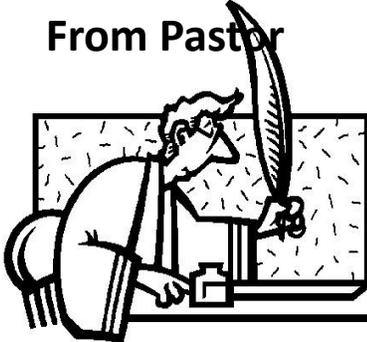


HOPE GOOD NEWS

September 2017



From Pastor



This past year has been a whirlwind for all of us. I want to take a few moments to reflect on our collective whirlwinds.

First yours:

About a year ago you were hearing talk of your beloved pastor getting sick. All of you were filled with questions, worry, disbelief and as the wind blew the rumors and doubts went on. As reports came in and anxiety went up many began to wonder...What about Edwardsburg Hope United Methodist Church? Your superintendent, Rev. Dwayne Bagley, came to share his love and prayers. Rev. Ron Hanson came to fill in for a spell followed by Ethan Kline. Eventually Rev. Evan Lash came and spent a few months with you. At moments things even began to feel normal.

The new normal of sadness, grief, fill-in pastors, a prayerful and thoughtful leadership team. Crowds thinned a bit. Sheep often scatter in the presence of the storm and changes came rapidly. Services were reduced from three to two to help manage the circus. For some, the changes were a crisis of its own. And all the while you wondered about Jeff and Carin. You may have even wondered about your own faith in your Heavenly Father. What a year!

Mine:

Meanwhile, a year ago, in my hometown of Dorr I was preparing for church conference, fall planning, celebrating the wedding of my middle son, the birth of one granddaughter and preparing for another grandchild to be born. In the middle of these events my superintendent told me to plan on staying at CrossWind because there was no lively, modern, visionary, life-giving congregation to send me to. I loved where I was, so I pressed on thinking I was in my final appointment as a pastor for as long as I could serve effectively.

Then, in January the phone rang and everything changed. My whirlwind had arrived. My superintendent called to tell me that the Bishop and Cabinet believed that God wanted me to move to a place called Edwardsburg. Carrie and I were in shock, disbelief, grief, curiosity and so we prayed and the wind of the Holy Spirit moved. Psalm 29 and 46 tells us that the Lord is in the whirlwind. Psalm 104:30 adds that when God sends forth His Spirit we are created and God renews the face of the earth.

As of July 1, I began my time at Hope and the two winds merged. Clearly the Lord has been in our whirlwinds and what a joy it has been. Though we come from different places we worship at the feet of the same Savior and the wind of the Holy Spirit unites us. Our calling is clear – we are on this earth “to make disciples for the transformation of the world.” I am learning how Hope makes disciples and a bit at a time I am sharing how God has taught me to make disciples. Together, we can do more than we ever could apart. That is our calling. Clearly, we may face some wind...but how we long for the refreshing wind of the Holy Spirit to blow new life into all of us. As fall approaches please:

Pray that we will feel and follow the Holy Spirit’s leading.

Be open with a spirit of cooperation to move forward.

Above all, be filled with God’s love toward each other in this great community called Hope.

Your fellow servant, Pastor Scott



STUDENT SMALL GROUP



Calling all 6th to 12th grade students.

Starting on September 10, Pastor Scott and Carrie will be hosting a weekly small group on Sunday nights from 6:00 to 7:30 in their home. The evenings will consist of games, study, prayer, encouragement and an occasional field trip. For more information call 616 307 9765 or 616 307 8870.

PASTOR SCOTT AND CARRIE

Welcome Celebration

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 24TH 1-3PM

REESE HALL

Teachers Needed

We are looking for teachers to help in the children's classrooms this fall. We will be offering 3 classes: Preschool class: age 3- young 5's, Elementary class: Kindergarten – 5th grade and Youth class: 6th grade – 12th grade. Lessons are planned for you. Come help our children learn about God and the Bible. If interested, please contact Tiffany Manfred @ 269-663-5321 Ext. 7 or email at tiffany.manfred@hope-umc.us.



