



# HOPE CHURCH NEWS

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

Volume 62, No. 2

February 2019

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## Inserts:

- February Calendar
- Wisdom of the Wounded Calendar

**The deadline for the March newsletter is Wednesday, February 13.**

## 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



## Ash Wednesday Service

Ash Wednesday, March 6

6:00 p.m. Dinner\*

7:00 p.m. Worship

Worship in the sanctuary will include scripture, music, prayer and meditation. The imposition of ashes is an ancient symbol that calls us into this season.

*\*Sign up in the gathering area to attend! You can also sign up to help with set up and clean up. Set up starts at 4 p.m.*

## Wednesday Evening Lenten Worship Services

March 13, 20, 27

Evening prayer style services of music and scripture.

Look for more information soon in the bulletin and in the March newsletter!

## Pancake Fundraiser Lunch: February 24

Duane & Karmen Kooyers, Hope Church Members

Pumpkin chocolate chip pancakes. Gluten-free pancakes. Scottish oat pancakes. Apple cinnamon pancakes. And more! Duane and Karmen Kooyers would like to invite the congregation to a pancake lunch on Sunday, February 24 following the 11 a.m. service (which will take the place of the regular Pizza Sunday). We will provide the pancakes (supplies, time and loving labor). All donations towards the lunch will be put towards reducing mortgage expenses for our church renovations. Please come eat fabulous pancakes and help make our gift grow. We'd also love some help if you like to flip pancakes or if you have an electric griddle we can borrow for the lunch (contact Karmen Kooyers).



## Caring for Creation: Battery Recycling to be Discontinued

Peter Boogaart, Caring for Creation Co-coordinator

The Caring for Creation Ministry regrets that we can no longer continue our free battery recycling program. We have lost our source for free disposal and will not be able to cover the market cost of recycling.

Button and rechargeable batteries can still be recycled for free at locations such as Batteries-Plus-Bulbs and Ottawa County's Household Hazardous Waste sites. Alkaline batteries can be recycled at the same sites for a fee. Our last collection date will be January 27, 2019. We are, however, laying plans to begin the recycling of other materials; so stay tuned.

## New Administrative Assistant: Tiffany Lachniet

Personnel Committee

The Personnel Committee is pleased to announce that Tiffany Lachniet has been hired to serve Hope Church as administrative assistant, working in the office on Sundays and Tuesday afternoons. Tiffany began on Sunday, January 13. Tiffany brings a background in administration and Human Resources to her new role. Tiffany was recently married this past summer to Todd, she has a step daughter, two sons and a golden doodle. Tiffany enjoys boating, being at the beach, and traveling to Florida with her family. Join us in welcoming Tiffany to Hope Church!



## Nursery Volunteers Needed

Jocelyn Van Heest, Children's Ministry Director

At Hope Church, we value children as gifts from God. It is a special privilege to partner with parents in their nurture. Our nursery program is designed to give the children loving and quality care. We view the nursery as a ministry. The Christian Education Ministry would like to gather a group of adults who would each be committed to help in the nursery supervision a few times a year. We will be actively recruiting and signing up adults in the month of February. So, if you have offered your time before or are willing to do so now, we will be looking for you to join this group. We will be offering a time for you to get acquainted with the nursery and the activities available or you may wish to spend a Sunday with Margaret Buckley to meet the children and watch the flow of the hour. It is our commitment to insure the children experience a safe and enjoyable stay in our nursery and to support the young families of Hope Church. Our goal is to work together to help our children come to love the Lord and their church. Thank you for your assistance and cooperation.

## Washington School Neighbors: Valentine Card Making/Craft Night

Lisa Kasten, Neighborhood Connector



**Washington  
School Neighbors**

Tuesday February 12th- 5 to 6:30 PM at Hope Church-Room 106

We will gather for a fun night of making one of a kind Valentines cards or Valentine theme crafts. WSN will provide all of the supplies needed for this event, and of course some candy, just bring your creativity! This would be a great way to make something special to hang in your windows and spread some love in the WSN neighborhood. Hope to see you there!

**\*\*Please use the 10th Street side entrance, marked by the Washington School Neighbors sign.**

## Adult Education: February

Classes meet in Commons I on Sundays from 9:40 to 10:45am. They are free and are open to young people and adults.

**February 3:** In this concluding session of Reconciliation Ministry's "Noisy Contemplatives" series, we'll be provided several poems to read and reflect on individually before coming back together to share insights.

