



LUTHERAN CHURCH ELCA

Worshipping at the Hutchinson Event Center Sundays at 10:30am and 5:30pm

Weekly Ministry News

Jan 5-12, 2014



God's purpose for River of Hope:

We go out to transform lives through Jesus Christ.

Our Guiding Principles: disciple = learn

- God is God and we are not.
- We are called to grow together as disciples: to forgive, to teach, to love.
 - Disciples are inspired by the Holy Spirit to take risks.
 - Disciples seek God's justice.
 - Disciples serve with no strings attached.
 - Disciples invite and welcome through loving acceptance.
 - We meet you where you are.

In Our Prayers ~

COMFORT AND PEACE FOR:

GG, Pollmann/Hageman grandma and great grandma, transitioning to Harmony River

Annelle - Melissa Schofield's mother-in-law

All families in transition

HEALING FOR:

Chee Chee Halvorson, Krisi Hoffmann's mom, surgery

Andy & Arnie Koenig, as Andy begins chemo

Zella Thode, heart surgery

Phyllis Lindstrand, surgery

Nyssa Johnson, recovering from surgery

Agnes Searle - grandma of the Kropps

Darryl - eye surgery - Vilt Family

Grandpa Tom - hip replacement - Vilt Family

Nic Kempfert

Kathleen - cancer - Shelly Buesgen's sister

Al Wuetrich's Father - surgery

Harry - surgery - Susan Johnson's father

Arielle - 5yrs old, has to have a heart transplant

Deb - co-worker of Jennifer Hansen

Laurel Brown - health issues

People who have pain

Heather & Glen Wald Family- mental illness

Harvey, Phyllis Lindstrand's brother-in-law

Maureen, Ron and Susan Johnson's sister-in-law,

Those living with autism

Kelly Fuhrman, friend of the Weisenbergers

Amy, friend of Lietzau's

Sara Shorter

David, Ruth's brother

Lois, broken hip

Stacy Mason, Scottings friend's **baby**

Sue - Laura Junker's aunt.

Heather Eckstrom

Harrison Sellenrick

Juliana, Aaron, Asten, and Jacob -Jami Beffert's

Make-a-Wish children

Gavin Pierson

Luke, friend of the Kropps

Shirley Crowe, friend of Sue Hageman.

Mason & Kevin Hansen friends of the Kropps

Nancy Murphy, friend of Peggy Sudheimer

Tanya Klish, friend of Kat Scotting

Lisa Argir, friend of Kat Scotting

Les Nelson, friend of the Kropps

Bob Parish, friend of Pastor Laura

Grandma Correne in hospice care

FAITH AND GUIDANCE FOR:

Those suffering with depression, anxiety, mental illness

Beer & Hymns

Those without adequate food, housing, or employment

Cure for cancer

A family friend seeking treatment for addiction & his family (Tillmann)

A friend of mine battling depression (Hamlow)
The AA, NA, SA groups and all who struggle with addiction and strive to live in recovery
Peace wherever there is war, unrest, violence

THANKSGIVING AND PRAISE:

All the blessings God gives each of us daily – may we remember to be thankful

Visitors to River of Hope – that we may call them sister or brother.

The ELCA support of River of Hope – Especially Bishop Jon Anderson, Larry Streng , Linda Pedersen, and for all synod and churchwide staff seeking to be part of what God is doing in the world.

River Teams! For your inspired and faithful participation in leading worship.

ON-GOING PRAYERS:

All the blessings God gives each of us daily – may we remember to be thankful

Note about Prayer Requests: These requests come from many sources: phone calls, emails, pew pads, personal contact. If you see a listed request that is no longer needed or needs updating, please let Pastor Laura or Shyann Topel, Office Administrator (office@riverofhopehutchinson.org) know. Prayers generally stay in the Weekly for 2 weeks. Prayers for health will remain on the list until requested to not be on the list. Please be sure you have permission from those listed in the prayers.

WORSHIP 101

+++++

You are here- you are welcome! You are loved! Regardless of how you got here to worship today, we give God thanks for you. We have been praying for you, asking God to help us see Christ in people we might otherwise not see.



