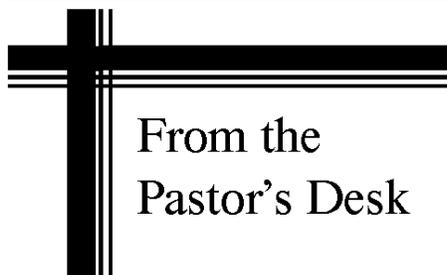


# HOPE GOOD NEWS

## August 2019



### From the Pastor's Desk

**One of my dreams for Hope** is that we will be constantly focused on creating environments where people can meet Jesus in new ways. It's not a matter of paint and carpeting. These are environments of surprise where we give people more than they deserve. Kind of like what Jesus has done for us.

One of the most effective environments we offer each summer is *vacation bible school*. Thank you for being a great church who has a loving desire to reach out in that way. A big thanks goes to Carrie Otis for bringing energy and love to that and to the awesome team she put together.

Another very warm environment Hope offers each summer is our annual *fish fry* dinner. It starts with Jerry Love who pulls together a great team each year that offers warm hospitality to all who come. Jerry honors those who work with him and those who come for dinner. And it is working! Last summer a man came to our dinner who had not been in a church in over 20 years. The next week he was at our worship service and today his warm spirit helps all who attend Hope feel welcome. All of that is a surprise for him, even as it was a huge surprise for us. None of that would have happened without a great man leading a great team. Give Jerry a pat on the back next time you see him.

Warm environments where people can meet Jesus even hit the road. Each week our *prayer shawl* ladies make warm prayer shawls/blankets to give to those who need support. They not only knit, but they pray over the prayer shawls. Their work creates God's warmth for those in need. A big thanks to Judy Christner for her leadership and her team of Knifty Knitters. It's just another example of giving people more than they deserve.

Warm churches require engaged spiritual leaders. Last month I gave you *2 essential values* for followers of Jesus at Hope. The first was **"every Christian who makes a positive impact leads a completely surrendered life."** The second, **"those impactful Christians model the church's vision for what a follower of Jesus looks like."** In other words, if everyone who participated at Hope lives by your example, would we be on the way to becoming a vibrant church?

Today, I want to give you a *third attribute* of those who live an impactful life for Jesus. They are people who **maintain an infectious, optimistic, enthusiastic attitude**. We need to be a "can do" group of people. Our orientation needs to be "what can I do to help, how can I assist you, it's a privilege to be here." You can smell it when you walk into a church where attitudes are off, we want to smell a sweet aroma of a "can do spirit" whenever we walk into Hope. That requires us to take some risks and do whatever it takes to be an environment where Jesus' love is obvious.

Let's press on as we continue to create an environment where people can meet Jesus.

Pastor Scott



## Wide Open

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

June Ministry Fund Donations:	\$20,026
June Ministry Fund Expenses:	<u>-\$19,936</u>
June Surplus:	+ 90

Thank you for your support! You make our Ministry possible. All June Bills have been paid.

**Mortgage Payment Update**

Mortgage & Missions Allocation:	\$5,891
July Mortgage Payment:	\$5,891

Hope's Mortgage Balance is \$143,322, after the July 2019 payment. Our projected payoff date is **February 2022**.

**MISSION UPDATE**

Thank you for your generous support of the Mortgage & Missions Fund (known as M&M). Each month 10% of the donations to this account are used to fund local, regional and world missions. Through July, \$5,210 has been utilized from the Mission Fund. The Leadership Team has voted to use these funds to support:

Edwardsburg Food Pantry  
 Assisting Local Families  
 Michigan Disaster Recovery  
 Red Bird Mission in Kentucky during September – our team of 9-10 adults  
 Ethiopia Children's Village – Liberia – UMCOR  
 Grace Children's Hospital - Haiti  
 Haiti Children's Project - UMCOR

Thank you for helping us reach out to our community and world to show Jesus' love.

# Intercessory Prayers

Sundays in Pastor Scott's Study between services,  
 And by the stage after 2nd service.

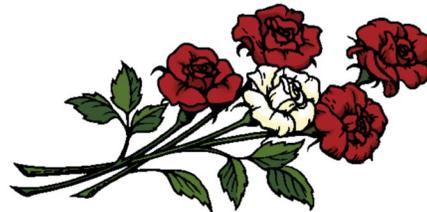
**FINANCE QUESTIONS ???**

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.

**COMING UP ROSES**

A rose can be quite eloquent  
 When standing all alone;  
 It needs no vast accompaniment,  
 No pompous, royal throne,  
 For beauty is not always found  
 In suave sophistication,  
 But often stands just by itself  
 As simply God's creation!

—Peggy Ferrell





BILL STACK	8/02
LUCAS FLICK	8/03
AL WATCHORN	8/05
LOIS MILLER	8/05
KELLY KLEIN	8/05
HAYLIE STEVENSON	8/05
SUE TOTH	8/06
CARRIE OTIS	8/07
EMILY WILFERT	8/07
ALEXANDER MILLER	8/08
JOSH UDELL	8/10
LINKIN BORN	8/10
JAN READ	8/11
RONALD FLICK	8/12
KAREN READ	8/12
SHERRY MAHNESMITH	8/13
JAN FRIES	8/13
LURENA WILFERT	8/14
ANGELINA MARIA FISK	8/15
VIRGINIA HELVEY	8/17
APRIL SCHMIDT	8/17
MARY HOIEN	8/17
CRYSTAL MILLER	8/18
BEV STOOPS	8/19
KAELYN SMITH	8/19
KAYE SMITH	8/19
PAUL CARMEN	8/22
NICK FOLKERS	8/23
ROBERTA MAZAREK	8/23
JENNIFER WYANT	8/25
BAILEY MILLER	8/25
SCARLETT DIAZ	8/26
CHRIS FRENTZ	8/26
MADISON GIPSON	8/26
MEGAN GIPSON	8/26
KAY McNIFF	8/26
JACKIE BOONE	8/27
SANDI TURPEL	8/27
DAVID HENDRICKS	8/28
MARIE GRUVER	8/29
GRACE WERNER	8/31
LORI ROSEBUSH	8/31
COLBY GARVIN	8/31



CAITLIN & NATE EYESTONE	8/01
JOYCE & DALE WESTFALL	8/02
RENE & BRANDON DeYOUNG	8/05
VIRGINIA & JOHN HELVEY	8/08
MICHELE & GREG BLACK	8/09
RONDA & BILL FAHEY	8/10
PATTY & JEFF D JOHNSON	8/15
KELLY & BILL LONG	8/19
SUE & TONY KOONTZ	8/20
AMBER & CLIFF WILLIAMSON	8/20
PENNY & MARK WERNER	8/21
JAN & BILL FRIES	8/25
KATHE & ROB SNODGRASS	8/25
WENDY & BILL HILL	8/25

### 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.

### REMEMBER OUR MEMBERS IN THE MILITARY

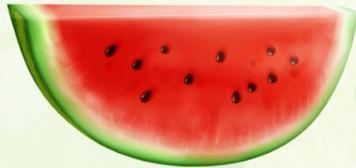


### Keep our Service People in Prayer

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 Marner, Jay Moore, Brandon Morgan, Jessica Ramus, Jason Salter, Dylan Smallwood, Jeff Starr, and Tyler Wilson.

# SUMMER

# PICNIC



Sunday, August 25th  
4:00pm - Dinner at 5:00pm

Scott and Carrie's House  
20624 Starbrick Rd  
Edwardsburg MI 49112

Hot dogs and tableware provided.  
Bring a dish or two to share and your drinks.  
There will be games!

# craft night

**CRAFT NIGHT** is coming on Friday **August 2**, from 6pm - Midnight. Join us whenever you're available. Bring a project to work on, a beverage to drink and a snack to share. Friends are always welcome.

We're collecting items for the dogs and cats at the Humane Society, if anyone would like to donate.



# MOBILE FOOD PANTRY

Tuesday, August 13th

3:30-5:30pm

Volunteers needed to hand out food.

Please arrive by 3:00.



## PICK/SHARE BOOK CLUB

We met at Steelyard Coffee Co., a restaurant tucked in the back of an antique store called Bird's Gotta Fly in Elkhart, Indiana on Michigan Street. It's a tasty place to eat and chat about current books we're reading.

Sherry continues to read from the Lori Wick Memory Series: To Know Her by Name and Where the Wild Rose Blooms. Both books are set in the high mountains of Colorado. The descriptions are vivid and characters come to life as the plots evolve. Wick's books always have a good uplifting story line. She also mentioned that she wants to read A Woman's Place, by Barbara Dempsey.

Marti read a book loaned to be Brave by Frances Liardet. The wartorn England when the Nazis were little girl is mistakenly left on a bus and ing couple. Love surprisingly blooms over time. At end of years of war, they It's a great novel about people we res- return.

