

Visions of Hope

January 29, 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 School
8:45-9:30 am

Bible Study
8:45-9:15 am

Sunday Worship
9:30 am

Communion
1st, 3rd and 5th Sundays

Pastor:

David Lathrop
715-574-1419 (cell)
715-352-2555 (church)

Secretary:

hopelcsec@gmail.com

Duties List

February 5

February 12

Ushers

**Jay Borchardt
Lowell Borchardt**

*Leroy Syring
Ken Schilling*

Greeters

**Jodene Leffel
Keith & Cassi Bauman**

Acolyte

**Riley Bauman
Korbyn Bauman**

Readers

**Ron Kunkel
Rose Schilling**

Life is busy and full of distractions. When is the last time you sat down to read a book? Chances are, even if you'd like to read, finding the time and determination to do it is hard. Trust me if you think you are going to have a nice warm bath and take time to read the bible, that doesn't happen either (I fall asleep and almost drop the bible in the bath water). Reading the Bible often requires more focus and energy when trying to understand and apply it to our lives. And we all struggle with our daily lives because daily life can overwhelm us at times. But we've been instructed to remain in God's Word, and we know that by doing so we are blessed.

God's Word brings light to our lives and helps us survive the world around us. 2 Timothy 3:16-17 says, "All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be competent, equipped for every good work."

Here are two key ways to keep God's Word a light to your path on a daily basis.

Hide God's Word in your heart. Has there ever been a time when you wish you knew more passages or could remember a specific verse? This has been a goal of mine for years, but sadly I don't memorize too well. The Psalmist in Psalm 119 internalized God's Word by meditation, delight, and memorization. He wrote, "I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you" (v. 11). Sometime we simply won't have the chance to read our Bible, but we still need it to inform our lives of passages to share with a friend.

Start with one verse, write it several times, put memory cards around your home, and work on reciting it to yourself, a family member, or friend. Soon it will be written in your heart, like the lyrics to your favorite song. By internalizing Scripture you will obey God's command: "My son, be attentive to my words; incline your ear to my sayings. Let them not escape from your sight; keep them within your heart. For they are life to those who find them, and healing to all their flesh" (Proverbs 7:2-3).

Read God's Word with others. In 1 Timothy 4:13, Jesus instructs us in the following way, "Until I come, devote yourself to the public reading of Scripture, to exhortation, to teaching." Following Christ is not something we can do all by ourselves, we need the fellowship of our Christian brothers and sisters. In order to truly flourish we need each other. This holds true when it comes to reading and understanding God's Word too. There are several ways we can explore God's word with others. Understanding God's Word in new ways, it will motivate and inspire you, and it will hold you accountable.

We find fulfillment in life as we make God's Word a priority. For as Deuteronomy 8:3 says, "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God." What a gift that we have God's Word and the freedom to read it! And may we never take it for granted.

Living a devout life is often thought of as following a list of strict rules, the truth is living a devout life may not be in the cards for us because we are weak and sinful human beings. But in reality, we know we are righteous with God because He has promised that to us. We can strive each day to lead a devout lifestyle but be one with God doesn't mean an oppressive lifestyle, God wants us to be happy in our love for Him. Devoutness suggests a thriving, spiritual relationship with God that leads to freedom. Living righteously is always a genuine decision one makes to remain attentive to the presence and power of God. It is motivated by love and reverence for the One who created us and cares for us.

I found the following on the internet and thought it was worth sharing.

If you want to cultivate a closer relationship with in your life, here are 10 daily practices based on Scripture that will help you build your relationship with God.

1. "Set your affection on things above, not on earthly things." – Colossians 3:2. Every morning when you rise, decide to set aside time to pray and center yourself on God's Word. The practice of letting your soul be fed by God's Word and praying will prepare you for the day ahead and help you live righteously.
2. "Pray continually" – 1 Thessalonians 5:17. God has instructed us to pray continually. Whether aloud or in your head, choose to pray through the various tasks of the day. This will keep you connected to God.
3. "In everything give thanks." – 1 Thessalonians 5:18. Stay determined to remain grateful regardless of what may come your way. This is a safeguard against not being righteousness. Gratitude helps you maintain perspective on who you are in Christ and what He's given you.

