

Visions of Hope

November 20, 2016



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

November 27

December 4

Ushers

John Hamann

Gary Ludwig

Andy Yoder

Leroy Syring

Greeters

Debbie Bauman

Leroy Syring & Beth Leffel

Acolyte

Anna Fehlhaber

Madison Borchart

Readers

Gary Ludwig

Rachel Ludwig

Satan has a stronghold on Thanksgiving. Have you noticed? Big chain stores opening up their stores earlier every year. Got to get that almighty dollar. Retail merchants don't play it up anymore like they did when I was a kid. They skip right by Thanksgiving and go from Halloween to Christmas. In fact, most of them don't even close on Thanksgiving Thursday, denying their own employees the opportunity to pause and reflect on the blessings of life. There's simply too much money to be made on Christmas for them to stop and acknowledge Thanksgiving. The thing is; we can't be responsible and sensible shoppers without first thanking God for all of his gifts to us.

History tells us that Thanksgiving has always struggled to enjoy a place of prominence in our lives. No wonder. The last thing Satan wants in this world is for Christians to be free of the distractions of everyday living long enough to think about how good God's been to them. Heaven forbid we actually acknowledge that all we have is a gift from God. And don't you feel we should thank God for the fact that he loves us enough to sacrifice his son for us?

We can't even agree on when we celebrated our first Thanksgiving. Most of us were taught in school that the Pilgrims first celebrated Thanksgiving in 1621 in Plymouth Rock, Massachusetts. Originally 102 of them sailed here from England on the Mayflower, but only 56 of them survived their first year. They realized when their first harvest was so bountiful that they could not have made it without the Indians and decided to celebrate with a feast. The problem was it lasted for three days and resembled a traditional English harvest festival more than a true "thanksgiving". Nonetheless, these early Americans were grateful just to be alive.

Today, many historians argue that the first "Thanksgiving Day" was not celebrated in 1621, but two years later in 1623. Massachusetts was experiencing a severe drought, prompting then Governor William Bradford to plea for the Pilgrims to pray. They did and it rained the very next day, insuring another good harvest. An appreciative Bradford immediately ordered a day of thanksgiving. Strangely enough, Thanksgiving was not celebrated again for fifty-three years.

When George Washington proclaimed a National Day of Thanksgiving in 1789, the celebration had its share of detractors. Many did not believe that a national day of thanksgiving should be set aside just because of the hardships of a few Pilgrims.

Actually it was a woman had more to do with our country's decision to celebrate what we recognize today as Thanksgiving. However, it wasn't George Washington she had to convince, but Abraham Lincoln, who in 1863, decided to declare a day of Thanksgiving. In the middle of the Civil war there wasn't much the country was thankful for. Even then, it took Sara Josepha Hale, a magazine editor, forty years to write enough letters and editorials to convince a sitting American President to set aside the last Thursday in November as Thanksgiving Day.

Every American President since Lincoln has signed proclamations commemorating Thanksgiving. Interestingly, the holiday has been celebrated on the fourth Thursday of November every year since 1941 even though President Franklin Roosevelt did agree on one occasion to move the day from the last Thursday in the month of November to the next-to-last Thursday. Guess Why? You got it: To create a longer Christmas shopping season. If the devil's not in the details, I don't know who is!

So while Thanksgiving as a holiday has struggled to get where it is today, don't let thanksgiving as a state of mind struggle for any prominence in your life. It's more than a season. It's an attitude. It's the attitude of thankfulness that should start everyday of our life. However, there are many who believe all the bounty of their lives is of their own doing. Get real. The only reason we have all we do is because God loves us, because we all know we don't deserve it.

I am grateful for life, family (especially grandchildren), good health, and friends. They are much more important that all of the material things that have come my way. You see, time has taught me that if I lost everything tomorrow, I would still have all of them. So stop to celebrate Thanksgiving every day of your life, take a moment and thank God for things that no one can take from you. After all is said and done, it really is Him and only Him to whom we should pause and give thanksgiving.

