



ONCE AGAIN WE ARE IN NEED OF MOST WORSHIP VOLUNTEER JOBS THIS SUNDAY PLEASE CONSIDER A ROLE AND SIGN UP HERE!





Join Us for a River Falls Community Diaper & Baby Wipes Drive!

One in two families in River Falls struggle with providing diapers and wipes for their children. Lack of diapers can limit access to childcare and lead to health issues and discomfort for children, so we are asking for your help!

The United Way St. Croix & Red Cedar Valleys Diaper Bank, along with the River Falls Rotary Club and Ezekiel Lutheran Church, invite you to make a difference from **October 7th to November 15**th by purchasing diapers and wipes.

How to participate:

- Drop off at: Ezekiel Lutheran Church: 202 S. Second Street or St.
 Bridget's Catholic Church: 211 E. Division Street, River Falls, WI 54022
- Scan the QR code to purchase diapers and wipes at Walmart.com. Purchased items will be shipped directly to the United Way diaper bank.



 Go to RF Rotary Club Facebook page for the direct link to Walmart.

All diaper sizes and baby wipe quantities needed. Please ensure all donations are in unopened, original packaging for safety.

Thank you in advance for your generosity and making an impact on the families in River Falls!



Support our College Students



Journey House

You are invited to join us as the Spirit moves among Journey House in new and exciting ways. First, we invite anyone who has ever been interested in partnering with Journey House to join us for our new initiative: Journey House Friends. Journey House Friends is a group of individuals who see the promise in our mission and aim to help in any way they can through various projects. Journey House Friends is not a board, it's a community and an opportunity; a community of people who want to see Journey House thrive and an opportunity to make a difference in students' lives. To join Journey House Friends or to learn more, please join our email list here https://journey-house-482318.churchcenter.com/people/forms/823275.

Second, We are continuing to reach new students through the Journey House Coffee Stop. You have an opportunity to come and engage with students and help out with brewing coffee and washing dishes. The Coffee Stop provides students with space to study or relax while they enjoy some free coffee. We run the Coffee Stop Tuesdays and Thursdays from 11am to 1pm and 3pm to 5pm. If you are interested in volunteering, please sign up here https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4FA8A92FA4FDC43-50867547-journey"

Our new director, Pastor Ben, and I look forward to having you join us in these AWESOME opportunities and in other ways. If you have any questions or would like to connect to learn more, let us know by emailing us at journeyhousecampusministry@gmail.com.







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 and

FILL OUT OUR <u>NEW MEMBER FORM</u> by October 27, 2024.



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!**

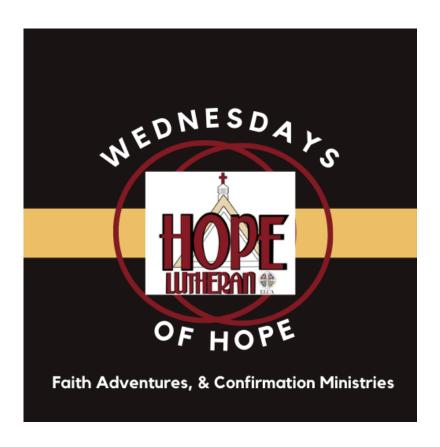
Mark your calendars for these upcoming opportunities and learn more at the link above:

- 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 24, 2-4PM: Online Class "Indigenous Thought and Theology"
- 3. Sunday, November 10, 7-8:30PM: Presentation "Toward Truth and Healing: How Churches Face Accountability for their Indian Boarding Schools"
- 4. November 18-19th: Vine Deloria Jr. Theological Symposium*- ONLINE ACCESS AVAILABLE

Civic Life & Faith Engagement Next Steps Upcoming Adult Forums:

- 1. Presentation and discussion with Rev. Cindy Crane, Director of the Lutheran Office of Public Policy in WI on <u>Sunday</u>, <u>October 20th</u>.
- 2. ELCA Truth & Healing Movement BOOK STUDY ADULT FORUM November 17 on Custer Died for Your Sins by Vine Deloria Jr.





WEDNESDAYS 5:45-7:15!

Fall Session: September 18th-November 20th

Join us as we explore Old Testament stories, take a deep dive into the 10 commandments, and celebrate our Bible Milestone.
Fall session ends with our cross-gen Advent Fair on November 20th!

All K-10+ children and youth are encouraged to register and attend!

Friends are always welcome!

3 Sessions throughout the year: Winter Session: January 8- Feb 26

Spring Session: January 8- Feb 26 Spring Session: April 30-May 21

MEALS NOW PROVIDED EVERY WEEK!