4. "Hate what is evil, cling to what is good." – Romans 12:9. Choose to hate what God says is evil and to love what is good. God has set you apart for a purpose, but if you become immersed in the ways of the world you will forget your calling. We must consciously choose to love what God loves and exemplify it in our lives.
5. "Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ." – Galatians 2:6. Taking part in a thriving Christian community spurs us on to righteousness. Making an effort to connect with your brothers and sisters in Christ will bless your life immensely and challenge you to remain close with God.
6. "Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you." – 1 Peter 5:7. This passage reminds us that a righteous life is a free life. Jesus will bear all your burdens and cares if you will but cast them on Him. There is no need to be anxious or worried about anything. This is God's will for you.
7. "Clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience." – Colossians 3:12. Every day is a new opportunity to practice the fruits of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22-23). Think on the words of Colossians and make it your experience. God will be glorified in it, and you will be blessed.
8. "Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves" – Philippians 2:3. This passage goes on to say, "in your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus." Jesus was a servant. He humbled himself and considered other's needs above his own. This is a powerful reminder that we should take to heart and practice daily.
9. Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up." – Galatians 6:9. Acting in selfless service to others can often seem a daunting task, but God reminds us in Galatians 6:9 that our godly life will be rewarded. The Lord does not overlook what is done in love, no matter how small, and He will bless us for it. Not a day should go by that you give up loving others.
10. "Come near to God and he will come near to you." – James 4:8. At the close of each day, we should find ourselves a little closer to Christ. God promises that when we draw near to him that he will also draw near to us. This indicates that our relationship with God is a two way street. God has continually made Himself available to us and loved us, even unto death; we should also dedicate our lives to him.

May the peace of knowing God inspire you every day.

Your humble servant in Christ

Rosie Schilling



PRAYER CONCERNS: Please remember the following people in your prayers

Jim Brant—failing health—friend of Leroy Syring
 Patty Rueter—cancer—Beth Leffel's niece
 Diane Blaczskowski—Atrium, Marshfield—Michelle Bauman's mom
 Elaine Mielke—broken ankle
 Betty Spring—cancer—friend of the Ludwig's
 John Hamann—home recuperating from hip surgery
 Jim Decker—had stem cell transplant—friend of the Streckert's
 Leroy Syring—recovering from a stroke
 Emery Rahm—cancer—friend of the Viegut's
 Scott Campbell—stage two leukemia—relation to the Streckert's
 Don Hansen—Bladder cancer—undergoing chemo treatments
 Paulette Kroll—Myleloid Leukemia—receiving chemo treatments
 Bill Brayton—DeEtta Peterson's brother
 Amy—cancer—friend of Barb Mohr-Borchardt
 Dylan, Logan Weichelt—sons of Bryan & Stacey
 Sawyer Mueller—microcephaly—Daryl & Beth's son
 Jennifer Bohman—prayers of healing
 Dennis Bohman—Colby Nursing Home



Thank you for your donation. Your valued support is helping the National Foundation for Transplants continue our mission of offering hope to transplant patients across the country. We are putting your gift in honor of Jason Roskopf to good use. Your gift enables NFT to assist with essential transplant care, critical medications, insurance costs and more. The generosity of loves ones and strangers alike who reach out to assist those in need continues to humble and amaze the NFT staff and the patients we serve.

Michelle Gilchrist, President

Hope's Happenings

Sunday:	January 29	Attendance	98
Offering:	Regular		\$2020.00
	Building		\$205.00
	Sunday School		\$4.00
	Loose		\$8.00
	Driveway		\$10.00
	Missions		\$85.00
	Total		\$2332.00



Lent begins
March 1
7:00 pm worship

During our Lenten mid week services
we will be looking at
Symbols of Lent

The Bulletin Board

- Results of vote regarding increasing Pastor's health insurance
33—Yes 26—No
- **Please note: Confirmation classes will now be held at 6:30 pm NOT 6:00 pm**
- Children's Choir will practice, Sunday, February 5, 12 at 8:30-8:45. We will be singing on February 19
- Hope's Baked Potato Bar / Chili Dinner will be held on Sunday, February 19, 11:00-1:30. There is a sign up sheet available in back of church for needed supplies
- First Communion will be held **Sunday, February 26,**
 - There will be special First Communion lessons on February 12 and 19 for all students receiving First Communion. This will be held during Sunday School time with Pastor
- If you were unable to have your picture taken for the directory you can submit a picture to Rose Schilling as soon as possible

February 2017 Mission Project

Randlin Homes, in Wausau, offers a comprehensive recovery training and transition program in family care environment to homeless veterans that have struggles in life and willing to change.

Our mission project for February is to collect items needed: Laundry soap, napkins, cleaning supplies, paper towels, toilet paper, men's shaving cream, razors, deodorant, toothbrushes, toothpaste, combs, hair brushes, face soap, books, puzzles and word searches. Please put into tub near coffee hour counter. Shopping lists available. "Share your bread with the hungry and bring the homeless poor into your homes." Isaiah 58:7 Deadline for items Sunday, February 26th. Thank you Any questions contact Erin Bender 715-223-6717 or Audrey Kamenick 715-352-2714



"Hope is starting a new youth group. If any 7th or 8th grade student are interested in participating, please let Ron Kunkel or Scott Bauman know. Cedric Lechleitner will be leading the group as we move forward. Additional information will be shared once we know who is interested."

Jonathan Swenson
8 Characters /
A Fresh Look at Jesus



Paraphrase Theatre Presents

WITNESSES

at Hope on
Sunday, March 5
9:30 am