

The Weekly River News  
*River of HOPE*

LUTHERAN CHURCH  
13th Sunday after Pentecost--August 19, 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,

I am so grateful to be in ministry with you and to live into this sabbatical year so that the Holy Spirit will continue to stir us up in new ways. The foundation of sabbatical time is rest so that I can be reminded of and reinvigorated in this gift of being a pastor. The continuous sabbatical time (July 2-Aug 12) will find me reading a few books I've had on my radar that need to get off the "must read" pile. "I'm Still Here: Black Dignity in a World Made for Whiteness" by Austin Channing Brown; "Inspired: Slaying Giants, Walking on Water, and Loving the Bible Again" by Rachel Held-Evans; and "Grateful: The Transformative Power of Giving Thanks" by Diana Butler Bass. I will also be enjoying a music festival right off the bat in July. Music is a hobby, a passion, and something that fills me in ways I can't explain. The majority of the time will be with family. I am still gaining equilibrium for living in 2 places and John and I work at being very intentional about home being in two spots. The timing of the sabbatical seems God-timed. Being given this time to be in the same space as my husband and step kids is a great gift. We're becoming a strong family and as you well know, that takes time and work.

The call I have to be a pastor and, specifically, to be *your* pastor, is such a gift. I love our purpose for existing, I love the ways that we practice being a community, I love how you love each other, love the community, love me, and most critically, love God. It's what this is all about - communicating the love of God through Christ Jesus to everyone. It is why we exist! God's love is the grounding force that holds us together and helps us do things we never imagined doing. Please pray for River of Hope and for me during this time of sabbatical renewal. You will remain in my prayers.

In faith, hope, and love,

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 •family and friends of Charles Barrick at his passing •family & friends of Linda Fredrickson who passed away •people in California who have homes threatened by fires

### **THANKSGIVING and PRAISE to Jesus Christ:**

•For consistent, faithful Laundry Love servants going to the laundromat month after month to meet Jesus •all visitors worshipping at River of Hope •our journey as River of Hope •River Team Amazon as they lead us in worship in August •the abundant beauty of your creation •our great team at River of Hope that contributes to our great worship environment •for Pastor Laura to have a wonderful refreshing sabbatical •giving a generous spirit to River of Hope •people who care and reach out to the homeless and those who are hurting •for the love of family. Bless Matthew and Hannah as they prepare for their wedding

### **Stir up FAITH and give your GUIDANCE, Holy Spirit:**

•for all those who struggle with faith or the institution of church •for Bishop Jon Anderson & all synod staff •for visitors to River of Hope & all people being stirred up by the Holy Spirit to be part of a faith community •for everyone who is in transition in their work life •for all those going on mission trips this week, with life changing experiences for all who go •for safety and insight to the confirmands leaving for camp •for your spirit to give wisdom to parents •for better family communication •for Pastor Laura and her husband John as they commute back and forth from Fairmont to Hutchinson •for safe travels for those who are on vacations or traveling •all those who are feeling broken hearted •the homeless •for families struggling with generational differences and decisions

### **Other ways River of Hope can live into its purpose: We go out:**

•to offer a community of openness and inclusion and acceptance and God's love and our love •to serve •to help those in need--everywhere •to help the homeless •into the city parks again with cookies and water •to serve meals on wheels •to be advocates for immigrant children separated from their children •to prevent poverty and homelessness •provide fresh vegetables to those who can't get them

### **Help me to be free to be/do:**

•have a wonderful day with friends and family •a peacemaker in times of miscommunication •something new to serve you, move past complacency, apathy & hopelessness

### **Laundry Love Prayers:**

•comfort family and friends of Don, who was called to heaven, help those who loved him to understand the blessing rather than the sorrow •my brother Bob, who is dealing with cancer •our nation to go forward in unity •to all the Laundry Love volunteers who help so many keep clean, fresh clothes •my grandfather who is dealing with medical issues •my nephew who recently had a seizure from his epilepsy •for my relationship with my girlfriend to grow in the Lord, and seek God first •to be prosperous in our new jobs •safety, peace and calmness in our home •for a successful heart surgery my daughter is having in September •"Today is my day" I'm thankful for me •strength and courage for those fighting battles with mental illness •for my friend who is on the internet with men that ask for money, let her realize she does not need to give them money

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

Thor Skeie; Sara Pollmann; Andy Koenig; Nan Crary; Sara Shorter; Sue Peters; Jan Schaefer; Dave & Linda Pedersen; Pesta family; Gail Thovson; Dan - friend of Schofields; Amy Leister - Bo Young's sister; Kyle Merkins; Anita Weitzman; Sophia Muir - Katie Weisenberger's niece; Robin Aanden - friend of Bob Klassen; Nyssa Johnson; Victims of trauma & military service members who are recovering from PTSD; Joyce - grandma of Krafts; Grandma Jane - Heidi Caya's grandma; Ben - son of Jan Hansch; Roger Stearns; brother-in-law - Rita Pettit; Sammy Mayland; Thomas & Rachel Brandt; 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; 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 & Jack - friend of Hausers; Ronda Matthias - friend of Remucals; Grant Scotting; Nate, Dennis- cousin, friends 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, Andy and other friends; Mark, Mom & Liz - brother, mom & friend of Nan Crary; 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, Aggie, Liz; friends & family of Phyllis Lindstrand - brother in law Gary, Uncle Chuck B., daughter Nikki, son Jason, brother Philip, brother in law Ed, Jan, Jan & Janet; friends and family of Betty Brandt - husband Gene, Rob Vos, Uncle Chuck S, Velma Brandt, Kathleen, Grace, Matthew; Josh Benson - Shirley Olson's nephew; people who suffer with chronic pain; all who are fighting cancer

## Invite

**Blessing of the Backpacks**, Sun. August 26, during worship. Students & teachers & school staff, please bring your backpacks or school supplies to be blessed.

