

This Week at HOPE February 28, 2024

Wandering Heart Wonderings...

From Pastor Annie Ladnier



*“Blessed are you, O God,
holy and immortal,
for you remember how we are made—
as frail as dust,
as fleeting as breath...”*

From the Gathering rite of Prayers Around the Cross: A Heart of Flesh

The tinkling of plates and silverware was wrapping up.

The lights were dimmed.

You could hear the shuffle of chairs and bodies as people moved from dinner tables to find seats circled around the cross.

Our voices found one another in song.

We had gathered to be nourished-in both body and spirit.

And God provided.

Our world is loud.

We are encouraged to look for and celebrate the bright, shiny stuff.

But God beckons us with a different kind of invitation in our spiritual practice of Lent.

In this season we are encouraged to let things slowly come to silence.

We are invited to find stillness in our God-given breath.

We substitute the fluorescence of life with the candlelight of the Divine.

It is warm. And entrancing. And healing.

In the words of scripture, poetry, and our collective song we hear

the promises of God

and give voice to the longing of our hearts:

A new heart I will give you, and a new spirit I will put within you (Ezekiel 36:26)

To love at all is to be vulnerable (from The Four Loves by C.S. Lewis)

*Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me... (Psalm 51)*

It's a Wednesday in the middle of a Wisconsin February, and all of this is waiting for you, you with your wandering heart, right here. Come.

May your wandering heart be blessed, beloved.



THE SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

Wandering Heart: "Rescue me from danger"

Rescue Me

I'd rather not need rescue.
I'd prefer a five-step plan
and a quick-fix solution.
I'd prefer stubborn insistence
over honest vulnerability,
because rescue requires
asking for help.
Rescue names
the rising water.
Rescue sees
the tired, treading feet.
Rescue feels
the swell of the wind
and the rain at a slant.
But when the floor falls out
and the world is on fire
and my small hands
cannot fix the hurt welling in me,
the prayer that slips out
is *rescue*
rescue
rescue me.

Poem by Rev. Sarah A. Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

This Week at HOPE February 28, 2024



About this Series:

This Lent, we are focusing on the life and faith of one of Jesus' most famous disciples. In Peter, we see a person who is both steadfast and unsteady, a dear friend and a betrayer, a follower and a wanderer. In Peter, we often see ourselves. By following Peter's journey, we watch the story of Jesus unfold through the eyes of a very normal human trying to figure it all out—just like us.

In becoming familiar with Peter's story, many themes resonated with the hymn, "Come Thou Fount." It's as if Peter himself wrote this song. And so, for each step in Peter's journey, we will be guided by a phrase from this hymn. As we follow Peter's story, we will sing our way through Lent, binding our wandering hearts to God.

Through this series, we affirm that faith is a constant journey of steadfast pursuit, one that ebbs and flows. We affirm that wandering is exploration, not necessarily distance from God. We affirm the ways Peter keeps going: he drops his nets, he walks on water, he runs to the empty tomb, he swims to the shore to meet the risen Christ. He keeps searching and yearning and loving, even after missteps or mistakes. Ultimately, in Peter's story, we are reminded that God loves imperfect people—in fact, time and again, that's precisely who God claims and calls.

This Lent, we will look for ourselves in the stepping stones of Peter's story. We will reflect on the stages of our own faith journeys as well as who and what has shaped us along the way. As we wander, let us tune our hearts to sing God's grace. May we rest in streams of mercy, never ceasing.

