



# How does a weary world rejoice?

*We find joy in connection*

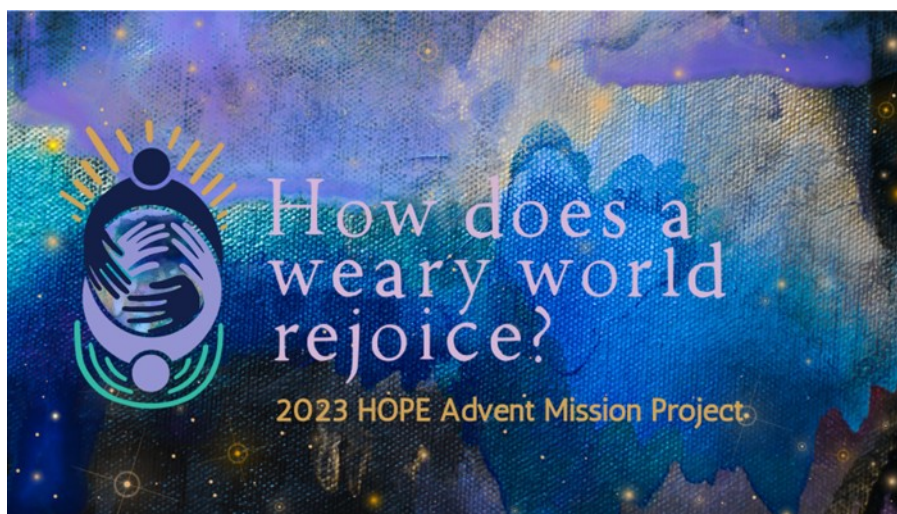
In this second week of Advent we acknowledge that one of the best ways to rejoice in the midst of a weary world, is to find joy in our connections with one another and God's creation. This poem explores this theme:

The Second Sunday of Advent | How does a weary world rejoice?  
*We find joy in connection*

## Lessons in Connection

It's been a long day,  
long enough to complain,  
long enough to wine and dine my  
disappointment,  
to give weariness  
keys to the house.  
But then you get the giggles  
dancing with the dog in the kitchen.  
Paws-sliding, tail-wagging,  
side-cramping giggles.  
I can hear it from across the house.  
Your joy burrows its way  
through the cracks in my armor  
and then we are both laughing,  
gulping for joyous, electric air.  
And that's when I know—  
if you grab my hand,  
if you ask me to dance,  
if our weary human souls can  
make room for connection,  
then we will survive.  
Joy will take root.  
Love will keep  
her keys to the house.

# This Week at HOPE December 6, 2023



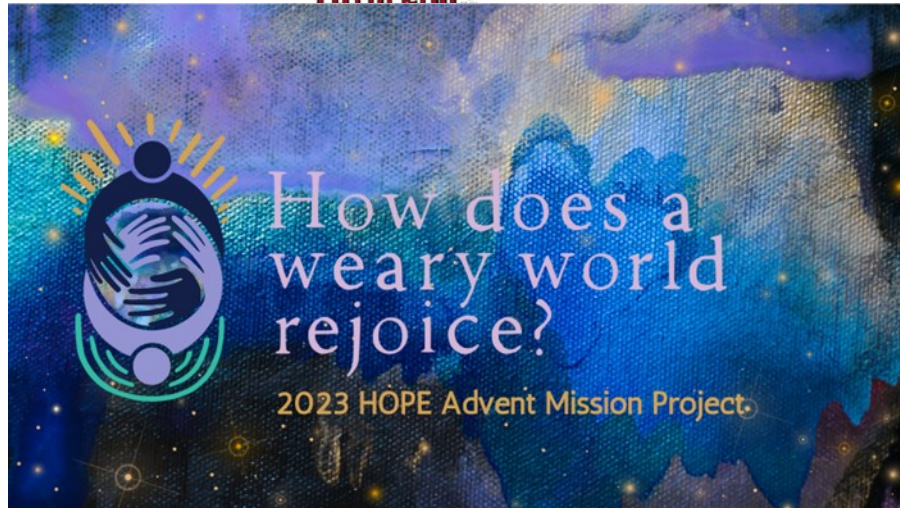
Hope's 2023 Advent Mission Project works in conjunction with our Advent theme, “How Does A Weary World Rejoice?” Beginning, Sunday, November 26th we have 3 ways to explore this theme through mission and service:

