



Welcome to December, Hope —

The seasons are changing again here in Edwardsburg Michigan. Over the last few months, we sure have been busy. Last Sunday we had our **Miracle Sunday**. We were praying for God to provide for our way forward in ministry. My friends, we raised over \$114,000.00. Praise God!

I have continued to share with you that we would be a Methodist congregation. We applied to the Global Methodist Church. On Monday we received our welcome to the **Global Methodist Church**. This is another blessing because we qualified for a \$33,754.00 Equity component waiver but had to have a letter from another Methodist Denomination stating we were joining them by December 1, 2024.



All documents have been received by the UMC for our transition. Please thank the staff and leadership as they have worked tirelessly to meet these tight deadlines.

The Global Methodist Church is made up of churches just like ours who left the UMC. They believe as we did prior to the 2024 conference decisions. We will hold two or three meetings this month to talk about the GMC. I know it is a busy month, but your Leadership Team and I want to make sure all questions get answered.

Just a couple of important details about the GMC —

Pastors are not itinerant. That means you will have a say in who your pastor is. They will not just call me in the spring and say “We have a new appointment for you.”

We own our property. There is no trust clause in the GMC.

I want everyone to know that membership into the GMC is automatic when we join the GMC. With that said we will **transfer** anyone who wants to stay in the UMC to the conference or to another UMC church.

Hope, this is an exciting new chapter in our walk with God! **Hope is going to be Hope**. We will continue to share Jesus right here in Edwardsburg and work in mission around the world with our sisters and brothers in Christ.

I look forward to celebrating the birth of our savior **Jesus Christ** with each of you this Advent season.

CONGRATULATIONS

TO SHERRY AND ROGER MAHNESMITH who will celebrate 61 YEARS OF MARRIAGE on December 29!



STUFF-A-BUS

Saturday, December 7th 9am-Noon
Edwardsburg Dollar General on M62
To Benefit The Edwardsburg Food Pantry Christmas Distribution!
New Toys, Non-Perishable Food & Monetary Donations Appreciated!



Messy Church is open to families of all shapes and sizes, and folks of all ages!

Come join in on the fun!
Sunday, December 22nd 5-7pm!

LT HIGHLIGHTS

Your Leadership Team has met weekly since the October 20 vote to disaffiliate from the United Methodist Church.

The team is working its way through the list of needed procedures with the support of experienced professionals.

Possibly adopting the Global Methodist Church as our denomination, plans for a Miracle Sunday, approving a new corporate resolution and have been dealt with.

2024 ministry shares have been paid in full; our financial position is good.

SNOWBIRDS:

Please leave a message for Melissa in the office at 269-663-5321x9 to let us know when you're headed south and when you are planning on returning. We can send you a newsletter, if you'd like. It's also available online at www.hope-umc.us. You can also worship with us by viewing the livestream, youtube recording or audio recording on the sermons tab.

Make sure that your donation is **post-marked on or before December 31** and sent to P O Box 624, Edwardsburg, MI 49112

Tuesdays 6:30pm

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY



TANNER LEININGER	2/01
CHRIS EDGERTON	12/03
WENDELL LEIST	12/04
JANET STRYCKER	12/06
ROBERT J BYRD	12/06
DANA GEORGE	12/07
BRODY WEAVER	12/08
ANDREW DOHM	12/08
ROB SNODGRASS	12/09
JULIE BYRD	12/09
TOM HARRIS	12/09
BONNIE MORGAN	12/10
SHARON TAFUNAI	12/11
ANN GUSTAFSON	12/13
CARRIE MINNIX	12/14
DJ BUSSEN	12/23
DON MANSELL	12/18
DIANE SEIFERT	12/19
MARTI BARTELS	12/20
MACKENZIE MORGAN	12/20
LARRY BOWMAN	12/21
MARJE REA	12/23
GAYLA SIMMONS	12/2
KIRIN MOLER	12/27
SUSAN MOLER	12/28
ALEX EDGERTON	12/29
KEVIN ENGLISH	12/31



SHERRY & ROGER MAHNESMITH	12/29
LAURA & JON BLOUGH	12/30



IRA Information

You can save on Federal and State taxes by directly contributing a portion of your IRA distribution to HOPE. Please contact Dawn @ 269-663-5321 x6 for more information.