Additional Resources to Expand Your Wandering Heart Journey:

1. Devote: Our friends at A Sanctified Art have provided a special e-reader version of this year's Wandering Heart Lenten devotional, which you can access on your computer and mobile devices: **In order to protect their work, please refrain from sharing this link or posting it on social media.**
2. Listen: Wandering Faith: Figuring out Faith with Peter SPOTIFY PLAYLIST
3. Read:
 - a. *Read Freeing Jesus: Rediscovering Jesus as Friend, Teacher, Savior, Lord, Way, and Presence*, by Diana Butler Bass. (Harper Collins, 2021).
 - b. *Faith After Doubt: Why Your Beliefs Stopped Working and What To Do About It*, by Brian D. McLaren. (New York: St. Martin's Publishing Group, 2021).
4. Watch: *American Symphony*, a Netflix Documentary. Directed and produced by Matthew Heineman, starring Jon Batiste. Netflix. Released November 29, 2023. netflix.com/title/81728930/ *There are several ways this film resonates with this series, as Batiste shows us a steadfast, heart-forward faith in the midst of a wandering journey.*

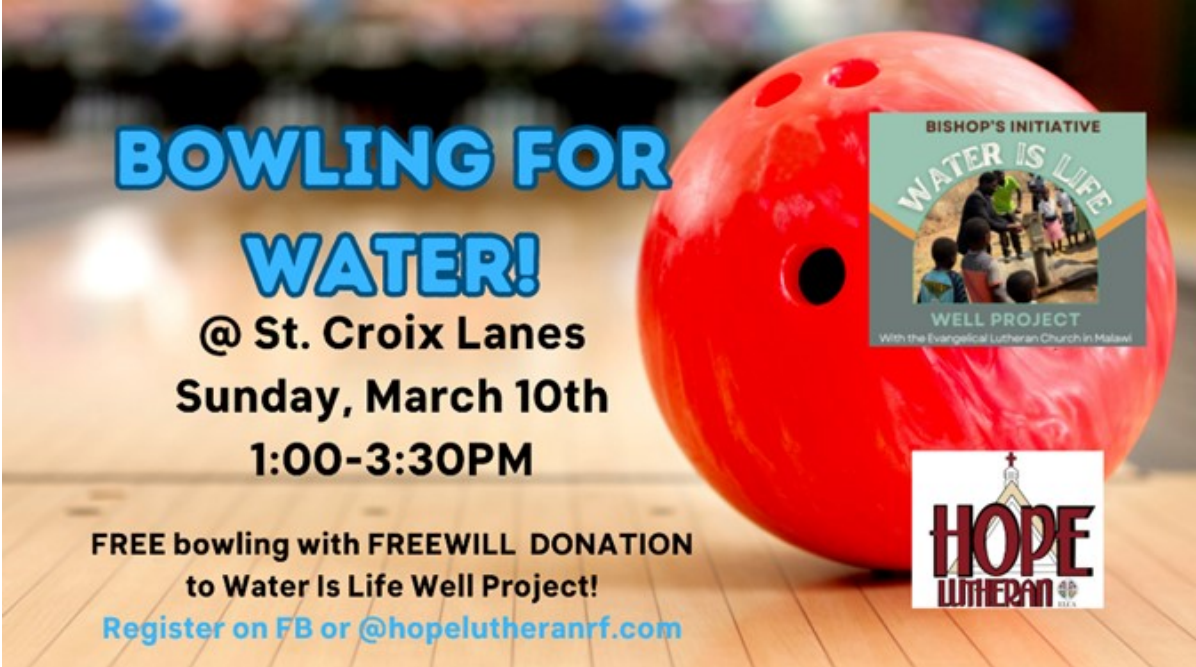
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**JOIN US DURING TONIGHT'S DINNER
FOR A SPECIAL SPEAKER**



Representatives from River Falls Mutual Aid will share about their mission to relieve issues for those experiencing homelessness and to address housing inequality in our community. This is a grassroots organization who will provide us the opportunity to continue to listen to our community and learn about the real needs and gifts of our neighbors.

