

# THE ANCHOR

A NEWS PUBLICATION OF MT. HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH; GRAYLING, MI

# February 2023

VOLUME 42 NUMBER 2

www.mthopelcmsgrayling.org

MtHopeLCMS@gmail.com

#### WE VALUE

Bible-centered Preaching & Teaching

Dynamic Praise & Worship

The Sacraments

Prayer

Evangelism

Christian Education for All Ages

Loving Relationships

Strong Christian Families

# **OUR VISION**

By the love of Christ, our vision is to work together, reaching out to all people, through the Gospel, in our various activities and events. As we encourage each other to worship and grow in God's Word, we will be a Christian influence in our community.

# **OUR MISSION**

BUILDING TOGETHER SPIRITUALLY FOLLOWING THE TRIUNE GOD

# **OUR PURPOSE**

Glorifying God through WORSHIP

**R**eaching out to all with the Good News of salvation in Christ through *EVANGELISM* 

<u>Actively</u> caring for God's people in Christ through *FELLOWSHIP* 

<u>Creating</u> a family of God by Word and Sacrament through *MINISTRY* 

<u>Equipping</u> people of all ages for life in Christ through *DISCIPLESHIP* 

#### **Notes and Announcements**



#### **Family Fare Receipts**

There is a basket on the table in the narthex for these receipts. We are collecting them for the Day Care. If you have questions, please talk to Terry Tody.

Reminder: Noisy offering will be taken on second Sundays! Noisy Offering for January through March will be going to Lutherans For Life of Michigan.

Thank you for your donations.

LWML is looking for used sheets to use as middles in quilts. If you are cleaning out & find any, please donate them for quilts. Thank you!

Anyone need name tags? Have you lost, misplaced, or maybe never received name tags? Please contact Mary Heinlein at Mt Hope LCMS 989.348.4350 or MtHopeBookkeeper@gmail.com /larv



# SERVING THIS WEEK

#### Altar

5th-Louise Lazzarino 12th-Martha Pregler 19th-Martha Pregler 26th-Kathy Woodman

#### **Elders**

5th-Frank Moore 12th-Jack Owens 19th-Jeff Pregler

26th-Dave Jansen

#### **MT. HOPE'S WEBSITE**

Did you know that Mt. Hope has a website? If you go to http://www.mthopelcmsgrayling.org/ our website will come up. It is a multi page site with much information about our church, our congregation, our Pastor, what programs we are involved with and much more! Although there is a "member log-in" area, this is just for those who work on the site. Nancy Hatfield is our webmaster who keeps our website updated and makes any necessary changes. Anyone who goes to our site can access all pages. So...check it out!

Mt. Hope Financial Report		
Mary Heinlein, Bookkeeper		
GENERAL FUND	DEC 2022	Year to date
Income	18,367.11	53,459.99
Expense	-5,902.94	<u>-40,395.90</u>
Net	12,464.17	13,064.09
TOTAL ALL EARMARKED FUNDS	77,040.36	
	DEC 2022	Year to date
Together in Missions	0.00	821.80
	4 0 0 0 0 0	4 400 00
Christian Help Center	1,000.00	1,130.00
Noisy Offering	117.44	519.59
	DEC 2022	Total to date
Church Extension Fund (CEF) Mortgage		470,000.00
Mortgage Principal Payment	1,316.31	30,282.48
Earmarked Principal Payment	685.00	<u>90,421.64</u>
Mortgage Interest Payment	1,068.69	
CURRENT MORTGAGE BALANCE		349,295.88

Attenuance		
December	4	56
	11	64

Attondand

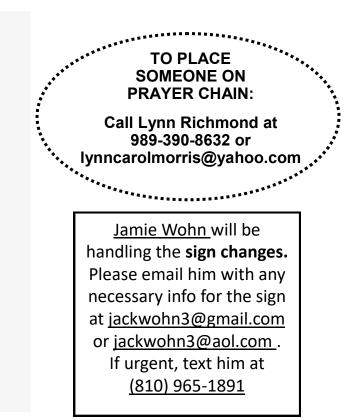
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Attention: People need to sign up to host coffee hour or there will not be one.

