



Holy Trinity Sunday: A Blessing

A message from Pastor Annie Ladnier

This Sunday is Holy Trinity Sunday in the Church Year. Directly on the heels of Pentecost Sunday, we celebrate the magnificent mystery of this three-in-one God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit
Creator, Savior, and Sustainer
Source of Being, Word, and Spirit
Abba, Christ, and Paraclete

How does it feel to consider a new language for this triune relationship of our God?
Strange?
Wrong?
Nice?
Hopeful?
Creative?
Full of wonder?

I hope that no matter what language of our God brings you comfort, it does always bring you wonder, awe, and amazement. I leave you with the blessing of Rev. Meta Herrick Carlson as we prepare our hearts for Holy Trinity Sunday:

*Let's forget for today
the urge to sort God out
with formula or creed.*

*Let this be a field trip
to dance in the throne room,
to squeeze in among angels
and sing with wonder
that does not need proving.*

*Let those holies resound
in that shining hall, and we'll smile
because there is enough,
and mystery does not need solving,
only adoration and company
with the One
who was and is and will be
even still.*

*Let's forget for today
we prefer knowing for certain,
and instead rejoice
in the fullness of love.*

This Week at HOPE May 22, 2024



On June 7-8th Pastor Annie, along with HOPE's voting members, Nancy Sailer and Carl Warren, will head to Eau Claire for the annual Northwest Synod of Wisconsin Synod Assembly. This is a special year as it is a Bishop's election year! The current Bishop, Rev. Laurie Skow-Anderson, has announced her retirement and will not be seeking re-election. We are grateful for her many years in ministry on our synod staff both as Bishop and Director of Evangelical Mission!

To prepare for a new bishop our synod has introduced a new election process where candidates were pre-identified during conference meeting elections. This allows time for full background checks on candidates, the opportunity to get to know candidates better during pre-assembly forums, and more time for the Spirit to move among our synod.

In addition to electing a new Bishop, the synod assembly is when voting members from all 195 congregations across the synod gather for worship, learning about our ministry partners, hearing what God is up to in other congregations, considering important resolutions, and conducting the faithful business of our synod's ministry. You can learn more about this year's resolutions, the bishop's candidates, and more [RIGHT HERE](#).

Finally, the assembly will serve as a final opportunity to give toward the Bishop's "Water Is Life" initiative to raise \$40,000 for 2 new wells in Malawi. HOPE's generosity throughout Lent contributed \$1,128 toward that goal! If anyone would like to make an additional donation, you will find a link on the synod website (linked above).

Please hold our Assembly in your prayers, that the Spirit would guide us toward the best leader to fulfill God's mission now, that Nancy, Carl, and I will have safe travels and a fruitful time with God's people, and that all who attend may be spiritually nourished and rejuvenated to continue living into our discipleship!

This Week at HOPE May 22, 2024



YOUTH NEWS



**We have some fun events planned for this summer!
Keep your eyes peeled as we firm up details for:**

**Kayaking
Tie Dye Fun
Pool Party
& More!**

Vacation Bible School & Children's Musical with First Congregational Church, River Falls

Vacation Bible School 2024

Children age 3 through completed grade 5 are invited to the 2024 Vacation Bible School program. The theme is *Christian Art: Stop, Look, Listen and will feature Bible study, children's literature, Christian art and architecture, music, and an engaging variety of art projects from painting to felting.*

VBS is free and open to all community children. Join us!
Registration forms can be [FOUND HERE](#)

**Dates: July 29 – August 1, 9:00 – 11:30AM
Dinner and a Presentation: August 1, 6:30PM**

Summer Children's Musical 2024

Children who have completed grades 1-6 are invited to produce the musical *Rescue in the Night: The Story of Daniel in the Lions' Den*. Rehearsals include singing, learning lines, and working on the set and props. After four days of a whirlwind of rehearsals, the show will be presented on Thursday evening, August 22. The musical is directed by elementary music teacher Emma Cruciani and will be a fun week. All are welcome and there is no charge. Registration forms are available online or at church.

**Dates: August 19 - 22, 9:00AM – Noon for Rehearsals
Dinner and the Show: August 22, 6:30PM**

This Week at HOPE May 22, 2024



Purchase Kwik Trip cards from Our Neighbors' Place:

We sell Kwik Trip gift cards (\$25, \$50 and \$100) and earn 5% of the purchase price back.

We also sell Kwik Trip Car Wash cards. Cards cost \$36 for 5 ultimate car washes and we earn \$16 per card sold. This is our best Kwik Trip fundraising option! Keep your car clean AND support Our Neighbors' Place!



Olive will be out of the office starting Wednesday, May 29th until Monday, June 10th.

Pastor Annie will be in the office, but may not be here for all regular office hours 8:00—3:00. Regular church office hours will resume when Olive returns.

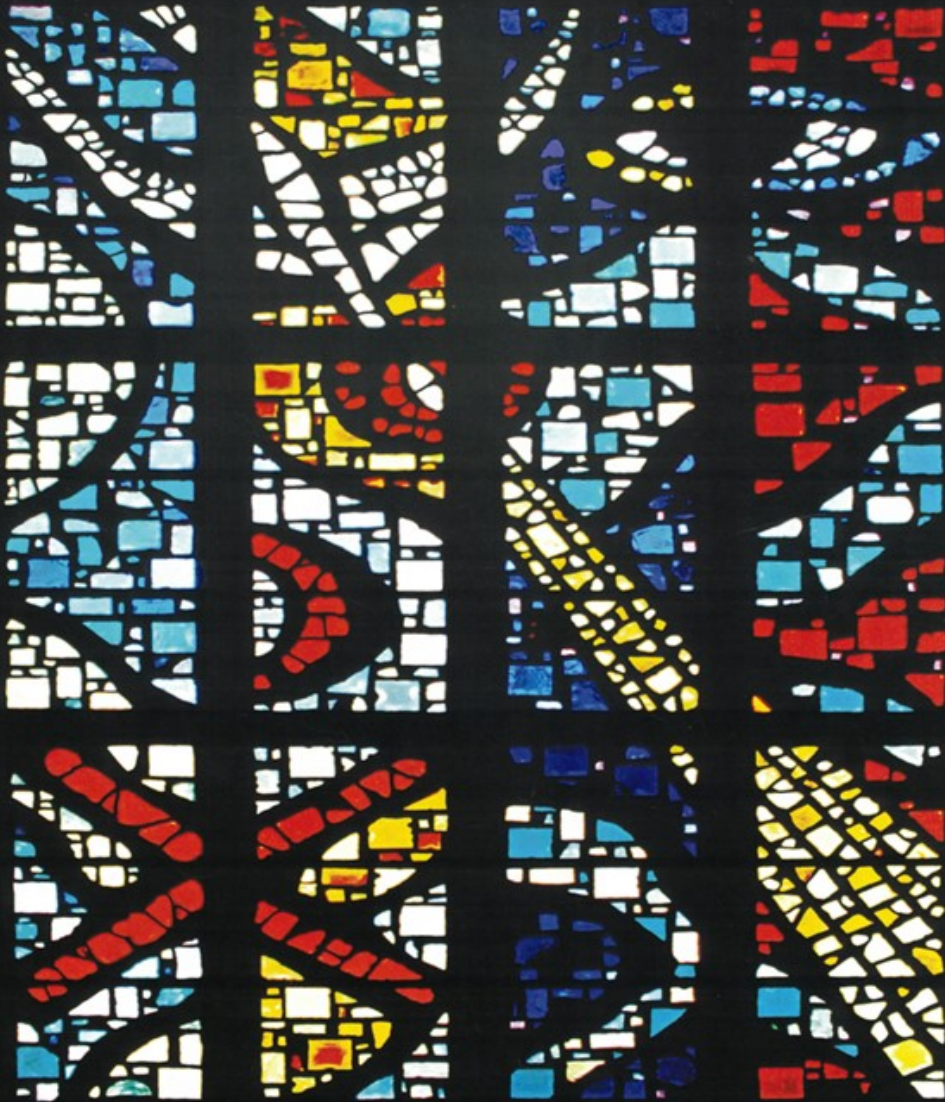
This Week at HOPE May 22, 2024



STOP! LOOK! LISTEN!

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July 29-Aug 1, 9:00-11:30 AM
Age 3-completed Grade 5
ALL ARE WELCOME! NO CHARGE!



Carl Huneke, CC BY-SA 4.0

First Congregational United Church of Christ
110 N 3rd St. River Falls | 715-425-2052
To register visit www.firstchurchrf.org



This Week at HOPE May 22, 2024



RESCUE IN THE NIGHT

The Story of

DANIEL IN THE LION'S DEN

Emma Cruciani, Director; Marsha Pearson, Accompanist



CHILDREN'S MUSICAL

REHEARSALS: Aug 19-22, 9:00 AM-Noon

DINNER & SHOW: Aug 22, 6:30 pm

AGE: Completed Kindergarten - Grade 6

TO REGISTER VISIT WWW.FIRSTCHURCHRF.ORG
First Congregational United Church of Christ
110 N 3rd St. River Falls, WI 715-425-2052
ALL ARE WELCOME! NO CHARGE



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This Week at HOPE May 22, 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](#)

This Week at HOPE May 22, 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 May 22, 2024



Please lift up the following people in prayer

Family of Kermit Paulson

Marcus Stack (Friend of Steve & Karen Kaste)

Janet Cudd (Friend of Jeff & Karen Rodewald)

Chris Akey (Nephew of Jeff & Karen Rodewald)

Jeremy Martinson (Brother-in-Law to Elise Forward)

Family of Molly Gerrish (Friend of Faye Perkins)

Mary Alice Jones (Martie Guthrie's mother)

Family of Teajai Schmidt (relative of the Boocks)

Jacob Dan and family (Friends of Jeff Rodewald)

Karen Hamilton

Patricia Miller (Sister of Carl Warren)

Rhiannon Bondhus (Niece of Bondhus family)

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 May 22, 2024



May Birthdays

Lillian Brill	12-May
Stacia Johnson	13-May
Hunter Rodewald	14-May
Cecelia Bernard	15-May
David Hendrickson	19-May
Shane Bondhus	20-May
Spencer Ziebarth	23-May
James Malaney	23-May
Kay Montgomery	25-May
Kennedie Porten	29-May

May Baptisms



Lee Getschel
Grant Klacan
Jean Loudon
Bill Montgomery
Rosemary Nelson
Faye Perkins
Eric Rydland
Mason Shea
Zoe Tokheim
Carly Wunrow



May Anniversaries	Date	Years to Celebrate
Linda & Mike Yde	5-May	34
Bruce & Susan Schuettpelz	8-May	42
Leonard & Connie Juaire	23-May	37
Michael & Michelle Hansen	28-May	
Bill Warner & Linda Jacobson	30-May	31