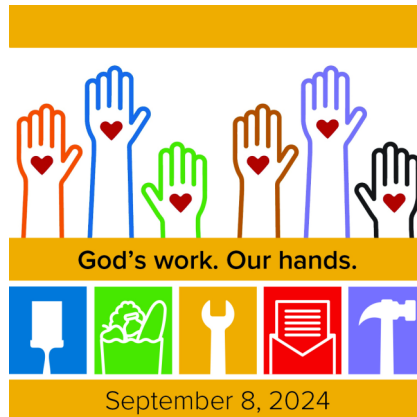


This Week at HOPE September 4, 2024



JOIN US THIS WEEK FOR “GOD’S WORK, OUR HANDS” KICK OFF SUNDAY!

Somehow, it is already September! The swimming pool is closed, kids are back to school, and we already see the tiniest bit of color emerging on the trees! Of course, every September here at HOPE we also kick-off our ministry program year with a special day dedicated to service, fellowship, and all we will be learning this year!

This year we hope to offer a few projects to choose from:

- Assisting our own Property Ministry Team with outdoor clean up, prairie knapweed tending, sprucing up the Free Little Library, painting, etc.
- Possible project with Our Neighbor’s Place (sorting/cleaning/etc)
- Climate/Creation Care advocacy project for local government
- Green Energy Block Noisy Offering during worship!
- More TBA!

PLEASE DRESS FOR SERVICE PROJECT WORK THIS SUNDAY AND BRING ANY GARDEN TOOLS THAT MIGHT AID IN WEEDING WORK!

In addition to our work projects we will also enjoy a delicious meal together! Our Congregational Life & Membership Ministry Team will take the lead on the main dish and a couple sides, but please feel free to bring a side item or dessert to share!

Finally, this kick-off celebration highlights another ministry program year of faith formation! This year our K-10th+ grade youth will delve into service, learning, and fellowship during *Wednesdays of HOPE from 5:45 -7:15 most Wednesdays of the year. WOH runs in 3 sessions, with opportunities to engage in the larger congregation during Advent and Lent.*

Our ADULTS also have a variety of opportunities for faith formation and spiritual nourishment as well. This fall join us on September 22, October 6, and October 20th as we continue to explore the intersection of Lutheran faith and civic life. Join the Zoom “Coffee & Faithful Conversation” every Monday at 10AM, and this winter look for information on small group and Bible study opportunities! More to come!

DON’T FORGET to bring your loose change for our Annual Green Energy Block **NOISY OFFERING!!!** *Silent offerings are also still welcome ;). Donations help us maintain our 100% renewable status and help to provide renewable energy for up to 10 area homes!*



Noisy Offering Alert!



It's time to start rounding up those pennies, nickels, dimes, and quarters! **Sunday, September 8**, as we begin to celebrate the Season of Creation, we will have a GREEN AND NOISY offering to fund our commitment to choosing cleaner, sustainable electricity sources by purchasing Renewable Energy Blocks (REB) from the River Falls Municipal Utility. Last year your gifts enabled us to purchase 34 REB per month for 2024. That's enough energy from renewable sources to supply 100% of HOPE's electricity needs, as well as that of about 9 other typical households in our neighborhood!

This Week at HOPE September 4, 2024




Civic Life & Faith Engagement Next Steps

Thank you to all who participated in our summer series of “Civic Life and Faith” conversations. We had faithful conversation surrounding right relationships with our indigenous neighbors, including better understanding of the Doctrine of Discovery and the importance of its repudiation, and the invitation from the ELCA to review the Draft Social Statement on Civic Life and Faith.

Your opportunity to provide feedback **ends on September 30, 2024**. You can find the survey [HERE](#).

Many have expressed a curiosity about how our ELCA Lutheran identity and theology shapes our civic engagement. United Lutheran Seminary has put together an excellent set of resources for this, titled, “What Does It Mean to Be Lutheran in a Crucial Election Year?” While the first session has passed, there are still 5 sessions remaining. Please see the flier information below for registration information.



June – October 2024, dates listed with topics, 7 – 8:30 pm

Online via zoom (and recorded for later viewing)

Cost \$20 per individual or \$80 per congregation (no limit to number in attendance). Check with synod office for possible funding.

To register, please click [here](#) or use QR code provided below:



What does it mean to be Lutheran in a crucial election year?

As our faith informs our day-to-day lives, Lutherans recognize that “faith is active in love [and] love calls for justice in relationships and structures of society” (ELCA, Social Statement on Church in Society, 1991). We also know the church is called to be a community that prays, deliberates, and acts together when it comes to complex social issues. In this election year, how might our Lutheran faith shape our thinking, acting, and voting on major issues? Join us to learn and ponder timely social teachings of the ELCA and to learn tips for leading discussions in your own community.

