

# Visions of Hope

November 6, 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 13**

*November 20*

**Ushers**

**Gary Bauman**  
**Keith Bauman**  
*Rick Bradley*  
*Chad Erickson*

**Greeters**

**Gary & Dianne Bauman**  
*Ken & Rose Schilling*

**Acolyte**

**Korbyn Bauman**  
*Jaicee Kunkel*

**Readers**

**Chad Bender**  
*Ron Kunkel*

FROM THE  
PASTOR 

Dear Hoppers,

By the time you are reading this, the election results will be in. Some of you will be happy; some of you will be disappointed.

At a time like this, it is always a good reminder that God has elected (chosen) us in Christ. Ephesians 1:4 tells us "...he chose us in him before the foundation of the world." Because this is God's decision, there is a powerful sense of security about our salvation through Christ. So powerful is this sense of security that Paul asks in Romans 8:33&34a, "Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn?" The implied answer is, of course, no one & Paul goes on to speak of how Jesus died, rose from the dead, and continues to intercede for us. Matthew 24:31 assures us that when Christ returns, his angels will "...gather his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other."

God's election of us is something we can count on; something we can be certain about even during a time of political change.

Peace be with you,  
Pastor Dave

I found this on Franklin Graham's web site and I thought it very appropriate for this election year. Franklin is the son of the great evangelist Bill Graham. This is good advice.

**It is imperative that we pray faithfully for the election aftermath, yet our hope and trust is not in the results of elections, but in our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ!** That may sound like a strange introduction to an election prayer guide. But the reality is that the spiritual and moral issues facing this nation will not be resolved in the White House, Congress, or the Supreme Court. What the United States desperately needs is another Great Awakening! The Church must experience a revival that awakens her to the life-changing power of Jesus Christ in her midst. Such a spiritual awakening within the people of God has the power to bring about true cultural transformation in this nation.

**So why pray for the elections? There are a number of compelling reasons:** The Bible commands us to pray for those who are in leadership (1 Timothy 2:1-4). This includes those who are vying to become leaders. Godly leaders can help slow the erosion of religious liberties in our land. This can provide an increased window of opportunity for the Church to pray and evangelize. According to Scripture, "Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a disgrace to any people" (Proverbs 14:34). The selection of leaders who understand and lead according to God's righteous standards can bring great blessing to a nation. Scripture also says in Proverbs 11:14, "For lack of guidance a nation falls, but many advisors make victory sure." The determination of who leads our nation will also determine who advises that leader and how we are guided.

**There are several ways you can maximize the benefits of prayer:** Let others know about it. Distribute it widely to your friends and to your church. Pray with others about its content. A weekly prayer during your church service could focus completely on what God desires to do in the aftermath of this election. Allow the Holy Spirit to lead you beyond the content of the prayer guide. There will be many times in which this guide simply jump-starts your prayer time. The Holy Spirit will take this beginning point and lead you into deeper times of intercession for our nation.

**Seven Ways to Pray for America.** The Church is often relegated to the sidelines, considered irrelevant and out of touch. Though we sometimes deserve that critique, God has a completely different perspective on what His people are to be and how we are to function. In Ephesians 3:10, the Apostle Paul writes, "His [God's] intent was that now, through the church, the manifold wisdom of God should be made known..." Though seemingly powerless in the eyes of the world, the Church—through righteousness, prayer, and the power of the Holy Spirit—releases the wisdom of God into any and every culture.

**Pray for the Church in America, that:** Our eyes will be opened to see the hope to which we are called (Ephesians 1:18). We will experience in a fresh, new way the presence of Christ in revival. Believers will be given the faith to believe that their votes will make a difference. A spirit of repentance and humility will be poured out upon the people of God. The Great American Experiment in representative government for more than 200 years has depended upon voter involvement. From the very beginning of our nation, there has been debate on who should be allowed the privilege of casting a vote to select our governmental leaders. The weight of history has increasingly opened the ballot box to more and more individuals. This requires an educated electorate who will examine the issues and the candidates and vote in a way that is best for the nation, not just their own well-being. Much prayer is needed for this critical process.

**Pray for voters in the United States, that:** Wisdom will be sought from God (James 1:5). Self-interest will be laid aside for the common good. Discernment between truth and falsehood will be clear. In the early years of our nation, it was thought to be in bad taste to even be seen wanting an office, much less actually campaigning. Oh, how things have changed! Now candidates for public office, especially at higher levels, put themselves and their families through a rigorous process that brings every aspect of their lives into public view. It has become so intense that many good individuals have chosen not to endure the sort of public scrutiny that is an integral part of the campaigning process today. Praying for candidates does not mean praying just for those you agree with or support. All are leaders and potential leaders in our nation—and as such, all need our prayers.

**Pray for candidates for office in the United States, that:** They will take brave stands for righteousness, even when it may not be well received. Their families will be protected from harm and unnecessary scrutiny. They will surround themselves with godly advisors. This is especially true for the president of the United States. The individuals who hold the presidency and senate and congressional seats will make decisions that impact the rest of the world. Whether those decisions help or harm the people of the world is largely determined by the choices that Americans make at the polls. We need to pray that our choices will serve to bless the world.

**Pray for the media in America, that:** Truth in reporting and election coverage will become a high value. Media bias will disappear. Christianity will receive fair coverage in all reports. In our rapidly shrinking world, what happens in one country has an effect on others. In this day of 24-hour news coverage, the media have taken on a huge role in our election process. Handling media correctly sometimes seems to take precedence in a campaign over actually dealing with issues. The media themselves often forget their role of informing and reporting and have become endorsers and supporters, even while they try to deny that role. Increased prayer for the media is an essential way for Christians to impact an election.

