

HOPE GOOD NEWS

June 2019



From the Pastor's Desk

A family member faces a deadly disease. Your neighbor desperately needs Jesus but turns away every time you try to share Christ. A nation begins to crumble because its people follow their own evil ways. **But what can you do?**

Often, the problems we face seem too big for us. No matter how much we try, we cannot solve them on our own. It's times like these we need to turn to the Lord in intercessory prayer.

Intercessory Prayer – What is it?

Intercessory prayer is prayers for others. An intercessor is one who takes the place of another or pleads another's case. One study Bible defines intercession as "holy, believing, preserving prayer whereby someone pleads with God on behalf of another or others who desperately need God's intervention.

James, the brother of Jesus, wrote in James 5:14-18, that we can call on faithful believers to pray for healing and that those prayers can have great power and wonderful results.

The Pastor's study is open each Sunday, in Building 1, between services and Jim Ralph and others will be ready with prayers of intercession. You simply step into the room with the intercessory prayer team and share your concerns. These prayers are private. You don't even have to name the prayer. You can simply say, "Please pray for me," Or, "Pray for a situation that desperately need's God's help." No worry about the embarrassment of standing in front of the crowd.

Persisting in Battle

Intercessory prayer is also prayer that doesn't give up. It's the kind of prayer that endures all setbacks and overcomes every obstacle. It's prayer that "presses on" until we "apprehend" God's will in whatever situation we are facing (Philippians 3:12)

This kind of prayer is the key to seeing breakthroughs in your life and in the lives of those around you. Jesus gave a great model for intercession in the story of the persistent friend. Here we see a friend who knocks on his neighbor's door at midnight to ask for three loaves of bread. The neighbor does not want to get up, but Jesus said, "Because of his friend's persistence he will get up and give him as much as he needs" (Luke 11:8).

Then Jesus said, "Everyone who asks will receive, everyone who searches will find, and the door will be opened for everyone who knocks" (Luke 11:10). These words mean keep on asking, keep on seeking, keep on knocking. In God's time, your persistence in intercessory prayer will reap a spiritual harvest in your life and the lives of those around you.

What to Expect

The prayer team will provide a place for you to sit and relax as others put a hand on your shoulder (only if you are comfortable with that). Then they will simply pray for God's intervention as needed.

There are **three ways to participate** in a prayer team.

- You can join the team as they pray for others.
- You can ask for prayer on behalf of yourself or someone else.
- You can encourage others to come to the prayer room to share their need.

You don't have to be alone in your burden, our spiritual life is a team thing.

"Again, truly I tell you that if two of you on earth agree about anything they ask for, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them." Matthew 18:19-20

It is so encouraging to be prayed for by other Christ followers who care.

Join me each Sunday for services and participate in intercessory prayer. It blesses me and can bless you too.

Pastor Scott

**MEMORIAL DAY
PARADE**
Monday May 27th
11:00am
**Come be part of the
parade!**

**CURRENT HOPE FINANCIAL
INFORMATION**
Month of April Ministry Fund Summary

April Ministry Fund Donations:	\$ 19,053
April Ministry Fund Expenses:	-\$ 22,171
April Shortfall:	-\$ 3,118

All April bills have been paid. Some of our expense reducing initiatives will begin in May. Our Ministry Fund is still at a healthy level. Thank you for your continued support!

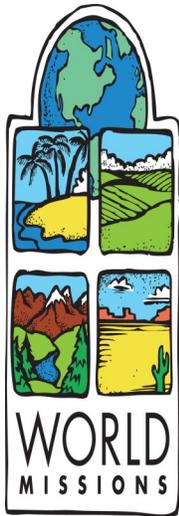
FINANCE REPORT

Mortgage Payment Update:

Mortgage Payment Sources:

April M & M Allocation:	Regular giving = \$5,129
	Building rental = \$ 526
	Memorials = <u>\$ 716</u>
Total	\$6,371

Hope's Mortgage Balance is \$153,161 after the May 2019 payment. Our projected payoff date is **February 2022!**



