# This Week at HOPE December 8, 2021

HOPE LUTHERAN
Hope Journeys Forward

## Volunteers Needed!

***Can you help?***
We are in need of volunteers in multiple spots during December services!

Please check out the on line volunteer calendar to sign up please!

***Please share your talents with HOPE during our Christmas services.***

If you would like to  provide Special Music at HOPE during either of our Christmas Eve services (4:30pm or 9:00pm), please contact Michael Stang at wistangs@comcast.net so we can coordinate

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*Thank you Faith Adventures for making the lovely star decorations on HOPE's tree!*

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## HOPE'S Advent Adventures: Round 2-2021

This Advent season HOPE's Mission team is inviting you to join us in Advent Adventures: Round 2. We are once again taking part in ELCA's Good Gifts opportunities to help in different ways in 88 countries including the USA.

Week 1 – Nov 28–Dec 4—Refugee Emphasis
Please give what you can during this first week of Advent. Whenever you read the word *refugee*, think "Child of God" when you prayerfully choose to help the 13,000 Afghan people now housed at Fort McCoy. Worldwide a $20 gift will feed 10 at a soup kitchen; $50 will feed a refugee family for one week. Please designate where you would like your gift to go.

Week 2 – Dec 5–11—Clinic Visit for a Child—$10
All monies collected during the week will be used to purchase clinic visits for children. In addition, take an ornament from the tree to go along with the clinic visit by purchasing a vaccination for a child ($30).

### Week 3 – Dec 12–18—Blankets—$10
**All monies collected during the week will be used to purchase blankets for survivors of emergency or natural disasters.**

### Week 4 – Dec 19–25—Care for Kids—$10
All monies collected during the week will be used to buy a backpack full of food for a child. In addition, take an ornament from the tree to provide school supplies for a child ($10) or school fees and a uniform for a girl ($40).

### Week 5 – Dec 26–Jan 2—Bibles—$12
All monies collected during the last week of Christmas will be used to buy Bibles for growing Lutheran churches. Share the Word of God and support God's people.
You do not need to buy a whole item from the above list. You can give whatever monetary gift you would like and we will purchase as many of said item as we can. Partial monies left each week will go to the next. Please do not go out and purchase these items, but provide your money to HOPE earmarked for "Advent refugees", "Advent blanket", Advent backpack of food", "Advent pig", etc.
The children are also collecting money in their Advent Piggy Banks to purchase animals for God's Global Barnyard. You can help them by selecting an animal ornament from the tree and donating the amount needed for said purchase. Chicks are $10, roosters $15, honey bees $20, piglets $30, goats $50. Take these cute ornaments home and hang them on your tree.

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3337 Kingsbarn Ave. River Falls, WI 54022 Phone 715-425-9750

November 23, 2021

Dear HOPE family:

Paul wrote to those he was ministering to in Rome: *"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit."* (Romans 15:13) Jesus calls for us into a relationship with Him, and our world that is filled with hope. Giving becomes a cheerful, enthusiastic, and grateful expression of our relationship with Jesus that shares our hope with others!

The ministries of HOPE Lutheran are active and diverse, and include:

- education for children and adults,
- support of non-profit organizations locally and beyond, that aid people in need,
- caring for our building, land and the Winds of the Spirit space,
- preparing and sharing meaningful worship.

We are partners in our community and neighborhood, and we spread hope within and beyond our doors. It is your support that makes this possible.

How has hope been shared with you? What are some ways in which you have spread hope? What do you envision for HOPE's ministries in the upcoming year? Your gifts help change those visions into tangible projects of hope by HOPE. Therefore, we ask that you thoughtfully consider a pledge during this 2021 Stewardship season of "Spreading Hope." Simply click on this link https://forms.gle/qADVhSnih8QT6w1W8 to fill out your Covenant card.

Live a generous life through giving and engagement! We invite you to continue to spread hope when and where you feel called.

In faith and with hope,

Pastor Annie

Keith Getschel

Steve Leitch

Lynda Meyers

Nancy Sailer

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Hope is scheduled to provide a meal to Grace Place on December 28, the last Tuesday in December. We make five meals a year for the people there, roughly one every other month. In the past I have used a sign-up sheet for volunteers to make dishes for the meals. The last two years have made this arrangement difficult and I would like to try something different.

If you are interested in making a dish or driving the meal to New Richmond this month, let me know by phone or email. In any case if you would be interested in doing so in future months, also let me know and I will send you the Grace Place schedule for next year (as soon as I have it) and a reminder before the meals. I do plan to keep using the sign-up sheets as well.

Grace Place is a homeless shelter for families and single individuals in New Richmond, run by the Salvation Army. The average number of people there is about 40 but especially in the winter it can go higher.

