This Week at HOPE May 19, 2021

Pentecost 2021

This Sunday we celebrate the Festival of Pentecost! This festival Sunday takes place fifty days after Easter when we celebrate the outpouring of the Holy Spirit! We read about it in the second chapter of Acts. Crossing all boundaries that would separate us, the Spirit brings the wideness of God's mercy to places we least expect it—to a crowd of strangers of different lands and tongues, to dry bones, to our weak hearts. Jesus promises his disciples that they will be accompanied by the Holy Spirit, and that this Spirit reveals the truth. We celebrate that we too have been visited with this same Spirit. Guided by the truth, we join together in worship, and then disperse to share the fullness of Christ's love with the world.

I'd like to share this devotional poem for Pentecost with you this week. This is taken from, *Speak It Plain: Words for Worship and Life Together* by Rev. Meta Herrick Carlson.

There is a candle near the altar
that glows without rest.
Its flame dances in the hurricane,
safe and silent while we sleep.

Or is it?
This light is bold enough,
with or without us, to start a fire
where there was only dust and fear.

It flickers now, casting a glow
in the dim stillness of what we build,
the places we hide and wait for certain
signs of what will still be.

Perhaps this fire is waiting
on a wind so we can see
like our ancestors
a burning bush, a pillar of fire,
a burnt offering ablaze
with life that speaks.

Breathe deeply, church.
You are the wind
you are waiting for,
and the time has come
to kindle and flare
like tongues dancing,
like wax that drips without reserve,
Melting and molding for the luminous.

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Graduation PARTY

An Invitation from Diane & Nathan Clark

Please be our guests as we celebrate the graduation of **Nathan Clark** from River Falls High School.

Outdoor party -
June 6th from 3:30 - 6:30 at
Winds of the Spirit -
HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Fun food, Fun activities and a few Fun surprises!

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The Special Congregational Meeting held on May 12 approved this motion:

Allow HOPE's Property Committee to spend up to $17,352.00 over their budgeted amount to install wind screens on the Winds of the Spirit facility. Funding mechanism determined by HOPE's Exec/Council from 1 or more of: special fund raising, Jazz & More, use current savings, use current Capital Improvement fund, and/or add to the current Winds of the Spirit loan.
Voting: 33 - yes, 5 - no, 1 - abstain

A special thank you the Property Committee and all of the HOPE members who participated.

Keith Getschel

A Special Message From Mission Ministry

The RFSD senior class puts on a senior class party which is a lock in type set up with activities and drawings for prizes and gifts given out throughout the night.

This gives the students a safe way to celebrate their graduation year. This year it will be held June 4th. The mission ministry will be donating $100.00 to the party, but would like to give you the opportunity to add to this amount. If interested in joining this chance of giving, please write a check to HOPE and put Senior Class Party in the memo line.

Sorry for short notice, but we would like to have all monies by Sunday, May 23rd to give the organizers some time to purchase prizes with the monies.

Thank you and Bless you.
Angela

Journey House

Deacon David Behling of Journey House (which supports UWRF students in their faith journey) approached HOPE's council to promote awareness and to specifically ask if anyone would be willing to serve on the Journey House Board. If you are passionate about assisting young adults in their faith journey in any form and/or being a Board member, please contact Deacon David at: journeyhousecampusministry@gmail.com. NOTE: There are/have been other HOPE members on the Board. If you'd like to hear an 'insider' point of view, we can get you in touch with those members.

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REMINDER: WELCOME BACK TO IN-PERSON WORSHIP!

We are excited to be gathered together again for in-person outdoor worship. A wonderful and committed team of volunteers has developed guidelines and procedures for keeping us safe as we make this transition!. **Here are a 2 important reminders:**
1) Wearing masks is still required BOTH INDOORS AND OUTDOORS for all attendees over 5 years old regardless of vaccination status. This is so those who are vaccinated can now sing (whoo hoo!) Masks should completely cover the nose and mouth and fit snugly against the sides of the face without gaps. Please be mindful that there are still others who have not been or cannot yet be vaccinated (especially our children and youth who we would like to model safety for). Please be guided by our call to love our neighbor as we reunite in person.
2) Please remember to still practice physical distancing of 6 feet between family units.

To aid us in keeping everyone safe and to help us to prepare for worship, **we ask that you please pre-register if you plan to join us for worship**.You can do so at this link:

May 23 Confirmation/Graduation Pentecost Worship Registration

May 30th Sunday Worship Registration

Please note: there are spots for worship volunteers! If you have already signed up to help, or if you are interested in helping in this way, please make sure to register under that slot. There is no need to sign up for both a worship volunteer position AND as a worshipper.

We understand many of you may not feel comfortable returning yet, and that is okay! We also celebrate a number of people who join us for worship from various locations! We will continue to livestream our worship service on the **HOPE YouTube Channel** each Sunday at 9:30.
Please bear with us in these first few weeks as we make the shift to worshipping and broadcasting from outside!
Thank you for your patience, understanding, and flexibility during this time!

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St. Croix Valley Habitat for Humanity®

Please let us know if you would like to sign up to join for this Summer's Habitat for Humanity project in New Richmond. We are looking for five more people in June and July, and seven more in August (see dates below). You can sign up for one, two, or all three Saturdays.

Construction experience not necessary! From their site, "Don't worry, construction experience is NOT necessary. We have a great team who will help you learn!" ***Age, 18+. Volunteers 16 & 17 years old are welcomed with an adult guardian.***

When:

Saturday June 26 (4 spots left)

Saturday July 24 (5 spots left)

Saturday August 21 (7 spots left)

You can sign up on this Google Doc (or email dalebohnert@gmail.com)

https://docs.google.com/.../1-yLcF9dnruR3URj66sn9p0v.../edit

Let me know if you have any questions! In addition to "construction" workers (might be painting) we will also have additional ways for you to serve, e.g., serving meals, donations. Stay tuned!

Blessings!

Dale Bohnert

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WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS!

Check out **THIS GOOGLE DOC** to sign-up to help!

If you are interested in helping to make our Sunday LIVESTREAM worship possible, we'd love to incorporate your gifts! Pastor Annie is still looking for

1. readers/prayer leaders for upcoming weeks
2. additional ushers for resuming in-person worship
3. Those willing to learn the A/V technology!

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!

So brew your own cup and join us via Zoom meeting:

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/424556345?pwd=TllRQTlKY1dDdkkvK3RHdnl6a0Jjdz09

Meeting ID: 884 1915 5061

Passcode:593674

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Please lift up the following people in prayer

Doug Thompson
Don Bohnert (Dale Bohnert's father)
Julian Grev (Friend of Betty Lou Oppegard)
MaryKay Mahler (Friend of Olive Olson)
Bill Smith (Friend of Bill & Olive Olson)
Rev. Sarah Mayer-Flatt (Friend of Pastor Annie)
Dave Hallquist (Friend of Bill Montgomery)
Kris Miner (Friend of Faye Perkins)
Roger Hammer's Family (Friend of Bill Montgomery)
Candy Simpson (Cameron Shea's aunt)
Barb Grubba (friend of Naomi & Jerry Brandt)
Lee Hill (friend of Naomi & Jerry Brandt)
Duane Hall (friend of the Brohaughs)
Judy Karshbaum
Susan Traynor (Friend of Kathy Scott)
Carol Moenke
Gary Siebold
Oak Reile (Nancy Sailer's cousin)
David Hendrickson
Jim and Ila June Pratt
Jerry Brandt
James Glaubitz
Jon Boyce
Jay and Jeri Jorgenson (friends of the Bohnerts)
Marilyn & Fred Schmidt (Relatives of the Boocks)
Steve & Beth Pugh (friends of Karen & Jeff Rodewald)
Rod Cina (son of Mary Solum)

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May Birthdays

Melissa Kolb	2-May
Lillian Brill	12-May
Stacia Johnson	13-May
Hunter Rodewald	14-May
Cecelia Bernard	15-May
Tanner Heinselman	15-May
Camden Roquette	15-May
David Hendrickson	19-May
Shane Bondhus	20-May
Brady Sailer	22-May
Spencer Ziebarth	23-May
James Malaney	23-May
Kay Montgomery	25-May

May Baptisms

John Peter Eaton
Lee Getschel
Grant Klacan
Melissa Kolb
Jean Loudon
Bill Montgomery
Rosemary Nelson
Faye Perkins
Eric Rydland
Mason Shea
Zoe Tokheim
Carly Wunrow

May Anniversaries	Date	Years to Celebrate
Leonard & Connie Juaire	23-May	34
Michael & Michelle Hansen	28-May	
Bill Warner & Linda Jacobson	30-May	28