



Our purpose as a church (it's why we exist):
We go out to transform lives through Jesus Christ.

Our Guiding Principles: (how we live together + make decisions)

(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, WE ARE PART OF THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA (ELCA). WE'RE PRETTY PLEASED

River Conditions

Happy Easter!

Hands and feet and April Fools. To say I've been looking forward to connecting Ash Wednesday (February 14, Valentine's Day) and today (April Fool!) is an understatement. I love when the calendar of the church and popular culture collide so well. What deeper love do we know than the unending love of God who formed us from dust? What's more foolish than a person of faith?

The church is dying - have you heard? Instead of hearing this as bad news, hear it as Good News. Isn't there a story about death being the absolute necessity for this Jesus thing to even matter? It's like it's our Christian story or something. It's like we've been given language and experience for this miracle of Easter. Because victory looks like, well, a joke, when it comes to Jesus. Our conquering hero, our protagonist, the guy you're rooting for takes it in the teeth and you mean to tell me that's a win?

Indeed. That's the irony and the beauty of the cross. Because out of the depths of despair comes hope. Out of the death comes new life. So I ask you, where in your life will you see resurrection? Where in your life is there death and you are begging for new life? The promise is not an easy fix. The promise is that you are not alone and that death doesn't win. Not even death. Take this Easter promise with you into your life, with your hands, and your feet - you fools!

Pastor Laura

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE - *Your prayers matter. Please include in your daily prayers.*

Bring GOD'S COMFORT and PEACE:

Family and friends of Anita Weitzman as she mourns the death of her husband, Tim •for every place where there is war, we pray for God's peace •Puerto Rico

THANKSGIVING and PRAISE to Jesus Christ:

For consistent, faithful Laundry Love servants going to the laundromat month after month to meet Jesus •baby boy, Keagan Harvey Paulsen, born on March 12 to Caitlin & Andrew Paulsen; proud grandma & grandpa John & Tricia Paulsen •Owen Daniel Turner, newest grandson of Nan Crary •for Pam Johnson's faithful service to River of Hope as Office Administrator and for God's continued blessing in her life in her new job •all visitors worshipping at River of Hope •our journey as River of Hope •River Team Amazon as they lead us in worship in April

Stir up FAITH and give your GUIDANCE, Holy Spirit:

•All those who are hungry, hurt or cold •for all those who struggle with faith or the institution of church •for Bishop Jon Anderson & all synod staff •for Confirmation students & their mentors •for Eliza Johnson on her internship in Wabasha •for visitors to River of Hope & all people being stirred up by the Holy Spirit to be part of a faith community

Jesus, help me see you in the world:

•in everyone I encounter •helping, along with me •as I walk with others in your love and spirit of service •that would rather call names across a great digital divide than love, listen and learn from each other

Laundry Love Prayers:

Say a prayer for Clifford and get well soon •Hope for the helpless •victims of domestic violence •families of children with special needs that they be at peace in God's love •teens who have "lost their way" from depression and suicidal thoughts •for my family in Honduras •my twins so they get well soon •to see my kids more •financial stability •all affected by the bridge collapse in Florida •victims of school shootings •our country, our world, and our churches •my son with a DACA status who is being considered for a professional baseball team •our family and our safety

HEALING FOR RELATIONSHIP, BODIES, MINDS, HEART AND SPIRITS:

Andrew, Caitlin & Keagan Paulsen; Sara Shorter; Sue Peters; Andy Koenig; Dave Pedersen; Dan - friend of Schofields; Amy Leister - Bo Young's sister; Kyle Merkins; Anita Weitzman; Darrell Schuetze - friend of Scott Gross-Sand; Linda Cox; Sophia Muir - Katie Weisenberger's niece; Nancy Bruhn - friend of Linda Cox; Emil Starke - friend of many at River of Hope; Robin Aanden - friend of Bob Klassen; Nyssa Johnson; Victims of trauma & military service members who are recovering from PTSD; Donna Hageman; Joyce - grandma of Krafts; Ben - son of Jan Hansch; Roger Stearns; brother-in-law - Rita Pettit; Pat Ziemer; Heather Goodrich; Sammy Mayland; Kirsty McKrachen - friend of Heather Goodrich; Connie - Bo Young's aunt; for aging parents & health challenges - keep the old & the young in your loving & healing arms; prayers of healing, faith & fight to those suffering from terminal illness; Karlo Schultz - Kristi Morris' dad; Dick Kosek - a friend to many at River of Hope; Ryan - son of friend - Renee Kotlarz; Jennifer Trettin - friend of Rachel Stearns; Jay Werner & JoAnn - friends of Tillmanns; Mavis Muckala - Jennifer Hansen's mom; Antonio, Nicole & Maggie - family & friends of Shorters; Carter Renner; Holly - friend of Hausers; Ronda Matthias - friend of Remucals; Grant Scotting; newborn Luna, Nate, Mike Gabrielson, Gary & Julianne - cousin, friends, brother & sister-in-law of Ron & Susan Johnson; Laurie & Mike - friends of Lindbergs; Grandma Cookie & Carol Barrick - grandma & mom of Stacy Vilt; family & friends of Sue Peters - Flick family, Kelly Jo, Dad Richard, Carter & family, Andy and other friends; Mark, Mom & Liz - brother, mom & friend of Nan Crary; Jan Searle - friend of Kropps; Grandpa Norm & Tim - grandpa & uncle of Britt and Chad; for those battling eating disorders; friends and family of the Kempferts - CJ, Sue Gustafson, Danielle's grandpa George, Marissa, Roger, Kellen Summers, Nic, Liz; friends & family of Phyllis Lindstrand - brother in law Gary, Uncle Chuck S., daughter Nikki, son Jason, brother Philip, brother in law Ed; friends and family of Betty Brandt - husband Gene, Rob Vos, Velma Brandt, Kathleen, Grace, Matthew; Josh Benson - Shirley Olson's nephew; people who suffer with chronic pain

Prayers remain in the weekly for two weeks. Prayers for healing will remain on the list until requested to be removed. Send updates & prayer requests to the Office Administrator. office@riverofhopehutchinson.org, call (320) 587-4414, or indicate on an orange Connection Card.

Invite

Beer & Hymns: Tues. April 24, 6-8 pm, Main Street Sports Bar



Hope Floats at the Bring it Home Expo: Sat., April 14, 8:30-3 at the McLeod County Fairgrounds. Can you help hand out floats for a 2 hour shift? Sign up sheet on the Connect Table.



Disciple

HAY Ministries Presents: A Night to End Human Trafficking. Wed., April 18, 7pm at Faith Lutheran Church.

Voices of Hope, our pop up choir, will sing Apr. 22. All are welcome! Come at 9:45 am that day for practice.

Women of Hope: Wed. Apr. 4, 9:30 am, Andy Koenig's home, 885 Otter St. SW, Hutchinson

Men's Bible Study: Wed. Apr. 4, 9 am, Dunn Bros. Contact Dave Pedersen, 320-328-9911, dlpeders@msn.com

"Suicide Prevention: Stories of Hope & Healing" Hutchinson Event Center in Sunday, April 8th, 6:30 -9pm, doors open at 5:30pm. No cost to attend. See flyer on connect table.

Crow River Conference Women's Gatherings: +**Women of the ELCA Gathering,** Sat. Apr. 28, First Lutheran Church, Litchfield. Registration is due by Apr. 16 to Nan Cray. +**Synod Convention,** Fri. & Sat. June 29 & 30, Bethlehem Lutheran, St. Cloud. See flier on Connect Table for both events.

Table Updates [Tables are groups of people meeting around things they have passion to do for the purpose of River of Hope's going out to transform lives through Jesus Christ. Would you like to be part of one? You are invited. We need you.]

Parish Personnel: Mon. Apr. 9, 3 pm, RoH Office

Financial Stewardship: Mon. Apr 30, 6pm Sue Benson's home sson@hutchtel.net

Vision Table: Next date TBA

River Table: Mon. Apr. 16, 6 pm, Landy Lodge

Financial Offering In addition to your Simply Giving or putting money in the plate (thank you!) consider these other ways to give back during worship:

Watering can - collects quarters (or any other kind of money) for Laundry Love

Backpack - Chef Boyardee cups for Common Cup Backpack Program

Simply Giving To sign up or update your info, contact Sue Benson at 320-587-2907 or sbenson@hutchtel.net, or go online to riverofhopehutchinson.org & click "give". New paper forms are on the Connect Table.

Please consider using your bank account rather than a credit card when signing up. It saves us from having to pay monthly fees to use the credit card.

