



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



People of Hope. He is risen—He is risen indeed!

As we continue to bask in the power of the resurrection we also look ahead to Pentecost.

This season between Easter and Pentecost is more than just a string of Sundays; it's a time of preparation, anticipation and spiritual renewal. Just as the risen Christ spent 40 days with His disciples teaching and preparing them for the mission ahead, we too are invited to grow deeper in our faith and readiness to receive afresh the power of the Holy Spirit.

In these weeks let us reflect on the hope of the resurrection and what it means for us as individuals and as a church. How is Christ calling us to live as Easter people in a world that still needs His light? How can we be vessels of grace, truth and healing in our community?

Pentecost Sunday (June 8) will be a celebration of the Spirit's arrival and a recommitment to our calling as a Spirit-filled, mission-driven people. We'll gather to worship, pray and seek God's presence as the early church did—and we believe He will meet us again.

Let this be a season of expectation. Come, Holy Spirit

Pastor Rob



Take a moment as you enter church on Sunday to send a greeting to one of our homebound friends. Those notes sent on to them are a true blessing.

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



YOUTH GROUP!
Sunday, May 11th @ 3pm
Middle & High School Students

Special dates

- National Day of Prayer, May 1, 2025
- Mother's Day, May 11, 2025
- Armed Forces Day, May 17, 2025
- Memorial Day, May 26, 2025
- Ascension Day, May 29, 2025



The Member Spotlight focuses this month on the Holdreads – Dennis and Della. Della, and her cousin Gene Montgomery, hold the unique record of being the last residents who were born at home in Edwardsburg and are still residing in the village. They also are direct descendants of Cannon Smith, early Cass County settler and staunch Methodist for whom historic Smith’s Chapel is named.

Della began her education in the first kindergarten class offered by the Edwardsburg schools, graduating 13 years later from Edwardsburg High School. Della tells how she and her siblings –three sisters and one brother – would check in with neighbors afternoons on the way home from school. Their dad, Mr. Carpenter, was a working carpenter leading to his kids being known as “the nail benders”. Denny and Della still live in that neighborhood – less than a block from where she grew up.

Denny’s family, including a brother and twin sisters, moved to Edwardsburg from Elkhart in 1963. He became aware of Della when she, as president of their EHS junior class, called a class meeting to order in a definitely authoritarian manner. As high schoolers they experienced working together as part of a group producing their senior play. Their first date included an Elkhart High School concert and an after-concert snack at McDonald’s. That was indeed a special treat for Della since that was the first time she had visited a McDonald’s restaurant. The couple married in 1967.

Following high school both Denny and Della attended vocational schools – she was in a data processing curriculum, Denny learned the tool and die business. Della’s skills led to jobs in area banks, the Selmer music instrument manufacturer and then to the local State Farm Insurance office from which she retired 33 years later. Denny’s working life included tool and die shops in Elkhart and South Bend ending at Niles Precision where he retired after 55 years in the industry. What notable working lives – today’s average employee stays at a job for 4 years!

Denny and Della are parents of two children, both Edwardsburg High School graduates. They are daughter Jennifer Wyant and son Mark Holdread. Jen retired from her Edwardsburg High School position as social studies teacher in 2022. She lives in South Bend and has two children, Caitlin and Conor, the **5th generation of Carpenter/Holdread EHS grads!** Sadly, Jen’s husband Alan passed away in 2014. Mark, wife Stacy and twins Elizabeth and Logan reside in White Hall, Maryland, near Baltimore. Mark works as a business relationship manager for CareFirst-Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Maryland.

After retiring from her career, Della also retired from the Edwardsburg Public Schools Board of Education after 39 years on the Board, 27 years as Board President. She remains active in the community as Vice Chairperson of the Edwardsburg Schools Foundation, Edwardsburg Historical Museum board member, involvement with the annual all-school reunion and member of the Monday Evening Club. Retirement has given Denny more time to pursue his hobbies of antiquing and collecting paper weights. Family gatherings often include competitive games of dominoes or Uno while the couple enjoys a meal out or a once-in-awhile event by a big name entertainer such as Elvis (how did the King exit the building without being seen?) or Bill Cosby.

A life-long member of the local Methodist congregation, following the example of ancestor Cannon Smith, Della has been church treasurer, member of the Pastor-Parish committee and member of United Methodist Women. Congratulations, Denny & Della, on lives well-lived supporting the community and the Hope congregation.



MAY BIRTHDAYS

LOGAN BENTZER	5/01
JUDY MONTGOMERY	5/03
SHAREE LEIST	5/04
SHARON RADDE	5/04
MATTHEW ANDERS	5/04
LINDA HARDIN	5/06
WILLIAM MILLER	5/06
CHARLENA MAPLES	5/07
JANICE LEIST	5/08
AMY STARKEY	5/09
STACEY ROUCH	5/09
JEFFREY NOWICKI	5/10
CHARLIE DEW	5/10
TINA TROSPER	5/10
SHELBY HARDIN	5/14
JAMES E BOWMAN	5/14
LARRY ACKELS	5/14
ERIC SCHUMAN	5/16
HANNAH LEIST	5/16
KALEB JOHNSON	5/17
NICHOLE DOHM	5/18
TONY LEININGER	5/21
KEVIN DUIS	5/28
LISA KRILL	5/28
SUE MORGAN	5/28
PAIGE MILLER	5/29
BILL FRIES	5/30
TONY LANG	5/30



MAY ANNIVERSARIES

STACEY & KEVIN ROUCH	5/07
SHAREE & STEVE LEIST	5/14
CAROL & JAMES BOWMAN	5/17
AGGIE & GARY BUSSEN	5/18
LYNN & BOB STRAKA	5/18
NICHOLE & ANDREW DOHM	5/18
ROBIN & KEVIN ENGLISH	5/19
MIRANDA & BRAD ANDERSON	5/26

**Lavender and Lace:
A Vintage Day in May
Mother's Day Brunch**



Saturday, May 10 at 11.30AM

Please bring your favorite salad to share. Rolls, bread and drinks will be provided. Also bring an item from yesteryear that others may know not what it is and we will try to give our best guesses! This is not mandatory but might provide an interesting look into days gone by.

Please **RSVP** by **Thursday, May 1**.....Text or call Sharon Tafunai at 574.326.9326 or Wanda Orth at 269.228.0411.

Hope to see you on May 10!



CHRISTIAN SYMBOL

ALPHA MU OMEGA — The Greek letters that begin the words *yesterday*, *today* and *forever* remind us of Jesus' constant presence with us personally and his eternal nature that transcends time as we know it. "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever" (Hebrews 13:8, NIV). Dozens of psalms and other Bible passages also proclaim that the Lord's "steadfast love endures forever" (for example, Psalm 100:5, NRSV). What reassurance when life seems tough and fleeting!

HOPE HAPPENINGS

MARCHERS needed — Memorial Day marchers will meet in the Middle School parking lot on Monday, May 26 at 10:30AM HOPEfully wearing HOPE t-shirts (not mandatory) and carrying a flag to wave. For more info see Clancy Miller.

THREE BABIES were baptized on Easter Sunday . They are Sonny Meadows, Olivia Laporte and Leliana Generis.

The April 19 **EASTER EGG HUNT** was attended by 132 excited kids! A special feature enjoyed by the kids was an exchange table where they could trade candy for stickers, rings, necklaces and small toys.

WAY FINDERS met at Copper Creek on April 18 with 16 present. We celebrated our 9th year of existence and welcomed new member Wendy Emmett. Next meeting will be at Flat Rock Grill on May 16. Shampoo and conditioner will be collected to donate to Helping Hands.

EASTER WORSHIP SERVICES were enhanced by nearly 30 lilies in honor and memory of members' families, special music by a vocal ensemble and Tom Rea's solo of "The Holy City".

Thanks to Heidi Meadows for organizing the lilies, Dave Girton for leading the music.



HOPE CHURCH & MISSION

Church Family

LEADERSHIP TEAM

Bonnie Morgan, Chair
Mike Morgan, Vice Chair
Sabrina English, Sec'y; Finance
Pastor Rob Snodgrass
Ben Morgan, At Large
Heidi Meadows, At Large
Clarence Miller, At Large
Sharon Tafunai, At Large
Shirley Andrews, At Large
Mark Werner, At Large

SPRC TEAM

Bonnie Morgan
Mike Morgan

PASTORS & FAMILIES

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

MILITARY

Alyssa Malott, Brandon Morgan

FINANCES

Current Hope Financial Information Month of March Ministry Fund Summary

Ministry Fund Donations: \$ 17,626
 Ministry Fund Expenses: \$-17,935
 Shortfall for the Month: \$ -310

Year to date shortfall = \$ -10,241

Monthly Budget amount: \$ 23,745

All March bills have been paid. Our Ministry Fund balance is \$111,195. Thank you for your continued support!

March Mortgage & Mission Fund Allocation

\$180.40 Missions
 \$962.80 Parsonage Mortgage
\$660.80 Capital Improvements
 \$1,804.00 Total Donations

Building 1 Anniversary

Happy Anniversary to our Sanctuary! 25 years ago, at

the end of April, Hope had our services for the first time at Elkhart Road!



WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

9:30AM



Below are upcoming events & holidays.

If you are interested in being a Lead for anything that is

BOLD AND UNDERLINED,

please contact the office!

Many hands make light work!

June 2025

8 – Pentecost

14 – Father's Day Event

15 – Father's Day

July 2025

4 – Independence Day

September 2025

1 – Labor Day

11 – Patriot Day

October 2025

5 - Crop Walk

25 – Trunk or Treat

November 2025

23/24 - Thanksgiving Basket Packing / Distribution

23 - Decorate for Advent

30 - Advent Begins

27 – Thanksgiving

Handling Poinsettias for the Church

December 2025

6 – Stuff A Bus

21/22 – Christmas Basket Packing / Distribution

24 – Christmas Eve

25 – Christmas Day

30 – Take down decorations





Join us for Messy Church on Sunday May 25, 2025
 We will meet from 5pm - 7pm in Reese Hall. Come join us for hot dogs and sloppy joes, activities, and some great small group discussions about how to get through this messy life.

MAY
25
 5PM -7PM

HOPE OF EDWARDSBURG CHURCH
 69941 Elkhart RD
 Edwardsburg, MI 49112

SHIP SHAPE 4 CHRIST
 MONDAY AND THURSDAY MORNINGS
 9-10AM

Tuesdays 6:30pm

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY



WAITING

One of the hardest things to do is waiting for the answer.

We may ask others for help with something or other. Sometimes they answer right away with a yes or no. Other times they may say they have to check with someone.

How often do we go in prayer asking for an answer? Sometimes we'll feel the answer right away as we feel comfortable doing what we asked in our prayer. We know that what we are doing is good for our heart.

How often do we pray for something and then wait. We may continue to pray or leave it at the one prayer.

Do we seek advice from others about our prayer? Waiting on the Lord sometimes requires patience.

May you find peace in answering your prayer request and doing what you feel is God's will.

—Deb and Tony Lang

May 2025

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