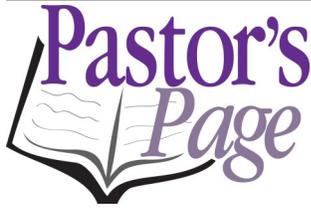


# HOPE GOOD NEWS

## May 2017



*"Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." (Paul's advice to his friends from 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18.)*

**May**- Mother's Day - Graduation - Cinco de Mayo - Flowers - the Kentucky Derby - the Indianapolis 500 - warm breezes - Memorial Day weekend - daydreams about the summer ahead - the best is yet to be - - - - - What do you think of when you think of May?

I always think that May is the month that reminds us of all the possibilities. May is the month when we look forward to, *and* make plans for summer. Every May I think that I am going to make the most of every day - and this will be the best summer ever.

When I think back to the summers of my childhood, I can remember that there were days when I was searching for something to do - and was feeling bored. I have reflected with others about such memories, and have found that many people can remember "feeling bored."

There have been too many hectic, activity packed, stressful days since then, and the "feeling of boredom" seems like a myth. As I faced retirement, I wondered if there would be days of boredom, but I have not found that to be true. My days go by just as quickly as at any other time of my life, and are just as busy. I have more planned to do in any week, than I can get done.

So, as I look to *this* summer, I am setting priorities. I want my plans to show what is most important. I do not want to look back on this summer and find that I got a lot done, but did not really "spend" my time the way I wanted. My priorities are going to faith, family, and friends.

I plan to pray a lot, spending time with God - and worship every Sunday - wherever I am. Quality and quantity time with family - cookouts, camping, eating-out, movies, travel - including a train trip to a wedding in Oregon. Exercise (golf !), walking, swimming with friends. And as much of any of these things that I can cram into a day. That's my plan.

Vince Lombardi, the legendary coach of the Green Bay Packers of the National Football League once said: "Plan your work and work your plan."

God likes it when you plan your work and work your plan. If you place your life, and your plan in God's hands, you will have life and have it abundantly.

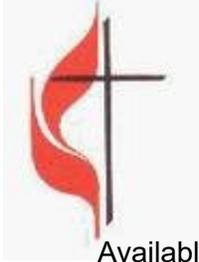
My advice for you is this: as you anticipate the days ahead - make some plans - and take the action necessary to make those plans become reality. Faith, Family, Friends are the 3 f's of a happy life. (Fun is the fourth.)

God is in every moment of your day - and if you trust in that - it will be enough to see you through what ever comes.

There are 31 days in May - don't let any of them go to waste.

See you Sunday, *Pastor Evan*





**Leadership Team  
Monthly Report to Congregation  
April 2017  
Project Hope Fund  
Monthly Distribution  
March 2017**

Available funds 3/31/2017  
Monthly Contributions \$ 5,490.00

The total was distributed to the following funds:

Developing Small Groups	\$ 0.00
Capital Improvements	\$ 0.00
Manage our Mortgage Responsibilities	\$ 5,010.00
Local, Conference & Global Missions	<u>\$ 480.00</u>
Total distributed	<u>\$ 5,490.00</u>

**The Leadership Team met on Thursday April 6 dealing with these items:**

- \* New guidelines were approved for the monthly distribution of Project Hope contributions when the total amount given for the month falls below an amount that allows distribution to all the funds.
- \* Emphasis will continue to focus on mortgage payments and distribution to the other funds will be made when amounts are available.
- \* A \$2,500 contribution was authorized to be made to the Edwardsburg Emergency Fund from the Local, Conference & Global Missions fund. This is our normal quarterly contribution.
- \* The LT was updated on the plans being made for Pastor Jeff's party.
- \* The future of the parsonage was discussed since it will be vacant as of May 1. Discussion will continue at next month's meeting.

---

## Community Garden for Edwardsburg Food Pantry

The Edwardsburg Community has been very generous in supporting EFP (Edwardsburg Food Pantry) with donations and volunteers. We have been growing to serve our community better. One of our newest initiatives is to produce wholesome vegetables for those with food insecurities as part of EFP goals. We are initiating a local Community Garden starting small and with continued volunteer support hope to expand over the years. This Community Garden will be staffed by EFP Volunteers who will complete tasks donating a couple hours of their time each week to plant, weed and harvest.

