

# HOPE GOOD NEWS

## November 2019



Dear Hope Family,

Maybe I am old fashioned or too nostalgic, but my favorite holiday of the year is Thanksgiving. It has gained in favor in my eyes because Halloween and Christmas get all the press. Both are big retail days. No, I am not an anti-trick or treat person. In fact, I probably have too much affection for candy, and Christmas for me as a Christian, it doesn't get much better, though Easter is hard to beat as well.

Why do I like Thanksgiving so much?

1. It is not as commercial as the rest.
2. It is a time family often connect and the older I get, the more important family is to me.
3. The real reason I love Thanksgiving is that as a Christ follower, I know the one who is worthy of my thanks. If you are not a Christian, who do you even thank?
4. As I offer thanks and praise to God, I feel closer to my heavenly Father. That is true because the peace of God is with us as we rejoice in Him.
5. At Thanksgiving, I remember those who have gone on before us. I think about my grandparents, my father, and so many saints who have deeply touched my life like Rachael, George, Ray, Iris and the list goes on.

On Sunday November 24 we will light candles and offer thanks for those members and constituents of Hope Church who have died this past year and gone on to their reward in heaven. They are gone from our sight, but not forgotten.



I hope you will join us at our traditional or contemporary service that meaningful day. It is a time of thanks, a time of praise. What will you do to offer God your praise this Thanksgiving?

Pastor Scott

### **MEMORIAL THANKSGIVING CELEBRATION**

Over the past year or so, you may have lost a friend or a family member. As followers of Jesus, we know the separation is temporary, but the pain can be almost unbearable. As we gather for Thanksgiving Sunday on November 24th, we want to honor your loved one. There are two ways to participate:

Give the office names of those you would like us to remember. These people are our great cloud of witnesses. We will put their names on paper clouds that will be displayed in our beautiful sanctuary. There is no connection to Hope required.

If the person is someone in your immediate family or part of Hope Church that has left us in the past year, we also want to name them and light a candle to honor them. Please give us their names so no one will be forgotten.

*Our prayer is that we will honor Thanksgiving by remembering those who have spurred us on over the years.*

## Leadership Team October 10, 2019



**Members:** Marti Bartels, Jackie Boone, Brant Campanaro, Sabrina English, Keith Miller, Bonnie Morgan, Pastor Scott Otis, Jim Ralph, Diane Seifert, Corey Sheets

Pastor Scott had devotions.

There was a lengthy discussion on the request to have a day care and before/after school using Reese Hall. While there was a consensus that Edwardsburg needs something like this and it could help bring families to Hope, there are still several items that need to be evaluated.

Finance reports were reviewed. Pastor Scott gave his report. He led a discussion on having a Stewardship campaign.

Starting in November the Leadership Team will meet on the second Wednesday of the month.

## Thanksgiving Baskets



Basket packing Sunday, November 24th 6:00PM  
Distribution Monday, November 25th 10-Noon and 4:00PM-6:00PM  
At Our Lady Of The Lake Catholic Church

## Wintertime Traditional Space Makeover

What would help you feel closer to God in our worship space?

Currently on our agenda:

Something to Think About



Paint  
Carpet Squares  
Raising the wall for the Stained Glass  
Raising the height of the Communion Rails.

Please share with Pastor Scott any other ideas you may have.

## TRANSITIONAL FUND UPDATE

\$80,000 Total Approved Budget 7/2017  
-42,642 Spent through 8/2019  
\$37,358 Remaining Budget

### Split of Remaining Budget

\$13,963 Building 1 Upgrades (Lighting, Paint, Carpet, Stained Glass)  
\$327 Reese Hall Upgrades  
\$6,979 Contemporary Service (Electrical, Furniture, Sound, Light)  
\$2,500 Ministry Fund Support  
\$5,207 Fresh Expressions  
\$8,382 Worship Leader



Sunday, November 24th 8:30Am & 10:00AM



MIKE MORGAN	11/01
DOUG SAYLES	11/01
BILL DAVIS II	11/02
STEPHAN CLAIRDAY	11/02
LACEY MORBACH	11/02
CAITLIN REESE EYESTONE	11/03
PAYTON CORP	11/03
ALEXIS RYMAN	11/04
NICK ROSS	11/06
DAPHINE DOSMANN	11/06
BEV TORGESON	11/09
LARRY BANGHART	11/10
CHAD BURGER	11/11
RANDY CLINE	11/11
CORY CREAGER	11/12
GERRY BAUGHER	11/14
SAMANTHA FARKAS	11/14
DONNA MANSELL	11/14
BILL LONG	11/16
NICK EDGERTON	11/18
CHARLOTTE LOOTENS	11/18
MEHELLE DOSMANN	11/20
DENNIS HOLDREAD	11/20
WANDA ORTH	11/21
CHARITY GREEN	11/22
NOAH HARDESTY	11/24
CHRISTINA MARIA STEVENS	11/24
JACK RINEHART	11/25
PAM FISK	11/26
BRYCE WEGNER 1	1/26
BRITTANY HUFFMAN	11/28
DORIS WALLACE	11/28
TRACY TRUEX	11/30



KELLY & DAVE MORTIMER	11/03
GAIL & BRANT CAMPANARO	11/17
JOYCE & VERN WARD	11/23

### 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, Ardith & Carl Higley, Sherry Leininger, Beth Mann and Grace Werner.

