

Visions of Hope

May 29, 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

June 5

June 12

Ushers

Chad Bender

Gordon Metcalf

Larry Peterson

Brian Remus

Greeters

Gordon & Betty Metcalf

Jodene Leffel

Readers

Chad Bender

Rose Schilling

FROM THE
PASTOR 

Dear Hopers,

As I am writing this, an excavating crew is busily working on expanding and improving the Hope parking lot. I thank all of you who have donated to this project. I am always amazed at your generosity, especially considering many of you could probably put some money into improving your home and yet instead you have chosen to put some money into improving the house of the Lord.

I would like to invite all who are available on Tuesday afternoons to attend the First Tuesday Bible Study. Unless announced otherwise, it takes place on the first Tuesday of each month at 1pm at the church building. Beginning on June 7, we will be studying the book of Ephesians. This is a fairly short book and yet is brimming with both theological and practical content.

Receive this benediction from Ephesians (3:20 & 21).

Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

Pastor Dave

Memorial Day weekend is much more than a three day holiday. It's a time when we need to remember those brave people who served in the military and gave the ultimate sacrifice for our freedom. Such a sacrifice makes us think of how they have followed in the footsteps of our Savior, Jesus Christ. Of course we should remember this sacrifice on more than just Memorial Day.

This is the time of year we think of warriors, both in the military and in our faith walk. Those who have died to insure our freedom and those who pray for us. We don't know them all, but we owe them everything. Many of our military died for you, not in the same way as Christ died for you, but a great sacrifice never-the-less. Christ died to take away your sins and our military personal died protecting your rights and freedoms.

Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective. (James 5:16).

Picture in your mind a warrior. The warrior is one who has been trained to fight. It is one who is brave and prepared. It is one who is unafraid to give his or her life for a noble cause, or for the life of another. A warrior often returns from battle wounded in some fashion, and yet when the next battle arises the warrior is ready to do whatever is necessary to ensure a victory over the enemy. Our military personnel often return to service for more than one tour.

Consider the Prayer Warrior. The unsung hero, just like those in the military. The man or woman who battles on his or her knees to ensure the victory over the enemy. They are adorned with mercy and their weapons are grace and love. When lifting up another, they lose themselves in sight of the concerns of another. And placing themselves in the shoes of others, they weep, cry and ache with a fallen heart so that the one for whom they pray might be restored.

Some of us don't have the gifts to be such an intercessor for others. We do the best we can with the Love of God helping us to pray for someone else. At times we have felt pain for others in crisis, and sometimes we have cried for another's tears. But we should be well aware that there are many brothers and sisters in the Lord who are the unseen Prayer Warriors behind much of what God does in the lives of others.

A prayer warrior would not presume to get up and preach a Sunday sermon if they weren't gifted in proclaiming the Word of God. But in some way, the rest of us can assume role of the prayer warrior. We need to see that there are prayer matters that need to be taken outside of our efforts alone, and placed in the hands of the gifted intercessor, Jesus Christ. We are to continue to pray, but we also need seek the Holy Spirit so that as Prayer Warriors we can do the part God has given us to do.

I once heard that Billy Graham had said that without the prayers of so many, he would never have been used to the extent that God has used him. The work that God has given us each to do is not our work but His, and it is too important to think that we can go it alone. We must be willing, therefore, to humble ourselves and ask for the prayers of support that each of us needs for God to fully accomplish His work in us. And we need to pray incessantly for all those in need and for the welfare of the church.

With our new life in Christ we better be prepared to be re-educated. The way we have thought about things in the past will not be the way we need to think about things present or in the future. Realizing that we are new creations, and that old things are passed away and all things have become new

(2 Cor.5:17), we should be ready to check our old ways of reasoning and thinking at the door. Praying for other people might be a foreign conception to some. We need to learn how to "walk by faith, no longer by sight." Because, if we are not careful, our human reasoning will quickly put our eyes on the wrong things. Like asking and expecting other to pray for us but never returning the favor. And rather than keeping our eyes upon Christ, we train our focus steadily upon our problems and situations.

We need to see that God has desires for us to meet, and we need to execute those desires. We can't flinch and throw up our hands and say that it must not have been God's will when we don't follow God's commands. Just as our military personnel are called to serve, they don't flinch or turn away but instead sacrifice everything for us.

As extraordinary givers to God's will we trust God to meet our needs when all we have on hand is a lot less than we need. As prayer warriors we realize that God's math means that He will always supply our need. It isn't enough to ask God for His grace, mercy and forgiveness, we also need to ask for the same treatment for all His children. And as we see the needs of others we just can't throw up our hands and say, "Oh well, I can't do it 'cause I don't have the training, talent, education or confidence to intercede for others."

