



Invite. Connect. Grow. Serve.

We invite YOU to experience HOPE in Christ. There is a place for you here, to connect with people and God. Together we will grow in faith. Together we will serve as the hands and feet of Christ for the Glory of God!



2023

DATES TO REMEMBER

Nov. 26 –Hanging of the Greens

Dec. 2 — Stuff-A-Bus

Dec. 3—1st Sunday of Advent

Dec. 10 (One service only)

Charge Conference 10:30

Pot Luck Lunch 11:30

Dec. 17—Messy Church 6:00

Dec. 24-Combined Service 10:00

Christmas Eve Service 6:00

Dec. 25—Christmas Day

Dec. 31—Decoration Take Down

ADVENT MEANINGS



During Advent, which begins this year on December 3, many churches and families use wreaths to symbolize watchfulness and increasing joy as Christmas approaches. Colors for the candles vary, with some traditions using blue (for hope or creation) and others preferring purple (for royalty, humility or penitence).

The four candles that each represent a week in Advent also signify hope, peace, joy and love. (The third candle is often pink.) In the center is the white Christ candle, representing Jesus as the light of the world. That candle is lit on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.

The round, green Advent wreath has special meaning of its own. It symbolizes eternal life and the unending love of God, who sent his only Son to earth to die in our place.



Santa comes but once a year.
JESUS is an ever present help.



**CHARGE
CONFERENCE**

**COMBINED
SERVICE**

**POT LUCK
MEAL**

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10
10:30 AM**

POT LUCK TO FOLLOW SERVICE



STUFF-A-BUS



Saturday, December 2nd 9am-Noon
At the Edwardsburg Dollar General
To Benefit the
Edwardsburg Food Pantry.
New Toys, New Bedsized Blankets &
\$10 Gift Cards for Teens appreciated.

Youth Group

December 10 @ 3pm
Middle & High School Students



The Youth Group will be packing care bags for the homeless & making cards for kids at the children's hospital.



NOVEMBER LT MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

FINANCES: Dawn provided October financial information for review and approval of the LT, along with proposed Budget for 2024. SPRC approved \$1.00 per hour increases for our Business Manager, Secretary, and Worship Coordinator.

All office computers have been upgraded. Although the upgrading cost exceeded the previously approved LT suggested amount, the updating costs fell within the allotted fund for computer repair and upgrading. After questions and discussion regarding all provided information, the LT approved October's finances and the proposed 2024 budget.

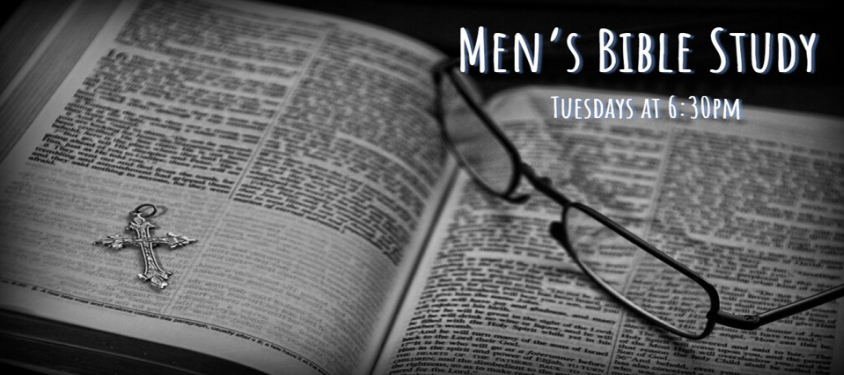
GENERAL DISCUSSION: Discussion ensued regarding the possibility of moving the early service time from 8:30 to 9:00 a.m. Rather than making a decision, it was determined to seek feedback from members and attendees. Please share your thoughts on moving the early worship time from 8:30 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.

The LT voted to reincorporate the purchasing of poinsettias to decorate the sanctuary for the Christmas Season. Order forms to purchase your poinsettia(s) will be available as inserts in the bulletin, with an order deadline of December 3.