Anyone wanting to be involved in this project is welcome to fill out a Volunteer Application at EFP. We are particularly interested in volunteers with gardening knowledge or you can be tutored to assist. We are anticipating additional programs in the future as well and are looking for people that would like to be part of this worthwhile organization. Please join our volunteers who get great joy working together and satisfaction for a great cause.



Donations of food may be brought to EFP at any time: directly to the pantry during regular pantry hours 10AM-12:30PM (M, W & F) at the lower level of Our Lady of the Lake Church; or ANYTIME at the drop-off boxes inside the Social Hall entrance East Side. Additional donation locations are: Martin's Granger Store located at the exit of the main building and Edwardsburg Post Office on the North side of the entrance area.

Monetary donations may be sent to our central office location at Our Lady of the Lake, 24832 US Highway 12, Edwardsburg, MI 49112. Edwardsburg Food Pantry provides food for those that qualify, per US Government economic requirements within the Edwardsburg School boundary. EFP is a tax exempt organization allowing donations to be tax deductions



# Birthdays & Anniversaries

LOGAN BENTZER	5/01
SANDY FLEMING	5/02
CARMEN SERAFINO	5/03
SHAREE LEIST	5/04
SHARON RADDE	5/04
PENNY WERNER	5/04
JESSICA STEVENSON	5/04
MATTHEW ANDERS	5/04
SHEILA LEININGER	5/05
LINDA HARDIN	5/06
WILLIAM MILLER	5/06
CHARLENA MAPLES	5/07
ADRIENNE JACQUEZ	5/07
MAKAYLA LONG	5/07
BARB BROOMELL	5/08
JANICE LEIST	5/08
JIM HANSON	5/08
TRACEY BUNNELL	5/08
STACEY ROUCH	5/09
BILL MACUMBER	5/09
CHARLIE DEW	5/10
TINA TROSPER	5/10
JEFFREY NOWICKI	5/10
AMANDA TAFUNAI	5/13
JAMES E. BOWMAN	5/14
LARRY ACKELS	5/14
SHELBY HARDIN	5/14
HANNAH LEIST	5/16
DAWN WEINGART	5/16
ERIC SCHUMAN	5/16
KALEB JOHNSON	5/17
DON KAUFMAN	5/18
NICHOLE DOHM	5/18
BRITTANY GARVIN	5/18
DUSTIN LONG	5/19
JOHN HELVEY	5/20
TONY LEININGER	5/21
BECKY HAYDEN	5/25
DONNA WATCHORN	5/25
SUE MORGAN	5/28
LISA KRILL	5/28
KEVIN DUIS	5/28
PAIGE MILLER	5/29
BILL FRIES	5/30
MARTY EBY	5/30
TONY LANG	5/30

WENDY & PETER EMMETT	5/03
STACY & KEVIN ROUCH	5/07
JEANEANE & GREG DEVENNEY	5/10
SHAREE & STEVE LEIST	5/14
CAROL & JAMES E BOWMAN	5/17
AGGIE & GARY BUSSEN	5/18
LYNN & BOB STRAKA	5/18
NICHOLE & ANDREW DOHM	5/18
GWEN & STEWART JUIP	5/18
ROBIN & KEVIN ENGLISH	5/19
SUE & JACK RINEHART	5/25
MIRANDA & BRAD ANDERSON	5/26



### SHUT-IN PRAYERS

Those Hope members listed below are restricted to home or nursing facility. The term shut-in reflects that their condition warrants "shut inside" or not able to leave the home on a regular basis. Should you have additional people to add to the list please call the church at 269-663-5321 Ext. 2.



Please remember these people in prayer: Nick & Barbara Armstrong, John Berg, Carol Brough, Betty Crowel, Bob Fuller, Adah Goodhand, Pat Harris, Sherry Leininger, Arvilla Pontius, Gene Proctor.