#### **Spiritual Warfare Surrounding the Elections**

Nothing is achieved in the Kingdom of God without warfare. That includes the election of righteous individuals to the leadership of one of the key nations on the planet. As we pray, we must expect the enemy to attack in many ways. There will be attacks on candidates and their families, on the media, the Church, and perhaps the nation itself. Some will be clearly spiritual, while other attacks may have physical manifestations. Our call is to have great discernment as we pray and stand in the strength of Christ's victory.

#### **Pray around the spiritual warfare issues involved in the election, such as:**

Great awareness and discernment for the Lord's praying people as they pray over the election. Physical protection for all candidates and their families throughout their service as an elected official. A strong hedge of protection around the nation itself during this time of decision. The unleashing of the sword of the Spirit throughout the nation, judging the thoughts and intents of the heart (Hebrews 4:12). Ultimately, whatever the area of prayer emphasis, we must always come back to the purposes of God. Jesus taught us to pray, "Your Kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth, as it is in heaven" (Matthew 6:10). As we pray for something as important as national elections, we must lay down our own desires and take up the desires of God. What we really desire is for the Lord's purposes to be achieved in and through our nation. All of our requests must be couched in words and thoughts that focus our hearts on the Kingdom of God.

#### **Pray that God's purpose will be accomplished in the U.S. elections:**

Pray that the U.S. will turn and seek first the Kingdom of God.

Pray that God will be honored as the ultimate King in the midst of this election process.

Pray for opportunities for Christians to share their faith and their values in the midst of this election process. Pray that the results of the elections will please the Lord and release His blessing over this nation.

Your servant in Christ  
Rosie Schilling



**PCCW Annual Christmas Bazaar Fish and Shrimp Fry** at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church Dining Hall, Edgar will be held Friday November 18, 4:00-7:30 pm. There will be a raffle held at 7:30 pm and you need not be present to win. There are also Cookbooks available for \$15.00 each

**Holiday Extravaganza Vendor/Craft Sale** will be held Saturday November 19, 9:00 am-3:30pm at St. John's Catholic Church Dining Hall, Edgar. Soup luncheon available from 11:00 am-1:00 pm. If you have any questions please call Patty Myszka, 715-897-8810

# Hope's Happenings

Sunday:	November 6	Attendance	98
Offering:	Regular		\$1615.00
	Building		\$230.00
	Sunday School		\$9.34
	Loose		\$10.00
	Other		\$50.00
	Mission		\$1300.00
	Total		\$3214.34



to everyone who donated for the Italian dinner and for all those who worked their tails off Saturday night.

We served 276 people and had donations for mission of \$1550.00.

## The Bulletin Board

- November 13** Veterans Day  
 7:30 am Council meets  
 8:15 am Worship committee to meet with council  
 Bible Handouts for Grade 2 and 3 year olds  
 Operation Christmas Child gifts due
- November 20** Pulpit exchange with Peace. Pastor Dave Uden will be at Hope and Pastor Dave Lathrop will be at Peace.  
 Items for December calendar are due to Barb
- November 23** 7:00 pm Community Thanksgiving Eve Service at Hope
- November 26-28** Pastor Dave will be on vacation. Rose Schilling will be preaching on November 27. Her sermon title will be "Where Is Jesus"

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

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  
 Rosie Borchardt—lung cancer  
 Bonnie Blake—home recovering  
 Luke Zarins—neck surgery—Ken Schilling's nephew  
 lone Lathrop—home recuperating—Pastor Dave's mother  
 John Hamann—home rehabbing from broken hip  
 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 the Charlie Hamann family —John Hamann's brother—who passed away on November 1



# Hope's Happenings



## Advent starts November 27

We will be doing a series of Advent skits called  
"Advent Anticipation" by Linda Allen

Because Advent services are usually extra full, you'll appreciate the short length of these sketches that precede the lighting of the Advent wreath candles each week. They include various subgroups within your congregation.

Included are:

**Week 1—Hope**—*A mother and father tell their child that just as they longed for her arrival, the world was waiting for Jesus.*

**Week 2—Peace**—*A Sunday school teacher and her students brainstorm about what peace really means.*

**Week 3—Joy**—*Two men discuss how true joy in Christ differs from transitory happiness.*

**Week 4—Love**—*Two hurried shoppers take a break to reflect on unconditional love as modeled by Jesus.*

These sketches are easy to use and relevant today.



You're  
invited...

...To **The Sunday School Christmas Program** during the worship service on Sunday, December 18th. Please let Jen Kunkel know ASAP (715.359.3735) if your child(ren) are not going to be in attendance, as parts will be assigned soon. Also, please let Jen know if you have a costume that would work for any of the following parts: Race car driver, dog, teddy bear, soldier.

## Christian Women

will meet Tuesday, **November 15**

6:30-8:00 pm

at Belvedere Supper Club



## VOLLEYBALL

**Every Wednesday**

Edgar Middle School Open Gym 7:30-9:30

Age 16+ Co-ed Non-league

See Laurie (Werner) Bryant

with any questions

# BELONG tour

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

The Colby Lions Club is sponsoring a **Pancake Breakfast** on November 13 starting at 8:00 am and serving until 12:30 pm at the Colby Lions Pavilion in Colby. Potato and buttermilk pancakes along with sausage will be served. Prices are: \$7.00 for adults; \$3.00 for children under age of 12; preschool and younger are free.