

# HOPE *happenings*

VOLUME 46 | ISSUE 8 | SEPTEMBER 2018



## A Shoot Shall Rise

**A Reflection from Pastor Shawn**

We recently cut down a couple of ash trees at Hope to make room for the Community and Ministry Center we plan to build over the next 18 months. We left the stumps a bit higher than you might expect so that a bull dozer can help take them out. Perhaps that's why I noticed.

Initially the stumps were just as you'd expect. Bare bark leading up to a sawed off top. But as the weeks passed something began to happen. Although the stumps were destined for the dozer, apparently, they didn't get the message. At first a shoot shot off the side of each of the stumps, and if you look at them today it looks like they each have a bush growing directly where the rest of the tree used to be.



It's no secret I love this image, and I was delighted to see it spring to life at Hope. The prophet Isaiah wrote, "A shoot shall rise from the stump of Jesse" (Is. 11:1). What a message of hope.

Isaiah was talking to the kingdom of Israel. They had experienced greatness. They inherited a promised land and God established them as a kingdom. But through the course of history they were conquered, this time by Assyria. They were cut down. The end. Or so they thought.

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**Katie Gray, & Julie Weixlmann**  
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# SEPT. WORSHIP NOTES

## *Service Times:*

*8:30am (Band Led Service)*

*10:30am (Organ/Piano Led Service)*

### **Sunday, September 2– 15th Sunday after Pentecost**

*Readings: Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9 & James 1:17-27*

*Gospel: Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23*

*(Last Sunday for 10:30am outdoor services)*

### **Sunday, September 9– 16th Sunday after Pentecost**

*Readings: Isaiah 35:4-7a & James 2:1-10 [11-13] 14-17*

*Gospel: Mark 7:24-37*

### **Sunday, September 16– 17th Sunday after Pentecost**

*Readings: Isaiah 50:4-9a & James 3:1-12*

*Gospel: Mark 8:27-38*

### **Sunday, September 23— 18th Sunday after Pentecost**

*Readings: Jeremiah 11:18-20 & James 3:13--4:3, 7-8a*

*Gospel: Mark 9:30-37*

### **Sunday, September 30— 19th Sunday after Pentecost**

*Readings: Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29 & James 5:13-20*

*Gospel: Mark 9:38-50*

## IN OUR PRAYERS

***We pray for Matthew Nourse, Carmon Becker, Sharlie Mullin, Curt Emery, Myrtle Rammacher, Ben, Roger Day, Jeannette, Nicole Gremmel, Greg Kent, Chris Winkleman, Jaysen Bray, Kyler Limburg, Pat Szustakowski, Dave Carr, Joyann Faircloth, Paul Sanders, Bill Washburn, Betty Offhaus, Rod Lons, Dale Poole, Keith Stromsoe, Traci, Lindsey Thomas, Gail Palmerton, Jeff Slocum, Harold Staffehl, Adrene, Joan Taylor, Amber Kilmer, John Kossow, Tom Beiersdorf, Sr, Pastor Bob Zimmerman and Luke Fries.***

***We 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.***

# “A Shoot Shall Rise” cont....

Isaiah wrote, “A shoot shall rise...” Isaiah reminded them of God’s power to bring life out of death, victory out of conquest, and hope out of despair. God has the power to turn our “game overs” into new life. The Assyrians may have cut down the tree, but they forgot about the roots.

There are times in all of our lives where we feel cut down. Perhaps the ax strikes with news of death or illness. Perhaps the blow comes with uncertain employment or financial crisis. Maybe a relationship is falling apart or the darkness of depression is creeping in. We’ve all been there. But the good news for us is that no circumstance of our life gets the final word. Even when we feel like a stump, God’s plan is always to spring up newness of life in us. In short, God turns all the times we want to say shoot into shoots of life.

Because in everything there is hope... even in stumps. Even when axes blow, or, in our case, chainsaws strike. Even when worse things threaten our lives. They will leave their marks, but they cannot touch our roots. And our God springs forth life.



