



LUTHERAN CHURCH

We are a Church Under Development of the ELCA.

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

Weekly Ministry News

Dec 8 – Dec 15, 2013



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:

Nyssa Johnson, recovering from surgery.

Family and Friends of Donna as they mourn her death. (Brandi Johnson's friend Kristel)

Annelle – Melissa Schofield's mother-in-law

All families in transition

HEALING FOR:

Beverly – Friend of Dale and Nancy Redetzke

Phyllis Lindstrand – knee surgery 12/12

Melissa Chadwick – Stage 4 Renal Cancer - Scotting

Agnes Searle – Grandma of the Kropps

Darryl – Eye Surgery – Vilt Family

Grandpa Tom – Hip Replacement – Vilt Family

Nic Kempfert

Kathleen – Lung & Liver Cancer – Shelly Buesgen's Sister

Al Wuetrich's Father - Surgery

Harry – Surgery - Susan Johnson's Father

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

Sue – Laura Junker's aunt.

Heather Eckstrom

Harrison Sellenrick

Juliana, Aaron, Asten, and Jacob –Make-a-Wish children (Jami Beffert)

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

Les Nelson, friend of the Kropps

Bob Parish, friend of Pastor Laura

Grandma Correne in hospice care

FAITH AND GUIDANCE FOR:

Nathan and Chelsey Crary – young adults in mission (Jerusalem)

All who have not found Jesus in their hearts, that we may help them

Safe travels for family and friends during the holidays

Those suffering with depression, anxiety, mental illness

Beer & Hymns and Beer & Carols

Those without adequate food, housing, or employment
Cure for cancer
A family friend seeking treatment for addiction & his family (Tillmann)
Ruth - A friend of mine battling depression
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 Strenge , Linda Pedersen, and for all synod and church wide 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:

Georgette Jones and her family as they mourn the loss of Georgette’s Sister
Nyssa Johnson – relief from chronic pain

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

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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 blowing snow? 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.

DECEMBER WORSHIP RIVER TEAMS: Amazon and Crow – River Guides: Ruth Hamlow and Renee Kotlarz

You are invited to share a meal at Buffalo Wild Wings after both worship services today



MONEY RECEIVED	11/24	12/1	12/8	
Attendance 10:30	88	96		
5:30	57	40		
Children's Offering	\$16.64	\$10.48		
General Offering	\$762.96	\$1592.00		
Automatic Deposit		\$3115.00		
Gift				
SW Synod Offering				

Life in the River This Week...

Sunday December 8
10:30am Worship with Baptism
4pm WE GO OUT! (Birthday bags)
5:30pm Worship

Monday December 9
6pm Faith 5 Families Meeting
7pm Vision Table Mtg @ Main Street Sports Bar

Wednesday December 11
6-7:30pm Faith 5 Family Night
7:30pm Praise Practice

Thursday December 12
9am Men's Bible Study

Sunday December 15
9am Welcome Home 101
10:30am Worship with Baptism
4pm Welcome Home 101
5:30pm Worship

Office Notes: *Please send your family picture to office@riverofhopehutchinson.org so it can be included in the Online Directory.
*Christmas Eve Service at 5:30pm Dec 24th will be the Christmas Program. There will be NO worship service on Christmas Day.
* ROH Staff will be having an open house on Saturday, Jan 11th from 2-5pm. Come see the new office, visit and have refreshments. All are invited!



HOPE IS BORN: CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP & PROGRAM December 24 at 5:30pm

We'll be on the look out for the stranger this night! After all, Jesus was born into a world that didn't recognize him. Shepherds will roam the parking lot (with lanterns...can we borrow yours for the night?) Hot chocolate, coffee and an interactive project will greet all worshipers in the lobby. And, best of all, River of Hope people will be asked to drop by the home of a visitor right after worship to bring a "gift from the wise men." Wise people. Wise family. (Weisenbergers? ;) Just putting it on the door step and then heading home.

Get ready for a mysterious, joyful night of celebrating the birth of Jesus Christ!

In Memory and Honor - The floral arrangement being displayed this Advent and Christmas season is given in honor and memory of Keith Krommenhoek who celebrates Christmas with Jesus. Keith passed on 12/25/12. Thank you to Jeanette Krommenhoek, Kristine, Clara & Ava Dobratz; Kelli & Bill, Elle & Ollie Otting for this meaningful gift that enhances our worship.

CONNECT

You are invited to supper at Buffalo Wild Wings after both services today.



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

"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)

We Go Out...To serve! December 8: Put your feet and your hands into your faith. This is just one way to practice how to live out a life of following Jesus. All of River of Hope is invited to make Birthday Bags. 4pm at the Event Center.

FAITH5 COMMUNITY NIGHT: Wednesday, December 11. All of River of Hope (and your friends) are invited to Faith5 night. 6-7:30pm. Come for dinner and to practice every day faith. Kid and adult friendly activities. Get to know each other outside of worship. Learn what it feels like to bless each other!

"riverKIDS" – This is a NEW chance for kids 1st-6th grade to be a part of a choir. Practice, will be at 6:30pm Dec. 18th 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).

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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. December 15 and 22 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. 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

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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. The December event will be Beer & Carols on December 17.

Crow River Area Youth Orchestra presents "The Mystery of Holiday Dreams", a holiday concert, at 4pm on Sunday, December 8, 2013. The Symphonic Orchestra's performance will include selections from Tchaikovsky's Nutcracker Suite, Beethoven's 9th Symphony, and the motion picture "The Polar Express". Also performing will be the CRAYO Varsity Strings ensemble. The public is welcome to attend the concert at Hutchinson High School Auditorium. A reception with free refreshments sponsored by the Hutchinson Lions Club will follow the concert. Tickets are available at the door: \$10 for adults, \$5 for Seniors and Students (ages 6-18), with a maximum of \$20 per family. Doors open at 3:45pm. For more information, visit www.crayo.org or call 320-587-7220.

Blue Christmas – 7pm December 21st at the United Church of Christ

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.

RIVER CONDITIONS

What a 6 weeks it has been for River of Hope! We've moved and then we moved a few more times within the Event Center. We've had visitors and rearranged worship space. We're experimenting with lighting and technology. But most of all, we're continuing to be River of Hope. In a new way. Again.

It's our story. And it's God's story. One of the greatest things about being Lutheran is believing in and living out daily death and resurrection. We die to the things that take life away and we are raised to new life. We are made whole and new. Not by our own doing. Not by our own effort. It's the work of God through Jesus Christ. Which, of course, means our lives are transformed. Daily. And once and for all.

As we head into the season of waiting, that is Advent, I pray you'll continue to be transformed by Jesus Christ. In your relationships, in your work place, at home, in your heart. It can be most unpleasant and the best news all at once. It's good to gather together to remember we are not alone.

I pray for you. I love you.
Pastor Laura

ONE MORE THING...

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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.



Christmas Wish List

Attention all of you folks that would like to help out with the Christmas program. ROH is looking for people to borrow out a few items.

(all items will be returned)

*Lanterns (Battery Operated)

*Top Hats

Contact Jim Nelson: (320)-552-9734

Or

Contact ROH Outpost (320)-587-4414

River of Hope Staff Contact Information

Pastor Laura Aase, Mission Developer | Jim Nelson, Worship & Music Curator | Shyann Krumrey, 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

Worship

Hutchinson Event Center
1005 Hwy 15 S/ Plaza 15
Sundays at 10:30am & 5:30pm

Mission Outpost (Office)

300 Hwy 7 W
(office is attached to yellow warehouse)
(320)-587-4414