



Greetings People of Hope,

This morning as I am writing to you the season is changing from summer to fall. I have noticed the leaves starting to turn along with the cooler mornings. Every year when fall starts I cannot help but be amazed at God's creation, and the beauty I see all around us each day as fall arrives.

This past week our Messy Church topic was "Rediscover God in Creation". I encourage each of you to take a moment each day to slow down and ponder how great God's creation, our world is. Take a deep breath and look around you. Intentionally look at all God has created. If you can, take a walk in a quiet park, or better yet a stroll in the woods behind the church. There is a place by the fire pit where you can sit down and just listen. It's a place where you can be alone with God in nature.

When you find that quiet spot, talk with God. Share with God that problem that has been nagging at you. Praise God for all the wonders and blessings you have received. Possibly you would just say, "Here I am Lord", and just be in God's presence.

Sometimes we feel like we are just plodding along life's long road. I have felt that way, and discovering God in nature has become a way for me to get recharged, and re-energized. I pray that we all can be uplifted and filled with the love of God by rediscovering God in creation.

God bless, Pastor Rob



The Monday night women's bible study group will begin

A new 4-week book study,

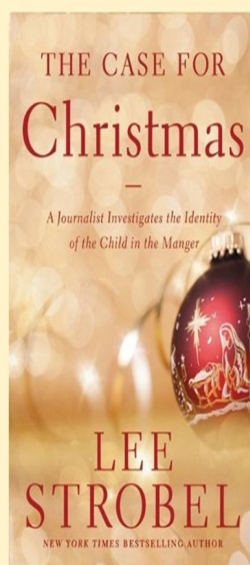
"The Case For Christmas"

by Lee Strobel

Monday October 23rd @ 6:30.

If you would like more information, please contact

Donna Mansell



FINANCES

Month of August Ministry Fund Summary

Ministry Fund Donations: \$ 15,514
 Parsonage Rent: \$ 1,400
 Ministry Fund Expenses: \$-20,863
 Shortfall for the Month: \$ -3,949

Monthly Budget = \$18,209

Shortfall YTD: \$-2,199

All August bills have been paid. Our Ministry Fund balance is \$93,519. Thank you for your continued support!

August Mortgage & Mission Fund Allocation:

\$145.53 Missions
 \$998.58 Parsonage Mortgage
\$145.53 Capital Improvements
 \$1,455.28 Total Donations

Parsonage Mortgage Update:

\$998.58 Regular Mortgage Payment - Mortgage Fund

Current Parsonage Mortgage Balance = \$121,039 after the September 2023 Payment.

Our projected payoff date is August 2036, which is 45 months earlier than the original payoff date!

Support the Edwardsburg Food Pantry!
Sunday, October 1st - Saturday, December 30th
Mishawaka Meijer, Grape Rd.



FINANCE QUESTIONS?????

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

Gathered as one body



On World Communion Sunday, observed this year on October 1, Christians across the globe gather at the Lord's Table for the sacrament of Holy Communion. The Lord's Table stretches around the entire earth. Catholic Christians, Coptic Christians, Orthodox Christians, Reformed Christians, Evangelical Christians, Lutheran Christians, Baptist Christians, Anglican Christians, Methodist Christians, Christians who worship in churches bearing names that are unfamiliar to us — all join in worship and do what Christ asked his friends to do: remember him!

"This do in remembrance of me," Jesus said during the Last Supper with his disciples. Then he broke bread as a reminder of his sacrificed body and lifted the cup of wine representing his blood. The sacrament is a vivid symbol of Christ's sacrifice, love and forgiveness for each of us.

As we gather as Christ's family around that table of grace, remember that we are united in Christ with our brothers and sisters around the world. "In Christ now meet both east and west, in him meet south and north. All Christly souls are joined as one throughout the whole wide earth" (John Oxenham).

Thank you, Lord!



ALISON STRYCKER	10/01
JOYCE PROCTOR	10/01
MELANIE REID	10/05
BARRY OBERLING	10/06
GENEVA WEINGART	10/07
DALE BLUNIER	10/07
JULIA SHEETS	10/08
CAROL UDELL	10/08
JACK WEILER	10/09
JAMES SNYDER	10/09
VINCE DUIS	10/10
PAT OWENS	10/10
BRENDA MORTIMER	10/11
BRIAN BURKS	10/12
CAMDEN ANDERSON	10/13
CARSON MANFRED	10/14
SUSIE EDGERTON	10/14
DAVID HOIEN	10/16
SUE RINEHART	10/17
JOHN UDELL	10/18
SHIRLEY MASTEN	10/18
CAMRYN CLAIRDAY	10/20
VICKI BAKER	10/21
SANDY ACKELS	10/22
WENDY EMMETT	10/23
CHEYENE MASTEN	10/23
MICHELE BLACK	10/24
DELLA HOLDREAD	10/27
SARA CLAIRDAY	10/28
BEN MORGAN	10/29
KEVIN MARLING	10/30
TIFFANY MANFRED	10/31
TOM HEBRON	10/31