- ✝ *We Rejoice in Thanksgiving:* All are invited to write and address thank-you Christmas cards to a person, group, business or organization of your choice. We will provide blank cards for people to fill out and send themselves or we will send them!
  
- ✝ We will be helping those who are weary and experiencing homelessness “*Lay Down Their Sweet Heads*” by collecting new pillows and pillowcases for Grace Place. Everyone who leaves there is sent with their new pillow.
  
- ✝ We will offer *A Thrill of Hope* by collecting particular items to assemble Personal Care Kits in partnership with Lutheran World Relief. You/your family can assemble an entire kit OR bring needed items for HOPE’s Mission Ministry to assemble at the end of December.
  - ⇒ To put together an entire kit [CLICK HERE](#)
  - ⇒ To donate particular items, check out the [NEEDED ITEMS LIST FOR HOPE](#) and sign up!
  - ⇒ Items needed:
    - ◇ light-weight bath-size towel (between 20x40 and 52x27), dark color recommended
    - ◇ bath-size bars of soap equaling 8 to 9 oz.,any brand, in original wrapping
    - ◇ adult-size toothbrush in its original packaging\*
    - ◇ sturdy comb, remove packaging
    - ◇ metal nail clippers (attached file optional),remove packaging

Thanks,

HOPE Mission Ministry Team

## This Week at HOPE December 6, 2023



### A WEARY WORLD REJOICES!!

Hope's Advent Project in conjunction with the above theme will be rejoicing in Thanksgiving starting Sunday November 26 with writing and addressing thank-you cards to a person, group, business or organization of your choice. We will provide blank cards for people to fill out and send themselves or we will send them.

November 26 and all Sundays in December we will be caring for a "weary" world by collecting new pillows and pillowcases for Grace Place. Everyone who leaves there is sent with their new pillow.

We will also be collecting particular items to assemble Personal Care Kits for Lutheran World Relief. You can assemble your own kit or bring items required for the Mission Team to assemble at the end of December.

Items needed:

- ⇒ light-weight bath-size towel (between 20x40 and 52x27), dark color recommended
- ⇒ bath-size bars of soap equaling 8 to 9 oz, any brand, in original wrapping
- ⇒ adult-size toothbrush in its original packaging\*
- ⇒ sturdy comb, remove packaging metal nail clippers (attached file optional) remove packaging

If you are interested in assembling your own kit(s), go to [LWR.org/kits](https://www.lwr.org/kits) for instructions for Personal Care Kits

Thanks, Mission Team

Angela Bohnert will set up a Google doc for LWR items.

Thanks,  
Jan





American  
Red Cross

*Thank you!*



HOPE Lutheran Church

Sponsor Group

November 24<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Date of Drive

23  
Total Number of Donors

1  
First Time Donors

22  
Units Collected

66  
Potential Number of Lives Saved

When you made the decision to host a blood drive, you helped change lives.

## This Week at HOPE December 6, 2023



### Grace Place Meal

HOPE is serving a meal at Grace Place on Tuesday, December 26, the day after Christmas.

Grace Place is a shelter in New Richmond for homeless families from Pierce and St. Croix counties, run by the Salvation Army, and we send them meals five times a year.

We will need to provide food for up to fifty people - we won't know how many until closer to Christmas. We need main dishes, salads or other sides, deserts, money for milk and fruit, and a driver to deliver the food on the 26th.