"Thank You" to Abbi Drews for volunteering to upload our Sunday morning services to the web!!





#### Council Unapproved Minutes Council Meeting November 10, 2022 Mt. Hope Lutheran Church-LCMS

Meeting Called to Order by Jeff Pregler at 3:05 pm.

Opening Devotion was given by Sharon Hopkins, based on various Bible verses, **"Does Life Begin with** *the First Breath?"* by Avery Foley from answers in genesis.

Opening Prayer was given by Jeff Pregler.

Attendance:	
Pastor: Paul Schneider A	Chairman: Jeff Pregler P
Vice Chairman: Salena Laskowski P	Secretary: Sharon Hopkins P
Treasurer: Steve Koch P	CADC Liaison: Steve Koch P
Elders: Jack Owens A	
Education: Paul Mesack P	Evangelism: Terry Tody P
Stewardship: Shirley Koch P	Trustees: Mike Shields P
CADC: Salena Laskowski P	Youth: Salena Laskowski P

Guest: Brooklynn Laskowski

-----Steve Koch moved the approval of the October 18, 2022 Minutes, seconded by Terry Tody, approved.

Reports: Council and Boards:

Treasurer Steve Koch: Mary Heinlein emailed the report before the meeting. October 2022 Income: \$7,547.00 Expenses: \$6,052.42 Net gain \$1,494.58 2022-2023 YTD Income: \$27,984.38 Expenses: \$27,730.60 Net gain \$253.78 Steve said Mt. Hope is healthy. There was a discussion of the possibility of adding an earmarked fund. Steve to discuss this with Bookkeeper, Mary Heinlein.

Council Secretary Sharon Hopkins: No report.

Chairman Jeff Pregler: No report.

Vice Chairman Salena Laskowski: No report.

Board of Elders Jack Owens:

Thanksgiving Eve service will begin at 5:00pm.

Both Mt. Hope and Trinity Churches for future growth were discussed at the Elder meeting.

Mid-week Advent services are: 11/30, 12/7, 12/14, 12/21 at 5:00pm with soup, salad and sandwiches.

Pastor Ken will serve at the Christmas Eve Candle Light Service beginning at 5:00pm.

Pastor Paul will serve at the Christmas Day service with Holy Communion at 11:00am.

We'll begin shaking hands/greeting each other in our pews at the beginning of each service.

Terry Tody moved to have the attendance cards and offering plate be passed to the center aisle and to greet people in their immediate area as well as have the noisy offering each week, Paul Mesack seconded, approved.

The use of attendance cards will be announced by the Pastors for use beginning each service.

Board of Education Paul Mesack:

Sunday school needs to be announced during each service, as well as in the church bulletin.

Board of Evangelism Terry Tody:

Paul Mesack moved to donate \$100.00 to Lutheran World Relief, seconded by Steve Koch, approved.

Sharon Hopkins is to order a LWR video.

Over 200 families received food from the October Food Truck.

Next year's trucks will be on Saturday, prayerfully. Looking into the Sheriff's department for delivering food to the shut ins.

Collection for Toys for Tots will begin October 1<sup>st</sup>.

Collection for the Shawono boys is being done. There are 26 boys to buy for.

December 24 Days of Advent donations will go to the Lion's Den. The list was passed out.

December 11 Mt. Hope Choir will be going to the Shawono facility with Christmas gifts and singing for/with the boys.

Sherry Hanson was not able to decorate a tree for Festival of Trees this year as she was ill.

The Noisy offering will go to the Shawono boys for Christmas gifts this quarter.

Roger and Dee discussed the kitchen remodeling.

The kitchen fund will be used for a freezer and double ovens.

Altar Guild have been receiving free wine from Fifth Street Market in Roscommon for Holy Communion, Terry sent them a thank you note from Mt. Hope.

Board of Stewardship Shirley Koch:

The Chewning Stewardship message was placed in the Anchor and bulletins each month upon receiving the information.

We are waiting for our Elders to give us clarification of membership, so we can go forward with TTT forms.

Still looking for space in the storage area for Adopt A Highway materials.

Mitch Linendoll has agreed to be our Facebook Co-ordinator.

We will continue to advertise in the Anchor and Bulletins for someone to publish the weekly church service U Tube video. This can be done from home.

Still need Ushers and Greeters to sign up.

Our page to highlight happenings at Mt Hope will be continued monthly.

We now have a complete item list for Rosemary's Basket in our Ladies' room.

Board of Trustee Mike Shields: Jeff Pregler gave the report.

EPS was contacted to send a bid for security for the church. Mike met with a representative on November 7<sup>th</sup>.

Jim's Well Drilling – Jeff discussed the difficulties in obtaining their help. They're not sure who they can send and when someone can come out to do the fix. This has been completed.

Marty was authorized to work extra hours doing outdoor work.

Milltown Electric replaced the parking lot light pole that was damaged.

Mike will be gone 4-5 months this winter. Charlie Belt to replace him during this time period.

Board of Youth Jason Hartman/Salena Laskowski/Sharon Hopkins:

We did not meet in November.

VBS 2023

Tentatively thinking of doing this during the Canoe Marathon week, July 25-29. Want to start a committee or get members who are willing to help plan or teach. See Salena if interested.

#### Sunday school

Held during the sermon.

Looking for volunteers. See Salena if interested.

Christmas Program to consist of 2 songs to be sung during the church service, "Silent Night" and "Joy to the World." If you are interested in singing with the children see Salena. We will practice during our Sunday school time. We will be singing during the December 18<sup>th</sup> service.

#### Family night:

October was movie and snacks with 29 attending.

23 people attended the showing of "Roe vs. Wade" on October 24<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm. November 14<sup>th</sup> will be games.

December 12<sup>th</sup> Christmas party - rehearsal for Christmas pageant These are the 2nd Monday of every month at 6pm with snacks not meals

Mt. Hope/Crawford Au Sable Day Care Liaison Salena Laskowski/Steve Koch:

Current enrollment:

8 infant & toddler

22 pre-school children

36 latch key – school age children

Mortgage

\$325 additional monthly payment is being made on the principle of the mortgage.

\$5,000 payment was made at the beginning of the month to be paid on the principle.

Upper cabinets: installed beginning in October.

Snowplow: we are contracted with A+ for the 2022-2023 season. The original estimate was reduced from \$450 to \$240.

Vestibule: Electric Baseboard Heater was installed – working great!

Generator: was purchased with Grant monies and is installed.

LFL Life Team Sharon Hopkins:

October 10<sup>th</sup>, *"I Can Only Imagine"* was shown with 29 people present. It was a very TEARY EMOTIONAL evening and all enjoyed the evening.

October 24, "**Roe vs. Wade**" was shown with 23 people present. There also was a 3 minute presentation shown by Past District President David Meier and Present District President David Davis. The evening ended with Pastor Paul Schneider giving a presentation. The evening was very informative for all of us who were present – 23 people.

November 14 will be a game night.

December 12 will be a Christmas Party with a White Elephant gift exchange, possible cookie exchange and cookie decorating, singing Christmas Carols, and a dry run for the Sunday school students presenting their Christmas Program for us.

Articles have been sent to Nicole for the Anchor

Steve Koch moved to accept all reports, seconded by Paul Mesack, accepted.

Unfinished Business:

CADC update

Driveway Upgrade – 203 Project Generator Installation Project completed.

District 10 Board of Health Well/Water Inspection – Jim's Well Drilling – completed.

Comtronics Electronic Security System Proposal – Expand Services Waiting for a new bid as requirements have changed. Still outstanding.

Greeters/Ushers Scheduling & Notification - incomplete

Face Book Page Editor/Administrator: completed

AV – Weekly Service Video: a volunteer is required.

Pastor James Travis – Call Update Jeff Pregler: Declined the Call.

Mt. Hope Congregation meeting – November 20<sup>th</sup>.

Install risers in both Men's and Women's restrooms – Mike to talk to Jim Heinlein.