Your servant in Christ
Rosie Schilling



PRAYER CONCERNS: Please remember the following people in your prayers

- John Hamann—upcoming hip surgery (see note below)
- Roger Gennett—cancer—Rose Schilling’s foster dad
- Lori Brehmer—breast cancer—Arden & Norma Viegut’s daughter
- Jim Decker—chemo—waiting for 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
- Bonnie Blake—home recovering
- Luke Zarins—neck surgery—Ken Schilling’s nephew
- Ione Lathrop—home recuperating—Pastor Dave’s mother
- Kim Heller—breast cancer—cousin of Jodi Krause
- Gloria Everhard—breast cancer (sister to Kim Heller)—cousin of Jodi Krause
- Don Hansen—Bladder cancer—undergoing chemo treatments
- Paulette Kroll—Myleloid Leukemia—receiving chemo treatments in Milwaukee
- 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

PRAYERS OF SUPPORT:

for John Hamann who will be having hip surgery—again—on November 25. Please pray that this time it works and that he will be pain free.

for the family of Rosie Borchardt who passed away



HAPPY THANKSGIVING WORD SEARCH

P	C	O	W	X	Y	W	O	C	O	W	X	Y	W	W
U	H	K	E	A	U	L	U	F	K	N	A	H	T	E
M	V	O	I	S	T	U	F	F	I	N	G	F	D	D
P	M	J	L	W	M	C	K	Y	J	T	W	A	C	B
K	T	A	U	I	K	N	J	T	G	U	D	M	N	R
I	N	M	H	C	D	G	M	U	M	Y	E	I	G	E
N	R	V	I	E	O	A	H	R	V	I	E	L	J	A
Q	E	B	O	R	L	D	Y	K	P	O	R	Y	D	D
F	R	I	E	N	D	S	A	E	I	P	F	P	K	D
S	Q	U	L	B	L	L	S	Y	U	L	B	L	L	O
W	A	Y	G	S	E	O	T	A	T	O	P	A	O	O
X	S	A	L	A	D	I	X	S	T	K	G	Q	I	F
D	Y	A	M	A	D	S	D	D	R	M	B	Z	U	U
F	L	T	H	A	N	K	S	Q	I	V	I	N	G	Y
G	P	Q	C	H	S	E	L	B	A	T	E	G	E	V

1. Thanksgiving
2. Holiday
3. Family
4. Friends
5. Thankful
6. Food
7. Turkey
8. Potatoes
9. Stuffing
10. Salad
11. Bread
12. Yam
13. Pumpkin
14. Pie
15. Vegetables
16. Ham

Hope's Happenings

Sunday:	November 20	Attendance	94
Offering:	Regular		\$2770.00
	Building		\$60.00
	Sunday School		\$13.00
	Loose		\$17.00
	Other—spaghetti dinner		\$50.00
	Mission		\$50.00
	Total		\$2960.00



Food Pantry Donations Needed

During Advent we will be collecting for area food pantries—nonperishable food items, paper products, etc. Box will be in the entryway. Let's see if we can get it full.

The Bulletin Board

- If anyone is in need or knows of someone that needs help for Christmas, please let Pastor or a council member know. All information will remain confidential.
- Pastor will be on vacation November 26-28
- Thank you the Card Ministry for the Children's Sermon treats for Halloween and Thanksgiving
- **December 4** New Member Sunday
- **December 11** Cookie Walk
- **December 24** 5:00 pm Christmas Cantata
- **December 25** 9:30 am Christmas Day service

Important Dates

We will be having our Christmas Program during the worship service on Sunday, December 18. We will be doing some minimal practice during Sunday School in the upcoming weeks, but will also have (2) full program-run-through practices on Sundays December 4 & December 11 following the church service. We know this is a busy time of year, but please try to attend if possible. Thank you.



Our church has adopted a local family again this year in hopes of giving them a wonderful Christmas. If you would like to help out, please pick an ornament off the tree. Please have your wrapped presents back to church by Sunday, December 11. We will accept monetary donations as well. If you have any questions, please talk to Dani Schreiner. Thank you!

Join Us!

We have 44 tickets purchased for the Belong Tour next year, which takes place October 20-21st. The cost will be \$45/ticket, which doesn't include the bus or hotel. Tickets need to be paid for by the end of December. Please let Kelly Erickson know if interested: 715-581-3589