MISSIONS UPDATE

We have supported missions by giving over \$4,200 so far this year! The funds have come from the designated M&M account as well as the Penny Sunday account. Here's a list of the charities that we've supported:

- Edwardsburg Food Pantry
- Assisting Local Families
- Michigan Disaster Recovery – UMCOR

- Red Bird Kentucky Mission Trip Deposit
- Children's Hope Chest - Ethiopia
- Children's Village – Liberia - UMCOR
- Grace Children's Hospital - Haiti
- Haiti Children's Project - UMCOR

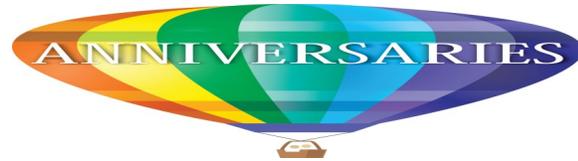
Memorial
DAY

HOPE SHIRTS ARE HERE!!

Available in adult small-4XL
 We are asking for a \$10 donation.



DIANA GRAHAM	6/01
KELLY LONG	6/02
GWEN JUIP	6/02
JENNIFER KENDALL	6/03
STEPHANIE KOONTZ	6/03
LUCAS BENTZER	6/04
DEE VANDEVEIRE	6/05
MARITA ENGLISH	6/05
SUE KOONTZ	6/06
SABRINA MANSELL	6/07
BRENDA GORDON	6/07
CAMERON OSWALT	6/07
CRISTOPHER WEINGART	6/08
AMBER JOHNSON	6/08
HEATHER SCHMIDTENDORFF	6/09
JOYCE WESTFALL	6/10
MANDY FLICK	6/11
BOB STRAKA	6/12
AUSTIN LEE WILLIAMSON	6/12
MARGE NURTON	6/16
SHIRLEY BEHRMAN	6/17
CONNOR WYANT	6/17
ASHLEY LONG	6/17
LILA ANN BENTZER	6/18
AGGIE BUSSEN	6/18
JIM WEINGART	6/19
BARBARA WESTFALL	6/19
ETHAN MANSELL	6/19
COLLEEN HARRIS	6/20
ROGER FLEMING	6/21
JOHN LOHR	6/21
ETHAN KLEIN	6/22
MEGHAN CLAIRDAY	6/22
MEGAN ANDERSON	6/23
KATHE J SNODGRASS	6/23
CODY GARVIN	6/23
SYLVIA Taelman	6/24
SARAH MANSELL	6/24
SHELIA WEAVER	6/24
RYAN DEW	6/25
ROBERT RICHARDSON	6/25
CASEY STRONG	6/25
ERIN BURKS	6/26
MATT FLICK	6/27
BRADEN GRIMAN	6/27
AMBER MILLER	6/27
JO MACUMBER	6/28
SALLY BLUNIER	6/30



CRYSTAL & WILLIAM MILLER	6/10
COLLEEN & TOM HARRIS	6/10
NANCY & LARRY BOWMAN	6/11
TRACEY BUNNELL & COLIN MURPHY	6/14
MANDY & MATT FLICK	6/15
KAREN & DEVON TRUEX JR	6/15
MICHELLE & STEVE GRUVER	6/17
SANDY & ROGER FLEMING	6/21
PEGGY & BILLY JENSEN	6/23
NANCY & CLARK MEAD	6/25
SHARON & BOB MORGAN	6/30

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: Bob Fuller, John Helvey, Sherry Leininger, Beth Mann and Grace Werner.



CRAFT NIGHT is coming on **Friday, June 7**, from 6pm - Mid-night. Join us whenever you're available. Bring a project, a beverage and a snack to share. Friends are always welcome. We're collecting personal care items for the Food Pantry, if anyone would like to donate.