New Business:

LCMS 68<sup>th</sup> regular Convention of the LCMS Church

Shawono Boys Evangelism Budget allocation for stocking stuffers set up.

Wednesday Evening Advent Services update

2022-2023 Council Meeting Schedule: Jeff would like to have a 3 month schedule set up.

Family Night Review: November 14, 2022 Game Night.

A Thank You card was received from Pastor Ken for his gift card on Pastor Appreciation Day.

Book Club small group Bible study was suggested by Salena Laskowski – Paul Mesack to look into it.

The next meeting will be on December 20, 2022 at 3:00 pm.

The Devotion will be led by Salena Laskowski.

We closed with a prayer prepared by Jeff Pregler.

Adjournment was at 4:55 pm.

Respectively submitted by,

Sharon Hopkins, Congregation Secretary

Reminder about inclement weather and church functions: Our policy for bad weather cancellations has been to cancel morning Bible studies, etc. when local schools close. Evening meetings and events will probably continue, as long as road crews are out and a storm is not intensifying. Sunday services, as well as Advent and Lent midweek services, are seldom cancelled. However, do not attempt to drive if your local conditions are poor and you are uncomfortable driving in the weather! Michigan Sees More Deaths Than Births After 1.6 Million Babies Killed in Abortions <u>State</u> | *Micaiah Bilger* | Dec 28, 2022 | 2:29AM | *Lansing, Michigan* 

More people died than were born in Michigan in both 2020 and 2021, a statistic that pro-life advocates blame, in part, on the mass killing of unborn babies in abortions.

This is the first time more people died than were born since 1900 – nearly 120 years, <u>according to a</u> <u>report</u> from MLive journalist Taylor DesOrmeau. The statistics came from the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services.

"Michigan has had more deaths than births only \*twice\* since 1900. It happens to be the two most recent years. What does that mean?" <u>DesOrmeau asked</u> on Twitter.

Right to Life of Michigan <u>answered</u>: "It means we are a dying state. Dying societies and locations can't sustain themselves and could enter a death spiral. See Detroit. There have been an estimated 1.6 million abortions in Michigan since 1973... and counting."

Because 1.6 million unborn babies were killed, there have been fewer children being born for decades, leading to fewer young adults who otherwise would now be parents.

And the problem soon could become even worse. Aborting unborn babies is legal in Michigan for any reason up to viability, and about 30,000 are aborted every year. However, this winter, the state enacted a new pro-abortion constitutional amendment that could lead to unborn babies being aborted for any reason up to birth in the future.

The health statistics that DesOrmeau cited show about 117,000 deaths in 2020 and 118,000 in 2021 (excluding the deaths of unborn babies to abortion). At the same time, the number of births was at its lowest since 1940, according to the report.

Although the report attributed part of the spike in deaths to the COVID-19 pandemic, DesOrmeau said the virus is not the only reason.

"Michigan would have had a record number of deaths in 2020 and 2021 even if you ignore COVID deaths," <u>he wrote</u>.

Many parts of the world are suffering from low birth rates and high death rates.

Earlier this year, a report from the U.S. Congressional Budget Office predicted that deaths will exceed births all across America by 2043 as fertility rates decline and unborn babies continue to be killed in abortions.

According to the global economics website Mish Talk, the <u>"Demographic Outlook" report</u> presents a troubling picture of the future in America.

Fewer children are being born because Americans choose not to have children, to have fewer children or to abort their children before birth. More than 63 million unborn babies have been aborted in the U.S. in the past 50 years – children who otherwise would have grown up, contributed to the workforce and society, and cared for their aging parents.

Declining birth rates in Europe and Asia already <u>are leading to economic crises</u>, and <u>some countries</u> <u>have launched new efforts</u> to encourage families to have more children. Yet few have moved to ban abortions.

Global experts also have been warning of the impending population crisis. In July, a study in The Lancet, a prestigious journal, <u>predicted a "jaw-dropping" fertility crash within the next 80 years</u> – one that will have devastating consequences on the whole of society.