Click below for more info & to register:

2024-2025 WEDNESDAYS OF HOPE REGISTRATION

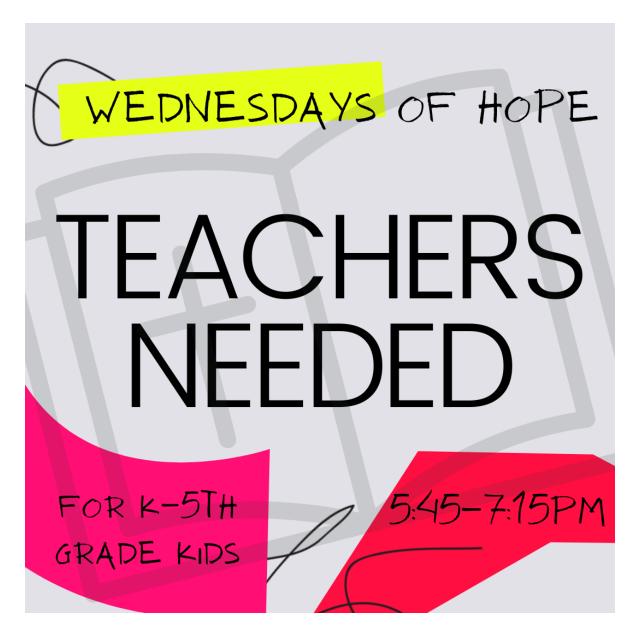




Have a fun Advent/Christmas project idea and want to lead it?

<u>SIGN UP HERE</u>





TEACHER SIGN UP HERE





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!





TICKETS \$25 & UP (18+) \$10 (AGES 13-17) KIDS 12 OR UNDER FREE



EVENT AT ST BRIDGET'S CHURCH, 211 E DIVISION ST, RIVER FALLS TICKETS AVAILABLE ONLINE, AT THE DOOR, OR AT THE ONP DAY CENTER

715-426-9000



Benefitting Our Neighbors' Place RF Backpack Program and Day Center

DELICIOUS SOUPS DONATED BY:





















DESSERTS DONATED BY GAGA'S KITCHEN & RISE BAKING

Continuing the Work of the Assistance & Resource Center (ARC) A joint statement from Our Neighbors' Place and Operation HELP

With the discontinuation of the Assistance & Resource Center, Inc. (ARC) this year, Our Neighbors' Place and Operation HELP are developing a partnership to continue ARC's work of "providing short term financial assistance to residents of River Falls and adjacent communities to help them meet their basic needs." By adjusting service areas and leveraging the existing experience and programs of Our Neighbors' Place and Operation HELP, the two partner organizations will continue ARC's tradition of offering:

- Housing Assistance Rent matching, pay arrangements, mortgage payments
- Utilities Budgeting Sessions, payments to utility providers
- Transportation Repairs, gas cards, taxi vouchers, registration, license fees, etc.
- Miscellaneous Laundry, haircuts, work clothing, phone, vital records
- Food School meal assistance, formula, other supplementation
- Referrals Referrals & assistance for other programs

Operation HELP has been providing emergency financial assistance throughout St. Croix County, including the city of River Falls, for more than 30 years. These services include payment assistance for rent, utilities, and major car repairs. In recent years, a temporary emergency housing program (motel vouchers) has been added. Moving forward, these services will be extended to the entire River Falls School District area and adjacent communities will be added as the need and funding support is demonstrated. Applications for emergency financial services are handled entirely online (https://operationhelpstcroix.org/client-application) or by phone allowing clients to apply anytime from any location. Operation HELP has a full-time staff person dedicated to vetting emergency financial applications and working with clients, landlords, utilities companies, and repair shops to work out payment arrangements.

Our Neighbors' Place has spent the past 15 years providing help and hope to anyone in Pierce and St Croix county who is struggling to meet their basic needs. Services are delivered through 4 distinct programs: Day Center, Closet Thrift Store, Backpack Program, and Transitional Housing. Through the Our Neighbors' Place Day Center, guests in the River Falls and Ellsworth School Districts will have access to the Helping Hands Fund. This fund can provide emergency financial assistance related to vehicle costs, vital records, laundry, work clothing, and more - with a focus on priorities that support housing security. Additionally, all guests are eligible for gas cards, taxi vouchers, motel vouchers, food, showers, laundry, phone, and side by side assistance from our full time case manager. Guests who call or visit the Day Center for help will find a safe, nonjudgmental environment where all are welcome.

