



Week Five: Questions that Kick

This week we are immersed in the story of John 11, the story of the raising of Lazarus.

For our further exploration this midweek, we are centering in on <u>John 11:17-27</u> Take a moment to re-read this text, and then explore the following questions:

Scripture

John 11:17-27

Questions About Questions

- → What questions feel threatening, scary, or dangerous—so much so that you hesitate to ask them?
- ⊕ Can you think of a time when you struggled to stare a question in the eve?
- ⊕ Even better, when you tackled that fear and asked the question you weren't sure how to answer? How did it turn out in the end?
- ♣ Sometimes we can learn a great deal about ourselves by asking, "What's the worst that can happen?" What trouble do you face today, and what's the worst that could happen? Where is God in this struggle?
- → How has faith taken you beyond a place of doubt to a place of trust?
- ⊕ How can questions help deepen our faith?

Practice

- ₱ Face the question that seems too scary to ask
- The invitation: Jesus brings Mary and Martha to consider the most painful questions about God and their relationship to Jesus. What question do you face that you lack the courage to face alone? Write down these questions. You can keep these questions to yourself, knowing that you have now finally asked them. Or, if you feel bold, share this conversation with a trusted friend, perhaps around a bowl of soup tonight at HOPE!

We would LOVE to hear the insights from your conversations! If you feel willing and able to share, please email Pastor Annie at hopelutheranpastor.rf@gmail.com to share your wonderings and discoveries!





Holy Week 101

An All-Ages Workshop March 29th 6-7:30PM

Answering the Questions:
"But what IS Holy Week?"
"Why do we do it?"

dinner church, artistic expression, & take-home elements!







HOPE's Easter Garden

You are once again invited to fill our Easter morning altar! Please have your flowers for our 2023 Easter Garden to the church by 1pm on Saturday April 8th!!

If you bring something in honor or memory of someone, please provide our office administrator, Olive Olson with that information BY TUESDAY, APRIL 4: hopelutheranoffice.rf@gmail.com



BOWLING FOR HOPE FOR HABITAT

Thank you to everyone who came out for the 2nd annual Bowling for HOPE!

37 people attended and we raised...

\$1,000.00 for St. Croix Valley Habitat for Humanity!!!!
Couldn't make the event? Or didn't have cash/check on you?

NO PROBLEM!

You can still give directly to St. Croix Valley Habitat through our

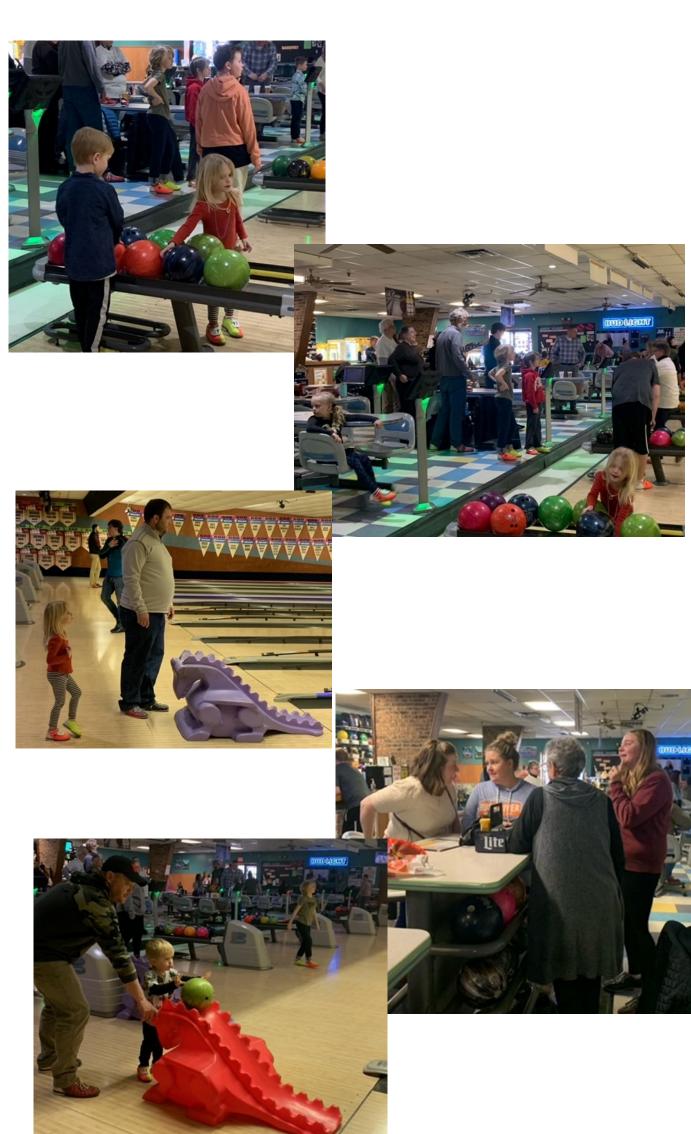
Thrivent Action Team LIVE FUNDRAISING PAGE