June 25:	<i>Introduction to Social Teachings</i> Dr. Roger Willer, Director of Theological Ethics for the ELCA
August 27:	<i>Corporate Social Responsibility</i> Rev. Kaari Reiersen, Director of Corporate Social Responsibility for the ELCA
September 10:	<i>Abortion</i> Dr. Caryn Riswold, Professor of Religion/McCoy Family Distinguished Chair in Lutheran Heritage and Mission at Wartburg College
September 24:	<i>Faith, Sexism and Justice</i> Dr. Mary Streufert, Director, Gender Justice and Women's Empowerment, and Heather Dean, Program Coordinator, Theological Discernment, ELCA
October 8:	<i>Earth's Climate Crisis Study Guide</i> Dr. Ryan Cumming, Program Director, Theological Ethics, Education, and Community Engagement
October 22:	<i>Freed in Christ: Race, Ethnicity, and Culture</i> Dr. Richard Perry, emeritus faculty, Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago



3 additional opportunities this fall to expand our understanding of civic life and faith:

1. A conversation with Quinn Rowe, Federal Clean Energy Campaign Manager. Quinn will share about his work with Wisconsin Conservation Voters and provide helpful information about the Affordable Clean Energy Plan and its impact on Sunday, September 22nd. Mission moment and Adult Forum presentation will take place.
2. Adult Forum on Christian Nationalism- we will watch a video and discuss together on Sunday, October 6, 10:45AM
3. Presentation and discussion with Rev. Cindy Crane, Director of the Lutheran Office of Public Policy in WI on Sunday, October 20th.

This Week at HOPE September 4, 2024



RIVER FALLS COMMUNITY PACKING EVENT

SEPTEMBER 11-12, 2024!!

**HOPE has 2 blocks of time reserved for packing:
Wednesday, 9/11 from 6-8PM (THIS SESSION IS FULL)
Thursday, 9/12 from 6-8PM (6 spots for anyone 5+ remain!)**

**This is a community-wide event where people from across River Falls will come together to feed God's hungry children.
SIGN UP TO COME WITH HOPE HERE!!!!**

This Week at HOPE September 4, 2024



TO HOPE AND ACT WITH CREATION

SEASON OF CREATION 2024

The firstfruits of hope
(Rom 8:19-25)

**A worldwide celebration
of prayer and action
to protect our common home.**

SUNDAYS, SEPT. 08-29

September 8: NOISY OFFERING
to purchase RFMU Green Energy
Blocks & God's Work, Our Hands
Projects

September 15: Green Team coffee
hour & community garden give-away!

September 22: *Worship & Adult
Forum* guest, Quinn Rowe, of WI
Conservation Voters to present on
Affordable Clean Energy Plan
*6:30PM-Ecumenical Equinox: A
Community-Wide Season of Creation
Worship Service*

September 29: TBD



This Week at HOPE September 4, 2024



**Wednesdays of HOPE resumes September 11th!
Family Orientation September 18th!**

All K-10+ children and youth are encouraged to register!
3 Sessions throughout the year (Fall, Winter, Spring)

New Time! Wednesday evenings 5:45-7:15PM

MEALS NOW PROVIDED EVERY WEEK!

Click below for more info & to register:

[2024-2025 WEDNESDAYS OF HOPE REGISTRATION](#)



The 2024 ELCA Youth Gathering lifted up ELCA World Hunger as its partner.
They are still collecting donation to meet their project goal!

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE AND TO DONATE!](#)

Make sure to list Hope Lutheran Church as your congregation!



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.



WE DO FEET

Open House

Saturday, September 21st, 1-4pm

614 Badlands Rd. Hudson



715-781-0622



trinityhudson.org



Rush River Lutheran Church

The 77th Annual

Harvest Dinner and Country Store

September 29, 2024

Serving 11:00-2:00

Adults \$16
Children \$8
(ages 7-12)

Cafeteria style menu:

Hand-rolled meatballs, ham, lefse, rommegrot,
cookies and other traditional

Norwegian treats!