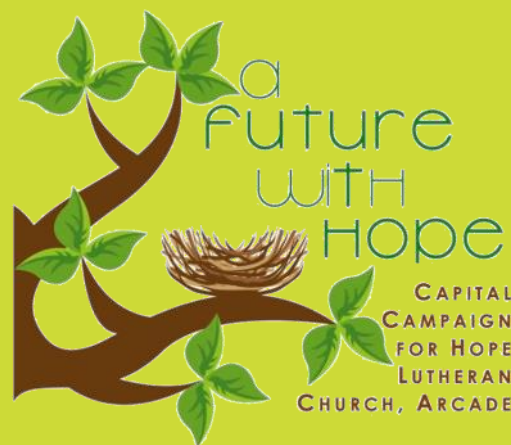
## A FUTURE WITH HOPE

The batter boards are up, the trees are down, the driveway is history, and the playground is moved. Things are moving and shaking on Hope's east lawn in preparation for the building of the Future With Hope Community and Ministry Center over the next 18 months.

**Construction Update:** All of our paperwork is in the town and county hands, as we wait for the permit to build. We have extensive plans from our architect and engineer. If you would like to take a peek please feel free by inquiring about them in the main office. Once we have our permit and the proverbial green light on our building plan we will finalize our material list. From there we will be looking for community partners and the best prices for the highest quality of work. If you or anyone you know of is interested in partnering with us on the building side, please speak with Pastor Shawn.

**Financial Update:** Gifts for the Future with Hope Community and Ministry Center continue to come in. To date in 2018 we have received over \$30K in new donations with \$75K in pledges outstanding through the end of the year. We are approximately 2/3 of the way to our cash goal of \$700,000.

Overall, the Future with Hope campaign is doing great, and we thank God for his faithfulness. We have been blessed as a congregation and we are living into that blessing, paving the way for an incredible future. And God is doing that through YOU-no endowments, no grants, no tax dollars... just your faithful giving. It truly is amazing what we are capable of when we come together. Thank you for your gifts to date, and your continued support of this project in the future.



-The Future with Hope Committee

# EVENTS at a GLANCE

- September 2-** Sunday Services 8:30am & 10:30am
- September 3-** Happy Labor Day- *Office Closed*
- September 4-** Quilting: 10am-2pm  
Youth Group 6:30-8:00pm  
Archery 6:30-8:00pm
- September 9-** Sunday Services 8:30am & 10:30am
- September 10-** Church Council: 6:30pm
- September 11-** Quilting: 10am-2pm  
Youth Group 6:30-8:00pm  
Archery 6:30-8:00pm
- September 13-** Ladies Book Club #2: 7pm at Carol Boldt's Home  
Ladies Book Club #1: 7pm at Julie Tingue's Home
- September 16-** Sunday Services 8:30am & 10:30am
- September 18-** Quilting: 10am-2pm  
American Red Cross Blood Drive: 11:30am-5:30pm  
Youth at Ronald McDonald House: 3-8:30  
NO Youth Group  
Archery 6:30-8:00pm
- September 23-** Sunday Services 8:30am & 10:30am  
Mission Trip Discussion: 9:30am
- September 24-** Ale House Church: 7pm
- September 25-** Quilting: 10am-2pm  
Youth Group 6:30-8:00pm  
Archery 6:30-8:00pm
- September 26-** Committee Coffee House: 6:30pm
- September 28-** Ladies Book Club #3: 2:30pm at Hope
- September 30-** Sunday Services 8:30am & 10:30am  
Confirmation: 5:00pm





# OPPORTUNITIES TO GIVE AND SERVE

**SPROUTING HOPE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:** We are looking for adult leaders to serve our Sprouting Hope Faith Formation Ministry for our littlest Hopesters for the coming months. The curriculum is provided in advance and involves teaching lessons and leading activities for children ages 2-4<sup>th</sup> grade, during one or both Sunday morning services. Please see Julie Tingue to volunteer.