Keep our Service People in Prayer

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

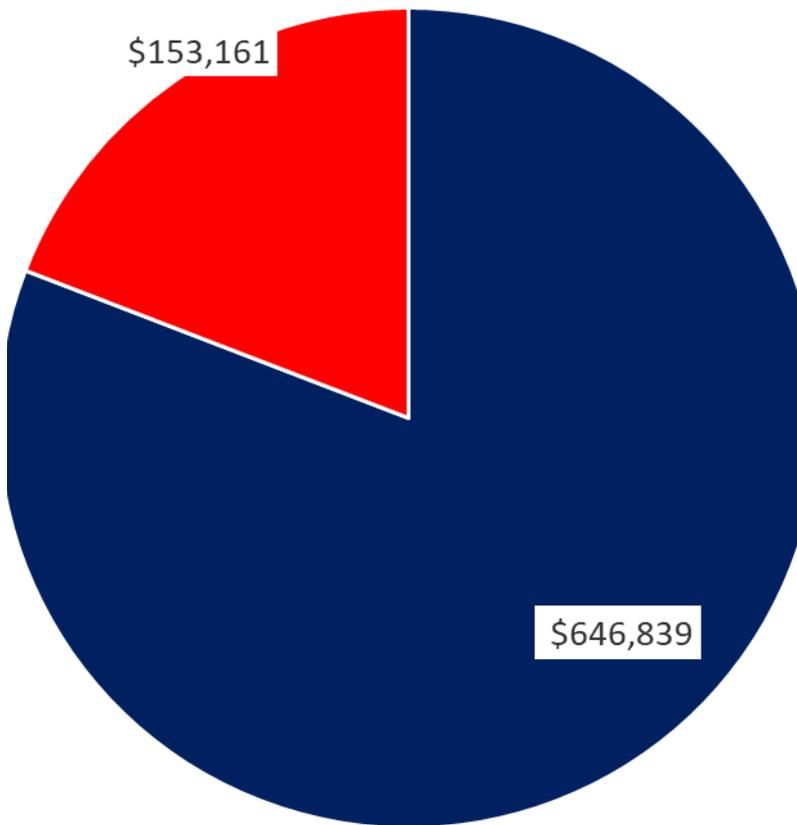


HONORING Our
ARMED FORCES



**Meeting Sunday, June 2nd
Between Services**

**\$800,000 Mortgage Summary
2/2006 - 5/2019**



■ 05/31/2019

■ Remaining Balance

**FINANCE
QUESTIONS ???**

If you have a question about the how the church finances work, please contact Dawn Weingart at extension 6 or Pastor Scott at extension 8 at 269-663-5321. We also have summaries of the information that has been published in prior newsletters in the office.



PICK/SHARE A BOOK CLUB

We met at LaPlace in Edwardsburg for a quick lunch. Their coffee, sandwiches, Paninis and soups were delicious as always. It's a fun and comfortable place to eat and chat.

Marti read The Redemption of Sarah Cain by Beverly Lewis, the author of The Heritage of Lancaster County series. The main character Sarah inherits the responsibility of raising her sister's five orphaned nieces and nephews who were brought up Amish. The clash of cultures changes everyone's lives.

She found the Life Lessons Study Bible by Max Lucado while shelving other books. It is filled with anecdotes along the sides of each page summarizing the passages. It was interesting, but not as detailed as the Quest Study Bible.

She also sampled one of the donated books, A Woman's Place, by Barbara Delinsky. Claire Raphael returns from a business trip and is surprised with divorce papers and court order to leave her home. Her husband demands alimony and full custody of her children. She struggles to find strength to help her through the turmoil and a solution to mend her broken family.

Sherry enjoyed reading Bright Captivity by Eugenia Price. The setting is in the final days of the War of 1812. While the British Royal Navy arrives to free the slaves, a British marine falls in love with a southern lady. The book is available through the Cass District Library and Michigan Electronic Library interloan system.

Gwen shared Scents and Sensibility by Spencer Quinn. It's part of the Chet and Bernie Mystery series. Private investigator Bernie Little and his canine companion return home to some alarming developments: Bernie's wall safe was burgled and next door neighbor, old Mr. Parsons was under investigation for having an endangered saguaro cactus planted in his yard. The mystery leads them to a desert festival, a long ago kidnapping and a ruthless criminal. It's a mystery that will have readers begging for more.

