



THE ANCHOR

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

November 2022

VOLUME 41 NUMBER 11

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*
Reaching out to all with the Good News of
salvation in Christ through *EVANGELISM*
Actively caring for God's people in Christ
through *FELLOWSHIP*
Creating a family of God by Word and Sacrament
through *MINISTRY*
Equipping people of all ages for life in Christ
through *DISCIPLESHIP*

Notes and Announcements

Ladies Bible Study is taking the summer off. We will start back up on September 6th.

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 October-December will be going to Shawono Center.

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!

Altar

6th-Louise Lazzarino

13th-Martha Pregler

20th-Susie Moore

23rd-Susie Moore

27th-Dee Musselman

Sale at Gift Counter

The LWML ladies are having a pre holiday sale at their gift counter. All present inventory will be 10% off for the month of November. If interested, please see Terry Tody or Chris Lauria.

Elders

6th-Jack Owens

13th-Jeff Pregler

20th-Jason Hartman

23rd-Dave Jansen

27th-Frank Moore

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		
Sep includes adjusted Jul+Aug from GF to EM		
GENERAL FUND	SEP 2022	Year to date
Income	2,580.38	20,437.38
Expense	-3,971.91	<u>-21,678.18</u>
Net	-1,391.53	-1,240.80
TOTAL ALL EARMARKED FUNDS	94,837.50	
	SEP 2022	Year to date
Together in Missions	40.00	686.80
Christian Help Center	20.00	65.00
Noisy Offering	46.77	131.50
	SEP 2022	Year to date
Church Extension Fund (CEF) Mortgage		470,000.00
Mortgage Principal Payment	1,214.82	26,480.03
Earmarked Principal Payment	4,668.44	<u>63,331.64</u>
Mortgage Interest Payment	1,170.18	
CURRENT MORTGAGE BALANCE		380,188.33

Attendance

September	4	37
	11	58
	18	64
	25	54



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



**TO PLACE
SOMEONE ON
PRAYER CHAIN:**

Call Lynn Richmond at
989-390-8632 or
lynncarolmorris@yahoo.com

It may seem a little early to think about Christmas caroling, but we will be going out to Shawono on Sunday, December 11th, to do just that. We will go out right after our potluck (as it is the second Sunday). The boys enjoy having us come to carol and some even sing along with us! There will be reminders of this coming a little later, too.

Jamie Wohn will be handling the **sign changes**. Please email him with any necessary info for the sign at jackwohn3@gmail.com or jackwohn3@aol.com. If urgent, text him at (810) 965-1891

**Council Approved Minutes
Council Meeting September 20, 2022
Mt. Hope Lutheran Church-LCMS**

Meeting Called to Order by Jeff Pregler at 3:00 pm.

Opening Devotion was given by Jeff Pregler, based on Matthew 6:10, ***“Thy Kingdom Come!”*** from ***“Family Altar.”***

Opening Prayer was given by Sharon Hopkins.

Attendance:

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

Guest: Roxie Chumack and Mary Heinlein.

Mike Shields moved the approval of the August 25, 2022 Minutes, seconded by Terry Tody, approved.

Reports: Council and Boards:

Treasurer Steve Koch was absent, therefore Bookkeeper, Mary Heinlein gave the report that she emailed ahead of the meeting.

August 2022 **Income: \$8,856.00**

Expenses: \$8,037.02

Net gain \$818.98

2022-2023 YTD **Income: \$17,857.00**

Expenses: \$17,706.27

Net gain \$150.73

Council Secretary Sharon Hopkins: No report.

Chairman Jeff Pregler: No report.

Vice Chairman: Salena Laskowski: No report.

Board of Elders Jack Owens. Jeff gave the report:

Elders are trying to work together with other boards.

Discussion about answering the phone calls; Jim Heinlein fixed the answering machine to send phone calls to Nicole's home, where they can be answered there.

Discussion about the new/large TV set up.

We will be utilizing the Communion Rail again. YEAH!

The elders are working on cleaning up the membership list.

Board of Education Paul Mesack: no report.

Board of Evangelism Terry Tody:

The Food Truck scheduled for September 16th served 194 cars involving 509 family members.

