



Farmyard Faith VBS
Aug. 10-13, 5:00-7:30pm
Vinyard Methodist Church



Watering Can for the Month of July
2BContinued

To increase awareness of suicide prevention,
mental health & wellness through advocacy,
education and outreach



SCAN ME
Give Now: Watering Can

Average Monthly Attendance for June=82
Jan.-June2026 Income = \$168,973.04
Jan.-June2026 Expenditures = \$158,060.65



Simply Giving:

If anyone would like to begin or adjust their
electronic giving, please contact treasurer
Arlyn DeBruyckere: 320-282-0184

RIVER OF HOPE STAFF

Pastor Hans Peterson c 952-452-4988
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Jim Nelson - Worship & Music Curator
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OFFICE HOURS:

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

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ORDER OF WORSHIP

July 26th, 2026

GATHERING

Music to Prepare us
Opening Song
Welcome
Greeting
Prayer of the Day
Greet Someone New
*Children's Time

THE WORD

Romans 8:26-39
Song to Greet the Gospel
Matthew 13:31-33
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
Milestones
Final Blessing
*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.

Matthew 13:31-33

31 [Jesus] put before [the crowds] another parable:
"The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that
someone took and sowed in his field;32 it is the
smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is
the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that
the birds of the air come and make nests in its
branches."

33 He told them another parable: "The kingdom
of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and
mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it
was leavened."



Daily Bible Readings - For the week of July 27-Aug 1

Mon. July 27 James 3:13-18
Tue. July 28 Ephesians 6:10-18
Wed. July 29 Mark 4:30-34
Thur. July 30 Philippians 4:10-15
Fri. July 31 Romans 9:6-13
Sat. Aug. 1 Matthew 7:7-11



Greetings River of Hopeful People!



“...a little child shall lead them” Isaiah 11.6

Greetings River of Hopeful people!

The prophet Isaiah speaks about a future where there will be total harmony, a future where enemies will live together in peace. After declaring that the “wolf shall live with the lamb; the leopard...with the kid; the calf and the lion...together” Isaiah says that “a little child shall lead them.” Growing up I remember my mom quoting this last bit when she was proud of young person doing something remarkable. I’d like to relate a “proud dad” moment.

A few hours after my return from Alaska for my 40 year reunion, I repacked for a continuing education conference on Worship, Theology and the Arts at St. Olaf College. The conference debuted the Living Voice of Creation liturgy that Carol Meier and I composed over this past year. Six River of Hope youth helped record an audio version of the songs. Two of these children, Hilde and Ginny Evenson were able to attend and help lead opening worship on Monday. They did a remarkable job. After worship, several people asked me if I was their dad. They must have seen how proud I was at their leadership. I pointed at Pastor Andy, their own father, who had brought them and who also was beaming.

While watching the news it may be difficult to imagine a future day where enemies live together in peace. But this week I was honored to be part of a worship service where the last bit of the prophecy rang true. I invite you to proudly watch our young ones lead two songs at the beginning of worship, two songs in the middle and the closing song here: <https://www.stolaf.edu/multimedia/play/?c=4473>

Pastor Hans

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

Prayers for comfort for Eric Bangert, Julie’s Johanson’s son, at the death of his dad; for Heather Goodrich as she continues in hospice care at Woodstone; for Grandpa Willie who is facing another health challenge; for Amy Richardson who became critically ill on a European Tour and needs healing and financial assistance and is now at Mayo; for Brother Philip back at Mayo; please help my Dad to recover quickly after his prostate procedure, give him comfort and rest; for Beau who will begin pre-school this summer to prepare him for the school year, and continued healing; for Alissa’s friend & family who had twins born at 34 weeks; for continued improvement of Sammi’s inflammation and good management of Uveitis; for son-in law Matts heart surgery; extra prayers for mom Aggie who fell again on her way to the hospital via ambulance; for Isaac who just moved back to Puerto Rico; for our granddaughter Liz who is struggling with the relationship with her Dad; for Diane Neubarth's health issues; for Merlin who is healing and taking medication for Afib; for a healthy and safe pregnancy for Maddie; for Lindsay Graham's family; for Ukraine, Iran and Venezuela; for all affected by the fires.



Mark Your Calendars!



<u>Date</u>	<u>Activity</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Contact</u>
7/26	Dueling Pianos	During Worship	Event Center	Jim / Pastor Hans
7/28	River Table Mtg.	5:00-6:00pm	Event Center	Jim Schaefer
8/10-13	Farmyard Faith VBS	5:00-7:30pm	Vineyard Methodist	Katie Weisenberger
8/10	ROH Golf Outing	11:00am	Oakdale Golf Course	Kay and Tim H.
8/18	Laundry Love	9:00am-6:00pm	Royal Wash House	Jerry Lindberg
8/23	Worship at the River	10:30-11:30am	West Masonic Park	Jim / Pastor Hans
8/23	Pot Luck	11:30am	West Masonic Park	Gwenn S. / Rachel S.

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 to care for this place – this land – and call it their home.