



Mission & Values

MISSION

**HOPE is called by God to look beyond ourselves.
We walk together in faith,
treasuring all people and sharing with them
the love, hope and acceptance that is in Christ.**

HOPE VALUES

**All people without exception
Serving Generously
Spiritual Nourishment
Our Connection with Creation**

This Week at HOPE April 22, 2026



A Weekly Word: Happy Earth Day By Pastor Annie Ladnier

The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it, the world, and those who live in it, for he has founded it on the seas and established it on the rivers. -Psalm 24:1-2

Today is Earth Day! Earth Day was first observed on April 22, 1970. Largely inspired by Rachel Carson's work, among others, the original Earth Day was a widespread, bipartisan response to the negative impacts of industrial development - and President Nixon, along with Congress, responded quickly to the popular pressure, establishing the Environmental Protection Agency that same year, and landmark environmental legislation followed close behind.

As Christians in the Lutheran tradition we have long understood the importance of caring for the Earth and all that God has made. In fact, Genesis shows us that God entrusted us with the care of all that God had made (Genesis 1:26, 2:15). In his Small and Large catechisms, Martin Luther links God's gracious care of humanity and all creation with the subsequent teaching that it is our human obligation to further this care of creation, so that all people and all creation can enjoy these God-given gifts. These obligations to care for creation are both law and gospel for the believer. Luther's understanding of the first article of the Apostles' Creed, his explanation of law and gospel in the *Formula of Concord* and his explanation of "daily bread" in the Lord's Prayer all point to his clear understanding that we were part of the created order, made by God the creator and called in our discipleship to tend to and responsibly care for that creation.

The ELCA (Evangelical Lutheran Church in America) issued a social statement on the environment in 1993. *Caring for Creation: Vision, Hope, and Justice* establishes the ELCA's teachings on ecology and the environment, grounded in a biblical vision of God's intention for the healing and wholeness of creation. It expresses a call to pursue justice for creation through active participation, solidarity, sufficiency and sustainability, and states the commitments of the ELCA for pursuing wholeness for creation — commitments expressed through individual and community action, worship, learning, moral deliberation and advocacy.

Today our understanding of the call to care for creation as part of our walk of discipleship is more and more prevalent. Resources are readily available and efforts to protect our environment are being made in both faithful and political ways. The ELCA is engaged in active advocacy for issues relating to the care and protection of our earth and its resources. Interfaith, ecumenical, and fully ELCA organizations exist to resource people with tools to aid them in the pursuit of caring for creation. Just last weekend 4 of us from HOPE attended the EcoFaith Summit of the Upper Midwest at First Lutheran Church in Duluth, MN. Nearly 400 people gathered to hear presentations on EcoFaith issues, possibilities, and faithful steps. We partook in over 7 action steps to care for creation and engaged in over 20 workshops designed to ignite and energize us in our practice of faithful environmental care. The ways people are tending to one another, local waterways, ecosystems, and educating congregation members how to practice sustainability is truly inspiring.

To gain your own inspiration as you practice this dimension of your discipleship, check out these helpful resources:

1. [Lutherans Restoring Creation](#)
2. 1993 ELCA Social Statement: [Caring for Creation: Vision, Hope, and Justice](#)
3. [Stewardship of Creation: A 30 Day Discipline](#)
4. [EcoFaith Network](#)

Prayer: (adapted from *Speak It Plain: Words for Worship and Life Together* by Meta Herrick Carlson)

Creator God, draw us out of ourselves and renew our love for you,
so that we would see with new eyes the generations of making,
so that we would learn to be tender and generous,
so that we would feel deeply our connections in this life
and our Maker, who desires this sacrifice
rather than the whole earth as a burnt offering.

This Week at HOPE April 22, 2026



We still have the following roles open in the next 2 weeks!
Please consider signing up:

Sunday, April 26th Needs:

Assisting Minister
Ushers/Greeters
Acolyte
Altar Flowers
Coffee Fellowship

Sunday, May 3rd Needs:

Communion Set-Up/Clean-Up
AV Support
Ushers
Reader & Prayer Leader
Communion Assistant
Flowers
Coffee Fellowship

IF YOU CAN SERVE PLEASE [SIGN UP HERE!](#)

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

This Week at HOPE April 22, 2026

If you have not taken the opportunity to sign up for a portrait session on May 5th or May 6th for the church directory, you can click on the link below to select a time.

If you are having difficulty using the online scheduler, you can call Dan Malaney at 715-808-4186 to determine what time works best for you.

<https://schedule.ucdir.com/#/>



We need YOU to make our church directory complete!

It is free! Every family gets a free 8x10. And a free directory.

**Family photos to be taken at HOPE.
Tuesday May 5th and Wednesday May 6th.
Both days 2:00 pm to 8:30 pm.**

Schedule your time here: <https://schedule.ucdir.com/#/>

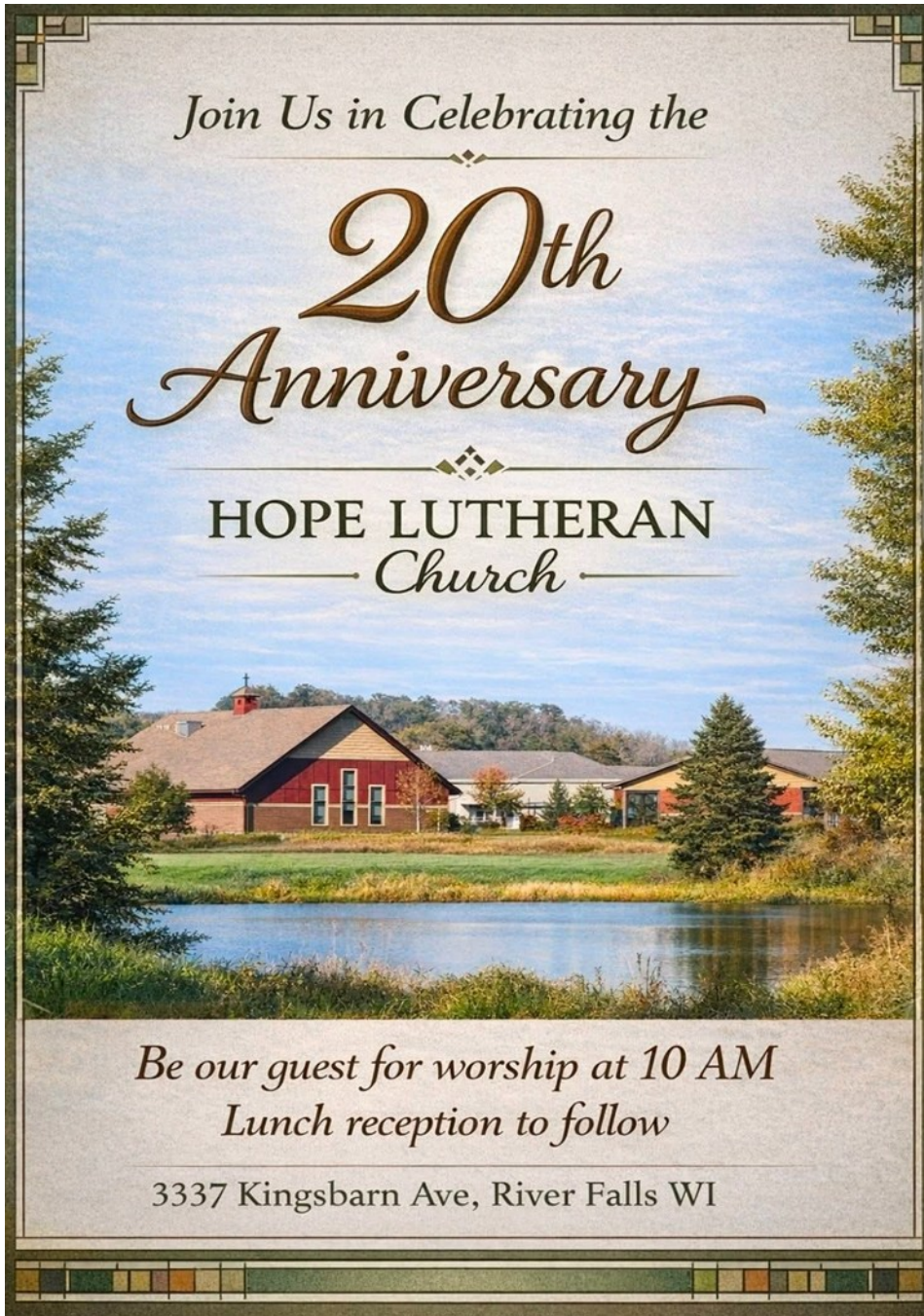
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This Week at HOPE April 22, 2026



Join Us in Celebrating the

20th
Anniversary

HOPE LUTHERAN
Church

Be our guest for worship at 10 AM
Lunch reception to follow

3337 Kingsbarn Ave, River Falls WI

There are still many ways to be involved in shaping this wonderful day!
Contact Diane Clark or Pastor Annie if you are interested.

This Week at HOPE April 22, 2026



**EARTH
FEST
2026**

SAVE THE DATE!
SATURDAY, APRIL 25, 2026
UW-RIVER FALLS UNIVERSITY CENTER
RIVER FALLS, WI

12-4PM

HOPE for EARTH
Partnering for a Sustainable Future

Mark your calendar for this year's Earth Fest on Saturday, April 25th!

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE](#)

HOPE's Green Team will, once again, host a booth. This year's booth centers on prayers for peace as we recognize the impact that global conflicts have on our natural environment! Make sure to stop by on the upper level!

JOIN US FOR

**COFFEE &
CONVERSATION**

←
**NOW ON
MONDAYS**



**HOPE
LUTHERAN**

**10:00AM EVERY MONDAY
ON ZOOM**

[USE THIS ZOOM LINK TO JOIN THE CONVERSATION](#)



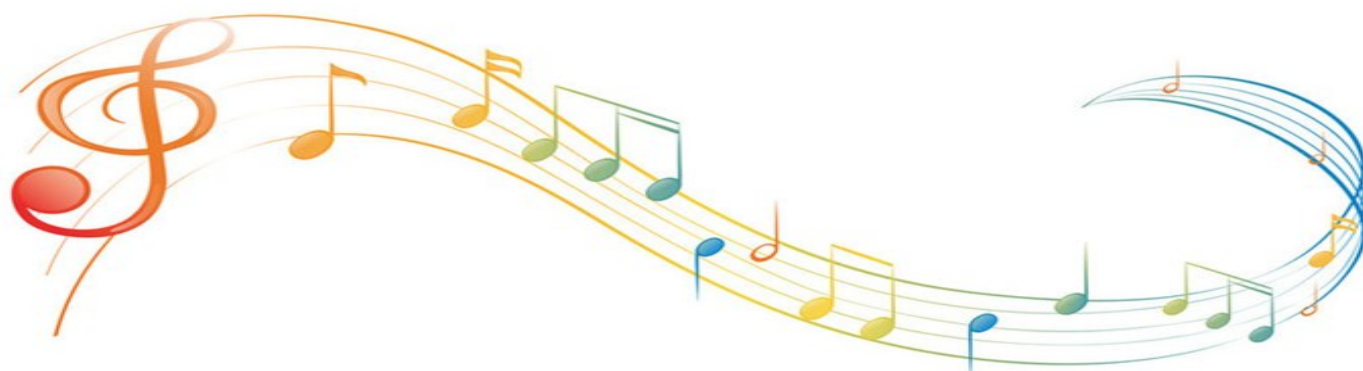
Wellspring Village (also known as the tiny house project)

Wellspring Village is a collaboration of River Falls area churches to provide transitional housing and supportive community for persons experiencing homelessness in River Falls, Wisconsin, and surrounding areas. Wellspring Village seeks to promote stability, dignity, and pathways toward permanent housing through housing, advocacy, and collaborative community support.

Hope Lutheran Church is a major supporter of Wellspring Village and we encourage our members and friends to join us in our efforts to support our experiencing homelessness with dignity. There are a variety of ways to support them and the project. Please click on the link below.

<https://wellspring-village.square.site/volunteer->

This Week at HOPE April 22, 2026



MUSICAL SUNDAYS IN MAY

Leading up to HOPE'S 20th Anniversary on June 7th, the many musicians at HOPE have enthusiastically volunteered their talents to enhance our worship experience. Take a look at the lineup and plan to be at worship. Bring a friend or a neighbor!

May 3.....Steve and Diane Meyer

May 10...Steve Kaste

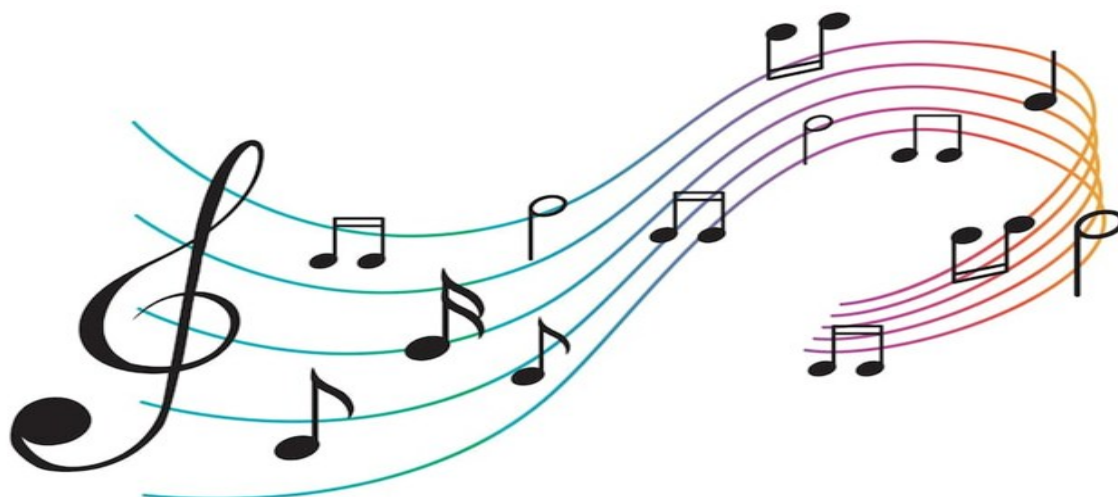
May 17...Dale Bohnert, Linda and Dean Simpson, Camryn Shea

May 24...Diane and Nathan Clark

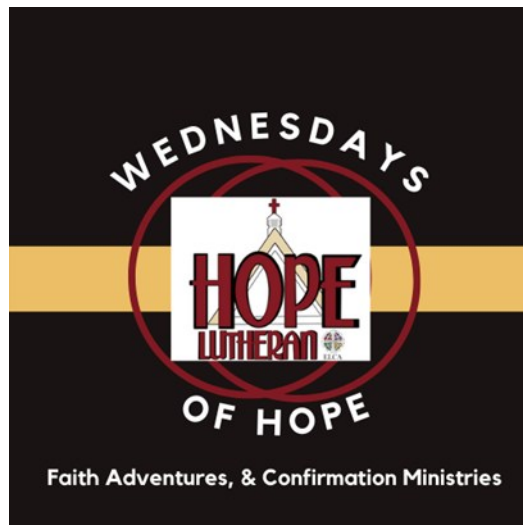
May 31...Carl Warren and Andrea Boock, Keith and Lisa Ruehlow

June 7....John Hamilton, Diane Clark, Lynda Meyers (trio),
Phil Klacan..HOPE pick up choir.

THANK YOU to all the musicians for providing music for this special milestone in HOPE'S history!!



This Week at HOPE April 22, 2026



Spring Session

Join us April 8-May 13

This spring we delve into New Testament stories,
our Holy Communion Milestone,
& Faith in Action Service Nights!

Don't miss the fun!

[**LEARN MORE & REGISTER HERE**](#)



**We celebrate the Affirmation of Faith of
Noelle James & Ainsley Neuhaus**

Sunday, May 31st

9:30 Worship

Reception to follow

Bakken-Young
Funeral & Cremation Services

Grief Support Group

Bakken-Young Funeral & Cremation Services offers both virtual and in-person grief support groups. This six-week grief support group is for adults who are grieving the death of a loved one. We ask that you participate in all 6 sessions, as possible.

Grief Group held in person in New Richmond

Mondays, 6:00-7:00 pm

April 6, 13, 20, 27, May 4, 11, 2026

New Richmond United Methodist Church

209 E Second Street, New Richmond, WI 54017

RSVP by Sunday, March 29, with your name, phone number, and email.

Anyone is welcome to participate in the group, and the sessions are free.

Group Facilitator:

Julia Rajtar, M.A.P.S., BCC, Grief Support Specialist
Bakken-Young Grief Support Coordinator

To register, RSVP with your name, phone number, and email at:

julia@bakken-young.com

For more information, call or text Julia at 715-781-4003.

Visit "Grief Support" at www.bakken-young.com
for additional groups and other grief support resources
or join us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/bakkenyoung

This Week at HOPE April 22, 2026



Please lift up the following people in prayer

Kjersti Olson Duncan (Family friend of Diane Clark & Karen Rodewald)
Steve Feyereisen (Uncle of Jeff Rodewald)
Sue Ammerman (Friend of Nancy Sailer)
Steve Stocker (Friend of Karen & Jeff Rodewald)
Deanna Monson & Family (Mother of Lisa Ruehlow)
The Family of Ted Bauer (Friend of Olive Olson)
Jerry Gibson (Father of Karen Rodewald and Diane Clark)
Lisa Perlt Farley (Friend of Faye Perkins)
Sam Morrissette (Friend of Jeff & Karen Rodewald)
Mark Willink (Brother of Paula Klacan)
Family of Betty Pierce (Friends of Mary Thompson)
Doug Rudesill
Mary Lynn and Len Wiskerchen (Friends of Faye Perkins)
Rev. Ron Johnson (Friend of Karen Rodewald)
Sue Tarr (Friend of Faye Perkins)
The Family of David Boock
Mary Klacan
Jean Lemire Anderson (Sister-in-law of Karen Brohaugh)
David Anderson (Brother of Karen)
Chantel Ashton (Friend of Olive Olson)
Lois Rosenthal (Mother of Jeff Rosenthal)
Leslie Randall (Sister of Vicki Siebold)
The Family of Jill Siebold (Daughter of Gary Siebold)
Ed Paulson and family
Gwen Paulson and her son Chad Sequin (Friend of Bill & Kay Montgomery)
Amanda Olson (Olive Olson's daughter)
Jim Deming (friend of Marc & Martie Guthrie)
Cathy Hjersjo (Friend of Darcy Boock)
Sylvia Secrist (Friend of Paula & Phil Klacan)
Carol Prince (Friend of Betty Lou Oppeward)
Brent Larson (Friend of Bill & Kay Montgomery)
Bob Schuder (Father of Sarah Bondhus)
Family of Rosina Hendrikson (Family of Mary Thompson)
Marcus Stack (Friend of Steve & Karen Kaste)
Patricia Miller (Sister of Carl Warren)
Rhiannon Bondhus (Niece of Bondhus family)
Eden Annoye (Relative of Debra James)
Fatma Aljarrah (Friend of Faye Perkins)
Michael Jacobson (Brother of Linda Jacobson)
Dennis & Sandy Schultz (Friends of Bill & Kay Montgomery)
Hannah Forward
Daryl Kleeman (Brother of Darcy Boock)
Lee Hill (friend of Naomi)
Gary Siebold
David Hendrickson



April Birthdays

Name	Birthday
Will Bohnert	2-Apr
John Hamilton	2-Apr
Sawyer Filarsky	4-Apr
Jean Loudon	11-Apr
Traci Wolfe	11-Apr
Cathy Wunrow	11-Apr
Ann Rosenthal	12-Apr
Faye Perkins	14-Apr
Ed Quinn	20-Apr
Lori Leitch	29-Apr

April Baptisms



Margaret Anderson
Louis Bernard
Marc Guthrie
Hazel Ladnier
Ben Wunrow
Amanda Ziebarth
Sharon Paulson
Jan Wegleitner



Celebrating

Gary & Vicki Siebold 21-Apr 25 Years
Eric & Lisa Rydland 30-Apr 21 Years

This Week at HOPE April 22, 2026



**DON'T FORGET!
MISSION TEAM HAS YOUR KWIK TRIP
GIFT CARDS & CAR WASH CARDS!**

HOPE's Mission Ministry reminds you that Kwik Trip Gas cards and Car Wash cards are available to you as part of our fundraising for Our Neighbor's Place!

Gas Cards: \$25/\$50 amounts

Car Wash Cards: \$36 for 5 Ultimate Washes

*Portion goes directly to ONP!

Cards available every Sunday and Mon-Wed, 8:30-3:00 in the church office.

Checks payable to "Our Neighbor's Place," cash also accepted.

Office Admin, Olive Olson, Pastor Annie, or any member of our Mission Team can assist you in getting a card.

Thank you for your continued support of Our Neighbors' Place!

This Week at HOPE April 22, 2026



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](#)



Did you know HOPE is on Facebook in TWO places??

[Public HOPE Facebook Page](#)

For public information, events, and Gospel sharing

[Private HOPE Facebook Group](#)

For private events, picture sharing, sharing joys & prayer concerns, and living out our faith together

Make sure to like, follow, and join both to stay up to date!