



Hope
of Edwardsburg
Invite. Connect. Grow. Serve.

We invite YOU to experience HOPE in Christ. There is a place for you here, to connect with people and God. Together we will grow in faith. Together we will serve as the hands and feet of Christ for the Glory of God!



Greetings in the love of Christ,



As we enter the month of February, our thoughts often turn to love. While Valentine’s Day dominates our cultural narrative, as believers, we are invited to reflect on a deeper, truer love—the love of God that is revealed to us in Jesus Christ.

In 1 Corinthians 13, the Apostle Paul writes, “Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud... Love never fails” (1 Corinthians 13:4-8). This passage reminds us that love is more than a fleeting feeling or romantic gesture; it is an enduring commitment to put others before ourselves, to forgive, to serve, and to sacrifice.

February also provides an opportunity to consider how we, as a church, can embody God’s love in tangible ways. Whether it’s through acts of kindness in our community, reaching out to someone who feels forgotten, or deepening our relationships with one another within the church family, each act of love reflects the heart of Christ.

This month, I encourage you to pray and ask God to show you how you can share His love with those around you. Perhaps it’s through volunteering your time, offering a listening ear, or simply sharing a word of encouragement. Remember, small acts of love can have a big impact.

As we look ahead, I’m excited about the opportunities we have as a congregation to grow together in faith and service. Let us continue to encourage one another, as Hebrews 10:24-25 says: “And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together... but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.”

May this month be a season where God’s love flows through each of us in powerful ways. Thank you for being a part of this church family and for all the ways you contribute to making it a place of grace and belonging.

With love in Christ,

Pastor Rob

Connection – **member spotlight**
 one word that describes Clarence (aka Clancy) and Amber Miller - shared connections through family, church, community, work. Amber's family, looking for a church family in the early 2000s, found welcome, support, fellowship and connection at Hope then led by Pastor Jeff Reese.

At that time Amber's family consisted of four generations; great-grandmother, grandparents, parents, Amber and brother Kaleb. And today the fifth generation is here at Hope in daughters Arihanna and Emery. What a blessed connection!

Clancy and his parents in Bristol IN, were connected with church during his youth. His adult work world has been one of variety – manufacturing, management, mechanics, maintenance, construction. Today he works with Amber's uncle in his fence building business. Amber, an Eddie since the age of 8, also has had various occupations – retail, factory work, cleaning, working with children at Head Start – along with single parenting.

A major connection in this story occurred when Clancy as manager of a business, contacted a temp agency run by Tony Leininger's daughter (another Hope connection – coincidence? a God thing?) asking for the agency to provide a dependable staff member. Who did the agency send? It was Amber.

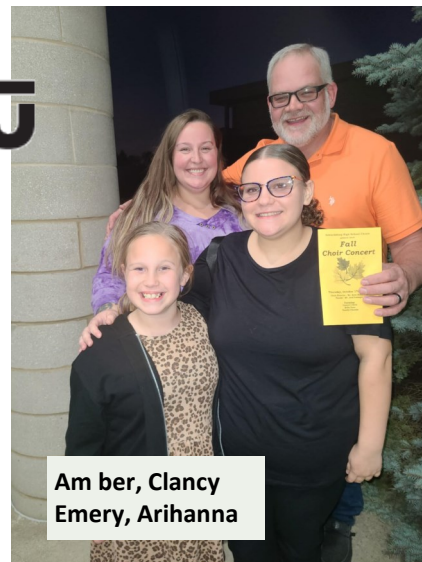
As worker and supervisor Amber and Clancy established a professional relationship as well as a personal connection and friendship in sharing difficult issues each was dealing with including the death of Clancy's young son. The work relationship ended when the pandemic eventually shut down the business.

That earlier connection then grew into a personal one. At this point Clancy was searching for a church home. Amber suggested he might find what he was looking for at Hope. And he did! Amber and Clancy became involved with Hope and were married by Pastor Nate Starkey.

That Hope involvement has continued to grow with Clancy singing and playing guitar with the praise band as well as becoming a member of the Leadership Team. The family is actively involved in Youth Group, Messy Church, the annual Easter egg hunt and discipleship.

As a family, Amber, Clancy, 9-year-old Emery and Arihanna,15, enjoy movie nights at home with lots of popcorn and summers swimming in grandparents' pool followed by Clancy grilling his famous barbeque chicken.

