



TO HOPE AND ACT WITH CREATION

SEASON OF CREATION 2024

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

A Reading from “Our Relationship with Creation” by Br. Keith Nelson, SSJE
Br. Keith Nelson was raised Baptist, studied at Kenyon College and Harvard Divinity School, and practiced Buddhist meditation before life professing as an Episcopal monastic with the Society of St. John the Evangelist in 2019.

“When we violate, abuse, exploit, or even simply ignore non-human creatures, we are rejecting a core dimension of our humanity and of God’s calling for us. We are crucifying the earth. We are interrupting, speaking over, or bickering with God’s gentle language of love, in which each creature is like a syllable of the living Word. Each creature is an instance of Divine Gift, God’s gift to Godself, the love language of the Trinity. We believe God became a Creature in Jesus Christ and redeemed Creation from the inside out so that we creatures can participate directly in this infinite pattern of God’s giving-and-receiving.”

A Reading from *This Here Flesh: Spirituality, Liberation, and the Stories that Make Us*, by Cole Arthur Riley

Cole Arthur Riley is the creator of Black Liturgies, a space where Black words of dignity, lament, rage, and rest, are curated and integrated with a liberating spirituality. An excellent collection of prayers, poems, and meditations was published under this title in 2024. She serves as the content and spiritual formation manager for Chesterton House: A Center for Christian Studies at Cornell University.

“Have you ever stood in the presence of a tree and listened to the wind pass through its leaves? The roots and body stand defiant and unmoved. But listen. The branches stretch out their tongues and whisper shhhhh.

Trees make symphonies without their trunks ever moving, almost as if the stillness of their centers amplifies their sound. The tree may appear still, but if you look closer, you’ll see that each leaf flails with breath. The tree may seem alone, but plow deep and you’ll unearth its secret gnarled roots—the grotesque and the beautiful—creeping in the soil, reaching toward the ancestors.

Thomas Merton said, “No writing on the solitary, meditative dimensions of life can say anything that has not already been said better by the wind in the pine trees.” I hold this close.”



Blessing of the Animals

Bring donations
of clean
towels/sheets for
Coco's Heart Dog
Rescue

09.29.24 | 9:30AM Worship @ HOPE

Bring a photo/object/memento of your pet
for our blessing during worship!

Pastor Annie is happy to individually bless
any pets who wait outside following worship!





ELCA Truth & Healing Movement Opportunities!

Last November, Rev. Sara Bishop, NWSWI Synod Advocate for Right Relationship, joined us for an Indigenous People's service and learning opportunity on a synod resolution for Land Acknowledgements. Since then we have been studying and learning more from our indigenous siblings. We have read and discussed *An Indigenous People's History of the United States*, have learned more about the *Doctrine of Discovery* and the ELCA's repudiation of it, and broadened our conversation to wider civic life and faith concerns as we explore how our past informs our present. All of these efforts are in line with the ELCA's wider work, "The Truth and Healing Movement," which serves to put legs onto our official repudiation statement.

This fall there are a number of opportunities for further exploration, learning, repentance, and hope. Book studies, online presentations, classes and even a symposium are at your disposal through the [ELCA's Truth and Healing Movement website!](#)

Mark your calendars for these upcoming opportunities and learn more at the link above:

1. GOING ON NOW: Reading Circle on *Custer Died for Your Sins* by Vine Deloria Jr.* (Standing Rock Sioux) **HOPE ADULT FORUM ON THIS BOOK SUNDAY, NOV. 17!**
2. Thursday, October 10, 2-4PM: Online Class "Indian 101"
3. Thursday, October 24, 2-4PM: Online Class "Indigenous Thought and Theology"
4. Sunday, November 10, 7-8:30PM: Presentation "Toward Truth and Healing: How Churches Face Accountability for their Indian Boarding Schools"
5. November 18-19th: Vine Deloria Jr. Theological Symposium*- ONLINE ACCESS AVAILABLE

This Week at HOPE September 25, 2024



UPCOMING NEW MEMBER SUNDAY

Pastor Annie and Congregational Life & Membership Ministry are currently coordinating our next "New Member Sunday" for November.

Exact date TBD by new members!

If you or someone you know is interested in officially becoming a member of HOPE, please contact Pastor Annie at [hopelutheranpastor.rf@gmail.com](mailto:hoperlutheranpastor.rf@gmail.com) **by October 27, 2024**

This Week at HOPE September 25, 2024



WEDNESDAYS OF HOPE MEAL HOSTS NEEDED!

[SIGN UP HERE](#) AT THIS NEW LINK!

This year we would like to provide a SIMPLE, kid-friendly meal each Wednesday evening for our Wednesdays of HOPE ministry. This helps families participate in our ministry with one less thing to worry about on a busy weeknight, helps our youth and mentors connect over a meal, and provides an opportunity for other HOPE adults to engage with our children and youth!

Meals need to be ready at 5:45 and we expect to serve 15-20 people total. *Free Will donations will be collected to offset expenses. Donations of money for pizza nights are also being accepted.*

Please prayerfully consider if you/your ministry team would like to host a meal this year! Fall session is currently our biggest need!