**THIS DOES NOT REPLACE WORSHIP, THIS IS CONVERSATION
DURING OUR MEAL.**



**BOWLING FOR
WATER!**
@ St. Croix Lanes
Sunday, March 10th
1:00-3:30PM

**FREE bowling with FREEWILL DONATION
to Water Is Life Well Project!**
[Register on FB or @hopelutheranrf.com](#)



This Week at HOPE February 28, 2024



Wandering Heart

Figuring out faith
with Peter
Lent 2024

Wednesdays in Lent
5:45 Meal
6:30 Prayer around the Cross

Sundays in Lent
9:30 Worship
10:30 Fellowship Hour

Beginning Wednesday, Feb. 14

LENTEN EVENING MEAL HOST SIGN-UP


**Ministry Teams or Individuals are invited to host
one of our Lenten midweek meals! (click on the link above)**

ONLY 1 WEEK REMAINS: MARCH 20!

This year we are partnering with the Northwest Synod of WI's Bishop's Initiative, "Water Is Life" to help raise a collective \$40,000 to build 2 solar powered, deep drilled wells in our companion synod of Malawi! You have an opportunity to give every Wednesday or at the Bowling for Water event on March 10th!


BISHOP'S INITIATIVE

WATER IS LIFE




WELL PROJECT

With the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Malawi




Malawi's population is 18.6 million.
More than 50% of the population is under 18 years old.





65% of rural areas have access to clean water services.

1 in 3 people don't have clean water to drink.




Thousands of children die each year due to water-borne illnesses. This worsens after natural disasters.






73% of health care centers don't have access to sanitation facilities.


Access to clean water increases safety and education for women and girls.




Deep-drilled wells can provide clean water for thousands of people in a single area.




Solar well designs can withstand more effects of climate change & extreme weather disasters.




GOAL:
\$40,000 raised by Synod Assembly - June 7-8, 2024




PROJECT:
Assist ELCM in building **two** new solar powered deep drilled wells.




Gifts for this initiative can be given via check, online, or on the synod app.



Northwest Synod of Wisconsin
"Bishop's Initiative - Water is Life"
 944 24 1/4 Street Suite 2
 Chetek, WI 54728





Northwest Synod of Wisconsin
 Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

This Week at HOPE February 28, 2024

You're Invited!

HOPE Community
Book Read & Discussion

"My hope is that this book will be a springboard to dialogue about history, the present reality of Indigenous peoples' experience, and the meaning and future of the United States itself."
Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz

First discussion April 14 following worship

Books available for free in the HOPE office

Discussions related to the history of the United States from the Indigenous experience as a step toward Truth & Healing.
What does this mean for us as people of HOPE?

Please Join Us! HOPE Community Book Read & Discussion

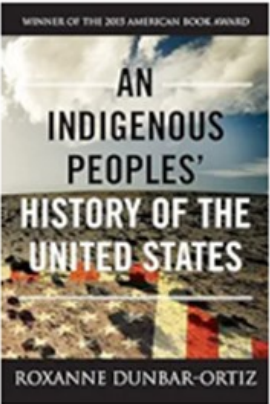
In 1452 Pope Nicholas V issued a decree that laid the foundation for the Doctrine of Discovery. His decree gave King Alfonso V of Portugal authority to enslave non-Christian peoples, thereby promoting his country's slave trade in West Africa. Successive papal decrees solidified and expanded the doctrine by granting Catholic nations of Europe the authority to declare dominion over the then-unknown non-Christian lands they encountered in the Age of Discovery. The decrees also encouraged enslaving native peoples ("Papal Bull Dum Diversas 18 June, 1452," doctrineofdiscovery.org).

In 2016, 19 ELCA synod assemblies passed a memorial that would charge the triennial ELCA Churchwide Assembly to consider repudiating the Doctrine of Discovery. With a vote of 912 to 28, the representative assembly adopted the memorial, making the ELCA the second major denomination in the United States to repudiate the Doctrine of Discovery.

On April 29, 2023, the following resolution was approved by the NW Synod of Wisconsin Assembly: "Be it resolved that each congregation take the small step to include a land acknowledgement in their bulletin and newsletter, and speak the words or a variation of these words: 'we gather today on the ancestral land of the (appropriate tribe or nation) and honor their elders past, present, and emerging' before every public gathering, including but not limited to, worship".

