

Hope's Happenings

HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH, NY

Volume 45, Issue 9: November 2017

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From Pastor Shawn

As I write this, the first flakes of snow are falling outside my office window. It's a certain sign that the seasons are changing, and, while I'm not quite ready for the winter season (see the patio furniture still adorned for the 4th of July in my backyard), I am ready for the season of thanksgiving that kicks off our long winter months.

While the world is setting its eye on Christmas, I hope you may find ways in the next several weeks to dwell in gratitude. And if you are looking for a little direction into the best ways to express your thanksgiving, I thought I'd share two examples from the Bible on how best to give thanks and live graciously.

Inheritance Into Offering: The Israelites

After God delivered the Israelites from slavery in Egypt he promised to settle them in a land of milk and honey. For 40 years they wandered through the wilderness waiting for God to deliver on that promise, and then one day, God did. Imagine their joy. They were enslaved. They survived the Egyptians' attempted genocide. They were chased through the Red Sea. They lived for an entire generation as nomads. Then it happened. God gave them the land he promised, and they settled it. I suppose for many it would have been easy to forget the road that led them there. After all, most of the people didn't personally experience the worst of it. They could have simply carried on with their new lives. But that is not what they did. Instead, after inheriting the land they didn't act entitled. Instead they took the first fruits of their harvest—the best stuff they had, and they gave it back to God saying, "Now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O Lord, have given me." Then they celebrated God's bounty. They reminded themselves where good things come from, and then they gave them back.

One of the best ways to express gratitude is to turn the blessings God has given us into offerings that bless others. And do not simply give what's left over. Don't just round up your change at the check out line. All that stuff is fine, but the best way to express gratitude isn't giving what you can't or didn't use, but off the top. Give your first fruits. Your best stuff. And while that may seem hard, what makes it possible is remembering where that blessing came from. It's from God, and God is not through blessing you yet.



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Worship Notes



New Worship Hours:

8:30am: Worship Band led Liturgy

9:30am: Coffee & Ministry Hour

10:30am: Piano/Organ led Liturgy

Sunday, November 5

All Saints Sunday & Turkey Dinner

Surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses, we're going to give thanks for the saints living with Jesus and for the impact they've had in our lives. Starting at 12:00noon we will be selling Deep Fried Turkey Dinners & Apple Pies.

Sunday, November 12

2017 Celebration– Meal & Annual Meeting

We will gather to give thanks for the past year while looking ahead to what God has in store for us next. We'll look at our church budget and appoint new people to serve on committees.

We'll watch a video of the past year's highlights. ALL ARE ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND! Those who are able are encouraged to bring a dish to share.

Sunday, November 26

Christmas Decorating

Help us deck the halls while getting in the Christmas spirit.

We will start decorating directly after the 10:30 service.

Christmas Season Worship Services:

First Sunday of Advent: Sunday, December 3

8:30am & 10:30am

Second Sunday of Advent: Sunday, December 10

8:30am & 10:30am

3rd Sunday of Advent & Youth Christmas

Pageant: Sunday, December 17

8:30am & 10:30am (Christmas Pageant)

Christmas Eve Services: Sunday, December 24

4:30pm & 10:00pm

No morning services

Wednesday Services: December 6, 13, 20

11:00am Community Worship & Shared Lunch & 7:00pm Evening Prayer



Reflections from Pastor Shawn

Continued from page 1

Worship: The Essential Thank You Note

My mother instilled in me as a child the necessity of sending Thank You Notes. Birthdays, Christmas, Graduations... every occasion that potentially meant gifts, meant I was already out stocking up on stationary. Thankfulness was complete only when it was expressed. But how do we express our gratitude for all that God gives us? For the roofs over our heads and the food on our plates? How do we say thanks for our families, for walking with us through illness, for forgiving us when we fail? I suppose a thank you note would be appropriate, but figuring out precisely where to send it would probably be an issue.

The good news for us is that we can save the postage. God isn't looking for a hand-written thank you note so much as grateful hearts and tongues of praise. Psalm 100 (stop everything you are doing and read the whole thing. It's short and it's a beautiful reminder of the shape of our worship) says, "...Enter God's gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise. Give thanks to him, bless his name." The way we say thank you to God is through our worship.