Thank you to all who volunteered in the annual fish fry in August. We served a total of 431 adults and 13 children over 5. A total of **\$1,531.85** was earned and will be put into the Project Hope 2.0 Fund. The Leadership Team will allocate the earnings between the Missions, Mortgage, Small Groups and Capital Improvement Funds in September. Thanks again for the great teamwork!

**Big
Thank
You!**

Ladies Craft Night

September 1st, 2017 6PM-Midnight

Bring your favorite project and be inspired by the work that others are crafting. Please bring a beverage and snack to share. Friends are always welcome.

YOUTH MINISTRY FALL KICK OFF

Sunday September 10th
10:30am
Reese Hall

SAVE THOSE CAPS



Plastic caps from water bottles, milk jugs, peanut butter jars and whatever you can think of— all are wanted to be converted into decorative benches. Five hundred pounds of caps are needed to make one weatherproof attractive bench to beautify our village.

Save your caps (rinse them off, please) and deposit in the container in the entrance of Reese Hall. Keep them out of the landfill while taking part in a community project.



Month of July Financial Summary

Monthly Ministry Donation Goal: \$ 30,657

July Ministry Fund Donations: \$ 23,748
 July Ministry Fund Expenses: ~~\$ 22,500~~
 July Donations > Expenses: \$ 1,248

LOVE NEVER FAILS

Love is that special gift given to us without cost. It is sent from one heart to another's heart freely. This LOVE offers salvation and always forgives. The price of this Grace, Jesus paid in advance.

This Love is to be shared with others offering Hope. Love changes lives and there is no cost for this love. Compassionate feelings shared with another to help. A careful hand reaching out to softly touch another's.

That slight glance or the wink of an eye or sly grin. That feeling living deep in our hearts expecting nothing. Given away with no questions and complete forgiveness. A word that comforts and offers peace to another freely.

Love is sometimes hidden as we hold emotions inside. Not willing to let go for fear of hurt or pain or suffering. Fear of a commitment that might break a heart into pieces. A relationship passed by for our unwilling spirit to love.

Love is a dream filled with desire and hope for better life. It is that beat of the heart that keeps us looking for love. Our daily lives are governed by this emotion called love. Hearing those words from another can make a special day.

God put LOVE into His Son's heart to share with the world. Jesus gives this LOVE to our hearts to share with the world. Our Spirit holds this LOVE in our hearts seeking God's will. Will your heart bleed the LOVE of Christ for all to see????

I hope the answer is yes to the question and may each and every day be filled with LOVE in your life.

From our hearts to yours, LOVE. Deb and Tony Lang



MOBILE FOOD PANTRY

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

**TUESDAY
 SEPTEMBER 12
 3-5PM**



**HERE IN THE HOPE
 PARKING LOT TO HELP
 UNLOAD THE TRUCK AND
 DISTRIBUTE FRESH
 PRODUCE TO THE
 EDWARDSBURG FOOD
 PANTRY CLIENTS.
 PLEASE ARRIVE AT
 2:30PM.**



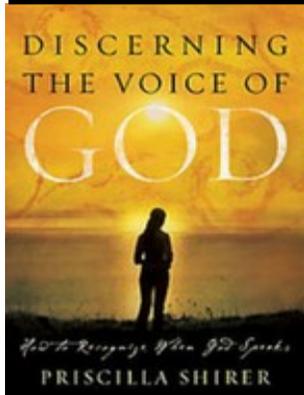
WHO? 6th to 12th grade students.