How are these three events connected, and what do they mean for us as people of HOPE Lutheran Church? Let us explore together to find out! Please join us for a HOPE community book read and discussion of "An Indigenous People's History of the United States" by Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz. We have 18 copies of the book available for free for pick up on a first come-first serve basis beginning March 3. If you would like a copy, please contact or visit Olive in the administrative office, Mondays - Wednesdays 9:00 - 3:00. Then please plan on joining the discussions beginning Sunday, April 14 following worship. More details to come. Book info below is from Amazon.com.

The first history of the United States told from the perspective of indigenous peoples



Today in the United States, there are more than five hundred federally recognized Indigenous nations comprising nearly three million people, descendants of the fifteen million Native people who once inhabited this land. The centuries-long genocidal program of the US settler-colonial regimen has largely been omitted from history. Now, for the first time, acclaimed historian and activist Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz offers a history of the United States told from the perspective of Indigenous peoples and reveals how Native Americans, for centuries, actively resisted expansion of the US empire.

"Origin narratives form the vital core of a people's unifying identity and of the values that guide them. In the United States, the founding and development of the Anglo-American settler-state involves a narrative about Puritan settlers who had a covenant with God to take the land. That part of the origin story is supported and reinforced by the Columbus myth and the 'Doctrine of Discovery.'" - Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz

Bingo Night at HOPE



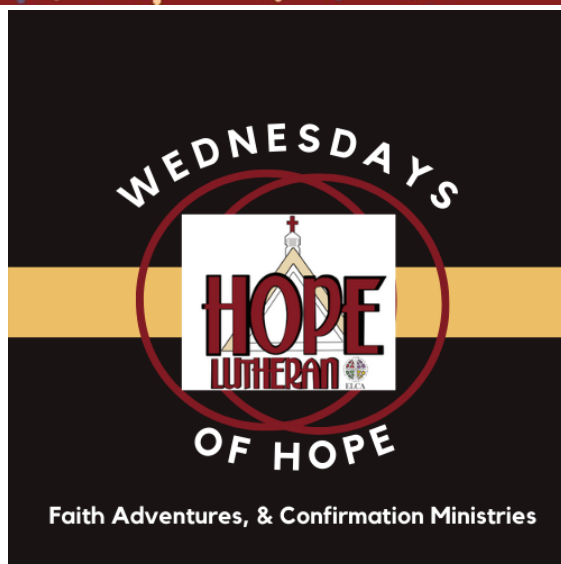
Bingo Night at HOPE



This Week at HOPE February 28, 2024



YOUTH NEWS



**ALL WOH YOUTH & FAMILIES ARE ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND OUR
MIDWEEK LENTEN MEALS & WORSHIP**

5:45- Meal

6:30- Worship

Spring Session begins April 10th!

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!

This Week at HOPE February 28, 2024



All are invited & needed to participate in the leading of worship!
Please prayerfully consider sharing your time and talents!

[SIGN UP HERE](#)

Want to help but not sure what the job entails?
Learn more in our [Worship Volunteer Guide](#)

2024 ALTAR GUILD/COMMUNION SET-UP HELP STILL NEEDED!

We are still in need of people willing to prepare the Altar for Sunday morning worship each week. This opportunity allows you the opportunity for a monthly rotation. Please sign up here:

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

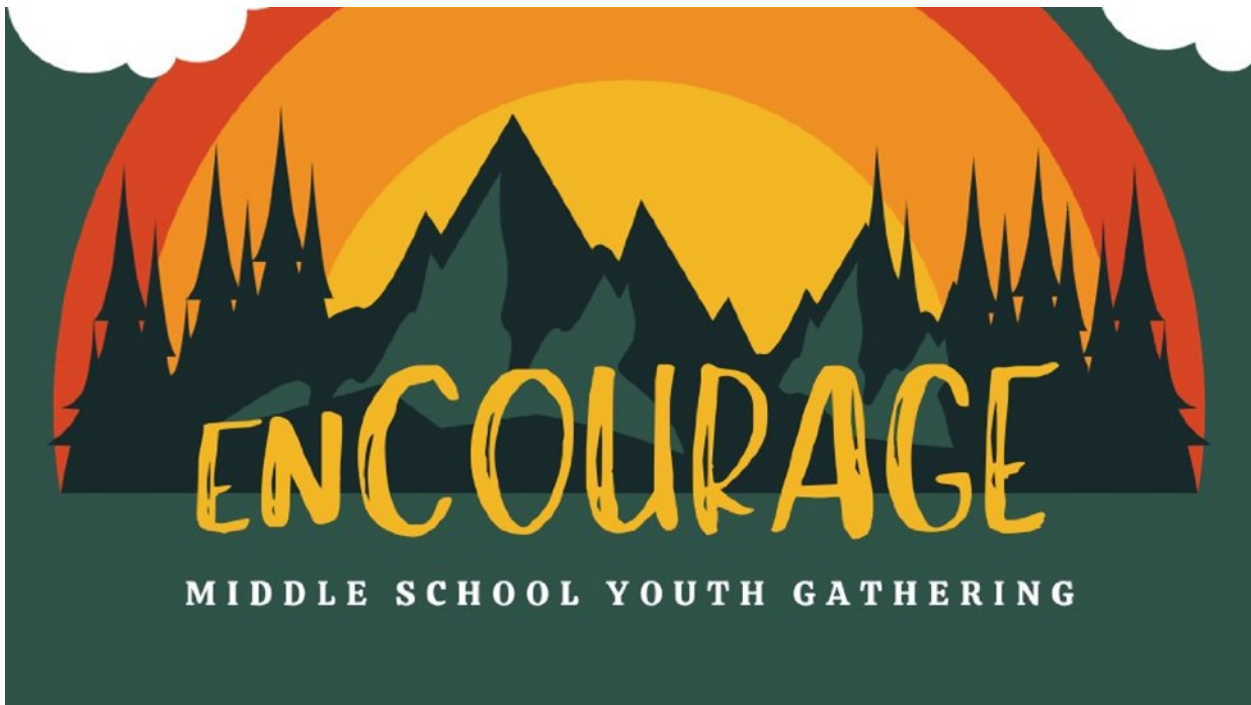
For a description of how to fulfill this role check out the
[Worship Volunteer Guide](#)

SUNDAY MORNING FELLOWSHIP HOST STILL NEEDED!

We have been blessed with a pretty steady return of our Sunday fellowship time, but we do have an opening this coming Sunday!

You can [SIGN UP HERE](#) or contact Pastor Annie if you are able!

This Week at HOPE February 28, 2024



**April 13, 2024 8AM-5PM
\$50 by MARCH 31**

All 5th through 8th graders throughout the NW Synod of WI are invited to join us for an incredible day of music, awesome guest speakers, workshops, group activities, and service projects as we explore what it looks like to trust in God, to have courage, to encourage one another, and be reminded that Jesus is with us always! Registration fee includes an event t-shirt, breakfast treats & lunch. We hope to see you there!!

HOPE youth and friends who would like to attend need to let Pastor Annie know and turn in your \$50 payment NO LATER THAN March 31, 2024. **Please know that cost barriers will never exclude anyone from participating! Speak with Pastor Annie about scholarships.**

This Week at HOPE February 28, 2024



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!



We have eggs again!

\$3.00 a dozen donation.

You can find them in refrigerator.

The donations will go to Youth Ministry events.

Thanks for supporting our youth here at HOPE!!

