

This Week at HOPE April 17, 2024

Living Out Our Faith: Earth Day

By Rev. Annie Ladnier

I look forward to being with you tonight as we prep our supplies for HOPE's booth at this year's Earth Fest, taking place on Saturday at UWRF! We will provide the opportunity for people in our community to decorate a small prayer flag with images or words for their prayers for God's creation. Tonight we will organize, cut, and sew the fabric squares, as well as decorate a few sample flags! I hope you can join us!

As you likely know, April 22nd is Earth Day, an annual event celebrated to demonstrate support for environmental protection. As God's people we are called to care for God's beautiful creation (Genesis 1:1-31). As disciples of Jesus we remember that Christ came to save not just humans, but *all* of creation. We are interconnected and the way we treat the earth impacts the way we treat our neighbor, whom we are called to love (Romans 8: 19-23; John 13:34-35).

Here at HOPE, our Green Team Ministry has spent the last few years helping us grow to understand that caring for creation is part of our call to discipleship not just on Earth Day, but every day! Together, we have celebrated the Season of Creation, taken up a collection to help purchase green energy blocks, begun the restoration of our natural prairie space (with planting and seeding happening at 1PM on Monday, April 22!), encouraged battery, Christmas light, and plastic film recycling, and significantly reduced our use of single-use plastics, and more! While individually these may seem like "drops in the bucket," they are mindful practices of Jesus's command to love our neighbor.

As you continue to enjoy these beautiful spring days, I pray that you can continue to grow in your love and appreciation for God's beautiful gift of creation. I leave you with a devotional poem, written by Ted Loder, to help you get your heart in the right space for doing so:

Help Me Unbury Wonder

O God of the miracles,
 of galaxies
 And crocuses and children,
I praise you now
 from the soul of the child within me,
 Shy in my awe,
 delighted by my foolishness,
 stubborn in my wanting,
 persistent in my questioning,
 and bold in my asking you
to help me unbury my talents
 for wonder
 and humor and gratitude,
so I may invest them eagerly
 In the recurring mysteries
 of spring and beginnings,
 of willows that weep,
 and rivers that flow
 and people who grow
in such endlessly amazing
 and often painful ways;
that I will be forever linked and loyal
 to justice and joy
 simplicity and humanity,
 Christ and his kingdom.



ANNOUNCING: FALCON LINKS FOOD DRIVE

Did you know that UWRF now has their very own social worker on campus to assist over 30 students who are system impacted?

This means they may have been in foster care, relative care, or orphaned; have incarcerated parents, experienced mental health hospitalization, or some other type of system impact. [UWRF Falcon Links](#) aims to provide guidance, support, and resources to these students so they can get their basic needs met and be successful college students. Many of the Falcon Links students are first generation college students. They often fall below the poverty line, lack a support system, and cannot get their basic needs met. Falcon Links helps to get students resources such as housing over school breaks, employment, food, hygiene items, access and navigation of healthcare, mental health resources, dental care, eye care, and other resources! If students can't get their basic needs met, it becomes nearly impossible to be a successful student. Falcon Links helps make both happen. Make sure to click on the link above to see the full scope of what Falcon Links does!

A few weeks ago, many of you came forward with generous gifts for a little boy, Breccan Olson, who was in the hospital with a severe GI infection that led to dialysis. His mother, Alyssa, just happens to be the Falcon Links social worker! When she was thinking of community partners, the personal generosity she experienced through HOPE caused her to reach out on behalf of her students! I have no doubt we will be just as eager to support these students!

So, during the month of April the HOPE Mission Team invites you to bring in the following items:

- ✝ Ready to microwave meals
- ✝ Granola bars
- ✝ Mac and cheese/pasta/sauce
- ✝ Soups
- ✝ Fruit cups
- ✝ Ready to microwave rice/rice meals
- ✝ Snacks
- ✝ Peanut butter
- ✝ Anything high protein
- ✝ Shelf stable milk
- ✝ Shelf stable chicken and tuna
- ✝ Spaghettios
- ✝ Poptarts
- ✝ Pedialyte/Gatorade
- ✝ Students are also able to accept gift cards that are \$25 in value without having it impact their financial aid.