### Keep our Service People in Prayer

Joshua Adams, Charles Berry, Matt Bowman, Andre Brower, Phil Bryden, Sam Chaput, Dean Karl Clark, Jonathan Ditson, James Galloway, Justin Gerou, Dakota Kizer, Alyssa Larson, Kara Larson, Andrea Long, Alyssa Malott, Josh Marner, Jay Moore, Brandon Morgan, Jessica Ramus, Matt Rentfrow, Jason Salter, Dylan Smallwood, Jeff Starr, and Tyler Wilson.



HONORING Our ARMED FORCES



### Month of March Financial Summary

Monthly Ministry Donation Goal: \$ 30,657

March Ministry Fund Donations: \$ 17,858

March Ministry Fund Expenses: \$ -16,546

March Surplus: \$ 1,312



## Save The Date

**Saturday June 17, 2017**  
**Celebration to Honor**  
**Jeff & Carin Reese**

**Everyone is invited to Building 2 to celebrate and honor Pastor Jeff and Carin for their many years here at the Church and in the community.**

## PICK AND SHARE BOOK CLUB

**More details soon to come.**

In March we had a group of nine attend the movie, "The Shack" and then go to The Olive Garden restaurant in Mishawaka to discuss it over dinner. There were varied opinions about how closely it followed the book, but most found the film to be enjoyable and well done.



April's meeting was held at Copper Creek restaurant in Granger. Everyone had books to share.

Marti started a Kindle series by Alex Adena. In the first book, Finding Grace, Annie Grace worked a miracle when she was a child and her preacher father used her to promote his crusades. She atoned later in the story for fake healing a child with pneumonia who consequently died. In the second book, Signs and Wonders, her ability to heal returns and she accomplishes miracles. The series seems to be as fake as Annie's ability to heal and isn't recommended. The book Marti really enjoyed reading was Paradise Valley, by Dale Cramer. In it an Amish family moves from Ohio to Mexico to preserve their community and religious standards. It is well written historical fiction based on a true story from the book The Amish in America: Settlements That Failed 1840-1960.

Carole found an uplifting devotional book on a shelf at home, Encouragement from Beth Moore. It's a collection of scriptures and prose that are soothing and uplifting from Beth Moore's books.

Bonnie brought her book to share, a biography This Life I Live, by Rory Feek. A prolific songwriter, entrepreneur, and budding farmer, Rory had already started a blog. He found its purpose when his wife, Joey, began to battle cancer. This book takes you into his challenging life story. He gives details of their life together and what he calls "the long goodbye".

Melinda read a book to gain some background knowledge for the novel she is writing. The book A Horse for Kate, by Miralee Ferrell. is a young adult book. It is recommended because it delivers many positive messages. It also teaches a bit about horses. It's about a young girl, Kate, who has to give up riding lessons to move with her family to live on her grandfather's farm, leaving all of her friends behind.

Pat shared several books. To Heaven and Back, by Mary C. Neal, MD is an orthopedic surgeon's account of her own experience of death, heaven, and return to life with a new realization of her purpose on earth. She drowned while kayaking in Chile and her life was changed forever. Pat also shared God Thinks You Are Wonderful by Max Lucado. It's a children's book with delightful illustrations and "God" quotes. For example, "If He had a refrigerator, your picture would be on it." Or, "He could live anywhere in the universe, but he chose your heart." She highly recommends it for any age. Her third book was North American Songbirds, by Noble S. Proctor PHD. It includes a visual directory of 100 of the most popular songbirds with a CD of each bird's song.

You can see that we always have a variety of books that we share. Hopefully you will find inspiration from reading some of them. We hope you can join us at 11:30 for our next meeting at Hope UMC, Wednesday May 17th, 2017. We'd love to share with you too.

## CRAFT NIGHT

Friday, May 5

Craft night is coming on Friday, May 5, from 6pm - Midnight. Bring your favorite project and be inspired by the work that others are crafting. Bring a beverage and a snack to share. Friends are always welcome. We're collecting personal care items to give to the Edwardsburg Food Pantry, if anyone would like to





## Jesus is **ALIVE?**

Now that we've heard He has risen do you **Believe?**

With all the turmoil in this world Jesus **Lives?**

Even in our lives sometimes disarrayed He **Carries?**

Our friends and family some with doubt Jesus **Loves?**

All of our hopes and dreams sometimes dashed He **Renews?**

Heaven is filled with angels waiting for those who **Believe!**  
 The world has people giving their lives so others may **Live!**  
 Although we may not understand, Jesus **Carries** us with Him!  
 The people we care about in our hearts Jesus gives His **Love!**  
 Our plans for today and tomorrow are **Renewed** by the Spirit!