Where everybody knows your name? It's just not always true. So do the thing with the nametag, even if you're here every Sunday. Especially if you're here every Sunday. Once we pretend we know everyone, then it's easy to start not asking, not sticking out our hand in welcome. Don't be that guy. Plus, all the cool kids are doing it.

Come as you are. Seriously. Don't have the "right" clothes? Just finished working in the yard? Rolling into town right before worship begins? Great. Fine. Super. Really. Just come as you are. God loves you for who you are, not what you wear.

Nursery care is available during worship service on Sunday. A schedule of young people has been set up to watch the little ones. Parents do not need to stay with their children in the nursery.

2 MORNING WORSHIP SERVICES? Yup. **January 26**, worship will be held at **9am, 10:30am and 5:30pm**. We'll be in the smaller, "Cash Wise room" in the Event Center to accommodate the annual Bridal Show the Event Center hosts. We thought it a great opportunity to "try out" 2 morning worship services.

January WORSHIP RIVER TEAMS: Jordan and Nile – River Guides: Jenny & Brian Tillmann and Kris Dobratz

	12/24	12/29	1/5	
Attendance 10:30	4:30pm	54		
5:30	180	20		
Children's Offering	\$46.11	\$2.11		
General Offering	\$1666.00	\$413.00		
Automatic Deposit				

Life in the River This Week...

Wednesday January 8 6pm Faith 5 Community Night
Thursday January 9 9am Men's Bible Study
Saturday January 11 2-5pm Outpost Open House (Enjoy Treats & Refreshments)
Sunday January 12 9am Welcome Home 101
 10:30am Worship
 4pm WE GO OUT!
 4pm Welcome Home 101
 5:30pm Worship

Outpost Notes: River Team Planning Meeting on January 15th (Shenandoah and Tigris)
Outpost Closed Jan. 20th in observance of Martin Luther King Day

CONNECT



On Line Church Directory is for YOU. Need a phone number, email address, or home address? This is the place to find it. Keep your own information up to date, add a picture so people know who you are. Use it to connect!
Go to (<https://me.churchmembershiponline.com>) and enter your email address. A password will be sent to your email for church membership online. Once you have your password please check out the program and update your household profile. [If you're not in this directory and would like to be added, please email Shyann, the RoH Office Administrator: office@riverofhopehutchinson.org or call: 320-587-4414]

Riverpalooza!

You heard that right. River of Hope will celebrate what God's doing with us through other people in a celebration called Riverpalooza. But wait. It will happen 4 times a year! 4 times! What's it all about?

- *10:30am will be the **celebration worship**. Followed by a **potluck at noon**.
- *(5:30pm will be a **contemplative prayer** worship service.)
- *We'll **welcome** folks who want to call River of Hope **home**. They'll sign the charter during worship. We'll pray and clap.
- *We'll **tell stories** of what God's been doing with us: through outreach, worship, hospitality, high school lunches, painting houses, financial giving. Transforming lives through Jesus Christ!
- *We'll **look toward God's future** for us.

So put **Riverpalooza** on your calendar: Feb 23/May 4/September 7/December 7



Outpost Open House: Saturday, January 11 from 2-5pm. We want you to see the new office space. Treats and friends will be there. Our walls are pretty bare: bring ugly and beautiful or "interesting" art work to hang. Maybe the tackiest will get a prize!

“Membership” “Discipleship”— We like the word “participant” and “disciple” (which means learner) more than member. Call it what you like, if you feel like River of Hope is home, then we want to help you feel at home. **Welcome Home 101 Orientation** is just what you’re looking for to feel even more at home here. “Church” and “Lutheran” are the main topics for discussion and questions at this “2-fer” orientation. Offered twice each month, plan for a 2-week plunge into what it means to be part of River of Hope. **Sign up** on the pew pad in your row. We’ll welcome you with food and clapping at the quarterly **Riverpalooza** and in worship that same day.