Several books were donated this month:

Love's Unending Legacy, Janette Oke
A Man of His Word, Kathleen Fuller
A Merry Heart, Wanda E. Brunsetter
Never Far from Home, Mary Ellis
Plain Perfect, Beth Wiseman
The Redemption of Sarah Cain, Beverly Lewis
The Sacrifice, Beverly Lewis
Soul Shift, /Steve DeNeff/ David Drury



Please remember that we prefer clean donated books newer than 10 years, or that are classic Christian books. Extra books will find a good home through Better World Books Inc. All of the books are in alphabetical order by author. Reference books are by topic in the Community Room.

The next meeting for the Pick/Share a Book club will be **June 12**. Join us at 11:00 at Hope to decide where to go to eat. You can pick a book of your own to share or just come to lunch for conversation. See you there?

Change--good or bad--you decide

A baby is born in love free of life's burdens and trials.
 As it grows the young child develops wants and needs.
 The demands from others grow as this child matures.
 Entering school, life changes, as strangers affect the life.

Bonds can be formed for good or set to destroy hope.
 Responsibilities come as expectation from others surface.
 Chores may be assigned and duties need to accomplish.
 Graduation comes and a life of independence is forming.

A foundation has been built; maybe strong, maybe weak.
 All the people in this life have influenced the direction.
 Seeds have been planted and watered producing fruit.
 As this child grows into adult will this fruit spoil or enrich.

Now, new different trials come and decisions need made.
 Hills and valleys pass as a life's history is being built.
 Family and friends can ease or harm the ups and downs.
 A heart can become hardened or softened while maturing.

Love, pain, anger, hope, caring, etc set the heartbeat.
 What has become of this life that others have influenced?
 Changes have occurred as this life seeks its final goal.
 You have had a hand in forming the goal of this heart.
 Your guidance could have produced the good or bad fruit.
 Love or lack of that love you give produces change to life.
 Life's goals were set and based in part by your character.

Have you helped form a testimony for Jesus in this life?
 Will the Holy Spirit have dwelled in the heart of this soul?
 The daily changes made, came from your input or lack of.
 May Heaven await and the hand of Jesus open the door.

May you **ALWAYS** offer encouragement to another's soul, whether child or adult. *Deb and Tony Lang*

Puzzle!

Write the names of the parents of these biblical children.
 For help, look up the verses in an NIV Bible.

Joash (2 Kings 11:2)	A _____
Obed (Matthew 1:5)	B _____
Joseph (Genesis 35:22-24)	___ C ___
John the disciple (Matthew 4:21)	_____ D _____
John the Baptist (Luke 1:13)	___ E _____
	F _____
Lo-Ruhamah (Hosea 1:3, 6)	G _____
Jezreel (Hosea 1:2-4)	H _____
Esau (Genesis 25:28)	I _____
David (1 Samuel 16:18)	J _____
Jacob (Genesis 25:26)	_____ K _____
Samuel (1 Samuel 1:19-20)	___ L _____
Gershom (Exodus 2:21-22)	M _____
Samuel (1 Samuel 1:19-20)	___ N _____
Jesse (Matthew 1:5)	O _____
Gershom (Exodus 2:21-22)	___ P _____
	Q _____
Joseph (Genesis 35:23-24)	R _____
Isaac (Genesis 21:3)	S _____
John the Baptist (Luke 1:13)	_____ T _____
Jonathan (1 Samuel 14:1)	___ U _____
Solomon (1 Kings 2:1)	___ V _____
	W _____
	X _____
Jesus (Matthew 1:18)	___ Y _____
Isaiah (Isaiah 1:1)	___ Z _____

Answers: Ahziah, Boaz, Jacob, Zebadee, Zechanah, Gomer, Hosea, Isaac, Jesse, Rebekah, Elkanah, Moses, Hannah, Obed, Zipporah, Rachel, Sarah, Elizabeth, Saul, David, Mary, Amoz