Giving Update

Thank you for your generous support. To simplify giving as we transition in December, please make your checks payable to **Hope**. If you online bill pay, please change the payee's name to Hope. If you have any questions regarding online giving through Vanco or would like to change your payment, please contact Dawn Weingart at 269-663-5321x6.

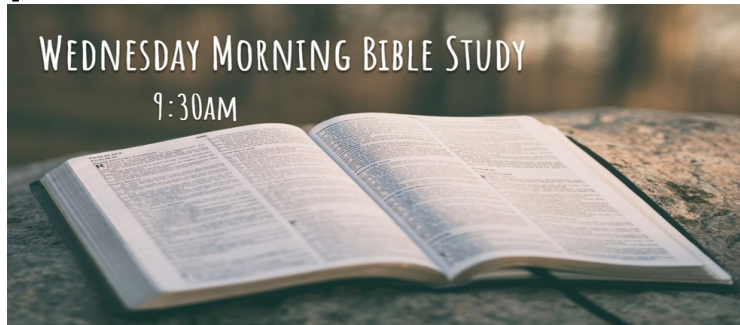
Giving Envelopes

Please contact Dawn Weingart at 269-663-5321 x6 if you want pre-numbered giving envelopes for 2025.

Year End Donations

Here are the ways that your donation to Hope can still be included on your 2024 donation statement, per the IRS:

Set up your online gift to be received by Tuesday, December 31.



FINANCES

CURRENT HOPE FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Month of October Ministry Fund Summary

Ministry Fund Donations: \$ 18,298

Ministry Fund Expenses: \$-18,117

Surplus for the Month: \$181

Year to date shortfall = \$ -2,595

Monthly Budget amount: \$ 20,053

All October bills have been paid. Our Ministry Fund balance is \$121,966. Thank you for your continued support!

October Mortgage & Mission Fund Allocation

\$141.50 Missions

\$998.58 Parsonage Mortgage

\$374.92 Capital Improvements

\$1,515.00 Total Donations

Parsonage Mortgage Update

\$998.58 Regular Mortgage Payment - Mortgage Fund

Current Parsonage Mortgage Balance = \$106,900 after the November 2024 Payment.

Our projected payoff date is November 2035, which is **54 months earlier** than the original payoff date!



WHY JESUS IS BETTER THAN SANTA CLAUS

Santa lives at the North Pole:
JESUS is everywhere.

You have to wait in line to see Santa...
JESUS is as close as the mention of his name.

Santa's little helpers make toys...
JESUS makes a new life, mends wounded hearts, repairs broken homes and builds mansions.

We need to put CHRIST back into Christmas.
JESUS is still the reason for the season.



PROUD TO BE CALLED A CHRISTIAN

Proverbs 22:6 Start children off on the way they should go and even when they are old they will not turn from it.

The Bible speaks of Christian values we should live by. I'm proud this church and I myself will follow these values.

I got married at age 47. On the third date with my wife she invited me to attend a Christian church with her and her daughter (4 years old). I said yes as I had been struggling for several years with wanting to find a church.

At age 49 I accepted Christ into my heart. At first I put my wife, my daughter and God in that order of importance. As I grew as a Christian I found life much more satisfying and peaceful in my heart when I put God first.

As a family we all grew up together following Christian Values, with several Christian pastors, my faith and trust in the words of the Bible. From age 49 on I lived by these values and am proud Hope is following these same values with faith-filled Christians.

Eph 6:4 Fathers do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord.

I would like to say that my daughter, who I adopted, is living with her family following these values. I spend the first Sunday of every month with my grandson's family (my 3 great grand children). We sit and pray before the meal and they are all living in the way Jesus tells us to live in the Bible.

I thank everyone at Hope for helping me grow in Christian values and living as the Bible instructs.

—Deb and Tony Lang





*Join us for a joyous
Christmas Ensemble!*

Many have expressed a heartfelt desire to sing together, and we warmly invite you to our rehearsals on **Tuesday, December 10th & 17th** from **4:00-5:00 pm** in the choir room across from the church library. With faith, we'll uplift our voices in praise during the Sunday service on the 22nd at 8:30 am. For any questions, feel free to reach out to David Girton. Come, let us celebrate the miracle of Jesus and His coming!