**MISSION PROJECT IN SUMMER OF 2019:** Are you interested in traveling in the US or abroad to serve those in need? We will have a discussion on Sunday, September 23 at 9:30am (in between services) to discuss getting a group of teenagers and adults together to do a mission project.

**TENT TAKE DOWN:** Sunday, September 2 will be our last outdoor church service for the year. If you are available to help us take down the tent the first full week in September we would appreciate a few extra hands to get the job done safely and quickly.



## HOPE PRESCHOOL



The staff in the preschool is looking forward to another great year at the Preschool. Currently, there are 16 children signed up to start the school year on September 10. If you know of any 3 or 4-year-olds that would be interested in attending, there is still room for them to sign up.

*Don't forget, you can always help a child by making a donation to our tuition assistance program. Contact the church office for more information on how you can do that.*

# YOUTH STUFF

## YOUTH GROUP

for middle and high schoolers will take place the entire month of September with the exception of September 18! Youth are invited to bring friends and a couple of bucks to help offset the cost of the meal (usually pizza).

## CONFIRMATION

7th-9th graders will be starting confirmation classes on Sunday, September 30 at 5:00pm. Confirmation classes this year will be held on the last Sunday of every month at 5:00pm (unless it falls on a holiday weekend). If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Shawn.

## RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE

Youth ages 14 and up are invited to cook a meal at the Ronald McDonald House in Buffalo on Tuesday, September 18. We will leave right after school at 3pm and will return home around 8:30pm. We are limited to taking the first 8 youth that sign-up. Let Julie know if your child is interested.



# ADULT MINISTRY

## LADIES BOOK CLUB

The ladies of Hope will be starting new books in September and are looking for ladies of Hope interested in reading, discussing faith and developing relationships. If you would like to join a group, now is the time! The cost is \$12/book. Let Julie know if you would like to get involved. Below are the book club meetings and the book being read from September-December.

### Group 1:

Meets: 2nd Thursday Evening (7pm) of Every Month at rotating homes

Reading: ["For the Love" by Jen Hatmaker](#)

### Group 2:

Meets: 3rd Thursday Evening (7pm) of Every Month at Carol Boldt's Home

Reading: ["For the Love" by Jen Hatmaker](#)

### Group 3:

Meets: 4th Tuesday Afternoon (2:30pm) of Every Month at Hope

Reading: ["Just Mercy" by Bryan Stevenson](#)

## ALE HOUSE CHURCH

Join Pastor Shawn Monday, September 24 at Main Street Grille at 7pm for a discussion on the Theological Themes in Harry Potter. No experience necessary, come raise a glass and join the discussion.

## TRIP TO SIGHT & SOUND THEATER IN LANCASTER, PA

Hope is looking into taking an overnight trip to Lancaster, PA to see the production of "Jesus" at the Sight and Sound theater. "Jesus" is the musical stage adventure about the most famous person ever to walk the earth and the everyday people whose lives he changed forever. The show is for all ages and plays throughout this year and next. If this sounds like something you are interested in, please contact Julie for more information.

# Synod Notes

## A Reflection on the 31st Assembly of the Upstate NY Synod in June.

I would like to thank Hope Lutheran Church for giving me the opportunity to attend and be a voting member at the 31st Assembly of the Upstate New York Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America on June 3-5 in Rochester, NY.

### Interesting facts

- There are 167 congregations in the Upstate New York Synod
- The synod has 52,553 baptized members
- The ELCA has 9 regions and the Upstate New York Synod is located in Region 7
- The annual budget for 2017-2018 is \$1,236,900
- 43.2% of the pastors rostered in our synod are retired
- Bishops are elected to a 6 year term
- There are 65 synods in the ELCA
- There are 9,329 congregations in the ELCA
- The ELCA supports 26 colleges and universities and 7 seminaries
- The Upstate New York Synod has 5 campus ministries
- The Lutheran Services in American is one of the largest health and human services networks in the country

At the convention there were worship services, election of officers and committee members, voting on various resolutions and budgets brought before those in attendance, various workshops, mission expos and fellowship.