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.

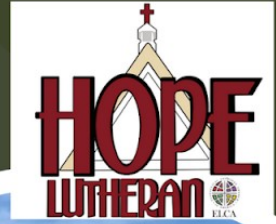
SUNDAYS, SEPT. 08-29

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

September 29: Blessing of the
Animals, and used/clean sheet &
towel collection for Coco's Heart.
Details TBA





WELLNESS SUNDAY

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6

A FUNDRAISER BENEFITING THE RECOVERY & MENTAL HEALTH MINISTRIES AT CROSS

Cross Lutheran

Come as you are.

Contact Pastor John Sutherland with questions

1246 County Road TT
Roberts, WI
715-749-3551



Recovery-friendly worship 9a

10:30a-12p

Concert from our worship band, *By Faith*

Brunch & Silent Auction

Special Guest Speakers

Rev. Ed Treat
Drew Brooks
Bishop Halom

**PLUS!
FREE!**
Bounce house,
cotton candy
and popcorn!

This Week at HOPE September 25, 2024

A Halloween-themed poster for a "Trunk or Treat" event. The background is orange with a spiderweb pattern and several black spiders. At the top center is a glowing jack-o'-lantern. The title "Trunk or Treat" is written in a large, bold, black font, flanked by two horizontal white lines. Below the title, the event details are presented in three columns: "30 OCTOBER 2024", "ALL ARE WELCOME!! HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH", and "WEDNESDAY 5:30-7 PM NIGHT". At the bottom center is the address "3337 KINGSBARN AVE, RIVER FALLS, WI". In the bottom right corner is a small version of the HOPE Lutheran logo.

Trunk or Treat

30
OCTOBER
2024

ALL ARE WELCOME!!
HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH

WEDNESDAY
5:30-7 PM
NIGHT

3337 KINGSBARN AVE, RIVER FALLS, WI

A small version of the HOPE Lutheran logo is located in the bottom right corner of the poster.

CANDY/PRIZE DONATIONS & TRUNK HOSTS NEEDED!

TRUNK HOST SIGN-UP

Each year HOPE gives out a welcome back as part of the event!
We are collecting candy/prize donations to be included in our welcome bag!
Please bring all donations to HOPE by Sunday, October 20th.
A bin is located in the sanctuary.



Velkommen

Our Savior's 76th Annual Lutefisk Supper Thursday, Oct 24th, 2024

MENU: Lutefisk with Butter and Cream Sauce
Meatballs and Gravy
Riced Potatoes, Coleslaw, Rolls
Grot, Norwegian Delicacies, Coffee, Milk
Serving 2:00 – 6:30PM

Cost: \$20 adult ~ \$12 youth ~ \$7 child ~ 5 & under free

Limited tickets – Order early

Take-Out option: Call Gina at 1-715-441-9086

Deadline for take-out orders is Friday October 18TH, 2024

Dine-In time reservations required:

Online Link: www.oursaviorschurch.info

Church Office Phone: 715-273-4570

Email: office.osbeldenville@gmail.com

Our Savior's Lutheran Church
N6450 530th St
Beldenville, WI 54003



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 25, 2024



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

This Week at HOPE September 25, 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](#).



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: *Introduction to Social Teachings* Dr. Roger Willer, Director of Theological Ethics for the ELCA

August 27: *Corporate Social Responsibility* Rev. Kaari Reiersen, Director of Corporate Social Responsibility for the ELCA

September 10: *Abortion* Dr. Caryn Riswold, Professor of Religion/McCoy Family Distinguished Chair in Lutheran Heritage and Mission at Wartburg College

September 24: *Faith, Sexism and Justice* Dr. Mary Streufert, Director, Gender Justice and Women’s Empowerment, and Heather Dean, Program Coordinator, Theological Discernment, ELCA

October 8: *Earth’s Climate Crisis Study Guide* Dr. Ryan Cumming, Program Director, Theological Ethics, Education, and Community Engagement

October 22: *Freed in Christ: Race, Ethnicity, and Culture* 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. **LAST SUNDAY:** We hosted a conversation with Quinn Rowe, Federal Clean Energy Campaign Manager. Quinn shared about his work with Wisconsin Conservation Voters and provided helpful information about the Affordable Clean Energy Plan and its opportunities for homeowners and renters in Wisconsin. You can learn more at the following sites:
 - ⇒ [Focus On Energy](#)
 - ⇒ [Wisconsin Conservation Voters](#)
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 25, 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

This Week at HOPE September 25, 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](#)



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=di9hUXl aeDdzM0dCK0pPMDNtbHczZz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88419155061?pwd=di9hUXl aeDdzM0dCK0pPMDNtbHczZz09)

This Week at HOPE September 25, 2024



Please lift up the following people in prayer

Connie Juaire

Scott Uring (Friend of Jeff & Karen Rodewald)

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)

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)

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



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 25, 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)