October 14 is the next Food Truck.

Collection for Toys for Tots will begin October 1st.

Terry distributed the coffee hour and pot luck dinner schedules to each of us, with boards and committees doing the pot lucks and members signing up for coffee hour.

December 24 Days of Advent donations will go to the Lion's Den.

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

for/with the boys.

Board of Stewardship Shirley Koch:

The Chewing Stewardship message was placed in the Anchor each month upon receiving the information.

We have gone over our TTT forms and have eliminated some activities and added others. Also, we have found three people who we need clarification of their membership. We will pass those names onto our Elders to check the status. Also, there are many other members who while not on our TTT forms have not been in church for many years. We would like to request the Elders check the church membership and call those they find have not been in church for some years. Stewardship may be more effective with a true member list.

We wish to thank Pete Albright for removing the thorny mostly dead tree from the front of our church entrance and planting a new Rose of Sharon, with lavender blooms.

We thank Council for approving Stewardship to add Adopt A Highway to Stewardship. Adopt a Highway pick up is scheduled for September 25, 2022.

Also, we thank Terry Tody for finding space for Stewardship on the Bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall.

We still need some space for Adopt a Highway materials. Could we possibly take more space in the storage room?

We have removed the hanging baskets at the church entrance and have the Autumn wreaths up. In the Ladies room we have changed to an Autumn cloth and floral arrangements.

We are advertising in the Anchor and Bulletins for a Facebook Co-Ordinator and Ushers and Greeters to sign up.

We have started a page to highlight happenings and service needs each month.

Board of Trustee Mike Shields:

Fall cleanup was discussed.

The new TV has been mounted by Jim Heinlein, Pete Albright and Frank Moore. Thank you, guys! A sound bar has been purchased and has yet to be mounted.

Blue prints of the church facility have been sent to Comtronics of Jackson so an estimate can be generated for a more complete security system as requested by the Church Council.

Jim's Well Drilling has been contacted to provide the Church with a plan to meet Health Department inspection. An inspection was performed by the Health Department and we were found to be out of compliance in 2 areas. These areas were in compliance when plumbing inspections were done at construction. Rules must have changed and on the advice of an attorney (free gratis) complying will probably be cheaper than retaining an attorney and appealing the non-compliance issues.

A+ Lawncare has been contracted to provide snow removal for the season beginning November 1 through April 30.

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

On September 6, 2022, 3 young adult women and a senior Mt. Hope member met to discuss the possibility of a Youth Group. They were Abbi Drew, Makayla and Brooklyn Laskowski and Sharon Hopkins.

First and foremost the young adults wanted a Bible study. We discussed what to study, when, where, time and dates.

The book titled **"Wonderfully Made,"** by John Klieinig
The 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month

Church library

9:00am

Beginning October 9, 2022

Mt. Hope/Crawford Au Sable Day Care Liaison Salena Laskowski/Steve Koch:
Open for snow removal bids.

LFL Life Team Sharon Hopkins:

We, along with Council, hosted the Family Game Night where 21 adults, teens and youngster attended. It was a GREAT turnout and everyone seemed to have fun.

We're planning on 2 movie family nights in October.

October 10th, "*I Can Only Imagine*."

October ?, "*Roe vs. Wade*."

Articles have been sent to Nicole for the Anchor

We have Right to Life of Michigan election update that we would like, with Council approval, to copy and distribute in the Narthex. Approve or disapprove? See below.

We would like to have something also put on the outside sign, with council approval. Approve or disapprove? This created a huge lengthy discussion as to what is political and not. Some statements were:

Prolife/abortion is a political thing.

It is not it is a conscious issue not political.

Political issues should not be spoken of from the pulpit either.

We are supposed be trying to get people into church NOT shoo them away.

It kept going like this and ultimately the council did NOT approve these requests.

Although they said that we could put "Remember to Vote on November 8th." On the sign outside. But not to put it on the sign till November 1st.

Paul Mesack moved to accept all reports, seconded by Mike Shields, accepted.

Unfinished Business:

CADC Facility Update:

HVAC Upgrade: no report.

Driveway upgrade: completed before the end of September.

Cabinets and lockers : no report.

Charlie Belt has a plan for the Fall Cleaning. Organized and ready to go.

Comtronics Electronic Security System Proposal – Expand Services

Waiting for a new bid as requirements have changed.

Carpet and tile cleaning: Jeff to obtain bids for carpet and tile cleaning

Phoenix Facilities Management would only do hard surface floors for verbal estimate of \$500.00. Council chose not to accept this quote.

DK Floor Care gave a verbal quote of about \$2,600.00 for all flooring products. Council is leaning towards this company.

Stanley Steamer is coming Wednesday to give a quote.

ServPro of Gaylord is coming Friday to give a quote.

Face Book Page Editor/Administrator: a volunteer is required.

AV – Weekly Service Video: a volunteer is required.

Pastor James Travis – Call Update:

Call committee had a good interview with Pastor James Travis. He was born and raised in Adrian, MI and is 46 years old.

There will be a 6:30pm Dual Parish meeting at Mt. Hope to whether or not to Call Pastor James Travis.

New Business:

District 10 Board of Health Well/Water Inspection: under Trustee's report.

Family Night Review:

21 people of all ages were present for games and fellowship on September 12th. We began the evening with pizza and telling each other about ourselves with an ice breaker. While others were playing games 3 young adult females and one senior adult met to discuss the possibility of beginning a youth group and Bible study. Yes, to both questions and dates and times were set for a Bible study. Even Gabby had fun playing games with us more senior folks. Next month we will be showing 2 movies: the first October 10th, ***"I Can Only Imagine,"*** and the second, ***"Roe vs. Wade,"*** date not set yet.

Miscellaneous Outreach Requests:

Mail discussed.
Boy Scouts will resume their meetings in October on Tuesday evenings at 6:30pm.
Boy Scouts will use our parking lot for their Fall Round Up.
Noisy Offering will now come under the Board of Evangelism.

The next meeting will be on October 18, 2022 at 3:00 pm.

The Devotion will be led by Jeff Pregler.

Jeff Pregler closed with a prayer.

Adjournment was at 4:50 pm.

Respectively submitted by,

Sharon Hopkins, Congregation Secretary

Youth Committee October 2022 Update

VBS 2023

- Tentatively thinking of doing this during Canoe Marathon week. July 25-29
- We 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 3 songs to be sung during the church service. If you are interested in signing with the children see Salena. We will practice during our Sunday School Time.

Family night

- October 10th was movie and snacks,
- November 14th will be Games
- December 12th will be Christmas Party and practice run for the Christmas Program

FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT October 10, 2022

October was the first of many to come movie night. 29 adults, teens and children attended. "I Can Only Imagine" was shown. October 24th, "Roe vs. Wade" will be showing. There were very many positive remarks pertaining to Family Night.

November will be a Game Night as many people will be celebrating their special Holiday – DEER HUNTING!.

December was discussed. We will be having a Christmas party. Many ideas were thrown out: white elephant gift exchange; cookie exchange; decorating cookies; pot luck; singing or Christmas Carols; the Sunday school students doing a dry run or their Christmas Pageant, etc. All were asked to bring their ideas to the November Family Night and/or give them to Sharon Hopkins. We'll make our plans in November. Keep your eyes and ears open!

Sharon Hopkins

FAMILY GAME NIGHT

November 14, 2022

6:00 pm with snacks & popcorn!

November will be a Game Night as many people will be celebrating their special Holiday – DEER HUNTING!.

As discussed at the October movie night, December will be a Christmas party. Many ideas were thrown out: white elephant gift exchange; cookie exchange; decorating cookies; potluck; singing Christmas Carols; the Sunday school students doing a dry run or their Christmas Pageant, etc. All were asked to bring their ideas to the November Family Night and/or give them to Sharon Hopkins. We'll make our plans in November. Keep your eyes and ears open!

Sharon Hopkins, 989-786-3795 or hoppys0301@gmail.com

Boys at Shawano Center

We will be doing Christmas gifts for the boys. So for the month of November we will be collecting items for them for Christmas stockings.

Here is a suggested list of items:

- socks
- toothbrush
- toothpaste
- deodorant
- gloves
- hats
- individual snacks
- individual candy
- color pencils
- drawing tablets

We will also have the noisy offering bucket out each Sunday. This money will help buy items for the boys. There are presently 26 boys at the camp.

Thank you for all your help,

The Evangelism Committee

The sin of racism: A Gospel response



reporter.lcms.org/2022/the-sin-of-racism-a-gospel-response

August 29, 2022



By Matthew C. Harrison

Racism is a reality. In our ever more sin-sick world, incidents like the crazed and premeditated murders in Buffalo, N.Y., which took the lives of beloved fathers, mothers, sons and daughters just because they were black, plague us. The perpetrator was both mentally ill and racist. We are reminded of the racist sins of the previous generations even as we face present racism. The sin of racism is not simply something “out there.” Sin, including racism, is an ever-present reality to which we are all susceptible because of our sinful nature. Everyone has the sinful propensity to pre-judge and mistreat other children of God based upon their skin color, culture or some other difference we perceive. But “God shows no partiality” (Acts 10:34; Rom. 2:11).

Many, including some in the LCMS, have embraced a response to racism similar to that advocated by Ibram X. Kendi in his 2019 book, *How to Be an Antiracist*. In his book, Kendi asserts that the claim to not be racist or state “I am not racist” is not sufficient and even betrays a racist attitude. One must be “antiracist” by actively opposing racist policies. In Chapter 1, Kendi states, “A racist is someone who is supporting a racist policy by their actions or inaction or expressing a racist idea.”

Kendi casts a very wide net. He asserts that aspects of President Lyndon Johnson’s “Great Society” promoted racist policies. He asserts that the great W.E.B. Du Bois promoted a racist idea when he argued that black Americans should assimilate into the larger culture. He asserts that Presidents Bill Clinton and Barack Obama promoted racist views for calling on the black community to concentrate on creating stronger families (a challenge shared by all of us). Kendi also asserts that “tough on crime” legislation and efforts to defend religious freedom are inherently racist.

In Chapter 15, Kendi asserts that “homophobia” and “transphobia” are racist. The church does not fear homosexual or trans people. The church preaches repentance and faith to all people according to God’s Word. We are all sinners. We all need the forgiveness of Jesus promised and delivered in the Gospel.

Kendi says “patriarchy” is racist (that includes churches like the LCMS that have a male-only clergy). Women who support such systems are also racist. Any refusal to support the current global warming agenda is likewise racist because, he opines, the effects of global warming most intensely affect peoples of the Global South. Kendi says standardized tests are racist. He also accuses of racism any black person who does not concur with his approach. In a video, he asserted that Christian missions are illegitimate, since they are the attempt of white missionaries to force Africans and others to acquiesce to white standards of morality.

My deepest concern is that Kendi promotes a virulently anti-Christian philosophy. Can you imagine St. Paul preaching in the sex-crazed world of the Gentiles of his time without the call for repentance, especially for sexual immorality? (Romans 1–2; see also Acts 15, where the Apostolic Council wisely refused to impose the Mosaic law upon converts but urged the abstaining from sexual immorality). There is no room in Kendi’s “antiracism” for God’s Law or the one truth of the Gospel for all people. There is no room for the clear teaching of Holy Scripture on matters of marriage and sexuality.

What bothers me most is that this philosophy teaches that every Bible-believing Christian, or anyone who holds virtually any conservative view, is racist. That is not true or acceptable. Least of all is it acceptable in the church’s schools and institutions. Should Kendi be read and studied? To be sure, since his voice is popular and influential. But we must set forth biblical truth on these and all matters. We need to continue to articulate and act on a truly God-pleasing approach that condemns all sin, including racism, and articulates God’s love in Christ for all. We must continue to treat all people as God’s creatures, taking seriously sin and grace. Kendi does not offer a prescription for the end of racism. In the end, he increases it. What he offers is a substitute religion that brooks no dissent from his views.

There is no one Christian policy or position on (much of) crime, poverty, state assistance, immigration, global warming, etc. That's why the LCMS makes few statements on policy matters, but rather urges Christians to be good citizens and to act justly when they participate in the secular realm. Christians are free to make decisions that they believe are for the good of the world.

Some ask what the LCMS is doing about racism. The most important thing we do and have done is teach our people that racism is sinful and that God loves all people in Christ. Since the 1950s, the LCMS has specifically rejected discrimination and racism no fewer than 39 times in convention. The Synod has officially rejected segregated housing and many other racist practices. Have we always lived up to God's intention in this matter? Certainly not. God's Law demands perfection and always condemns. But we continue to call all to repent, to be forgiven in Christ, to move forward in love and respect, and to act as responsible Christians and citizens. I urge you all to read *Racism and the Church* by our own Commission on Theology and Church Relations.

I also encourage you to buy *Luther's Small Catechism with Explanation* (2017) from Concordia Publishing House. In the explanation section following Luther's Small Catechism, the discussion concerning the Fifth Commandment (You shall not murder) offers compelling texts of Scripture that preclude all violence and encourage love and care for our neighbor. Here's what the catechism explanation on the Fifth Commandment says about racism in particular:

Question 62. How does this commandment apply to some specific issues today?

E. It forbids hating, despising, or slandering other groups of people (prejudice, racism, and so forth).

Acts 17:26 [God] made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and boundaries of their dwelling place.

James 2:1 My brothers, show no partiality as you hold the faith in our Lord Jesus Christ.

1 John 3:15 Everyone who hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life abiding in him.

Revelation 5:9 And they sang a new song, ... saying, "You were slain, and by Your blood You ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation."

Our teaching on racism and other issues is rooted deeply in the Gospel of Jesus Christ. In fact, the Bible contains the strongest antiracist teaching in the history of the world:

1. Each and every person is descended from Adam, who was made in the image of God. We are one race.

2. Each and every person has the exact same problem; original sin is the great equalizer (Rom. 3:23; 5:12-14).

3. Each and every human being's worth has been established by nothing less than the very blood of Jesus Christ (Mark 10:45; 1 John 1:5-7).

4. Each and every person is dearly loved by God (John 3:16; 1 John 1:7-9; 1 Tim. 2:4).

With 5,700 active pastors and 20,000 teachers and other church workers daily preaching and teaching that violence and discrimination are sinful, even with our weaknesses, the LCMS is a powerhouse of clear teaching of love and respect for all people.

I am going to ask some of our theologians to give a biblical response to critical theory and to equip our people with resources to navigate these challenging times. We are already working with one of our Concordia universities to create a curriculum that will address unity and diversity from a thoroughly biblical perspective; once ready, we will make it available to another Concordia's too. This fall, the *Making Disciples for Life* conference will engage these topics, and I encourage you to attend.

The church cannot follow the world. The church should not get itself balled up in secular policy debates when the Bible does not clearly mandate one Christian response. The Christian lives in two realms, state and church. Christians recognize this country has a tragic history of state-sponsored racism. We also note with thanksgiving how much progress the nation has made. Christians as citizens should involve themselves in the secular/political world as appropriate to their vocations. Christians should vote. Christians will not always come to the same conclusions on these matters. Christians walk according to Micah 6:8: "What does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?"

Meanwhile, the church has THE antiracist policy — the Gospel.

The Rev. Dr. Matthew C. Harrison is president of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.

Posted Aug. 29, 2022



Voters in Chile overwhelmingly rejected a new constitution Sunday that would have stripped away unborn babies' right to life and legalized abortion on demand.

[The Washington Times reports](#) just 38 percent of voters supported the "progressive" constitution while 62 percent rejected it.

Part of leftist President Gabriel Boric's agenda, the proposed constitution included many changes to the South American country's laws, [according to Newsweek](#). Among them were the legalization of abortion on demand, government-run health care, the abolition of the Senate and environmental measures.

As a result of the vote, Chile will continue to protect unborn babies from abortion. Exceptions are allowed when the mother's life is at risk or she is a victim of rape.

Constanza Saavedra, with the Chilean pro-life group Testimonios por la Vida, celebrated the news on Twitter, saying the vote gives her hope for the future.

"With joy and hope in a better Chile, with changes that unite us, seeking to improve the quality of life for all, surpassing ourselves and moving forward," [Saavedra wrote](#). "Leaving setbacks, divisions and hatred behind. A Chile in which we can all continue to proudly say: Viva Chile!"