While some of the reports were rather lengthy and to be honest a little boring, it was also enlightening to see everything that is going on in our synod and the church at large.

As I am the Financial Secretary here at Hope, I attended a workshop on Finance 101. This workshop focused on the responsibilities as Council members and most importantly as fiduciaries of our church. The primary duties of the Council members include 'duty of care' to act in good faith; 'duty of loyalty' to act in the interest of the congregation, avoiding conflicts of interest; and 'duty of obedience' to insure that the congregation complies with appropriate laws and regulations. I also attended a workshop on Beyond the Screen: Back to the Light which focused upon the current environment surrounding our Church's young people and the importance of their participation in the Lutheran Outdoor Ministries. Basically putting down the electronics and getting out into nature.

I would say that the highlight of the convention was a lively discussion one evening with several pastors and the Keynote Speaker of the Assembly Pastor Ruben Duran, ELCA Director for Congregational Vitality.



- Joanne Offers



# HOPE *happenings*



We are so grateful for your support of our **Rolling River Rampage VBS** this year. We appreciate all the volunteer hours, leadership, planning and financial donations that made this our most exciting and biggest VBS yet! With your help we were able to take 90 children on a ride of a lifetime with God through bible stories, games, crafts, snack time, music, mission and science.



# HOPE *happenings*



Whether you played, sponsored, or volunteered, we cannot thank you enough for your support of our third annual Hope Fore the Future Golf Tournament. With your help we were able to raise \$10,000 for our "Hope For the Future" Campaign on August 19 at Turkey Run Golf Course.



Our youth prepared, cooked and served a delicious Texas dinner, family style, to the many Hope members, family and friends that financially supported their trip to Houston through stock sales. Then all 18 youth and 3 adult leaders spoke about the positive impact the trip had on them. From the ways in which they felt Jesus' presence in Houston to the ways they witnessed community and felt joy. Thank you again to you all for your love and support!

# CELEBRATE

## SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 1- MICHAEL CAMPANA
- 2- CORA FLEISCHMAN
- 2- ANNA TAVERNIER
- 3- BETH MILLER
- 6- MEGAN TITUS
- 7- DELANEY PETRI
- 7- MEGAN SONNER
- 8- CARMEN PETRILLO
- 8- TRACEY WOOD
- 8- RUTH ZIMMERMAN
- 9- ROBERT VOSSLER
- 11- STEPHANIE MILKS
- 12- CODY SMITH
- 12- MADELYN TAVERNIER
- 13- ELOISE LAMBERT
- 15- TRACY BLISS
- 16- MELISSA BROWN
- 16- DEBBIE CARR
- 16- MARY SONGSTER-ALPIN
- 17- KIM WITTENRICH
- 19- ANTHONY PETRILLO
- 20- KARA BOLDT
- 21- JIM ALPIN
- 23- JENNIFER BLACKWELL
- 24- KAITLYN WOOD
- 26- JIM FLEISCHMAN
- 28- TYCE MONIN
- 29- ANDREW DEAHN
- 29- ELEANORA WINFIELD
- 30- KOLE HAMMELL

## SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

- 4- ASHLEY & ANDREW BARTZ
- 8- BOB & JODIE BUCHHARDT
- 8- MARGIE & GARY RUNG
- 9- EDLA REYNOLDS & KENNETH BABBITT
- 12- DAVID & JEANNE HOLMES
- 12- BRENT & HOLLY NOWAK
- 29- MARCY & TIMOTHY SONNER
- 30- JUDY & JOE STROBELE
- 30- ALBERT & JUDITH NOBLE

## HOPE STARS

*As our community gears up to send our youngsters back to school this month we want to extend our heartfelt thanks to all the people of Hope that educate and work to provide a safe and positive atmosphere for our children to grow and learn.*