As we journey into this season of blessing, my prayer for us is that we respond with our gratitude. As we do, may it take shape beyond #hashtags and instagram posts. If you're happy and you know it, clap your hands. If you're grateful and you know it, you give, you worship, and you respond. And as you do, remind yourself that expressions of gratitude are not for the attention you might get, but because of the blessings God continues to give. And may God bless you with a very Happy Thanksgiving.



PSALM 100

A Psalm of Thanksgiving

- 1 Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth.
- 2 Worship the Lord with gladness;
come into his presence with singing.
- 3 Know that the Lord is God.
It is he that made us, and we are his; [a]
we are his people, and the sheep of his
pasture.
- 4 Enter his gates with thanksgiving,
and his courts with praise.
Give thanks to him, bless his name.
- 5 For the Lord is good;
his steadfast love endures forever,
and his faithfulness to all generations.



From Julie Tingue, Ministry Coordinator

At our last women's bible study we spoke on the topic of change, something every Fall we are often reminded of. Whether it is watching our children, grandchildren, nieces or nephews head back to school or admiring the beauty of God's handiwork in the colorful leaves dotting the landscape we are reminded that "For everything there is a season and a time for every matter under heaven" (Ecclesiastes 3:1).

Change isn't easy; in fact this year in particular caused much anxiety in our house as we watched our daughter head off on the bright yellow school bus to all day UPK. Among my fears were thoughts like "how will she open her milk" or "will she pick good friends." My husband's fears included "what if someone picks on her" and "who is this boy she has been smiling about?" Bailey's anxiety came in the form of acting out, refusing to put pants on in the morning or going on the bus kicking and screaming. It felt like this "season" in our lives was breaking us all down.

It was that bible verse from Ecclesiastes that we discussed at our bible study that reminded me that God was in control and that I had to let go of my frustration and fear and give it all up to Him. God so thoughtfully provides for us, he places the right people (in my case the faithful women in our bible study) in our lives to help us get through each season we face— whether it be a joyous, frustrating or a lonely one.

Now, nearly two months into the school year our morning routine is getting perfected, Bailey is exceling in her class and I feel so much comfort knowing I put my faith in Him. Sometimes we don't always see His hands at work until the season is over. It is times like this, when the roller coaster I have been riding comes to an end, that I take a moment to look back on this season or experience in my life and reflect on how God was there for me.

As we head into the season of thankfulness, I encourage you to reflect on the ways that you see how God has been working in your life. What are you thankful to God for in this season on your life? How has God spoken to you recently? Remember to give Him all the glory!

- Julie



Opportunities to Give & Serve

Turkey Drive and Dignity Item Collection for Local Pantries: We will be having a Turkey Drive to support our local Food Pantries for Thanksgiving through 11/19. You may donate either turkeys or funds to purchase one (or more). We are also collecting dignity items for pantry patrons including (but not limited to) shampoos, soaps, razors, feminine products, and toilet tissue. These are items food stamps do not cover and many go without.



Can you spare your Change? We are saving change in the large glass container on the table in the Parish Hall to support **Hope's Annual Meal Packaging** to be held on Sunday, Dec.3. Our goal is: \$2,500 and 10,000 meals to be distributed to local food pantries in Catt., Wyoming and Erie counties.

We Remember In Our Prayers



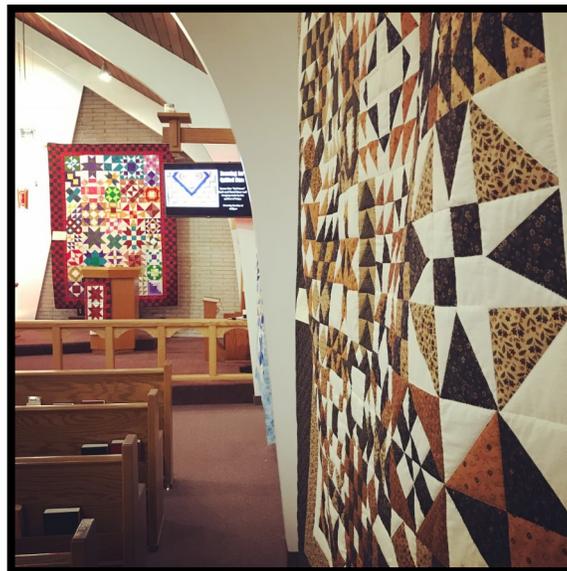
We pray for Matthew Nourse, Carmon Becker, Sharlie Mullin, Highland Day, Curt Emery, Laura Bley, Myrtle Rammacher, Pastor Bob Zimmerman, Isabelle Wagner, Luke Fries, Kathy Washburn, Ben, Roger Day, Dave Carr, Jeannette, Nicole Gremmel, Paul Hammond, Greg Kent, Melissa Ackerman, Lorelei and Team Mandu, Shirley Doolittle, Chris Winkleman, Brad, Shirley Spencer, Angel Hansen & Family, Jacob, Jaysen Bray & Polly.

