

Worship Outline

GATHERING

Music to Prepare Us for
Worship
Gathering Songs
Welcome 101, Connection Card
No Longer Strangers Prayer
Meet Someone New
Lighting of the Advent Wreath
Confession and Forgiveness
Greeting
Prayer of the Day

WORD

Hebrews 1:1-4
Matthew 2

FEAST

Offering
Setting the Table
Thanksgiving at the Table
Blessing the Feast
The Lord's Prayer
Invitation to the Meal
Communion
Communion Songs
Prayer after Communion

SENDING

Purpose
Benediction
Sending Song

December 27, 2015

River of HOPE

LUTHERAN CHURCH
We go out to transform lives through Jesus Christ.

*...but in these last
days he has spoken to
us by his Son,
whom he appointed
heir of all things,
and through whom also
he made the universe.
Hebrews 1*



Today we join together in a service of carols
and their stories.

Welcome. We are so glad you are in worship at River of Hope today.

Come as you are. Well, you're already here. We don't care what clothes you wear or what kind of shape your spiritual life is in. God meets you and loves you where you are.

Where everybody knows your name? We all wear name tags each week - not just the visitors. Even when we think we know everyone at River of Hope, it's simply not true. These name tags are our awkwardly friendly way to help us stick out our hand, say, "hello, you're new to me" and practice being the friendly church everyone swears we are. If we practice this awkward move here, we've got a shot at actually doing it in our everyday lives.

We like kids. No kidding. We think kids are leaders in worship and lives of faith. Just look around you.

Nursery care. Weeping and gnashing of teeth? There is a "cry room" available outside the worship area. The "Pray Ground," located in the worship space, is for those younger than kindergarten age.

Communion. You are welcome, without exception. If you are hungry and thirsty for unbounded grace, mercy, and forgiveness through Jesus Christ, you are welcome at Christ's table.

Connection Cards. For visitors and regulars to communicate. We won't use your info to bother you. We promise.

Worship Style. We are an intentional intergenerational community. "Sunday School" happens within worship! We sing hymns, we sing songs. We pray ancient words and words that are new to us. We actively practice faith during worship. Sometimes it's beautiful. Sometimes it's awkward. Sometimes it's both. It always "counts" as worship. Then we try it again next week. We are a pro-participation, anti-excellence community.

We Prepare For Worship

December River Guides:

Russ & Jeannine Borgendale & Nancy Jorgenson

January 3rd Scripture:

Mark 1:1-20

To find daily readings go to <http://clergystuff.com/category/daily-devotions/>

January 3rd Singers: Mara Pollmann, Sara Nelson, Mike Weisenberger, Ruth Hamlow

Today's Music:

Your Little Ones, Dear Lord
Angels We Have Heard on High
O Little Town of Bethlehem
Hark the Herald Angels Sing
We Three Kings
Joy to the World
Angels, from the Realms of Glory
The First Noel
The Bells of Christmas
When Christmas Morn is Dawning
Go Tell it on the Mountain



River Team Schedule

January - Shenandoah

River guides:
Chris & Lisa Kraft
(320) 234-7680
Clkraft123@hotmail.com

February - Amazon

River guide: Ruth Hamlow
(320) 587-5045
rhamlow@hutchtel.net

March- Jordan

River guides:
Jennifer & Brian Tillmann
320-587-1007
tillmann@hutchtel.net

April- Nile

May - Tigris

June-Shenandoah/Amazon

July-Jordan/Nile

August-Tigris

September-Shenandoah

October - Amazon

November - Jordan

River Conditions

Dear Hopeful Ones,

It has been a dark fall which has spilled into a dark winter. Lots of devastating news. It is enough to make you want to curl up and go back to bed.

But following the newborn king, believing in this Jesus? Well, it knocks you out of bed. That's how grace feels sometimes - it buckles your knees so great is its impact on your life. The Christmas season is the great celebration of God thinking enough of us to take refuge in human skin, in the hard realities of the world. Jesus lives with us - within in - not above and separated. Jesus is hope in the flesh. Jesus is here and now.