Rush River Lutheran Church

N8623 County Road Y - River Falls, WI 54022

(From River Falls, drive east on Hwy 29 for 10 miles to Cty Road Y, then north .5 mile.)

website: RushRiverLutheran.org email: harvestdinnerrrlc@gmail.com

This Week at HOPE September 4, 2024



CARING FOR GOD'S CREATION *Renew - Reuse - Repurpose*

SEPTEMBER 27 - 28, 2024

2024 Northwest Synod of Wisconsin

Synodical Women's Organization Convention

**AT SPIRIT LUTHERAN CHURCH,
1310 Main St, Eau Claire**

RESERVE THESE DATES on your calendar. COME! Be inspired as together we sing, pray, laugh, worship, and learn from keynote speakers and awareness session leaders!

We also ask you to participate:

- **display what your congregation is doing for Caring for God's Creation – this can be a display board set on a table or simply a handout describing what you're doing**
- **if you or someone you know makes items by repurposing something, you are welcome to bring for display**
- **Since we are caring for God's creation, we ask that you bring your coffee mug, your favorite water bottle, and your favorite bag or tote for carrying your items**
- **Bring colorful used t-shirts sizes M, L, XL, XXL, and larger to be made into rugs**

Friday evening:

6:00 p.m. registration, snacks and beverages for voting members

7:00 p.m. business meeting - each church unit is entitled to send a voting member for the business meeting which will include financial report, election of officers and conference board members, SWO budget, and any other business to come before the meeting.

Approximately 8:15 close with Holden Evening Prayer.

Saturday:

8:00 a.m. registration, coffee and morning treats

9:00 a.m. Welcome and worship

After worship, Dr. Jim Boulter will have a conversation with us about climate change, its effects, how we can make an impact on climate change as individuals, as a church, and at our workplace. Come with your questions for the Q&A session.

After lunch there will be 5 awareness sessions: how to establish a green team in your congregation, the synod creation team will address their goals and display environmentally safe items that we can use in our daily routines; one addressing food waste, another on Composting 101 and one that provides info on the climate and empowers individuals to work together on climate policy.

COST: \$30. See mailing for more information and registration form!

Phyllis Beastrom, Convention Chair 715-821-5847 beastrom@redwing.net



GRIEF SUPPORT SERIES - FALL 2024

Growing Through Loss

Addressing the experiences of loss and grief through support, education, and advocacy

Trinity Lutheran Church, 115 4th St. N, Stillwater, MN 55082

Tuesdays, September 10 – October 15 6 to 8:30 p.m. (Sign in 6:00, Speaker 6:30-7:15, Small Groups 7:30 to 8:30)

September 10

Understanding the Basics of Loss, Grief and Bereavement

Dr. Janice Nadeau, PhD

Psychologist, Family Therapist & Nurse
Clinical Specialist

September 24

Facing Shattered Dreams/ Dreaming New Ones

Ted Bowman, MDiv

Grief Educator

October 8

Grief: A Natural Disaster of The Heart

Pastor Kris Linner

Retired Hospice Chaplain

September 17

Building Life Alongside Grief

Dr. Mary G. Freitag

Clinical Psychologist and Supervisor

October 1

The Anatomy of Grief: What Happens to Our Mind/ Body/ Soul During Grief

Dr. Charles Bransford, M.D.

Retired Hospice Director

October 15

Grief and The Holidays

Paul Johnson

Retired Grief Counselor

SUPPORT GROUPS

LOSS OF:

- Spouse/Partner
- Child
- Parent
- Sibling or Friend
- Grandparent or Other Relative
- Pet
- Infant/A Pregnancy

OTHER LOSSES:

- By Suicide/Violent Death
- Disability or Health Changes
- Caregiving
- Divorce or Relationship Change
- Empty Nest
- Relocation
- Covid-Related

All are welcome here regardless of race, color, creed, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, disability, ancestry or national origin.

Growing Through Loss is an opportunity to receive grief support and learn more about grief in a group setting, free of charge. Each night includes a brief presentation by a grief educator, followed by small group time focused on particular kinds of losses. Attend a single night or the whole series. Each session is complete in itself. No need to register, we have a place for you here. If a need or barrier exists that prevents you from attending our series please reach out.

www.scvgriefcoalition.com

(651) 413-6698 

scvgriefcoalition@gmail.com

2025 Spring Series

on Thursdays from
March 6 – April 10

Shepherd of The Valley Church
Afton, MN



**St. Croix Valley
Grief Coalition**



Bakken Young

Funeral & Cremation Services

Mindful Holidays: Navigating Grief with Compassion and Presence

FREE! Join us via Zoom Webinar
Thursday, October 24, 2024 | 6:30 - 8:00pm

The holiday season can intensify your sense of loss, affecting your mind, body, and heart.

Whether you are newly bereaved or have been walking this path for some time, this webinar will offer you a deeper understanding of how to integrate mindfulness into your holiday experience, fostering resilience and self-care.