We pray for all those who are struggling with drug and alcohol addictions and we 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.

Quilt Show Follow-Up

The ladies of Hope Lutheran Church in Arcade held their 17th Quilt Show October 13-15. Approximately 386 visitors attended the show that featured 106 quilts and quilted items for display. Featured among the bed size quilt entries were seven "Women of the Bible" Quilts that covered the walls of the sanctuary at Hope.

Quilting demonstrations and guest speakers were featured each day compliments of Creekside Fabrics, Quilts and Yarns in Arcade. John Kubiniec of Big Rig Quilting, presented "A New Spin on the Drunkard's Path" on Friday. Kubiniec is an author, teacher and quilt judge from Syracuse. Rochester quilt designer and teacher, Joan Ford, presented "Scrap Therapy and Management" on Saturday. Sunday featured award winning local quilt and fiber artist, Mary Ann Fritz from Lime Lake. Her presentation was titled "Nature Transformed with Fabric and Textiles" was very well attended.



Bringing home special recognition from the show were the Viewers Choice Awards. Winning the Viewers Choice for Bed Size Quilt was Nancy Bush from Warsaw, NY. Her quilt titled "Sweet Dreams in Old Lavender" allowed Bush to challenge herself with small appliques and small pieced squares. Viewers Choice for the category of "Other Quilted Item" went to Jackie DeRock from Black Creek, NY. Her wall hanging titled, "Dance of the Dragon Flies" featured Batik fabric cut and fused to the background. The show also featured hand quilting demonstrations by the Quilters of Hope, a chicken and biscuit meal served by Hope Lutheran Church, vendors and craft and bake sale items. **The Quilters of Hope would like to express their appreciation and thanks to the many exhibitors, the congregation at Hope Lutheran Church and to Sandy Piridy and staff at Creekside Fabrics.** The quilt show brought in \$4,434 for the church and \$1,200 for the Preschool.

November Events:

Ale House Church—The next Ale House Church will take place on **Monday, November 27 at 7:00pm**. Topic: All things Christmas: a deeper look into the nativity of our Lord and how we celebrate it as a church and culture.

Basket Weaving— Join us Thursday, November 9 at 6:00pm for a basket weaving class taught by Hope's Ellen McCarthy. The cost is \$12 to participate. Participants please bring an old towel, scissors, small flat tip screw driver, a bucket and clothes pins. Sign up on the church bulletin board.

Blood Drive—The next American Red Cross Blood Drive is taking place Tuesday, November 14 from 11:30am-5:30pm. Hope is looking for both donors and volunteers to greet visitors and serve refreshments. See Tracey Wood if you are able to lend a helping hand.

Care Givers Support Group- Care Givers Support Group will meet on the last Thursday of the month, **Thursday, November 30 at 6:30pm**. We gather to care for those who care for others, to listen, and to share both our experience and our support. If you know of anyone that could benefit from this group please reach out to Bob Vossler.

Committee Coffee House— Committee Coffee House will not be meeting in November or December. If your committee has items to attend to, please schedule time to meet when it works best for your group.

Ladies Bible Study – The Ladies of Hope Bible Study will be meeting monthly in the Fall and Winter. Any interested individuals are welcome to attend as we explore devotions and bible study related to the season. The next Bible Study will take place **Thursday, November 2 at 6:30pm** at Hope.

Christian Education & Youth Ministry

Youth Group Nights: Youth group will meet the following Tuesday nights for the month of November:

Tuesday, November 14

Tuesday, November 21: Come prepared to make and share a *Youth Thanksgiving* meal together.

Tuesday, November 28

Confirmation Classes— November Confirmation Classes will be held **November 1, 15, 29 at 7:00pm**.

Lock-In at Hope: Friday, November 3

3:00-5:00pm: Slice, Peel and Prepare Apple Pie Filling for 60 pies to sell on Sunday!

5:00-9:30pm: Dinner and the Movie Thor Ragnarok in Springville \$5/youth

9:30pm: LOCK-In: Expect sardines, spoons, devotions, movies, apple pie baking and maybe some sleep!

Upcoming:

- Practice for the Christmas Pageant:
 - Youth Group Tuesday Nights in December
 - Sunday, **December 10** at 9:30am
 - Saturday, **December 16** at 9:00am
- Cooks for Kids in Buffalo – December 4



Hope Preschool

Thank you so much to everyone who donated baskets & participated in our recent basket raffle. You all helped us raise \$1200 for the preschool. We would also like to thank two very generous donors. We couldn't do the special things we do without amazing people like you!



Our busiest time of year is upon us & we are so excited! Over the next couple of weeks we will be preparing for our annual Stone Soup luncheon on 11/15. Then we will spend the next few weeks preparing for our Christmas program on 12/15 & then our party on 12/22. We would love a visit from Santa! If you or someone you know plays Santa & would be willing to pay us a visit & please give us a call!



Our students brought their pets to school this fall which was a special treat!



We enjoyed a Halloween Pajama party on Monday, October 30 including games, candy and a movie!

Thanks Be to God for YOU!

September/October 2017:



Ray & Sandy Milks– Arcade Center Farm: For donating our Fall Décor including pumpkins, mums and corn shocks.

Scott Lambert- For welding a broken table base for one our fellowship hall tables.

Scott Mason & Chris Graf- For your special "A Future with Hope" donation

Quilters of Hope– For putting on another amazing quilt show

Jim Alpin & Paul Fehringer– Helping provide cool critters and support for our fist ever pet blessing!

Faces of Hope



Making a Hope Family Quilt during ministry hour!



Pub with a Purpose 2017!



Kelly William Hannon, Child of God, was baptized on October 22 surrounded by his loving family!



The 17th Annual Quilt Show!



Faces of Hope



We celebrated the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation by carving pumpkins with our youngsters on Sunday, October 29. Martin Luther taught us that we are saved by our faith alone. Today we are still looking for ways that God's transformational and reformation Spirit can impact our lives and the world we live in. One way is to share our faith by letting his Spirit shine in each of us, just like the pumpkins we carved.



Nearly \$150 was raised at the Main & More event in Arcade for Lutheran Diaster Relief efforts for Houston and Florida. Thanks to Tracey & Bob Vossler for represeing Hope.

Blast from the Past



Our youth preparing apple pies for their pie fundraiser in 2014. Our youth will be at it again Friday, November 3! Make sure you purchase your apple pie on Sunday, November 5 to support their trip to Houston in June of 2018.

Celebrations!

Birthdays

- | | | |
|------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| 5- Geoffrey Milks | 9- Myrtle Rammacher | 21- Brianna Cordz |
| 5- Erin Schwab– George | 10- John Hofmann | 22- Perry Hannon |
| 6- Kerianne Alpin | 11- Joanne Offers | 24- James Kittleson |
| 7- Ashley Bliss | 12- Joseph Strobele | 24- Gary Rung |
| 7- Emily Prior | 12- Bailey Tingué | 26- Marisa Sanders |
| 7- Angie Tavernier | 15- Karen Prior | 27- Cole Pleace |
| 8- Ethan Wendig | 18- Kathryn Zielonka | 28- Carter Gates |
| 9- Reese Bartz | 19- Timothy Sonner Jr. | 28- Beverly Hallock |
| 9- Diana Hoffman | 20- Harry Monin | 28– Doug Spencer |

Anniversaries

- 1– Gordon & Sandra Bennett
25– Jerry & Jeanne Schuler

Looking Ahead to December...