There is a sign-up sheet in church or you can contact Margaret Anderson at (715) 425-2792 or by email at [mgande@comcast.net](mailto:mgande@comcast.net) if you wish to contribute.



HOPE's Day Time Book Group will be meeting on  
Wednesday, December 13th, at 11:30  
Nancy Peters will be hosting at her home.  
2633 Gulf View Drive

# This Week at HOPE December 6, 2023



## ***Lefse Day***

**You** don't have to be Norwegian to spend a morning at HOPE making lefse. Please join us on **Saturday, December 16th 9:30**. Bring your own lefse dough, one quart ziploc type bags, griddle, turning stick etc. The tasty lefse will be sold during fellowship time on December 17th



## ***Christmas Bake Sale***

Baked goods and holiday treats are needed for HOPE's Bake Sale on **Sunday, December 17th**. Proceeds from your lefse, cookies, bars, breads, pies, cakes, snacks, candy etc. will be donated to the River Falls Backpack Program. Remember to bring your checkbook or cash so you can go home with some delicious homemade goodies.

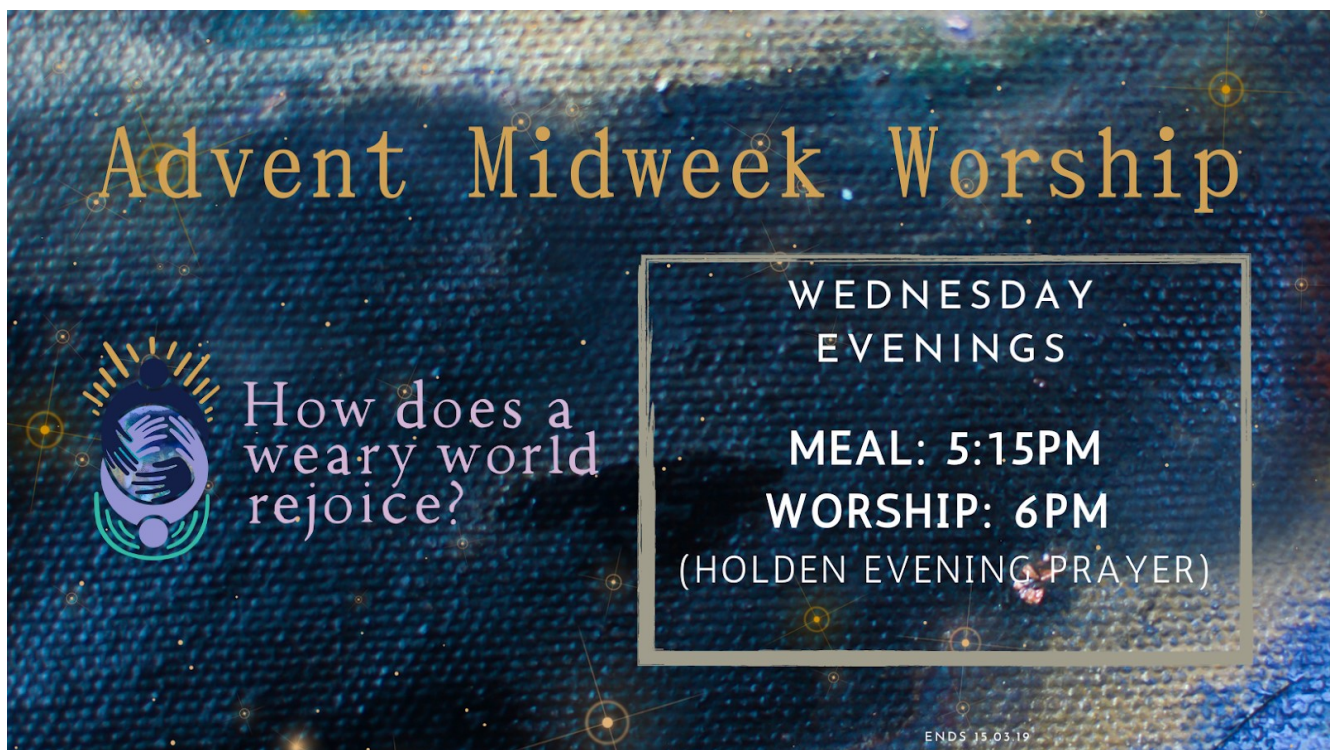
*Please price your baked goodies before the sale!*