Bonnie plans to read the book 2 of 3, by Casey Watson. It's the heart know the meaning of love. A history of ents and over 20 failed placements author, his foster parent, writes how seemingly hopeless case. But even accept love.



her by a good friend, Diana, We Must heart-wrenching story is placed in bombing Southampton, England. A is taken in for her safety by an unwill- as the little family grows together realize the child is not theirs to keep. cue, and the ways they rescue us in

she bought, A Boy without Hope, part -breaking story of a boy who didn't abuse and neglect by biological par- left Miller emotionally stunted. The she was determined to help his she begins to doubt if he will ever

Carole joined the group and returned the book Courageous. Author Randy Alcorn brings the screenplay by Alex and Stephen Kendrick alive in a novel that includes subplots, characters and back- story not seen in the movie. Four law enforcement officers face the challenge of balancing fatherhood and their careers with the help of their faith.

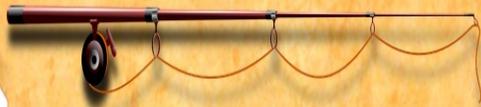
Gwen shared the book The Theft of America's Soul by Phil Robertson from Duck Dynasty reality series. This book blows the lid off lies that are destroying our country. God is dead, there is no Devil, truth is relative, God did not create life, sex is for self-gratification, virtue is outdated, laws can be ignored or changed if they are inconvenient, unity is not possible, church participation and day-to-day life should be kept separate, and Christians should shut their traps. He rebuts these lies with ten truths that bring peace of mind, harmony, and prosperity back to our country. It's a powerful, prophetic book.

We have had several books donated to the library this month. If you would like to look them over, they are on the bottom shelf by the book box next to the Community Room. Help yourself.

The next meeting for the Pick/Share a Book club will be August 14. Join us at 11AM 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 conversa- tion. See you there?



# FISH FRY



Friday, August 9th 5-8pm

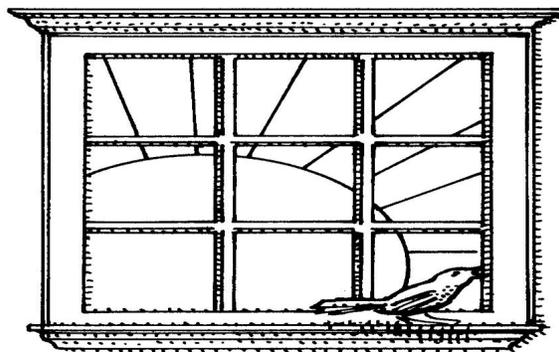
## MENU

All you can eat  
Fish and Pork  
Tenderloin.  
Served with  
coleslaw, rolls,  
beans, drinks  
and dessert.

- \$12 for adults
- \$6.50 kids 12 and under
- Kids 5 and under eat free

*Hope*  
of Edwardsburg

69941 Elkhart Rd  
Edwardsburg MI 49112  
269-663-5321  
hope-umc.us



## THE WINDOW

I wake up and look out the window at the crisp dawn.  
The sky's alive with God's creation of beautiful clouds  
Sunlight reflect off the clouds showing off His glow.  
It's just like Heaven has opened a door for a glimpse.

Eating my breakfast I glance out the window for a show  
The birds are sweetly singing, scurrying about for food.  
Cats are playing in the back yard jumping in their joy.  
God cares for all the animals and supplies all their food.

On my way to work I look out the window at the traffic.  
People hurrying; some coming home, some going to work  
I struggle to not get upset with traffic focusing on today.  
Remembering God created all drivers, at times, is difficult

At work glancing out my window employees come and go  
Some appear troubled, some laughing, others indifferent.  
During the day I have opportunities to touch their lives.  
God created every person and gave His Son to help all.

What do you see when you look out the window of life?  
Worry, doubt, anxiety, fear, pain and more lives afflicted?  
Love, compassion, helping, patience and more gifts alive?  
Jesus accepted all emotions and feelings on the cross.

Which side of the window are you living your life on?  
If you need help, are you praying for Jesus to come help?  
If you can help, are you willing to offer the hand of Jesus?  
Jesus loves all no matter which side of the window you're on!

Look out your window. Jesus has promised to always have Joy on the other side. Whatever you might be experiencing in your life, may you seek the Joy that Jesus offers to all.

Love, Deb and Tony Lang