Hope Mentors: Have you been part of River of Hope since the beginning? Or for a while? Be a mentor of hope for a new person or family joining River of Hope. Come to the Welcome Home 101 Orientation with them. Take them out for coffee or lunch. Become their friend. Love them. It’s a discipleship move. **Indicate your interest on a pew pad.**

River Life (living an active life of faith)

“riverKIDS” – This is a NEW chance for kids 1st-6th grade to be a part of a choir. Practice, will be at 6:30pm Jan 15th and 29th at the HEC. Contact Person: Jim Nelson (320)552-9734.

Small Groups God is always at work in us, encouraging and building faith through questions, relationships, and community. You need not be “experienced” or an “expert” in faith. Learn and practice your faith with other disciples (learners).

Eat, Pray, Read Women’s Book Club. This group is taking a break until after the holidays. Watch the weekly for future plans.

Welcome Home 101 Orientation- a “2-fer” discussion on what it means to be part of the life of River of Hope. Sign up on the pew pad in your row. January 12th and 19th are the next 2 sessions.

Men’s Bible Study: 2nd and 4th Thursday each month, 9am @ Hardee’s. Potential for an evening group to form as well. It doesn’t matter if you’ve never opened the Bible – come to this group with an open mind and open questions and you’ll fit right in. No experience is necessary. It was the first Bible Study for most of the men last year and they all are eager to return. Questions? Dave is at dlpeders@msn.com and 320-328-9911.

The River Sisters Bible Study - The group meets in the Lower level of Harmony River Living Center the third Thursday of the month at 10am. On **January 16th River Sisters will meet at 2:30pm.** Join this intergenerational group of women composed of River of Hope members who “adopt” a resident of Harmony River. Our “adoption” means we help residents by giving them wheel chair rides from their room, to the Bible study. We may help with other small things, as expressed by the resident. Together we read Scripture and share our experiences and wisdom across the generations. Contact Pastor Ane K Fitzgerald, 320-484-6009 afitzgerald@preshomes.org.

Prayer Shawl Ministry Know how to knit or want to learn how to knit? Want to share your projects with those in need of prayer, comfort, hope? Please join us December 16th 6:30pm at Renee Kotlarz’s home (125 Century Ave SE). Bring size 10.5 knitting needles and 4 skeins of bulky (5) yarn.

WE GO OUT – COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITIES

High School Lunches – River of Hope and Vineyard United Methodist will be serving at Shalom on January 16th. Can you help us prepare food, set up tables and chairs, or serve the meal? Call Diane Lietzau (320)-234-3443 or Sandy Tracy (320)-275-2732. Shifts begin at 9am and we are usually done by 1pm.

Crow River Area Youth Orchestra (CRAYO) is celebrating its fifteenth season of bringing orchestral music opportunities to the Crow River area. CRAYO will host an Open House on December 12th from 3-5pm at Hutchinson Middle School. The event will include opportunities to meet instructors and directors, tour the facility, get sized for instruments and meet instrument vendors, and have fun with others who enjoy music.

Refreshments will be served. Anyone interested in learning more about opportunities to learn to play a string instrument or play in the orchestra are encouraged to attend the Open House or contact the Orchestra Manager at CRAYOmanager@gmail.com. Skilled adult instrumentalists are also needed as mentors to orchestra participants. More information may be found on the CRAYO website at www.crayo.org.

Beer & Hymns! Come along with ROH as we reach out into the community with Beer and Hymns. It is exactly what the title says. Have a drink of your choice as we sing hymns at Main Street Sports Bar the last Tuesday of every month from 7-9pm. Come and go as you are able.

Lutheran Marriage Encounter Weekends planned - Fall for each other all over again. Re-ignite those sparks you felt on your honeymoon by learning exciting new communication skills in a comfortable and private environment away from distractions. Dave and Linda Pedersen from River of Hope are one of the presenting couples and welcome your questions. Talk to them at church or call 320-328-9911. For more information contact Peter and Phyllis McMahon at mcmahonp@comcast.net or 763-561-1575. Cost is a \$45 registration, plus a free will offering. All lodging and meals are included. Feb. 14-16 (starting Valentine's Day) in Brooklyn Center and April 25-27 in Duluth. Dave and Linda present in February and April.