Last chance to help us decorate the church with poinsettias for the holiday season!

Poinsettias are \$7.00 each for a 6.5 inch pot.

They will be placed in the church on Sunday, December 1

They may be picked up after services on Sunday, December 24.

Poinsettias must be ordered by
Sunday, November 24

Order forms are available from Sue Rinehart or the church office.



Poinsettias



CHRISTMAS CARD DELIVERY

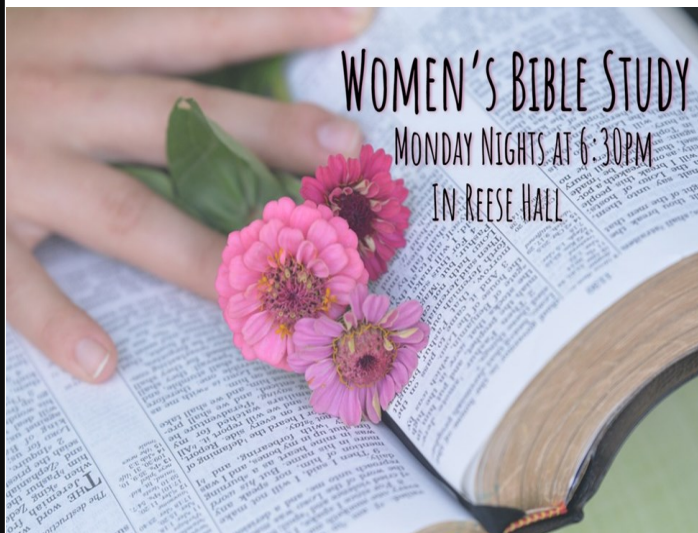
INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Make a list of names you would like to send Christmas cards to in the congregation.
2. Buy or make your cards. Free Christmas cards are available while supplies last, on the baker's stand outside the music room.
3. C.L.E.A.R.L.Y print the names on the envelopes, first and last.
4. Tally up the number of cards you are "sending" and multiply by 25 cents. You can donate by cash or check. If writing a check please make it out to Hope UMC. Donations will be designated at a later date.
5. We will be stationed by the music room December 1-22 to make "deliveries". **Merry Christmas !!!!**

INFORMATION NEEDED

Below is a list of members that we do not have an address for. If you are still in contact with them, please see if we can get an updated address. Contact the office with the updated address. Thank You!

Behrman, Shirley
 Berlin, Trent
 Bowden, Michael
 Broomell, Barb
 Brown, Herb
 Buzalski, Melody
 Buzalski, Mike
 Bylsma, Lorraine
 Converse, Chris
 Ditson, Aaron
 Douglas, Jeanie
 Erwin, Christie
 Erwin, Scott
 Euans, Kelly
 Everett, Sheila
 Fahey, Joe
 Fahey, Katherine
 Garvin, Brittany
 Gilbert, Jessie (Kay)
 Jones, Jerrold R.
 Lamie, Claudine
 Lamie, John
 Leininger, Sheila
 Long, Melissa
 Long, Michael
 Long, Peggy
 Rosebush, AJ
 Rosebush, Al
 Rosebush, Lexy
 Rosebush, Lon
 Smith, Pernie
 Stevens, Christina Maria
 Turner, Nancy
 VanBuren, Tom



The Monday evening Bible study will continue with the study, "So Long Normal" by Laura Story ending on December 9.

On January 6 we will start the eight week study of "The Chosen". For information contact Bonnie Morgan or Laura Proctor.



Interested in helping prepare weekly bulletins?

Contact the office for more information!

That's a (re)wrap!

The Reintgen family in North Carolina will always remember Christmas 2023. At 3 a.m. on December 25, their 3-year-old son woke them up, asking for scissors to open his new action-figure toy. "That's when we realized something had gone terribly wrong," said Scott, his dad.

A quick trip downstairs revealed a mess of unwrapped gifts under the family's Christmas tree. "There was not one thing that he left unscathed," Scott said. The boy, in his defense, said he was just trying to help everyone know what they'd received.

