

*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!*



2025

### *Brothers and Sisters in Christ,*

As we embark on the journey of Lent, a season of reflection, repentance, and renewal, we are invited to draw closer to God in anticipation of the resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. During these 40 days, we are called to engage in practices of prayer, fasting, and giving, allowing our hearts to be transformed by God's grace.

**Lent** begins on March 5, 2025, through April 17, 2025. **Good Friday** will be observed April 18, 2025 and **Easter Sunday** is April 20, 2025.

#### **Lenten Reflection & Practices**

Lent is a time to spiritually prepare for Easter. I encourage everyone to consider the following Lenten practices:

- **Prayer:** Set aside daily time to pray for personal renewal and for the needs of our community and the world. Consider using a Lenten devotional to guide your time with God.
  - **Fasting:** Fast from something that distracts you from God. This might be food, social media, or other distractions, making space for a deeper relationship with Christ.
- Giving:** During Lent, we focus on sacrificial giving. Consider supporting our mission efforts, or a charitable organization, as a way to give back to those in need.

#### **Ash Wednesday Service:**

This year we will be holding the Ash Wednesday service at the Presbyterian Church. Begin your Lenten journey with a meaningful service, including the imposition of ashes. This will be a time to reflect on our mortality and the need for repentance.

#### **Good Friday Service:**

Good Friday will be held at Our Lady of The Lake. Reflect on the sacrifice of Christ as we gather for a solemn service remembering His passion and death.

#### **Easter Sunday Celebration:**

Celebrate the resurrection of our Lord with joy and thanksgiving! Come experience the hope and new life that Jesus offers.

May this season of Lent bring a renewed sense of God's presence in your life. Let us seek Him with humble hearts, knowing that He desires to make us whole.

In Christ's love,  
*Pastor Rob*



**Mike, Sue and Mackenzie Morgan** are in the Member Spotlight for March. Sue is a true orange and blue Eddie growing up in the “Teachers’ Neighborhood” on the northwest side of Edwardsburg. Other EHS alums will remember her neighbors – the Mettes, Hoffmans, Brooks, Montgomerys and Boepples. Sue’s EHS experience included the Elkhart Career Center (Edwardsburg is the only Michigan school district with a connection to an out-of-state career center). Her Career Center secretarial training prepared Sue for the world of work right out of high school.

Mike, on the other hand, is a Hoosier who grew up in the Mishawaka/Grape Road area when that area was pristine farm land and University Mall was still some developer’s dream. Mike also had the benefit of vocational training. His auto mechanic training as a student at Penn High School allowed Mike to transition directly from high school into his career as a mechanic. Advances through the complex automotive world led to his position as a parts specialist.



Sue, Mackenzie, Mike Morgan

Marrying after meeting at a New Year’s Eve party 35 years ago, Mike and Sue moved to the Edwardsburg area from Elkhart in 2005. Visiting Hope as a potential church home, the Morgans found a friendly, welcoming congregation, many of whom were Sue’s former classmates from EHS. The Morgan family had truly found a connection, old friends and their new church home.

When Mike underwent surgery for a heart valve replacement in 2019 he expected to be hospitalized for one to two weeks. He turned out to have an extremely rare allergy which caused his internal organs to shut down keeping him in major medical treatment for 138 days. During this period of illness Mike became a focus of prayer chains all over the world. Coming back to somewhat normal health after surgery he was told he’d always need mobility helpers (walker, cane, etc). His intense determination to get back to normalcy has ended up with Mike’s overcoming those negative predictions. He is indeed an example of the power of prayer and of sustained, focused effort toward a goal.

Mike’s son Brandon, now 21 years into his career in the Marine Corps, lives in San Diego with his wife Sarah and grandchildren Amelia and Jackson. Sadly, another son, Bryan died in 2015 leaving behind grandson Aiden who lives in West Virginia. Mike and Sue’s daughter Mackenzie is planning an April wedding with Jane Mahieu’s son, Nick Folkers. Mackenzie and Nick met when they were both cast members in a Hope dinner/theater show. Mackenzie, a Bethel College graduate, is into her third year as a third grade teacher at Granger Christian School.

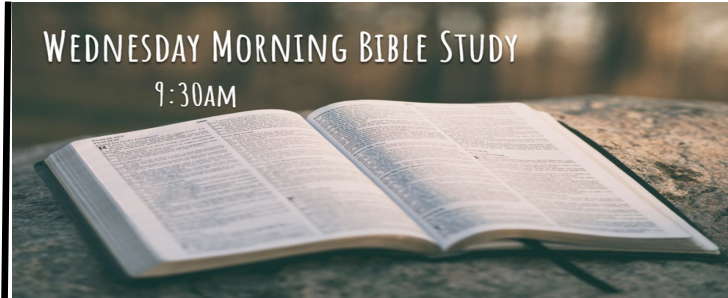
The Morgans have served Hope in myriad ways – Mackenzie and Mike can be seen during Sunday morning services working the sound board and projector, both have served as liturgists, Mike is a licensed lay speaker as well as a Trustee and member of the Leadership Team, Sue has sung in various vocal groups, all have helped with fish fry preparations and chores as well as participating in past dinner/theater productions. Thanks Mike, Sue and Mackenzie for your 20 years of faithful support and service to Hope’s mission.



- DEB LANG 3/01
- STEVE LEIST 3/02
- SHARON MORGAN 3/02
- MIRANDA ANDERSON 3/02
- SPENCER BEEHLER 3/02
- ERIC FRIES 3/03
- PEGGY JENSEN 3/03
- NANCY BOWMAN 3/04
- JACK GOULD 3/05
- LILA BLOUGH 3/05
- DAVID GIRTON 3/06
- CHANDLER SHEETS 3/07
- AJ FROST 3/07
- DAVID MORTIMER 3/10
- DONNELDA LOHR 3/11
- TIM PELMEAR 3/12
- MACKENZIE FLICK 3/13
- BOB MORGAN 3/16
- PAULA RALPH 3/24
- RONDA FAHEY 3/24
- DEVON TRUEX JR. 3/25
- SHAWNA LaPORTE 3/27
- BRAD STRYCKER 3/28
- SUSIE HENDRICKS 3/29



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



- CHARLENA & BRETT MAPLES 3/09
- HEIDI & RYAN BENTZER 3/21



**MARCH 9**

**FINANCE QUESTIONS?????**

If you have a question about the how the church finances work, please contact Dawn Weingart at extension 6 or Pastor Rob at extension 8 at 269-663-5321. We also have summaries of the information that has been published in prior newsletters in the office.



# FINANCES

## Current Hope Financial Information

### Month of January Ministry Fund Summary

Ministry Fund Donations: \$ 16,324  
 Ministry Fund Expenses: \$-19,648  
 Shortfall for the Month: \$ -3,324

Monthly Budget amount: \$ 23,745

All January bills have been paid. Our Ministry Fund balance is \$115,595. Thank you for your continued support!

### January Mortgage & Mission Fund Allocation

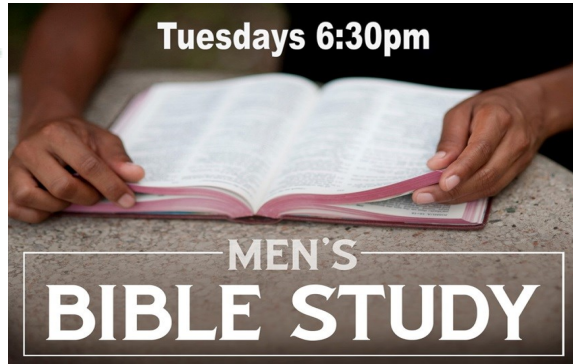
\$108.20 Missions  
 \$962.80 Parsonage Mortgage  
\$211.02 Capital Improvements  
 \$1,282.02 Total Donations

### Loan Update

Hope now has a mortgage with First State Bank of \$195,000 on the parsonage property. The monthly payment is \$1,822.95 with a 15-year amortization period at 7.53%. \$83,000 was added to the old parsonage loan of \$107,000. This addition was the required payment to the UMC to leave the denomination after the Miracle Sunday collection was utilized. The loan payments are being paid through the Ministry Fund and Mortgage Fund.

### 2025 Budget:

The 2025 Budgets have been approved by the Leadership Team. \$238,487 is the 2025 budget for the Ministry Fund. This is an almost 1% decrease from the 2024 budget of \$240,637. The Mortgage & Mission Budget decreased by about \$18,000 from \$64,583 in 2024 to \$46,454. Copies of the 2025 budget are available, please contact Dawn Weingart 269-662-5321x 6 if you would like a copy.



### Invite, Connect, Grow, Serve

We all have family members we love and care about. We all have friends we share our lives with. Some may not go to a church or only attend on holy days.

We should not be shy, but **Invite** them to Hope and explain how they might **Connect** with other members here at Hope and find a new love in their heart.

If we have someone new, we all should make an effort to **Connect** with them. If we all did these two things (Invite, Connect)

Hope would continue to **Grow** as a church who wants to **Serve** our Lord Jesus Christ and when we **Grow** we would also **Serve** our community with the hope that Hope church wants for the hearts of our community.

Then as a church we would **Invite** Christ into our lives; **Connect** a personal relationship with Jesus; **Grow** in His word and **Serve** Him with our lives.

May you **Invite**, **Connect**, **Grow** and **Serve** our Lord Jesus Christ and help Hope's vision do the same.

—Tony and Deb Lang





## March 2025

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

## March 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

### NOMINATIONS TEAM:

Marti Bartels

### LIVING WITH CANCER:

Ashlyn Markel; Bill Fahey; Brad Yoder; Brenda Miller; 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); Jane Harmon; Jaycee Wendt; Jean Schlemmer; 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, bladder; 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 Trospier; 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; Stephanie Harris; Steve Ware, Hospice; Todd, leg amputated; Tracee Reiter's brother, hospice; Teresa Neucks-Mills, MS & fibromyalgia; Tina Trospier'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