### Hope Teachers:

- Kristen Bley
- Sue Dressel
- Paul Fehringer
- Carol Hannon
- Jenni Smith
- JD Struckmann
- Cindy Struckmann

### Hope Building & Maintenance Staff:

- Len Dressel
- Nick Titus

### Hope Pioneer School Board Members:

- Ed McCarthy
- Mary Lou Merlau
- Darla Schwab





# SERVING IN WORSHIP

	September 2	September 9	September 16	September 23	September 30
<b>Acolyte 8:30 am</b>	Eric Rautenstrauch Sydney Schrock	Garrett Milks Timmy Sonner	Riley Bliss Cora Fleischman	Cole Rhodus Catherine Brown	Connor Fleischmann Cody Smith
<b>Acolyte 10:30am</b>	Gavin Hammell	Zach Rimbey Nick Rimbey	Gavin Hammell	Zach Rimbey Nick Rimbey	Gavin Hammell
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Sue Dressel Judy Strobele	Margie Rung Carol Staffehl	Carol Boldt Barb Sonner	Sue Dressel Judy Strobele	Margie Rung Carol Staffehl
<b>Assisting Minister 8:30 am 10:30 am</b>	Helena Blackwell Bob Vossler	Mary Alpin Julie Tingue	Margie Webster Stephen Struckmann	Tracey Wood Victoria McCarthy	Joanne Offers Sue Dressel
<b>AV Tech 8:30 am 10:30 am</b>	Madelyn Tavernier Cindy Struckmann	Jim Alpin Stephen Struckmann	Alyssa Boldt Julie Tingue	Cora Blackwell Cindy Struckmann	Trevor Bley Scott Rimbey
<b>HC Assistant 8:30am 10:30am</b>	Mike Sonner Sr Sue Dressel	Helena Blackwell Kathy LaScala	Judy Strobele Sharlene Vossler	Dale Deahn Bob Vossler	Tracey Wood Lisa Deahn
<b>Council Rep 8:30am 10:30am</b>	Joanne Offers Bob Vossler	Tracey Wood Carol Boldt	Cora Blackwell Bob Vossler	Paul Fehringer Carol Boldt	Joanne Offers Bob Vossler
<b>Greeters (10:30)</b>	Al & Carol Boldt	Gary & Margie Rung	Len & Sue Dressel	Pauline Brown	Bob & Jodie Buchhardt
<b>Lector 8:30am 10:30am</b>	Tracey Wood Al Boldt	Monica Reding Chris Gross	Cecilia Titus Jodie Buchhardt	Ashley Bartz Bob Vossler	Kim Offers Paul Rigerman
<b>Prayers 8:30 am 10:30 am</b>	Jen Blackwell Jodie Buchhardt	Tim Sonner Victoria McCarthy	Jacob Offhaus Sandi Bennett	Mary Alpin Chris Gross	Margie Webster Carol Staffehl
<b>Children's Church 8:30am 10:30am</b>	Julie Tingue Julie Tingue	Diane Gibbs Diane Gibbs	TBD...Looking for Volunteers... Please talk to Julie if you are able to help.		
<b>Ushers 8:30am</b>	Ernie Floyd Terry Reding	Mike Sonner Sr Julie Tingue	Jim & Mary Alpin	Kim & Joanne Offers	Tim and Marcy Sonner
<b>Ushers 10:30 am</b>	Kathy LaScala Carol Staffehl	Al Boldt Scott Rimbey	Kathy LaScala Jodie Buchhardt	Al Boldt Scott Rimbey	Len and Sue Dressel
<b>Coffee Hour 9:30-10:30am</b>	Barb Sonner	Janet Campana	Ellen McCarthy	Jodie Buchhardt	Kim Boldt
<b>Counters:</b>	Scott Bley Lisa Deahn	Mike Sonner, Jr. Anna Sonner	Joanne Offers Kelly Thomson	Brenda Schmidt John Kossow	Jamie & Rachel Kittleson



In everything there is hope.



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### **Address Service Requested**

This newsletter was prepared especially for: