

This Week at HOPE March 20, 2024

Wandering Heart Wonderings...

From Pastor Annie Ladnier

This week we are focused on learning forgiveness. Peter asks Jesus, "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" And Jesus comes back with the infamous, "not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times" (or in some translations seventy times seven), the point being, A LOT OF TIMES, as many as it takes, on and on and on.

In my sermon last Sunday I referenced the work of womanist theologian and clinical psychologist Chanequa Walker-Barnes. Her insights on forgiveness are helpful and you can find the Sojourners interview with her [HERE](#). From there, you can click on links to her additional articles on Substack. She has a full five part series on forgiveness that I suspect will be helpful to many of us struggling our way through this challenging dimension of our discipleship.

After you spend time exploring her work, maybe spend time journaling about your own needs for forgiveness. Who/what needs your forgiveness? What forgiveness is your heart still aching to receive? How might God be at work in these relationships and moments with you? As you wrap up your reflection, enjoy this week's poem:



THE FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

Wandering Heart: *"Teach me"*

Teach Me

Teach me about the ways of the wind,
about the ways of the world,
about the ways of the heart.

Teach me about the soft crook of my lover's arm,
and the way two souls can hold each other close.

Teach me about forgiveness, about the language of *I'm sorry*
and the softness of sincerity.

Teach me about abundance, about *seventy-times-seven*
and *all the days of my life*.

Teach me about joy, about its contagious weaving
and its soul-healing.

Teach me about mercy, about open hands and deep breaths.

Teach me about the dawn of time and the stars in the sky.

Teach me what matters most.

Teach me what is mine to do.

Teach this achingly curious heart
until I run out of questions
or I run out of days.

Teach me some melodious sonnet,
and I will have a life well-lived.

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

May your wandering heart be blessed, beloved.



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.*



This Sunday at 10:45

HOPE AV PROJECT Information Meeting

Background:

This project began with a request to install BlueTooth with our sound system so those with hearing aids could stream to their devices. A large portion of our members experience hearing deficits some have devices to assist. For those who watch YouTube services at times the sound disappears or there's interference on lavalier mics. This project was considered in May/June of 2023 when the ELCA was accepting grant proposals from churches. We sought three bids before writing the grant. HOPE applied but wasn't awarded a grant. Prior to that Milo Oppegard indicated he would donate money to get BlueTooth with our system. We have an analog based system which is outdated and will disappear. This work would give us a digital system removing the issue we currently experience.

Since July of last year several donations have been made toward this project. We also received \$50,000 from an anonymous donor. All funds are currently in our HOPE account.

Information will be about how/why the system design was determined. The bid includes audio and visual additions to the church as well as equipping the Winds of the Spirit structure. We will discuss how it can enhance services, special events, education, and other gatherings in the context of the church. The total for installation/equipment in the church and WOTS is \$44,261.77.

The presentation will allow for members to engage with the plans and ask questions. This project does not require a congregational meeting because donations more than cover all costs and addresses some of HOPE's needs. It does not require a major budget change. The meeting is to accommodate your vested interest in the future of HOPE. Greg Briggs, Advanced Light and Sound, will be available to explain the system changes and answer questions.

Brief Overview:

Add acoustic panels

Replace analog equipment with digital

Add flat screen monitors and cameras

Replace wireless mics/ add chargers

Hide wiring to free up space at back of church.

Amplifiers

4 Williams sound packages for member use

Control pad and WiFii to Wots



Holy Week Services



Palm Sunday

March 24th 9:30AM



Maundy Thursday

March 28th 6:30PM



Good Friday

March 29th 6:30PM



Easter Sunday

March 31st

7:00 AM Sunrise Worship

9:30AM Worship

This Week at HOPE March 20, 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



HOPE's Easter Garden

HOPE is planning to display an Easter Garden around the altar on Easter morning. If you would like to donate plants or flowers to the Garden, please drop yours off on the church kitchen island anytime from Palm Sunday (March 24th) to Easter Saturday (March 30th) at 9:00 am. We will be building our Garden at 9:00 am Saturday morning. Olive will check all plants and flowers that may need watering while she's in the office (through Wednesday). There will also be a sign-in sheet on the kitchen island.

This Week at HOPE March 20, 2024




“WATER IS LIFE” BISHOP’S INITIATIVE

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.



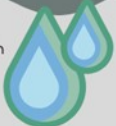



73% of health care centers don’t have access to sanitation facilities.

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





This Week at HOPE March 20, 2024



Are you a sewer, quilter, or crafter with a fabric stash that needs downsizing?

The Green Team is seeking fabric in shades of blue, white, red, green and yellow for an Earth Fest project. Solid or softly patterned woven (not stretchy knit) fabric in pieces 8"x6" or larger would be greatly appreciated!

Fabric can be brought to the Eidskog room and placed in the box labeled "Green Team" from Sunday, March 17 until April 14.

Thank you!!

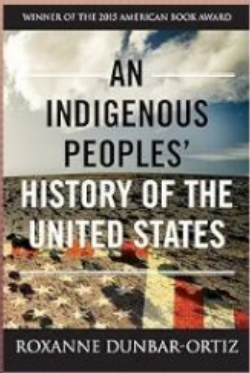


You're
Invited!

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

Chapters 1-5

Books available for free in the Eidskog Room

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?



