

Hope United Methodist Church
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Hope United Methodist Church NEWSLETTER



VOLUME 1; ISSUE 10
OCTOBER 2025

Dear Hope Family,

Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ! It has now been about three months since my family and I joined Hope UMC in Blue Earth, and we want to share our heartfelt gratitude for your great love and support. I have always defined Hope UMC as a center of love, compassion, and acceptance. How else could a place embody hope so fully—how else could a community welcome, love, and invite others as genuinely as you do? Your hospitality and kindness have deeply touched our hearts, and we feel truly blessed to be part of this family in Christ. We fondly remember that our first sermon series focused on the love of God and neighbor, and we have truly seen you live out this message daily.



I am especially moved by the active work of missions, which keep the church vibrant and alive. Please know that your gifts—whether directed toward the internal ministry of running the work of God here at Hope UMC, local outreach, or international mission through other partners—are deeply appreciated. I hope and pray that this spirit of love continues to guide your life and ministry for many years to come. Your work, passion, and dedication always remind me of John Wesley's words: 'The world is our parish.' Keep going and let God use you mightily!

As we journey together through themes of God's nearness and our present help, preparing for the Advent season—which acknowledges the brokenness of the world and our longing for restoration—let us allow the Holy Spirit to help us rest and focus on Christ. In times like these, we recognize the busyness and stress many of us are feeling. Let us take a moment to pause, be still, and remember the presence of God with us. May the Lord God keep you and sustain you as you serve Him faithfully and follow His commands, with gratitude and love.

Blessings,
Rev. Godfrey Gakuru

Hope UMC, a faith community growing in Christian love, through discipleship, the inclusion of all, and fellowship.



OPEN HEARTS. OPEN MINDS. OPEN DOORS.

SUNDAY SERVICES: 10 AM WORSHIP

A pre-recorded message airs at 9:30am on KBEW 1560 AM. Visit behopeumc.com to stay updated with current events, bulletins & newsletters.

Staff:

Pastor Godfrey Gakuru (740) 803-6762 E-mail: hopepastor@bevcomm.net
Carolyn Kaiser, Administrative Assistant (763) 567-9004 cell E-mail: hopeumc@bevcomm.net
Megan Goshorn, Kids Coordinator (253) 592-5219 cell E-mail: kidscoordinatorhope@gmail.com

Office: (507) 526-2144 hopeumc@bevcomm.net

Office hours are Mondays 8:15am-12:15pm and Wednesdays 8:15am-4:15pm .

Newsletter items are due by the 17th of the month.

Please send announcements for the bulletin and the newsletter to the above email address or call the church office. Also, please notify the church office of any changes in names, addresses, incorrect birthdays or anniversaries, or if you'd like to receive this newsletter via email.

Mission Committee

BRING 'EM IN!!

If you have been following the flyers in our weekly bulletin lately, then you already know **October 12 is MISSION SUNDAY at Hope**. This is a special day in the life of our congregation, a time when we can share many things into our Midwest Mission Distribution Center in Jefferson, Iowa.

Danielle Curtis will be with us, and will explain all the activities going on at MMDC AND "What Happens" beyond there. Our bus garage serves as a regional depot for collecting these items awaiting transfer MMDC, but on October 12, we will be both collecting and sending these items to the Jefferson location.

First are the school kits – what a huge difference those make! Also, if you have medical equipment in good condition that you no longer need, like wheelchairs, walkers, crutches or canes – bring them to Hope! Sports equipment, like soccer, volley or basketballs, and MMDC reconditions good bicycles and sewing machines – especially treadle type sewing machines that operate without electricity. They really make a positive difference where they are placed! Lastly, if you have lawn rakes, shovels, hoes and/or hand saws in good condition, those will be used! Beginning now, as you read this, bring any of these items in. We will check daily, so you can stack or lean on the outside of bus garage. They will be safe every evening awaiting October 12.