Although Our Neighbors' Place and Operation HELP are experienced and well-equipped operationally to respond to the discontinuation of services resulting from ARC's departure, funding for these services will be a challenge. In 2023, ARC provided approximately \$125,000 in rent and utility payments assistance to clients and approximately \$50,000 in transportation and other assistance. The continuing generosity of River Falls and Pierce County churches, businesses, clubs and organizations, and individuals will be critical to sustain these resources for local residents who are experiencing financial hardship.

Please consider a donation to continue these important services in the River Falls community! **To donate by check, mail to:**

Our Neighbors' Place 122 West Johnson St River Falls, WI 54022 Please write "Helping Hands Fund" in the memo line

Operation HELP 1830 Hanley Road, Suite 100 Hudson, WI 54016

To donate by credit card:

Donate to Our Neighbors' Place

Donate to Operation Help

With gratitude,

Shelly Smith, Executive Director - Our Neighbors' Place Tim Puffer, Executive Director - Operation Help





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.



The Biblical Art of Sadao Watanabe

First Congregational Church is delighted to present Witness to Faith: The Biblical Art of Sadao Watanabe, featuring original works of graphic art by Japan's foremost Christian artist of the 20th century. More info will be published in coming weeks.

SAVE THE DATE for a special private HOPE viewing on Monday, November 25 at 6:30PM. First Congregational Church, 110 North Third Street, River Falls.





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

office.osbeldenville@gmail.com

Church Office Phone: 715-273-4570

Email:

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



Volunteer Opportunities with Olive Grove Hospice

Hospice Volunteers Can Do . . . Just About Anything!

Listening to a patient's concerns Being a comforting and supportive presence

Engaging in the patient's hobbies, for example, playing a board game or discussing current events, Coloring, Making photo albums

Reading or writing down memories for the patient or helping with correspondence
Telling other hospice staff the needs of the hospice patient and family/inner circle
Encouraging the patient to tell their life story

Vet-to-Vet Volunteers Pet Therapy Volunteers Music Performers

Hospice Volunteers Work in the Office, Too!

Data entry Mailings Photocopying Scanning

We do have a few requirements to become a volunteer:

Completing an application
Completing our training program
Passing a background check
Passing a Drug Screen
Pass a TB Screen

Understanding the importance of infection prevention techniques

If you are interested Please reach out to MBielefeld@olivegrovecare.com





Bakken-Young Funeral & Cremation Services sponsors an in-person six-week grief support groups for adults who are grieving the death of a loved one. We ask that you participate in all 6 sessions, as you are able.

Group in River Falls: Mondays, 6:00-7:00pm
October 21, 28, November 4, 11, 18, 25, 2024
at St. Bridget Catholic Church
Garden View Room
211 East Division Street, River Falls, WI, 54022

All adults are welcome to participate in the group and the sessions are free.

Group Facilitator:
Julia Rajtar, M.A.P.S., BCC
Bakken-Young Grief Support Coordinator

To register please rsvp by October 18th, 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



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=di9hUXlaeDdzM0dCK0pPMDNtbHczZz09



Please lift up the following people in prayer

Derrek Lettich (Relative of Karen Brohaugh)

The Family of Teresa Jonas (Friend of Kay & Bill Montgomery)

Connie Juaire

Scott Ulring (Friend of Jeff & Karen Rodewald)

John Cain (Family friend of Olive Olson)

Robb Scott

The Family of Joyce Kendall (Mother of Cara Getschel)

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)

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

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



October Baptisms

Keith Getschel
Sarah Bondhus
Nancy Peters
Carolyn Jackson
Paula Klacan
Erin Nelson
Madison Ziebarth
Danielle Tokheim
Lillian Brill
Deb Tokheim

Camryn Glaubitz





October Birthdays Date Carolyn Jackson 2-Oct Nancy Sailer 3-Oct **Debra James** 5-Oct **Kevin James** 10-Oct Morgan Torntore 15-Oct Karen Brohaugh 16-Oct Arol Thompson 20-Oct Pastor Annie 20-Oct Nathan Clark 22-Oct

Carrie Knudsen Hendrickson

Eden Ladnier

Nick Johnson

ANNIVERSARY		Years to
October Anniversaries	Date	Celebrate
Dale & Jan Wegleitner	6-Oct	51
Roger & Verna Tweiten	21-Oct	63
Ryan & Samatha Brill	24-Oct	15

29-Oct

29-Oct

30-Oct