Margaret Anderson (715-425-2792, mgande@comcast.net)

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## NO-BAKE BAKE SALE

**Sponsored by Congregation Life**

**In support of the Backpack Program we are having a NO-BAKE BAKE SALE**

**You can make a donation of monies to Olive (if donating by check please put on the memo line Bake Sale) at the HOPE office by December 20th. in return for your donation she will send you a document of all recipes**

***Direct any questions to Olive at hopelutheranoffice.rf@gmail.com or 715-425-9750.***

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Dear HOPE,

As we get into the swing of indoor worship, please remember that our Ministry Council is requiring that ALL worshipers wear masks before, during, and after the service. The only exception is for the worship leaders or those making announcements - while they are up front. You may also drop your mask for taking communion from your seats. Remember to thank your friends if they happen to need to remind you. I appreciate your attention to this detail as we try our best to protect our whole faith community.

Sincerely,
Keith Getschel
HOPE President

***Nominating Committee***

The Nominating Committee is having a difficult time finding someone to accept nomination for the Secretary or Vice President position on Church Council. If you have an interest to serve in one of these positions or know of someone who may be interested, please contact Ryan Brill at (920)627-3941 or at brillry@gmail.com.

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## IMPORTANT SAFETY INFO FOR WEDNESDAYS @ HOPE THIS WEEK!

We have had an AWESOME beginning to our year together in Faith Adventures and Confirmation! We have been blessed by beautiful weather so far, allowing us to safely meet outdoors. It's looking like this Wednesday will be cooler and rainy, so we will likely need to move our activities indoors.

**OUR CURRENT POLICY REQUIRES MASKS WHEN INDOORS AT HOPE.** So, please make sure your child brings their mask and wears it over their nose and mouth during our time together. We plan for our FA kids to be in the main sanctuary area and our smaller confirmation group will meet in Eidskog with windows open for ventilation during the overlapping time with FA. We really appreciate your understanding and cooperation in keeping our youngest saints safe at this time. **In the event the rain stops, we will try to be outside, so please dress for the weather.**

On Wednesday evenings our K-10th grade youth meet for worship, learning, service projects, and activities!

## 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,

## 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!

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

Barb & Ray McIntosh (Joe McIntosh's parents)
Gordon Hendrickson (Mary Thompson's brother)
Boyd Huppert (Rodewald family member)
Keith Brill (Ryan's grandfather)
Family of Darcy Livingston (Naomi & Jerry Brand's Daughter)
Teajai Schmidt (Boock family friend)
Jean Loudon and Family
Mary Thompson and Family
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)

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## December Baptisms

Phillip Klacan
Kristin Eaton
Kari Heinselman
Pastor Annie Ladnier
Robert Perkins-McIntosh
Sawyer Filarsky
Lindsay Getschel

## 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 |
| Gary Siebold | 26-Dec |
| Alyssa Boock | 27-Dec |
| Elizabeth Hansen | 27-Dec |
| Cameron Leitch | 27-Dec |
| Ella Wolfe | 29-Dec |
| Hazel Ladnier | 30-Dec |

| December Anniversaries | Date | Years to Celebrate |
|---|---|---|
| Edward & Gwen Paulson | 26-Dec | 56 |
| Gregg & Kari Heinselman | 27-Dec | 35 |
| Ross & Tessa VanOverbeke | 31-Dec | 16 |

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## HOPE Indoor Worship During Covid

1. Masks will be required, regardless of Covid vaccination status.
2. Over the last year plus we were served very well by having a matrix that our wonderful 'Covid subcommittee' put together. Similarly, we are going to follow a matrix by St. Croix County for our mask wearing recommendation.
   - Follow: https://infogram.com/st-croix-county-covid-19-dashboard-1h9j6qggxzn754g?live
   - See the "Current Level of Community Transmission" rate near the bottom of that page.
   - Follow the "fully vaccinated" line.
   - As of last week, we are still in the "High" category.
3. Anyone who is not vaccinated, though eligible, we kindly ask to worship from home for now. Our services will continue to be broadcast via YouTube. We believe this is the safest path for children and other high risk groups.
   - We will never ask about vaccination status.
4. If you are having any Covid style symptoms we kindly ask you to worship from home that week.
5. No registration will be needed to attend service.
6. We ask that you follow spacing guidelines within the church. 6ft between family units.
7. Singing will be allowed, while still masked.
   - Worship leaders can choose for themselves whether to be masked or not.
   - Congregation will be 12-15ft back from worship leaders.
   - We may do less singing.
8. Service attendees will pick up communion elements when they arrive at service. Communion will be taken from your seats.
9. The Property Ministry will be setting up an air quality check inside the church.
10. We will address Christmas services as we get closer to Christmas.
11. This process will continually be assessed by Council. If you have comments, please contact anyone on the Executive Committee: Keith Getschel, Ryan Brill, Alyssa Boock, and/or Ryan Leitch.