



HOPE CHURCH NEWS

"...A living hope..." | Peter 1:3

Volume 59, No. 7

August 2016

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Inserts:

- *August Calendar*
- *Lectionary*
- *Restorative Circles*
Facilitator List

**The deadline for the
September newsletter is
Thursday, August 18.**

Office Hours

Monday - Thursday:
9:00am - 5:00pm

Friday: Closed

Hope Church, RCA
77 West 11th Street
Holland, MI 49423
(616) 392-7947
HopeChurchRCA.org



Down on the Farm...August 19 Picnic

Fellowship Ministry



Fellowship Ministry is hosting a summer picnic at **6 p.m. on Friday, August 19!** Bring your own picnic supper and meet at Teusink's Farm. The picnic area is no charge and will be available to Hope Church members and friends for food and fellowship. Watermelon will be provided by the Fellowship Ministry. From 6 – 8:30 pm it is *Family Fun Night* at the farm! You can take part in the activities listed below or just enjoy visiting together at the picnic area. No reservations necessary! Come and enjoy a summer evening at the farm!

Family Fun Night at Teusink's Pony Farm ~ 1468 West 32nd Street, Holland, 49423

Fun on the farm for five generations

Activities: Pony Ring Rides, Hayride, Surrey Ride, Hay maze, Fishing, Penny Hunt, Barn Animals, Exotic Birds, and Feed the Sheep and Goats (50 cents a bag)

Price: Kids (age 1-16) \$8.00 / Adults \$5.00 (Cash or checks accepted, but no credit cards.)

Fall Series Coming Wednesday Evenings in October

There will be two offerings starting with a shared meal. Pastors Gordon and Jill will lead a series using a book by Brian McLaren entitled *We Make the Road By Walking*. Pastor Beth will lead a series entitled "Stories: listening for the ways God has worked in others so that I might see how God is at work in me". Sign-up in September. Watch for more details in the September newsletter and bulletins.

Construction Launch Celebration a Success

On Sunday, June 12, 2016, we celebrated the beginning of construction that will provide facilities that are more welcoming, flexible, accessible, and sustainable! (Credit for photos: Greg Olgers)



Congregation members signed and wrote blessings on a beam that will be part of the new construction.



Singing hymns with new verses relating to construction that Gordon skillfully penned for the occasion.



Living Hope Renovations Pun of the Month

This month, a guest "Living Hope Renovations Pun of the Month" from Elder Rick Smith!
Rick writes:

The Renovations Pun of the Month in the June/July newsletter reminded me of those Lena and Ole jokes that Garrison Keillor would sometimes tell. Wouldn't it be interesting if Hope Church is the source of a whole new genre of regional humor: the Jill and Gordon joke!

"What did you think of the plans for the church's new canopy?" asked Jill.

"To be honest, that kind of stuff goes right over my head," said Gordon dryly.

Kids Hope

Barbara Joldersma and Vicki Rumpsa, Kids Hope USA Co-Directors

At the end of each Kids Hope mentoring year, we ask the teachers of each of our Kids Hope students to evaluate our program. We thought you'd enjoy knowing that when we collected evaluation forms this past May, every teacher reported that Kids Hope is of benefit to the students in their classroom who are fortunate enough to be able to participate.

These are some of the comments teachers made about the mentor/student relationships they had a chance to observe. Please note that M= the mentor and S= the student.

"M" has been a wonderful mentor for "S". She just knows exactly what he needs!

"S" struggles academically and needs much emotional support. "S" loved being with "M".

"The biggest area of progress for "S" was in reading fluency. "S" loved his mentor.

"Gaining self-confidence was the biggest area of progress for "S". "S" loved being part of Kids Hope.

"S's focus and self-control has improved greatly. Loved the support! Thanks!"

"S" really enjoys his "M" and just having someone else to motivate and encourage "S" is helpful."

"S" made progress in academics and behavior this year. Kids Hope was VERY beneficial to this "S".

This is just a taste of what mentoring can do to help a child succeed. We hope you find it as inspirational as we do. Vanderbilt Teachers let us know each year that they would love to be able to provide Kids Hope mentors to even more of their students. We would love to do that too, but without your help we cannot.

Please consider becoming an active part of our Kids Hope team this coming year. We will be doing our formal recruiting in early September with mentoring scheduled to begin in early October, but we would be happy to talk with you about this possibility at any time. For further information, please call Barb Joldersma or Vicki Rumpsa.



