

# Visions of Hope

August 13, 2017



F4356 State Hwy 97  
Edgar, WI 54426

**Mission Statement:**

Hope's Mission is to teach the Bible and follow Christ's example by giving back to the community and those in need

**Website:**

hope4centralwi.com

**Email:**

hope4centralwi@yahoo.com

Sunday Worship  
9:30 am

Communion  
1st, 3rd and 5th Sundays

**Interim Pastor:**

Mark Reiff  
920-634-1246 (cell)  
715-352-2555 (church)

**Secretary:**

hopelcsec@gmail.com

**Duties List**

**August 20**

*August 27*

**Ushers**

**Lowell Borchardt**

**Jay Borchardt**

*Larry Peterson*

*Leroy Syring*

**Greeters**

**Ken & Rose Schilling**

*Rick & Sandy Bradley*

**Readers**

**Elaine Mueller**

*Rose Schilling*

**Acolyte**

**Anna Peterson**

*Korbyn Bauman*



"Yes, Lord," said the Canaanite woman, "but even the dogs, eat the scraps that fall from the master's table." This woman's faith has made those remarkable words immortal. More importantly, because of them, Jesus answered her request with a miracle of healing. Her daughter was made well.

We all know that Jesus heals. Perhaps, some of us have even experienced a miracle of faith through the power of Jesus. But in this brief reflection I want to focus our attention on the object of derision...the creatures beneath the master's table.

I will never forget an observation I made to one of my fellow pilgrims on my first trip to the Holy Lands. After roughly 10 days of travel around Israel and the Palestinian Territories something struck me as quite odd. I said to my fellow pilgrim, "Have you noticed? There don't seem to be any dogs in Israel." She replied, "You know, I never thought about it but you're right. I haven't seen any either."

What we came to understand, because of this simple observation, is that in the cultures of the Middle East dogs are despised as filthy and unclean. While many Jewish people in Israel will indeed have dogs (usually smaller ones) as pets, Muslims most certainly will not. Only the Bedouins (shepherds) will have dogs to help with their flocks. But then the Bedouins are considered, in the Muslim world, to be almost as filthy as the animals they keep.

In the western-world we love our dogs. I am no exception. Not only do we as Christians understand, because of Jesus, that God has made no unclean thing, but we also understand that every animate thing in God's creation will be redeemed, made whole, and new in the new creation on the day of resurrection. Everything in creation will be made new! Yes, Fido, that includes you.

Science is discovering every day just how remarkable our canine friends can be. Because they have adapted to our ways from the time of cavemen, dogs can do some astounding things. Some dogs are able to detect cancer in human beings...literally sniffing it out. Other dogs have an uncanny ability to predict seizures in their human companions and will be near them to comfort them when it occurs.

We now know that dogs can learn up to 800 human words and respond to them. We use dogs to sniff out drugs and even terrorist bombs. When the day is done they lay down on the floor by our side and we pet them and they lower our blood pressure. When we take them for walks it not only improves their health but also ours as well.

We have come to know just how selfless they are in their devotion to their families and owners. How often haven't we read news story about a dog that has saved a child's life or the life of a lost and injured hiker. Or, as most recently, a dog that lost its own life rescuing all of the members of its human family from their burning home.

Yes, God's creation is absolutely awesome and in it he gives us so many gifts. Gifts we often overlook or demean. Yet, Jesus said, "not even a sparrow falls from the sky but that the Father knows it!" The love of God, like that of the dogs and cats and others that he created, is unconditional. Remember this the next time you sit down at table for a meal and let some crumbs fall to the floor in prayerful-gratitude for the little things in life and all the joy they bring.

Pax Christi,  
Mark Reiff+

Dear Hope Family:

I am writing this newsletter with a very heavy heart. Two women I know have had double mastectomy operations and will have to go through chemotherapy. I hate this horrible disease. Seems like more and more people I know are going through such horrible health issues.

One of the women is Jason's ex-wife, the mother of my grandchildren. I am praying for a full and quick recovery. The other lady is a little older than I am, recently lost her husband and now this!! Pray, pray, pray!!