**SAVE THE DATE:**  
**2024 ANNUAL MEETING & CELEBRATION OF MINISTRY**  
Mark your calendars for Sunday, January 21, 2024  
Stay tuned for details on a Potluck meal!



**This Week at HOPE December 6, 2023**



**Thank you to our generous meal hosts!**  
**Last week: Diane Clark, Karen & Jeff Rodewald**  
**Tonight: Sam & Sue Schuettpelz**



This Week at HOPE December 6, 2023



The **Northwest Synod of Wisconsin** is starting the Reconciling in Christ process. We need volunteers for the team that will guide the synod through the process to publicly guide, practice, and teach particularly for LGBTQIA+, racial identity, and neurodiversity. If you think this is important enough to spend some time on Zoom each month, and maybe one in-person meeting or two, please send your expression of interest to [synodadvocate@nswi.org](mailto:synodadvocate@nswi.org). We only need eight more people, and if you represent one of these identified groups, we need you! Thank you!



CONFIRMATION & HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH

SHOPPING FOR TURNINGPOINT!

Join us for our Turningpoint Holiday Program service project this year! We are gifting 3 families!

5:15 DINNER @ CHURCH FOLLOWED BY SHOPPING

WEDNESDAY DEC. 6!



Please Join us for

SONGS & SUDS

"CHRISTMAS"

MONDAY 18 DECEMBER 2022

6:30PM

An evening of Christmas & Winter carols, great beer, holiday treats, & fun!

RUSH RIVER BREWERY

990 Antler Ct, River Falls, WI 54022





# This Week at HOPE December 6, 2023



## ADVENT OFFERINGS & WINTER SESSION INFO!

### ALL ARE WELCOME

“Regular” WOH takes a pause during the Advent season. Students and families are strongly encouraged to attend our Midweek Advent meals & worship:

**5:15-Meal**

**6:00- Worship**

**(Holden Evening Prayer)**

**On January 10th, our Winter Session will begin.** All K-10th+\* grade youth are invited to join us on Wednesday evenings from 6-7PM for fellowship, family friendly worship & service, learning, and growing in relationship to Jesus and one another! Our evenings begin with a brief family style worship, where children & adults help with leadership and a true sense of community is fostered. Youth are then divided into elementary (Faith Adventures) and middle/high (Confirmation) classes for deeper engagement with the evening’s themes.

**If you have not already done so, you can register for the Winter session here:**

**[2023-2024 Wednesdays of HOPE Registration](#)**

**Teachers and Snack Hosts are needed to make each night of Wednesdays of HOPE a safe, engaging, and welcoming time for all!** Please consider sharing your time and gifts to help! Sign-up at the links above or contact Pastor Annie!



**Teachers and Snack Hosts**  
**ARE NEEDED for the Winter and Spring Sessions!**  
**Help make Wednesdays of HOPE**  
**a safe, engaging, and welcoming time for all!**

Please consider sharing your time and gifts to help!  
Sign-up at the links above or  
contact Pastor Annie for more information!

This Week at HOPE December 6, 2023



# *CAROLS & CANDLES*

*ANNOUNCING:  
THE REHEARSAL SCHEDULE*

**MONDAYS @ 6:30PM**

**NOV. 13**

**NOV. 20**

**NOV. 27**

**DEC. 04**



**DRESS REHEARSAL  
SAT., DEC. 9 9:30AM**

**CAROLS & CANDLES SERVICE:  
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10, 4:00PM**



**HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH  
3337 KINGSBARN AVE, RIVER FALLS, WI**



## This Week at HOPE December 6, 2023



Diane Clark has created some beautiful pine arrangements for Christmas. They are available to you for a \$30 donation to HOPE. There are still 3 small arrangements available, stop into HOPE and see the rest of these beautiful creations by Diane.

