

HOPE *happenings*

VOLUME 48
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JANUARY 2020



Pray for Peace, Not War. A Reflection from Pastor Shawn

I was 17 when terrorists struck the World Trade Center in NYC. I was in my senior year in high school and remember gathering in the library as the morning played out on a television on a media cart. Some of my classmates were scared; which was probably more due to the shock and horror on our teachers' faces than because of the events themselves. That is how I understood the gravity of the event. I knew from watching my teachers that this particular morning was going to change the world, and I knew two things for certain: **America was going to war and America was going to win.**

And why wouldn't I think that? I'd been taught in every history class, every year that America had won every conflict of which it has ever been a part. Years before as a kid I used to walk down to the Wilson Farms convenient store on the corner of Buffalo and 2nd Streets and buy trading cards of the Desert Storm soldiers. We traded cards of real American soldiers who in my lifetime showed me what war looked like: In and out. Power and might. The good guys live. The good guys win. I was certain that for the evildoers that orchestrated that attack, retribution was coming. I cheered it on.

If I grieved, it was short-lived. By the afternoon of 9/11 I couldn't understand why people were so upset. If the Toby Keith song (which he would write months later) already existed, I'm sure I would have been singing it through the halls, "We'll stick a boot up you're a\$\$, it's the American way." (*When that album came out, I bought it, and I went and saw him perform it live in concert in Erie that summer.*)

The following fall several of my friends enlisted. I was proud of them. I still am. It felt like we had something worth fighting for and against. And to each of their credits, they did. But the conflict that followed did not look like the Gulf War of my childhood. There were no playing cards of my friends near the cash registers of grocery stores. No moments of surrender and the only victory speech proved to be hopeful thinking. Our enemies were ideologies rather than a nations or people. Rhetoric and propaganda fueled hate and grew our enemies' ranks. If you

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WORSHIP NOTES

Sundays at 8:30am: Band Led Worship

Sundays at 10:30am: Piano & Organ Led Worship

Sunday, January 5

Epiphany of our Lord
Reading: Isaiah 60:1-6
Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12

Sunday, January 19

2nd Sunday after Epiphany
Readings: Isaiah 49:1-7 &
1 Corinthians 1:1-9
Gospel: John 1:29-42

Sunday, January 12

Baptism of our Lord
Readings: Isaiah 42:1-9 &
Acts 10:34-43
Gospel: Matthew 3:13-17

Sunday, January 26

3rd Sunday after Epiphany
Readings: Isaiah 9:1-4 &
1 Corinthians 1:10-18
Gospel: Matthew 4:12-23



IN OUR PRAYERS:

We pray for Matthew Nourse, Curt Emery, Ben, Dave Carr, Paul Sanders, Betty Offhaus, Traci, Joan Taylor, Roger Day, Matt Weaver, Mary Ann, Jerry Webster, Mary Dell, Angela, Katie Offhaus,, Sue Adams and family, Doug Lavery, Carrie Ruffin, Suzanne & Otto Struckmann, Gary Beiersdorf, Rev. John Fehringer, Ken Babbitt, Catherine, Jay May, Ed Cole, Joe Strobele, Jr., Wade, Betsey Koerner, Don Tober, Sandy Semans, David Niver, Betty Howard, Ryley Green, Roxanne, Ally Conrad, Becky,, Joe Strobele, Sr., Erin Hammell, Mary Field, Rick Lewis, Lloyd Neamon, Randy Cady, Greg, Mary Ellen and Jack.



We also pray for all those who are struggling with drug and alcohol addictions and also pray for the victims of all forms of abuse. We continue to keep our Servicemen and women, who are serving at home and overseas, in our prayers.

“Pray for Peace, Not War”...cont.

told that boy in that library that he would be sitting here nearly 2 decades later with the war on terror still raging, he would not believe you.

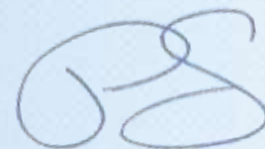
But here I am. Here we are. And as I write this it appears that more conflict is coming. And I wonder what the kids in the library today (or more than likely on their smart phones) who cannot comprehend the gravity of the situation at hand think of it, and, more, what they may be learning from looking at me and you.