Deeper Life Cornerstone Women's Conference – February 21 and 22. Guest Speaker Dee Brestin will exhibit her passion in women's ministry at the Cornerstone Church in Litchfield. The cost is \$35.00 and includes three sessions with Dee, worship, lunch and beverages. Contact Cornerstone Church for more information: (320)-593-7971.

RIVER CONDITIONS

The Christmas season has come and gone and I am so very honored to have worshiped with so many of you during the season that celebrates birth and new life in the dark of night. I am also thankful to all of those who took a chance and tried something brand new on Christmas Eve this year. Chilly and brave shepherds escorted worshipers from the parking lot inside. The lobby absolutely exploded with warmth and song and welcome and friends and visitors alike made their way to worship. Carolers sang, hot chocolate and treats were right there. Many people took it upon themselves to help those coming in the door find the coat rack and the bathrooms. Worship was full and joyful and memorable.

THANK YOU: Special thanks to **Jim Nelson** for coordinating key leaders who were active before, during and after the worship service. To **Sara Nelson** for connecting folks to be "wisemen" and deliver visitor gifts, and for teaching the kids "Away in a Manger" actions and words. To **Jenny Tillmann** for coordinating the refreshments. To **Tiffany Haag** for the coffee and hot chocolate. To **Brian Pollmann** for taking pictures and then printing them out during the worship so they could be given in the visitor gifts. To **Terry Kempfert** for engraving water drops with "Hope is Born" and for making the picture frames. To **Tanya Shorter and Carol Krage** for the beautiful attention to our worship environment and for crafts the kids made to participate in worship. Thanks to Carol for being "in charge" of Mary and Joseph. Speaking of Mary and Joseph, thanks to **Elizabeth Jaeger and Isaiah Nelson** who played that holy couple. To **Kris Hartman** for your extra help that night. To **Josiah Nelson & Renee Jaeger** for hanging out in the nursery. To **Shyann and Luke Topel** for the hay bale and to **Schofields** for getting it to the Event Center. To the brave & chilly parking lot shepherds, **Brian Jaeger, Sandy Tracy, Arnie Koenig**. And to the friendly, warmer, inside greeters, **Brian Tillmann and Verlyn Larsen**. To the carolers, who made the whole thing sound like a party: **Katie & Mike Weisenberger, Loraina Tillmann, Brian Pollmann, Erika Tillmann, Mara Pollmann, Eliza Johnson**. To **Shakira Nelson** for running the power point. To **Sara Shorter and Katie Weisenberger** for their beautiful duet. And to **Sara Nelson** for finding Mary and Joseph after they'd slipped off to the coffee shop down the lane... And to my co-shepherd story teller, "who-knew-he-was-such-a-ham" **Mike Weisenberger** who ad-libbed some awesome lines and helped to bring life to the best story ever told.

To all those who attended and worshiped that night, thank you. It takes a community to worship. To the kids who helped to tell the story by participating in an "impromptu" telling of the story – we couldn't have told it without you. Thank you to you if you took a gift and dropped on a visitor's doorstep. And if you smiled at a

visitor, welcomed them, pointed to the bathroom or coat rack, or showed welcome and warmth in any way, thank you.

I am thankful for our community's faithfulness in God, through Jesus Christ. But most of all, I am thankful for God's faithfulness to us through Jesus Christ. It is why we gather. It is why we have hope.

I love you.

Pastor Laura

ONE MORE THING...

Camera Shy? We like to take pictures and video of our life together at River of Hope.

If you would rather not have your picture on our website, on Facebook, or in printed publications, please get a form from the office.

Get your news in the Weekly Ministry News & on the Calendar. Contact Shyann Topel by Wednesday each week to make your prayer requests, request things be removed in the Weekly.

Office@riverofhopehutchinson.org or 320-587-4414.



River of Hope Staff Contact Information

Pastor Laura Aase, Mission Developer		Jim Nelson, Worship & Music Curator		Shyann Topel, Office Admin
pastor@riverofhopehutchinson.org		music@riverofhopehutchinson.org		office@riverofhopehutchinson.org
320-583-8005		320-552-9734		320.587.4414

Office Hours: M-F, 10am-3pm Website: riverofhopehutchinson.org