**GOAL: \$400,000
TO BUY THE BUILDING**

DONATE NOW

Danielle has already shared with Hope that a new financial fundraiser is going on - the purchase of the Jefferson Distribution Center real estate, as it is now just rented. Any \$\$\$ is welcome and very much appreciated for our long term commitment to this wonderful mission. Offerings should be labeled "MMDC Building" or you may use the special envelopes available on Sundays, 10/5 & 10/12.

Something else coming up is **Bundle Up!** From 10AM to Noon on each of these Saturdays **November 8, 15, 22, 29 & December 6**.

Bring 'em in!! Please bring in new or gently used coats, boots, hats and gloves/mittens. Snowpants for kids are also VERY welcome. You can help in this mission three ways. The first is SPREAD THE WORD with these dates.

Second is donating both winter gear and your financial support - both are appreciated. Once we gather in the inventory to be given away, we also like to shop for whatever sizes are missing. We have shoppers ready to go and fill in the gaps so there is something for everyone. Many families bring in outgrown duds and exchange for larger sizes. We'll be displaying in the Narthex/dining hall again, AND if you see anything that fits YOU – everyone is welcome in Bundle Up.

And last but definitely not least, we need volunteers to help on these Saturday mornings. A sign-up sheet is now in the Narthex and you can sign up to help on one, two, three, four or all five Saturdays. Signing up really helps us anticipate who can be there. We are now missing a couple of people who have always been part of this, so please attempt to replace them!



October Birthdays

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1- Karen Cyphers
Kacey Rae Smith | 14- Susan Roesler
Allyson Geist |
| 2- Steve Core
Charlie Roper
Cody Hinton | 15- Sara Roper |
| 3- Bruce Ankeny
Aeli Olson | 16- Maggie Johnson
Lila Kerr
Nathan Murphy |
| 4- Jerry Amundson
Juli Lewis | 17- Lee Kuhn
Jennifer Spencer
Cooky Christ |
| 7- Donald True
Celia Lundquist | 19- Bridgette Heenan
Koby Ihle |
| 8- Carolyn Kaiser | 20- Cindy Krosch
Jordan Stelter
Natalie Griffey |
| 9- Jan Farnham
Trudie Wood | 22- Mike Mensing |
| 10- Bonnie Miller | 23- Kelli Hill |
| 11- Jeanne Beenken | 24- Autumn Lachinski |
| 12- Carson Salisbury | |

October Anniversaries

- | |
|---|
| 1- Jay & Barbara Ankeny |
| 5- Gary & Gail Keck |
| 6- Scott & Lisa Peterson
Lucas & Shauna Lunz |
| 8- Gary & Wanda Olsen |
| 10- Steve & Beth Core |
| 15- Roger & Lue Nimz
Bill & Staci Thompson |
| 22- Robert & Carol Grapevine |



UWF Article continued from page 3.

Verse 3 tells us:

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow
Blessings all mine with 10,000 beside

There are great lessons taught in hymns that help us remember important themes. God is ever faithful to us. Let us do our best to be just as faithful to God!

Prayer:

Loving and ever faithful God, thank you for your love and guidance, for the salvation & peace you provide and for the knowledge that you will love us and be with us forever. Help us to believe in your promises and remain faithful to you as we go about our daily lives. Amen.

REMINDER United Women in Faith will meet Tuesday, October 7 at 2PM. You are always welcome to join us!

Be Blessed!

Your Sister in Christ, Nancy

Want to financially support God's ministry at Hope?
Scan this code to give online!

Easy to use! Flexible! Safe & secure! You can choose either a one-time payment or a recurring payment. You may also choose where your donation goes, either to our General Fund or a specific mission! Easy to see transaction history & to change payment methods! Any questions, see Carolyn or call the office!



Please contact the church and leave a message if you know someone who needs a ride to church or call Al Roesler at 507-525-0630.

Let's fill the bus!



Sermon Scriptures Bible Study

(virtually Tuesdays 6-6:45pm, in-person Thursdays 10am)

Led by Pastor Godfrey Gakuru

Join Pastor Godfrey to explore the scripture text that he will be preaching on that Sunday. This is a great way to encounter the scripture in preparation for Sunday.

(via Zoom Meeting ID: 957 2121 9470 Passcode: 078432 for the Virtual Bible Study)

Happy Hour with Jesus

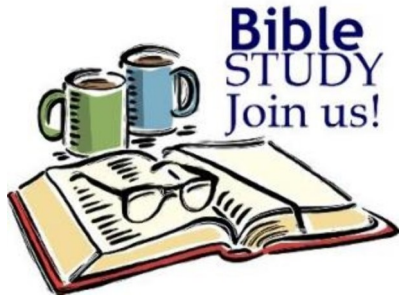
Led by Pastor Godfrey Gakuru

Come join Pastor Godfrey at Lost Saint Brewery each Thursday from 6-8pm for a time of fellowship and faith. Grab a beer, root beer, water, or just a chair and enjoy some much-needed time with Christian friends. Location MAY change—stay tuned!

Seeking His Presence Bible Study

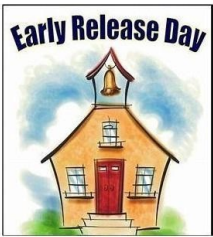
Led by Aron Goshorn

A chapter by chapter look into the books of the bible—one book at a time! We will start with the book of 2 Peter. No book necessary, just bring your own bible or borrow one from the church. We will meet weekly on Sundays right after the church service (around 11am).



KIDS KORNER

Wednesday Early Release starts this month on **October 1st**! **Every Wednesday from 2:15pm-4:15pm**, our church welcomes 30+ children to grow their faith. If your family is not signed up but would like to come, please reach out to Megan Goshorn. All are welcome!



Reminder that the Children's library (located near the conference room) is there for you! Filled with faith based books and resources, with no due dates or limitations, feel free to utilize this family focused resource.

~Megan Goshorn, Kids Coordinator



Music Notes

Hope's choir meets for practice each Sunday at 9:00AM. We expect to sing during worship two Sundays in October. New voices are always welcome!

~Pat Richards & Bonnie Miller

Seeds of Hope Update

Every Sunday has become a special blessing as our garden table continues to be filled with the goodness of our neighborhood's home-grown abundance! Apples, tomatoes, squash, cucumbers, beets, green beans, egg plant, peppers, zucchini, herbs, flowers, eggs and more! We give heartfelt thanks to those who are bringing abundance from their home gardens to share with others. The Seeds of Hope garden continues to produce well and will eventually have carrots this fall.

Reminder: if you would appreciate some home delivered goods, please contact the church by Wednesday noon.

Please contact project lead, Melissa Anne, at church or at partnerships4peace@gmail.com with any questions.



Please lift up in prayer....



- Members and Friends in Health Care Centers and those at their homes including:

Mae Hove	Mike Rubatt	Terry Hassing
Jean Nelson	Mary Ochs	Muriel Hanna
Cindy Steinke	Scott Steinke	Fran Fenske
Lillian Kohlmeyer	John Roper	Todd Olson
Damian Prescher		
- Armed Services personnel and their families including: Hunter Spencer & Cole Steinke.
- All those that have a lost a loved one recently: family of Lois Gronseth.
Please help us update this list if you have names to be added or omitted.

Need Prayer?

We have created a form on our website so that you can submit your prayer requests. You can choose to be anonymous or not, and you can even choose how your prayer is shared. Whether you want just Pastor Godfrey to know or the entire church is up to you! So go to our website: behopeumc.com and click at the top on the tab that says "prayer request."