**This Week at HOPE December 6, 2023**



All are needed to participate in the leading of worship!

Ushers, Communion Prep & Assistants, Readers, Prayer Leaders, Fellowship Hosts, Special Music, Altar Flowers, & Worship Assistants all add to the beauty of our worship together!

[YOU CAN SIGN UP HERE FOR ANY UPCOMING SUNDAY!](#)

## **SPECIAL 2024 HELPERS NEEDED!**

There are two worship volunteer roles that work on a monthly schedule. Volunteers for these roles are encouraged to sign-up for an entire month at a time:

[COMMUNION BREAD BAKER SIGN-UP](#)

[COMMUNION SET-UP/ALTAR GUILD SIGN-UP](#)

**This Week at HOPE December 6, 2023**



All are invited to join Pastor Annie for this weekly small group conversation and Bible study!

This is a great chance to grow in relationship with God and one another.

We meet via Zoom so all can join from wherever you are!



# This Week at HOPE December 6, 2023



## December Birthdays

Zoe Tokheim	2-Dec
Alexis Rehbein	3-Dec
Dale Bohnert	5-Dec
Mark Bondhus	5-Dec
Wendy Tokheim	11-Dec
James James	11-Dec
Susan Schuettpelz	11-Dec
Luke Filarsky	15-Dec
Sara Filarsky	15-Dec
Tyson Tokheim	15-Dec
Karen Hamilton	17-Dec
Grete Rehbein	17-Dec
Jason Neuhaus	20-Dec
Bruce Schuettpelz	22-Dec
Gary Siebold	26-Dec
Alyssa Boock	27-Dec
Elizabeth Hansen	27-Dec
Noelle James	27-Dec
Cameron Leitch	27-Dec
Ella Wolfe	29-Dec
Hazel Ladnier	30-Dec

## December Baptisms

Phillip Klacan
Sawyer Filarsky
Lindsay Getschel
Kari Heinselman
Pastor Annie Ladnier
Eden Ladnier
Heathley Neuhaus
Robert Perkins-McIntosh
Piper Rodewald



<b>December Anniversaries</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Years to Celebrate</b>
Edward & Gwen Paulson	26-Dec	58
Gregg & Kari Heinselman	27-Dec	37
Ross & Tessa VanOverbeke	31-Dec	18

## **This Week at HOPE November 29, 2023**



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

Mary Jean Yde (Linda Yde's mother-in-law)

John Weller (Karen Brohaugh's cousin)

Greg Rosenthal (Family member of Karen Brohaugh)

Ken Jones Family (Martie Guthrie 's father)

Dave and Deb Haugen (Family of Ellen Roose)

Phyllis and Tom Haugen (Family of Ellen Roose)

John and Lisa Davis (Friends of Dale & Jan Wegleitner)

Fatma Aljarrah (Friend of Faye Perkins)

Lorraine Brask Family ( Mother of Karen Kaste)

Beth Lindgren Family (Dan Malaney)

Betty Lou Oppegard and Family

Michael Jacobson (Brother of Linda Jacobson)

Barb Carmichael (Friend of Nancy Sailer)

Dennis & Sandy Schultz (Friends of Bill & Kay Montgomery)

Nancy Miller (Friend of Paula & Phil Klacan)

Family of Marc DuPaul (Nephew of Naomi Brandt)

Linda Shurden (Friend of Nancy Sailer)

Charli and Sam King (Friends of Faye Perkins)

Joyce Kendall (Mother of Cara Getschel)

Judy Branson (Relative of the Boocks)

Hannah Forward

Amanda Olson (Olive Olson's daughter)

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

Ella Conover ( Niece of Phil & Paula Klacan)