

This Week at HOPE January 6, 2023



Day of Epiphany

This week, the final days of Christmas wind to an end. The 12 drummers hit their last beat. The 11 pipers pipe their last tune. The 10 Lords leap their final leap, and the 9 ladies sit down after a long few days of dancing. Our long awaited season of celebration has come and gone. The decorations come down and we are caught in the ordinary of a Wisconsin January.

But, Friday marks the Day of Epiphany, which we technically celebrated early last Sunday. This day is a reminder that the switch still gets flipped on! The light still shines in the darkness! And we are still beckoned to come, and see, and follow the Christ Child. Many of us received "Star Words" last Sunday—words that will guide our praying, meditating, and reflecting in 2023, as we seek to find and follow Jesus. If you did NOT yet receive a word, you can draw your own word from the table in the HOPE entryway, or email me and I will draw a word and send it to you!

As we delve into the short season of Epiphany, the stretch between Christmas and Lent, here is a blessing poem to reflect on, written by Rev. Meta Herrick-Carlson in *Speak it plain: words for worship and life together*.

Day of Epiphany

*Long ago, Christians began celebrating
The magi arriving in Bethlehem.
Watching the sky and following stars
set their minds on heavenly things.*

*The light held power that changed their course,
and opened their dreams
to more beauty and justice
than the earth had ever known.*

*I wish to begin this new year by celebrating
the possibilities beyond my own earthly will,
to watch the sky and follow the stars so that
I remember that we are all made
of heaven's own dreams.*

*The flames are dancing and warm
on this long winter night,
a sign of what could be the way,
and guide toward purpose and love
that threaten this world's callous comfort.*

*We mark the thresholds of home
with chalk like stardust
to remind us where to look
and how to travel with wonder.*

May you wander out seeking in confidence that Jesus *will* find you.
Blessings,
Pastor Annie Ladnier

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Mark your calendars for HOPE's annual meeting
January 22nd after service.

There will be a pot luck lunch after the meeting

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Winter Yoga

HOSTED BY:
HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 11TH
6:00-7:00PM
INSTRUCTOR: ERIN NELSON

OPEN TO ALL
FREEWILL DONATION TO BENEFIT:
PRAIRIE RESTORATION PROJECT

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WEDNESDAYS OF HOPE IS ON BREAK!

WINTER SESSION BEGINS WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 18TH

All children & youth who participate in Wednesdays of Hope need to be registered.

If you have not already registered for SESSION 2,
please fill out the [ONLINE REGISTRATION FORM](#).

Friends are always welcome!

Please forward registration information to them!



A NEW GIVING OPPORTUNITY: THE HOPE MUSICIAN'S FUND

Do you LOVE the musical offerings here at HOPE?

Are you grateful for the gift of our fantastic Sunday pianists?

Would you love to see additional musical ensembles and guests join us?

Has music in worship been an important dimension of your spiritual life?

If you've answered YES to any of these questions, you may want to live into God's call toward generosity by giving a gift to our NEW "HOPE Musician's Fund."

HOPE now pays our Sunday musicians a fair wage for their work, rather than expecting this on a volunteer basis. This expense emerged as a need mid-budget year, and so this fund will help meet this financial need and hopefully provide seed money to fund these positions in the 2023 budget year. In addition, our hope is for this fund to be used in the future to bring in special musical guests and ensembles in the months and years ahead!

Please prayerfully consider giving a special Christmas Seed Gift to this important ministry as you are able!

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Hallie Neuhaus	1-Jan
Jill Fritz	3-Jan
Teegan Johnson	6-Jan
Katherine (Klacan) Schilling	11-Jan
Camryn Glaubitz	11-Jan
Mary Thompson	13-Jan
Jan Malaney	15-Jan
Connie Juaire	16-Jan
Samantha Brill	18-Jan
Sydney Wolfe	19-Jan
Lexy Getschel	21-Jan
Mason Shea	21-Jan
Sean James	22-Jan
Makayla Ziebarth	23-Jan
Amanda Ziebarth	28-Jan
Jeremy Wolfe	31-Jan



Mark Bondhus
Wendy Tokheim
Lisa Ryland
Karen Rodewald
Susan Schuettpelz
Bruce Schuettpelz
Greta Wunrow

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Please lift up the following people in prayer

Mike & Lorraine Davis

The Trudy Loney family

Darwin & Margaret Bredahl (Karen Hamilton's sister & brother in law)

Olive Olson & family

Gordon Hendrickson (Mary Thompson's brother)

Bruce Young (Relative of Karen Brohaugh)

Daryl Kleeman (brother of Darcy Boock)

Dawne Green (Friend of Olive Olson)

Miriam Monroe (Bill Montgomery's sister)

Gary Blowers (Friend of Linda Jacobson)

Noah Sailer (Nancy Sailer's son)

Naomi Brandt and family

The family of Jim Pratt

Tom & Judy Jensen (Friends of Nancy Sailer)

Meg Heaton Family (Friends of Nancy Sailer)

Milo Oppegard

Brian Fix & Katie (Nancy Sailer's cousin)

Kevin Rodewald & family (Jeff Rodewald's brother)

Carin Perkins (Faye Perkins sister)

David Boock (Relative of the Boocks)

Nicholas Simpson (Boock family friend)

Linda Hidding (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)

Tejai Schmidt (Boock family friend)

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

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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First Sunday of the Month Special Collections

The River Falls School District has 112 children signed up for the Backpack Program this year. This program falls under the auspices of Our Neighbors' Place and is primarily funded by The Black Tie Affair held every April and donations. It does not receive any help from the River Falls Food Pantry.

Therefore, the Mission Ministry through HOPE would like to start collecting donations for the Backpack Program on the first Sunday of each month alternating with the Food Pantry.

The Magic Box works in the same manner as for the Food Pantry, whereas each dollar magically will have \$5 of purchasing power. The next opportunity will be November 6, when your generous donations will support the Backpack Program.

First Sunday of the Month Special Collections Schedule

2022

November 6	Backpack Program (BP Program)
December 4	Food Pantry (FP)

2023

January 1	Backpack Program
February 5	Food Pantry
March 5	Backpack Program
April 2	Food Pantry
May 7	Backpack Program
June 4	Food Pantry
July 2	Backpack Program
August 6	Food Pantry
September 3	Backpack Program
October 1	Food Pantry
Nov 5	Backpack Program
December 3	Food Pantry