With only hours until their other children awoke, the Reintgens were determined to save Christmas. Mom Katie raced to rewrap gifts, even managing to get most nametags back on the correct packages. Instead of being angry, the parents found humor in the ordeal. Afterward, they explained to their son the joy that people experience from receiving — and opening — their own presents.

Morals of the story? Remember this 3-year-old when you get overeager for certain parts of the holidays. Don't rush through anything, and let others enjoy Christmas at their own pace too. When something goes wrong, don't panic. Like the Reintgens, find joy in any unexpected glitches and grinchies you encounter throughout the season.

—Stephanie Martin

December 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>1 8:30am & 10:30am Service</p>	<p>2 Office Hours 9:00-2:00 8:15am Village Hybrid School 8:15-4pm 9:00am Ship Shape for Christ Exercise 10:00am Staff Meeting 6:30pm Women's Bible Study</p>	<p>3 Office Hours 9:00-2:00 8:15am Village Hybrid School 8:15-4pm 5:30pm Band Practice 6:30pm Men's Bible Study</p>	<p>4 Office Hours 9:00-2:00 8:15am Village Hybrid School 8:15-4pm 9:30am Wednesday morning Bible Study 2:10pm Reservation 2:10-2:45</p>	<p>5 Office Hours 9:00-2:00 9:00am Ship Shape for Christ Exercise 5:00pm Music Practice 5-6pm</p>	<p>6 Office closed 6:00pm Craft Night</p>	<p>7</p>
<p>8 8:30am & 10:30am Service 3:00pm Youth Group 3pm</p>	<p>9 Office Hours 9:00-2:00 8:15am Village Hybrid School 8:15-4pm 9:00am Ship Shape for Christ Exercise 6:30pm Women's Bible Study</p>	<p>10 Office Hours 9:00-2:00 8:15am Village Hybrid School 8:15-4pm 4:00pm Reservation music room 4-5pm 5:30pm Band Practice 6:30pm Men's Bible Study</p>	<p>11 Office Hours 9:00-2:00 8:15am Village Hybrid School 8:15-4pm 9:30am Wednesday morning Bible Study 6:30pm Leadership Team Meeting</p>	<p>12 Office Hours 9:00-2:00 9:00am Ship Shape for Christ Exercise 5:00pm Music Practice 5-6pm</p>	<p>13 Office closed</p>	<p>14</p>
<p>15 8:30am & 10:30am Service</p>	<p>16 Office Hours 9:00-2:00 8:15am Village Hybrid School 8:15-4pm 9:00am Ship Shape for Christ Exercise 5:30pm Reservation Reese Hall 5:30-7:30</p>	<p>17 Office Hours 9:00-2:00 8:15am Village Hybrid School 8:15-4pm 4:00pm Reservation music room 4-5pm 5:30pm Band Practice 6:30pm Men's Bible Study</p>	<p>18 Office Hours 9:00-2:00 8:15am Village Hybrid School 8:15-4pm 9:30am Wednesday morning Bible Study 6:30pm Finance Meeting</p>	<p>19 Office Hours 9:00-2:00 9:00am Ship Shape for Christ Exercise 5:00pm Music Practice 5-6pm</p>	<p>20 Office closed</p>	<p>21 Cookie exchange 2-4pm</p>
<p>22 8:30am & 10:30am Service 5:00pm Messy Church 5-7pm</p>	<p>23 Office Hours 9:00-2:00 9:00am Ship Shape for Christ Exercise</p>	<p>24 Christmas Eve Service 6:30pm Office closed 5:30pm Band Practice 6:30pm Men's Bible Study</p>	<p>25 Christmas Day Office closed 12:00pm Reservation Reese Hall 12-5</p>	<p>26 Office Hours 9:00-2:00 9:00am Ship Shape for Christ Exercise 5:00pm Music Practice 5-6pm</p>	<p>27 Office closed</p>	<p>28</p>
<p>29 8:30am & 10:30am Service</p>	<p>30 Office Hours 9:00-2:00 9:00am Ship Shape for Christ Exercise</p>	<p>31 Office Hours 9:00-2:00 5:30pm Band Practice 6:30pm Men's Bible Study</p>				