#### Worldview and Culture

#### **Under God the People Rule**

by Lynette Auch, former President of Lutherans For Life

We are truly blessed in the land. Most of us have an abundance of food, clothing, homes, cars, vocations, medical care, and luxuries beyond compare. At least for the moment, as we don't know what the turbulent future may hold.

Even as we celebrate the overturn of Roe v. Wade, another great evil afflicts our world and our land. Experts estimate that 800,000 children go missing every year in the United States alone. Many of them become victims of human sex trafficking, and authorities believe this nation serves as a hub for it. Yet many of our public officials and institutions remain inattentive to the dangers, and even some hospitals and religious organizations are complicit in it—or at least negligent about it.

Why are we letting this great evil dwell amongst us?

"So God created man in his own image ... male and female created he them. And God blessed them, and God said unto them, 'Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion" (Genesis 1:27-28).

God gave US dominion over His creation.

"... We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness. — That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed, — That whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government ... all experience hath shewn that mankind are more disposed to suffer, while evils are sufferable than to right themselves by abolishing the forms to which they are accustomed. But when a long train of abuses and usurpations, pursuing invariably the same Object evinces a design to reduce them under absolute Despotism, it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such Government, and to provide new Guards for their future security ....." (Declaration of Independence)

These words were penned and signed by the God-fearing founding fathers of this nation of the United States of America (Historical and Theological Foundation of Law, Volume III, pg. 1012, 1013). The very foundation of government of the United States of America, was based on the Word of God.

"Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God" (Romans 13:1).

Who are the governing authorities in this land?

We the People of the United States, in Order to form a more perfect Union, insure domestic Tranquility ... secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, and do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America (Preamble of the Constitution).

We the people are the governing authorities. We are supposed to have a constitutional republic form of government and be able to elect representatives that do the people's will.

"Luther believed that government is instituted by God to preserve order ... He would have found the United States Constitution, established according to its preamble to 'form a more perfect Union' and 'insure domestic Tranquility,' consistent with his convictions about the role of government. Luther believed government should remain limited and not consume the liberties and resources of the people" (*Historical and Theological Foundation of Law, Volume III*, pg. 1011).

Romans 13 continues: "Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. For the commandments ... are summed up in this word: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law" (Romans 13:8-10).

According to America's founding documents, it is our right, it is our duty, to hold our elected representatives accountable and to correct their shortcomings, including electing new and better guards for our future security. We must remember that **Under God the People Rule**.

Heavenly Father, "the hour has come for (us) to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed. The night is far gone; the day is at hand. So then let us cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light" (Romans 13:11).

As the presidency of LFL is now transferred to Diane Albers, I pray that this life-affirming ministry will continue raising awareness of the travesty of these children, being their voices, casting off the works of darkness, and putting on the armor of light. In Jesus' name. Amen

#### **Blessed to be a Blessing**

by Barbara Lane Geistfeld, DVM, Assistant Director of Volunteer Relations

**"The Lord will protect him and preserve his life; he will bless him in the land**" (Psalm 41:2). As a believer, baptized into Jesus to become a child of your heavenly Father, you surely know you have been blessed by God in endless ways. But do you recognize who He may have used to bless you? I do! I became a Geistfeld by marriage in 1972—the last of five to become a child-by-marriage to Victor and Viola Geistfeld of South Branch, Minnesota. They were married in 1932 in the depths of the Great Depression and worked tremendously long, difficult hours to raise their family, grow and harvest their crops, and raise livestock.

Most mornings during their 70-year marriage, they held family devotions. They rarely missed attending church services and Bible class, even during harvest, a time in many farming households when the need to get the crop in, by necessity, sometimes came before worshiping God. Not at the Geistfeld home! Vic always said, "God comes first." At one point, they took in a foster child and gave room and board to local schoolteachers. They gave generously of their time, talents, and treasure to their church, the local Lutheran parochial school, the Lutheran high school, and to family and friends who needed help.

Their daily, lifelong example to everyone who knew them was proof of Deuteronomy 7:9: **"Know therefore** that the Lord your God is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments, to a thousand generations ....." Their example was proof of Proverbs 22:6: **"Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it."** 

When I look at the lives of Vic and Viola's children, grandchildren, and greatgrandchildren, many carefully named on this beautiful piece of needlework, I see the fruits of their commitment to the Lord. I see the fruits of their faithfulness *personally* in my husband, our children, our grandchildren, and in me. I see faithfulness and true disciple-ship in so many who were touched by their lives for so many years.

Vic and Viola *always* gave glory to God for all that they had, both materially and spiritually. They truly understood they were deeply blessed that they might be a blessing to others. It was shown in everything they said and did.

I pray that you will recognize and value those people in your life who were blessed by God so they could be a blessing to *you*! I especially pray that you will then use the blessings God has bestowed on *you* to bless those around you and to pass these blessings on to your own descendants to a thousand generations. Now is the time to pass on the gift. Now is the time to pass the baton to the next runner in the race! To God be all the glory!

(Needlework by Carol M. Geistfeld, 1997)



#### Shawono Center

A good time was had by all that went to share Christmas Carols with the boys. And all of the gifts were very much appreciated.

We will be collecting Easter candy and items for Easter bags for the boys. We will take them to the boys on Saturday, April 1st at 1:30pm. Everyone is invited to go and have a good time singing with the boys.

#### 24 Days of Advent

Over 350 food items were collected and given to the Lion's Den in Roscommon. They were thrilled to receive the food.

#### 80th Anniversary of LWML

On February 26th, we will have our big Mite Box out for a collection for LWML Anniversary. We are asking everyone to put \$.80 in the box.

#### Toys for Tots

We received the traveling plaque to display this year as the biggest money donation to Toys for Tots. This was possible through the funds we raised at the rummage sale last summer. We are planning to have another one in August. More details will be put out later this spring. So as you are doing your spring cleaning, please put stuff aside for our sale. Any questions-please speak to Terry Tody.

#### Potluck

Potluck for February will be February 19th (3rd Sunday).

#### FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT

January 24, 2023 Council Report

December's Christmas party was enjoyed by 18 people. The white elephant gift exchange was very fun. One individual said, "We are at Christian fun night, enjoying Christian fellowship and stealing from each other!" The finger foods were DELICIOUS and the singing of Christmas songs with the Sunday school students was so much fun!

January 9 will be a Movie Night. The movie is *"Amazing Grace"*, depicting John Newton's



life from Slave Ship owner to God's *"Amazing Grace*" for John's life. There will be either games or a movie in the Sunday school room for the kiddos enjoyment. As always snacks and/or finger foods will be provided by you. Guests and other family members are always welcome to come. The movie begins at 6:00pm. 24 people attended.

The **February 13 Family Night** will be a **Game Night**, hosted by Jeff and Martha Pregler. Bring your favorite game, guest or family members. Since 6:00 pm is too late for our young families, we are making some changes. The fun **begins** at **5:00 pm**. Every month will be a **PIZZA PARTY!** Either the Board of Youth or Council will pay for the pizzas, therefore if you plan and/or think you'll be attending let us know so we can order the pizzas ahead of time, so they'll be there when we are there. **BUT NOT a REQUIREMENT!** This will help everyone not to have to worry about meals. Also those that work and get off at 5:00pm, you can come right from work! Hope everyone will adjust to this new arrangement? We're trying to commentate everyone.

Board of Youth

Jason Hartman

Salena Laskowski

Sharon Hopkins

#### TEEN & YOUNG ADULT BIBLE STUDY

We are still studying *"Wonderfully Made."* As of now we have 2 young women and 1 young man in our group. There will be **NO Bible study in February**.

We are also discussing the possibility of attending the Michigan District Youth Conference in June 2023 on Mackinaw Island at Mission Point. We pray that all of these fine young adults can attend.

Sharon Hopkins



#### LADIES BIBLE STUDY

We're still studying the **"52 Women of the Bible."** We're learning a lot about how these ancient women can affect our lives of today! It's very interesting and enjoyable. All women of Mt. Hope and other churches are welcome to attend. We meet every Tuesday from 1-2:30 pm.

Although February will be a little different this year, since the leader is unavailable for this month. We'll **pick up** again on **March** 7, 2023.

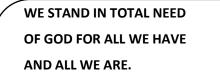
Sharon Hopkins

One of the fundamental truths of Christian stewardship is the understanding that everything that exists belongs to God. *"The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof, the world and those who dwell therein"* (Psalm 24:1). God lays claim to all living creatures. *"For every beast of the forest is Mine and the cattle on a thousand hills. I know all the birds of the hills, and all that moves in the field is Mine"* (Psalm 50:10-11). God even claims the inanimate objects. *"The silver is Mine, and the gold is Mine, declares the Lord of hosts"* (Haggai 2:8). All creation belongs to God the Creator.

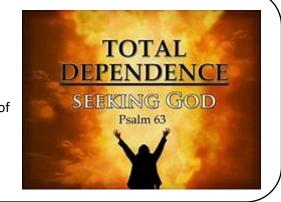
As God's stewards, we must never forget that God has given us a position of responsibility to care for His creation. Because He has entrusted us with this responsibility, we are accountable for how we manage what He entrusts to us. In order for us to be the faithful stewards that God wants us to be, we need to keep the perspective that God is the creator and owner of all things and we are His managers. When our purpose is to honor and please the Lord with our lives and resources, we will hear Him say, *"Well done, good and faithful servant"* (Matthew 25:21).

#### **Stewardship Corner**

One of the real joys in life that God gives us is the opportunity to serve and help others. A "thank you" from those we help is nice but even more rewarding is the inner satisfaction which comes from doing something for someone else. Our desire to love and serve our neighbors is our response to the Lord's love for us. "We love because He first loved us" (1 John 4:19). When we commit to a life of service because of Jesus' love for us, we are fulfilling one of the purposes Christ has for our lives. Service is what we can do with the talents and gifts that God gives us. When we spend time in Christian service, we are fulfilling the request by Christ to "feed My sheep" (John 21:17).



"And my God will supply every need of yours according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 4:19).



### GOD SEEKS FELLOWSHIP WITH US THROUGH OUR WORSHIP, OBEDIENCE, AND STEWARDSHIP.

"God is faithful, by Whom you were called into the fellowship of His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord" (1 Corinthians 1:9).

1 JOHN 1:5-7



Pete Albright~2nd Andrea Flowers~15th Ken Bendick~18th Charles Belt~21st Judi Mesack~23rd Jason Hartman~27th Dee Musselman~27th

## Healing

#### <u>Members</u>

Sharon Hopkins Dave Mauro Judi Riske Alyssa Wohn Bill Richmond

#### <u>Friends</u>

Weston Davis Annette Vittiglio Mary Vess Billy Luckstead Terry Davis Sue Pierce Kendra Daschner Joan Reisch

## Cancer

#### <u>Members</u>

David Lauria Lynn Richmond Paul Smith Barb Mauro Steve Koch

#### <u>Friends</u>

Bill Luckstead Bill Burrick Sue Rebandt Richard Lovell Donna LaDuke Jim Dugdale Don Kernstock Barb Vidal



# In Military Service

Christopher Dysinger, Kevin Krokosky, Darin Nicholas, Jeremiah Hose, Travis Kulak, Andre' Miller, Keil Clough, Trevor Clough, Todd McCarver, Victoria Doster, Conrad Weissenborn, Rick Dillenbeck

Anniversaries

Jack & Linda Owens~19th

Kevin & Adrian Wagner~19th



Dollie Adolph Jean Wittig



#### PRAYER REQUESTS

Prayer request forms are available either in the Narthex on the podium by the guest book or in the office on the secretary's desk. If you need a prayer by

Pastor that day, you can give your completed prayer request form to one of the elders or ushers and ask that it be given to Pastor before worship. If your prayer request isn't needed until later in the week, you can place it in the offering plate or place it on the secretary's desk in the office. Assisted Living & Nursing Home List

Michigan Veterans Homes - Grand Rapids Kenneth Hopkins

#### The Lighthouse at Roscommon

Elsa Knutson

#### MT. HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH 905 NORTH I-75 BUSINESS LOOP GRAYLING, MICHIGAN 49738

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