WHAT? Small group games, study, prayer, encouragement, field trips

WHEN? September 10, 6-7:30PM

WHERE? Pastor Scott & Carrie's

Call 616-307-9765 or 616-307-8870



**MONDAY NIGHT WOMEN'S
 BIBLE STUDY**

7 WEEK SERIES STARTS SEPT 11TH 6:30PM IN ROOM 104

Contact Dawn Weingart dawn.weingart@hope-umc.us

or Donna Mansell donnamansell@comcast.net

Price of book: \$12.99 Money for books due 9/3



Birthdays & Anniversaries

KIM & DON MANSELL	9/01	JEANIE GARDNER	9/01
SUE & JAMES TOTH	9/02	BRYAN DELL	9/02
CAROL & PHIL PETERS	9/04	KATIE FAHEY	9/02
CARIN & JEFF REESE	9/06	SANDIE WEILER	9/03
LISA & JAMES KRILL	9/10	AMY HARRIS	9/03
SHIRLEY & MAX MASTEN	9/10	ADALEIGH BLUNIER	9/04
LYDIA & JACK GOULD	9/12	SADIE BENTZER	9/05
RHODA & DON WESTFALL	9/13	MICHELE BARNHART	9/06
NETTIE & KEITH RUSELL	9/14	MYRA THIELMANN	9/07
JILL & RUSTY KAYNER	9/15	VERLAINE HOFFMAN	9/08
LURENA & DAVID WILFERT	9/15	KEVIN ROUCH	9/09
NATALIE & CHRIS FRENTZ	9/16	WILFRED GEROU	9/09
JANICE & WENDELL LEIST	9/18	CAROL D. BOWMAN	9/10
POLLY (BOTT) & RODNEY RIENKS	9/19	DEANA MOLER	9/10
SANDRA & LARRY ACKELS	9/26	BILLY GRISSINGER	9/10
SANDIE & JACK WEILER	9/29	JIM RALPH	9/11
SARA & STEPHAN CLAIRDAY	9/30	DALE WESTFALL	9/11
		DON WESTFALL	9/11
		RYAN ACKELS	9/12
		WYATT BENTZER	9/12
		BRAD WEGNER	9/12
		SHIRLEY ANDREWS	9/12
		BILL DAVIS	9/12
		RHODA WESTFALL	9/13
		DAVE HERMAN	9/15
		ED GARDNER	9/16
		JOE SCHMIDTENDORFF	9/16
		LAURA BLOUGH	9/17
		HARRY STEMPEL	9/18
		MARK WERNER	9/19
		AMBER WILLIAMSON	9/19
		KATHY DEW	9/20
		CARL HIGLEY	9/20
		NICKY FLEMING	9/20
		BILL FAHEY	9/21
		DON SOALES	9/21
		SHARON BURGER	9/23
		JILL BLOUGH	9/24
		CAROL BROUGH	9/24
		MARILYN SCHMIDTENDORFF	9/25
		CADEN MANFRED	9/25
		CAROL SOALES	9/26
		JEFF REESE	9/26
		LUKE STEVENSON	9/26
		ROBIN ENGLISH	9/28
		PETER EMMETT	9/28
		KATIE HENDRICKS	9/29
		MIKE GORDON	9/30
		VERN WARD	9/30



Keep our Service People in Prayer

HONORING Our ARMED FORCES

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

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: John Berg, Carol Brough, Betty Crowel, Bob Fuller, Jeanie Gardner, Adah Goodhand, Pat Harris, Sherry Leininger, Gene Proctor.

AUGUST, 2017 PICK/SHARE A BOOK CLUB

Five book club members were able to go to McAlister's on Grape Road in Mishawaka for lunch. We enjoyed the variety of items from their deli menu. They are known for their lemonade and iced tea. They also make delicious sandwiches, soups, salads, spuds and more.

Bonnie has been reading her book, They Cage the Animals at Night, by Jennings Michael Burch. It's a true story of an abandoned child's struggle for emotional survival. She read aloud a description of a beating endured by a child for spilling their drink at the dining table in an orphanage. It's a wonder how some children can become normal adults after such abuse.