**February 10 & 17:** Bored with Fear and Reactivity? Hope Church member Ann McKnight, LMSW, ACSW will help us explore ways of Living With Compassion, Strength and Clarity. As a social worker in Holland for over 25 years, Ann has spent her personal and professional life wondering and learning about the best ways for us to embody the full life God calls us to. You can see her TEDx talk on Restorative Circles here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7glkfZNXXKlw>.

**February 24 & March 3:** Jim Brownson, James and Jean Cook Professor of New Testament at Western Theological Seminary, will teach about what the "Catechism on Marriage and Sexuality," developed by the Regional Synod of the Great Lakes, includes and does not include. With some reservations expressed at General Synod 2018 about releasing this document before its being studied by the Commission on Theology, the body voted to "commend the Great Lakes Catechism on Marriage and Sexuality for reflection, study, and response by the Commission on Theology and RCA churches and classes as a means of deepening our understanding of the biblical teaching on human sexuality and finding a pathway forward toward unity in mission and ministry." The seven-page "Great Lakes Catechism on Marriage Sexuality" can be downloaded at <http://images.rca.org/docs/synod/GLCatechism.pdf>

## Parenting Class: February 24 & March 10

Non-Violent Communication is not just for adult relationships! Pastor Rachel Bush will follow up the February 10 and 17 Adult Education Non Violent Communication class that Ann McKnight is leading with two classes on using NVC in parenting. Rachel was trained in NVC and compassionate communication through Western Theological Seminary in 2009, and graduated in 2010. She relies heavily on active empathy listening in her emotional therapy practice. She has helped to train others in NVC and empathy for use in personal life, pastoral roles, and practices. Join us for some helpful strategies for parenting and beyond. Rachel's class will be held on February 24 and March 10 during the education hour.

## Discerning through Both/And Thinking

Discerning our Future Committee

Part of how we, as Hope Church, are "discerning our future" has been working with polarities. We began the journey in 2011, based on the work of Barry Johnson and Roy Oswald, who wrote a book entitled *Managing Polarities in Congregations: Eight Keys for Thriving Faith Communities*. The central idea of polarities is that many important questions cannot be answered with a simple either/or choice. If the answers for building successful church communities were that straightforward, everyone would do it! Polarities recognize the importance of questions that lead to both/and choices.

The polarities Johnson and Oswald identify are:

- Tradition AND Innovation
- Strong Clergy Leadership AND Strong Lay Leadership

- Inreach AND Outreach
- Spiritual Health AND Institutional Health
- Management AND Leadership
- Nurture AND Transformation
- Making Disciples: Easy Process AND Challenging Process

Hope Church chose to work on the first 3, and added one of our own: Individual AND Community. We have seen the fruit of that discernment and consideration in many parts of the life of the church over the years. It led us to consider what our themes and focus should be for the longer term. In 2012 we chose our themes:

- provide provisions for the journey;
- welcome all;
- connect with and witness to the community; and
- engender deep engagement

To "check in" with the congregation at large to see if we were doing and being what we intended, we did an initial survey based on the polarities in 2015. That provided a baseline for the survey we completed this past fall. Overall, the 2018 survey (like the baseline) affirmed our direction and the work we are engaged in together, including, in particular, the goal of deep engagement. In the perception of those who took the survey, we are a congregation that lives with both/and thinking and discernment, which serves us well as we live into our future together.

Consistory and ministries will continue to learn from the feedback you've given us, and consider specific suggestions made in the comments, as we work to discern our future together. Thank you to all who participated.

## Youth Ministry

Beth Carroll, Assistant Pastor of Discipleship

"We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose." Romans 8:28

One of the values that I want to foster in our youth is the knowledge that God is with us. Sounds simple, right? But when I say God is with us, I mean God is *with* us. This means that in all aspects of our lives, both the great and joyful times and especially the challenging and hard times, we don't just cling to God, God clings to *us*. As the above verse in Romans teaches, many times the hardest seasons in life end up being the fertilizer that sparks rich, lush character growth for our adulthood. We don't have to be discouraged for our future because of our current life's challenges, because nothing truly can separate us from the

love of God.

This year in Fish Club and High Hopes, the way we have been learning about this is by listening to the stories of adults in our congregation. Each evening gathering, a different church member shares their story with us. We hear what life was like for them as a teen and how the experiences that formed them in their growing up shaped who they are today. We hear how God was present in their lives, especially when they made mistakes or felt hopeless. Even if they didn't feel God's presence in certain moments, we heard the hope of clarity given to them later in life.

At the end of each sharing session, I ask each adult the same question: "What advice would you give your 15-year-

old self?" We have heard answers like "it gets better." "there is no mistake that can't be repurposed." "Be kind and gentle to yourself." Through it all, God is *with* us. Not only with all of us collectively, but with every part of us as individuals, even the hopeless parts.



## Reflections on Roosters and Hens

Dan Joldersma, Hope Church member

Barb and I are of course happy with the recent restoration and reinstallation of the rooster on the church steeple and for its reminder of the Biblical story of Peter's denial and subsequent grace.

But we can't stop thinking about our visit last April to the Christelijke Gereformeerde Kerk in Opperdoes, North Holland, The Netherlands. We were there to see the home where my maternal grandfather was born and luckily happened to meet the town's unofficial historian, an old-timer who showed us around for about two hours. He pointed out the traditional rooster high on the bell tower at the front of the church, but of more interest was the hen on the roof near the back of the church. He could not tell us the history of why they chose the hen but did tell us that it is very rare throughout Europe.

Our quick Internet research could not find any theological or architectural

rationale for the hen, so here is our speculation: perhaps the "mother hen," who gathers her chicks underneath her wings, is symbolic of the nurturing role of the church.

When our Dutch friends translated some information on the hen for us, they said the hen was located on the "nave" or the "schip" of the church. That reminded me of a course I took 50 years ago at Calvin College on church architecture. On field trips, professor Boeve often pointed out large wooden beams holding up the roof over the nave, which he said symbolized the congregation all gathered together in the hold of a ship.

When we suggested to our pastors that Lois Massen and Paul Elzinga should start looking for a place on the roof for the Hope Church hen, our pretty punny pastor (yes, that one!) remarked:

"Eggsellent idea! – but let's not scramble too quickly to do this. It's not that I'm chicken, just that we should peck away at some other projects first."

What kind of a yoke is that?







## ministry/committee HIGHLIGHT

*This series of highlights on ministries/committees at Hope Church is intended to be sure our members are aware of how things happen and their opportunities to engage.*

### Sacristy Guild

Joyce Teusink, Sacristy Guild Chair

What is the Sacristy Guild? It is a group of Hope Church members who take time each week to prepare the sanctuary for worship. The work of the Sacristy Guild is to ensure that our sanctuary reflects the holiness and the joy that we all create together in worship. In preparing for each service, the guild members need to change paraments (Ecclesiastical vestments or hangings—they are hanging from each pulpit along with the covering of the communion table in front of the sanctuary), set out communion ware, make sure the cross is in place, set out the Paschal candle if needed, and organize pew hymnals and Bibles.

The Sacristy Guild also helps with cleaning the linens after a communion service, polishing the silver communion ware when needed, taking the wax out of the votive candle holders, and helping to prepare and then clean the home communion kits. Katie Norris sends us instructions each week as to what needs to be done. We work with the Worship Ministry; our pastors, Gordon, Jill and Beth; our resident artists, Kari Miller Fenwood and Rachelle Oppenhuizen; and Ric Beltran, our custodian/caretaker. With all of us working together, we prepare the sanctuary for our regular services, weddings, funerals, baptisms, concerts, advent, lent, and special events.

The members of the Sacristy Guild are Barbara Bright, Michelle Gerig, Judy Werkman, Sara Wilson, and Joyce Teusink. We are always looking for new members, so if you have any questions regarding Sacristy Guild, or would like to help in any way, please feel free to talk to any of the Sacristy Guild members or contact Joyce Teusink (jteusink19@gmail.com), chairperson of Hope Church Sacristy Guild.

We are blessed that our sanctuary has been a place of worship for more than 150 years and give thanks for the sacredness of our space. We look forward to maintaining a sacred and holy place for worship. To God be the glory—Shalom from the Sacristy Guild.

*The next Ministry/Committee Highlight will feature the Communications Committee.*

### Cultivating Communities of Caring: Choral Singing in Prisons - by Dr. Mary Cohen, University of Iowa - Friday, March 1, 7 pm

Rhonda Edgington, Associate Director of Music and Organist

"The dominate way of thinking is - someone's committed a crime, what did they do, and how should they be punished? But there is a different way to think about conflict. That question is - what harm has been committed, and how can that harm be healed?" – Dr. Mary Cohen

The setting is the auditorium in a medium-security prison. A group of men and women of varying ages are singing a concert for inmates. They sing original songs, written by members of the choir, as well as others' compositions, on themes of healing, hope, community, and transformation. The premise doesn't seem unusual, until I tell you that half of the choir are members of the community outside the prison, and the other half live here, inmates themselves of the Oakdale Prison, and many of them are the composers of the songs being sung.

Dr. Mary Cohen is the woman who founded this ground-breaking choir I've just described, and she will be speaking at Hope Church on Friday, March 1 at 7pm in the Commons. We are excited to be partnering with a diverse group of organizations and folks from the community to make this happen, including the Reconciliation Ministry at Hope Church, some departments at Hope College, and Calvin College, and even more excited that she will be speaking at Hope Church. If you've read [The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in an Age of Colorblindness](#), you know that our prison system can give many reasons for despair. I think Dr. Mary Cohen will offer some rays of hope and light as well.

If you'd like to learn more about her work, check out this inspiring video produced by Iowa Public Television.  
<http://www.iptv.org/gfi/story/32612/episode-oakdale-community-choir-coralville-iowa>

## Poetry Corner

hosted by Randy Smit and Rhonda Edgington

Judi Boogart is this month's featured poet, no stranger to many varied parts of Hope Church. She sings with our chancel choir and has also sung with the community choir Persisterhood, committed to social justice causes. My family also has fond memories of nature walks over the years with her and Peter, as part of the Caring for Creation ministry. Here, these interests all show up and are inspiration in her written and chosen poems. Her language helps us see the Salvador village, the humbleness, the beauty, and the hope - present in her poem, and, as we learn from Emily Dickinson, singing quietly in our souls as well. ~*Rhonda*

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I've been writing poetry on and off since grade school. One of my early poems was a 9th grade history extra-credit project in which I reduced the entire life of Julius Caesar to sixty lines of iambic rhyming verse! (No experience is wasted on a poet, right?)

In the ensuing years, I have often turned to poetry when I need to capture or make sense of an experience I've had. Such was the case with this one, which was written following an educational tour to Central America. We visited a village in El Salvador in January of 1992, soon after the Chapultepec Peace Accords were signed. We had listened to local pastors and priests talk about the need for reconciliation following the 12-year civil war. I latched on to this experience as a small sign of hope that despite the devastation caused by US policies and military action, renewed relations between our two countries might also be possible.

### **A Little Afternoon Music** by *Judith Boogaart*

I've feasted on tortillas,  
arroz, and frijoles, prepared  
in big communal pots  
in the dirt-floored kitchen.

La Mora boasts of few things:  
a community pile of corn,  
a new school building,  
a gorgeous view,  
this old guitar,  
which no one plays any more.

I pick it up, and the old mayor  
saunters near, singing a song,  
watching me expectantly.  
I must find the key  
and play along.  
The Salvador villager  
and Norte Americana,  
making music together,  
across the gulf.

One of the poems I have come to love is this little jewel from Emily Dickenson. I like the image of hope as a bird, fluttering inside me, singing and defiant in the fiercest storm, not asking anything of me but to recognize that—despite everything—it is still there.

### **Hope Is the Thing with Feathers** by *Emily Dickenson*

Hope is the thing with feathers  
That perches in the soul,  
And sings the tune without the words,  
And never stops at all,

And sweetest in the gale is heard;  
And sore must be the storm  
That could abash the little bird  
That kept so many warm.

I've heard it in the chilliest land,  
And on the strangest sea;  
Yet, never, in extremity,  
It asked a crumb of me.

## **PEACE CAMP - June 24-28**

Hope Church will once again be involved with Peace Camp. This year it will be held **June 24-28** as an all day camp for children going into 2nd - 8th grades. We are looking for campers and volunteers who are interested in participating. Further information will be available soon.

## Events and Announcements

### Women's Circle Meetings

**Circle 1** will meet at Freedom Village on Wednesday, Feb. 6, at 9:30 am.

**Circle 2** will not meet in February.

**Circle 4** will meet on Wednesday, February 13 at 7 pm.

### Coffee Time at Resthaven-32nd St.

This is a caring outreach and fellowship opportunity for residents and their friends at different locations to meet with the pastors and other congregation members and staff. The next Coffee Time will be at Resthaven -32nd St. on Tuesday, February 12, 2019 at 10:30 a.m. Mark your calendar, and come for an hour, all are welcome!

### Orientation to Hope Church Class

On Sunday, February 17, at 9:40 a.m., an Orientation to Hope Church Class will begin for people wanting to learn more about Hope Church. The class will meet on three Sunday mornings, February 17, March 3, and March 17 at 9:40 a.m. in Commons 2. Please contact the church office (392-7947) if you would like more information. For those who are interested in joining Hope Church, a dessert meeting with

the Board of Elders will occur on April 8 at 6:30 pm. A public reception of new members will take place during 11:00 a.m. worship on April 14. You are cordially and warmly invited to attend these orientation classes whether you are interested in membership at Hope Church or simply wanting to learn more about this congregation.

### Hope Church Readers

Hope Church Readers will meet on Wednesday, February 20th, at 1:00pm in Commons II. We will be discussing the book, Strangers Tend to Tell Me Things, by Amy Dickinson. Our discussion leader will be Karmen Kooyers, and our hostesses will be Jean Martin and Linda Rynbrandt. Come and share your love of books with us! New members are always welcome! For more information call Lauren Heyboer.

### Brim Bunch: February 21

Brim Bunch will meet on February 21st at 6:00 pm. A pork loin dinner will be served. The program following will be a presentation by Clare Heyboer, a Hope Church member,

who has great interest and expertise in historical restoration. He will tell about the history and significance of our church's sanctuary. Reservations may be emailed to the church office - [office@hopechurchca.org](mailto:office@hopechurchca.org) - and there will be sign-up sheets on Sundays in February as well. The cost of the dinner is \$8 and is payable at the door. Guests are very welcome.

### 2019 Telephone Directory

The 2019 Telephone Directory is now available! You can pick up a copy in the gathering area or in the Hope Church office.

### Winter Cancellations

Be sure to check the Hope Church website blog and Facebook for any cancellations due to weather!

### Christmas Offering

The Christmas Offering raised \$11,287.30 for Doctors Without Borders for their ongoing work in and around Yemen. Thank you for your generous support!

## Kids Hope

Vicki Rumpsa, Kids Hope USA Director



Have you noticed that the Kids Hope Logo is of a child (albeit a stick figure) surrounded by a heart? How wonderful is that? Our Kids Hope program at Hope Church is surrounding children with love! Those doing the "loving" include not only our mentors but also those who substitute for them when they cannot be there, our Prayer Partners, those who volunteer to help with special events and our pastors and you the congregation who supports this wonderful program.

You see these children have great love from their home but often it is from an over stressed parent pulled in many directions. There is the love that the teacher has for his or her students but because the student feels as though they don't live up to their teacher's high standards they then become discouraged and become oblivious to that love. They may have friends who "love" them but we all know how temporary and conditional friendship can be at these young ages. They may learn about the love of Jesus in their church but when they walk outside of the church they return to the unfairness of life and to the struggle to survive. We can only pray that they know the love of Jesus that is there despite these conditions. So

when our Kids Hope students see their mentor once a week and that mentor comes to their school to only see them and spends time listening to what they want to talk about, plays a game that they choose (and maybe lets them win) and then is being read to 1 on 1 from a book that is interesting to them, they are being loved in the Kids Hope way. Now that is the Kids Hope logo in action! That is more than wonderful...that is life giving. Thanks be to God for all those committed to this LOVE.

P.S. Want to become a mentor and share your love? There is a current need for a mentor for a 3rd grade boy. Contact Vicki Rumpsa if interested.



## Thank You

*Big "Thanks" to the Worship Ministry and all others who brought the special spiritual notion of the Advent "Way-Showers" booklet into this season. Biggest "Thanks" to all those who wrote and shared from themselves about what has enriched and sparkled from others in their life journey- thus enriching us all. We hear too little about what is aiding and thriving in the lives of our fellow "travelers" at Hope Church.*

*~Earl Laman*

*To our Hope Church family,  
"You really made me feel special." Wow! Here I thought a sextet would be coming, not the whole choir. Talk about lifting my spirits. Well, this is the perfect card because you really did make me feel special. Being on the receiving end of this most meaningful tradition shows how much impact our love and giving of gifts make. I hope next year I can be on the giving side of this. Please extend my gratitude to everyone. My cup runneth over.*

*~Love, Barb Schmitt*

*Once again we want to express our gratitude for the presence and prayers of the Hope Church community! For inspiring messages, glorious music, joyful children; for faithful bus drivers and wheelchair helpers; carolers bearing gifts of music, cookies, a poinsettia, and many wonderful Christmas cards; and special caring, sharing visits. Thanks be to God for all these good gifts!*

*~Nancy and Stan Rock*

*Marlin and I are so grateful to be part of the community of faith at Hope Church. We thank you for the many ways in which you have supported us throughout this past year. In particular, we were delighted when the carolers came with their cheer, cookies, and poinsettia. Additionally, we have appreciated the many visits from church staff members as well as others. We are so blessed!*

*~Judy VanderWilt and Marlin, too*

*Hope Church,*

*Thank you so much for letting us use your music room for worship practice!*

*~Blessings, Boulevard Church*

*Beloved Hope Church friends: Since the November 8 accident to our son, Dave, and the succeeding weeks of involvement in his treatment at the Spectrum Neuro Center, we have felt surrounded by your concern, prayers, thoughtfulness and help, and we are so very grateful and uplifted as we continue hopefully forward.*

*- Char and Earl Laman*

*Happy New Year! Thank you for your support to me and to my friend Trey. Hope is a blessing to the larger community. I hope I'll be able to attend Hope Church in the following months. Looking forward to seeing you then! May the Lord continue to bless you in the special year of 2019!*

*~Blessings, QiaoQiao Chen*

*Dear Hope Church Brothers and Sisters,*

*Wishing you love and peace, and hoping you know how very much you mean!!!*

*Have a blessed Christmas and a happy New Year!*

*~Rode Molla and Endrias Assen*



### FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

13	Kay MacKenzie
20	Suzanne Buteyn
24	Ruth Donaldson

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@hopechurchrca.org](mailto:office@hopechurchrca.org)

Congregational Care & Health Ministry

Ginger Clark, R.N., Hope Church Nurse

ALZHEIMER'S SUPPORT from ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION

10 Requests from Someone with Alzheimers

Author Unknown

- 1. Please be patient with me — Remember that I have an organic brain disease for which I have no control.
- 2. Talk to me — Even though I cannot always answer you, I can hear your voice and sometimes comprehend your words.
- 3. Be kind to me — For each day of

my life is a long and desperate struggle. Your kindness may be the most special and important event of my day.

- 4. Consider my feelings — For they are still very much alive within me.
- 5. Treat me with dignity and respect — As I would have gladly treated you.
- 6. Remember my past — For I was once a healthy, vibrant person full of life, love and laughter with abilities and intelligence.
- 7. Remember my present — I am a fearful person who misses my family and home very much.

- 8. Remember my future — Though it may seem bleak to you, I am always filled with hope for tomorrow.
- 9. Pray for me — For I am a person who lingers in the mists that drift between time and eternity. Your presence may do more for me than any other outreach of compassion you can extend to me.
- 10. Love me — The gifts of love you give will be a blessing from which will fill both our lives with light forever.

Who Would Make Medical Decisions for You If You Were Unable to Speak for Yourself? ....(And would they know what to say?)

Sunday, Feb. 24th after worship. Watch bulletin for more information.

Advance Care Planning is an important part of our overall healthcare. Appointing a Patient

Advocate who would speak for us, in the event we were unable to speak for ourselves is important for people of all ages. Like life insurance, health insurance and other pre-planning, it can give everyone peace of mind to know potential decision-makers know our values and directives.

David Blauw, chair of Advance Care Planning at Holland Hospital will help

us understand the importance of this pre-planning. Even if you have such documents already, come to hear the Top Ten things you should coach your Patient Advocate on now! And if you don't have this document, (Durable Power of Attorney for Healthcare) this session can get you well on the way to having one!

At Home With the Word

Sunday Lectionary as Daily Bible Readings

January 1–January 6, 2019

- Tuesday New Year's Day; Ecclesiastes 3:1-13
- Wednesday Psalm 72:10-14
- Thursday Ephesians 3:1-6
- Friday Ephesians 3:7-12
- Saturday Matthew 2:1-12
- Sunday Epiphany of the Lord

January 7–13, 2019

- Monday Isaiah 60:1-6
- Tuesday Isaiah 43:1-7
- Wednesday Psalm 29
- Thursday Acts 8:14-17
- Friday Luke 3:15-17
- Saturday Luke 3:21-22
- Sunday First Sunday after Epiphany

January 14–20, 2019

- Monday Isaiah 62:1-5
- Tuesday Psalm 36:5-10

- Wednesday 1 Corinthians 12:1-3
- Thursday 1 Corinthians 12:4-11
- Friday John 2:1-5
- Saturday John 2:6-11
- Sunday Second Sunday after Epiphany

January 21–27, 2019

- Monday Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10
- Tuesday Psalm 19:1-6
- Wednesday Psalm 19:7-14
- Thursday 1 Corinthians 12:12-26
- Friday 1 Corinthians 12:27-31
- Saturday Luke 4:14-21
- Sunday Third Sunday after Epiphany

January 28–January 31, 2019

- Monday Jeremiah 1:4-8
- Tuesday Jeremiah 1:9-10
- Wednesday Psalm 71:1-6
- Thursday 1 Corinthians 13:1-13

## and finally

This is a test: do you know what the footnote to the asterisk says in our worship bulletin?

(Answer: 'Congregation to rise in body or spirit')

Extra credit: has it always said this?

(Answer: no).

And for double extra credit: what did it say before?

(Answer: it used to say 'Congregation standing as able')

The Disability Concerns ministry asked for this change last summer. There are moments in our worship when people who are able are invited to stand. We do this when singing or at other moments in the course of our liturgy. Why the shift the language? To speak about 'standing if able' draws attention to people's differing physical abilities rather than pointing to the attitude of heart that standing is supposed to reflect. Why do we ever stand in someone's presence? I'm thinking about traditions to rise when people of power enter a room, like the President of the United States for instance. We rise to show honor and respect. Or the spontaneous joy and approval that prompts a crowd to their feet after a particularly stirring performance or exhilarating speech. The point is not the standing. The point is the rising of attention and honor or joy and celebration. It is something you can do in spirit or in body. (This article is filled with parentheses...I know. This isn't the last of them. But, did you ever wonder why the music we sing after the words of assurance and summary of the law is sometimes called an acclamation of praise with an asterisk inviting us to rise in body or in spirit and sometimes is called a response without that same invitation? If the song is filled with praise and thanks to God then it is named an acclamation of praise and we are invited to rise in that spirit of joy and celebration for the promise of God's forgiveness in the words of assurance. If the song is a call to action or a reminder of how we should live, then it is named a response to the summary of the law and we are invited to remain seated in a spirit of contemplation and reflection.)

Why am I writing about all of this? Two reasons. In a conversation with some of our senior members recently, we talked about something I had never thought about before which is how difficult it can feel to be the only one who rises in spirit while everyone around you is rising in body. Someone commented that it would make them feel more comfortable if others around them would sometimes choose to rise in spirit while remaining seated to make it feel more "normal" for others to do so. I can remember doing so when a sleeping or nursing baby required that my rising be in spirit and not in body. Could we do so for other reasons as well or even just to be in solidarity with someone who needs to start doing this for the sake of an aching back or shaky balance? (By the way, some of us could use

some assistance in other ways in order to keep coming to corporate worship longer – like helping them get their wheelchair up the ramp incline or navigate their wheelchair into one of the cut-out spots or to assist someone in moving their walker out of the aisle once seated and then return that walker at the end of the service. People sometimes decide to stop coming to worship even though they could still worship with us in the sanctuary for quite a bit longer with this minimal assistance.)

The second prompt for this was the witness to reconciliation that Cindi Veldheer-DeYoung shared on January 20th. It was entitled *Reconciliation in Health Care*. As I listened to Cindi sharing stories from her ministry as an ICU chaplain walking with families making very difficult decisions about health care, I thought another way to title her witness might be Reconciliation with These Bodies of Ours. Can we learn to tend our bodies and honor our shifting abilities and needs with a gentler love and care and less shame? By the time you read this, I will have had my hysterectomy and will be on medical leave. (My surgery is scheduled for January 31). I've had a very interesting experience with people whispering to me in hushed tones about this coming procedure for my "female problem". It has been an act of rebellion on my part (or perhaps reverence for these sacred bodies God gave to us) to say out loud that "yes, I am eager to be on the other side of this hysterectomy." If they want to know, I go on to tell them that the doctor will be taking my uterus where the pre-cancerous cells were found as well as my fallopian tubes, that I'm hopeful I can keep my ovaries to avoid triggering a surgical menopause. I've noticed most people don't usually flinch with all that body talk but only wanted to give me the privacy if I wanted it in their whispering. What I am wanting to do is remind myself and others that we don't just have bodies but actually are body-mind-soul-spirits. What happens to one part of us affects the other parts. We are learning so much more about those interconnections of body and mind and spirit and body. All aspects of ourselves need constant care and calibration. I'm hopeful we can continue to be a place that recognizes that and makes it normal and easy for us to adapt to our shifting needs day by day, season by season, year by year.

And while this may be a rather small way to do so, if rising in spirit while remaining seated in body is a way you could support someone near you in worship who could use some solidarity in this lifelong journey of being gentle and loving toward our shifting needs and abilities – by all means let's do it! And let's find some more ways as well.

