

A stylized cross logo composed of thin black lines. The vertical bar has a small horizontal bar at the top, and the horizontal bar has a small vertical bar at the left. The cross is centered behind the text.

HOPE  
LUTHERAN  
CHURCH

**2019**

**Annual Meeting and Report**

Sunday, November 10, 2019

TWO EAST MAIN STREET • ARCADE, NEW YORK 14009  
(585) 492-2530 • [www.HopeArcade.org](http://www.HopeArcade.org)



# CONTENTS

Agenda.....	3
Official Acts.....	5
Reports	
Pastor’s Report.....	8
Ministry Coordinator Report.....	10
Council Report.....	11
Finance/Stewardship Report.....	12
Personnel Report.....	13
Faith Formation Report.....	14
Community Outreach Report.....	16
Building and Grounds Report.....	18
Hospitality Report.....	19
A Future with Hope Report .....	20
Youth Report.....	22
Preschool Report.....	24
Thanks & Thanks Be to God! .....	26
Nominations.....	27
2020 Budget/Ministry Plan.....	<i>insert</i>

## AGENDA:

1. Official Acts
2. Reports
3. Thanks
4. Nominations
5. Ministry Plan



*Baptisms*



*Communion  
Celebration*



*Confirmation*

## 2019 OFFICIAL ACTS

### Baptisms

<i>Name</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Pastor</i>
Jesse Dean Lambert	April 14	Hannon
Andrew Edgar Hitchcock	July 7	Hannon
Benjamin David Hitchcock	July 7	Hannon
Harley Michael Hitchcock	July 7	Hannon
Maverick Jeffrey Kossow	December 15	Hannon

### Communion Celebration—March 31

Coy Agen		McKenna Krist	
Graham Milks	Makenna Smith	Cecelia Titus	

### Confirmation—May 5

Tyler Bley	Ashley Bliss
Tyler Day	Evan Frazier
Nick Rimbey	Madisen Sonner

### Funerals

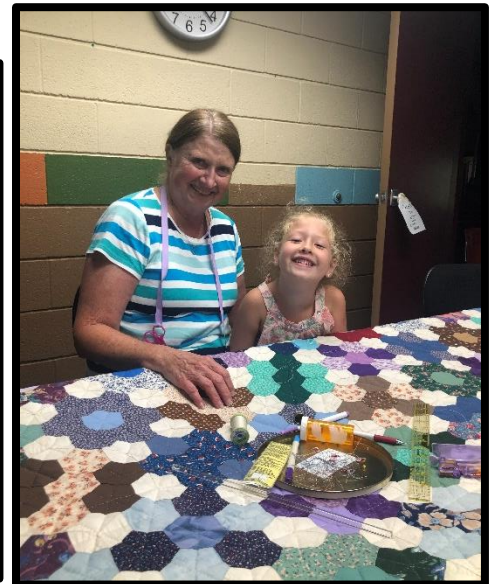
<i>Name</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Pastor</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Burial</i>
Martin Kazmark	11/19/18	Hannon	Smith Weismantel	N/A
Doris Crabb	10/25	Hannon	WS Davis	Yorkshire
Sharlie Mullin	6/26		Pine Grove, Fillmore	
Daniel Evans, Sr.	7/6	Hannon	Smith Weismantel	Maplewood
Harold Staffehl	7/25	Hannon	St. James UCC	Hillcrest, Hamburg
Joyce Hobin	8/19	Hannon	WS Davis	Freedom
Myrtle Rammacher	8/31	Hannon	Weeks, Warsaw	Grace, Castile
Bridget Rinow	10/14	Hannon (Committal)	St. Amelia's	

### Newer Members

11 Households	28 People
---------------	-----------

### Attendance

Weekly Worship	<i>2017—127</i>	<i>2018—136</i>	<i>2019—140 (to date)</i>
	8:30—60	8:30—74	8:30—83
	10:30—67	10:30—62	10:30—57



# REPORTS

---

## PASTOR'S REPORT

*Submitted by Pastor Shawn Hannon*

On Sunday, June 11<sup>th</sup> at 10:18am the first wall section for the new building was set. Standing it was both an exciting and nerve-wracking process. Once it was fully secured in place, I took a step back and marveled at what God had done. I watched as a dozen or so volunteers were patting backs and giving high fives as the 20' wall section finally revealed how big it actually was. I excused myself and I prayed in the storage room of the preschool. Tears of joy streamed down my cheeks. I was overwhelmed by the moment and by the realization once again of just how good our God is. Then I wiped off my face, took a deep breath, and went back to work.

As we gather at the end of another year of being church together here in this place, I cannot help but feel like we are at a similar place. We've watched years of work culminate in the erection of the shell of our future community and ministry center. We've watched the hopes and dreams of generations of hopesters meet God's mission in this place. We've seen seeds of faith planted and we've seen the results of deep roots. We've watched God, as God did with the church in early Acts, pour out God's Holy Spirit and add to our number day by day. And witnessing those realities we are called to step back, look around, and give thanks.

