

Visions of Hope

March 25, 2018



4356 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

Sunday Worship
9:30 am

Sunday School
8:45-9:30 am

Communion
1st, 3rd and 5th Sundays

715-352-2555 (church)

Emergency numbers:

Rev. Dave Uden—715-340-8642
Brian—715-650-0598
Rose S—715-551-1266

Secretary:

hopelcsec@gmail.com

Duties List

April 1

April 8

Ushers

Daryl Mueller

Ken Schilling

Jay Borchardt

Chad Erickson

Greeters

Tammy Kirsch

Rick & Sandy Bradley

Readers

Beth Mueller

Jen Kunkel

Acolyte

Madison Borchardt

Jaicee Kunkel

Man has a sin problem, but God has the solution and the answer. John 3:16, "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life". God is truly a loving God to give His only begotten Son to die for us. That is the ultimate love. Nothing could be greater.

Not only is God a loving God, but the Bible speaks of other aspects of God's nature. God is a vengeful God. In Hebrews 10:30-31 we read, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord. And again, the Lord will judge his people. It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God". Most people like to think of God as only a loving God, and nothing else; but this is not true. On the day of judgment, the majority of people will find out just how fearful it is to fall into the hands of the living God.

So, why do you think God says in Romans 6:23 "For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord." Do you think God sits around all day waiting to see if you sin just so He can burn your butt? That's just not true. God gives us these warnings because of His love for us. God is like a loving Father that warns his child not to run out into the street going after a rolling ball. Is the father being vengeful? Not at all. That father loves his child and wants to keep him from harm. Just as our God loves us, His children. Yes, mankind has a sin problem, but God lets us know that there is an alternative to the death we deserve, because we sin against God's commandments. God is not waiting for us to fail, He is waiting for us to love Him back.

Not only is the Lord loving and vengeful, but he is also just. Jesus says in John 5:30, "I can of my own self do nothing: as I hear, I judge; and my judgment is just". Yes, when we stand before the Lord on the Day of Judgment, he will be just. But justice demands that guilt be punished. Let me give you an example. Just suppose I went out and robbed a bank and was caught. Also suppose that the judge and I were good friends. So, the judge calls me up to his bench and whispers to me that he doesn't want to send me to prison for twenty years. He tells me, that if I will quietly walk out the back door, that he will tear up all the paperwork, nothing will be said, and I can go free. Would he be a just judge? No way. But our God is a just God and can be no less. He is fair and impartial to all those who love Him.

Too many people think such things -- tsunamis, hurricanes, earthquakes or car accidents -- are all God's doing. God is the perpetual perpetrator who -- if not directly responsible -- is at least indirectly so by refusing to stop the disaster of the day.

There are even far too many people called "clergy" who advocate for this kind of God. A great many of us have heard such representatives of this God claim that AIDS was God's doing. So were 9/11 and Katrina. God was getting back at us for not being a truly Christian nation, they said.

Some of them even claim that we ain't seen nothin' yet. The big kill is about to occur. God is going to rapture the faithful and kill off all those who don't think the approved thoughts. What????

Why do so many of us place God at the scene of every crime against humanity? Why do we claim that God is the cause of our cancers, the withholder of cure or -- perhaps worse -- the sadistic, self-absorbed monster-in-residence who dispenses healing based on the length of our prayer chains?

One thing many say is that "we all worship the same God." This is just not true. The God who would willingly send pain, suffering and death on his/her children as a test of our loyalty, a punishment for a lack of obedience, or some twisted notion to teach us a lesson or to stick with a divine plan for us is just the product of uninformed and just plain "silly" human thinking. It is, among other things, an effort to secure power and authority for institutional religious systems.

There is, to be sure, a living, loving Creator of us all. God reveals Himself, not as the cause of our suffering but rather in the great mystery of good. God is in the inspiring presence that motivates discovery and encourages science and learning. God heals through the development of medicine, thrives in the hearts of first responders and long-term caregivers. Look for God there.

God is not in the earthquake and the storm. God is found among the emergency crews and those doing the best of things in the worst of times. God is the still, small voice within us that brings joy. God is the presence that encourages, uplifts, transforms, does justice, resists evil, strengthens, gives hope and is the source of purpose in all our days.