December 2024

HOPE CHURCH & MISSION:

Church Family / Future of Methodist Church

LEADERSHIP TEAM:

Ben Morgan – Trustees

Bonnie Morgan - Chair

Clarence Miller – At Large

Heidi Meadows – At Large

Mark Werner – At Large

Mike Morgan – Vice Chair

Pastor Rob Snodgrass

Sabrina English – Secretary & Finance Liaison

Sharon Tafunai – At Large

Shirley Andrews – At Large

SPRC TEAM:

Bonnie Morgan, Diane Siefert, Jack Weiler,

Sue Rinehart

NOMINATIONS TEAM:

Dawn Weingart, Marti Bartels, Sue Reinhart

LIVING WITH CANCER:

Brad Yoder; Brenda Miller; Cathy Jones; Cindy Helvey, in Rehab; Cindy Workman; Crystal Maskwinski; David Leist, metastatic; David, colon; Don Burnette, & dementia; Ellen Evans; Eric Seifert (Diane Seifert's brother); Jaycee Wendt; Jesse Binn, Crohn's; Jessica Duis, thyroid; Jessica Hartwick, diabetic & on dialysis; Jody Buzalski, spine; John & Betty Westlake, Kaufman's mom; Kenzie Summers, terminal brain cancer (Nick Folkers); Kronk family's mother, lymphoma; Leslie Orth Ishmael, colon (Chuck Orth's daughter); Macie Carlsen, leukemia; Mark Howell; Marilyn White; Melana Horner, leukemia; Mike Moelbash, spine; Mike Hartline; Mike Morgan; Mike Walton; Nancy Mysliwiec, kidney; Pam Knapp, liver, & kidney; Paula S.; Penny, terminal colon; Rene (not DeYoung) pancreatic cancer; Rick Trosper; Roger Yarbrough (Mackenzie Morgan); Scott Dougall; Rudy, bone; Tom Kelly, prostate; Tony and Ted Braun; Trevor Claire; Vivian McClellan, PXA; William Moore Jr.; Yung Fajardo, leukemia

LONGSTANDING HEALTH:

Alyssa, brain damage; Becky Kelly; Bill Griffin; Bob Griffin, heart; Bob Straka; Chad, heart; Connie & Jeff Smith; Dennis Sanders, knee and heart; Donna Kooy; Duis family; Edith English; Elizabeth V. Mui; Ethan Hart, diabetes;; Gary Owens; George Gibbs; Graham family; Granny & Pops; Ivan Bowman; Ivins family; Jake Dibble; James, seizures; Jessica Hartwick, diabetic & needs transplant; John Madsen, heart surgery; Ken Proctor; Kevin Duis, an autistic boy; Kevin English; Larry Crandall; Linda Morgan; Lori Durbin; Marge Nurton; Martin Lyles; Mike Hartline; Nancy Love; Nate Hamilton, diabetic surgeries; Pauline Atwater, Parkinson's; Pat Hogan, heart; Ruth, burns; Stephanie Harris; Steve Ware, Alzheimer's; Todd, leg amputated; Tracee Reiter; Teresa Neucks-Mills, MS & fibromyalgia; Tina Trosper's dad, heart

PASTORS & FAMILIES:

Brenda Gordon Evan Lash & Barbara Jackson
Matt & Cara Weiler Nate & Amy Starkey
Rob & Kathe Snodgrass Scott & Carrie Otis
Tom & Lisa Maxwell

SERVING/SERVED IN MILITARY SERVICES:

Joshua Adams, Charles Berry, Andrew Brower, Phil Bryden, Sam Chaput, Jonathan Ditson, James Galloway, Justin Gerou, Shane Karkiewicz, Dakota Kizer, Andrea Long, Alyssa Malott, Jay Moore, Brandon Morgan, Jessica Ramus, Jason Salter, Dylan Smallwood, Jeff Starr, Tyler Wilson

HOME BOUND:

Merian Ackles, Sally Blunier, Tony & Deb Lang, Sherry Leininger, Sharon & Bob Morgan, Jan Read, Donna Taelman, Bev Torgeson, Cynthia Wade, Ray White