United Women in Faith

United Women in Faith (UWF)

Tuesday, October 7 at 2pm

Circle Meetings:

Joy Circle: Thursday, October 9 at 2pm

Faith Circle: Thursday, October 16 at 9:30am

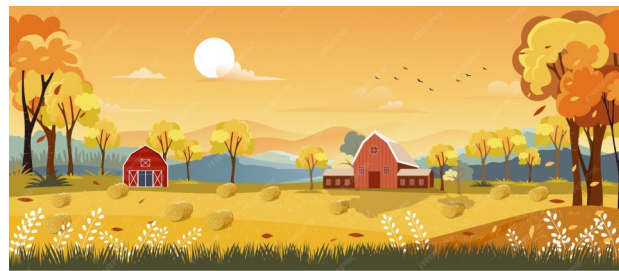
"It is of the Lord's mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not. They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness." Lamentations 3:22-23 KJV

This is the biblical inspiration for the Chorus of the beloved hymn, Great is Thy Faithfulness, written by Thomas O. Chisholm. He was an American hymn writer (born in Ky in 1886), and Methodist Episcopal minister who served in the pulpit only 1 year before resigning due to poor health. He was a prolific poet and hymn writer. He wrote "Living for Jesus" in 1917, and his most famous hymn was "Great is Thy Faithfulness," written in 1923. He wrote the words which were set to music by William M Runyon of the Moody Bible Institute.

The lyrics of the chorus reach out to us with reassurance:
Great is Thy faithfulness,
Great is Thy faithfulness
Morning by morning new mercies I see
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me

God is faithful to us! That means we can rely on God to keep promises given to us, to love us and always stand by us.




UWF Article continued on page 7...



HOPE UMC ~ OCTOBER 2025

"New month, new goals, new mindset, new focus, new intentions, new results."



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
*Seek His Presence Bible Study (SHP)	1	2 2PM: St. Luke's Communion 2PM: UWF Unit Meeting 6-6:45PM: Virtual Sermon Scriptures Bible Study	1  2:30-4:15PM: Early Release STARTS! 7-8PM: Confirmation STARTS!	2 10AM: Sermon Scriptures Bible Study 1-3PM: Mat Weaving 6-8PM: Happy Hour w/Jesus	3	4
5 17 th Sunday after Pentecost 9AM: Choir Practice 10AM: Worship & Communion Service 11AM: Sunday School SHP Bible Study* WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY	6 5PM: Finance Meeting 6PM: Ad Council Meeting	7 6-6:45PM: Virtual Sermon Scriptures Bible Study	8 2:30-4:15PM: Early Release 7-8PM: Confirmation	9 10AM: Sermon Scriptures Bible Study 2PM: Joy Circle 6-8PM: Happy Hour w/Jesus	10	11 UWF Annual Gathering (MN Conference) @ Alexandria UMC
12 18 th Sunday after Pentecost 9AM: Choir Practice 10AM: Worship Service w/Choir 11AM: Sunday School SHP Bible Study*	13 <div>Meals on Wheels</div> 1-3 PM: Interfaith Caregivers BINGO	14 6-6:45PM: Virtual Sermon Scriptures Bible Study	15 2:30-4:15PM: Early Release 7-8PM: Confirmation	16 NO SCHOOL	17 NO SCHOOL	28
19 19 th Sunday after Pentecost 9AM: Choir Practice 10AM: Worship Service 11AM: Sunday School SHP Bible Study* 11:15AM: Carly's Baby Shower	20	21 6-6:45PM: Virtual Sermon Scriptures Bible Study	22  2:30-4:15PM: Early Release 7-8PM: Confirmation	23 10AM: Sermon Scriptures Bible Study 6-8PM: Happy Hour w/Jesus	24	25
26 20 th Sunday after Pentecost 9AM: Choir Practice 10AM: Worship Service w/Choir 11AM: Sunday School SHP Bible Study*	27	28 6-6:45PM: Virtual Sermon Scriptures Bible Study	29 2:30-4:15PM: Early Release 7-8PM: Confirmation	30 10AM: Sermon Scriptures Bible Study 6-8PM: Happy Hour w/Jesus	31 NO SCHOOL 	

"For there is always light. If only we're brave enough to see it. If only we're brave enough to be it."

~Amanda Gorman, *The Hill We Climb*