baking Event</b>
<b>Sunday December 9<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>9:30 – Children’s Christmas Program</b> <b>10:30 – Bake Sale</b>
Tuesday December 11 <sup>th</sup>	5:30 – Executive Ministry Meeting
Wednesday December 12 <sup>th</sup>	9:00 – Strings of HOPE 4:00 – Faith Adventures 5:30 – Pizza & Fellowship 6:00 – Midweek Worship-Holden Evening Prayer Service 6:30 – Confirmation Class <b>7:00 – Carols &amp; Candles Rehearsal</b>
<b>Saturday December 15<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>9:30 – Carols &amp; Candles Rehearsal</b>
<b>Sunday December 16<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>9:30 – Worship Service</b> <b>4:00 – Carols &amp; Candles</b>
Tuesday December 18 <sup>th</sup>	6:30 – Council Ministry Meeting
Wednesday December 19 <sup>th</sup>	9:00 – Strings of HOPE 4:00 – Faith Adventures 5:30 – Pizza & Fellowship 6:00 – Midweek Worship-Holden Evening Prayers 6:30 – Confirmation Class
Sunday December 23 <sup>rd</sup>	9:30 – Sunday Worship
<b>Monday December 24<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>4:30 – Early Christmas Eve Celebration</b> <b>9:30 – Evening Christmas Eve Celebration</b>
<b>Tuesday December 25<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Merry Christmas</b>
<b>Wednesday December 26<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>No Faith Adventures, Pizza &amp; Fellowship, Midweek Service or Confirmation</b> <b>Office Closed</b>
Sunday December 30 <sup>th</sup>	9:30 Worship Service

**HOPE’s Office Will be Closed During Christmas Week  
December 24th—December 29th**

# November in Pictures



## This Week At HOPE - December 3, 2018



### HOPE YOUTH MISSION FUNDRAISER: CHILD SITTING

When: Saturday, December 15th

Time: 11:00 am - 4:00 pm

Where: Hope Lutheran Church  
3337 Kingsbarn Avenue, River Falls, WI 54022

Cost: \$25.00 per family

Contact: Angela Bohnert at 715-781-3248 or email [babymakesfour@yahoo.com](mailto:babymakesfour@yahoo.com)  
if you would like to sign your child or children up for either date.

We are limited in the number of children so sign up as soon as you can.

Children must be toilet trained. We will provide toys, games, activities and a G rated movie. We will not be providing food.

### HOPE's Directories Are Here!



HOPE's directories are tagged with your name and are displayed on a table in the church. Please note only the members that have pictures in the directory are tagged. If you do not have a picture in the directory and would like a copy there are limited copies available. Please contact Olive in the office.



**Day Time Book Club Group** - Will meet on Monday, December 17th at 1:00. We will be meeting at Nancy Peters home 2633 Golf View Drive. Please join us and bring a treat if you would like.

This months book is "Goodnight Mr. Wodehouse, by Faith Sullivan-Nell Stillman's road is not easy. When her boorish husband dies soon after they move to the small town of Harvester, Minnesota, Nell is alone, penniless yet responsible for her beloved baby boy, Hillyard. Not an easy fate in small-town America at the beginning of the twentieth century.



## **International Student Services Seeking Partners for International Friendship Program**

The International Friendship Program supports new international students during their transition to campus by pairing them with a member of the local community. The program promotes cross-cultural understanding by providing participants with the opportunity to share in a variety of social and cultural activities. Additional information, including a registration form, can be found at <https://www.uwrf.edu/InternationalEducation/InternationalStudentServices/SucceedingatUWRF/InternationalFriendshipProgramIFP.cfm.Opportunities> are available to be paired with a student immediately or beginning spring semester. Email [kelsey.mclean@uwrf.edu](mailto:kelsey.mclean@uwrf.edu) with questions.



### **Lefse Day**

You don't have to be Norwegian to spend an afternoon at HOPE making lefse. Please join us on **Saturday, December 8th at 1:00 pm**. Bring your own lefse dough, one quart ziploc type bags, griddle, turning stick etc. The tasty lefse will be sold during fellowship time on December 9th.



### **Christmas Bake Sale**

Baked goods and holiday treats are needed for HOPE's Bake Sale on **Sunday, December 9th**. Proceeds from your lefse, cookies, bars, breads, pies, cakes, snacks, candy etc. will be donated to the River Falls Backpack Program. Remember to bring your checkbook or cash so you can go home with some delicious homemade goodies.



### **Carols and Candles Rehearsals and Program Dates and Times**

*The Carols and Candles Choir is a fun way to sing during Christmas. Carols and Candles is a peaceful and contemplative service during the midwinter sunset hour. Don't miss out on the opportunity to be a part of Carols and Candles. No singing experience necessary.*

#### **Rehearsals**

Wednesday, December 5, 7:00pm

Wednesday, December 12, 7:00pm

Saturday, December 15, 9:30am

#### **Program**

Sunday, December 16, 4:00pm



**December Birthdays**

Kaija Warner	1-Dec
Zoe Tokheim	2-Dec
Alexis Rehbein	3-Dec
Dale Bohnert	5-Dec
Mark Bondhus	5-Dec
Wendy Tokheim	11-Dec
Kathleen Berndt	13-Dec
Luke Filarsky	15-Dec
Sara Filarsky	15-Dec
Tyson Tokheim	15-Dec
Karen Hamilton	17-Dec
Grete Rehbein	17-Dec
Alyssa Boock	27-Dec
Cameron Leitch	27-Dec
Ella Wolfe	29-Dec

**December Baptisms**

Jed Reiten
Phillip Klacan
Kristin Eaton
Kari Heinselmann
Sandra Johnson
Robert Perkins-McIntosh
Sawyer Filarsky
Lindsay Getschel



**December Anniversaries**

	<b>Date</b>	<b>Years to Celebrate</b>
Edward & Gwen Paulson	26-Dec	
Gorden Hedahl & Jean Loudon	31-Dec	35
Gregg & Kari Heinselmann	27-Dec	32
Jed Reiten & Sandra Johnson	11-Dec	31



**Prayer Requests**

One of the privileges of being a part of the body of Christ is the opportunity to share in the joy and the sorrow of others. If you have a special prayer request or would like to place someone on the prayer chain, please contact the church office via email [hopelutheran.rf@gmail.com](mailto:hopelutheran.rf@gmail.com) or call 715-425-9750, and we will make sure to add that person to our prayer list.

HOPE also has an email Prayer Chain. If you would like to participate in praying for people asking for our prayers, please contact Sarah Bondhus at [sarahbondhus@gmail.com](mailto:sarahbondhus@gmail.com).

If you would like to know more about what's happening at HOPE please contact the office. Olive will be happy to send you Ministry Reports, Council Minutes and Financial Reports.