This Week at HOPE February 28, 2024



Trinity's outreach ministry, We Do Feet was founded with a mission to provide basic household items to anyone in need, especially those desiring to make a fresh start in life. Since the 1990's, We Do Feet has made a large impact in the St. Croix Valley, now serving hundreds of households annually.

Donations needed:

Beds, dressers, sheets, mattresses & box springs (must be in good, clean shape)
Household items-dishes, silverware, pots & pans, bowls & small appliances

Contact:

715-781-0622

Address:

614 Badlands Rd. Hudson

Volunteers needed:

Weekly shifts are Tuesday evenings from 5-7pm
and Saturday mornings from 9am – noon.



This Week at HOPE February 28, 2024



Bakken-Young
Funeral & Cremation Services

Death of a Parent: Am I an adult orphan?

Tuesday, April 23, 2024 | 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM
Via Zoom Webinar

Bakken-Young Funeral and Cremation Services invites you to a free grief webinar for those who are coping with grief after the death of their parent(s).



Presenter, Kenneth Doka will discuss:

- Describe the manifestations and process of grief noting the ways that the death of a parent can be disenfranchised
- Discuss the ways that a parent's death can influence the adult child's development and family dynamics
- Describe self-help strategies in assisting adult children cope with parental loss

Join **Kenneth Doka, PhD, MDiv, FT**, Professor Emeritus at the Graduate School of The College of New Rochelle and Senior Vice-President for Grief Programs for the Hospice Foundation of America. He is the author of numerous books and publications and the contributing author of *Dying & Death: Life & Living*. He has keynoted conferences throughout North America and other countries.

Register at: bakken-young.com/event/grief-webinar

Questions? Contact Julia Rajtar, Grief Support Coordinator
(715) 781-4003 or julia@bakken-young.com

Bakken-Young Funeral & Cremation Services

River Falls (715) 425-8788 | info@bakken-young.com | New Richmond (715) 243-5252

Visit our grief support page for more information on events and resources at: bakken-young.com