JANICE & DAN ROSS	10/01
PAT & GARY OWENS	10/02
DACIA & ED KIRKLAND	10/02
TIFFANY & TONY MANFRED	10/04
KATHY & CHARLIE DEW	10/05
DIANE SEIFERT & MARTY EBY	10/07
SHERRY & DOUG SAYLES	10/12
JULIE & ROBERT J. BYRD	10/12
ANNA & TONY LEININGER	10/13
DONNELDA & JOHN LOHR	10/15
KELLY & VINCE DUIS	10/17
ASHLEY & RANDY JOHNSON	10/18
PAM & JIM CHAPMAN	10/19
MELANIE & GEORGE REID	10/20
KATHY & BOB FULLER	10/20
SUE & MIKE MORGAN	10/21
MARY ANN & BILL DAVIS II	10/23



**Beginning the 1st Sunday
in Advent!!!!**

(December 3rd)

The Leadership Team has agreed to revisit the Christmas Card Delivery program. You can "send" your Christmas greetings to the congregation for ONLY 10 cents/card! You will save 56 cents for every card "mailed" here at Hope. Cards will be delivered in house (except for Shut-ins, but we will take care of those thru the church). More information coming but the time is NOW to start thinking about your Christmas card list. Proceeds will go to UMCOR as in the past. Merry Christmas!!!

Any questions, please see Sharon Tafunai.





SEPTEMBER LT MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

FINANCE: Dawn provided a condensed Financial Summary for easier review of the LT, along with the full financial report via e-mail. Overall, finances are stable and met with Leadership Team approval.

PASTOR'S REPORT: Pastor Rob presented his proposed vacation schedule which will cover roughly the end of October through the first couple of weeks in November. He further indicated that his vacation time varies depending on the weather. He has arranged for pulpit coverage for the Sundays he will be absent and has also arranged for pastoral care.

CHRISTMAS CARD EXCHANGE: Pursuant to the suggestion of Sharon Tafunai, the LT agreed to reinstate the Christmas card exchange which was established several years ago. Cards are brought to the church and sorted alphabetically in a designated area and are available for pick-up or will be distributed in house. The cost is ten cents per card, which money will be directed into the UMCOR Fund. Sharon has offered to spearhead this program, and more information will follow as the season approaches.



PENNY SUNDAY OFFERING UPDATE

Thank you for your generous donations to **Penny Sunday** on the 2nd Sunday of each month. These donations are used to support a variety of Mission programs that are decided upon by our youth.

God has been so generous in blessing us that we want to teach our youth the joy of blessing others. We are continuing our monthly support of 2 Ethiopian youth through Children's Hopechest since they have been elementary students.

Tarikwa is now a young 15-year-old lady. Zeri-hun is now a 17-year-old young man. We are helping them, and their community survive, thrive, and succeed. The youth also decided to use the funds to bless families last December as well as donating to the Crop Walk. Let Pastor Rob or Dawn know if you have ideas for the youth to consider!



Volunteers Needed! Please arrive at 2:30

**MOBILE
Pantry**

Wednesday
October 11th
3pm-4:30pm

bringing hope to the hungry



"Thanks for calling the Believer's Support Line. For a word of encouragement, press one. For a verbal pat on the back, press two. For immediate praise and adulation, press three. For a faith that worketh patience, press on!"

SPECIAL OCTOBER DATES

Pastor Appreciation Month

World Communion Sunday, October 1, 2023

Columbus Day, October 9, 2023

Indigenous Peoples Day, October 9, 2023

Reformation Sunday, October 29, 2023

Reformation Day, October 31, 2023

Meeting a deadline



As a family we have deadlines like birthday events.
Certain anniversaries present special holy days.

For children we have special school events to attend.
Some special days may be hard to fit into our schedule.

At work depending on work surroundings are deadlines
We affect others by meeting or not meeting schedules.
We may set them and need to consult others for timing.
Most have start and end times to do our daily work.

Our leisure time sometimes is scheduled with chores.
Sometimes they present times for pleasure and fun.
We choose how we spend this time of our own choosing.
Others may influence this time by sharing, their activities.

We schedule our bed times and our wake up time.
Our meals are usually eaten at the same time each day.
Personal chores needed each day are done on time.
We put special times for rest, for relaxing and play.

With all this scheduling how do we set priorities?
Time should be set aside for prayer and conversation.
We need to allow our hearts to be refreshed each day.
How we prioritize our deadlines is important to life.

When we stand before Jesus, our life's choices matter.
He has asked us to meet His guiding for our life.
We are to help others while growing in faith ourselves.
The response we should want is what Jesus wants.
"Well done, good and faithful servant"

May your deadlines be chosen to not only help you,
but also help others in their walk of faith and may our
Lord be pleased with your life when it is over on this
earth and we begin our eternal joyous life.

-Deb and Tony Lang



**Messy Church is open to families of
all shapes and sizes, and folks of all ages!**

**Come join in on the fun!
Sunday, October 22nd @ 6pm!**

October 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 8:30am & 10:30am Service 11:30am Messy Church volunteer meeting (Reese Hall)	2 Office Hours 9:00-2:00 9:00am Ship Shape 4 Christ (Reese Hall) 10:00am Staff Meeting (Sanctuary) 4:00pm Werner funeral (Sanctuary) 6:30pm Women's Bible Study (Reese Hall)	3 Office Hours 9:00-2:00 9:30pm Band Practice (Reese Hall) 6:30pm Men's Bible Study (Community Room)	4 Office Hours 9:00-2:00 9:30am Wednesday morning Bible Study (Community Room) 6:30pm Disciple Bible Study (Reese Hall)	5 Office Hours 9:00-2:00 9:00am Ship Shape 4 Christ (Reese Hall)	6 Office closed 6:30pm Craft Night (Reese Hall)	7 9:00am Reservation
8 8:30am & 10:30am Service 1:00pm Youth Group (Reese Hall)	9 Office Hours 9:00-2:00 9:00am Ship Shape 4 Christ (Reese Hall) 6:30pm Women's Bible Study (Reese Hall)	10 Office Hours 9:00-2:00 9:30pm Band Practice (Reese Hall) 6:30pm Men's Bible Study (Community Room)	11 Office Hours 9:00-2:00 9:30am Wednesday morning Bible Study (Community Room) 1:00pm Mobile Food Pantry 6:30pm Disciple Bible Study (Reese Hall) 6:30pm Leadership Team Meeting (Community Room)	12 Office Hours 9:00-2:00 9:00am Ship Shape 4 Christ (Reese Hall)	13 Office closed 1:00pm Reservation (Sanctuary) 6:30pm Game Night (Reese Hall)	14 9:00am Reservation (Sanctuary)
15 8:30am & 10:30am Service	16 Office Hours 9:00-2:00 9:00am Ship Shape 4 Christ (Reese Hall) 6:30pm Women's Bible Study (Reese Hall)	17 Office Hours 9:00-2:00 9:30pm Band Practice (Reese Hall) 6:30pm Men's Bible Study (Community Room)	18 Office Hours 9:00-2:00 9:30am Wednesday morning Bible Study (Community Room) 6:30pm Disciple Bible Study (Reese Hall)	19 Office Hours 9:00-2:00 9:00am Ship Shape 4 Christ (Reese Hall) 10:30am Reservation (Reese Hall)	20 Office closed 9:00am Reservation (Reese Hall)	21 9:00am Reservation (Reese Hall)
22 8:30am & 10:30am Service 6:00pm Messy Church (Reese Hall)	23 Office Hours 9:00-2:00 9:00am Ship Shape 4 Christ (Reese Hall) 6:30pm Women's Bible Study (Reese Hall)	24 Office Hours 9:00-2:00 9:30pm Band Practice (Reese Hall) 6:30pm Men's Bible Study (Community Room)	25 Office Hours 9:00-2:00 9:30am Wednesday morning Bible Study (Community Room) 6:30pm Disciple Bible Study (Reese Hall)	26 Office Hours 9:00-2:00 9:00am Ship Shape 4 Christ (Reese Hall)	27 Office closed	28 1:00pm Trunk or Treat
29 8:30am & 10:30am Service	30 Office Hours 9:00-2:00 9:00am Ship Shape 4 Christ (Reese Hall) 6:30pm Women's Bible Study (Reese Hall)	31 Halloween Office Hours 9:00-2:00 9:30pm Band Practice (Reese Hall) 6:30pm Men's Bible Study (Community Room)				

HOPE CHURCH & MISSION:

Church Family / Future of Methodist Church

LEADERSHIP TEAM:

Ben Morgan, Team member at Large

Brandon DeYoung, Chairperson

Heidi Meadows, Team member at Large

Jack Rinehart, Vice Chairperson

Mike Morgan, Team member at Large

Pastor Rob Snodgrass

Sabrina English, Finance

Sandie Weiler, Secretary

Sharon Tafunai, Team member at Large

Shirley Andrews, Team member at Large

SPRC:

Bonnie Morgan / Diane Siefert / Jack Weiler /
Sue Rinehart

LIVING WITH CANCER:

Brad Yoder; Brenda Miller; Brian Clark, cancer of
the larynx (Sue Morgan); Brother Rick; Betty
April;

Cindy Helvey, in Rehab Center (Virginia Helvey);

Cindy Workman; Crystal Maskwinski, (Susie

Edgerton); David Leist, metastatic cancer (Janice

Leist); Dawn Lawrence, brain tumor; Don

Burnette, cancer & dementia (Robin English);

Ellen Evans (Robin English); Jaycee Wendt;

Jessica Hartwick, diabetic & on dialysis (Robin

English); John & Betty Westlake, (Tina); Linda

McClain; Mark Howell; Melana Horner, leukemia;

Mike Moelbash, cancer in spine (Paula Kendall);

Mike Walton (Vicki Baker's family member); Nancy

Mysliwiec, cancer in right kidney (Judy

Denemark); Noah, 21 -year-old, brain tumor (Jean

Schlemmer); Pam Knapp, liver, & kidney cancer

(Sue Morgan); Paula S.; Rick Trosper (Tina

Trosper); Scott Dougall, friend of Sue Morgan;

Tony and Ted Braun, (Diana Graham's cousins);

Trevor Claire; Vivian McClellan, brain cancer, PXA

(McKenzie Morgan); William Moore Jr.

Yung Fajardo, leukemia (Sharee Leist); Bette

Starkey

LONGSTANDING:

Bill Griffin, health; Bob Griffin, heart issues;

Chad, heart issues; Cris Weingart (Geneva-Eliza

Weingart); Christine Love, health issues (Nancy

Love's daughter); Connie & Jeff Smith (Aggie
Bussen); Dennis Sanders knee and heart
problems (Judy Denemark); Duis family; Edith
English (Kevin's mom); Elizabeth V. Mui (Geneva
Weingart's foster parent); Ethan Hart, Type 1
diabetes (Colleen Harris's grandson); Gary Owens
(Pat Owens); George Gibbs (Kevin English);
Granny & Pops; Ivan Bowman (Marti Bartels'
brother); Ivins family (Kelly Duis); Jake Dibble
(Kelly Duis); James, seizures; Jessica Hartwick,
diabetic & needs transplant (Robin English); John
Madsen, heart surgery; Ken Proctor;
Kevin Duis, an autistic boy; Kevin English,
medical problems (Robin English); Linda Morgan,
health (Bernice Pelmeier); Marge Nurton multiple
health problems; Martin Lyles (Diana Graham's
father); Misty Rogers, broken kneecap (Robin
English); Nancy Love; Pauline Atwater,
Parkinson's (Gary Atwater); Richard S., spinal
surgery (Rene' DeYoung); Stephanie Harris, pain
management; Tracee Reiter, right shoulder, arm,
and hand pain (Robin English); Teresa Neucks-
Mills, MS & fibromyalgia (Tina); Tina Trosper's
dad, heart problems

PASTORS & FAMILIES:

Brenda Gordon Evan Lash & Barbara Jackson

Matt & Cara Weiler Nate & Amy Starkey

Rob & Kathe Snodgrass Scott & Carrie Otis

Tom & Lisa Maxwell

SERVING/SERVED IN MILITARY SERVICES:

Joshua Adams, Charles Berry, Andrew Brower,
Phil Bryden, Sam Chaput, Jonathan Ditson James
Galloway, Justin Gerou, Shane Karkiewicz,
Dakota Kizer, Andrea Long, Alyssa Malott, Jay
Moore, Brandon Morgan, Jessica Ramus, Jason
Salter, Dylan Smallwood, Jeff Starr, Tyler Wilson

HOME BOUND:

Merian Ackles, Sally Blunier, Betty Brady,
Rochelle Dolde, Bob Fuller, Ardith Higley, Tony &
Deb Lang, Sherry Leininger, Sharon & Bob
Morgan, Jan Read, Donna Taelman, Bev
Torgeson, Cynthia Wade, Ray White