Active through April 8th!











HOPE Welcomes Baby Tatum Andrea Glaubitz







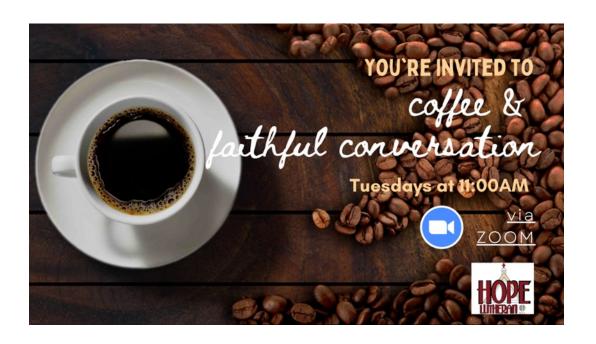




HOPE's Community Garden

Interested in organic gardening? HOPE Garden has plots available (10'x50' or 10'x25'). Garden Rules are on the HOPE website main page under announcements.

If interested or if you have questions, contact psrudesill@gmail.com by April 26th. Gardens open May 1st.







Communion Bread Bakers Needed!

Do you like to bake?

Are you looking for an easy way to volunteer your gifts without having to be "up front?"

Then become a communion bread baker!

3 months in 2023 still need bakers: August, September, & December CLICK HERE to sign up, scroll to page 2 for the recipe!

SHARE YOUR GIFTS ON SUNDAY MORNINGS!

Did you know that you can volunteer to help with parts of worship **AT ANY TIME!!!**

Use <u>THIS GOOGLE DOC LINK</u> to sign-up to assist with our in-person worship! Or sign-up on the entryway table in person.

Greeters, readers, communion set-up & servers, acolytes, ushers, Assisting Ministers & coffee fellowship hosts are all needed!





"Black Tie Fffair"

Our Neighbor's Place asks you to skip this imaginary "Black Tie Affair"

Stay home & donate what you would spend on tickets, fancy clothes, and dinner to the **Our Neighbors' Place Backpack Program!**

Your contribution can start feeding hungry children in River Falls immediately!

Please help us feed hungry children.

The backpack program meets the needs of children who may go hungry on weekends during the school year. Weekly backpacks contain 7-9 pounds of non-perishable food and vouchers for milk, meat, produce, bread and eggs.

Typically, we distribute to an average of 80 students per week - however for the 2022-23 school year, we have seen enrollment jump to 120 students per week.

The program is 100% operated by volunteers - it takes about 30 volunteers a month for the program to run smoothly. In partnership with the River Falls Lions Club, we offer a summer backpack program when school is not in session.

Please join us as we work to provide for our most vulnerable neighbors - our youth!

CLICK HERE TO DONATE DIRECTLY



Help Out A Young Entrepreneuer in Our Midst:

This is a message from Madison Ziebarth:

Hello Friends!