Although there are so many things to be grateful for here at Hope this year, here are a few at the top of my list:

- The 2019 Youth Winter Retreat: Hills and Valleys. We had a record turnout with lots of new faces, and we were led by young adults from our congregation.
- Communion Celebration, Confirmation & Youth Sunday: A few of the Sundays that I believe showcase above the rest the profound activity of the Holy Spirit in the lives of the younger members of our worshipping community. At Communion Celebration we witnessed God's grace coming to us at the table. At Youth Sunday we were reminded that nothing can separate us from that love and grace. At Confirmation, 6 of our youth made public affirmation of their faith.
- Worship Attendance: Our worship continues to thrive here at Hope. Our distinct services celebrate variety while they both remain deeply rooted in ancient practices of prayer and liturgy. In the summer we averaged 130+ weekly. I'm very grateful for the participation, shared leadership, Sprouting Hope volunteers, and musical gifts of members of our congregation.



There are so many other things on my list including Respite, Meal Packaging, Ale House Church, PAC services, Youth Group, Friends of Night People, Hope Fore Golf Tournament, VBS, sasi's Talent Show, and more. I left them off not because I am not grateful for the ways each of those ministries blesses our congregation, because I know you will read all about





them in upcoming reports. We indeed have MUCH to be grateful for. May we never lose sight of that, and may we not neglect to stop and give thanks and praise.

Then, may we wipe our face, take a deep breath, and get back to work. God's plans for this place are great, and God's invitation for us to participate in God's mission is relentless. But as God has already demonstrated, God's invitation and call for us comes with a promise. It comes with a promise that God is with us and that God will provide.

2020 marks my 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary in this place. As I think about that and look out at this community, tears of joy again stream down my face and I am overwhelmed by just how good our God is. We built a building this summer, but the most impressive thing we have built together is not evident in timber and steel. We have built a place where all are welcomed and where God is praised. We have built a place where the hungry are fed and needs are met. We have come together to work, to serve, to worship, to learn, to grow, and to have fun. We have built a place where love wins, grace rains, and hope abounds. I'm grateful for the opportunity to continue on this journey with you, and for the support and grace you continue to embody for me. Now, I'm ready to take my own advice and get back to work.



## MINISTRY COORDINATOR REPORT

*Submitted by Julie Tingue*

It continues to be my pleasure to work alongside the faithful and giving people of Hope in coordinating ministries, faith formation and communications. This year has been an exciting one as our current ministries have thrived and our new ministries have allowed us to serve our community in new ways.

Some of the most impactful moments at Hope this year have been through our new Respite Program. In December of 2018 we received a \$1,000 grant to start a once a month social program for individuals living with dementia. This 4-hour program allows caregivers to have respite. We have 31 volunteers from Hope and our surrounding community who have attended a 3-hour training and lead the days activities. We have worked with 11 guests throughout the last year. Every month we do a craft, play BINGO, have a gentle exercise activity, enjoy a visit from Amy Thomson's therapy dog, have themed activities and end the day with a sing-a-long. We have partnered with several community businesses to make this program great- Arcade McDonalds, Theos Restaurant, Arcade UCC, Arcade American Legion Ladies Auxiliary, Shannon King & Sue Prible from Intentional Fitness, Wild Spirit Education, Hope Preschool and Yorkshire Rite-Aid. This program has been a real blessing to all those involved. We look forward to the ways in which this program will allow us to serve our community.



This year Hope began volunteering at Friends of Night People in Buffalo which is a homeless shelter in Buffalo. Volunteers from Hope help serve the evening meal, organize clothing and food donations, wash dishes and work at the clothing closet at the center. We continue to volunteer at Ronald McDonald House charities as well. We prepare a meal for families who are staying at the house while their children are in the hospital. We also were able to donate several much needed items to several local charities through our Lenten Giving Challenge.

Some of the group ministry events that took place this year included a Valentines Day Card Making Class by Betsey Craft & Jennifer Blackwell, Family Bowling at Arcade Lanes, Family Night at Holland Boys & Girls Club, an essential oil class by Tracey Wood and a group Ladies Fellowship Night.



This year I had two opportunities to present the sermon while Pastor Shawn was out of town for work. This was both a challenge and a fear of mine, but it proved a good lesson that through the Holy Spirit- God gives us strength and peace to face our fears. This experience was one that allowed me to explore my faith in a new way.

It is a blessing to see how God has been at work through our ministries this year.

## COUNCIL REPORT

2019 was indeed a historic year for Hope. Ground was broken on our new Future with Hope Community and Ministry Center. Ministries including Respite and Friends of Night People were added to our outreach as a congregation. Our youth group continued to grow as our worship attendance reached new highs and giving was as good as it has been in recent years. We are grateful to Dr. Mary Songster-Alpin for her leadership as Church Council President during this time. As you will read below, this was a year full of expectation and some challenge. Dr. Songster's leadership was a gift to our council as we navigated each decision and her insights will be missed.



Our council has been busy since our last annual meeting. At the end of last year we adopted a new outside fundraising & solicitation policy. The form and application ensures that our gifts best support our mission and our values. We also began to consider ways to make certain Hope is a safe place to worship. Council members Joanne Offers and Tracey Wood attended a program on Safe Churches at the UCC church here in Arcade. We continue to keep the safety of our worship space in the forefront of our mind.



