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Upcoming Events

Communion Sunday

Sun. Oct. 4th

New Hope Board Meeting

Sun. Oct. 4, 11:30 a.m.

Meatball & Lefse Supper

Thu. Oct. 8th, 4 – 7 p.m.
@ New Hope

Chicken & Noodle/Chili Meal

Sun. Oct. 11th, 11 a. – 1 p.
@ Liberty Pole

Liberty Pole Board Meeting

Mon. Oct. 12th, 5:30 p.m.

Driftless Men's Group

Tue. Oct. 13th, 9 a.m.
@ VRQ Family Restaurant

Retreat Board Meeting

Tue. Oct. 13th, 6 p.m.

Fall Turkey Bazaar

Sat. Oct. 24th, 4 – 7 p.m.
@ Retreat

Food Pantry Open

Wednesdays: 5 – 6:30 p.m.
Thursdays: 9 – 11 a.m.

New Hope's Meatball & Lefse Supper

Autumn has begun around the region. As the leaves on the trees begin to change to a variety of colors, the New Hope Methodist Church is busy getting ready to serve up some delicious meatballs and good ol' lefse! Everyone is invited to the annual Meatball and Lefse Supper hosted by the New Hope Methodist Church on Thursday, October 8th from 4 to 7 p.m. This wonderful supper features meatballs, lefse, mashed potatoes and gravy, cranberries, glazed carrots, coleslaw, dinner rolls, an assortment of pie and beverages. The cost of the dinner is \$15.00 for adults and \$5.00 for children age 10 and under. Carry-outs are available by calling (608) 648-2644. And be sure that you don't miss the bake sale so the deliciousness can continue when you get home! So be sure to attend this wonderful dinner and enjoy the great food, fun & fellowship!



Chicken & Noodle and Chili Meal

You are invited to a delicious meal that is sure to warm your heart and soul! The Liberty Pole Methodist Church will be hosting its annual Chicken & Noodle and Chili Meal on Sunday, October 11th from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. (or when the food is gone!). You will have your choice of chicken & noodles or chili (or both if you desire!), along with beverages (milk, water, or coffee), and a dessert. The meal is dine-in OR carry-out and will be hosted in the church basement. You can enter through either basement doors, however it is requested that you avoid the kitchen door (near the northeast corner of the church). A free will offering will be collected for the meal, so give as your heart desires.



In addition to the meal, there will also be a fun quilt show, showcasing the various kinds of quilts created by the church's talented Basement Quilters. The majority of the quilts are made as donation projects, however there will be a select variety available for sale (cash or check). There will be a list of the quilters and the donation sites too so you see how the groups work has helped those in need.

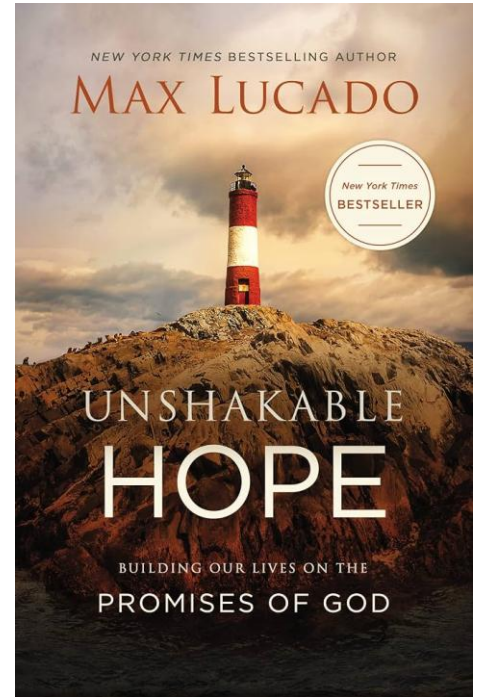
We hope you join us for this wonderful midday meal, come and see the beautiful quilts and enjoy the fun fellowship that goes along with all of it!