15TH ANNUAL

SHOE SOME LOVE 5K

2024



RUN

ALL PROCEEDS PURCHASE
ATHLETIC SHOES FOR LOCAL KIDS IN NEED

Member
FDIC

27/APR

 **FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF RIVER FALLS**

- Start: 8:00 AM | Kid's Fun Run: 9:15 AM
- \$30 before March 31st | \$35 April 1st and after
- Kids 12 and under & Fun Run are FREE

For more info & registration:

SHOESOMELOVE.COM 



**FIRST
NATIONAL
BANK**
of River Falls
www.fnbrf.com

This Week at HOPE March 20, 2024



The St. Croix Valley Habitat for Humanity Women's Build Week

[YOU CAN SIGN UP FOR A BUILD DAY HERE](#)

Workdays are from 9-3:30, with half shifts available

Volunteers must be at least 16 years old,

Volunteers under 18 must be accompanied by a parent/guardian.

This year's build is a bit different – rather than a new, ground-up build, we will be rehabbing a town home in Somerset! We're very excited to be expanding the scope of our projects in this way, as a shorter construction period will allow us to take on more builds and serve more families! Spring schedules can be busy, so talk with your HOPE friends about a day/time that works best for you and sign-up! Women and men are welcome on these project days.

This Week at HOPE March 20, 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!

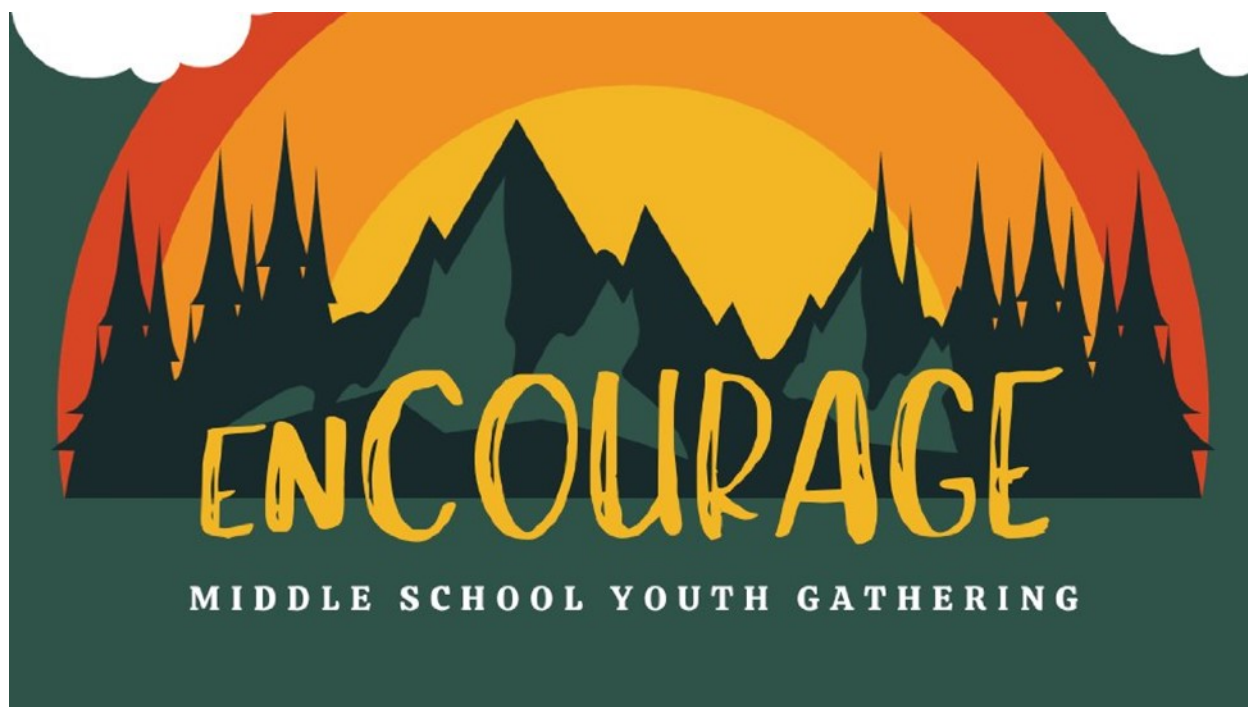
All K-10th+* grade youth are invited to join us on Wednesday evenings from 6-7PM for fellowship, family friendly worship & service, learning, and growing in relationship to Jesus and one another! Our evenings begin with a brief family style worship, where children & adults help with leadership and a 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 March 20, 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 March 20, 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 March 20, 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 March 20, 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 March 20, 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 March 20, 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



Please lift up the following people in prayer

Breccan Olson and family

Patricia Miller (Sister of Carl Warren)

Rhiannon Bondhus (Niece of Bondhus family)

Sharon & Kermit Paulson

Barbara McIntosh (Mother of Joe McIntosh)

Brooke Grant (niece of Margaret Anderson)

Family of Mike Roy (Friend of Karen Rodewald)

Lori Snyder (Friend of Nancy & David Peters)

David Anderson (Karen Brohaugh's brother)

Ed and Gwen Paulson

Randy Dopkins (Family friend of Olive Olson)

Eden Annoye (Relative of Debra James)

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)

Beth Lindgren Family (Dan Malaney)

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)

Linda Shurden (Friend of Nancy Sailer)

Joyce Kendall (Mother of Cara Getschel)

Hannah Forward

Amanda Olson (daughter of Olive Olson)

Ella Conover (Phil & Paula's Klacan's Niece)

Daryl Kleeman (brother of Darcy Boock)

David Boock (Relative of the Boocks)

Teajai Schmidt (Relative of Boock family)

Lee Hill (friend of Naomi)

Gary Siebold

David Hendrickson