Rural Ministry Plan to Support Local Churches

Press Release from Kinderhook Reformed Church in New York



Launching a unique leadership initiative, the Kinderhook Reformed Church, Kinderhook NY has recently installed the Reverend Paige A. Convis as an Associate Pastor of the church and officially charged her with being the full-time pastor of rural ministry for the Reformed Dutch Church of Schodack at Muitseskill and the Stuyvesant Reformed Church. Members, family and friends of the three churches plus more than 25 pastors and elders from The Ichabod Crane Clergy Association, the Classis of Columbia-Greene Reformed Church in America and the Regional Synod of Albany were present at the ceremony.

As memberships dwindle and resources are stretched it is becoming more and more difficult for small rural churches to find and retain full time ministers. Finding ways to preserve these vital congregations is a challenge. Statistics show that in the U.S. as many as 10-12 churches a day close their doors. In devising

this pilot program, the Reverend Rudolph Visser together with the leadership of Kinderhook Reformed Church had a vision of these individual congregations joining hands for the good of all.

"We are excited to come alongside these two churches and

in so doing serve our communities together. This too is what it means for us to share in the Missio Dei, the mission of God, or even better said, 'to be on Mission with God'. With this collegial relationship and an ever growing sense of working together we hope to redefine the role of the church in the community," says Pastor Visser.

Raised in Flint, Michigan, Pastor Convis was ordained by the Reformed Church of America in October 2015. She received a Masters of Divinity from Western Theological Seminary in May 2015 and a Bachelors of Arts Degree in Theology and Church Ministry Leadership from Trinity Christian College in 2012. She most recently served as a Pastoral Resident at the First Reformed Church of Schenectady. Prior to that, she spent three years as a Pastoral Intern at the Hope Church RCA in Holland, MI. Paige's fiancé, Justin Foster, is the organist at the First Reformed Church of Scotia and had the honor of being guest organist for her installation. They plan to be married on August 27, 2016 in Scotia and will take up residence at the parsonage of the Reformed Dutch Church of Schodack at Muitseskill.



Caring for Creation Corner

Joe Arevalo, Caring for Creation Coordinator

Check out these upcoming Caring for Creation opportunities:

- **August 20** at 709 Pine Avenue at 10 a.m. (\$10) – Communal Canning 101 Workshop by 8th Day Farm
- **September 17** at 709 Pine Avenue at 10 a.m. (\$10) – An introduction to Aquaponics by 8th Day Farm
- **September 24** at Window on the Waterfront from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. - 10th Anniversary Fall Macatawa River Cleanup hosted by the Outdoor Discovery Center Macatawa Greenway

Rode Molla

Barb Knoops, Senior Elder

In September of 2014 I was introduced to Rode Molla, who was an Ethiopian student at Western Theological Seminary (WTS). Rode had completed her M.A. in Children, Youth and Family Ministry at Luther Seminary in St. Paul, MN. She had planned to go on for her PhD, but the program at Luther had been temporarily discontinued. After returning to Ethiopia to work in children's ministry, Rode received a scholarship to get her M.A. in Theology from WTS. Last summer she returned to St. Paul, MN to complete her clinical studies for CPE. She is now heading to Denver, CO to work on her PhD at Iliff School of Theology.

In getting to know Rode and her husband Endrias Assen, I learned a great deal about her country and the plight of her people, particularly the vulnerable children. The children of Ethiopia are at risk due to early marriage, female genital mutilation, harmful traditional practices, orphaned, rape and mingi (abandonment of a child perceived as cursed). In working with the children through her church, the Ethiopian

Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus (EECMY), Rode saw firsthand that many children were slipping through the system. The church ministers to the spiritual and educational needs and the NGOs work with many of the children orphaned by the AIDS epidemic and are geared toward social development. She saw a need for changes in the congregational structure and the education provided to the pastors. Rode explained that parental presence does not guarantee the safety or protection of children in Ethiopia. She asserts that some of the main causes of risks to children are poverty, patriarchal and sexist traditions, pietism and the instability of the economy and the political systems.

Rode's vision is to eventually be able to teach in the Mekane Yesus Seminary and explain pastoral theology in the context of holistic care, grounded in practical theology, bringing together insights from scripture, tradition and the social sciences. Currently the seminary and most of the EECMY Bible schools are not designed to train

pastors for public and holistic care. She draws on Bonnie Miller-McLemore's pastoral theology in the "living human web" which refers to the social, economic, political and spiritual forces that shape communities, cultures, traditions, systems and structures. It is a broadened concept of pastoral care moving from the individual to the communal approach of a more public and liberating ministry, rather than merely the shepherding of individual persons.