## Craft Night

Craft night is coming on Friday, November 1, from 6pm - Midnight. 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.



**Diana Graham and Jim Weingart  
to the Leadership Team!**

**Their terms will begin in 2020**



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

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

Ministry Fund Donations: \$ 17,198  
Ministry Fund Expenses: ~~\$-22,376~~  
Shortfall \$ -5,178

Year to Date Shortfall after transfers \$ -21,254

All September bills have been paid. Several quarterly and semi-annual bills were paid during September which contributed to our shortfall. Our Ministry Fund balance has been reduced this year, but it is still at a healthy level at \$20,309. Thank you for your continued support!

**Mortgage Payment Update**

Mortgage Payment Sources:

September M&M Allocation: \$4,688 Regular Giving  
\$ 322 Transfers from  
Small Groups  
Total \$5,010

Current Mortgage Balance = \$127,633 after the October 2019 Payment. Our projected payoff date is **January 2022!**



**THANK YOU** for the Pastor Appreciation thoughts, cards, and gifts. You are a great encouragement.  
—Pastor Scott and Carrie

**Hope Groups Christmas Tree Decorating**

Attention all groups: This year each group will be designated an undecorated pre-lit tree to decorate in any creative way you'd choose to represent your group. We will be decorating between November 24th and 27th. Please let Carrie know if you have a building preference.



Hope's Red Bird mission team

**STUFF-A-BUS**

**Friday, December 6th 4-8PM**  
**Saturday, December 7th 9AM—Noon**  
**At the Edwardsburg Dollar General**  
To Benefit the Edwardsburg Food Pantry.  
Bell ringers will be collecting donations throughout Edwardsburg/Union.

**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.



## BEWARE of EMAIL SCAMS

We have become aware of an email scam that is targeting United Methodists in specific congregations across the U.S. In most cases, a new email address is being created in the pastor's name and directed to members of his or her congregation. These fake emails typically ask for money in the form of a gift card. This email scam has hit multiple United Methodist congregations in Michigan and within other conferences, as well.

Congregations should be warned to be very careful on how they reply to such an email request. Church members should read their emails carefully and know that the church will **NEVER** send an appeal for money or gift cards by email. If a congregant receives a suspicious email they should always check with the pastor or church office by phone or in person before sending money, buying gift cards, or providing personal information.

Michigan Conference IT Specialist, Michael Mayo-Moyle, has created a document that you may find helpful. A copy of the complete article is available next to the bulletins, if you would like a copy. As The Michigan Conference continues to investigate this issue, we will keep you informed and notify you of any new information.



*Hope*  
of Edwardsburg

## 2019 HOPE YOUTH GROUP FIRST SUNDAYS

*New this year - First Sundays are Youth Mission Sundays!*

Oct 6th - 1:15 pm - 4pm	<b>Crop Walk for Cass County</b> – car pool from Hope - Walk, Raise Money & Help end Hunger in the world
Nov 3rd - 5:30-7:30pm	Make <b>cookies</b> at Home for the homeless shelter
Nov 24th - 6:00pm	<b>Basket Packing</b> at OLLCC
Dec 8th - TBD	Carpool to <b>Cultivate</b> - SB to help pack food for 2 hours
Dec 15th - 6:00pm	<b>Basket Packing</b> at OLLCC
Jan 5th - 5:30-7:30 pm	Put together <b>care packages</b> and deliver to church shut-ins
Feb 2nd - 3-5 pm	Carpool for <b>Nursing Home visit</b>
Mar 1st - 5:30-7:30pm	<b>Soup for Success</b> – Elkhart – help prepare mixes
Apr 5th - 5:30-7:30pm	Make <b>Finals survival kits</b> to send to College students
May 3rd - 5:30-7:30pm	Meet at OLLCC to help <b>clean Food Pantry</b>
Summer - TBD	District Youth <b>Mission Trip</b>

**Your Mission Tour Guides: Chris & Susie Edgerton, Pastor Scott & Carrie Otis, Laura & Corey Sheets, Jim & Dawn Weingart**

*Sundays September – May 6 – 7:30 pm Youth Group at Pastor Scott & Carrie's House except for the above Youth Mission Sundays.*

*There will be no Youth Group at Scott and Carrie's on days there is a Youth Group Event.*



Ouch!