In the spring we began a thorough review of our preschool program. This could not have been done without the help and work of the Personnel Committee. Following evaluations of our staff and program, 3 possible suggestions were made. By August, Hope Preschool had a new staff, a new look, and a new program. We are excited about the things that Julie Tingué, the new director, has brought to the program. Her emphasis on guided play, childhood development, classroom management, and open communication have breathed new life into the program.

There are a number of administrative functions the council must perform from copier contracts to the new high-speed internet we have added to our facility this year, but as we prepare for 2020 we are looking forward to spending more time dreaming, listening, and exploring the ways God is calling us to be church in this place. The book we have been studying together as a council is entitled, *Canoeing the Mountains*. It uses a comparison of Lewis and Clark's expedition as a helpful way for the church to adapt and navigate change. We look forward to the opportunity to lead Hope during this time of both growth and challenge.

## FINANCE & STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

*Submitted by Joanne Offers*

A biblical view of stewardship can be consciously defined as: "Utilizing and managing all resources God provides for the glory of God and the betterment of His creation." The stewardship committee is responsible for helping us both as individuals and as a church to put God's blessings to work for God's glory. It means regularly saying thank you to God. It means putting our God-given talents to work for good. As a congregation it means being responsible with our weekly offering and assets. And it means putting what God's given us to work through the ministry to which God has called us.

Once again this congregation has been blessed with the time and talents of many dedicated individuals that have helped in all aspects of the ministry here at Hope. Through the efforts of many we have been able to save hundreds of thousands of dollars in labor and equipment to build a community building. Through the generosity of this congregation we are well on our way to complete the building in 2020. A Future of Hope Brick Campaign has begun to help raise additional funds. Please prayerfully consider purchasing a brick using brick forms that are on the shelf in the Parish Hall or online. They are due by December 31st.

The stewardship and finance committee members have counted and posted the weekly offering. Financial statements are prepared and disbursed at the end of year fiscal year with a thank you sent for your financial assistance to HOPE. We continue to be grateful to you and to God for your weekly offerings.

For those of you that are ready to avoid the check writing and envelopes, we have a Simply Giving Program that allows member to give electronically on a customizable cycle. Forms to enroll can be found on the parish shelf or by talking to our bookkeeper and administrator, Margie Rung. This is the future of church giving,

Time and Talent Surveys are available online and under the church bulletin board, if you have not filled one out or would like to make changes. This aids the church staff in filling the many opportunities to serve here at Hope.

The budget for 2020 has been prepared and will be presented at the annual meeting.

"Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms."

(1 Peter 4:10)



# PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT

*Submitted by Ellen McCarthy*

We have a wonderful group of talented people on staff here at Hope. We are uplifted weekly with beautiful music at worship, our church service is inspiring, the office is organized, our youth have exciting activities, our building is always clean, our preschool students are thriving. We are thankful to have newsletters and e-communications sent in a timely manner to keep us aware of the many things going on in our church family. As the liaison between church staff and the congregation our job is to keep communication open. We are also tasked to review and make recommendations regarding job titles and descriptions, compensation and responsibilities.

We have started meeting with each of our 7 staff members and 3 preschool teachers to stay apprised of their thoughts and concerns. We have developed and then updated a self-evaluation form to serve as an avenue of questions and conversation. These evaluations are designed to be a way improve our relationships with the people we depend on to keep us organized and operating. We are here to serve God and this would not be possible without the church staff.

As a result of the conversations we have had we realize just how fortunate we at Hope are to be blessed with such a talented and dedicated staff. The people that we depend on are completing the everyday tasks as well as the unexpected and critical things that arise in our church community. Everyone working together keeps things running smoothly. We are truly grateful to all of them!

We at Hope have adopted the NYS Sexual Harassment Policy. The personnel committee has met with each employee to go over the training set forward by the State of NY. This will continue to be a yearly process as we wish to stay in compliance with NYS regulations.

Moving forward we are hoping to stay aware of any and all opportunities that come up as we anticipate our role in the community to expand when the building reaches completion. We hope to empower volunteers to help when needed as we take on a more active role in the community.



# FAITH FORMATION COMMITTEE REPORT

*Submitted by Julie Tingue*

The Faith Formation Committee at Hope develops, assists and recommends ways to help our members grow in their faith through activities and programs for all ages of our congregation. Some examples of our Faith Formation in 2019 include:

## **Youth Faith Formation:**

- **Christmas Program 2018:** Our youth (ages 2 – 18) helped put on a great performance of “A Play in a Manger”
- **Communion Celebration:** Pastor Shawn worked with five of our young people who took part in a Communion Celebration on March 31. The students learn more about the sacrament of communion, created their own chalices thanks to Bev Fehringer and were able to serve communion to their families and congregation during worship.
- **Confirmation:** Six 9<sup>th</sup> graders affirmed their baptism by being confirmed during worship on May 5th. Pastor Shawn meets with our 7<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> graders on a monthly basis on Sundays evenings for communion instruction.
- **\*NEW\* Almost Sleepover:** Our elementary aged children were invited for an “Almost Sleepover” on May 31. They enjoyed an evening of games, snacks and a short movie before brushing their teeth and putting on their pajamas and then heading home. This event was led by Pastor Shawn and the Youth Group.
- **Youth Sunday:** “Victory” was the theme of this annual service on June 2. The special service included youth helpers of all ages doing every aspect of the service: Message, Communion, Singing, readings and more. New this year was the gift of a new bible for the 4<sup>th</sup> graders to congratulate them on their Elementary School years and get them excited to begin participation in Youth Group.
- **Sprouting Hope:** Children ages 2- 4<sup>th</sup> grade have been taking part in our Sprouting Hope ministry at Hope on Sunday mornings. During Sunday morning services, they learn Bible stories and prayers through play and projects lead by volunteers. We are so grateful to the many people that help develop these young minds. We now bring the children into the service before the sharing of the peace.
- **VBS:** To Mars & Beyond was the theme of our August Vacation Bible School where we welcomed 70 children for 4 nights. This was a remarkable event made possible by many volunteers, financial support and prayer. New this year was a Dunk-Tank to raise money for A Future with Hope. The dunk tank was donated by Mr. Bounce.



**Adult Faith Formation:**

- **Ladies of Hope:** Our Ladies of Hope have been meeting routinely this year to serve and grow in their faith. There are three Ladies of Hope Book clubs that meet monthly to discuss Christian themed books while developing relationships and support of each other. The groups continue to get bigger and involve more women who take part in other ministries of the church together. One group prepared and sent care packages to our college youth.
- **Men's Ministry:** Many men (and women) have been assisting regularly in the construction of Hope's Ministry & Community Center. A group of Hope's Men also served a meal at Friends of Night People, A Homeless Shelter in Buffalo, in October.
- **Adult Lenten Bible Study:** Pastor Bob Dievendorf led a small group Lenten Bible Study for members of Hope using the book "The Purpose Driven Life." Several individuals took part in this class which took place on Sunday mornings between church services.
- **Ale House Church:** Ale House Church topics this year included: Worship Matters, The Lost Gospels, Mental Illness, Modern History of the Bible, Wearing our Faith for the World to See, and Blue Laws & Ball Games. The large attendance has led to the group taking over the entire dining area for this monthly event and reaching out to include others who are dining at the Main Street Grille during the event.



## OUTREACH COMMITTEE REPORT

*Submitted by Sandi Bennett*

To quote a great scholar –

**“It’s not in numbers, but in unity, that our great strength lies.”** Thomas Paine

However, with that being said, it’s the numbers that show where our strength is in 2019:

- Have 5 committed members on the committee and youth representative Cora Blackwell
- Provided 30 Turkey’s to those in need
- With the help of 90 volunteers we packaged 5,000 meals to assist 5 local Food Pantries
- Made Christmas a little brighter for over 30 individuals with a gift from their wish list
- Donated over 100 items to various community support services with the Coat Drive
- Raised \$4,800 with the Pioneer Empty Bowls Project
- Earned over \$1,100 in the annual town wide Memorial Day Garage Sale.
- In this 6 paragraph report the word congregation appears 6 times as we consider you one of the most important members of our Committee.

**December /January** - With the support of about 90 volunteers of this congregation, the Outreach Committee and Pastor Shawn’s enthusiastic encouragement we packaged 5,000 meals. These packaged meals were shared with Arcade, Delevan, Chaffee, Franklinville and Springville community food pantries.

**February/March**- We spearheaded a new project by asking the congregation to bring items every Sunday during Lent in the form of personal hygiene items, socks, etc. to support Friends of Night People, Boys & Girls Club of Holland, G.A. Family Services, Ronald McDonald House, Backpack for Kids Program, C.H.O.I.C.E.S & Harvest House and The Pines Healthcare and Rehabilitation facility.

**April/May**- On April 14, 2018 working with Black Raven Pottery the 3rd Annual Pioneer Empty Bowls Project was held raising over \$4,800. On May 4th/5th the word got out at the Hope booth at the Tri-County Community Showcase on how we serve and share both locally and in other service areas in the Western New York area. Thank you to Marge Webster and Kathy LaScala for representing this committee with other Hope member volunteers. On Memorial Day weekend of (May 24th), the annual town wide garage raised over \$1,100 matching the profits of 2018.