The final day for our collection will be SUNDAY, APRIL 28TH!

This Week at HOPE April 17, 2024



HOPE SERVICE PROJECT NIGHT!

All HOPE members & friends are invited to join us on Wednesday, April 17th from 6-7PM as we prep for our prayer flag project! Bishop Laurie Skow Anderson will be with us for the fun. Helpers will sort and cut fabric, help our sewers make a loop, and organize supplies for Saturday. It promises to be a fun night of service together!

The graphic has a dark purple-to-brown gradient background. At the top center, the text "You're Invited!" is written in a pink, cursive font. Below it, the text "HOPE Community Book Read & Discussion Discussion #2 April 21 following worship Chapters 6-8" is displayed in white and yellow. To the left is a white line-art icon of a head in profile with a heart inside. To the right is a white line-art icon of an open book. The background is decorated with white clouds and four white four-pointed stars. At the bottom, there is a small image of the book cover for "AN INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES" by Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz, which is noted as a "WINNER OF THE 2015 AMERICAN BOOK AWARD".

You're Invited!

**HOPE Community
Book Read & Discussion
Discussion #2 April 21
following worship
Chapters 6-8**

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?

This Week at HOPE April 17, 2024



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Please join us Saturday, May 11th at 9:00am for outside spring clean up at HOPE Lutheran. There is a variety of needs: flower-beds, bush trimming, table adjusting & cleaning, storage clean out, staining, carpentry (make benches, trim in WOTS), mowing training, and much more!

Sign up at church or contact psrudesill@gmail.com



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 questions, contact psrudesill@gmail.com by April 26th. Gardens open May 1st.



YOUTH NEWS



Spring Session begins April 10th!

Join us as we explore:

“Faith in Daily Life”

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!

This spring we are focusing on “Faith in Daily Life” and we’ll be learning about and experiencing different dimensions of our discipleship:

April 10: Exploring different ways to pray

- ✝ April 17: Faith in Service with HOPE’s Green Team to prep for EarthFest with guest BISHOP LAURIE SKOW-ANDERSON
- ✝ April 24: Exploring Our Faith through ART (with special leader Karen Rodewald)
- ✝ May 1: Holy Communion Milestone Night 1: exploring how Holy Communion nourishes us to live out our faith (night 1 of 2)
- ✝ May 8: Holy Communion Milestone Night 2 & END OF YEAR WRAP UP!

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 April 17, 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 April 17, 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 April 17, 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!



CHANGE IN EGG SALES

Going forward, if you would like to purchase eggs in support of HOPE's Youth Ministry, please contact Karen Rodewald at 715-222-2551.

You can either pick them up at HOPE or come to our farm at 249 State Rd 65 River Falls.

This will ensure the freshest eggs for you!

This Week at HOPE April 17 2024



Please continue to hold Karen Hamilton in your prayers as she recovers from a very rough fall that she had while in San Diego, CA. She will be in recovery for multiple weeks. You can send her some cheer and encouragement at the following address:

Karen Hamilton
% Torrey Pines Assisted & Senior Living
13101 Hartfield Ave
San Diego, CA 92130

Please lift up the following people in prayer

Jacob Dan and family (Friends of Jeff Rodewald)
Karen Hamilton
Patricia Miller (Sister of Carl Warren)
Rhiannon Bondhus (Niece of Bondhus family)
Sharon & Kermit Paulson
The Family of Barbara 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)
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

This Week at HOPE April 17, 2024



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

April Baptisms



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



		Celebrating
Gary & Vicki Siebold	21-Apr	23 Years
Eric & Lisa Rydland	30-Apr	19 Years

This Week at HOPE April 17, 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