



This Sunday is the final session of our January series on Sabbath. We will hear from Deuteronomy 5:12-15 and Matthew 11:28-30 as we reflect on Sabbath as an act of justice. In Deuteronomy the reasoning for the Sabbath command is in remembrance of God's bringing the Israelites out of slavery and into freedom. In this, we see not only God's desire for us to be free from unfair labor practices, but to mark the Sabbath day as a day to *remember that we are God's people*. We do that when we spend time in worship devoted to God's word and holy meal. These things nourish us for living as God's Sabbath people in the world, providing freedom for others as well.

In Martin Luther's Large Catechism he provides the following explanation of the Sabbath command:

What is meant by the commandment: Thou shalt sanctify the holy day? answer: To sanctify the holy day is the same as to keep it holy. But what is meant by keeping it holy? Nothing else than to be occupied in holy words, works, and life...How, then, does such sanctification take place? Not in this manner, that [with folded hands] we sit behind the stove and do no rough [external] work, or deck ourselves with a wreath and put on our best clothes, but (as has been said) that we occupy ourselves with God's Word, and exercise ourselves therein.

We are rooted in God's word, not for the sake of piety, but so that we live out God's word. We make space on the Sabbath day to spend time with God, as with an old friend, so that we remember how that relationship shapes and defines us. This holy time spent with God, in God's holy word, in singing the songs, eating the Supper, and communing with fellow saints, it forms us to be a people concerned with God's justice in our world. As you reflect on Sabbath as justice, pray over this poem by Ted Loder:

#### **Draw Me to Yourself**

In this moment draw me to yourself, Lord, and make me aware not so much of what I've given as all I have received and so have yet to share.

Send me forth in power and gladness and with great courage to live out in the world what I pray and profess,

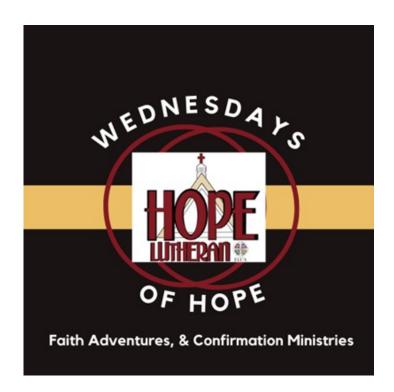
that, in sharing, I may do justice, make peace, grow in love, enjoy myself, other people, and your world now, and you forever. [Amen]



#### **THANK YOU!**

I would like to thank our 2022 HOPE Ministry Council for their faithful leadership and hard work over the last year. You have each been a blessing to work with and I have enjoyed getting to know you, as well as your hopes and dreams for where God is leading us in the future! This council gave lots of additional time to our Faithful Innovation process on top of managing the day to day business of our congregation and have guided us into the next phases of vision and mission work moving forward.

A special thank you to those completing their terms of service this year, Ryan Brill (President), Ryan Leitch (Treasurer), and Nancy Peters (Congregational Life/Mission representative). Enjoy using your gifts in different ways in the year ahead!



WEDNESDAYS OF HOPE IS BACK!
WINTER SESSION: Jan. 18-Feb. 15
If you have not already registered for SESSION 2, please fill out the ONLINE REGISTRATION FORM.
Friends are always welcome!



January, 2023

Pastor Annie Ladnier HOPE Lutheran Church 3337 Kingsbarn Ave River Falls, WI 54022

Dear Annie and Members of HOPE Lutheran Church:

On behalf of Turningpoint, thank you very much for your recent donation to Turningpoint's Holiday Program. We are so grateful for your partnership in making the holidays a bit brighter for families in need.

Turningpoint's vision is to eliminate domestic and sexual violence in Pierce and St. Croix Countles of Wisconsin—our service delivery area. Your thoughtful gift helps us toward that goal and makes a meaningful difference in supporting victims of violence and their

If you have questions about our work, please visit our website at turningpoint-wi.org, or contact me directly at 715-425-6751, ext. 102.

Again, thank you very much for this generous and thoughtful gift.

Sincerely,

haule you so tuch! Amy Berg Resource Development Director

Turningpoint for Victims of Domestic and Sexual Violence is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt nonprofit organization. No goods or services were provided in exchange for this gift. This donation may be tax deductible.

Turningpoint's Federal Tax ID is 39-1322995.

We recommend you retain this letter for your tax records.

Safety. Support. Strength.

Turningpoint

EVICTIMS OF DOMESTIC AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE



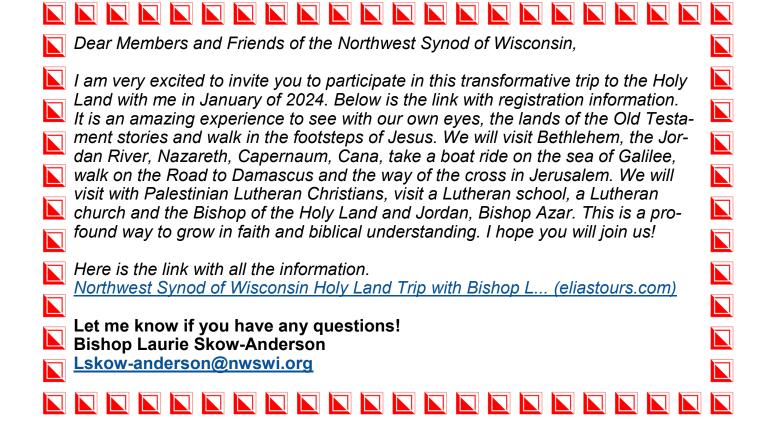
## Meal Support for Milo & Betty Lou

Those of you that are interested in preparing a meal for the Oppegards please contact Jeff or Karen Rodewald at 715-222-2551



Ash Wednesday Worship February 22, 2023 7:00PM

Soup Supper @ 6:00PM
SIGN UP FOR SOUP SUPPER HERE







Mark you calendars for February 18th for HOPE's annual Luminary Walk







Hosted by Council 4902 Knights of Columbus

Current and future dads, grandpas and father figures are invited to a half-day rally focused on the prime role of your life ... being the great dad God calls you to be. Men of all faith traditions are welcome!



Registration requested by January 26 at: signupgenius.com/go/knightsfordads

Bob Kroll, nationally recognized fatherhood speaker, will explain how the relationships between fathers and their children have a major impact in their families and in our world. And how dads can be even more effective.





- Connect with other dads
- Find resources to help you become your very best
- Learn how you impact your children's present and future
- Reflect on your "fatherhood" and what you want for your child or children
   Be proud of the dad you are becoming; we are all a work in progress!



Every dad is called by God the Father to a sacred vocation. Discover the graces and gifts that God bestows on each of us. Now more than ever in history, it's time to step up ... to man up and make a difference in children's lives.

Listen! Learn! Connect! Commit to being a GREAT DAD!



8:30am - Noon SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4th St. Bridget Church, River Falls FREE! (Goodwill offering accepted)

REGISTRATION: SIGNUPGENIUS.COM/GO/KNIGHTSFORDADS





## 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!





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





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

Betty Lou Oppegard

Anna Peterson (Friend of Olive Olson)

Mike & Lorraine Davis

The Trudy Loney family

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

Olive Olson & family

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)

Teajai 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)



#### 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 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