Notes from Pastor Sandy

I would say that I couldn't believe that it's October already, but the Vernon County Fair has just finished, and leaves are starting to fall around the parsonage. The fields are a glorious checkerboard of gold and tan and green. It's fall for sure.

And that means that our churches are starting a lot of new activities. Confirmation is starting and will have its first meeting for study on October 4th at 3 p.m. at the parsonage. Ron and I have put together a new curriculum that combines the biblical story of Jesus and an introduction to our churches and the Bible. Confirmation should conclude with a big celebration on April 18th. We will have students from each church, so please pray for them and for their parents as we learn together.

We'll also be starting a Bible study on the promises of God. It's Max Lucado's "Unshakable Hope: Building our Lives on the Promises of God". His illustrations are perfect and the promises he has selected are perfect. It's a wonderful book and according to Max, Jesus' definition of faith is the deeply held belief that God will keep His promises. Somebody has counted the promises in the Bible. Want to guess how many promises God has made to us? 7,487!! And they can all be claimed and they can all come true. Max discusses a few of the big ones. "We are made in the image of God." "We are an heir of God and a co-heir with Christ." "When a believing person prays, great things will happen." And my current favorite, "Christ is sitting at the right hand of God—praying for us!" The study will run for seven weeks. We'll start October 10th at the Retreat Fellowship Hall at 10 a.m. There will be a second session on the same lessons on October 12th at Liberty Pole around noon (the quilters can have lunch and join the discussion!). The study will finish Saturday, November 21st and Monday, November 23rd. Please try to join us—all men and women are welcome! It should be wonderful. The Men's Group will be starting John MacArthur's "Twelve Ordinary Men" — a study on the disciples during this time as well. The books are available online and I encourage you to check them out. There's a Kindle version that is inexpensive. And they are available through the library system as well.



Finally, we will be finishing our study of Luke the first Sunday in December. In the Advent calendar, that is the Sunday of Hope—which fits quite well with the Resurrection. Then we will have a three-week study on Faith. Faith in the Resurrection, faith in the Holy Birth, faith in Jesus our Savior. What does it mean? C.S. Lewis writes that to row a boat forward; you must face backward and then trust your helmsman to steer you to your destination and away from obstacles. With the right person at the helm, rowing is an effort, but it produces the desired result without going off course. If you try to steer without benefit of someone guiding you, it will be quite hard to produce a straight-line journey to your destination. So, have faith in the One that guides you. And trust the promises of God. We WILL have the power to make it home. And we have this faith in Jesus as the sure foundation for the journey. I look forward to journeying through the fall with you.

In Jesus' mighty name,

Pastor Sandy & Ron



Prayers for October

We encourage you to use the following simple prayers throughout this month to help supplement your prayer time!

Sunday

Lord, you are perfectly righteous and holy in all your ways. Satisfy me today with more of yourself and help me live in a way that honors you. Amen.

Monday

*Lord, you are the creator and sustainer of all things, and you care about my work.
Help me to work faithfully today, trusting that you are with me in every task. Amen.*

Tuesday

Father, you are the God who speaks with truth and grace. Thank you for the gift of language and for showing us what gracious speech looks like. Please help me speak words today that reflect your love and bring encouragement to others. Amen.

Wednesday

Lord, you are the generous provider who never fails to meet our needs. Help me to trust you with my resources and to be generous with others as you have been with me. Amen.

Thursday

Lord, you are the faithful guide who never leaves or forsakes us. Strengthen my trust today as I walk with you one step at a time. Amen.

Friday

Father, you are the God of mercy and the source of our living hope. Help me to live each day in joyful hope, even in the face of hardship. Amen.

Saturday

Lord, you are the refuge who gives rest to your people. I confess that I often let worry rob me of peace and sleep. Thank you for being a God I can trust in every situation and help me to rest peacefully in your arms. Amen.



Working Together in Ministry

It's easy to sit on the sidelines and watch the church do its ministry. But it is much more fun and gratifying to be a part of the action! You are invited to be a part of the work of the church! We encourage everyone to come and participate in the discussions at your respective church meeting. Your ideas are vital to our ministry!