Catholic Bishop Isaura Covili Linfati, of Iquique, also expressed joy at the election results Sunday, saying democracy won against "a minority [that] intended to impose its vision and its will," [CNA reports](#).

"It is a text that, despite having very good themes, was destined not to be accepted by the majority, especially for introducing abortion on demand and euthanasia among other issues," Linfati said.

NPR reported that the text of the new constitution called for legalized abortion, gender parity in government offices, the abolition of Chile's Senate and the establishment of autonomous Indigenous territories.

It would have also called for universal health care, the right to decent housing, education and pensions, all of which would have brought on steep tax increases.

Chile is a pro-life country. An August 2021 poll from Cadem found strong public opposition to legalizing the killing of unborn babies in abortions. According to Newsweek, 52 percent opposed legislation to allow abortions up to 14 weeks while 46 percent supported it.

The Chilean legislature repeatedly has rejected pro-abortion legislation, [including a bill in November to allow abortions up to 14 weeks](#).

However, [pro-abortion groups, funded by some of the richest men in the world](#), are putting pressure on Central and South American countries to legalize abortions. The United Nations, many European countries and President Joe Biden's administration are as well. [Argentina caved to the pressure in 2020](#), and [the Mexico Supreme Court issued a decision](#) in 2021 that could threaten pro-life laws across the country.

For many years, abortion activists have been working to chip away at Chile's pro-life laws. In 2017, [the country's highest court ruled](#) that legislation to allow abortions in cases of rape, fatal fetal anomalies and dangers to the woman's life is constitutional. Reporters witnessed pro-life women crying in the streets after the ruling was announced.

Store Up Treasures in Heaven

Jesus tells us that temporal and worldly things have no lasting value. Because we are to be in the world but not of the world, we are warned not to store up treasures on earth. The world tells us is that we need to invest our time, energy, and savings in order to obtain the treasures of the world. The message from the world is that we find happiness and life in the accumulation of things. Contrary to that message, Jesus says, *“Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal”* (Matthew 6:19-20). No earthly treasures will give us long-term happiness. When we accumulate more things on earth, we become more burdened with their upkeep and maintenance. Material things become a distraction, even a weight. The things we own will either become worthless due to inflation, become obsolete, wear out, or be stolen. Earthly treasures have limited value and purpose.

In contrast, Jesus directs us to store up treasures in heaven that will last. We store up treasures in heaven by helping and serving others, extending God’s kingdom, and giving generously. God wants us not to spend all our time, talents, and money on ourselves. Our best treasure comes from living as God directs. His ways involve generously helping others. When God opens our hearts and minds, He changes our desires and enables us to store up treasures in heaven. We store up treasures in heaven because we know, by God’s grace, that our real home is with Him.

May God help us all fix our eyes on Jesus and not on the things of this world, and may He help us keep material things from becoming overly important to us. Remember that, when we store up treasures in heaven, those treasures will be with us for eternity.

Serving Others

Why were the disciples so dismayed when Jesus knelt before them to wash their feet? We don’t expect our leaders to humble themselves in such a way, do we? Yet Jesus said, *“But whoever would be great among you must be your servant...even as the Son of Man came not to be served, but to serve...”* (Matthew 20:26-28). The purpose of our lives is to serve others – to be God’s instruments on earth.



**AS CREATED AND BAPTIZED CHILDREN
OF GOD, WE ARE STEWARDS OF THE
GOSPEL.**

“Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making His appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God” (2 Corinthians 5:20).



**CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP IS A
SPIRITUAL ISSUE AND GROWTH
IN STEWARDSHIP IS A SPIRITUAL
JOURNEY.**

“...as servants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart, rendering service with a good will as to the Lord and not to man” (Ephesians 6:6-7).



**GOD EMPOWERS US TO SERVE
OTHERS AS HE SERVES US.**

“For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another” (Galatians 5:13).



**THE GOSPEL MOTIVATES AND
THE LAW INSTRUCTS THE
CHRISTIAN STEWARD.**

“Moreover, it is required of stewards that they be found trustworthy” (1 Corinthians 4:2).



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!

November Mt. Hope Happenings

As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewardship of God's varied grace. 1 Peter 4 vs. 10

Thanks to our musicians and choir. Your music makes church service so special.

Potluck Sunday

Mon. 13 by Council

Noisy offering (Oct-Dec)

Will go to Shawono Center. 2nd Sunday Nov. 13

Toys for Tots

Collection time

Service Opportunity:

Social Media Coordinator needed!

Contact Shirley Koch or Elaine Jansen
w/ Stewardship Committee

Family Fare Receipts

There is a basket on the table in the narthex for these receipts. We are collecting them for the Day Care. Questions? Call Terry Tody.

Handbell Practice starts

Nov 13, 20, 27 9-10:30

Sunday Mornings

Thanks to all who helped with church cleanup in September. If you missed out grab a rag & dust something, artificial plant, hat rack in narthex.

Thanks to the Adopt A Highway crew who cleaned up on September 25.

Save the date

Caroling at the Shawono Center

Dec. 11

We still need members to sign up to usher/greet. If 12 people sign up, they would have an opportunity to serve once every three months! Please sign up on the bulletin board in the fellowship hall.

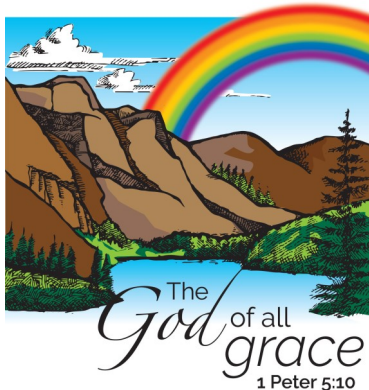




Nov 1	Kathy Winarski
Nov 3	Susie Moore
Nov 5	Paul Smith
Nov 7	Martha Pregler
Nov 8	Chris Lauria
Nov 10	Shirley Koch
Nov 22	Audrey Krabill
Nov 22	Makayleigh Laskowski
Nov 25	Mitch Linendoll
Nov 26	Lydia Welser
Nov 27	Terry Tody
Nov 29	Dave Jansen

Anniversaries

Steve & Shirley Koch~5th



Healing Members

Healing- Members

Geri Methot
Bill Richmond
Judi Riske
Ruth Stocker

Friends

Devon Kacher
Chris McMannamon
Jerry Sandow
Scot Ferguson
Joan Reisch



Cancer

Lynn Richmond
Paul Smith
Barb Mauro
Steve Koch

Friends

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



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

The Brook

Geri Methot (Grayling)

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

(989) 348-5921
MthopeLCMS@gmail.com

(989) 348-0166 (fax)
www.mthopelcmsgrayling.org

THE CHURCH STAFF

PASTOR

Pastor's Cell Phone:

Pastor's E-mail Address:

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Nicole Alma

Office Hours: Wednesday 10am-2pm

BOOKKEEPER

Mary Heinlein (989) 348-4350

CUSTODIAN

Marty Haskin

CHURCH COUNCIL

CHAIRMAN

Jeff Pregler (248) 961-2433

VICE-CHAIRMAN

Salena Laskowski (231) 384-2862

SECRETARY

Sharon Hopkins (989) 786-3795

TREASURER

Steve Koch (231) 564-3080

BOARD CHAIRMAN

ELDERS

Jack Owens (810) 869-0944

EDUCATION

Paul Mesack (989) 344-0359

EVANGELISM

Terry Tody (989) 344-1734

STEWARDSHIP

Shirley Koch (231) 258-2808

TRUSTEES

Mike Shields (810) 348-6692

YOUTH

Selena Laskowski (231) 384-2862

Handbells (and players) are a handfull

And what better way to prepare for Christmas than playing Handbells!

SCHEDULE IS:

Practice at Mt Hope

Sunday at 9:00 – 10:30am

NOV 13, 20 & 27 & DEC 04, 11 & 18

DEC 24: Christmas Eve

Practice 3:00pm + Worship 5:00 – 6:30pm

Your reply is required via email by October 30

Please call, text or email any questions. Thank you.

Jim Heinlein (Ring Leader)

989.348.4350

JimHeinlein@gmail.com



Mt. Hope Lutheran Church

(Missouri Synod)

905 N I-75 Business Loop

Grayling, MI 49738