Wednesday, December 17th

Headwaters Choir Practice 4:00-5:00pm

Caroling 5:00PM
Pizza to follow

Operation Hope Shopping 5:00pm

Watering Can for the month of December
Operation Hope

Operation Hope is a ministry the Schmidt family started, to provide compassion, food and supplies to people living on the streets in Minneapolis.

Average Monthly Attendance for November = 83
1st-3rd Quarter Income = $269,539
1st -3rd Quarter Expenditures = $256,745

SCAN ME
Give Now: Watering Can

SCAN ME
Give Now: River of Hope

Simply Giving:
If anyone would like to begin or adjust their electronic giving, please contact treasurer Arlyn DeBruyckere: 320-282-0184 arlyn@arlynsphotos.com

RIVER OF HOPE STAFF

Pastor Hans Peterson c 952-452-4988
pastor@riverofhopehutchinson.org
Jim Nelson - *Worship & Music Curator*
jim@riverofhopehutchinson.org
Emily Heilman - *Remote Admin. Asst.*
emily@riverofhopehutchinson.org
Lisa Tschimperle - *Admin. Asst.*
lisa@riverofhopehutchinson.org
Katie Weisenberger-Children's Ministry
katie@riverofhopehutchinson.org

OFFICE HOURS:
Tue-Wed 10:00am-2:00pm

Mailing Address: **PO Box 608**
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Email: **office@riverofhopehutchinson.org**
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You Tube Channel **@riverofhope320**

River of HOPE
LUTHERAN CHURCH

ORDER OF WORSHIP
December 14th 2025

GATHERING
Music to Prepare us
Opening Song
Welcome / Litany
Prayer of the Day
Lighting of the Advent Wreath
Greet Someone New
*Children's Time

THE WORD
Isaiah 35:1-10
Song to Greet the Gospel
Matthew 11:2-11
Sermon
Song of the Day
Prayers for the World
Offering + Singing

The FEAST
*Setting the Table
Invitation to the Meal
Thanksgiving at the Table
The Lord's Prayer
Communion + Singing
Blessing

THE SENDING
What is our Purpose
Purpose Sightings
Milestones
*Sending Song
Music to send you out

**Kids are invited to help with Worship especially in these spots.*

We are called by Jesus to love God and one another, serving everyone with no strings attached. At River of Hope, we welcome people of every ethnicity, age, gender expression or identity, sexual orientation, marital status, political perspective, physical and mental ability, or socioeconomic position. Wherever you are on your journey of faith, wherever you are in life (herbivore, carnivore, allergic to church, snarky, cranky)…you are fully welcome here. We mean it! You are a beloved and unique child of God. Come gather for worship and prayer, to study God's Word, to embrace the work of racial equity, social and economic justice, and environmental care. Together we are called to go out and transform lives through Jesus Christ.

Isaiah 35:1-10

1 The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad; the desert shall rejoice and
blossom; like the crocus 2 it shall blossom abundantly and rejoice with joy
and shouting. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Car-
mel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the Lord, the majesty of our
God.]] 3 Strengthen the weak hands and make firm the feeble knees. 4 Say
to those who are of a fearful heart, "Be strong, do not fear! Here is your
God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come
and save you." 5 Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of
the deaf shall be opened; 6 then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the
tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the
wilderness and streams in the desert; 7 the burning sand shall become a
pool and the thirsty ground springs of water; the haunt of jackals shall be-
come a swamp; the grass shall become reeds and rushes. 8 A highway
shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way; the unclean shall not
travel on it, but it shall be for God's people; no traveler, not even fools,
shall go astray. 9 No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come
up on it they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there.
10 And the ransomed of the Lord shall return and come to Zion with sing-
ing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and glad-
ness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

Daily Bible Readings - For the week of Dec.15-20

Mon.	Dec. 15	Isaiah 29:17-24
Tue.	Dec. 16	Ezekiel 47:1-12
Wed.	Dec. 17	Zechariah 8:1-17
Thur.	Dec. 18	2 Samuel 7:1-17
Fri.	Dec. 19	2 Samuel 7:18-22
Sat.	Dec. 20	2 Samuel 7:23-29

Greetings River of Hopeful People!

Greetings River of Hopeful people!
It is a joy to welcome **Terry Kempfert** to worship this Sunday. Here is her artist statement connected to the piece of art entitled "Dove of Hope" that she created in honor of River of Hope's 15-year anniversary:

River of Hope has been woven into my life from our very first gathering. My husband Warren and I stood with this community since its first moments, and I hold close the souls who walk with us today and the ones whose presence still echoes in our memories. Over fifteen years so much has changed, yet one truth has remained steady and alive within us: Hope. Hope in who we are, hope in one another, and hope for the healing of our world.

In this work, I feel grace moving like a river—ever-flowing, ever-watching, carrying us forward. I sense the warmth of love and light that surrounds our people, a tenderness that endures even through uncertainty. The dove, strong and steady, rises as a sacred sign of hope for all who look upon it.

We are, and continue to be, a hopeful people—bound together in love, in life, and in the deep peace that flows from faith and community.

LIFT UP IN PRAYER

If you would like a prayer added or taken off the prayer list, please contact the office.

Prayers: for daughter Jill who is in the hospital; for peace for Deb, Kate, Liz and family as they mourn the loss of wonderful Bob; for Laurie Evans; for the safety of our Somali Community here in Minnesota including our refugee family in Willmar; for healing for Mohammed as he and Joan navigate health decisions; Praise God for the birth of Skadi, Jim and Sarah Nelson's grandniece; for Merlin; for Jill, Sue, and Arlyn recovering from surgery; for comfort for the family of Nancy Redetzke at the death of her mother; for Jenell; for my cousin who is recovering from a stroke; for Jerry and Eric as they continue their job search and for continued healing for Beau; for Sara; for Dale; for Carol

Mark Your Calendars!

Date	Activity	Time	Location	Contact
12/14	Terry Kempfert Art in Worship	10:30am	Event Center	Jim Nelson
12/16	Laundry Love	9:00am-6:00pm	Royal Wash House	Allen Gislason
12/17	Headwaters Choir Practice	4:00pm	Event Center	Katie Weisenburger
12/17	Caroling (pizza to follow)	5:00pm	Event Center	Pastor Hans, Jim N.
12/17	Operation Hope Shopping	5:00pm	Event Center	Mike Weisenburger
12/21	Voices of Hope Practice	9:45am	Event Center	Jim Nelson
12/24	Christmas Eve Worship	3:00-4:00pm	Event Center	Pastor Hans
12/25	Meals on Wheels	10:45-11:15am	Hutch Hospital	Allen Gislason
12/26	Men's Bible Study	9:00-10:00am	Even Center	David Pederson
12/26	Meals on Wheels	10:45-11:00am	Hutch Hospital	Mary Royer

River of Hope wishes to acknowledge and honor the *Wahpekute* *(pronounced – "wah-PEH-koo-tay")* people upon whose ancestral homelands we gather for worship this morning, as well as all our Indigenous siblings who have and continue