- 10,000 Meal Packaging: **Sunday, Dec. 3** between services
- Youth Trip to Ronald McDonald House: **Monday, Dec. 4**
- Beer & Hymns: **Monday, Dec. 4**
- Wednesday Advent Services **Dec. 6, 13, 20:** 11:00am& 7:00pm
- Ladies of Hope Bible Study: **Thursday, Dec. 7** at 6:30pm
- Holiday Painting during Coffee Hour: **December 10** at 9:30am
- Church Council: Monday, **Dec. 11** at 6:30pm
- Youth Christmas Pageant Practices:
 - Sunday **Dec. 10** at 9:30am
 - Saturday, **Dec. 16** at 9:00am
- Youth Christmas Pageant: **Dec. 17** at 10:30am
- Christmas Cookie Decorating: Sunday, **Dec.17** at 9:30am
- Christmas Floral Arrangement Making: Thursday, **Dec. 21** at 6:00pm
- Christmas Eve Services: **Dec.24:** 4:30 & 10:00pm
(no morning services)

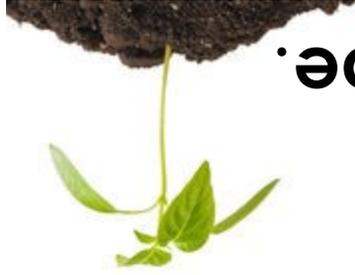
More details to come in the next Hope Happenings Newsletter!



Duty Roster– November

	November 5	November 12	November 19	November 26
<i>Acolyte 8:30 am</i>	Eric Rautenstrauch Garrett Milks	Catherine Brown Timmy Sonner	Cooper Rhodus Cole Rhodus	Riley Bliss Grace Tavernier
<i>Acolyte 10:30am</i>	Gavin Hammell Clara Gross	Nick Rimbey Zach Rimbey	Gavin Hammell Clara Gross	Nick Rimbey Zach Rimbey
<i>Altar Guild</i>	Carol Boldt Barb Sonner	Sue Dressel Judy Strobele	Margie Rung Carol Staffehl	Carol Boldt Barb Sonner
<i>Assisting Minister 8:30 am 10:30 am</i>	Helena Blackwell Sue Dressel	Tracey Wood Julie Tingue	Margie Webster Victoria McCarthy	Joanne Offers Pam Bradford
<i>AV Tech 8:30 am 10:30 am</i>	Trevor Bley Jim Alpin	Cora Blackwell Scott Rimbey	Alyssa Boldt Julie Tingue	Madelyn Tavernier Jim Alpin
<i>HC Assistant 8:30am 10:30am</i>	Margie Webster Bob Vossler	Diane Gibbs Pam Bradford	Lisa Deahn Judy Strobele	Joanne Offers Kathy LaScala
<i>Council Rep 8:30am 10:30am</i>	Jen Blackwell Rachel Kittleson	Paul Fehringer Carol Boldt	Jen Blackwell Bob Vossler	Paul Fehringer Jim Alpin
<i>Greeters (10:30)</i>	Chris Gross	Al and Carol Boldt	Bob and Sharlene Vossler	Julie Tingue
<i>Lector 8:30am 10:30am</i>	Kim Offers Sharlene Vossler	Anna Tavernier Victoria McCarthy	Ashley Bartz Jodie Buchhardt	Tracey Wood Sue Dressel
<i>Prayers 8:30am 10:30am</i>	Cora Blackwell Al Boldt	Janet Campana Jodie Buchhardt	Carol Hannon Sharlene Vossler	Anna Tavernier Chris Gross
<i>Children's Church 8:30am 10:30am</i>	Marsha North Ellen McCarthy	Marsha North Ellen McCarthy	Marsha North Ellen McCarthy	Marsha North Ellen McCarthy
<i>Ushers (10:30)</i>	Scott Rimbey & Sons	Kathy LaScala Carol Staffehl	Len & Sue Dressel	Chuck & Pam Bradford
<i>Coffee Hour 10:30</i>	Barb Sonner	Marilyn Pirdy Bev Hallock	Chuck & Pam Bradford	Bob & Jodie Buchhardt

Please let the Church Office know if you desire to learn more about the above leadership roles for Sunday services. We would be happy to show you the ropes and help you get involved on Sundays.



In everything there is hope.

HOPE
LUTHERAN
CHURCH

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Address Service Requested

This newsletter was prepared especially for: