

HOPE HIGHLIGHTS

April 2024

2736 Bowling St. S.W.
Cedar Rapids, IA 52404
Office 319.365.3105 Kitchen 319.365.3999
E-mail: hopelutheran2736@gmail.com

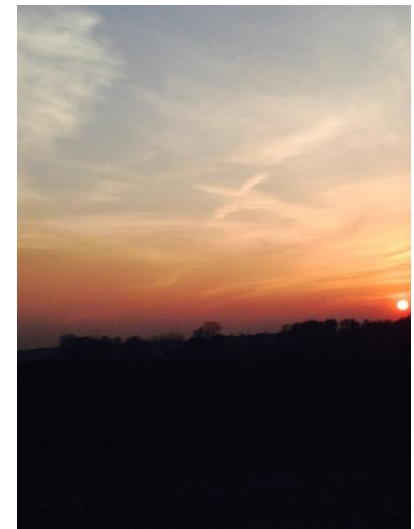
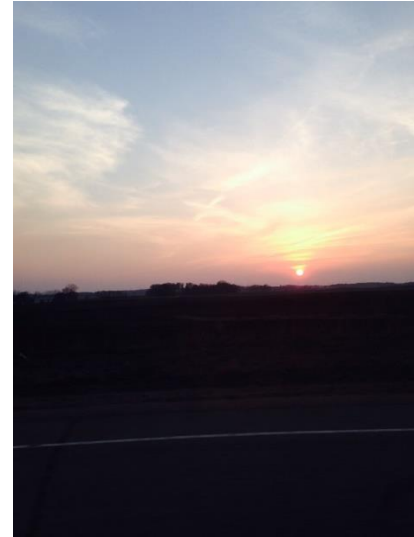
Facebook: Hope Lutheran Church
Cedar Rapids IA
www.hopelutherancr.org

Pastor Rhea Evenson
(c) 507/430-8530
E-mail pasterrhea53@gmail.com



meaningful, and may you find joy and new life every time you must endure a cross.

Blessings, Pastor Rhea



Dear Members of Hope,
Easter evening 2014 I was driving home from what at the time was my parents' home in Minneapolis with my 2 exchange students, Florencia who was from Chili and Hiina, who was from Japan. We were driving south on I35 in southern Minnesota when Flo suddenly cried out, "Mom, look, the sky!" There in the clouds to our west were clouds shaped in a perfect cross. We pulled to the side of the highway and the girls took pictures for me, and for themselves. The clouds held their cross shape for miles. We watched the sun set around the cross and finally lost sight of it in the dark. A cross in the clouds on Easter! I've often wondered about that cross. Was it a sign for all who saw it, was it a gift for someone who needed hope that Easter, or was it a reminder from God to all who took time to look up that it was the feast of the resurrection. Some might say it was a coincidence that the wind just blew the clouds in the shape of a cross, but it was Easter Sunday and the clouds held that shape for a very long time. I believe it was a sign, a message sent from God through nature. I strongly believe that God sends us signs or messages in nature, we just need to pay attention and look for meaning because meaning is all around us in God's creation. I gift you with a picture of the cross we saw that Easter Sunday night. You decide what the clouds have to say to you. I heard Rev. Al Sharpton say, "behind every crucifixion there is a resurrection." I hope our Easter season celebrations at Hope will be joyful and

WOMEN OF HOPE

The Women of Hope's guest speaker for their April 13th meeting will be Jenny Schultz, executive director of Kids First Law Center. Kids First gives children a voice in divorce, custody, and other conflicts by providing focused legal representation and services for kids. The overall goals for Kids First are to create stability for children, lessen the effect of conflict on kids, connect families to support systems and needed resources, and make children's voices heard.

At the center of Kids First's work is a focus on conflict-resolution and changing patterns of behavior to create more positive relationships for kids.

CHOIR & TONE CHIME CHOIR

Choir meets for practice every Wednesday afternoon at **3:00pm**. Our tone chime people meet at **4:00P** on Wednesday following choir. Everyone is welcome to participate.

MEN OF HOPE

The Men of Hope will meet on Saturday, April 13 at 8:30 for breakfast and meeting. All men are welcome and invited to come.

*In
Loving
Memory
of*

Cheryl Beachler

From
Terry & Sandie Slinger
Unity Point St. Lukes Foundation
(William & Myrt Bowers)
Leon & Linda Jones
Bill & Rose Dougherty
Richmond Schmidt

Larry Bengé

From
Ben & Marlys Halberg
Bill & Rose Dougherty
Marcey Luxa
Rick & Betty Nelson



Pastor Rhea's Thursday morning Bible Study meets at 11:00am. They will not meet on the 2nd Thursdays of the month as Pastor has Conference meetings.

Journeys Program hosted by Murdoch Funeral Homes (Wilson Ave.)

Every month Murdoch Funeral Homes on Wilson Ave. S. W. hosts a social group for bereaved individuals. This group is open to all community members and is free of cost.

Contact Amy Hart with questions: 319.364.1549

TAI CHI WORKSHOP – Monday, April 8th – 2:30pm

Bryan Bruner, Health and Wellness Coordinator with the Heritage Area Agency on Aging, will lead the group in a Tai Chi demonstration. Tai Chi is a form of gentle exercise with focus on mindfulness. No experience necessary. Plan to wear comfortable clothing.

**Confirmation class is on
Wednesday at 5:00pm.
(NOTE TIME CHANGE)**



April Birthdays

02 Sarah Eadie
09 Andy Kuehl
14 Robin DeFord
15 Pastor Rhea
16 Sandie Slinger
17 Sharon Schmidt
18 Pat Casner
20 Rick Nelson
26 Hazel Druger

SPIRITED SENIORS

Spirited Seniors meets every Wednesday at noon for lunch and cards. Bring your own lunch (unless Jim says not to!)



HOPE NOW HAS an outdoor food/toiletry box that is open to the public. This box is outside by the sign. You are welcome to put items in the box (things that won't freeze) and you are also welcome to take anything you might be in need of. Suggested items would be boxed things like mac/cheese, hamburger helper, Knorr noodle mixes, food cups.



Bold Woman of the Year

This years Bold Woman of the Year Award went to Susan Adams. Susan has shown her faith constantly by volunteering at the church and other non-profits in the area. She is a ray of sunshine and we are so glad she's here at Hope.

PALM SUNDAY PROCESSION





**2024 Cedar Rapids area
OUTDOOR cruise nights, starting
in April. ALL starting at 5 p.m.**

**4th Thursday of the month at
Hope**

**April 25, May 23, June 27, July
25, August 22, September 26
(NO 5TH THURSDAY THIS YEAR)**

**There will be NO cruise night on
Thursday July 4 this year.**

**All of these dates are weather
permitting.**

GARAGE SALE IS COMING!

Hope is hosting a garage sale at the end of April. You can start bringing things in on Monday, April 29th at 8:30am. We will be giving all of the proceeds to the Olivet Mission. Olivet Mission provides services and programming for all ages. The Clothing Closet distributes free clothing and household items. They are located at 230 10th St. N. W. All proceeds of the sale will be donated to Olivet. The sale will be on May 1 and 2nd. Watch for more information as it is received.



The Lord's Prayer Dance

**Special thanks to our
Confirmation kids, Jace
Anderson, Rhyleigh Thomas,
Kaylynn and Travis Rairdin for
doing such a beautiful job. Also
thanks to Betty Nelson for doing
the choreography.**