Jesus takes refuge in this world that he was sent to love. This love takes refuge in each of us. Love wins, after all.

Looking for a way to act on your faith?



Give to The Compassion Collective: <http://thecompassioncollective.org>.

100% of proceeds go to help actual people involved in the refugee crisis.



Or check out International Institute of Minnesota and their refugee resettlement program: <http://www.iimn.org/services/refugee-resettlement/>



OR Lutheran Social Services of Minnesota: <http://www.lssmn.org>

Love, Pastor Laura

G.I.F.T. Worship

GENERATIONS IN FAITH TOGETHER.



River of Hope practices worship together with all generations, believing that faith and life are connected in a meaningful way when we worship together. G.I.F.T. Worship is River of Hope's version of Sunday School for all ages. And it prepares us to go out into our lives, knowing Jesus Christ is transforming us and the world.

Invite

Laundry Love We've been invited to partner with Vineyard UMC in this great ministry in outreach. Put Feb. 16 on your calendar. 9 am and/or 4:30 pm. Go with Pastor Laura to experience this ministry in action.

Connect

riverKIDS is a choir for kids grades 1-6. They will rehearse the first Wednesday of the month from 7:30pm. at the Hutchinson Event Center. Singing in worship will occur the following Sunday. Please see the schedule below:

Wed Practice Sun Performance

7:00-7:30 Meet at 10:10

| | |
|---------|----------|
| Jan 6 | Jan 10 |
| Feb 3 | Feb 7 |
| March 2 | March 6 |
| April 6 | April 10 |
| May 4 | May 8 |

Voices of Hope is River of Hope's Adult Choir for people age 13 - 100. We are an "Instant" choir, in that we rehearse and perform on the same Sunday! We will meet at 9:45 AM on the following Sundays and participate in Worship during the service. All are welcome! We will be singing again in January.

Disciple

Lutheran Marriage Encounter Weekend will be held Feb. 12-14 in Brooklyn Center. If you have questions, please call Dave & Linda Pederson at 320-328-9911. Register by calling Pete and Phyllis McMahon at 7 6 3 - 5 6 1 - 1 5 7 5 o r mcmahonp@comcast.net. Details and online registration at www.GodLovesMarriage.org.

STAY TUNED: Feb. Date TBA-Come Spy With Me: Storytelling Field Trip to Shamrock's Pub. Pastor Laura is wondering what storytelling could look like for River of Hope out in the community of Hutchinson. Join her in spying on Humble Walk (an ELCA church in St. Paul) as they do their storytelling thing at Shamrock's Pub in St. Paul. We'll leave at 5pm. Talk to her, call, text, or email if ya wanna go.

What's the Word? Bible Study with Pastor Laura Tuesdays 5-6pm. January 12, 19, and 26. Meet at the office. No experience necessary. Come and read the scripture for the up-coming Sunday. Help Pastor Laura connect it with your actual lives.

Financial Giving: 12/20/15

| | |
|--|------------|
| Worship attendance: | 96 |
| In-Worship Offering: | \$1,075.00 |
| Children's Offering: | \$36.88 |
| (of which \$25 designated specifically for Common Cup) | |
| Auto deposits 12/5-12/11 | \$3,610.00 |

YTD Budget Summary:

| | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------|
| Jan.-Oct. Income: | \$170,346.80 |
| Jan.-Oct. Expense: | \$167,308.73 |
| Net Income: | \$3,038.07 |
| Less 2015 ELCA Grant to date: | (\$11,250.00) |
| Deficit: | (8,211.93) |
| approx. \$821.19 per month | |

Women's Circle is a group of fellow church friends who meet once a month in homes and share a short bible study and great conversation over a cup of coffee or tea. We are looking at meeting the first Wed. of each month. The first time will be Jan. 6 at Andy Koenig's home: 885 Otter Street SW at 9:30 am. If you are interested, talk to Andy at church or message her on Facebook.