I am Madison Ziebarth, I am 18 years old and I run a small bakery out of my home called MaddieZbakes.

To help jumpstart my business to a broader customer base, I am currently taking an Entrepreneurial training course at the St. Croix Valley Business innovation center, through the Small Business Development Center- University of River Falls.

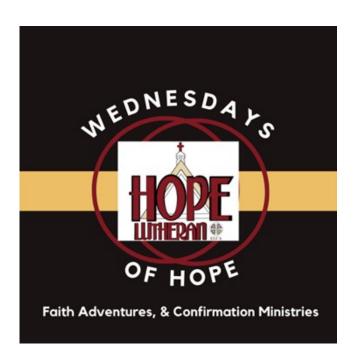
Below you will find a link to my customer survey! This survey will help me get to know my current and future customers more! If you would, please take a moment to fill it out and help me improve my business plan!

Thank you for your help!

FILL OUR THE SURVEY HERE







WEDNESDAYS OF HOPE

Lent: Feb. 22-March 29- All children, youth & families are invited to join with the entire HOPE congregation for Soup Suppers and Worship this Lenten season

SPRING SESSION: April 19- May 10, 2023 If you have not already registered for SESSION 3, please fill out the ONLINE REGISTRATION FORM.

Friends are always welcome!







Inspiring Guest Speakers + Strengthen Faith
Service Learning + Meeting New People
Challenging Conversation
Great Music + Worship

DETAILS

Open to youth who have completed 8th-12 grade at the time of the event \$300 per participant; (\$50 due at the time of registration)

More Information found here: https://nwswi.org/journey

\$50 DEPOSIT AND <u>REQUIRED PAPERWORK</u> DUE BY APRIL 1, 2023.







Earth Fest

April 22, 2023 | 12-4PM

Earth fest is a free community celebration of the past, present, and future sustainability efforts in River Falls and the surrounding area. This family-friendly event includes live music, fun, family activities, food sampling, a sustainability and wellness fair, free giveaways, and more.

Interested in sponsoring Earth Fest 2023? Email <u>sustainability@uwrf.edu</u>









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!



April Baptisms





April Birthdays

Name	Birthday
Will Bohnert	2-Apr
John Hamilton	2-Apr
Sawyer Filarsky	4-Apr
Michael Stang	5-Apr
Jean Loudon	11-Apr
Traci Wolfe	11-Apr
Cathy Wunrow	11-Apr
Faye Perkins	14-Apr
Lori Leitch	29-Apr

Margaret Anderson
Louis Bernard
Charles Eaton
Hazel Ladnier
Sharon Paulson
Jack Stang
Maxwell VanOverbeke
Ben Wunrow
Amanda Ziebarth



Brian & Crystal Roquette 02-Apr 21 Years
Gary & Vicki Siebold 21-Apr 22 Years
Eric & Lisa Rydland 30-Apr 18 Years





Please lift up the following people in prayer

Nancy Sailer

Jerry Gibson (Diane Clark and Karen Rodewald's father)

George & Mary Klacan (Phil's Parents)

Ella Conover (Niece of Phil & Paula Klacan)

Elliot Wold (Friend of the Klacan's)

Linda Stroth (Friend of Olive Olson)

Laura McDonald (Sister of Jean Loudon)

Mary Babler (Friend the Dan Malaney)

Beth Lindgren (Sister-in-law Dan Malaney)

Betty Lou Oppegard

Anna Peterson's Family (Friend of Olive Olson)

The Trudy Loney family

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

Olive Olson & family

Daryl Kleeman (brother of Darcy Boock)

Dawne Green (Friend of Olive Olson)

Miriam Monroe (Bill Montgomery's sister)

Gary Blowers (Friend of Linda Jacobson)

Naomi Brandt and family

Milo Oppegard

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)

Linda & Jesse Annoye Family (Relatives of Debra James)

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