Connect

Financial Giving to River of Hope: 3/18/2018:

Worship attendance:	90
In-Worship Offering:	\$802.00
Laundry Love:	\$48.25
Auto Deposits:	\$1,672.50

March average attendance 79

Check out River of Hope's 4th Quarter Report, available at the Connect Table.

Thank you! I would like to thank everyone at River of Hope for making my time here so wonderful! You taught me so much. You taught me that church can be different and weird. You taught me to meet people where they are and love them where they are. You taught me that pastors can be "real" people. I appreciate your friendships more than you know and I'll miss you all! Pam

Welcome! River of Hope would like to welcome Sara Wilke as the new Office Administrator. Starting April 2nd, the River of Hope office hours will be M-Fri 9-Noon.

We Go Out



laundry love


Laundry Love is the perfect "We Go Out!" opportunity to put on your calendar the **3rd Tues. of every month.** The next time is April 17. We're partnering with Vineyard United Methodist Church to help people afford to do their laundry. Introverts, extroverts & quarters needed. Two people per shift, 9:00-noon; noon-3:30; 3:30-6:30. Find the SignUp Genius link in our Facebook group or contact Allen Gislason at 320-403-7004 or alleng747@hotmail.com.

In February, Laundry Love served 55 families, of which 16 were new. \$850 was spent. Thank you to all of you who serve & donate!

Jim Nelson sing-a-long schedule:
+Thurs. April 5, 2:30pm Woodstone
+Thurs. April 19 2:30pm Woodstone

Might you be able to assist the residents in getting to the place where we are singing, help them find the music in the songbooks or pass out rhythm instruments? Please call Jim at 320-552-9734 with any questions or just show up & help!



<p>Staff</p> <p>Laura Aase, Pastor pastor@riverofhopehutchinson.org</p> <p>Jim Nelson, Worship & Music Curator music@riverofhopehutchinson.org</p> <p>Sara Wilke, Office Administrator office@riverofhopehutchinson.org</p>	<p>Office Information</p> <p>Hours: M-F: 9am-Noon</p> <p>16 Washington Avenue W, Suite 100 Hutchinson, MN 55350 320.587.4414 Mobile: 320.583.8005 riverofhopehutchinson.org</p> <p style="text-align: center;"></p>
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River Team Schedule

April - Amazon
River Guide: Ruth Hamlow
320-587-5045 or 320-223-5859
rhamlow@hutchtel.net

May - Jordan
River Guides: Rob & Jennifer Hauser
320-587-7072
robert.c.hauser@gmail.com
jennifer.g.hauser@gmail.com

June - Nile + Tigris
River Guides - Nile: Mike & Katie Weisenberger
320-234-7229
weisenberger@mchsi.com
River Guides - Tigris: Kris Hartman
320-296-5151
sippelhartman@gmail.com
Scott Gross-Sand
941-451-9413
sgrosssand@gmail.com

July - Shenandoah + Jordan
River Guides - Shenandoah: Chris & Lisa Kraft
320-234-7680 Lisa: 320-583-6784 Chris: 320-583-4434
clkraft123@hotmail.com
River Guide - Rob & Jennifer Hauser
320-587-7072
robert.c.hauser@gmail.com
jennifer.g.hauser@gmail.com

August - Amazon + ALL
River Guide: Ruth Hamlow
320-587-5045 or 320-223-5859
rhamlow@hutchtel.net

September-Nile
River Guides - Nile: Mike & Katie Weisenberger
320-234-7229
weisenberger@mchsi.com

April 2018						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Worship 10:30 am Easter Sunday	2 Staff Meeting noon	3	4 Men's Bible Study 9 am Women of Hope 9:30 am Confirmation 6 pm	5 Woodstone Sing-a- long 10am	6	7
8 Worship 10:30 am	9 Staff Meeting noon Parish Personnel 3pm	10	11	12	13	14 Bring it Home Expo 8:30-3pm
15 Worship 10:30 am	16 Staff Meeting noon River Table 6pm Landy Lodge	17 Laundry Love	18 Men's Bible Study 9 am	19 Woodstone Sing-a- long 10am	20	21
22 Worship 10:30 am Voices of Hope	23 Staff Meeting noon	24 Beer & Hymns 6pm	25	26	27	28 WELCA Gathering Litchfield