I also talked to Joyce Levoy today and she is experiencing more health issues. And my foster Mother fell and hurt herself today. Then I heard from a friend, her son has MS and now Greg needs a feeding tube. This long suffering lady just lost her husband in January. A lot of little things piling up today and I keep thinking that I am not praying hard enough or often enough. Then I take a closer look and I realize I can't keep illness and injury away from my loved ones and friends. What I really need to do is make a list of those I am concerned about and give it up to God.

*2 Chronicles 20:17 "But you will not even need to fight. Take your positions; then stand still and watch the LORD's victory. He is with you, O people of Judah and Jerusalem. Do not be afraid or discouraged. Go out there tomorrow, for the LORD is with you!"*

What God tells Jehoshaphat in this passage and what he would remind us of today is this: "The battle is not yours; it's mine. You don't have to fight in it alone." And you especially don't have to solve every little thing. That's God's job. In other words, it's God's problem. Let him solve it. We can certainly pray unceasingly and keep the list of those in need close to our hearts.

The fact is, if we are God's children, then our problems are his problems. And he's much better at fighting our battles and solving our problems than we will ever be. Our job is to trust him to work it all out. Perhaps the reason we have so many tired, fatigued, and discouraged Christians is because we think, "It all depends on me." We want to take over God's role and that's not where He wants us to be.

The day you resign as General Manager of the Universe, you're going to find that it doesn't fall apart. You can relax in faith, trusting that God is able to run things without your help. And that is great news for all of us control freaks!!

Twice in this passage it says, "Don't be afraid," and "Don't be discouraged." When you face a seemingly impossible situation, don't be afraid, and don't be discouraged. Has God ever lost a battle? No. He doesn't lose battles. Does He always give us the outcome we want? Probably not. That is the time we need to trust His wisdom and let those problems be solved in God's way, not ours. And also, within God's timetable and not ours.

God tells Jehoshaphat, "Take your positions and stand firm." What does it mean to stand firm? It means to have a mental attitude of quiet confidence.

You stand firm on two things:

- The character of God. He's faithful. He does not bring us this far just to let us down. He won't bring you out on a limb and then cut off the limb. Have faith in the nature and character of God.
- The truth of his Word. God's Word is faithful. You can count on the promises found in the Bible.

How might your pride keep you from letting God fight your battles for you? Well, we all think we should be in control and can do a great job. But the thing is, we think we should be in "charge", but don't really want to take charge. For one thing, we can't really take charge and solve anything alone. But, we crave the illusion of being the big boss. Ha, how's that working for you? There is no reason for hurt pride, we were never in control to begin with. Look at it this way, God and you, is that a winning combination or what?? Like they say, "there is nothing wrong with having a secret weapon on your side". Of course, He will no longer be "secret" after we share Him with others.

Make a list of the things you know to be true of the character of God. How will those truths change you today? He never abandons us or forgets about our trials. We however, become impatient and think God's solution should be the same solution we thought up. Wrong again Rosie.

Sometimes we (I) become so focused on how we would handle a bad situation we forget that God has already got all those plans finalized already. Our "better way" to handle things is not God's way. I often need to take a step back, take a deep breath and let God talk me through the situation with all of His Godly wisdom. But the trick here is to stay still long enough so we hear God talk to us.

*Proverbs 2:1-5 My son, if you receive my words and treasure up my commandments with you, making your ear attentive to wisdom and inclining your heart to understanding; yes, if you call out for insight and raise your voice for understanding, if you seek it like silver and search for it as for hidden treasures, then you will understand the fear of the LORD and find the knowledge of God.*

*Psalm 37:7-9 Be still before the LORD and wait patiently for him; fret not yourself over the one who prospers in his way, over the man who carries out evil devices! Refrain from anger, and forsake wrath! Fret not yourself; it tends only to evil. For the evildoers shall be cut off, but those who wait for the LORD shall inherit the land.*

Stop, be still, listen and learn. *Romans 8:30-32 And those He predestined He also called, those He called He also justified, those He justified He also glorified. What then shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare His own Son but gave Him up for us all, how will He not also, along with Him, freely give us all things?...*

So, here is my challenge to you. Make a list of all those who need prayer, love and understanding, we will have a basket in back of church to put all our concerns and prayer requests in. Then we can pray for them all and lay them at the bottom of the cross, at Jesus's feet, so-to-speak.

Your sister in Christ  
Rosie Schilling

# Hope's Happenings

Sunday:	August 13	Attendance 86
Offering:	Regular	\$2935.00
	Building	\$110.00
	Sign	\$795.00
	Well	\$100.00
	Prayer Garden	\$100.00
	Loose	\$50.00
	Mission	\$60.00
	Total	\$4150.00



**Sunday School will be starting September 10th.**

Any parents that have children new to Sunday school or that have children who have previously participated in Sunday school that will not be attending should contact Michelle or Jen so we know how many children to plan for. If anyone is interested in teaching or helping with Sunday school should see Michelle or Jen also. Thank you

**PRAYER CONCERNS:** Please remember the following people in your prayers

- Ken Bauman—shoulder surgery
- Tom Streckert—shoulder surgery—home recovering
- Duane Kamenick—knee replacement—home recovering
- Grace Schraufnagel—cancer—friend of the Streckert's
- John Hamann—Atrium
- Shyra Martyn—breast cancer—Randy and Sara's daughter-in-law
- George Wright—fell broke hip and spiral break in upper femur—Bonnie's dad
- Mildred Imhoff—fell and broke her femur—Ken's mother
- Joyce LeVoy—home recovering
- Don Hanson—health issues
- Dorothy Wright—fluid on lungs and congestive heart failure—Bonnie Blake's mom
- Leroy Syring—recovering from a stroke
- Scott Campbell—Mayo—treatment for myeloma—relation to the Streckert's
- Paulette Kroll—Myleloid Leukemia—receiving chemo treatments
- Bill Brayton—DeEtta Peterson's brother
- Amy—cancer—friend of Barb Mohr-Borchardt
- Dylan & Logan Weichert—sons of Bryan & Stacey
- Sawyer Mueller—microcephaly—Daryl & Beth's son
- Jennifer Bohman—prayers of healing



## The Bulletin Board

- August 20, Council meeting following worship (rescheduled)
- August, 21, 6:00 pm packing school kits and backpacks



Women of Hope Lutheran projects for July and August will be "Fill A Backpack!" and "School Kits" for LWR. These items are given locally to our schoolchildren, and school kits given to children overseas through Lutheran World Relief.

NEED **CRAYONS**, rulers with centimeters, scissors (blunt tip) to complete our school kits. A few more backpacks are needed also. If you have not donated please consider (see list) on coffee counter. The items are greatly appreciated by the children we help. Thank you Audrey Kamenick

# Hope's Happenings

## Ladies:

Many of you are disappointed that the Belong Tour has been canceled for this fall. Fortunately, we have two other opportunities coming up in September that will be a chance to increase our faith and knowledge of the Word as well as have a great time with your girlfriends.



**On September 14, Forest Springs** is having a **Ladies Day** with speaker and author Ann Sullivan. We have sent in registrations for 10 so if you are interested, please contact Rosie (715-573-0524) asap and she will try to add you to the group. There is a pamphlet by the bulletin board with more information



with **Beth Moore**  
Worship with Travis Cottrell  
**SEPTEMBER 16, 2017**

ARE YOU  
WILLING TO STEP OUT  
AND TRUST HIM?



**CAPTIVATED**  
THE  
*Wonder*  
OF CHRIST ON  
THE WINDING ROAD

7:30 am to 3:30 pm

Cost: \$30— Lunch included

Faith Fellowship

217 W. McMillan St, Marshfield

Purchase tickets

August 1-September 2

[LIFEWAY.COM/LPSIMULCAST](http://LIFEWAY.COM/LPSIMULCAST)

Lifeway Women | events

If you are interested in attending 'Captivated' please contact Rosie (715-573-0524) asap



...for supporting my ministry with the Navigators at the University of Minnesota—Twin Cities! God is currently shaping students into disciples who are seeking to work for and grow His Kingdom for the rest of their lives. He is also working in the lives of students who have never before had a relationship with Him! It was so encouraging to receive your letter and support! I am so thankful for your desire to support the growth of the Kingdom and desire to support me as the body of Christ. Thank you.

*Katie Zionkowski*