Men's Bible Study meets the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month at 9 am at Dunn Bros. You are welcome and newcomers will get a free Master's Builders Bible for Men. Call or email Dave Pedersen at 320-328-9911 or dlpeders@msn.com

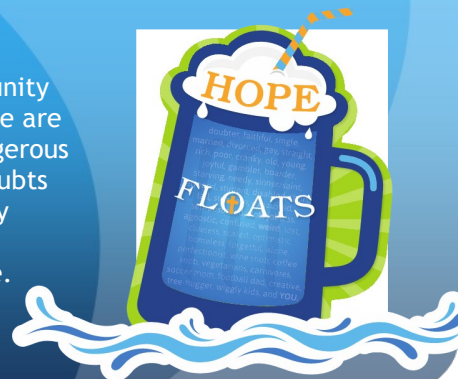
We GO Out! Our purpose is not to stay insular but to reach out into the community of Hutchinson and beyond. **We just received \$2000.00 from the South Western Minnesota Synod of the ELCA.** How can we use this money to go out? Write down your ideas on the Connection Card and put it in the offering plate. Dream big! Who can we reach out to in love? Where will God lead us next?

Holiday Office Hours Pam's office hours for the week of Dec. 28 will be Mon., Tues. & Wed. from 9-2.



River of Hope Lutheran Church

We are the ELCA church in town. We are a purposely intergenerational community who is following Jesus out of the building and into the world where we live. We are learners (disciples) and practice-ers. Worship is a safe place to practice a dangerous gospel. And, believe us, it takes practice. Your questions, critical thinking, doubts and imperfect lives are welcome here. In fact, no matter your status in society (divorced, never-been-to-church, gay, straight, old, young, cranky, liberal, conservative, questioning, allergic-to-church, snarky) you'll be welcomed here. Then you'll be sent out, to live your life, transformed by Jesus Christ. And we believe, through the love of Jesus, you'll help to transform other lives.



Our purpose as a church:

We go out to transform lives through Jesus Christ.

Our Guiding Principles:

(Disciple = learner)

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.



**IF YOU KEEP UP WITH BRANDS,
THEN YOU SHOULD KNOW WE
ARE PART OF THE
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN
CHURCH IN AMERICA (ELCA).
WE'RE PRETTY PLEASED ABOUT
THIS.**

| ~ December 2015 ~ | | | | | | |
|---------------------|--|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|--|-----|
| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
| 27 10:30 Worship | 28 Office Hours 9am - 2 pm Pastor Laura & Jim Nelson time off thru Jan. 2; call in event of emergency | 29 Office Hours 9 am - 2 pm | 30 Office Hours 9 am - 2 pm | 31 New Years Eve RoH office closed | 1 Pastor Laura's Sabbath HAPPY NEW YEAR! | 2 |
| 3 10:30 Worship | 4 Staff Meeting 12:00 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 Pastor Laura's Sabbath | 9 |

Worship

Sundays at 10:30am
Hutchinson Event Center
1005 Hwy 15 S. Plaza 15
Hutchinson, MN 55350

Office - NEW HOURS!

Mon-Fri 9am-2pm
16 Washington Avenue W, Suite 100
Hutchinson, MN 55350
320.587.4414
RoH Cell 320.583.8005

Staff

Laura Aase, Pastor & Mission Developer
pastor@riverofhopehutchinson.org
Jim Nelson, Worship & Music Curator
music@riverofhopehutchinson.org
Pam Johnson, Office Administrator
office@riverofhopehutchinson.org

Pam's (Office Administrator's) hours are: Mon-Wed-Fri 9am-2pm

Will you help cover a few hours in the office? Mondays noon - 2:00 ; Tuesdays 11:30 - 2:00 or Thurs 9:00 - 11:30 & 11:30 - 2