

The Weekly River News  
*River of* HOPE

LUTHERAN CHURCH  
5th Sunday in Easter--April 29, 2018

***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 ABOUT THIS.

## **River Conditions**

Dear Hopeful People,

We are just rounding out the season of Easter and looking right into Pentecost - the season of the Holy Spirit. It's like each season of the church speaks into some aspect of our humanity and God's activity in it. From bringing new life out of something dead to stirring up God's amazing activity in all kinds of people in unexpected ways. The color of the Holy Spirit is red, which is the main reason I am drawn to the color. The Holy Spirit is always at work in our lives, regardless if we see it or not. It's not dependent on our noticing its work. So often, my faith is lived in the rear view mirror only recognizing that God was at work after the fact. But it doesn't lessen the impact or negate the change brought about by its work. After all, God is God and we are not.

So I wonder, where do you see God alive in your life? How is God bringing new life out of a dead situation? How is the Holy Spirit blowing through and spinning you in new directions? Both the Vision and River Tables have begun an adventure of reading together a book entitled, "Canoeing the Mountains." It's a look at the church facing uncharted territory through the lens of the Lewis and Clark expeditions. They set off west expecting and prepared for a waterway. What they got were the Rocky Mountains. Whoa. So we'll be reading this book with this story as our working metaphor and River of Hope as our living, breathing experiment of being church together.

Stick around. It's gonna get good.

I love you, because Christ loves you.

Pastor Laura

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

### **Bring GOD'S COMFORT and PEACE:**

•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, Malcolm Weikle, son of Aaron & Carla •all staff at MSSB •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:**

•temporary housing in Hutchinson •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, where do you see me imprisoned in my life?**

•my heart •help me to step out of my comfort zone •in old habits •help me focus and simplify •thinking I'm in charge and forgetting to let go and listen to God's leading •health and financial issues •in my feeling of anger and bad attitude towards people I don't even know •my faltering hope for the future

### **Laundry Love Prayers:**

•for a successful surgery •for my husband to regain full strength and healing in his leg and is pain free •difficult situations in my childrens lives •guidance to a church home •our country and this world and that we all come together as God's children • for my back to improve •chronic pain •housing in Hutchinson •for my friend who took his life recently and his family •for health and to find a place to live soon •for my aunt who has lost many people in her life •for my kids to come home to me •for a stable job •hope for the hopeless •victims of domestic violence •families of special needs children • for my health to improve •for Clifford to get well soon •mental capability of doing things on my own •to get my own place •to drive again•for my one day of joy, health •pastors, community, my family, friends, God moments •the poor and those in need of shelter •my health •my family, Villegas, Mariscal, Edgar, Karol, Tony, Fernando and Frank's family •my siter Carmen, Nidia, Gordon & Isaac

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

Sara Shorter; Sue Peters; Andy Koenig; Dave & Linda Pedersen; Pesta family; 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; Robin Aanden - friend of Bob Klassen; Nyssa Johnson; Victims of trauma & military service members who are recovering from PTSD; Joyce - grandma of Krafts; Ben - son of Jan Hansch; Roger Stearns; brother-in-law - Rita Pettit; Pat Ziemer; Heather Goodrich; Sammy Mayland; Dennis- friend of Ron & Susan Johnson; 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; 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 Kempfers - 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

## Invite

**Men's Bible Study:** Wed., May 2nd, 9 am, Dunn Bros. Contact Dave Pedersen, 320-328-9911, dlpeders@msn.com

**Women of Hope:** Wed., May 2nd, 9:30 am, Andy Koenig's home, 885 Otter St. SW, Hutchinson

**Beer & Hymns:** Tues. May 29, 6-8 pm, Main Street Sports Bar



## Connect

**Financial Giving to River of Hope: 4/22/2018:**

Worship attendance:	100
In-Worship Offering:	\$526.00
Laundry Love:	\$27.75
Auto Deposits:	\$4317.50
March average attendance	79

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



Thank you for the invitation to speak about our ministry to the homeless at your Sunday service. Thank you also for your incredible generosity! What you have provided will help a lot of people!

In Jesus' name. Teresa & Jeff Schmidt

**NEEDED:** Paper shredder for ROH office. If you have one and aren't using it, planning to sell one at a garage sale or feel generous and want to donate one to the River of Hope office, we would be grateful.

## Disciple

**Ministerial Excellence Fund - Pr.** Laura has received a grant for educational debt from the Ministerial Excellence Fund of the Southwestern Minnesota Synod. River of Hope is invited to contribute to this fund that will be matched by the Lily Foundation that will go toward equipping and supporting pastors in our synod to lead flourishing and thriving congregations. Please make your checks payable to Southwestern Minnesota Synod and write MEF in the memo line.

**Crow River Conference Women's Gatherings:** +Synod Convention, Fri. & Sat. June 29 & 30, Bethlehem Lutheran, St. Cloud. See flier on Connect Table for both events.

**55+ Diners:** TBA

**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., May 14, 3pm

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

**Vision Table:** Wed., May 16, 7pm Zella's  
**River Table:** TBA

**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.

## 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 Tuesday, May 15th. 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 March,** Laundry Love served 42 families. \$655 was spent. Thank you to all of you who serve & donate!



**Common Cup needs our help!**

Through the generosity of our neighbors throughout McLeod County Common Cup is able to provide

weekend food for children who qualify in grades K-4th. They are always in need of single serve size food products. Items needed include, Instant Oatmeal packets, hot choc packets, juice boxes, fruit snacks, fruit cups, granola bars, Jif to Go, Raisin (small ind boxes), Ritz crackers, Ramen Noodles, Poptarts, Protein bars. Please consider purchasing one or more of these items. They can be dropped off at the Common Cup office. **THANK YOU!!!!**

LOVE ALL, SERVE ALL. MARK 10:45

**Jim Nelson sing-a-long schedule:**

+Thurs., May 10, 10am Woodstone

+Thurs., May 17, 2:30pm Harmony River

+ Thurs., May 31, 10am Woodstone & 2:30pm Harmony River

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!

**Staff**

**Laura Aase, Pastor**

pastor@riverofhopehutchinson.org

**Jim Nelson, Worship & Music Curator**

music@riverofhopehutchinson.org

**Sara Wilke, Office Administrator**

office@riverofhopehutchinson.org

**Office Information**

Hours:

M-F: 9am-Noon

16 Washington Avenue W, Suite 100

Hutchinson, MN 55350

320.587.4414 Mobile: 320.583.8005

riverofhopehutchinson.org



**River Team Schedule**

**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
29 Worship 10:30 am	30 Staff Meeting noon Financial Stewardship 6pm	1 Beer & Hymns 6pm	2 Men's Bible Study 9am Women of Hope 9:30am Confirmation 6pm	3	4	5
6 Worship 10:30 am	7 Staff Meeting noon	8	9	10 Woodstone Sing-a-long 10am	11	12
Pastor Laura May Sabbatical May 6th-12th						
13 Worship 10:30 am Pastor Laura leads worship, River of Hope-er preaches	14 Staff Meeting noon Parish Personnel 3pm	15 Laundry Love	16 Men's Bible Study 9am Vision Table 7pm	17 Harmony River 2:30pm	18	19
20 Worship 10:30 am High School Senior Recognition	21 Staff Meeting noon	22	23	24	25	26