New Hope Church Board Meeting

Sunday, October 4th, 11:30 a.m.

Executive Board Meeting

Tuesday, October 6th, 5:30 p.m.

Liberty Pole Church Board Meeting

Monday, October 12th, 5:30 p.m.

Retreat Church Board Meeting

Tuesday, October 13th, 6 p.m.



As Easy as Pie



All are welcome to come and help create the homemade pies for Retreat's upcoming Fall Turkey Bazaar! We will begin the pie-making on Thursday, October 22nd at 9 a.m. in the church fellowship hall. Even if you can only help for an hour, any assistance is greatly appreciated! There is sure to be plenty of laughter and fellowship along the way! Come and get in on the fun!

It's an annual tradition! The Retreat Methodist Church will be hosting its annual Fall Turkey Bazaar on Saturday, October 24th from 4 to 7 p.m. at the Retreat Methodist Fellowship Hall (E3426 County Road N, De Soto). The church will be serving up generous helpings of turkey, dressing, mashed potatoes, carrots, coleslaw, homemade rolls, and homemade pie! The cost of the dinner is \$15.00 per meal with a maximum out-of-pocket cost of \$50.00 for parents with minor children. Carry-outs will be available and can be ordered in advance by calling (608) 648-3435 during the event.

[illegible]

A large quilt with a green border and a central panel featuring a grid of squares with various heart patterns and colors. The quilt is displayed on a wooden chair.

[illegible]

Liberty Pole, New Hope & Retreat Methodist Churches – Visit us online at: www.driftlessministry.org

Over the next few months, our churches will be incorporating some modern praise music during our Sunday worship services. Each song will take place during the benediction at the end of the service. If you would like a sneak peek, and maybe to familiarize yourself with the songs, use the links below!

<https://youtu.be/zundjUFazfg?si=kQewhjTSeze4T4xc>

https://youtu.be/2uN800p61zY?si=2oWRySL7_BjnHk4R (Randy Travis version)

https://youtu.be/bA46Hq_HpBk?si=wCMDU-vuSzYridhD (Alan Jackson version w/ "I'll Fly Away")



A stylized illustration of a wooden crate filled with fruit. The crate is made of light brown wood with dark brown outlines. It is overflowing with various fruits: several bright orange apples, a red apple, and green leaves. Some fruit is spilling out of the top of the crate, with small blue droplets or splashes around it. The background is white.

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 **scalloped potatoes, instant oatmeal, pasta sauce and paper towels**. 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



The Church Basement Quilters will be really hustling these next couple weeks as they prepare for their first quilt show and sale. I hope everyone takes time to view these projects. There will be some that are small, and some that are large. Some are simple and some quite complex. Our initial intent was to share with all just who the ladies are, and where so many donations go. I think you will be surprised by what is given! But, with encouragement from others, it grew! The sanctuary will have dozens of quilts on display and several for sale. Please come see them! We have such a good time at our special sewing days! Feel free to stop in and see what we are working on. Note the dates we are meeting in October (Oct. 5th & 12th) a change due to the show., followed by a vacation! See you on October 11th!



A vibrant, patchwork-style pumpkin. The body is composed of numerous irregular, quilted patches in various colors including red, orange, yellow, blue, and green. Some patches feature subtle floral or leaf patterns. The pumpkin has a thick, dark brown stem that curves slightly to the right, ending in a small, curled leaf. The overall appearance is artistic and festive, typical of autumn-themed illustrations.

The Retreat Quilters will be meeting at 9 a.m. on Mondays, October 12th and 26th. Great progress is being made on the requested denim quilts! You should stop by and see the works in progress! As always, everyone is welcome to come and join in the fun and fellowship. There is always plenty of laughter going on. If anyone would like to help with the quilts, even for just a short period, your contributions will be greatly appreciated! For more information, reach out to Lynnell Nummerdor at (608) 642-1585.

*"Every autumn leaf is just a **perfect patch of color.**"*

Around the Driftless...

Check out these other upcoming local church functions and community events!