Ouch

When we get a scratch we say ouch that hurts.  
 When we get sick we think ouch I don't feel good.  
 When our body aches we feel ouch as we hurt.  
 When someone we love dies we cry out OUCH!

When children come to us with a hurt we console the ouch.

When a friend needs a healing voice we whisper ouch.  
 When a spouse needs a hug we open our arms in ouch.  
 When we need someone in our life we seek healing ouch.

Ouch's come sometimes when we least expect them.  
 An ouch can sometimes be an accident waiting to happen.  
 A relationship can be hurt or destroyed by an ouch.  
 A body may be changed forever by occurrence of ouch.

We can heal an ouch with a band-aid and soft touch.  
 A kind word spoken in love can heal many an ouch.  
 Giving a helping hand to someone may fix the ouch.  
 Offering forgiveness to someone often resolves ouch's.

A mind that perceives an ouch occurred seeks remedy.  
 A thought that says ouch asks for guidance to resolve.  
 A heart that has been hurt by an ouch seeks comfort.  
 The body hurt by these ouch's struggles to survive.

When we talk and do not listen we can inflict an ouch.  
 When we here a word but do not respond maybe ouch.  
 When we seek an answer with wrong motive-ouch.  
 Looking to others for direction in our life can be an ouch.

OUCH!! God hears our cries and wants to mend them.  
 The Holy Spirit is waiting inside us to help heal the ouch.  
 The Bible offers His word to advise our every ouch.  
 Jesus carries our prayers (if given) to the father in ouch.

We can ouch our Lord by not obeying His guidance.  
 Our ouch's can hurt our Lord when we do not listen.  
 Through prayer God will speak and lead out of the ouch.  
 God forgives ouch's and repairs ouch's in grace and love.

Even though we may have ouch'd God, He is true to His promises to forgive and forget the wrongs, to help and heal the broken hearts and to mend all areas of our life if we believe and call on Him.

For the ouch's we've mended God has a smile waiting.  
 When responding to His calling the ouch angel rejoices.  
 The Spirit lives in us to seek healing ouch's in this world.  
 God's home awaits those who believe, with no ouch's.

May you call on Him to heal an ouch either in your life or another's,

—Deb and Tony Lang



*Prayers of Thanksgiving*

## PICK/SHARE BOOK CLUB

The winner of the free book drawing from Hope's All Church Breakfast was Linda Rockwell. She chose a book by Lori Wick. Congratulations Linda!

Wednesday October 9<sup>th</sup> we decided to have lunch at Chubby Trout restaurant in Elkhart. Everyone enjoyed meeting in a quiet back room where we could relax, eat and talk about books. This is a place we definitely plan to return to eat at again.

scribed the has donated Convicted McGee and The book is journey of friendship



Bonnie de-book that she to our library, by Jameel Andrew Collins. about an unlikely forgiveness and between a false-

ly convicted black man and the white narcotics officer who framed him. It reads like a gripping crime novel, except this story really happened in Benton Harbor.

Shirley Andrews loaned a fascinating book to Marti. Undaunted: Surviving Jonestown, Summoning Courage, and Fighting Back, by Jackie Speier, is an amazing autobiography. The preface opens with the words "I was dying. Lying behind a wheel of the airplane, bleeding out of the right side of my devastated body, I waited for the shooting to stop." Jackie completes her life story up to present day where she is currently serving as a US senator from California. If you want to read an awe inspiring book, put this one on your list. It would make an unbelievable action movie.

Sherry shared the second book of the Rocky Mountain series, Whispers of Moonlight, by Lori Wick. Rebecca overhears her husband saying that he married her for her father's cattle ranch. It takes many years before she can believe his conversion to Christ and that he truly loves her. Sherry is currently reading The Storekeeper's Daughter by Wanda Brunstetter. A young Amish girl, Naomi, helps her widowed father run a store, manage a household, and raise seven children. Tragically, her baby brother goes missing. User Review gives this book 5/5 stars.

Sue joined us for lunch for the first time. She always has her nose in a book, especially nonfiction. One of her favorite stories is from a Reader's Digest condensed book, Today's Best Nonfiction 1992. She enjoyed reading about Jim Lehrer, an American journalist and novelist, the former Executive Editor and New anchor for the PBS News Hour.

Remember our "On your honor" check out system? Simply choose a book from the shelf, take it home and enjoy reading it. Return it to the book drop box between the office and Community Room doors and we will reshelv it. Let us know about the ones you enjoy, or tell us about your books that you have enjoyed reading.

The **next meeting** for the Pick/Share a Book club will be **November 13**. Join us at 11:00 a.m. at Hope to decide where to go to eat. You may pick a book of your own to share or just come to lunch for fellowship and interesting conversation.