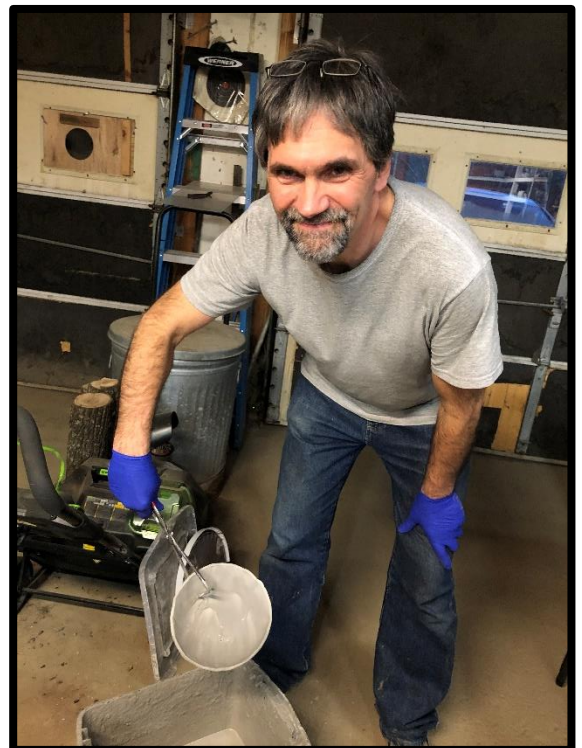
**June /July/August** - Again this committee showed great support volunteering time and talents with the Summer events that include VBS, Archery, the Respite Program, Ronald McDonald House dinners, attendance at Ale House Church and the many American Red Cross Blood Drives.

**September/October** - As the leaves turn quickly so do the pages of the calendar and again we approach the months of giving. We ask for “spare change” along with blessings and prayers for those in need in the upcoming ‘giving’ season as we continue to sponsor the “Turkey Drive” and “Christmas Tree of Giving”. The “Spare Change” coin collection jar is now out with hopes of earning \$2,000 towards the meal packaging event to be held sometime during the Lenten season in 2020. A Special Thank you all for your continued support of generosity in these events, as without you there would be no positive reports.’



**November** – The Hope Annual Meeting will welcome new members to the committee and another new year of outreach begins. As a committee we will continue to discuss other ways to “outreach” within the community, expand our sponsorship of projects, help our congregation grow in numbers and continue to serve and outreach within the community and our congregation.

Numbers are important. Costs, revenues, performance, targets, dates, ages, time, calculations or measurements, all considered numbers. People will agree, numbers have a special meaning and are not just theoretical, but, also the properties or contained within the properties of all beings and groups. This Committee has an important role in bringing in numbers and foster a greater awareness of what Hope does in our community. We are grateful and thankful for the continued support of all members of Hope and have seen how these numbers have improved our mission as shepherds of Christ.



## BUILDING AND GROUNDS' COMMITTEE REPORT

*Submitted by Pastor Shawn Hannon*

The building and grounds committee is made up of a few members, but many hands in actuality keep our property and church looking great. We are grateful to every person who through their gift of their time and talent make Hope beautiful!

While a great deal of effort has been spent on the new building this year, our existing building did receive a few upgrades itself:

1. Immediately after the annual meeting last year, the Parish Hall border was removed and the wood panel walls sections were added. A fresh coat of paint gives the room a nice clean look.
2. In the spring the wall was removed between the old 'library' and Sprouting Hope room to make room for the growing class. The new opening was trimmed out, and the walls were painted. To give it a personalized touch, youth identified their favorite Bible verses which were painted on the wall with the help of several moms.
3. A VeraPlus Home Control Unit was added along with over a dozen light switches and 4 thermostats. The unit keeps a timer on our external lights, allows for a keyless entry to the building during closed hours, and simplifies the turning on and off of lights. The original unit broke this fall which Vera is replacing.
4. After significant delay, Spectrum finally ran a high-speed internet line to our church across the east side of our property from the road.
5. The Village of Arcade updated their t-ball backstops on Hope's west lawn. A service agreement was again signed with the Village trading their use of the land for their maintenance of it.
6. Hope's 1980s refrigerator was replaced with a new under the counter refrigerator as well as an upright unit with a freezer.



As Hope's current building continues to age, one thing our committee remains mindful of is the need for maintenance or upgrade to the older sections of our building. In particular, we recognize the carpet in the parish hall is getting older, the stalls in the ladies' bathroom require reconfiguration, and the dim lighting in the sanctuary continues to persist. We will continue to address issues as they arise and funds permit.

As we said before, we conclude with a word of thanks. Every house owner understands there is constant upkeep, cleaning, and repairs. The same is true for God's house. Thank you to everyone who helps keep Hope looking beautiful. Nothing would be possible without you!

# HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE REPORT

*Submitted by Diane Gibbs*

Areas of Responsibility: Plan and oversee fund raising dinners, receptions, PAC events as needed and dinners to support congregational members and provides or assists with Respite snacks and lunches.

Members: Diane Gibbs, Gayla Kossow, Jodie Buchhardt, Erin Hammell, Carol Boldt and Council representative, Angie Tavernier.

## 2019 Events:

- Respite Lunches: January 9<sup>th</sup>, March 13<sup>th</sup>, April 10<sup>th</sup>, June 12<sup>th</sup>
- Fish Fry: February 15<sup>th</sup> & March 15<sup>th</sup>
- First Communion Reception for 5 young people: March 31<sup>st</sup>
- Lenten Lunch: April 10<sup>th</sup>
- Assisted with the Empty Bowls Project: April 14<sup>th</sup>
- Easter Brunch on Sun. April 21<sup>st</sup>
- Supported the Trade Fair, May 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup>
- Reception given for Affirmation of Baptism (Confirmation)
  - Six young people on Sun. May 5<sup>th</sup>
- Youth Sunday & Youth Chicken Barbeque Assistance: June 2<sup>nd</sup>
- VBS Support August 5-9<sup>th</sup>
- Quilt Show and Chicken and Biscuit Dinner, October 18-20<sup>th</sup>
- Upcoming
  - Annual Meeting Breakfast: November 10<sup>th</sup>
  - Turkey Dinner: November 17<sup>th</sup>
  - Assist with PAC Advent Lunches
  - Respite Lunch: December 12<sup>th</sup>



We are grateful for the many volunteers who provide food and their help for all these activities. You are all greatly appreciated!



## FUTURE WITH HOPE COMMITTEE REPORT

*Submitted by Pastor Shawn*



The best way to get a Future with Hope report is to take a step through the window in the old nursery room and to see for yourself. After spending the better part of a year tweaking plans and attending planning meetings, Hope was ready to build in the Spring of this year. We broke ground at the end of April. By the middle of May the foundation was poured. Over the course of 8 days in June every wall was erected. We had initially given ourselves through the end of October to complete 'phase 1' of construction, that is the completion of a dried in building. In the end we came in more than a month ahead of schedule.

### **Many Hands.**

After receiving bids from 4 contractors, Hope determined it would be more financially viable to complete much of the construction ourselves. This 'Habitating-It' approach has proved to be exactly the right route for us to take. Over 30 different members of Hope have donated some portion of time to the project. We are especially grateful for Bob Buchhardt, Dennis Gaston, Dan Osgood & Paul Fehringer who are the top volunteers to date.

### **One Set of Hands.**

While many hands make for light work, much of the work associated with our project to date has been done by just one: Mike Sonner, Sr. Mr. Sonner has managed our project with a careful eye, and we would not be where we are today without his efforts.



### **Community Partners.**

Multiple businesses in our area have stepped up and offered their services or products at a discounted or donated rate. We estimate the value of their donated gifts between \$50-100,000. Those partners include: Tri-County Tool Rental, Schwab Aggregates, Mid-West Fasteners, Tidd Roll Off, Mac Tools, Creative Interiors, Creekside Millwork, Doug Mullet Masonry, Engasser Construction, Haley Concrete, John Sixt Lumber, All-Pro Gutters, & Luke Hackett Masonry.

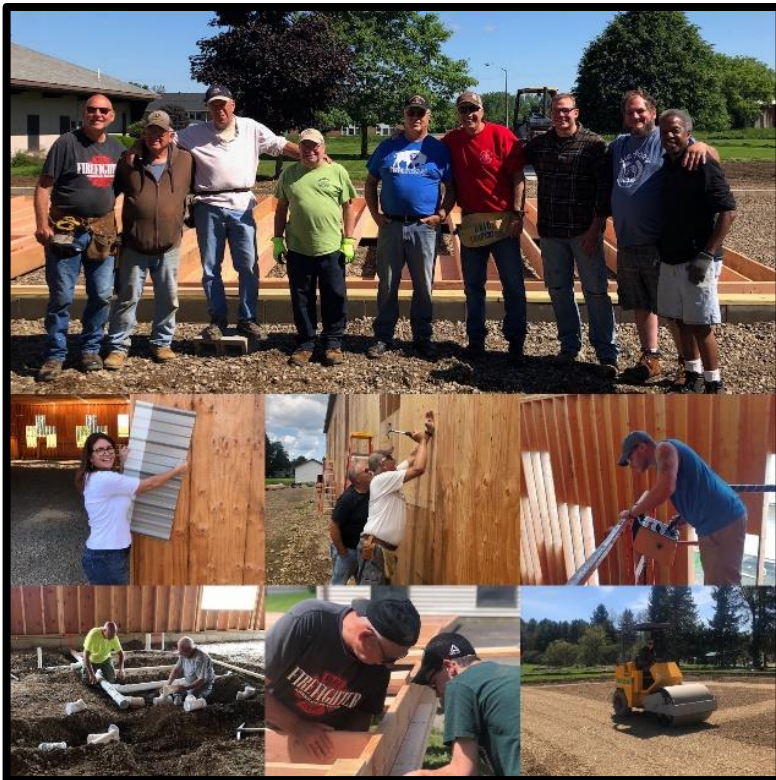
### **Finances.**

Contributions to A Future with Hope to date are just short of \$450,000. That includes 35 gifts of between \$1-500, 9 gifts between \$501-1,000, 11 gifts between \$1,001-5,000, 4 gifts between \$5,001-10,000, 3 gifts between \$10,001-25,000, 2 gifts between \$25,001-50,000, 1 gift between \$50,001-100,000, and 1 gift of over \$100,001. Just over \$10,000 has been

given in anonymous donations, and an additional \$52,798 was raised by 12 different fundraisers. To date expenses are around \$350,000. That figure includes everything from the driveway/parking lot relocation of 2016 and the architectural drawings. That leaves \$100,000. Our goal for the current brick campaign is to sell between 300-500 bricks raising between \$50,000-85,000 for the project. Additional contributions and fundraisers will need to raise approximately \$150,000 for the project's completion assuming we can continue to count on the current trend of volunteer help and community partnership.



The project is off to a great start. As we conclude the report, please allow us to name two of the greater blessings of this project to date. First, we remain mindful that God has kept each of us safe and there have been no major injuries. We know how quickly accidents can happen, and we are grateful for God's hand overseeing every contractor and volunteer who has been a part of the process. And, Second, we are grateful for the community that is forming with the building of this community center. The energy around the shared service and with every gift is having an avalanche effect. Bonds of friendship and respect are being sealed with our gift of time and talent for the common good.



## YOUTH REPORT

*Submitted by Pastor Shawn Hannon*

This summer our youth headed to Darien Lake for an afternoon of fun and recreation (shout out to the McCarthy's for the tickets!). As the day ended rumors started to circulate about a lock-in that night at Hope. There was only one problem: no one told me. In fact, I did not find out about it until a parent whose child was not even on the trip to Darien Lake that day called and asked me what their child was supposed to bring to the lock-in later. The youth, in turns out, had organized the event and were waiting to ask me until all the details were set. I guess they figured I would be less likely to say no. They were right.

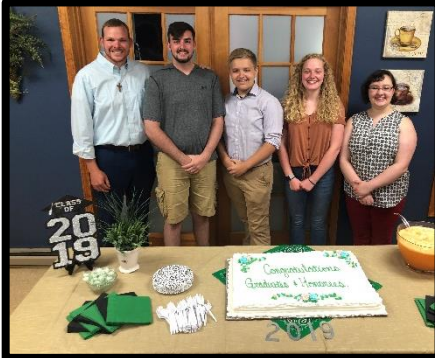
That night just under 20 of them gathered for an evening of games, devotions, and hanging out. Some of them were 5th graders who had never attended a Hope Lock-In before or experienced the amazingness of sardines (the game, not the food). Others were college bound freshmen celebrating one last chance to hang out at their church home as youth. But all of them had one thing in common: they made a choice to be there. In fact, it was their idea. I do not know how to describe to you how rare that is.

Youth is one of the 7 core values of our congregation (with Worship, Grace, Welcome, Outreach, Leadership, & Relationship). It is a part of who we are and it is evident in every part of our life together. We built on that greatly this year with a record retreat at Camp Pioneer (check out the highlight video on YouTube) and continued growth at Youth Group. As the new school year has begun we have witnessed a surge in energy amongst our middle school youth. That excitement is setting this up to be a very full year for the youth of Hope.

As we begin 2020, we know that the addition of the new building will offer new opportunities for our youth programming, and we are very excited to see where those go. To make sure that youth voices are fully part of the process we hope to have 3 youth (2 sophomores for continuity and 1 senior for maturity) on church council this year.

As our current youth director, Zach Wiedemann, completes college this winter, we know that life very well might take him another direction. While we welcome Zach's gifts for as long as he is willing to give them, through conversation with him and discernment regarding the future of the position, we know that we will have some decisions to make regarding staffing for youth programming in the near future.





# PRESCHOOL REPORT

*Submitted by Julie Tingue, Director*

In August I began a new adventure serving Hope Preschool as the Director. I was blessed to start the year off with Janet Campana as a mentor and interim teacher. With her guidance and with the assistance from Pastor Shawn, Pam Osgood, Ellen McCarthy, Megan Titus and Carol Boldt we kicked off the year with 19 students. In October we added 2 more students bringing our total to 21. We have 11 girls and 10 boys in our class of 3 & 4 year-old students. The 2018-2019 school year graduated 17 students from the Hope Preschool.



After talking to some of Hope's Early Education Teachers a few changes were made to the program that included an emphasis on character building, fine & gross motor development and exploration through guided play centers. The Centers include: Art, Blocks, Discovery (Science & Math), Dramatic Play & Library. Children have the option of where to play every day. Activities are in the centers that match the theme of the month/week that work on developing fine motor technologies and awareness of letters, numbers and shapes. Each month the centers get new items and educational materials to go with the theme. Some highlights of our year include:

**September:** School Routines, Caterpillars & Butterflies, Getting to Know our Friends

**October:** Pumpkins, Fire Safety and Halloween

- A visit from the Arcade Fire Department
- A "field trip" through the Hope Quilt Show
- A successful Basket Raffle to benefit our Preschool raising \$1,500
- A Halloween Party, Parade and Performance for our families

**November:** Pets, Veterinarians, Thanksgiving & Turkeys

- Visits from our pets
- A "No-Bite" program given by Amy Thomson and her dog Maggie
- A visit from local Veterinarian Dr. Jeff Tingue: Nov 15
- Stone Soup Luncheon for our families: Nov. 22



This year we have been utilizing the main church entrance as the entrance and exit for the preschool. The outside doors are locked at all times. This routine is more welcoming, allows parents to gather in our kitchen area as opposed to the classroom during pick-up and promotes safety during this time of construction at Hope.