- **Fall Harvest Dinner** – Wed. Oct. 7th, 4:30 – 7 p.m. @ Good Shepherd Church, Viroqua.
Serving roast beef, mashed potatoes & gravy, green beans, coleslaw, bread, homemade pie & ice cream.
Cost: Adults - \$18, Children 5 – 12 - \$10, Children 4 & under eat free!
- **Fall Fest** – Sat. Oct. 10th, 11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. @ Faith UMC, rural La Farge (Salem Ridge)
Food, Craft & Bake Sale, Chinese Auction and Blackstone Grill raffle.
Serving homemade meatballs, mashed potatoes, lefse, bread, beans, desserts, and beverages.
Cost: Adults - \$15, Children 7 – 12 - \$7, Children 6 & under eat free!
- **Harvest Dinner & Auction** – Sat. Oct. 10th, 4 p.m. auction preview, 5 p.m. dinner, 6 p.m. auction
@ Boscobel Bowl & Banquet, Boscobel.
Featuring live and silent auctions & raffle. Proceeds support the Feed My Starving Children program.
- **Utica Lutefisk Dinner** – Sat. Oct. 17th, 11 a.m. – 4 p.m. @ Utica Lutheran Church, rural Mt. Sterling
Serving lutefisk, meatballs, lefse, potatoes, rutabagas, cranberries, coffee, milk, desserts & rommegrot.
Cost: Adults - \$25, Children 9 & under - \$11.
- **Men's Club Meatball Dinner** – Sun. Oct. 18th, 11 a.m. until gone
@ Coon Valley Lutheran Church, Coon Valley
Serving meatballs, mashed potatoes & gravy, corn, coleslaw, lefse & desserts.
Cost: Adults - \$15, Children 12 & under - \$10.



Thank You for Letting Us Serve You!

A HUGE thank you to everyone who attended New Hope's Labor Day Pancake Breakfast. It was wonderful seeing all of your smiling faces! We hope you enjoyed the meal and the fellowship that filled the hall! We greatly appreciate your continued support for our church and its ministry!

Another HUGE thank you goes out to all who made the event possible! Whether you volunteered or donated items, your contributions are greatly appreciated! We couldn't do it without you!



Shining Celebrations!

Birthdays

Terrah Mendoza – Oct. 1st
 Caleb Frank – Oct. 1st
 John Burckhardt, Jr. – Oct. 1st
 Otto Matson – Oct. 1st
 Chad Johnson – Oct. 3rd
 Rita Stalsburg – Oct. 3rd
 Alicia Funk – Oct. 5th
 Gary Thompson – Oct. 5th
 Vickie Kumlin – Oct. 6th
 Rita Burckhardt – Oct. 6th

Eric Deaver – Oct. 7th
 Buddy Zitzner – Oct. 7th
 Gary Haakenson – Oct. 8th
 Cole Johnson – Oct. 10th
 Jon Fish – Oct. 10th
 Renee Baker – Oct. 10th
 Judy Erickson – Oct. 10th
 Deldon Hanson – Oct. 11th
 Jennifer Stalsburg – Oct. 12th
 Ryan Brinkman – Oct. 14th

Nicole Hauge – Oct. 17th
 David Slack – Oct. 17th
 Dennis Isbell – Oct. 18th
 Allison Hardy – Oct. 18th
 Ciara Zitzner – Oct. 18th
 Hudson Brinkman – Oct. 22nd
 Leland Diehl – Oct. 24th
 Nicole Johnson – Oct. 25th
 Nancy Cocchiola – Oct. 28th
 Paul Erickson – Oct. 31st

Anniversaries

Neil & Casey Funk – Oct. 4th
 Linda & Ivan Kunert – Oct. 5th
 Jeff & Steph Nelson – Oct. 10th
 Bill & Crystal Nummerdor – Oct. 12th
 Greg & Jean Roach – Oct. 13th
 Gary & Janet Thompson – Oct. 17th



Eric & Debbie Deaver – Oct. 20th
 Wayne & Barb Robson – Oct. 22nd
 Bryce & Alicia Funk – Oct. 23rd
 Eldon & Judy Gardner – Oct. 24th
 Lee & Cheryl Johnson – Oct. 27th

Did we miss your birthday, anniversary, or other special day?

Let us know! E-mail us at newsletter@driftlessministry.org.

Fellowship Sunday

The next Fellowship Sunday at the Retreat Methodist Church is coming up on **Sunday, October 4th** 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

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



October 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<i>Did you miss Sunday worship? Catch up by watching it online at https://driftlessministry.org/sermons/.</i> <i>New videos are uploaded every Sunday afternoon/evening!</i>			LP: Liberty Pole NH: New Hope R: Retreat	1 Food Pantry Open 9 – 11 a.m.	2 Pastors Sabbath	3
4 Communion Sunday Fellowship Sunday (R) NH Board Meeting 11:30 a.m.	5 Basement Quilters 9 a.m. @ Liberty Pole	6	7 Wednesday Warriors 3:30 p.m. Food Pantry Open 5 – 6:30 p.m.	8 Food Pantry Open 9 – 11 a.m. Meatball & Lefse Supper 4 – 7 p.m. @ New Hope	9 Pastors Sabbath	10 Small Group Study 10 a.m. @ Retreat
11 Chicken & Noodle and Chili Meal 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. @ Liberty Pole	12 Retreat & LP Basement Quilters Groups, 9 a.m. Small Group Study Noon @ Liberty Pole LP Board Meeting 5:30 p.m.	13 Mens Group 9 a.m. @ Viroqua Fam. Restaurant Retreat Board Meeting 6 p.m.	14 Wednesday Warriors 3:30 p.m. Food Pantry Open 5 – 6:30 p.m.	15 Food Pantry Open 9 – 11 a.m.	16 Pastors Sabbath	17 Small Group Study 10 a.m. @ Retreat
18	19 Small Group Study Noon @ Liberty Pole	20	21 Wednesday Warriors 3:30 p.m. Food Pantry Open 5 – 6:30 p.m.	22 Food Pantry Open 9 – 11 a.m.	23 Pastors Sabbath	24 Small Group Study 10 a.m. @ Retreat Fall Turkey Bazaar 4 – 7 p.m. Retreat Methodist Fellowship Hall
25 Newsletter Submission Deadline	26 Small Group Study Noon @ Liberty Pole Retreat Quilters 9 a.m. @ Retreat	27	28 Wednesday Warriors 3:30 p.m. Food Pantry Open 5 – 6:30 p.m.	29 Food Pantry Open 9 – 11 a.m.	30 Pastors Sabbath	31 Small Group Study 10 a.m. @ Retreat



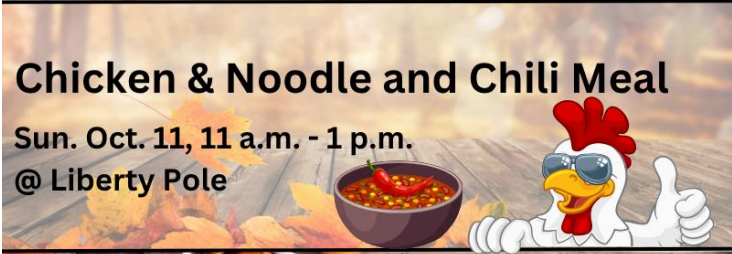
Liberty Pole, New Hope & Retreat Methodist Churches
c/o Jeff Nelson
120 Rosewood Ln N
West Salem, WI 54669

Return Service Requested

Address Label Here



Meatball & Lefse Supper
Thu. Oct. 8, 4 - 7 p.m.
@ New Hope



Chicken & Noodle and Chili Meal
Sun. Oct. 11, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.
@ Liberty Pole



Fall Turkey Bazaar
Sat. Oct. 24, 4 - 7 p.m.
@ Retreat



*Join us
for worship!*

Every Sunday
8 a.m. @ Retreat
9:15 a.m. @ Liberty Pole
10:30 a.m. @ New Hope