The thing to keep in mind is that God is not going to ask us to do something that He hasn't prepared us for. And as we consider the work of the church and the needs of others, we might discover some wondrous events will occur when we trust in God, and start moving toward ministry with full knowledge that God will give us everything we need to do what He asks. It is not a question of math or human reasoning--but instead, it is a matter of simple trust and obedience.

We can be prayer warriors in God's army, as we embrace God's grace, mercy and forgiveness, we need to ask God to help all those in need, so they can enjoy the same gifts from God. Most of us are not in the position to go to a foreign country to be a missionary, or a soldier, and most of us are not comfortable talking about God before an audience. But we all have power. The power of many prayers can do wonders. We can and should pray for our military personnel every day. With God's help, the power of the Holy Spirit and intercession from Christ himself, we prayer warriors can move mountains, if you will. Reach out, all of us can pray even if all of us can't get out and do.

Just a reminder this memorial day, freedom is not free, some have paid the ultimate price to make sure of our freedoms. Thank a veteran. Forgiveness of sins was not free either, one Warrior, Jesus Christ, gave up His life to set us free. So thank Jesus for dying to take away your sins, and thank a veteran for keeping us free to follow the path that God has set before us.

Thank you Lord for brave military men and women, help them to keep their faith strong in times of hardship. Bless their families and help them cope while their loved ones are serving their country. Thank you Jesus for making that ultimate sacrifice for us, we are merely weak and foolish sinners but you have redeemed us with your blood. We are undeserving but truly thankful. Amen.

Your sister in Christ
Rosie Schilling

PRAYER CONCERNS: Please remember the following people in your prayers

Kim Heller—breast cancer
Gloria Everhard—breast cancer (sister to Kim Heller—above)
Don Hansen—health issues
Paulette Kroll—Myleloid Leukemia—receiving chemo treatments in Milwaukee
Joyce LeVoy—home recuperating
Bill Brayton—DeEtta's brother
Jim Decker—chemo for lymphoma—friend of the Streckert's
Alice Weiler—cancer treatments—Debbie Tabbert's grandmother
Amy—cancer—friend of Barb Mohr-Borchardt
Dylan, Logan Weichelt—sons of Bryan & Stacey
Sawyer Mueller—microcephaly—Daryl & Beth's son
Annette Schultz—breast cancer—Tom Kirsch's sister
Jennifer Bohman—prayers of healing
Pete Cornaggia—cancer and treatment—friend of the Streckert's
Dennis Bohman—Colby Nursing Home



Thank You so much for all the prayers and concern with my knee surgery. Therapy and walking with a walker are going quite well. Heart concerns should be addressed this week. Thank you to Pastor Dave for the many hospital visits and prayers.
Carol Anderson

Hope's Happenings

Sunday:	May 29	Attendance	106
Offering:	Regular		\$5684.00
	Building		\$90.00
	Loose		\$40.00
	Driveway		\$4266.46
	Missions		\$50.00
	Total		\$10130.46

SAVE
the
DATE

Hope's Brat Fry will be held

Friday, July 15

at ProVision in Stratford

- Ecumenical Worship Service will be held June 2, 6:30 pm at Oak Street Park, Edgar
- Bible Study will be held Tuesday, June 7 at 1:00 pm at church. All are welcome
- Hope council will meet Sunday, June 19 at 8:00 am



Vacation Bible School: will be the week of July 25-29 from 5:30-8:00 pm. There will be a light supper served from 5:00-5:30 pm. All children 3 years old through 5th grade are welcome. Please turn registration forms in to Michelle Bauman or Jen Kunkel by Sunday, June 5th. (see attached form)

Please also watch for a sign-up for volunteers in the upcoming weeks.



Our June mission project will be collecting items for the Ronald McDonald House. The items needed are dish soap, zip-top bags (all sizes), Kleenex, saran wrap, aluminum foil, flashlights, plastic cutlery, 9x13 baking dishes, white clothes hangers, regular coffee, cereal bars, vegetable oil, large boxes of cereal, new stuffed animals, and individually wrapped pretzels and chips. Shopping lists are available on the coffee bar. Items may be put into the tub near the coffee bar. Hope Lutheran has signed up for monthly meals at the Ronald McDonald house, as well. We will coordinate the items needed and the meal. Donated items and help are greatly appreciated. Any questions, contact Sondra Streckert by phone or text message to 715-613-6991, or email ststreck@ceas.coop.



...for Levi

Below you will find a listing of items for the Benefit for Levi needs for our 5th annual sports fundraiser. This years benefit is being held at the Fenwood Lions Softball Complex June 24-26.

Bottled water, Gatorade, chips (individual bags), candy, brats, hot dogs, buns, onions, ketchup, mustard, taco seasoning, taco sauce, sour cream, baked goods. Napkins, paper boats and 16 & 26 oz plastic cups. Items can be put in the YELLOW Sunday School room

Thank you in advance for your continued support for the Benefit for Levi.