Church security/emergency plan measures were discussed, and a couple of LT members offered to investigate possible plans and to present their findings at the next LT Meeting.

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

TUESDAYS AT 6:30PM

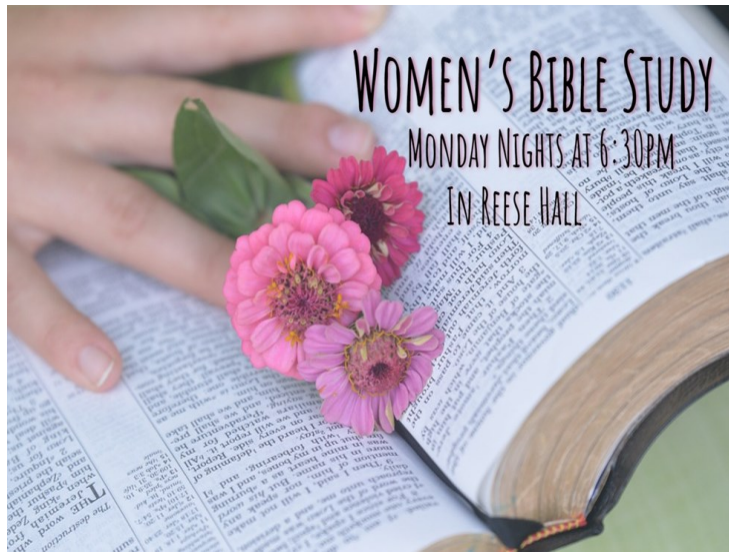




TANNER LEININGER	2/01
CHRIS EDGERTON	12/03
WENDELL LEIST	12/04
JANET STRYCKER	12/06
ROBERT J BYRD	12/06
DANA GEORGE	12/07
BRODY WEAVER	12/08
ANDREW DOHM	12/08
ROB SNODGRASS	12/09
JULIE BYRD	12/09
TOM HARRIS	12/09
BONNIE MORGAN	12/10
SHARON TAFUNAI	12/11
ANN GUSTAFSON	12/13
CARRIE MINNIX	12/14
DJ BUSSEN	12/23
DON MANSELL	12/18
DIANE SEIFERT	12/19
MARTI BARTELS	12/20
MACKENZIE MORGAN	12/20
LARRY BOWMAN	12/21
MARJE REA	12/23
EVIE TAFUNAI	12/23
GAYLA SIMMONS	12/24
GARY DENEMARK	12/25
KIRIN MOLER	12/27
SUSAN MOLER	12/28
ALEX EDGERTON	12/29
MIKE STRAKA	12/29
KEVIN ENGLISH	12/31



SHERRY & ROGER MAHNESMITH	12/29
LAURA & JON BLOUGH	12/30



Messy Church!



Sunday, December 17th 6pm

Pizza, Popcorn & Hot Chocolate will be served!

Everyone is invited to come enjoy a
fun family friendly movie!



FINANCES

CURRENT HOPE FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Month of October Ministry Fund Summary

Ministry Fund Donations: \$ 18,142
 Ministry Fund Expenses: \$-17,085
 Surplus for the Month: \$ 1,057

Year to Date Surplus: \$1,003

Monthly Budget amount: \$ 18,745

All October bills have been paid. Our Ministry Fund balance is \$96,721. Thank you for your continued support!

October Mortgage & Mission Fund Allocation:

\$202.53 Missions
 \$998.58 Parsonage Mortgage
\$924.17 Capital Improvements
 \$2125.28 Total Donations

Parsonage Mortgage Update:

\$998.58 Regular Mortgage Payment - Mortgage Fund
 \$400.00 Extra Principal Payment-Ministry Fund

Current Parsonage Mortgage Balance = \$119,037 after the November 2023 Payment.

Our projected payoff date is July 2036, which is **46 months earlier** than the original payoff date!

Year End Donations

Here are the ways that your donation to Hope can still be included on your 2023 donation statement, per the IRS:

Set up your online gift to be received by Friday, December 29.

Make sure that your donation is **post-marked on or before December 30** and send it to P O Box 624, Edwardsburg, MI 49112

Christmas Eve Offering

Our Christmas Eve offering will be split between Michiana Family Center and United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR).

2024 Giving Envelopes & Electronic Giving Options:

If you would like a package of pre-numbered weekly giving envelopes for 2024, please leave a message at 269-663-5321 x 6. Envelopes will be available to be picked up mid- December.

If you would like to make your donation to Hope Automatically, here are several options.

*Set up an automatic payment from your checking account to Hope using your online banking account.

*Sign up for Electronic Giving through our website: <http://www.hope-umc.us/>. Click on the green online giving button to go to the secure website to set up giving from your bank account, debit card or credit card. If you need any assistance getting this set-up, Dawn will be happy to help you. Contact her at 269-663-5321 x 6.



Snowbirds

Please leave a message for Melissa in the office at 269-663-5321x9 and let us know when you're headed south and when you're planning on returning. We can send you our monthly newsletter, if you'd like. It's also available online at our website. You can also worship with us by viewing the livestream or youtube recording or listening to the audio under the sermons tab. <https://www.hope-umc.us/>

WHY JESUS IS BETTER THAN SANTA CLAUS

Santa lives at the North Pole . . .
 JESUS is everywhere.

Santa fills your stockings with goodies . . .
 JESUS supplies all your needs.

Santa rides in a sleigh . . .
 JESUS rides on the wind and walks on the water.

JESUS is still the reason for the season.

HOPE CHURCH & MISSION

Church Family

LEADERSHIP TEAM

Ben Morgan, Member at Large
 Heidi Meadows, Member at Large
 Jack Rinehart, Acting Chair
 Mike Morgan, Vice Chair
 Pastor Rob Snodgrass
 Sabrina English, Finance
 Sandie Weiler, Secretary
 Sharon Tafunai, Member at Large
 Shirley Andrews, Member at Large

SPRC

Bonnie Morgan, Diane Seifert,
 Jack Weiler, Sue Rinehart

PASTORS & FAMILIES

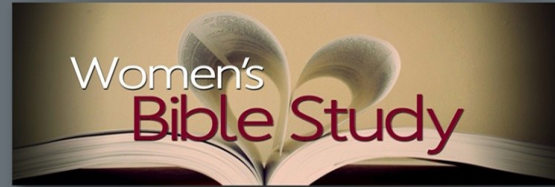
Brenda Gordon
 Evan Lash & Barbara Jackson
 Matt & Cara Weiler
 Nate & Amy Starkey
 Rob & Kathe Snodgrass
 Scott & Carrie Otis
 Tom & Lisa Maxwell

HOME BOUND

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

**MILITARY PERSONNEL**

In order to rebuild our list of military personnel please submit your military loved one's name, address (if possible), and their connection to Hope by email, note, chat, phone call to Shirley Andrews, Sharon Tafunai or the church office.



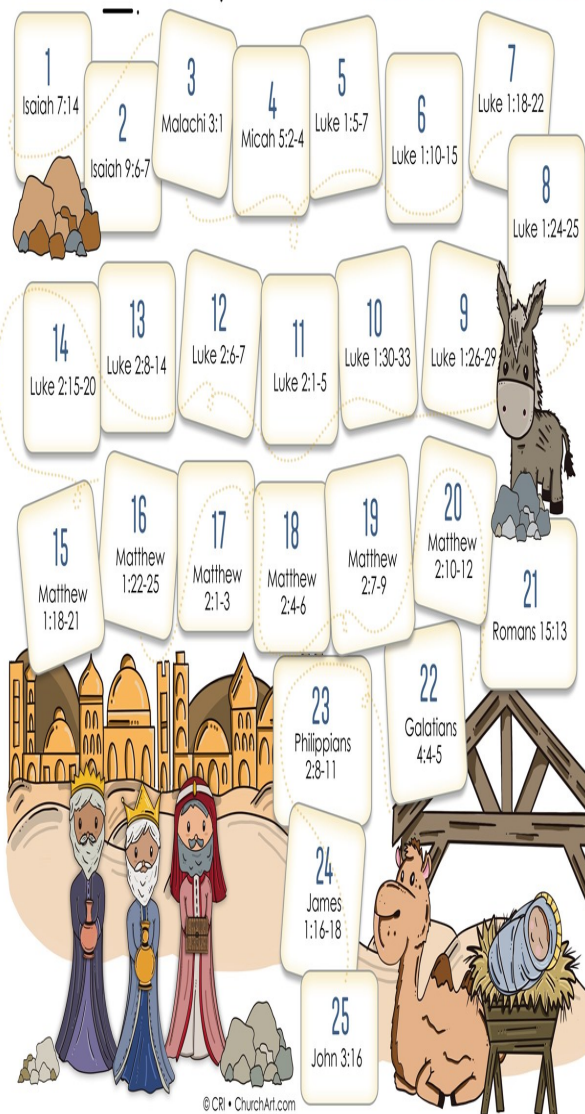
Monday night Women's Bible Study will start a new series "The Chosen" Season 2 January 8th

SEE YOUR BULLETIN FOR DETAILS

Fourteen Way Finders enjoyed lunch, fellowship and Shirley Farkas' travel memories last week.

Next meeting will be at the **Green Jacket** at 11:30 on Friday, **December 15**. Gift bags of personal care items will be collected and donated to Hope Mission.





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GIFTS

Tis the season coming up for giving gifts.
Some we shop and shop for that just right gift.
Than again we may put our talent to making it.
We're hoping this gift leaves memories that linger.

We look for special wrapping paper to encompass.
This present should be covered in beautiful wrap.
Concealing that special gift that brings a joy.
The corners all trimmed and label being applied.

Some gifts require a card chosen with much thought.
A special verse enclosed with best wishes added, too.
We put our special words to express caring thoughts.
Maybe adding special stickers to dress up the card.

We should remember at this season the gift given to us.
Jesus was willing to give His life as that gift for us.
The Holy Spirit enters our heart when we accept this gift.
They both offer it freely and wrap it in eternal love.

May you both give and get special gifts this holiday season, but most of all share the special gift you have been given with all you meet that they may also receive this free gift of eternal life in Heaven.

—Merry Christmas to all, Deb and Tony Lang

christmas DECORATION TAKE DOWN



Sunday, December 31st after 1st service

WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

9:30AM



HOPE CHURCH & MISSION:

Church Family/Future of Methodist Church

LEADERSHIP TEAM:

Ben Morgan, at Large
 Heidi Meadows, at Large
 Clarence Miller, at Large
 Jack Rinehart, Chair
 Mike Morgan, Vice Chair
 Pastor Rob Snodgrass
 Sabrina English, Finance
 Sandie Weiler, Secretary
 Sharon Tafunai, at Large Shirley Andrews, at Large

SPRC TEAM:

Bonnie Morgan, Diane Siefert, Jack Weiler,
 Sue Rinehart

LIVING WITH CANCER:

Betty Starkey; Bev Rearick (Pastor Scott); Brad Yoder; Brenda Miller; Brian Clark, (Sue Morgan); Brother Rick; Betty April; Cindy Helvey, in Rehab Center (Virginia Helvey); Cindy Workman; Crystal Maskwinski, (Susie Edgerton); David Leist, metastatic (Janice Leist); Dawn Lawrence, brain tumor; Don Burnette, dementia (Robin English); Ellen Evans (Robin English); Jaycee Wendt; Jessica Hartwick, diabetic & on dialysis (Robin English); John & Betty Westlake, Kaufman's mom (Tina); Linda McClain; Macie Carlsen, leukemia (Judy Denemark); Mark Howell; Melana Horner, leukemia; Mike Moelbash, spine (Paula Kendall); Mike Walton (Vicki Baker); Nancy Mysliwiec, kidney (Judy Denemark); Noah, brain tumor (Jean Schlemmer); Pam Knapp, liver, & kidney (Sue Morgan); Paula S.; Rene (not DeYoung) pancreatic cancer; Rick Trosper (Tina Trosper); Roger Yarbrough (Mackenzie Morgan); Scott Dougall (Sue Morgan); Rudy, bone; Tom Atwater, prostate (Gary Atwater); Tom Kelly, prostate; Tony and Ted Braun, (Diana Graham); Trevor Claire; Vivian McClellan, PXA (McKenzie Morgan); William Moore Jr.; Yung Fajardo, leukemia (Sharee Leist) LONGSTANDING: Bill Griffin, health; Bob Griffin, heart; Chad, heart; Cris Weingart (Geneva-Eliza Weingart); Christine Love, health (Nancy Love); Connie & Jeff Smith (Aggie Bussen); Dennis Sanders, knee and heart (Judy Denemark); Duis family; Edith English (Kevin's mom); Elizabeth V. Mui (Geneva Weingart); Ethan Hart, diabetes (Colleen Harris); Gary Atwater, back & knee; Gary Owens (Pat Owens); George Gibbs (Kevin English); Granny & Pops; Ivan Bowman (Marti Bartels); 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); Larry Crandall, Alzheimer's; Linda Morgan (Bernice Pelmeier); Marge Nurton; Martin Lyles (Diana Graham's father); Misty Rogers, broken kneecap (Robin English); Nancy Love; Nate Hamilton, diabetic surgeries; Pauline Atwater, Parkinson's (Gary Atwater); Stephanie Harris, pain management; Tracee Reiter, pain (Robin English); Teresa Neucks-Mills, MS & fibromyalgia (Tina); Tina Trosper's dad, heart problems

December 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 Office closed 6:00pm Craft Night	2 9:00am Stuff A Bus
3 8:30am & 10:30am Service Advent Begins	4 Office Hours 9:00-2:00 9:00am Ship Shape 4 Christ 10:00am Staff Meeting	5 Office Hours 9:00-2:00 5:30pm Band Practice 6:30pm Men's Bible Study	6 Office Hours 9:00-2:00 9:30am Wednesday morning Bible Study	7 Office Hours 9:00-2:00 9:00am Ship Shape 4 Christ 5:00pm Music Practice	8 Office closed	9
10 10:30am Combined Service for Charge Conference 11:30am Potluck lunch 5:00pm Youth Group	11 Office Hours 9:00-2:00 9:00am Ship Shape 4 Christ	12 Office Hours 9:00-2:00 5:30pm Band Practice 6:30pm Men's Bible Study	13 Office Hours 9:00-2:00 9:30am Wednesday morning Bible Study 6:30pm Leadership Team Meeting	14 Office Hours 9:00-2:00 9:00am Ship Shape 4 Christ 5:00pm Music Practice	15 Office closed	16 11:00am Bob Fuller Funeral
17 8:30am & 10:30am Service 6:00pm Messy Church	18 Office Hours 9:00-2:00 9:00am Ship Shape 4 Christ	19 Office Hours 9:00-2:00 5:30pm Band Practice 6:30pm Men's Bible Study	20 Office Hours 9:00-2:00	21 Office Hours 9:00-2:00 9:00am Ship Shape 4 Christ 5:00pm Music Practice	22 Office closed	23
24 Christmas Eve Special Service 10am & 6pm	25 Christmas Day Office closed 12:00pm Reservation	26 Office Closed 5:30pm Band Practice 6:30pm Men's Bible Study	27 Office Hours 9:00-2:00	28 Office Hours 9:00-2:00 9:00am Ship Shape 4 Christ 5:00pm Music Practice	29 Office closed	30
31 8:30am & 10:30am Service New Year's Eve Removal of the greens after 1st service						