Marti read The Lighthouse, by Eugenia Price that Sherry shared last month. There are two copies now in HUMC's library. She plans to read the next book in the trilogy, New Moon Rising, also from our library. Sherry finished reading the second book, New Moon Rising, by Eugenia Price. It's about the son of James Gould who built a lighthouse on St. Simons Island in Georgia. She plans to read the third book of the trilogy, The Beloved Invader. It's about Anson Dodge, a wealthy young Northerner, who lost his heart to the beautiful St. Simons Island when he became the pastor of the little island church. Sherry has also purchased St. Simons Memoir, Price about finding the island and She plans to donate these books on a true story is fascinating! You church and other places from the destroyed during the Civil War.



Carole is reading on her iPad Gathering Shadows by Nancy about Wynter Evans, a promising young reporter for a television bright future doesn't take away of her brother nine years ago. So photograph of a boy with an eerie pass up the chance to track him her cover, she sets out with one of the station's photographers for the place where the picture was taken: the town of Sanctuary. As she arrives, she meets the town's handsome young mayor, Rueben King, and they begin to uncover secrets that could tear the small town apart and change everything Wynter thought she knew about her life. It's clear someone will stop at nothing to keep the answers she's searching for hidden forever—even if the cost is Wynter's very life.

the personal story by Eugenia writing the St. Simons Trilogy. to our collection. Fiction based can visit the island and see the story, but the lighthouse was

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Melinda hopes to discuss the 1st five chapters of the book she is writing that she emailed copies to book club members. She will appreciate their feedback next month.



August 20th - September 16th

- 1) Go to Grape Rd. Meijer store
- 2) Simply give cards available at kiosk
- 3) Take as many \$10 cards to the register as you'd like.

All donations go directly to the Edwardsburg Food Pantry and Meijer will 100% match all donations.

**September 2-4 Labor Day Weekend Meijer will
DOUBLE MATCH ALL DONATIONS!**

Leadership Team
Monthly Report to Congregation — August 2017
Project Hope Fund Monthly Distribution — July 2017



Available funds 7/31/2017	
Special Gifts Designated to Project Hope	\$ 0.00
Monthly Contributions	\$ 8,471.00
Total	<u>\$ 8,471.00</u>
The total was distributed to the following funds:	
Developing Small Groups	\$ 926.00
Capital Improvements	\$ 926.00
Manage our Mortgage Responsibilities	\$ 5,570.00
Local, Conference & Global Missions	\$ 1,049.00
Total distributed	<u>\$ 8,471.00</u>

The Leadership Team met on Thursday August 3 and dealt with these items:

- ◆ Examples of Adam Gustafson's work were shared with the LT and decisions were made to move forward with a preliminary design for the Reese Hall plaque.
- ◆ Update was given on the sale of the parsonage. See below for final report on the sale.
- ◆ Chris shared the names of people who were going to be contacted to participate in the upcoming leadership training class. The schedule for the class will be determined after participants are identified.

The Parsonage has been SOLD!

We closed on the sale of the parsonage on August 18, 2017. The selling price was \$112,000. As expected, the home inspection report included concerns with the wiring. We offered to pay \$1,000 of the buyer's closing cost to accept the house as is. He accepted our offer.

The new owner is a young man, Kevin Corcoran, from the Granger area. He and his parents were at the closing and were very excited about getting the home and getting to work on the changes they want to make.

We received a check at closing for \$102,262.86. We spent \$375.00 for a property appraisal prior to listing it with Homestead Realty. Therefore, the net amount to be set aside and invested will be **\$101,887.86.**

Dawn Weingart, Business Mgr., and Donna Mansell will research various options for investing this money according to the guidelines of our Church Discipline. These recommendations will be presented to the Leadership Team for approval at their September meeting.



July 2 at Hope UMC . . .

Pastor Scott baptizes his and Carrie's granddaughter Josie Katherine Hennessey born December 2, 2016 in League City TX.





A Special Reminder

CHRISTMAS EVE candlelight services will be held at Hope UMC at 7 and 11 p.m. December 24th. These services last about one hour. Share the experience with and bring a guest or guest family!