As **Believers** do we seek doubters and testify of our Faith?  
 Although the world may shatter around us, show Jesus **Lives?**  
 Are you willing to **Carry** another's load that extra mile?  
 In all circumstances will Jesus's **Love** be shown to others?  
 Will you **Renew** your heart and the hearts of those around you?

That by **Believing** you may have life in His name! John 20-31  
 The Apostles testify to the **Resurrection** of Jesus! Acts 5-33  
 Cast your **Cares** on the Lord, He will sustain you! Psalm 55-22  
**Love** the Lord and **Love** your neighbor as yourself! Luke 10-27  
 Saved through washing & **Renewal** by the Holy Spirit! Titus 3-5

May you all **Believe** in the risen Lord who **Lives, Carries** and **Loves** you to **Renew** your Spirit every second of every day.

*Blessed with our love, Deb and Tony Lang*



## FAMILY CAMP CANCELLED!

Crystal Springs made a scheduling mistake and there is a wedding scheduled for the tabernacle the same day. For some reason, they don't want us using power tools while they're trying to say their vows!

**Unfortunately, that means that we need to cancel the Family Mission Camp this year.**

We are still going to work on the tabernacle, it will probably just be a project completed during the week as day projects. Jack and I also discussed the possibility of doing a Family Picnic over the summer. That way we can still get the time to visit and make s'mores around a campfire.

Questions? Let me know.

God bless,

Jim Weingart  
574-361-3483



## TAME YOUR TECH

### Computer Bootcamp for All Ages

Are you befuddled by technology? Having trouble getting your cell phone to do what you want? Need to understand your tablet or your computer better?



Then the “Tame Your Tech” class might be just right for you! Come to class with Sandy Fleming and become the master of your device(s). Class includes 6 basic lessons on topics such as

internet security, using Facebook and understanding computer basics. Each hour-long class includes plenty of time for your questions about your specific device.

The first six-week session of this class is winding down soon, and I would like to begin another at a different day/time to make it accessible for all who want to come learn. I’d like to start a new session in June on a day/time that meets most needs. Donations to Sandy will be accepted.

Are you interested? Please contact Sandy at 574-606-6386 or [sfleming1235@gmail.com](mailto:sfleming1235@gmail.com) to get information or to get on the list to join us.



**STEPHEN  
MINISTRY**

Offering Help...Hope...Healing

**There are times when every one of us experiences**

**difficulty:** spiritual crisis, job loss, disability, health issues, discouragement, grief, and many other challenges. God never intended for us to go through these experiences alone. That’s why we have Stephen Ministers! Edwardsburg Stephen Ministry provides one-to-one Christian care to people experiencing challenges in life. We meet privately and confidentially – to listen, care, encourage, support and reflect Christ’s presence in your life. If you’d like to learn more about Stephen Ministry for yourself or someone else, contact Carol Swope, Edwardsburg Stephen Ministry Director at 269-445-7425.





# HOPE OF EDWARDSBURG MEGA CAMP



***SUNDAYS IN AUGUST***



## MEGA PRESCHOOL CAMP

AUGUST 6TH, 13TH AND 20TH  
2:00PM-5:00PM

## MEGA KIDS CAMP



AUGUST 6 2:00PM-5:00PM  
SOCCER, YOUNG BUILDERS OR MARTIAL ARTS

AUGUST 13 2:00PM-5:00PM  
FOOTBALL, CHEER OR PAINTING



AUGUST 20 2:00PM-5:00PM  
BASKETBALL, DANCE OR COOKING

REGISTER ONLINE @ [WWW.HOPE-UMC.US](http://WWW.HOPE-UMC.US)  
OR CALL 269-663-5321 EXTENSION 9