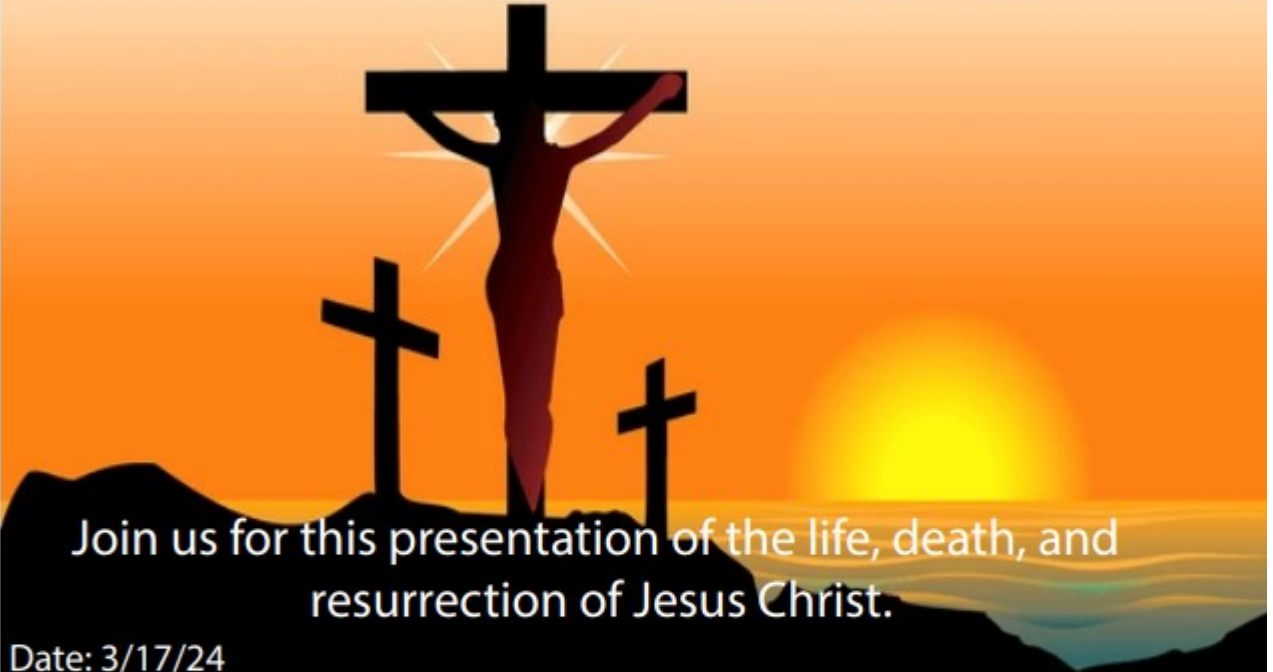
This Week at HOPE February 28, 2024



< Silent X Messengers



Presents: Celebrating A Savior



Join us for this presentation of the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Date: 3/17/24

Time: 5pm Soup & 6pm Play

Location: Immaculate Conception Catholic Church:

151 S Washington Ave, New Richmond WI 54017

Please contact Patty Gallaty with questions at 715-554-4928



Free Will Offering
for
Grace Place
Homeless Shelter

This Week at HOPE February 28, 2024



March Birthdays

Name	Birth Date
Maxwell VanOverbeke	02-Mar
Carl Warren	03-Mar
Madison Ziebarth	03-Mar
Grant Klacan	03-Mar
Jan Wegleitner	03-Mar
Addyson Wolfe	09-Mar
Sharon Paulson	10-Mar
Carly Wunrow	17-Mar
Karen Ottney-Kaste	22-Mar
Joseph Kurten	22-Mar
Margaret Anderson	23-Mar
David Peters	23-Mar
Andrea Boock	31-Mar
Leonard Juaire	31-Mar
Roger Tweiten	31-Mar
Ben Wunrow	31-Mar



March Baptisms

- Darcy Boock
- Samatha Brill
- Luke Flirasky
- Sara Filarsky
- Lexy Getschel
- Hannah Hoglo
- Richard Jackson
- Debra James
- Mallory James
- Keri Jiskra
- Connie Juaire
- Katherine (Klacan) Schilling
- Morgan Leitch
- Gwen Paulson
- Kyle Rudesill
- Susie Rudesill



Celebrating

Mark and Sarah Bondhus 15-Mar 44 Years

This Week at HOPE February 28, 2024



Please lift up the following people in prayer

Family of Diane Rohl
Barbara McIntosh (Mother of Joe McIntosh)
Brooke Grant (niece of Margaret Anderson)
Mike Roy (Friend of Karen Rodewald)
Family of George Klacan
Lori Snyder (Friend of Nancy & David Peters)
Family of Mary Babler
David Anderson (Karen Brohaugh's brother)
Ed and Gwen Paulson
Randy Dopkins (Family friend of Olive Olson)
Eden Annoye (Relative of Debra James)
MaryJean Yde (Linda Yde's mother-in-law)
John Weller (Cousin of Karen Brohaugh)
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)
Michael Jacobson (Brother of Linda Jacobson)
Ken Jones (Father of Martie Guthrie)
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 Nomi Brandt)
Linda Shurden (Friend of Nancy Sailer)
Joyce Kendall (Mother of Cara Getschel)
Judy Branson (Relative of the Boocks)
Hannah Forward
Amanda Olson (daughter of Olive Olson)
Ella Conover (Phil & Paula's Klacan's Niece)
Laura McDonald (Sister of Jean Loudon)
Daryl Kleeman (brother of Darcy Boock)
David Boock (Relative of the Boocks)
Nicholas Simpson (Boock family friend)
Linda Hidding (Nancy Sailer's cousin)
Teajai Schmidt (Boock family friend)
Lee Hill (friend of Naomi)
Gary Siebold
David Hendrickson