This God is worthy of our praise and best efforts. The God of human invention who is reported to kill our parents, burden our children and terrorize our world; is only a source of blame for those who will not or cannot trust in Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior.

Your humble servant in Christ
Rosie Schilling



PRAYER CONCERNS: Please remember the following people in your prayers

Tammy Blake—cancer—Bonnie’s stepdaughter
Darrell Leffel—heart attack—Pam Ludwig’s dad
Bonnie—inflamed pancreas
Don Hanson—heart attack—open heart surgery—doing ok
John Hamann—hip surgery on March 29—infection in right hip
Dorothy—rehab in Rhinelander—Bonnie’s mom
Brian—cancer—friend of Leroy and Beth Syring
Brian Asplund—cancer
Bob Kudingo—stem cell replacement—Rose Schilling’s foster brother
Dennis Woik—cancer—friend of Chad Bender
Marge Manecke—health issues
Corinne Kane—friend of Cassi Bauman
Linda Krahn—breast cancer—sister in law to the Kamenick’s
Mildred Imhoff—chemo treatment—Ken’s mother
Grace Schraufnagel—cancer—friend of the Streckert’s
Shyra Martyn—breast cancer—Randy and Sara’s daughter-in-law
Leroy Syring—recovering from a stroke
Bill Brayton—DeEtta Peterson’s brother
Dylan & Logan Weichelt—sons of Bryan & Stacey
Sawyer Mueller—microcephaly—Daryl & Beth’s son
Jennifer Bohman—prayers of healing



Card Ministry would like to invite everyone who would be interested in a Stampin Up party. This party will be held Sunday, April 8, at 1:00 pm at Hope Lutheran Church. If you are interested, please leave Barb Manecke (715-443-3664) know by Wednesday, April 4. Hope to see you there!

Hope's Happenings

Sunday:	March 25	Attendance	113
Offering:	Regular		\$1385.00
	Sunday School		6.00
	Building		\$60.00
	Loose		\$28.00
	New Worship Center		\$70.00
	Katelyn Krause		\$100.00
	Prayer Garden		\$25.00
	Mission		\$35.00
	Total		\$1709.00



We have set up a new building fund, it is called "New Worship Fund". If you would like to donate to this fund please mark on your envelope 'New Worship Fund'. This is different from the building fund so please specify.

The Bulletin Board

- In case of an emergency you can contact
 - Pastor Dave Uden—715-340-8642
 - Pres. Brian Remus—716-650-0598
 - V.P. Rose Schilling—715-551-1266
- Easter flowers requests are due Wednesday
- NO Sunday School, April 1
- Wednesday, April 4
 - 5:15 pm Confirmation / Youth /Group



Music practices this week

- Wednesday, March 28, 6:00 pm, youth instrumental practice
- Friday, March 30, 6:15 pm, adult choir
- Saturday, March 31, 10:00 am, both adult choir and instruments
- Sunday, April 1, 8:30 am, both groups

Make a Difference

Mission project for April is to reach out to domestic violence shelters for women in Marshfield and Wausau. The items that are needed are: dishwasher soap, laundry detergent, Kleenex, toilet tissue, paper towels, new bath towels, hand and washcloths, Clorox wipes, bathroom cleaners, air fresheners, acetaminophen 500 mg, cold and flu medicine, tampons, deodorant, hair brushes, alarm clocks, nail clippers, and files. Fleece has been purchased to make blankets. These items will be donated to Shirley's House of Hope and the Wausau Women's Community. Our prayers and donations have changed women's lives. I have posted a personal story on the bulletin board. Any questions please contact Audrey Kamenick—kamenick@frontier.com

We will be tying blankets on Sunday, April 15, at 1:00 pm at church. Anyone who is interested, please come and help that day. Great activity for your daughters and/or granddaughters!

Forest Springs Camp is having a Women's Retreat on April 27-28. This is the 5th Annual Women of the Word retreat Sponsored by LCMC Wisconsin Upper Peninsula District. Registration deadline is March 30 and all info about speakers, sessions, cost, etc. is in a pamphlet under the back bulletin board. Direct questions to Rosie Bauman.