**Beer & Hymn's** : will resume, Tuesday, Sept 25th, 6-8pm, Main Street Sports Bar



## Connect

**Financial Giving to River of Hope: 7/29/2018:**

|                          |          |
|--------------------------|----------|
| Worship attendance:      | 69       |
| In-Worship Offering:     | \$375.00 |
| Laundry Love:            | \$41.35  |
| Auto Deposits:           | \$920.00 |
| July average attendance: | 73       |

Check out River of Hope's 2nd Quarter Report, available at the Connect Table.

**MILESTONE!** Milestones are an important part of our life together. One way to get Pr. Laura back up to speed when she returns Aug 12th is to communicate about milestones shared during worship. If you share a milestone, you'll be given an addressed notecard to then send on your milestone to Pr. Laura if you choose

Pastor Laura is on her extended 6-week sabbatical July 2-Aug 12. As part of this experience the majority of Sunday worships will be lead by River of Hope-ers, an intentional practice of speaking faith and sharing the Good News. The goal is for the Holy Spirit to move and inspire our community and to stir up Pastor Laura's faith, hope and love for what God is doing with River of Hope so she can continue to faithfully serve in the name of Jesus Christ. Please pray daily for River of Hope and for Pastor Laura during this time of change and renewal.

## Disciple



**Free lunch for kids ages 1-18!** Mon-Friday, June 11th-August 17th, 2 locations: Park Elementary serving from 11:30-12:30 and Hutch Middle School serving from 11:00-12:30. Questions or looking to volunteer? Contact Common Cup 587-2213.

**Table Updates** [Tables do the work of furthering River of Hope's purpose. We meet around scripture first and then let that shape our work together. All table meetings are open for any River of Hope-er to attend. Would you like to serve? Just say so. There is a place for you at the table.]  
**Parish Personnel:** Monday, August 20, 3pm

**Financial Stewardship:** TBA

**Vision Table:** Tuesday, August 28th, 6pm

**River Table:** TBA



**1st Annual Stroke-N-Stride for Common Cup Ministry, Inc.** Lap swim, walk the lazy river, or 5K walk. Saturday, August 18th, 8am-11am.

Hutchinson Aquatic Center. All proceeds will be used for Outreach Ministry programs of Common Cup Ministry. [www.common-cup.org](http://www.common-cup.org) or call 320-234-8344 for details

**Once again Common Cup Ministry of McLeod County** will be having a school supply distribution for students in need. How can you help? Purchase supplies that have been assigned to River of Hope.....Back packs, spiral notebooks (college and wide rule), glue sticks, pencil sharpeners (with covers), pencil boxes and pencil bags. Supplies can be dropped off in the church office (M-Fri 9-noon) or Common Cup Ministry. Financial donations also accepted and will go towards purchasing supplies. Contact Andy Koenig with questions 320-894-8549.



## We Go Out

**We Go Out...to the county fair** (August 15th-19th)! River of Hope needs you to be church in public at the fair. We need you! Sign up for a shift or even 2! Confirmation mentors, invite your youth to go with you. Talk to Brian Tillmann 587-1007 or [tillmann@hutchtel.net](mailto:tillmann@hutchtel.net)



**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, August 21st. We're partnering with Vineyard United Methodist Church to help people afford to do their laundry. Introvers, extrovers & 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](mailto:alleng747@hotmail.com). In July, Laundry Love served 45 families, of which 11 families were new. Thank you to all of you who serve & donate!



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

+Thurs., August 30, 10am @ 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!

**Meals on Wheels Drivers needed**, for a few dates in August.



See Connect Table to sign up or contact Sandy Tracy, 320-492-6279 or [sandytracy1947@gmail.com](mailto:sandytracy1947@gmail.com)

**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**

**August - Amazon + ALL**

River Guide: Ruth Hamlow

320-587-5045 or 320-223-5859

rhamlow@hutchtel.net

**September-Nile**

River Guides - Mike & Katie Weisenberger

320-234-7229

weisenberger@mchsi.com

**October-Tigris**

River Guide-Kris Hartman

320-296-5151

sippelhartman@gmail.com

Scott Gross-Sand

941-451-9413

sgrosssand@gmail.com

**November-Jordan**

River Guides: Rob & Jennifer Hauser

320-587-7072

Rob:320-469-2800

Jennifer:320-469-2801

Robert.c.hauser@gmail.com

Jennifer.g.hauser@gmail.com

**August/September 2018**

| Sun  | Mon  | Tue   | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|--|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| 19<br>Worship 10:30 am<br>McLeod County-Fair | 20<br>Staff Meeting @ noon<br>Parish Personnel 3pm | 21<br>Laundry Love                                  | 22  | 23  | 24  | 25  |
| 26<br>Worship 10:30 am                       | 27   | 28<br>Vision Table 6pm                              | 29  | 30  | 31  | 1   |
| 2<br>Worship 10:30am                         | 3<br>Staff Meeting @ noon                          | 4   | 5   | 6   | 7   | 8   |
| 9<br>Worship 10:30am                         | 10<br>Staff Meeting @ noon                         | 11-15<br>Pastor Laura Sabbatical September 9th-15th |     |     |     |     |