Presenter, Heather Stang will discuss:

- Discover coping techniques, such as breathing exercises and meditation, to help you manage the pain of loss.
- Learn practical strategies for creating new holiday traditions that honor your grief and balance the needs of you and your family.
- Develop tools for mindful and compassionate self-care, including setting limits and emotional regulation during holiday gatherings.
- Discuss how to model healthy grieving for children and teens.
- Utilize a personalized worksheet to plan your winter holiday season, ensuring continuous support and a mindful approach.

Heather Stang, MA, C-IAYT, is the author of [Living With Grief](#) (formerly [Mindfulness & Grief](#)) and the guided journal, [From Grief To Peace](#). She holds a Master's Degree in Thanatology from Hood College, and is a Certified Phoenix Rising Yoga Therapist.

Register at: bakken-young.com/event/fall-2024-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 September 4, 2024



Bakken-Young

Funeral & Cremation Services

Grief Support Groups

Bakken-Young Funeral & Cremation Services sponsors a six-week grief support group for adults who are grieving the death of a loved one.

Group held in New Richmond, 6:00-7:00pm

Mondays, Sept 9, 16, 23, 30, Oct 7, 14, 2024

at New Richmond United Methodist Church,
209 E Second Street, New Richmond, WI 54017

RSVP by Sept 8, with name, phone number, and email.

Group held in River Falls, 6:00-7:00pm

Mondays, October 21, 28, November 4, 11, 18, 25, 2024

at St. Bridget Catholic Church

211 East Division Street, River Falls, WI 54022

RSVP by Oct 18, with name, phone number, and email.

Living with a Suicide Death Support Group

Offers a place where adult suicide loss survivors (*family and/or friends whose special person has died by suicide*) can

- Feel less isolated by sharing their experiences with others who understand from their own personal experiences
- Experience a place where they can speak openly and where people will listen without judgment and truly understand
- Encounter an opportunity for loss survivors to learn from each other

Once a month, 2nd Thursday of each month

6:00 pm—7:30 pm

Please call Julia Rajtar, Bakken-Young Grief Support Coordinator, AFSP Facilitator Trained, at [715-781-4003](tel:715-781-4003), for more information.

Bakken-Young Grief Webinar

Mindful Holidays: Navigating Grief with Compassion and Presence

Zoom Webinar

Thursday, October 25, 2024 | 6:30pm—8:00pm CST

Bakken Young Funeral and Cremation Services invites you to a free grief webinar for those coping with grief around the holidays.

(I am also attaching the flyer which you are welcome to share)

This Week at HOPE September 4, 2024



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

[SIGN UP HERE](#)

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

This Week at HOPE September 4, 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.

Discussion time includes group check-in, opening meditation, and study of the week's worship texts.

We meet via Zoom so all can join from wherever you are!

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88419155061?pwd=di9hUXlraeDdzM0dCK0pPMDNtbHczZz09>

This Week at HOPE September 4, 2024



Please lift up the following people in prayer

John Cain (Family friend of Olive Olson)

Robb Scott

The Family of Joyce Kendall (Mother of Cara Getschel)

Teresa Jonas (Friend of Kay & Bill Montgomery)

Joe McIntosh

Brad Hermann (Friend of Pastor Annie)

Jerry Sather Family (Brother of Karen Hamilton)

The Family of Woody Fangmeier (Friends of Jeff & Karen Rodewald)

Family of Kermit Paulson

Marcus Stack (Friend of Steve & Karen Kaste)

Janet Cudd (Friend of Jeff & Karen Rodewald)

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

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)

Lori Snyder (Friend of Nancy & David Peters)

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)

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)

Lee Hill (friend of Naomi)

Gary Siebold

David Hendrickson



September Birthdays

Sarah Bondhus	3-Sep
Zachary Heinselman	6-Sep
Mariah Sandberg	8-Sep
Keri Jiskra	8-Sep
Dale Wegleitner	8-Sep
Jane Terkelsen	10-Sep
Jeff Rodewald	12-Sep
Isaac Hansen	20-Sep
Dan Rodewald	27-Sep
Morgan Porten	29-Sep
McKenna Brill	30-Sep
Vicki Siebold	30-Sep



September Baptisms

- Brynn Leitch
- Nancy Sailer
- Vicki Siebold
- Dale Wegleitner



Celebrating Years

September Anniversaries

Keith & Cara Getschel	16-Sep
Tyson & Wendy Tokheim	23-Sep
James & Debra James	27-Sep

- 35
- 24
- 22