

Visions of Hope

October 14, 2018



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

Sunday Worship
9:30 am

Sunday School
8:45-9:25 am

Communion
1st, 3rd and 5th Sundays

Emergency numbers:

Rev. Scott Miller
715-214-5567
pastorhopechurch@gmail.com
715-352-2555 (church)

Secretary:

hopelcsec@gmail.com

Duties List

October 21
October 28

Ushers

Scott Bauman
Gary Bauman
Andy Yoder
Lowell Borchardt

Greeters

Gary & Dianne Bauman
LeRoy Syring & Beth Leffel

Readers

Michelle Bauman
Ron Kunkel

Acolyte

Anna Peterson
Lily Yoder

"Why do you have so little faith?"

This is the rebuke levelled at the disciples of Christ, when seeming to doubt his divinity. The phrase is also more widely used to describe any Christian doubter. In a secular setting it may be intended as a humorous jibe when doubting someone's abilities.

There are several places in the Bible in which this phrase is used with reference to those who demonstrate their lack of faith in Jesus' power to perform miracles.

Luke 12:27-28: Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they labor not, they spin not. But I say unto you: that even Salomon in all his royalty was not clothed like one of these. And if God cares so wonderfully for flowers that are here today and thrown into the fire tomorrow, he will certainly care for you. Why do you have so little faith?

Actually, my brothers and sisters in Christ, this pertains to all of us at one point or another. We think we know best. After all we are down here on earth and God is up there, so what does He know about what's going on down here in our lives? We got this, right? Humm, maybe not. We tend to get over confident when things are going well and we tend to pat ourselves on the back and think we can do very well without God. Ha, ha. How well is that working out for you?

Friends, right now, you might be going through something unpleasant. I also realize that you may be more inclined to complain than to praise. But today, I would like to remind you that even in the bad, God is working for your good. You don't know what God is doing or why He's allowing you to go through this. You just have to trust that, in the end, you will be rejoicing over the awesome testimony of deliverance. We may think He doesn't know what's going on but trust me, there is nothing going on anywhere that God doesn't know about!!

God has the power to shift our circumstances so that the evil our enemy has designed to use against us is made to work for us. I've seen Him do it many times in my life. After all, I am still alive and well. There have been many times as a child that I thought I would never make adulthood. As you go through storms and struggles, it can be hard to see the silver lining. I know that. But that doesn't stop me from thinking I can handle things better than God can. Silly me!!

All you can see at the moment is the chaos and frustration caused by the trial. Unpleasant issues can make it very difficult—almost impossible—to identify that there is any way the present situation could turn out alright. Nevertheless, God desires only good things for us, even in the worst situations. He loves us, in fact, He loves us so much He sent His one and only Son to take our well-deserved punishment.

Trust God to turn it around! This low valley is not the end. God has greater things in store for us as we strive to do His will. Is God going to make us rich and famous? NO, get real. Despite what some of the "faith for profit" preachers tell people. That's a fairytale. The problem with "God will make you rich" ministers is that the ministers are the ones getting rich!!

If God turned it around for Joseph, who was sold into slavery by his jealous brothers and later rose to become the prince of all Egypt, God can do it for you too. *As Joseph said in Genesis 50:20, "As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good..."*

Consider what happened in Daniel: 6. Daniel served King Darius in the spirit of excellence, so much so, he was promoted and preferred above all his peers. That made the king's other appointed men jealous and they plotted against him—a plan which ultimately landed Daniel in the lion's den. Not only did God deliver Daniel, but his enemies who, by extension were enemies of God, that had sought *his* demise, ultimately ended up losing their *own* lives. They were thrown in the same lion's den. Unfortunately, they did not have almighty God to deliver them.

After Daniel survived the lion's den and his enemies were eliminated, King Darius realized that Daniel's God was real and powerful. When it was all said and done, that trial the enemy wished to use to defeat Daniel, became a tool for God to get the glory. But, we also need to remember here, is that God punishes those who turn away from Him, but He also forgives our enemies if they repent and ask for forgiveness.

Today, you might be in a pit or some sort of lion's den of your own. The enemy wants you to believe that it's hopeless and that your suffering is pointless. But the devil is a liar. It is often said, though God doesn't cause everything that happens us, He does cause all things to work together for our good. God is working in our favor.

You don't know what any person may be going through, dealing with, or facing as you read this. But this is God's way of letting you know He cares about you and is working things out on your behalf. As long as you remain persistent and keep trusting Him, He will move heaven and earth to bless you, and meet every single need you have. You might not see it right now, but things are coming together. So, rest in the Lord and place all your confidence in the Lord, trusting that He is working it all out.

To remind you of this truth, I'm including a very familiar passage of scripture into your cup of inspiration, *Romans 8:28*, says, "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose."

When you put your faith in God, your faith will be renewed in the sovereign will of God, who is an ever-present help in your time of need. Despite any obstacle, setback, disappointment, or trouble you face, someone is setting you up for a breakthrough. That someone is the almighty God who loves you far more than you could ever imagine.

We pray.... God, thank You for this reminder that You are working in our lives every single day. In moments when we feel discouraged by the trials, tests, and troubles facing us, please help us to place our hope in You, the One who never fails. We shall declare by faith that this is working in our favor, because You have favored us and You love us. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Your servant in Christ
Rose Schilling



PRAYER CONCERNS: Please remember the following people in your prayers

Lila Viegut—serious blood disease—cousin of Arden
Bob Pelatzke—recovering from surgery
Paulette Kroll—cancer—cousin of Audrey Kamenick
Bill Wiederhoeft—cancer
John Hamann—home recovering
Bonnie Blake—Prayers of healing
Leroy Syring—home recovering
Jim Imhoff—health issues—Ken's Dad
LuAnn Mohr—home recovering—Barb Mohr-Borchardt's mom
Brian Asplund—cancer—friend of Leroy and Beth Syring
Marge Manecke—health issues
Corinne Kane—friend of Cassi Bauman
Mildred Imhoff—health issues—Ken's mother
Grace Schraufnagel—cancer—friend of the Streckert's
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



....for the generous donation of school supplies and backpacks. We appreciate how much you provide for our students in need. It really helps a lot of families. Thank you again,
Brenda Medenwaldt Colby Elementary

....everyone for your donations for the spaghetti dinner, if you missed your chance to donate, we will take money to cover expenses. Please call Rosie Schilling 715-551-1266 or Rosie Bauman 715-573-0524.

Hope's Happenings

Sunday:	October 14	Attendance	104
Offering:	Regular		\$2465.00
	Prayer Garden		\$10.00
	Loose		\$317.00
	Youth Group		\$20.00
	New Worship Center		\$690.00
	Sunday School		\$6.00
	Total		\$3508.00



Church Ladies—we are looking for help in donating items for fellowship time. We prefer mini muffins, mini donuts and donut holes. Please NO cakes or bars. Thank you Dianne and Gayle

The Bulletin Board

- **Saturday, October 20**
 - 4:30-7:30 pm—All you can eat Italian Dinner
- **Sunday, October 21**
 - **Quarterly Meeting—Still looking for people to fill positions. If you are interested please contact a council member**
 - Positions needed to be filled are:
 - President
 - Vice-President
 - 1 Deacon
 - 2 Audit Committee
 - 2 Parish Ed
 - 4 Finance Committee
 - 1 Cemetery Board
- **Wednesday, October 24**
 - 2:00 pm Bible Study
 - 5:25-7:30 pm Confirmation
- **Sunday, October 28**
 - Confirmation
 - Trunk or Treat
 - 5:00-7:00 pm—FREE Community Meal
- **Sunday, November 4**
 - All Saint's Sunday—if you like a candle lite for a loved one, please let Barb know (hopelcsec@gmail.com or 715-352-2555) by October 28



It's Shoebox Time! Beginning now through Sunday, November 11th, we will be collecting packed shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child. Here's how it works: 1. Pick up an empty shoebox from the narthex (or use your own); 2. Pick up a shoebox brochure; 3. Pack the box with toys, stuffed animals, hygiene items, school supplies, etc. and affix a label to the box indicating the gender and age of the intended recipient; 3. Insert \$9 in the shoebox to cover

shipping costs; 4. Return the packed box to the narthex. For more information about this Samaritan's Purse program, please visit www.samaritanspurse.org/operation-christmas-child/ or see Jen Kunkel.

Zion Lutheran Church, Stratford

Germanfest

Sunday, October 28
11:00 am—1:00 pm

Serving homemade sauerkraut, pork roast, pork hocks, potato dumplings. See poster for more info

Colby Lions Club is sponsoring a

Pancake Breakfast

Sunday, October 28
8:00 am—12:00 pm

Serving potato and buttermilk pancakes, along with sausage.