Many years later, I no longer root for war the way my younger self did. I no longer anticipate easy victories. I no longer believe the ends justify the means. Truthfully, since it seems like every conflict of my adulthood has perpetuated conflict and my latest history classes teach slightly different versions of “America has never lost a war,” I wonder about the effectiveness of war altogether. **I do not root for it. I pray about it.** I pray for everyone effected by it. I pray for our soldiers. I pray for our enemies. I pray for our families and for theirs. I pray that we may recognize the human cost. And I pray that the conflict may be about justice and lead to peace.

But while I wonder about war’s effectiveness and while I hope to experience a world without it, I recognize that I may not see such a day. Until then, I pray that the wars that are fought are last resort responses to tyranny and injustice. In those cases, the men and women who are called upon to fight such wars should be held in esteem and cared for. If today’s veteran mental illness rates and suicide rates teach us anything, it should be a sobering reminder about the reality of war, and we must be ready to admit that the destruction of our enemies, we also inflict upon ourselves. Supporting the troops needs to mean more than giving them your seat on an airplane and universally standing behind the conflicts they are called to fight. It means recognizing the job they are asked to do and the toll of it; listening, learning, and supporting them with authentic relationship rather than bumper stickers and hashtags.

Here’s what I ask of us, as the conflict with Iran reaches its boiling point do not be calloused or political with your response, but realistic, reflective and faithful. Do the hard work of turning that human desire for vengeance into forgiveness and hopes for justice. Pray that the “peace on earth” we that longed for with the dim lights and silence of our Christmas Eve worship may be realized not just in our cathedrals but where the angels said it would should up: on the whole earth. But if conflict proves inevitable, instead of pointing fingers and placing blame, pray and care for those most effected.

Our children are watching. My fear is that we are still teaching them the lesson of war that I learned. That war is like a sporting event and America is the home team. For goodness sake, we traded the cards. But war is not a game, and I wish someone had told me sooner.



2019 4TH– QUARTER FINANCIAL UPDATE



October 2019

Weekly Giving: \$2,788

Average Attendance: 148

October 2018 Weekly Giving: \$2,674

November 2019

Weekly Giving: \$2,684

Average Attendance: 145

November 2018 Weekly Giving: \$2,414

December 2019

Weekly Giving: \$2,545

Average Attendance: 114

December 2018 Weekly Giving: \$2,939

EVENTS at a GLANCE

- January 5:** Sunday Services: 8:30am & 10:30am
- January 7:** Quilting: 10am-2pm
Youth Group: 6:30-8pm
- January 8:** Un-Deck the Halls: 10:30am
- January 9:** Hope Respite: 10:30am– 2:30pm
- January 10:** Book Club #1: 6:30pm at Megan Titus' Home
- January 12:** Sunday Services: 8:30am & 10:30am
Confirmation: 5-7pm
- January 13:** Church Council: 6:30pm
- January 14:** Quilting: 10am-2pm
American Red Cross Blood Drive: 11:30am-5:30pm
Youth Group Outreach Trip to Oishei Hospital– 2:30-8pm
- January 16:** Book Club #2 at Carol Boldts Home: 7pm
- January 19:** Sunday Services: 8:30am & 10:30am
State of the Building Meeting: 9:30am
- January 21:** Quilting: 10am-2pm
Youth Group: 6:30-8pm
- January 22:** Home Communion Outreach Meeting: 6pm
Committee Coffee House: 6:30pm
- January 26:** Sunday Services: 8:30am & 10:30am
- January 27:** Ale House Church: 7pm at Main Street Grille
- January 28:** Quilting: 10am-2pm
Book Club #3 at Hope: 2:30pm
Youth Group: 6:30-8pm
- January 30:** Friends of Night People Outreach Opportunity



**Friends of
Night People**

OPPORTUNITIES

TO SERVE:

Sprouting Hope Teachers: We are looking for adult leaders to serve our 10:30am Sprouting Hope Faith Formation Ministry to our littlest Hopesters for the coming months. The curriculum is provided in advance and involves teaching lessons and leading activities for children ages 2-4th grade.

Friends of Night People: We are looking for 10-12 volunteers to take part in a service project on January 30 at Friends of Night People in Buffalo which will involve serving dinner and drinks, cleaning trays and helping in the clothing closet. We will carpool from church at 3:15pm, will serve from 5-7:30pm and then go out to dinner before returning home to Arcade. Participants must be at least 10 years-old. Those who are 10-14 years old must have a parent accompany them. If you have donations of hygiene products, or Adult Male clothes (size 2XL is the #1 request) you would like to donate on your behalf, feel free to bring them to church the week of January 27th.

Home Communion Outreach: Hope is excited to start a home communion outreach program where our members visit with and serve communion to shut-in members of our congregation. The first meeting will be Wednesday, January 22 at 6pm.

Committee Coffee House: Our new church committees will have their first meeting of 2020 on Wednesday, January 22 at 6:30pm. Committee planning will involve fish fry planning, faith formation, outreach projects and more. If you have been selected to be on one of our committees, please make every effort to attend.

TO GIVE:

Respite Program Opportunity: Our 2nd Year of Respite is officially underway and we look forward to what this next year includes. Ways you can support this program:

- Donating small Bingo Prizes
- Sign up to provide morning snacks or lunch for one of the monthly programs

Please contact Julie Tingue if you would like to help in this capacity: julie@hopearcade.org

WINTER YOUTH RETREAT CAMPERSHIPS— Our youth are headed for a weekend of spiritual learning and reflection, team building and fun at LCLC in Bemus Point. The cost is \$125/ child. To keep it affordable we are charging youth \$75 to attend which includes 2 nights of lodging and 4 meals. If you would like to sponsor a youth group member to attend and/or help to offset the cost difference in some way, please see Pastor Shawn.

American Red Cross Blood Drive: The American Red Cross will be hosting a blood drive at Hope on **January 14 from 11:30am-5:30pm**. Please consider donating blood and/or serving as a volunteer to help check-in donors or host the canteen area.

TO FELLOWSHIP & LEARN:

State of the Building Meeting: Sunday, January 19: 9:30am

All are welcome at this meeting for an update from Pastor and the Church Council about the state of the "A Future with Hope" Ministry and Community Center- our progress, our finances and our future plans and needs will be addressed. There will be time to ask questions.

Ale House Church: Monday, January 27: 7pm

Ale House Church will take place at Main Street Grille. Come raise a glass, no experience necessary. Topic to be announced soon!

Ladies Book Clubs: All three of our Book clubs are starting a new book this month and welcome women to get involved in this ministry. There are two evening groups and one day time group. Contact Julie Tingue to get involved.



This month our learning and guided-play was based on "Birthday Celebrations." We spent the month learning about the Advent season, Jesus' birth and preparing a special birthday party celebration for Jesus!

The students welcomed family and friends on December 14 for a Christmas Program. They told the story of Christmas through the book, "Santa's Favorite Story" and did a great job singing Christmas songs.

December also included Parent-Teacher Conferences, a Godly Play lesson from Deb Wood, a visit from Santa and Mrs. Claus (Bob & Jodie Buchhardt) and creating special ornaments and gifts for loved ones for Christmas.

Wishlist Item of the Month:
Plastic Artic
Animals Toys and
Shaving Cream



YOUTH

Middle & High Youth Group

Tuesdays, January 7, 21, & 28
6:30-8pm

Please bring a few dollars for pizza and a friend.

Confirmation

Confirmation this month will be held on January 12 from 5-7pm for 7th-9th graders.

Outreach Trip to Oishei Children's Hospital

Tuesday, January 14
2:30-8pm

Youth will be delivering donations they have been collecting of coloring books, colored pencils and gift cards to the Family Resource Center at the Hospital. Any youth that are interested in attending should be healthy at the time, RSVP by Friday, January 10 and bring along \$5 for dinner.



JOHN R. OISHEI

Children's Hospital

A Kaleida Health Facility



**Congratulations to
Stephen Struckmann
December's
Youth of the Month!**

CELEBRATIONS

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

- | | | |
|----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| 3- Cecelia Titus | 12- Shannon Malik | 21- Caroline Neamon |
| 4- Karen Monin | 13- David Carr | 22- Erin Krist |
| 4- Brenda Schmidt | 14- Mark Cordz | 23- Marilyn Pirdy |
| 5- Susan Dressel | 14- Kelly Thomson | 26- Paul Blackwell |
| 6- Albert Noble | 15- Jacob Offhaus | 28- Ron Ashworth |
| 8- Alfred Ackerman | 16- Graham Milks | 28- Beverly Hallock |
| 10- Mary Dell | 17- Scott Rimbey | 29- Clara Gross |
| 11- Earl Farris | 20- Leonard Dressel | 29- Amanda Metzger |
| 12- Heather Petrillo | 20- Kim Offers | 29- Piper Malik |

JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

- 1- Paul & Jennifer Blackwell
- 2- Marc & Heather Petrillo
- 13- Kim & Pat Wittenrich
- 27- Bob & Margie Webster



COMMUNION INSTRUCTION:

Attention 2nd graders and those interested in communion instruction. Classes are set for Sundays: March 8, 15, 22, at 11:30am (lunch will be provided). Communion Celebration will take place on Sunday, March 29 at the 10:30am service. All classes are for children AND their parents. If your child is in 2nd grade or has not yet gone through communion instruction at Hope and would be interested, please let pastor know.



HOPE *happenings*



▲ In December, Piper Malik & Fran Senko of Whispering Maple Farms helped members of Hope create fresh evergreen wreaths and mantle pieces for the Christmas season.

▼ The second annual Beer & Carols was a packed house and a great fundraiser for A Future with Hope. Hope's musicians did a remarkable job leading carols for those in attendance at the event which took place at Turkey Run.



HOPE *happenings*



▲ Our Children and Youth did an amazing job with their Christmas Program, "The Loaned Manger."

► Christmas Eve Service

◄ The Youth Christmas Party included reflection, fellowship and a Chinese Food dinner.

Hope Respite celebrates Christmas and their first year of programming with volunteers and guests. ▼



SERVING IN WORSHIP

	January 5	January 12	January 19	January 26
Sunday Steward: 8:30 am	Tracy Wood	Angie Tavernier	Cora Blackwell	Tyler Bley
Greeters: 8:30am	Barb Sonner	Betsey Craft	Smith Family	Bev Hallock
AV Tech: 8:30 am	Jim Alpin	Alyssa Boldt	Jacob & Ernie	Cora Blackwell
Acolyte: 8:30 am	Garrett Milks	Cecelia Titus	McKenna Krist	Megan Boldt
Assisting Minister: 8:30 am	Tracey Wood	Joanne Offers	Mary Songster-Alpin	Marjorie Webster
Children's Church: 8:30am	Anna Taveriner	Amy Thomson	Anna Taveriner	Deb Wood
Lector: 8:30am	Janet Campana	Cecelia & Everett Titus	Cora Blackwell	Monica Reding
Prayers: 8:30 am	Margie Webster	Mike Sonner, Sr.	Ashley Bartz	Ernest Floyd
Ushers: 8:30am	Brian & Angie Tavernier	Pete & Kim Boldt	Jason Gerhard Jim Alpin	Tyler Bley & Evan Fra- zier
HC Assistants: 8:30am	Megan Titus Missy Pleace Kristen Bley Tyler Bley	Brian Tavernier Tyler Bley Jacob Offhaus Jim Alpin	Tracey Wood Kristin Bley Diane Gibbs Missy Pleace	Jen Blackwell Joanne Offers Jenni Smith Amy Thomson
Sunday Steward: 10:30 am	Bob Vossler	Margie Rung	Rachel Kittleson	Carol Boldt
Greeters: 10:30 am	Brenda Schmidt	Sue Dressel	Jodie Buchhardt	Hammell Family
AV Tech: 10:30 am	Cindy Struckmann	Cindy Struckmann	Carol Staffehl	Stephen Struckmann
Acolyte: 10:30 am	Kristofer Burfield	Kole Hammell	Gavin Hammell	Tyce Monin
Assisting Minister: 10:30 am	Sue Farris	Stephen Struck- mann	Bob Vossler	Sue Dressel
Children's Church: 10:30 am	Julie Tingue	Ellen McCarthy		
Lector: 10:30 am	Kim Offers	Al Boldt	Sandi Bennett	Paul Rigerman
Prayers: 10:30 am	Paul Rigerman	Kim Offers	Sharlene Vossler	Sue Farris
Ushers: 10:30 am	Sandi Bennett & Kathy LaScala	Bob Buchhardt & Len Dressel	Sandi Bennett & Kathy LaScala	Bob Buchhardt & Len Dressel
HC Assistants: 10:30 am	Ellen McCarthy Stephen S. Ruth Zimmerman John Kossow	Kathy LaScala Sue Farris Rachel Kittleson Carol Boldt	Ellen McCarthy Brenda Schmidt Sue Dressel Stephen Struckmann	Carol Boldt Jodie Buchhardt Sharlene Vossler Bob Vossler
Altar Guilds:	Margie Rung & Mary Alpin	Tracey Wood & Diane Gibbs	Barb Sonner & Carol Boldt	Mary Songster Alpin & Cindy Struckmann
Coffee Hour:	Sandy Brenda & Dorothy	Margie Rung	Kim Boldt	Marilyn Pirdy
Counters:	Scott Bley	Mike Sonner Zach Wiedemann	Joanne Offers Kelly Frazier	Ashley Gerhard Sandy Ashworth

2020

Experience Hope

January

- 6 Epiphany
- 9 Hope Respite
- 12 Baptism of our Lord
Confirmation Class
- 14 Red Cross Blood Drive
- 30 Friends of Night People

February

- 13 Hope Respite
- 18 Women @ Ronald
McDonald House
- 23 Transfiguration of our Lord
All Church Breakfast
Confirmation Class
- 26 Ash Wednesday

March

- 4,11,18,25 Wed. Lent Services
& Community Luncheon
- 5 Friends of Night People (Men)
- 6 Fish Fry
- 8,15,22 Communion Instruction
- 12 Hope Respite
- 20-22 Youth Winter Retreat
- 24 Red Cross Blood Drive
- 29 Communion Celebration
- TBD Meal Packing

April

- 1 Wed. Lent Services
& Community Luncheon
- 3 Fish Fry
- 5 Palm Sunday
- 9 Hope Respite
Maundy Thursday
- 10 Good Friday
- 12 Easter Service & Brunch
- 21 Youth at Ronald
McDonald House
- 26 Confirmation Class
- TBD Empty Bowls Luncheon & Fundraiser

May

- 7 Friends of Night People
(Women)
- 14 Hope Respite
- 17 Confirmation Sunday
- 21 Red Cross Blood Drive
- 31 Pentecost

June

- 7 Youth Sunday
- 7 Youth Chicken BBQ
- 11 Hope Respite
- 19 Ronald McDonald House
(Young Adults)

July

- 2 Friends of Night People
(Young Adults)
- 9 Hope Respite
- 14 Red Cross Blood Drive
- TBD All Church Picnic

August

- 10-13 Vacation Bible School
- 13 Hope Respite
- 17 Ronald McDonald House
(MEN)
- 23 Hope FORE A Future Golf
Tournament

September

- 3 Friends of Night People
- 10 Hope Respite
- 15 Red Cross Blood Drive
- TBD Confirmation Class

October

- 8 Hope Respite
- 13 Ronald McDonald House
- 18 Chicken & Biscuit Dinner
- 25 Reformation Sunday
- TBD Confirmation Class

November

- 1-22 Turkey/Coat Drive
- 1 All Saints Sunday
Deep Fried Turkey Dinner
Youth Apple Pie Sales
- 5 Friends of Night People
(Youth)
- 8 Annual Meeting
- 12 Hope Respite
- 17 Red Cross Blood Drive
- 22 Christ the King Sunday
- TBD Confirmation Class

December

- 1-15 Giving Tree Collections
- 2,9,16 Wed. Advent Services
& Community Luncheon
- 4 Ronald McDonald House
- 10 Hope Respite
- 20 Youth Christmas Pageant
- 24 Christmas Eve Service
- TBD Beer & Hymns

Monthly Events: Ale House Church | Ladies Book Club | Church Council | Committee Coffee House

Weekly Events: Sundays: 9:30am Coffee & Fellowship Hour | 8:30 & 10:30am Sprouting Hope

Tuesdays: 10am-2pm Quilting Group | 6:30-8pm Middle & High Youth Group

All dates and times are subject to change

Stay Connected: (585) 492-2530 | www.hopearcade.org



This newsletter was prepared especially for:

Address Service Requested

Arcade, New York

2 East Main Street

HOPE
LUTHERAN
CHURCH

A FUTURE WITH HOPE MINISTRY & COMMUNITY CENTER

State of the Building Meeting



Sunday, January 19

9:30am

Come to Learn & Inquire about our Progress, Finances & Future Needs

In everything there is hope.