We now have a full-time staff team in place to finish out the school year. We welcomed back Julie Weixlmann in September and hired Timi Pawelski in October. Our substitute teachers this year are Megan Titus, Ellen McCarthy, Jennifer Daugherty and Janet Campana. We also have many helping hands in our classroom. On Wednesdays we welcome sasi volunteers, on Fridays Pam Osgood comes to our class, Pastor Shawn teaches Jesus time daily and we welcome parent volunteers regularly.



We thank you for your prayers, support and patience as we work to make this program exceptional.



THANKS

---

NOMINATIONS

**Our thanks to the following people whose term of service will end this year.  
Thank you for all you have done for this congregation!**

**Buildings and Grounds:**

Mike Sonner Sr.

**Finance/Stewardship:**

Brenda Schmidt, John Kossow

**Community Outreach:**

Kathy LaScala & Sandi Bennett

**Personnel:**

Dale Deahn & Missy Pleace

**Faith Formation:**

JD Struckmann, Sue Dressel

**Church Council:**

Mary Songster-Alpin  
Paul Fehringer

**2019 THANKS BE TO GOD**

*Each month the Council sets aside a special amount of time to give thanks for the invaluable work of some of our members. Here are the 2018 designees.*

**December 2018**

Our Congregation  
Diane Gibbs  
Paul Fehringer  
Bob Vossler  
Carol Boldt  
Jim Alpin  
The Clubhouse at  
Turkey Run

**March 2019**

Bob Buchhardt  
Jacob Offhaus  
Ernest Floyd  
Sue Dressel  
Pastor Bob Dievendorf  
Tammy Burton  
Arcade McDonalds  
Dustin & Jenni Smith  
Bob & Jodie Buchhardt  
Amy Thomson  
Dennis Finch  
Janice Page  
Brian & Angie Tavernier  
Brenda Schmidt  
Scott & Kristin Bley  
Diane Gibbs  
Dale & Lisa Deahn

**Summer 2019**

Carol Boldt  
Diane Gibbs  
Margie Rung  
Wendall Sampson  
Pete Boldt  
Dan Osgood  
Eric Tingue

**January 2019**

Lauren Ashburn  
Tim Sonner

**February 2019**

Brent Scions  
Carol Hannon  
Maddie Tavernier  
Mike Campana  
Helena Blackwell  
Mike Sonner  
Tim Sonner Sr.  
Timmy Sonner Jr.  
Scott Bley  
JD Struckmann  
Stephen Struckmann  
Betsey Craft  
Jen Blackwell  
John Schenne

**April 2019**

Bev Fehringer  
Megan Titus  
Jenni Smith  
Carol Hannon  
Julie Tingue  
Youth Group  
Dennis & Cindy Gaston

**September 2019**

VBS Volunteers  
Golf Tournament Sponsors  
& Volunteers  
Ed & Ellen McCarthy  
Anna Tavernier

**October 2019**

Janet Campana  
Pam Osgood  
Kori Sciandra Leckey  
Quilters of Hope

## NOMINATIONS

“But it is not so among you; but whoever wishes to become great among you must be your **servant**, and whoever wishes to be first among you must be **slave** of all.

For the Son of Man came not to be **served** but to **serve**,  
And to **give** his life a ransom for many.”

—Mark 10:43-45

### 2020 Church Council

Office	Nomination	Term
President	<b>Dale Deahn</b>	<b>2020</b>
Vice President	Cora Blackwell	2019-2020
Financial Secretary	<b>Joanne Offers*</b>	<b>2020-2021</b>
Secretary	<b>Tracey Wood*</b>	<b>2020-2021</b>
At Large	Mike Campana	2019-2020
At Large	Angie Tavernier	2019-2020
At Large	<b>Rachel Kittleson</b>	<b>2020-2021</b>
Youth at Large	Evan Frazier Tyler Bley	<b>2020-2021</b>
Pastor	Shawn Hannon	<i>ex officio</i>

### 2020 Committees

#### Mid-Term

*Term: 2019-2020*

#### Nominations

*Term: 2020-2021*

Buildings & Grounds	Jacob Offhaus	Ernie Floyd	<b>Missy Pleace</b> Bob Buchhardt*
Community Outreach	<b>Margie Webster</b>		Cindy Gaston    Sue Dressel
Faith Formation	Kara Boldt	<b>Jenni Smith</b>	Anna Tavernier    Amy Thomson
Finance/Stewardship	<b>Joanne Offers</b> Kelly Frazier	Zach Wiedemann Ashley Gerhard	Mike Sonner Sandy Ashworth <b>Scott Bley</b>
Hospitality	Erin Hammell*	<b>Gayla Kossow*</b>	Carol Boldt    Ruth Zimmerman
Personnel	Jim Alpin	<b>Ellen McCarthy</b>	Bob Vossler <span style="background-color: yellow; display: inline-block; width: 100px; height: 1em;"></span>

**Bold: Committee Lead**

*\*Indicates the individual is serving a consecutive term and is not eligible to serve in the same position at their next eligible election.*

In everything there is **hope**.