

"Let the light of Jesus shine through you!"

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**Upcoming Events**

**Communion Sunday**

Sun. July 5<sup>th</sup>

**New Hope Board Meeting**

Sun. July 5<sup>th</sup>, 11:30 a.m.

**Executive Board Meeting**

Tue. July 7<sup>th</sup>, 5:30 p.m.

**Liberty Pole Board Meeting**

Mon. July 13<sup>th</sup>, 5:30 p.m.

**Driftless Men's Group**

Tue. July 14<sup>th</sup>, 9 a.m.

@ VRQ Family Restaurant

**Retreat Board Meeting**

Tue. July 14<sup>th</sup>, 6 p.m.

**Retreat Ladies Group**

Sat. July 18<sup>th</sup>, 10 a.m.

**Burger/Brat Fry**

Fri. July 31<sup>st</sup>, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

@ Nelson's Agri Center

**Food Pantry Open**

Wednesdays: 5 – 6:30 p.m.

Thursdays: 9 – 11 a.m.

**A Day of Worship & Fun!**

Let's come together as one church family for worship! You, your family, and the entire community are invited to join us for a special joint worship service at the New Hope Methodist Church on Sunday, July 19<sup>th</sup>.

We will start the morning off with joint worship at 10:30 a.m. in the church sanctuary which will be followed by a time of food and fellowship. There will be a picnic potluck meal in the fellowship hall, so please bring a dish to pass and come ready to sample some wonderful home cooking from across the Driftless. In addition to the fun and fellowship, we'll be celebrating our second year of ministry with Pastor Sandy and Ron. So be sure to come out and show your appreciation for all they have done for our churches! We hope to see you on Sunday, July 19<sup>th</sup> for this fun-filled day!

**Joint Worship Service**

Sunday, July 19<sup>th</sup>

10:30 a.m.

@ New Hope Methodist

Potluck meal and fellowship to follow the service.

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**Special Joint  
Worship Service**

**Sunday, July 19**

**10:30 a.m.**

**New Hope  
Methodist Church**



**Upcoming Grilled Lunch Fundraiser!**

Come out to Nelson's Agri-Center Ace Hardware in Viroqua on Friday, July 31<sup>st</sup> for a delicious grilled lunch! The Retreat Methodist Church will be serving up a mouth-watering grilled meal from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. You will have your choice of brats, hamburgers, hot dogs, chips, soda, and water. There will also be a bake sale so you can take a delicious treat home too! All funds raised from the meal will be used to continue our ministry in the community and funds raised from the bake sale will go towards future renovations of Retreat's fellowship hall! And if you're interested in helping out for an hour or two (or more), they won't deny you a couple of hours of fun and maybe some entertainment! We really do have a ton of fun with these grill outs, so come and join us!



# Notes from Pastor Sandy

Hello, friends. It's summer and the sun is shining today. We are heading to one of the meatiest sections of Luke so there is much work to do. We have the All-Church Picnic coming up in July and we hope that everyone can come. There will be steaks and brats. The band will play. And if you could bring a dish to share that would be great but I think there will be plenty of food! This is an event that is open to anyone so if you would like to invite someone to the service and lunch, feel free.

In the fall we have confirmation coming, so please start letting me know of young people who are interested. They do NOT have to be members of our churches. And we are going to do a hymn sing Sunday about Luke 19:28 in our studies. This Sunday we'll sing all the old melodies and songs that we haven't sung for a while. They may not even be in our current hymnal! On Sunday mornings before church starts, spend a moment, and browse through the hymnal and let me know the songs you would like to sing. We will do the Lord's Prayer for sure. We will finish Luke starting on Ash Wednesday, but over Christmas and the early New Year, we will take a pause and learn from Timothy Keller's book, "The Reason for God".

Also, over September, October, and November we will be doing a Praise Song of the Month during the benediction. I have received several ideas for songs that started as praise songs in the 1980's which have now become mainstream and part of our hymnals. We will sing these songs during July and August. But I would like to stretch us to consider more recent praise songs as well.

For your consideration, here are some ideas for you to browse:

- "Amazing Grace (My Chains are Gone)"* by Chris Tomlin
- "Yet Not I but through Christ in Me"* by CityAlight
- "Love the Lord"* by Lincoln Brewster
- "Christ is Enough"* by Hillsong
- "You are my all in all"* by Jernigan & Grant



They are all on Spotify and on YouTube music. I am looking forward to your ideas as well. We'll do one song every Sunday for a month, so we get to know it—and they don't need to be the same at each church!

Thanks for everything you do! Stay faithful and don't hesitate to let the members of your worship committee know if you have concerns or ideas.

Have a wonderful summer!

*Pastor Sandy & Ron*



## Bazaar Raffle Quilt Revealed

On Sunday, June 21<sup>st</sup>, the Retreat Methodist Church revealed the quilt that is to be raffled off at their Fall Turkey Bazaar in October. This beautiful quilt features 16 hand embroidered quilt blocks stitched by several ladies in the church, surrounded by an amazing patchwork of fabric. Many hours of love and labor went in to creating the quilt. To finish it, the quilt was professionally machine quilted, ensuring a strong piece of artwork that will warmly wrap the lucky winner for many years to come!

Raffle ticket for a chance to win this quilt and other wonderful prizes will be available at the end of the summer and this autumn. Winners will be announced at the end of the Retreat Fall Turkey Bazaar on Saturday, October 24<sup>th</sup>. Don't miss this opportunity for a chance to win this beautiful quilt!





### Food Pantry Needs



The New Hope Food Pantry welcomes your generous donations to help those in need in our communities. This month the pantry is seeking donations of **tuna, cream of mushroom soup, long spaghetti and dish soap**. In addition to these items, the food pantry also greatly appreciates your monetary donations! If you wish to donate items or funds to the New Hope Food Pantry, feel free to drop them off at any of our three churches. You may also drop them off during the pantry’s open hours: Wednesdays, 5 – 6:30 p.m. and Thursdays, 9 – 11 a.m. The New Hope Food Pantry is located at E2286 State Highway 82, De Soto, WI 54624

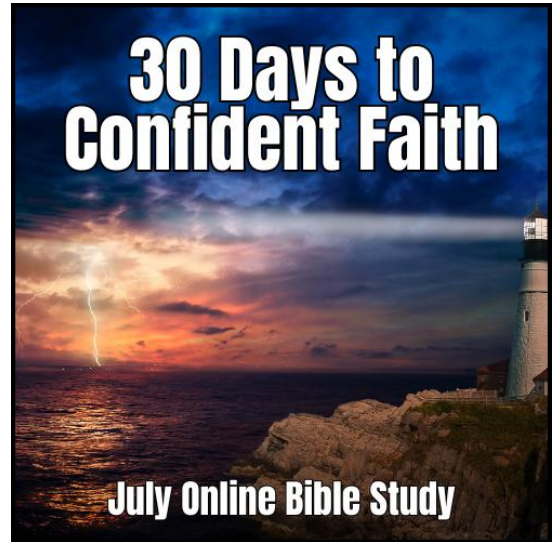


### 30 Days to Confident Faith July Online Bible Study

Do you long for bold, unshakable faith? In this 30-day journey, you’ll discover what true confidence looks like—not in yourself, but in Christ. Each day features a powerful Scripture, a short devotional packed with real-life application, a thought-provoking reflection question, and a prayer to strengthen your trust in God’s promises. Whether you’re facing fear, uncertainty, or the impossible, this plan will equip you to walk with courage, clarity, and confidence, rooted in God’s Word.

Faith. It can be a wonderful and powerful tool when we’re facing challenges. Our faith in Jesus helps to give us confidence, clarity and courage, and needs to be based in God’s Word. But sometimes we feel that our faith isn’t strong enough. If you’ve ever felt this way, please join us on a journey to build our faith so we can have the faith of a mustard seed, so we can move mountains.

You can find the link to join our July Bible Study on our website: [driftlessministry.org](http://driftlessministry.org). Our journey to having confident faith starts on July 1<sup>st</sup>.



**30 Days to Confident Faith** – starts July 1<sup>st</sup>

*Please note that the Bible.com website does not support Plans with Friends. You will need to open the Bible App on your mobile device to use the links to these plans. The Bible App is available in your app store on your mobile device.*



### Celebration of Life for Rev. Judie Jacobson



Everyone is welcome to a special Celebration of Life for the late Rev. Judie Jacobson. Rev. Jacobson, who served as pastor for the New Hope and Retreat churches from late 2013 to July of 2016, passed away back in late August 2025. With her retirement from ministry at our churches, she moved to Albuquerque, New Mexico with her daughter and grandson.

Her daughter, Suzie, extended an invitation to all in our churches who would like to attend the celebration. The Celebration of Life will be held at the La Farge Village Park (on the hill by the school) on Sunday, July 5<sup>th</sup> from 1 to 4 p.m. The family will be supplying drinks, sandwiches and a salad but also welcome you to bring a dish to pass if you would like.

*“Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me.”*

**John 14:1**

### Quilting, Coffee & Conversation!

The Liberty Pole sewing group continues to meet and have a good time! Coffee breaks can get long and full of laughter at times! That's what it's about for us. We sew enjoy seeing what each other is working on, providing encouragement as needed, and offer suggestions when requested! We are working on a whole variety of projects that feed our souls. We will be spending some time planning our upcoming October quilt display that people can enjoy when they come for chicken n' noodles or chili. We will also be showing how to make pillowcases at an upcoming session since that's what we do for Tots for Tots. Come join us if you'd like to learn!

We meet the first, third, and fifth Mondays at 9 a.m. – or whenever you get there!

~ Barb Robson



### Retreat Ladies Group



Retreat Ladies Group

Hey ladies! The Retreat Ladies' group will be meeting on **Saturday, July 18<sup>th</sup>** at 10 a.m. at the Retreat Methodist Fellowship Hall. We'll be discussing upcoming events and other ideas, but don't worry, it's not *all* business. We have lots of fun too!

For more information, reach out to Lynn Nelson or Lynnell Nummerdor!



### A Stitch of Fun & Sew Much More

The Retreat Quilters will be meeting July 13<sup>th</sup> and the 27<sup>th</sup>! There are a lot of exciting things happening. Come and join in for some giggles and coffee. You may even end up learning a little bit about sewing machine surgery (ask Carol G. ) You never know what is going to happen next!!!!



### Jesus is Alive VBS



All children ages 4 to 12 are invited and encouraged to attend "Jesus is Alive" Vacation Bible School at the South West Prairie Lutheran Church. Jesus is Alive VBS will be held July 15<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, and 17<sup>th</sup> from 2 to 5 p.m at the church. The kids will begin each day with prayer and lessons and end each day with prayer and a snack. The program is free for all.

For more information and/or to sign up your child, call Nicole Hendrickson at (608) 632-4318 or email at [southwestprairiechurch@gmail.com](mailto:southwestprairiechurch@gmail.com).

Liberty Pole, New Hope & Retreat Methodist Churches – Visit us online at: [www.driftlessministry.org](http://www.driftlessministry.org)

### Bible-in-a-Year Plan

July Scriptures

- 1 – Ezek. 27 – 28; Isa. 54; Eph. 5:21 – 33
- 2 – Ezek. 29 – 30; Isa. 55; Eph. 6
- 3 – Ezek. 31 – 32; Isa. 56; Phil. 1:1 – 11
- 4 – Ezek. 33; Isa. 57; Phil. 1:12 – 30
- 5 – Ezek. 34; Isa. 58; Phil. 2:1 – 11
- 6 – Ezek. 35 – 36; Isa. 59; Phil. 2:12 – 30
- 7 – Ezek. 37; Isa. 60; Phil. 3
- 8 – Ezek. 38 – 39; Isa. 61; Phil. 4
- 9 – Ezek. 40 – 41; Isa. 62; Col. 1:1 – 15
- 10 – Ezek. 42 – 43; Isa. 63; Col. 1:16 – 29
- 11 – Ezek. 44 – 45; Isa. 64; Col. 2:1 – 15
- 12 – Ezek. 46 – 47; Isa. 65; Col. 2:16 – 3:9
- 13 – Ezek. 48; Isa. 66; Col. 3:10 – 25
- 14 – Gen. 1:1 – 2:25; Ps. 1; Col. 4

*If you followed our plan from the beginning, congratulations! You have successfully read through the entire Bible in one year!*

*You can start the plan again, find another plan, and more online at: <https://driftlessministry.org/bibleplans/>*



### Got MWT Email?

With Vernon Communications discontinuing all @mwt.net email services at the end of the year, we are encouraging you to take action NOW so that your digital connection with our churches is not lost! If you are reading this newsletter on a mwt.net email account AND have already set up a new email account elsewhere, please let us know your **new** email address. We will update our contact details for you so that you continue to receive our e-newsletter each month like you already do, but at your new email account! Simply reply to your newsletter email, let us know your new email address and we will take care of the rest!



And if you haven't signed up for the e-newsletter, now is a perfect time to do so! With the rising cost of postage and fuel, e-newsletters sure help us out a lot. To sign up, simply email [retreatnews@yahoo.com](mailto:retreatnews@yahoo.com) with the word "Subscribe" and you will begin receiving our monthly newsletter in your inbox. Plus you'll get it faster and in color! Subscribe today!



### Get Your Driftless Ministries Apparel!

Ron has been hard at work putting together an apparel line for our churches so that we can show our support for our churches in a new and different way! There is currently a line of shirts and hats with the church logo on it and another line for the Driftless Men's Group. Women's apparel will be added soon! To check out the apparel and to place an order, head over to: <https://driftlessmin.logosoftwear.com/>. You can also scan the QR code with your smartphone to be taken to the store as well. For the less tech-savvy people, order forms are also available at our churches. Place your order and get your new apparel today!



### Door of Hope Corn Boil

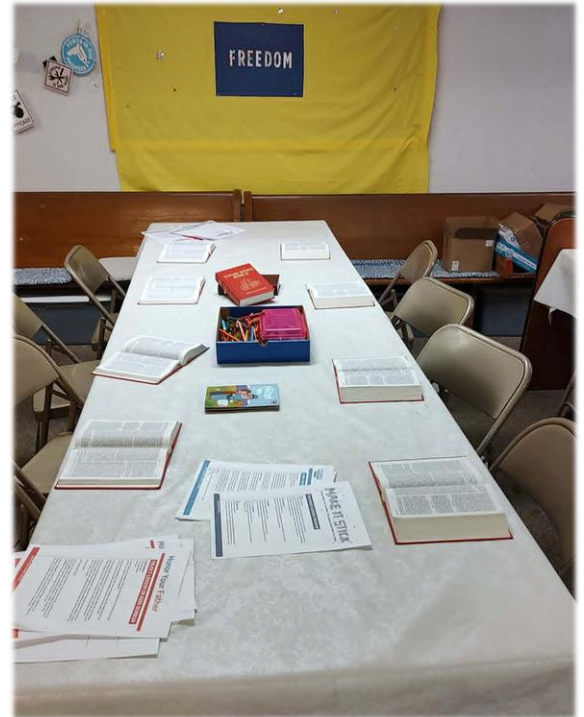


The 33<sup>rd</sup> annual Door of Hope Corn Boil is coming up on Thursday, July 30<sup>th</sup> at the Vernon County Fairground Expo Center. You are invited to join them for lunch from Noon to 2 p.m. or for dinner from 4 to 7 p.m. The meals include: a brat or hot dog, chips, baked beans, all-you-can-eat corn on the cob, soda, and dessert. The cost is \$12 per adult and \$6 for ages 4 to 10. You can also purchase corn-to go for \$8 per dozen (until they run out!).

All of the proceeds go to benefit Door of Hope Pregnancy & Family Care Center, a local outreach ministry in Viroqua that promotes a Biblical perspective on purity, pregnancy, parenting, and healing to men and women through the hope of Jesus Christ! So be sure to go and enjoy a great meal while supporting a wonderful local ministry!

### Summer Fun at Wednesday Warriors

Wednesday Warriors Summer School Edition was held June 17<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> at New Hope. The children rode the bus from Prairie View after summer school and the parents picked them up at 3 p.m. This picture shows what it looks like when everyone leaves. Will you join us in praying for the children to remember the Bible lessons we shared? We know we will remember these beautiful children. We love sharing God's word with them! Praise God for this blessing.



The second session of Wednesday Warriors Summer School Edition will be July 22<sup>nd</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup>. All children are welcome.

The learning and fun of Wednesday Warriors returns this autumn with the start of the new school year! Keep an eye and ear out for updates on when Wednesday Warriors begins the autumn and consider inviting other area kids who might be interested in joining in the fun!



### Help Us Cut Costs!

For those that may be unaware, the United States Postal Service will be raising postage rates yet again in July. As of July 12<sup>th</sup>, it will now cost us 82 cents to mail out *each* hard copy of our newsletter. And to think, when we started this newsletter back in 2009, stamps were just 44 cents. The price of mailing a simple letter has nearly doubled in the past 17 years!



So how can you help? For those that receive the **mailed** newsletters, we encourage you to sign up for our monthly e-newsletter. It's the same newsletter you get every month only it arrives to your email inbox instead of your physical mailbox. Plus it's in color! To sign up for the e-newsletter, simply send an email to [retreatnews@yahoo.com](mailto:retreatnews@yahoo.com) with "Subscribe" in the subject line and let us know who you are. That's all you have to do. We'll take care of the rest. You will then start receiving the newsletter each month right on your computer!



It is my hope to have all of our mail recipients receiving the e-newsletter by the end of the year! Not only will it cut costs, but it will also eliminate the page restrictions we have due to physical mailing! With your help, we can go "as digital as possible" and save our churches some funds that can be used for ministry elsewhere!



### Thank You for the Thoughts & Prayers!



Thank you to my entire church family for all of the prayers and the delicious shepherd's pie. I appreciate everything you do! Keep the prayers coming! They are needed and very appreciated!

~ Joan Seymour

## Shining Celebrations!

### Birthdays

Ashley Thompson – July 2<sup>nd</sup>  
 Landen Colburn – July 3<sup>rd</sup>  
 Bryce Funk – July 8<sup>th</sup>  
 April Haakenson – July 8<sup>th</sup>  
 Rae Holiday – July 9<sup>th</sup>  
 Greg Roach – July 13<sup>th</sup>  
 Dale Kromke – July 15<sup>th</sup>  
 Cody Zitzner – July 16<sup>th</sup>

Bonnie Marks – July 17<sup>th</sup>  
 Vicky Zitzner – July 17<sup>th</sup>  
 Donna Crum – July 18<sup>th</sup>  
 Ethan Stilwell – July 18<sup>th</sup>  
 Arden Zitzner – July 18<sup>th</sup>  
 Austin Jones – July 19<sup>th</sup>  
 Ivan Nummerdor – July 19<sup>th</sup>  
 Billie Caley – July 20<sup>th</sup>

Todd Newsome – July 21<sup>st</sup>  
 Carol Bishop – July 23<sup>rd</sup>  
 Wayne Robson – July 29<sup>th</sup>  
 Tom Baker – July 30<sup>th</sup>  
 LaNay Kumlin – July 30<sup>th</sup>  
 Sara Meyer – July 30<sup>th</sup>  
 Seth Volden – July 30<sup>th</sup>



### Anniversaries

Alan & Judy Christianson – July 24<sup>th</sup>

Did we miss your birthday, anniversary, or other special day?  
 Let us know! E-mail us at [newsletter@driftlessministry.org](mailto:newsletter@driftlessministry.org)



### **Fellowship Sunday**

The next Fellowship Sunday at the Retreat Methodist Church is coming up on **Sunday, July 5<sup>th</sup>** and everyone is welcome to stick around after worship and join in the wonderful fellowship. We hope you can join us after worship for some wonderful fellowship time!

These Fellowship Sundays are a great way to catch up with your faith family. Be sure to check them out and enjoy some quality time with your family and friends at the church!



### Church Contacts

**Pastor –** Rev. Sandy Conrad  
 (608) 881-4276  
[pastor@driftlessministry.org](mailto:pastor@driftlessministry.org)

**Lay Leaders –** Debbie Groves: (608) 648-3684  
 Barb Robson: (608) 606-5809  
 Jeffery Nelson: (608) 379-2933

**Food Pantry –** Debbie Groves: (608) 648-3684  
 Robbin Hennen: (608) 804-0314




### **July Worship Volunteers @ Retreat**

Thank you to all who volunteered to help with our worship!

	Sun. July 5 <sup>th</sup>	Sun. July 12 <sup>th</sup>	Sun. July 19 <sup>th</sup>	Sun. July 26 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Greeter</b>	Diane Suiter	Lynn Nelson	Joint Worship at New Hope	Lucille Foley
<b>Liturgist</b>	Terry Nelson	Carol Gilman		Klarice Lagerman
<b>Communion</b>	John Hanson			

# July 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
<p><i>Did you miss Sunday worship? Catch up by watching it online at <a href="https://driftlessministry.org/sermons/">https://driftlessministry.org/sermons/</a>.</i></p> <p><i>New videos are uploaded every Sunday afternoon/evening!</i></p>			<p>Food Pantry Open 5 – 6:30 p.m.</p>	<p>Food Pantry Open 9 – 11 a.m.</p>	<p>Pastors Sabbath</p>	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
<p>Communion Sunday Fellowship Sunday (R)</p> <p>NH Board Meeting 11:30 a.m.</p>	<p>Basement Quilters 9 a.m. @ Liberty Pole</p>		<p>Food Pantry Open 5 – 6:30 p.m.</p>	<p>Food Pantry Open 9 – 11 a.m.</p>	<p>Pastors Sabbath</p>	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	<p>Retreat Quilters 9 a.m. @ Retreat</p> <p>Liberty Pole Board Meeting 5:30 p.m.</p>	<p>Mens Group 9 a.m. @ Viroqua Fam. Restaurant</p> <p>Retreat Board Meeting 6 p.m.</p>	<p>Food Pantry Open 5 – 6:30 p.m.</p>	<p>Food Pantry Open 9 – 11 a.m.</p>	<p>Pastors Sabbath</p>	<p>Retreat Ladies Group 10 a.m. @ Retreat</p>
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
<p>Joint Worship Service 10:30 a.m. @ New Hope</p> <p>Potluck &amp; Fellowship to follow</p>	<p>Basement Quilters 9 a.m. @ Liberty Pole</p> <p>Newsletter Submission Deadline</p>		<p>Wednesday Warriors 12 – 3 p.m. @ New Hope</p> <p>Food Pantry Open 5 – 6:30 p.m.</p>	<p>Food Pantry Open 9 – 11 a.m.</p>	<p>Pastors Sabbath</p>	
26	27	28	29	30	31	
	<p>Retreat Quilters 9 a.m. @ Retreat</p>		<p>Wednesday Warriors 12 – 3 p.m. @ New Hope</p> <p>Food Pantry Open 5 – 6:30 p.m.</p>	<p>Food Pantry Open 9 – 11 a.m.</p>	<p>Pastors Sabbath</p> <p>Brat/Burger Fry 10 a – 2 p @ Nelson' s AgriCenter</p>	

*Shine*

Liberty Pole, New Hope & Retreat Methodist Churches  
c/o Jeff Nelson  
120 Rosewood Ln N  
West Salem, WI 54669

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JOIN US FOR  
**JOINT  
WORSHIP**



**SUNDAY, JULY 19**  
10:30 A.M.

**[AT] NEW HOPE METHODIST CHURCH**

RETREAT METHODIST CHURCH

**COME AND ENJOY**



**GRILLED LUNCH**

**BRATS • HOT DOGS • BURGERS  
CHIPS • TREATS • BEVERAGES  
BAKE SALE**

**FRIDAY, JULY 31**

**10 A.M. - 2 P.M.**

**@ NELSON'S AGRI-CENTER**

**FREE DELIVERY AVAILABLE TO LOCAL BUSINESSES**

**PROCEEDS GO TOWARDS CONTINUING THE  
CHURCH'S MINISTRY IN THE DRIFTLESS REGION**