Rode did a presentation at Hope Church shortly before leaving for St. Paul and explained her vision to the congregational members that were present. She also met with members of the Reconciliation Ministry and Health Ministry who were moved by her vision and message. Each step of her journey has been a leap of faith and not without its difficulties. She has asked that Hope Church continue to support her in prayer as she moves forward towards being able to return to her people to help lead them to a new understanding of scripture and ministry.

Text Reminders

Communications Taskforce



Would you like to receive texts about Hope Church cancellations, service time changes, and special events? It's easy to sign up for this service! Simply text "@hoperca" to the number: 81010. If you decide you would no longer like to receive these texts, you can easily opt back out at anytime by

replying, 'unsubscribe @hoperca'.

If you would like to receive the notifications via email rather than text, you can sign up by sending an email to: hoperca@mail.remind.com. Alternatively, you can also go to this website to sign up for this new service: <https://www.remind.com/join/hoperca>.

You can also sign up to receive texts or emails for:

- Campus and 20/30s Ministry: Text @hopegrace to 81010 or email hopegrace@mail.remind.com

- High Hopes (High School Youth): Text @highh to 81010 or email: highh@mail.remind.com
- Fish Club (Middle School Youth): Text @fishclub77 to 81010 or email: fishclub77@mail.remind.com

Please note a few important details:
 -The texting service (called "Remind") uses the language of "classes" for groups, because it's mainly used by teachers.
 -If you respond to any sent text message, your text will only go to the Hope Church office, not to everyone who was texted.

ministry HIGHLIGHT

This series of highlights on ministries at Hope Church is intended to be sure our members are aware of how things happen and their opportunities to engage with the ministry of the church.

Stewardship & Finance Ministry

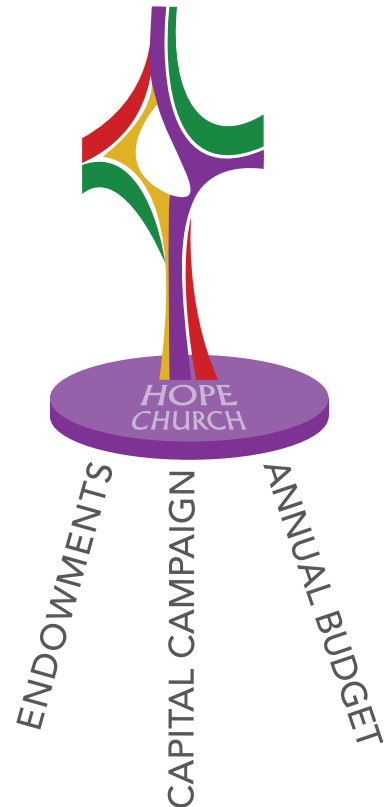
Kevin Rosenau, Stewardship & Finance Ministry Co-Chair

The Stewardship & Finance (S&F) Ministry of Hope Church supports the congregation and the Consistory by providing oversight and guidance of the annual financial operations of the church.

Many people may think that the S&F Ministry 'keeps the books' for the church, but there is actually a church Financial Administrator (and other staff) who pays the bills, maintains the books (electronically), and ensures appropriate taxes are paid on time.

So, what does the S&F Ministry do?

- We work with all of the other ministries to establish and propose an annual budget for the church. This includes establishing the timeline for the budgeting process, coordinating the annual stewardship campaign, and shepherding the budget through the Consistory and the congregational meeting for approvals.
- We establish and maintain procedures to ensure that the church's financial activities are handled accurately and with transparency and integrity while also serving the mission of Hope Church.
- We carry-out the budget that is approved by the congregation. And, yes, we do review a summary of the 'books' on a monthly basis to ensure that there is appropriate cash available to fund operations and resolve questions that might arise from staff.
- We address finance-related topics that don't currently have a procedure or method for handling special or unique situations.
- We maintain the "Hope Church Financial Policies and Procedures" manual.
- We periodically perform an audit of the books which includes a compliance review of established financial procedures to ensure everyone who deals with money in the church is following what is outlined in the policies and procedures manual.
- We work closely with the church facilities renovation team, acting as a 'check and balance' measure over the capital campaign project budget.



The current members of the S&F Ministry include Don Luidens (co-Chair), Tom Marthens, Kevin Rosenau (co-Chair), Fred VanDoornik, Michelle Yurk, and Gary Zell. Pastors Jill and Gordon are ex-officio members; and the church Financial Administrator, Karla Kammeraad-Bos, also participates in our meetings.

We anticipate that there will be openings on the S&F Ministry in the near future, and would encourage anyone who is interested to contact one of the current members. The time commitment is very low (1-2 hours per month) for ministry members, and it's not necessary to be an accountant or have a financial background, only a willingness to be a good steward of God's good gifts.

The next Ministry Highlight will feature the Reconciliation Ministry.

Washington School Neighbors

Andrew Spidahl, Former Neighborhood Connector



Washington School Neighbors

We have decided to put our resources more directly into what has emerged, specifically the community gardens and volunteer engagement. Though I will miss this role and the relationships I've developed as Connector, I look forward to seeing how our neighborhood is energized by this next chapter in asset-based community development and how our churches will continue to find common ground here in the surrounding blocks for the life of the neighborhood. Thank you.

To contact WSN please use info@washingtonschoolneighbors.com.

Dear Hope Church,

I am encouraged when I hear of churches working together for a greater good. That encouragement includes gratitude for your support which made possible my job these past several years as WSN Connector. However, as of July I am no longer serving as Neighborhood Connector in Washington School Neighborhood.



WashingtonSchoolNeighbors.com

Facebook.com/WashingtonSchoolNeighbors

Children's Ministry

Jocelyn Van Heest, Children's Ministry Director

Summer Church School

The children have been hearing and learning about the many ways they can show the Fruit of the Spirit in their daily life. We have listened to stories from the Bible about how others have demonstrated love, joy, peace, patience, kindness and goodness. As the summer continues we will explore faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. The children are learning to recognize qualities of the Fruit of the Spirit when they see them in others and finding ways that they can use these fruits to show God's love to others. The children will continue to become better acquainted with God's word through storytelling, discussion, crafts and games. These young children enjoy learning and growing together.

Plug Into Worship

The children who remain in worship are invited to "Don't just sit there, DO something!" There is a separate blue sheet available to help you stay engaged in the worship service. It gives you an opportunity to answer some questions about the service and about how you relate to what you have heard. Maybe you would like to take this

paper home and complete it with your family. When you have completed the paper, return it to the purple box on the Welcome center. There are prizes involved but the most important thing is that everyone can be connected to the worship experience.

Excitement for the Nursery

As the construction progresses, we are pleased to be thinking about our new nursery space. We are in the process of imagining the children actually in the nursery and playing with the toys and sharing special time with the other children and caregivers. Now we need to start the process of equipping the nursery with furniture, playthings, toys and books. The Christian Education Ministry has decided that a good way to start furnishing the nursery is to ask for donations of lightly used playthings. If you have something that would be appropriate for the nursery please let us know. There will also be an opportunity for the purchasing of some new items to make the nursery a welcoming and special place for our youngest church members. Look for those opportunities in the future and if you have any questions, ideas or concerns please contact Jocelyn Van Heest or Margaret Buckley.

Events and Announcements

Pick Up Coed Softball: August 5

Save the date: On **August 5**, we are going to have Friday Night "pick up" coed softball game at **6 pm**! We have reserved the new Laketown Township ballfield, located at 4338 Beeline Road in Laketown Township on the south side of Holland. Bring your softball gloves, and we'll provide the bats and balls! Spectators should bring chairs. Our goal is to have at least 20 people sign up for the game so we can field two teams! Children are welcome to join us! After the game we will go to the south side Village Inn on Washington Avenue for "refreshments." If it rains, we'll meet at Village Inn instead of playing ball. We hope to see you there!



Hope and Grace: Campus and 20/30s Ministry – August Schedule

All Post High School and 20/30s are welcome and invited to join us for our summer events! Check out our August schedule below:

August 5 (Friday) at 7 PM: Whitecaps Game – to reserve a ticket, RSVP to the church office.

August 18 at 7 PM: Bonfire at Randy Smit's Cottage – Meet at Hope Church at 6:30 PM to carpool.

Blueberry Pies Available Aug. 7

Handmade blueberry pies will be available for pick-up after worship on Sunday, August 7. Orders will be

taken on July 31 or you may email Ben Sikkink by Thursday, August 4; there will also be extra pies available. The cost is \$12 each and the proceeds will go to the Mission Trip Fund to provide funding for future Hope Church adult and family mission trips. Help is also needed to assemble the pies on Friday, August 5 from 6-9pm and Saturday, the 6th, from 9am-12pm. Bring an apron and a rolling pin or just yourself and we will find a task for you. During a previous pie-making weekend, one of our Hope Church youth exclaimed, "This is just like a big happy family!" Come join the family.

Blood Drive - Sunday, August 14

The next blood drive will be held at FUMC (First United Methodist Church) from 8:30 am - 2:30 pm.

Potluck in the Park - August 14

Sun, August 14, 1 pm to 4 pm: 18th annual Potluck in the Park hosted by the Alliance for Cultural and Ethnic Harmony (ACEH). Bring a dish to share from your culture, and a lawn chair or blanket for extra seating. ACEH provides beverages and table service. Come enjoy music, activities for all ages, pie-eating contest, musical tiles, prizes, and more. Invite family, neighbors, friends, co-workers, people new to West Michigan. Info at 396-2201. At Dunton Park: the Potluck will be in the large pavilion.

Summer Brunch with the Pastors

The Pastors are continuing to host brunch after worship on a few summer Sundays. There are 2 ways to sign up: online at <http://goo.gl/forms/Rkb9ojmtsO> and on the sign up sheets in the gathering area. The

dates left are **August 21 & 28** from **11:45-1:00**. This will be a time of informal conversation and fellowship over brunch at Pastor Jill & Andrew's home.

No August Pizza Sunday

There will be no Pizza Sunday in August due to construction. Please sign up in the Gathering Area if you are willing to serve as host in the future months.

Kick Off Sunday - Sept. 11

The Hope Church Fall schedule begins Sunday, September 11. After the 11 a.m. service (note change from summer time), we will gather for our annual Kick Off Church Picnic on the church grounds. Watch for details in the September newsletter and upcoming bulletins.

Hope Church Readers

Once a month we meet in Commons II to discuss a book. Our discussions are lively and interesting! We are always happy to have new members! For more information, please contact the church office, or call Lauren Heyboer. [Book lists for the coming year are available at the Welcome Desk!](#) Looking ahead: Our first meeting will be on September 21st at 1 pm in Commons II. We will be discussing the book [Re Jane: A Novel](#) by Patricia Park.

Thank You

Dear church family,

Thank You from the Brownsons: We were overwhelmed by your kindness to us on Sunday, May 23 during the Early Worship time and again after the 11:00 service. Thank you for the lovely gifts, cards, and especially, your love. We have truly enjoyed and been blessed by our years of Early Worship music leadership and will now look for new ways to serve at Hope Church. We will miss playing the piano and guitar when Early Worship begins again in the Fall, but we are eager to see what our creative God has in store for all of us at our beloved church. Thanks again!

Kathy and Jim Brownson

Dear Friends at Hope Church,

How can we thank you enough for the myriad of ways that you have supported RfA over the years? In tangible and intangible ways, you have helped this ministry to flourish. Thank you, now, for your recent gift for the furtherance of our mission. We're excited about new initiatives and relationships in the coming year, and are grateful for all the ways that you've demonstrated your partnership in God's work of welcome!

Best regards,

Marilyn Paarlberg, Room for All

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

| | |
|----|---|
| 02 | John DeWeert Care Group: 7 |
| 03 | Char Alexander (Missionary) Care Group: 7 |
| 25 | Peg Danhof Care Group: 2 |
| 28 | Cecil Williams Care Group: 3 |
| 31 | Jean DeWeert Care Group: 7 |

If you are 75+ years old and would like to be listed in the birthday column, please contact the church office at (616) 392-7947 or office@hopechurchca.org

Your Body!- Fantabulous!

Earl Laman, Health Ministry member



Your Body!- Fantabulous!

We live in a culture fraught with superlatives and exclamation points!! See all ads and TV commercials, hear all politicians. I give the cashier the right change; "Excellent!" she says. "How're you doing today?" I ask a guy; "Terrific!" he says. I give the receptionist the info: "Perfect!" she says.

But I'm boldly using both a superlative and exclamation mark (see above) when referring to your and my bodies! Absolutely! And yet we take our bodies for granted to an ungodly degree! Our attitudes range from "It's doing fine" to "It's my body to do what I want with it!"

You may feel that your body gets creaky and fails you on the outside. But have you ever stopped to consider the incredible work going on inside of it? How everything fits together so well and harmoniously? How every organ performs constant and complicated functions? There are miracles going on inside your body every single day!

But let's look at just one of our dozen "organs"- our stupendous "BRAIN"!

The brain never stops working; 50,000 to 60,000 thoughts pass through it every day, that's 35 to 48 thoughts per minute. The brain uses about 20% of our daily energy using select ingredients plus 20 watts of electricity.

The brain gives us the abilities of rational thought, language, art, moral judgment and provides the possibility for individual personality, memories, movement, and a sense of the world. Brain cells, known as neurons, number 100 billions and are being replaced systematically every day.

It is a jellylike mass of fat and protein, the body's largest organ, weighing about 3 pounds, which puts together highly coordinated thoughts, feelings, and physical actions, as well as regulates our unconscious body processes like digestion and breathing.

Your brain is a marvel, still a mystery in many respects, but a mass of magic! What could be our response to having such an awesome organ?

A sense of wonder-full awe for its Creator?

A sensitivity to its delicate reality?

A deep desire to protect it well?

A sincere responsibility to nourish it?

A willingness to contribute to it's sleep-work?

A daily effort to expand upon its great capacity?

A thankfulness for its huge contribution to everyday living?

A positive and caring use of it for other's/the world's good?

A daring creativity to engage it in the whole adventure of living?

My mother would say, "Use your head!" I would say, "I do every day!" Not a good response. Healthier responses are suggested above!

Invitation to "Organizing as Faithful Witness": August 14 & 15

The RCA invites you to "Organizing as Faithful Witness," a two-day experience in Holland, Michigan, exploring how your church can do kingdom work through community organizing.

Lisa Sharon Harper, the chief church engagement officer for Sojourners Magazine and author of "The Very Good Gospel", will be the keynote speaker. She's an expert on community organizing in the church and was recognized in 2014 by the Huffington Post as one of "50 Powerful Women Religious Leaders to Celebrate on International Women's Day."

From August 14 to 15, you'll have three opportunities to delve into the topic of community organizing with Harper and other leaders.

- **9:30 a.m., August 14:** Harper speaks on "The Very Good Gospel" at Calvary Reformed Church.
- **12:00 p.m., August 14:** A panel discussion on shalom and creation at Pillar Church (RCA).
- **5:30–9:00 p.m., August 15:** In an event at Maple Avenue Ministries (RCA), Harper provides training

and encourages congregations to collaborate on community organizing for the sake of God's kingdom. Dinner is provided. You must register for this event to attend. Please also note that there is a \$50 fee for attending, payable when you register or at the door. Email 427mam@gmail.com or use this link to register: <https://mapleave.nm-secure.com/online-giving> and follow the instructions below.

1. click on "Online Giving" above
2. choose a fund "Lisa Sharon Harper....."
3. click "Suggested Amount" (\$50.00)
4. click "Gift Frequency" (one time)
5. choose "no thanks" (Track My Gifts)
6. click on give

Denise Kingdom-Grier (Maple Avenue Ministries), Jon Brown and Jenna Brandsen (Pillar Church), and Dan Carter (Calvary Reformed Church) are all pitching in to make this exciting experience possible. You won't want to miss it!

Brochures with more information can be found at the Welcome Desk in the Gathering Area.

and finally

Young adults. Could there be two words any more diverse than these two? College students, working adults, married with kids, living at home, living alone, living with roommates. There is simply no way to categorize all people who are in their twenties and thirties. It is with a sense of awe, excitement, wonder, and humility that I have begun engaging the younger adults in our church and community.

In modern church life, there is a tendency to view youth and young adults as the "future" of the church, but the truth is they are our church already! Because of this, I think it is important to resist the temptation to silo off our younger parts of the church body as strictly having their own ministry needs and desires. We need each other. Each demographic may possess different perspectives, experiences, gifts and needs, but it is only in mutual community where these gifts and needs can be fully celebrated and engaged.

It is because of this that I will be exploring ways not only to connect young adults in our community and church with each other, but also for ways to connect them to the greater church body. Those of us who have been around the church potluck block a few times can disciple those who are just pulling up a seat, just as those who are younger can teach the rest a few new recipes. Whether a book study aiming to

engage younger folks and older alike, or a group discussion that can connect the experiences of our older congregants to our younger who are trying to hear God's Spirit in the personal and vocational threads of their life, I look forward to setting up formalized times where we can all connect with each other.

However, I encourage all of you to connect in ways perhaps you have been to intimidated to do in the past. Already, we have a few newer people in their twenties and thirties attending our services and events. If you haven't already, I encourage you to invite some of them over for a cookout or out for dessert. And those of you who are younger, don't be intimidated to do the same. I believe we are on the cusp of some even more exciting and enriching times in our church body. In a world that is fractured in disunity, we have the opportunity to demonstrate the love of Christ, as we start by loving those whom God has called together as the church.

Thank you, Hope Church, for the opportunity to see the church at work!

Blessings,
Pastor Beth



Hope Church News

August 2016



September, October, & November Greeters

The Outreach & Hospitality Ministry

The following list reflects the households assigned to greet for the next three months (**Please note: the schedule for the entire year is also now posted** on a "Greeter Schedule" poster in the gathering area):

September Greeters

04 Rick and Deb Smith
11 Mark & Ann Sneller
18 Andrew & Kallie Spidahl
25 Cory & Lise Steeby

October Greeters

02 Lou & Joyce Stempfley
09 Tom & Nancy Stryker
16 Lee & Joan Wenke
23 Hank Telgenhof & Ruth Hoekstra
30 TBD

November Greeters

06 Larry & Cindy Terlouw
13 Bob Jerow & Joyce Teusink
20 Don & Lise Topp
27 John & Pat Tysse

If you are unable to greet on your assigned Sunday, you are invited to either switch with someone or find your own substitute. You can communicate this change by marking the change on the Greeters Schedule poster in the Gathering Area, or by calling the office and a staff member will mark the change for you. If you prefer to have a member of the Outreach and Hospitality Ministry assign a substitute greeter, contact the office. ***If you are willing to volunteer as a substitute greeter or greet more often than once a year, please contact the office.***

August 2016

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|---|--|--|--|---|--|
| | 1 12 pm Communications Taskforce 5 pm Executive Committee 6:15 pm Stewardship & Finance | 2 | 3 6:15 am Men's Breakfast | 4 2-4 pm Hope Church Nurse 6:30 Health 7 pm Reconciliation 7 pm Volleyball (FUMC Gym) | 5 5 pm 20/30s Whitecaps Game 6 pm Pick Up Softball Game 6 - 9 pm Blueberry Pie-Making | 6 9 - 12 pm Blueberry Pie-Making |
| 7 9:40 am Nursery 10 am Worship, <i>Rowland Van Es</i> 10:15 am Summer Church School | 8 11 am REST Support Group 7 pm Consistory | 9 | 10 6:15 am Men's Breakfast 4 pm Adult Education Taskforce | 11 2-4 pm Hope Church Nurse 7 pm Personnel 7 pm Volleyball (FUMC Gym) | 12 | 13 |
| 14 8:30 am - 2:30 pm Blood Drive at FUMC 9:15 am Summer Walk-In Choir Rehearsal 9:40 am Nursery 10 am Worship, <i>Gordon Wiersma</i> 10:15 am Summer Church School | 15 4 pm Outreach and Hospitality 5 pm Fellowship | 16 6:30 pm Hope College Faculty & 20/30 Steering Force Gathering | 17 6:15 am Men's Breakfast 12 pm Building & Grounds | 18 2-4 pm Hope Church Nurse 7 pm Bonfire at Randy Smit's Cottage 7 pm Volleyball (FUMC Gym) | 19 6 pm Teusink's Farm Picnic | 20 |
| 21 9:40 am Nursery 10 am Worship, <i>Jill Russell</i> 10:15 am Summer Church School 11:45 am - 1 pm Brunch with the Pastors @ Pastor Jill's House | 22 11 am REST Support Group 6:30 pm Christian Education 7 pm Worship, Prayer & Spirituality 7 pm Congregational Care | 23 | 24 6:15 am Men's Breakfast 7:30 pm 20/30s Steering Force | 25 2-4 pm Hope Church Nurse 7 pm Volleyball (FUMC Gym) | 26 | 27 8 am Early Worship Task Force Planning Retreat at Bethabara |
| 28 9:40 am Nursery 10 am Worship, <i>John Schmidt</i> 10:15 am Summer Church School 11:45 am - 1 pm Brunch with the Pastors @ Pastor Jill's House | 29 6:15 pm Stewardship & Finance 7 pm Community Ministry Potluck | 30 | 31 6:15 am Men's Breakfast | | | |