This blended Hope family personifies the definition of **connection** – understanding, empathy, mutual support – as well as Hope's mission – "Making disciples of Jesus Christ . . ."



Amber, Clancy
Emery, Arihanna

**CURRENT HOPE
FINANCIAL
INFORMATION**



Month of December Ministry Fund Summary

Ministry Fund Donations:	\$ 16,470
Ministry Fund Expenses:	<u>\$-16,171</u>
Surplus for the Month:	\$ 299

Year to date shortfall = \$ -5,642

Monthly Budget amount: \$ 20,053

All December bills have been paid. Our Ministry Fund balance is \$118,919. Thank you for your continued support!

December Mortgage & Mission Fund Allocation

- \$134.40 Missions
- \$998.58 Parsonage Mortgage
- \$211.02 Capital Improvements
- \$1,344.00 Total Donations

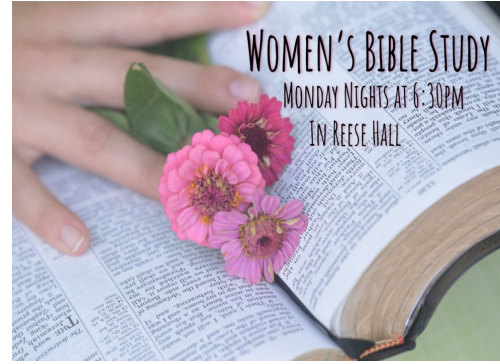
Loan Update:

Hope has applied for a Mortgage on the Parsonage with First State Bank of Middlebury. This loan will pay off the bridge loan we received. The original mortgage with Huntington was paid off in December 2024. We anticipate that the new mortgage will close by the end of January.

Giving Update:

Thank you for your generous support. To simply 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**. Those who give online through **Vanco** should have received a letter regarding the update.

If you have any questions, please contact Dawn Weingart at 269-663-5321x6.



So many have commented on their appreciation for the vocal ensemble's singing last fall.

Add your voice

Well, we'd like to sing again! Here are the upcoming vocal ensemble winter and spring rehearsal and service opportunities.

We warmly invite everyone to join us as we come together to lift our voices in joyful praise to Jesus! We'd love to have you with us!

Rehearsals
 Tuesday, February 25, 4:00 pm - 5:00 pm
 Tuesday, March 4, 4:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Service:
 First Sunday of Lent:
 March 9th - 8:30 am. (Daylight Saving Time begins)

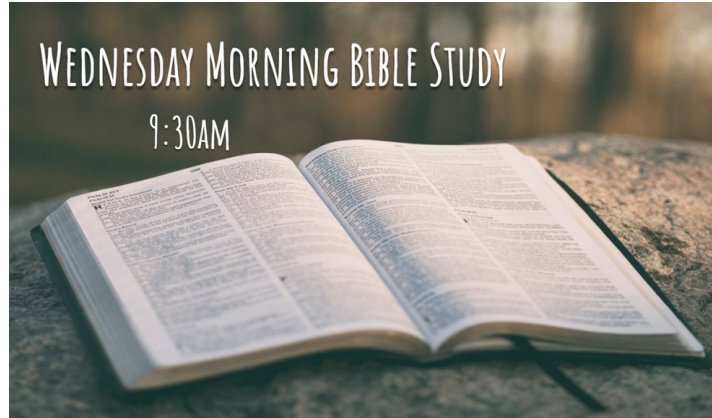


FEBRUARY

Birthdays & Anniversaries

TOM REA 2/01
 JOYCE WARD 2/02
 LYDIA GOULD 2/03
 JUSTIN ROSS 2/03
 NANCY PLATZ 2/04
 BREENA MAPLES 2/05
 CHUCK ORTH 2/05
 KELLY MORTIMER 2/05
 MARY CATHLEEN JONES 2/06
 BENTLEY CARLYLE 2/07
 PATTY JOHNSON 2/09
 JASON UDELL 2/10
 MELISSA DeBROKA 2/10
 KELLY DUIS 2/13
 JILL KAYNER 2/15
 CAITLIN WYANT 2/17
 SUE BURKS 2/17
 CALIANA MANFRED 2/18
 CHASE MANFRED 2/18
 JON BLOUGH 2/18
 BERNICE PELMEAR 2/20
 LEXI-RAE HOWELL 2/21
 SANDY RYDER 2/23
 ERIC TROSPER 2/24
 BRONWYN TAFUNAI 2/25
 HEAVEN GRISSINGER 2/26

DELLA & DENNIS HOLDREAD 2/04
 SHARYN & JAMES SNYDER 2/20
 MARJ & TOM REA 2/23
 SUSIE & DAVE HENDRICKS 2/28



SHUT-IN PRAYERS

These individuals listed below are restricted to home or nursing facilities. Their condition warrants "shut inside" or not able to leave the home on a regular basis. Should you have additional people to add to the list please call the church at 269-663-5321 Ext. 9

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



A Prayer for President's Day

Lord of heaven and earth, we offer you our deepest gratitude for this country and the freedom to worship you. Stir up a sense of stewardship so we all may care for our nation and each inhabitant of it.

We pray especially for our leaders, that you will bless them with wisdom and humility. Prompt everyone in positions of authority to pursue righteousness, justice and the welfare of all.

Remind us of the psalmist's teaching: "Happy is the nation whose God is the Lord" (Psalm 33:12, NRSV). May that promise be fulfilled "from sea to shining sea." Amen.



JANUARY LT HIGHLIGHTS

2025 LT Board

Pastor Rob Snodgrass	
Bonnie Morgan	Chairperson
Mike Morgan	Vice Chairperson
Sabrina English	Finance Representative
Sabrina English	Secretary
Heidi Meadows	Member at Large
Sharon Tafunai	Member at Large
Mark Werner	Member at Large
Clarence Miller	Member at Large
Shirley Andrews	Member at Large
Ben Morgan	Member at Large

FINANCES: Finances are good again for December; funds received exceeded expenses for the month of December. Staff and pastoral salaries were reviewed.

PLANNING: The 2025 calendar was reviewed. Dates for Christian year observances and fellowship events were confirmed.

Upcoming events:

- Sunday, February 9 Super Bowl Potluck
- Wednesday, March 5 Ash Wednesday

The annual Easter egg hunt will be chaired by Clancy and Amber Miller; Mother’s Day event by Sharon Tafunai, Father’s Day event by Mike Morgan.



Messy Church is open to families of all shapes and sizes, and folks of all ages! Come join in on the fun! Sunday, February 23rd 5-7pm!

True love

Many of us celebrate Valentine’s Day in both fun and serious ways. Children exchange treats and humorous cards with classmates and friends; some bring home handmade cards for the adults in their lives. Romantic partners may go out to eat and present each other flowers, chocolate, a fancy card — maybe even an engagement ring!

As playful as Valentine’s Day can be, it’s also a great time to remember the serious side of love, as indicated by these quotes:

- “When you love someone, you love the whole person as he or she is, and not as you would like them to be.” —Leo Tolstoy
 - “You don’t love someone because they’re perfect; you love them in spite of the fact that they’re not.” —Jodi Picoult
 - “Love ... is quiet understanding, mutual confidence, sharing and forgiving. ... It settles for less than perfection and makes allowances for human weaknesses.” — Ann Landers
- We can do the difficult work of true love — actions, not just feelings — only because God loved us first. He did (and does) so despite our imperfection, and in Jesus, God shows us how to share true love with others. This Valentine’s Day, if you don’t remember any other profound quotes, hold this one in your heart:
- “We love because God first loved us.” —1 John 4:19 (NCV)





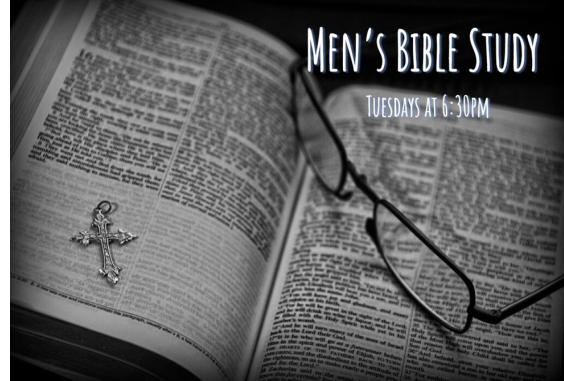
A LOVE SONG

O, How sweet the sound of your voice.
 When you whisper in my ear.
 The soft touch of your lips.
 When you compassionately kiss.
 The hand that reaches for mine.
 When I need that special touch.
 The hug that embraces my very soul.
 When I desire to be close to you.
 The laugh you offer to brighten my day.
 When it seems all is dull and quiet.
 Each day is anew because you care.
 When no one else seems to notice.
 The day's end comes all to soon
 When my thoughts of you fade into sleep.
 I have the hope you will return tomorrow.
 When I need you again you'll be there.
 Your Love is always shown.
 When I don't always know.
 Your heart beats the same as mine.
 When my heart beats the same as yours.
 In Heaven we'll always be together
 When God forms the new eternal life.
 What a pleasure to pledge you my love.
 When you mean all to me and my heart.

May your love for Jesus be carried in
 your heart till we all meet in Heaven.

—Tony and Deb Lang

But God demonstrates
 his own love
 for us in this:
 While we were
 still sinners,
 Christ died
FOR US.
 Romans 5:8, NIV



**SUPER
 BOWL
 POTLUCK**

Sunday, February 9

Puzzle!

Use the clues to fill in the boxes. Then write those letters on the correct numbered lines below to complete 1 John 4:16 (NIV).

A place to live: (1-5)

Opposite of dark: (6-11)

Companion: (11-16)

Hand greeting: (17-20)

Male adult: (21-23)

8 2 16 13 4 6 2 19 5

17 9 2 5 19 5 12 6 7 19 5 4

13 15 6 2 19 20 6 7 19 14 4

13 15 8 2 16 18 15 16

8 2 16 13 23 10 1 14 21

1 John 4:16, NIV

Answers: house, light, friend, wave, many, God, and God in them, 1 John 4:16, NIV

February 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 8:30am & 10:30am Service	3 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	4 Office Hours 9:00-2:00 8:15am Village Hybrid School 8:15-4pm 6:30pm Men's Bible Study	5 Office Hours 9:00-2:00 8:15am Village Hybrid School 8:15-4pm 9:30am Wednesday morning Bible Study	6 Office Hours 9:00-2:00 9:00am Ship Shape for Christ Exercise 5:00pm Music Practice 5-6pm 5:30pm Band Practice 5:30pm	7 Office closed	8
9 8:30am & 10:30am Service 3:00pm Youth Group 3pm	10 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	11 Office Hours 9:00-2:00 8:15am Village Hybrid School 8:15-4pm 6:30pm Men's Bible Study	12 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	13 Office Hours 9:00-2:00 9:00am Ship Shape for Christ Exercise 5:00pm Music Practice 5-6pm 5:30pm Band Practice 5:30pm	14 Office closed	15
16 8:30am & 10:30am Service	17 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	18 Office Hours 9:00-2:00 8:15am Village Hybrid School 8:15-4pm 6:30pm Men's Bible Study	19 Office Hours 9:00-2:00 8:15am Village Hybrid School 8:15-4pm 9:30am Wednesday morning Bible Study	20 Office Hours 9:00-2:00 9:00am Ship Shape for Christ Exercise 5:00pm Music Practice 5-6pm 5:30pm Band Practice 5:30pm	21 Office closed	22
23 8:30am & 10:30am Service 5:00pm Messy Church 5-7pm	24 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	25 Office Hours 9:00-2:00 8:15am Village Hybrid School 8:15-4pm 6:30pm Men's Bible Study	26 Office Hours 9:00-2:00 8:15am Village Hybrid School 8:15-4pm 9:30am Wednesday morning Bible Study	27 Office Hours 9:00-2:00 9:00am Ship Shape for Christ Exercise 5:00pm Music Practice 5-6pm 5:30pm Band Practice 5:30pm	28 Office closed	

February 2025

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, Sue Rinehart

NOMINATIONS TEAM:

Marti Bartels, Sue Rinehart

LIVING WITH CANCER:

Brad Yoder; Brenda Miller; Cathy Jones; Chet Manning, face;

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; Jennifer Wyant, ovarian, 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;

Macie Carlsen, leukemia; Mark Howell; Marilyn

White; Melana Horner, leukemia; Mike

Moelbash, spine; Mike Hartline; Mike Morgan;

Mike Walton; Nancy Mysliwicz, kidney; Pam

Knapp, liver, & kidney; Paula S.; Penny,

terminal colon; Rene (not DeYoung) pancreatic

cancer; Rick Trospers; 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; Allisa Derleth Corak MS;

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; Joyce

Frohriep, dementia; 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, Hospice; Todd,

leg amputated; Tracee Reiter; Teresa Neucks-

Mills, MS & fibromyalgia; Tina Trospers 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