



LAST SUNDAY'S SERMON

A number of you have requested a document version of my sermon from last Sunday, September 26. I am humbled that it resonated so well for many of you. Here is a [GOOGLE DOC LINK](#) to the written version. Please forgive places where grammar is less than perfect, as I write to preach and not to read!

If you have trouble with Google Docs, you can also find a pdf attachment of the sermon with this week's emails. Thank you!



WEDNESDAYS @ HOPE!

On Wednesday evenings we meet for worship & faith formation at HOPE! Our night begins at 6PM and goes until 7PM for K-5th graders (a.k.a. Faith Adventures) and until 7:30 for our 6-10th graders (a.k.a. Confirmation). Each Wednesday we meet for worship, learning, service projects, and activities! We are mindful of the Covid Delta variant and how it might impact our time together. **Please note that masks are required for all indoor gatherings at this time in order to keep you safe!**

Beginning TONIGHT, September 29 our weekly schedule is:

6:00-6:30 Opening Worship and Theme Intro

6:30-7:00 Faith Adventures (pre-K-5th Grade children)

6:30-7:30 Confirmation Ministry (6th-9th grade, 10th graders included through October 13)

This Week at HOPE September 29, 2021



LAST CALL FOR REGISTRATIONS!

JULY 24-28, 2022 in MINNEAPOLIS!

All current 8-12th grade youth are invited to be part of NEXT summer's ELCA Youth Gathering July 24-28, 2022 in Minneapolis! This is an AMAZING event that you will not want to miss! Over 30,000+ ELCA high school youth and adult leaders gather every 3 years for a week of unforgettable faith formation. Time is spent in service projects, with awe-inspiring speakers and musicians, interactive learning, worship, and fellowship. It's a hard experience to put into words, but you won't want to miss it! Information has been emailed to all eligible families. For more information contact Pastor Annie (hopelutheranpastor.rf@gmail.com). We will be partnering with Our Savior's Lutheran youth group for this event!

A youth registration form and \$100 non-refundable deposit is due NO LATER THAN SUNDAY, OCTOBER 3!

Financial assistance is available through the ELCA Youth Gathering. Contact

This Week at HOPE September 29, 2021



SEASON OF CREATION ANIMAL SHELTER COLLECTION!

The final Sunday of our “Season of Creation” is October 3! As part of our “Blessing of the Animals” we are collecting items for our local animal shelters! You can bring in your items any time between now and October 3 and items will be blessed during worship! Here are a list of items we are collecting:

For Woodbury Humane Society:

- ◆ Clean bath towels
- ◆ Leads, leashes, and collars
- ◆ Gentle leaders, medium and large sizes
- ◆ Unopened pet food and treats in containers/bags weighing less than 10 pounds (no prescription food)
- ◆ Baby food with meat (for sick cats)
- ◆ Kongs, all sizes but especially the larger ones
- ◆ Newspaper (unshredded)
- ◆ Greenie’s Pill Pockets

For Coco's Heart in Hudson is as follows:

- ◆ New or gently used: kennels, beds, blankets, unopened food, and toys

A green flyer for the "Blessing of the Animals" event. It features three circular images: a dog, a cat, and a bird. The text on the flyer includes the HOPE LUTHERAN logo, the title "BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS", and the date and time of the event: "SUNDAY OCTOBER 3, 2021" and "BLESSING @ 10:30AM FOLLOWING WORSHIP".

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BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

*ALL ANIMALS & THEIR HUMANS
ARE INVITED FOR A SPECIAL
BLESSING (& TREAT!)*

*NEIGHBORS & FRIENDS ARE
ESPECIALLY WELCOME!*

**SUNDAY
OCTOBER 3, 2021**

**BLESSING @ 10:30AM
FOLLOWING
WORSHIP**

This Week at HOPE September 29, 2021



The Windscreens Are and Running!



This Week at HOPE September 29, 2021



Thanks to everyone who generously gave to the Noisy Offering last Sunday. We collected just over \$195.00 which will enable us to purchase 8 Renewable Energy Blocks per month for the next 12 months. Eight Renewable Energy Blocks provide more than enough electricity from renewable sources to cover HOPE's typical electrical usage for one year, so by purchasing these 8 blocks, we are able to also replace additional coal-produced electricity with electricity from renewable sources for our community!

The Winners of the At Home Worshippers drawing from HOPE's Green Team are:

Lillian Brill

Elise Forward

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A graphic for a "Trunk or Treat" event. It features a dark orange background with a subtle spiderweb pattern and several black spider icons. At the top center is a glowing jack-o'-lantern. Below it, the title "Trunk or Treat" is written in a large, bold, dark blue font, flanked by two horizontal white lines. Underneath the title, the event details are presented in a clean, white, sans-serif font, organized into three columns separated by vertical lines. The first column contains the date "27 OCTOBER 2021". The second column contains "ALL ARE WELCOME!! HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH" followed by the address "3337 KINGSBARN AVE, RIVER FALLS, WI". The third column contains "WED 5:30-7 PM NIGHT".

27
OCTOBER
2021

ALL ARE WELCOME!!
HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH
3337 KINGSBARN AVE, RIVER FALLS, WI

WED
5:30-7 PM
NIGHT

We'd like the children to "Trick or Treat" at least 15 cars. Please join us if you would like to decorate your trunk and have treats available for the children.

Contact Olive at the church office (hopelutheranoffice.rf@gmail.com or 715-425-9750) or sign up Sunday morning if you'd like to have some fun with the kids.

We are seeking 1-2 people/a family willing to help set up our decorations that afternoon!



NEW MEMBER & CONFIRMATION SUNDAY, OCTOBER 17

Join us for a full celebration on Sunday, October 17th as we celebrate the continuing work of the Spirit here at HOPE! Two high school students, Sean James and Morgan Torntore, will celebrate their Affirmation of Baptism and we will officially welcome 3 new households to our HOPE family! We have bumped these celebrations up from their typically scheduled dates so Pastor Annie can participate before the baby arrives!

HOPE SMALL GROUPS ARE ACTIVE ONCE AGAIN!

Did you know that the word "liturgy" comes from Greek words that mean "public/lay" and "working." Our act of worship is dependent on the sharing of gifts of our whole community! The Worship Ministry Team has reinstated our HOPE Small Groups to assist with worship volunteer leadership. Groups have been restructured and leaders will be in contact with you shortly! Small groups will be assigned the worship tasks for 1-3 months for the year on a rotation.

Jobs to be filled by the small groups include: usher/greeter, communion prep, communion worship assistants, readers/prayer leader, acolyte (when indoor worship resumes), coffee fellowship hosts, and altar flowers.

Group members can sign up for all positions using this link:

Checking out [THIS GOOGLE DOC](#) to sign-up to help!

In addition, we are hoping to expand our A/V tech team! If you are interested in helping to continue our Sunday LIVESTREAM worship please contact Ryan Brill (Brillry@gmail.com).

If you would like to serve as an Assisting Minister or share special music please contact Pastor Annie directly (hopelutheranpastor.rf@gmail.com).

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SCHOOL DISTRICT OF RIVER FALLS



School Forest

DREAM BIG EVENT

JOIN US FOR AN EVENING OF LEARNING,
DREAMING, PLANNING, & ORGANIZING FOR THE
"NOW" AS WELL AS THE FUTURE OF OUR
BEAUTIFUL SCHOOL FOREST

OCTOBER 12
6:00 PM
RFHS MEDIA CENTER



Farm Fresh Eggs!

Help support our youth going to the National Youth Gathering in Minneapolis in July, 2022.

Eggs are raised at Jeff & Karen Rodewald's with a suggested donation of \$3/dozen.

They are located just inside the church with a donation jug sitting next to them. 100% of your donation will go to help defray expenses in sending our youth to this amazing event!

This Week at HOPE September 29, 2021

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**HOPE IS HOSTING A 2ND
AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE ON
FRIDAY NOVEMBER 26, 2021
1-6 PM**

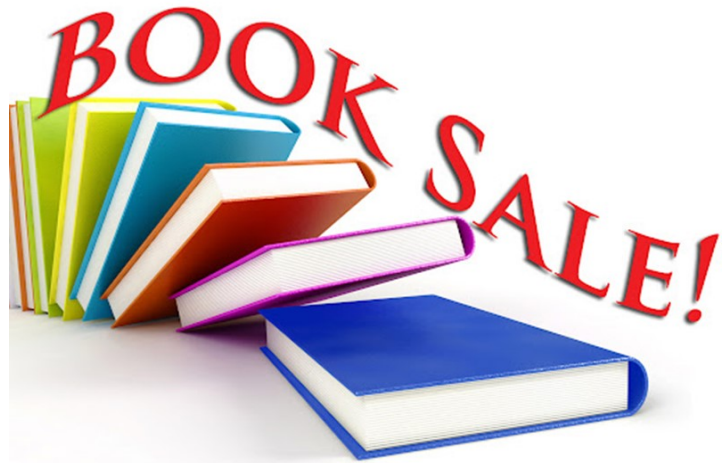
WE ARE LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS TO:

- **Clear the pews and chairs to the side of the sanctuary before the blood drive (12 noon) and put the pews and chairs back after the blood drive (6 pm)**
- **Check people in (1-2 volunteers per 3 hour shift)**
- **Tend the snack area (1 volunteer per 3 hour shift)**

**If you are interested in helping please contact
Kathy Scott, 651-442-5189 or keps54@gmail.com**

**To sign up to give blood go to:
<https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/find-drive>**

This Week at HOPE September 29, 2021



Annual AAUW Book Sale

The annual AAUW book sale is the last three weeks of October at the former Global Made at 126 N. Main

- ◆ Thursdays (10-7)
- ◆ Fridays (10-7)
- ◆ Saturdays (10-4)

Bring donations to Family Fresh and Dick's Market, in River Falls and Country Market, Hudson after September 1st.

Drop off large quantities at the sale site on Wednesdays (4 to 6) and Saturdays (10 to 12) September 1st through October 9th .

Proceeds will be used for scholarships.

Thank you for your support.



Dr. Mark Seeley

Meteorologist / Climatologist

CLIMATE CHANGE IN OUR OWN BACK YARD

Climate change is here...

Climate change isn't limited to coastal cities. It's right here in our own backyard.

In this presentation, Dr. Seeley will share his findings in tracking weather in the Midwest and its effects on our infrastructure, living conditions and ways that communities can prepare for change.

This program is suitable for adults and students of all ages.

Dr. Seely provides information gathered from scientific resources and his own data gathered over the course of his career as an Extension Climatologist and Meteorologist at the University of Minnesota.

Dr. Seeley speaks on Minnesota Public Radio, providing a weekly commentary on weather and climate on Morning Edition.

All are welcome to
this FREE event

Saturday, October 9
10 – 11 AM

Online presentation
via zoom

To register in advance,
go to [Eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com)
and search for

**Climate Change in Our
Own Backyard**

EVENT SPONSORED BY:
ST. CROIX COUNTY
CHAPTER

Citizens Climate Lobby

Questions? Contact
The chapter at
HUDSON.WI@CITIZENSCIMATELOBBY.ORG

This Week at HOPE September 29, 2021

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Please lift up the following people in prayer

Darcy Livingston (Naomi & Jerry Brand's Daughter)
Vernie Hagestuen and family (Nancy Sailer's Aunt & family)
Teajai Schmidt (Boock family friend)
Linda Hidding (Nancy Sailer's cousin)
Jean Loudon and Family
Mary Thompson and Family
Tom Roycraft (Father of Emily Roycraft & Grant Klacan's future father-in-law)
Katie Drablos (cousin of Linda Jacobson)
Steve Kaste
Rev. Sarah Mayer-Flatt (Friend of Pastor Annie)
Dave Hallquist (Friend of Bill Montgomery)
Kris Miner (Friend of Faye Perkins)
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)
Gary Siebold
Oak and Kirsten Reile (Nancy Sailer's Cousin)
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)
Steve & Beth Pugh (friends of Karen & Jeff Rodewald)
Rod Cina (son of Mary Solum)

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October Birthdays

Date

Carolyn Jackson	2-Oct
Nancy Sailer	3-Oct
Debra James	5-Oct
Connor Malaney	5-Oct
Lucy VanOverbeke	5-Oct
Karissa Bondus	7-Oct
Kevin James	10-Oct
Morgan Torntore	15-Oct
Kermit Paulson	16-Oct
Karen Brohaugh	18-Oct
Arol Thompson	20-Oct
Pastor Annie	20-Oct
Nathan Clark	22-Oct
Charles Pratt	28-Oct
Carrie Knudsen Hendrickson	29-Oct
Nick Johnson	30-Oct
Kristin Eaton	30-Oct

October Baptisms

Keith Getschel
Sarah Bondhus
Nancy Peters
Carolyn Jackson
Paula Klacan
Erin Nelson
Madison Ziebarth
Danielle Tokheim
Lillian Brill
Deb Tokheim



October Anniversaries

Date

Years to Celebrate

Roger & Verna Tweiten	21-Oct	60
Jerry & Naomi Brandt	26-Oct	58
Ryan & Samatha Brill	24-Oct	12



UPDATED HOPE COVID POLICY

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**
 - b. 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](#)
 - c. 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](#)

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 kick-off our children’s programming this fall as planned! We appreciate your patience, prayerfulness, and understanding.

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CURRENT WORSHIP PARTICIPATION GUIDELINES!

As of Sunday, June 20th, our worship protocols have been updated. Thank you to the ad-hoc Covid team and HOPE council for guiding this process.

1. Masks are no longer required if you are fully vaccinated, but remain optional.
2. We strongly encourage those who are not fully vaccinated to continue wearing a mask to worship.
3. Out of our desire to continue in-person worship as safely as possible we are following the WI Council of Churches advice to maintain 2/3 best practices (outdoors, distanced, masked):
 4. We will remain outdoors for worship throughout this summer
 5. We are emphasizing clearer 6 foot distancing guidelines.
 6. We encourage you to maintain distancing, particularly with unvaccinated people during any fellowship time following worship. If you see someone wearing a mask, please be considerate of their space.
7. You are NO LONGER REQUIRED TO PRE-REGISTER FOR WORSHIP
8. You DO NEED TO SIGN-IN WITH AN USHER AS YOU ENTER WORSHIP (this is to help avoiding passing sign-in books and to help us with attendance and worship preparation for future weeks)
9. We are continuing to pause any coffee fellowship, with the hopes of resuming it by August or September **based on our volunteer capacity to do so.**
10. We are still in need of worship volunteers to serve as ushers, readers, and communion preparers. Please consider sharing your gifts. We hope to resume our small group volunteer teams in August or September.

We understand many of you may still 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 continue to bear with us as we deal with the impacts of weather on our technology! If you lose a stream, always check back for the next installment that day!**

Thank you for your patience, understanding, and flexibility during this time!