Grace and peace,  
~Pastor Jill



# Hope Church News

February 2019



## March, April & May Greeters

The Outreach & Hospitality Ministry

The following list reflects the households assigned to greet for the next three months:

### March Greeters

3 Jordan, Bob & Susanne  
10 Kamstra, Todd & Nancy  
17 Killilea, Norma  
24 Knoll, Leon & Jackie  
31 Knoops, John & Barb

### April Greeters

7 Koch, John & Pam  
14 Kolk, Michael & Sarah  
21 Kools, John & Kathy  
28 Kooyers, Duane & Karmen

### May Greeters

5 Krom, Stephanie  
12 Laman, Earl & Char  
19 McFadden, Emily Jean  
26 McKnight, Jim & Ann

Hope Church is now beginning to use SignUpGenius for reminders for Congregational Greeters. You will receive an email reminder from SignUpGenius the Monday before you are scheduled. If you are unable to greet on this date, please swap dates with another person. Swapping can be done through the sign up form link in your email. If you have questions, please email the office at [knorris@hopechurchca.org](mailto:knorris@hopechurchca.org). The SignUpGenius Greeter Schedule for the entire year can be viewed online at [tinyurl.com/hopegreeters](http://tinyurl.com/hopegreeters).

*If you are willing to volunteer as a substitute greeter or greet more often than once a year, please contact the office.*

# February 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
				<div>Restorative Circle Facilitator Training January 31 &amp; February 1 9 am - 4 pm</div>		
<b>3</b> <b>8:30 am</b> Early Worship, <i>Beth Carroll</i> <b>9:40 am</b> Church School (children, adults) <b>9:40 am</b> Chancel Choir <b>10:45 am</b> Nursery <b>11 am</b> Worship, <i>Communion</i> <i>Beth Carroll, preaching</i> <b>11:15 am</b> Children in Worship <b>4:30 pm</b> Fish Club & High Hopes	<b>4</b> <b>5 pm</b> Executive Committee <b>6:15 pm</b> Stewardship & Finance	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> <b>6:15 am</b> Men's Breakfast <b>9:30 am</b> Circle 1 <b>5 pm</b> Community <b>5:30 pm</b> Season of Reconciliation Book Study <b>6:45 pm</b> Carillon Choir <b>7:30 pm</b> Chancel Choir	<b>7</b> <b>2-4 pm</b> Hope Church Nurse <b>7 pm</b> Volleyball (FUMC Gym)	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>10</b> <b>8:30 am</b> Early Worship, <i>Gordon Wiersma</i> <b>9:40 am</b> Church School (children, adults) <b>9:40 am</b> Chancel Choir <b>9:40 am</b> 6th & 7th Grade Sunday School <b>9:40 am</b> G.I.F.T. Class <b>9:40 am</b> High Hopes Unshowered <b>10:45 am</b> Nursery <b>11 am</b> Worship <i>Gordon Wiersma, preaching</i> <b>11:15 am</b> Children in Worship <b>12 pm</b> Second Sunday Snacks	<b>11</b> <b>11 am</b> REST Support Group <b>7 pm</b> Consistory with Administration Leaders	<b>12</b> <b>10:30 am</b> Coffee at Resthaven 32nd St.	<b>13</b> <b>6:15 am</b> Men's Breakfast <b>7:35 am</b> Discerning our Future <b>6:15 pm</b> Carillon Choir <b>7 pm</b> Circle 4	<b>14</b> <b>2-4 pm</b> Hope Church Nurse <b>7 pm</b> Volleyball (FUMC Gym)	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>17</b> <b>8:30 am</b> Early Worship, <i>Karmen Kooyers</i> <b>9:40 am</b> Church School (children, adults) <b>9:40 am</b> Chancel Choir <b>9:40 am</b> Orientation to Hope Church <b>10:45 am</b> Nursery <b>11 am</b> Worship <i>Gordon Wiersma, preaching</i> <b>11:15 am</b> Children in Worship <b>12:15 pm</b> Blood Pressure Clinic <b>12:30 pm</b> Creation Care - Climate Witness Project Speaker <b>6 pm</b> Fish Club & High Hopes	<b>18</b> <b>12 pm</b> Facility Strategy <b>4 pm</b> Outreach & Hospitality <b>6:30 pm</b> Christian Education <b>6:45 pm</b> Congregational Care & Health <b>7:30 pm</b> Reconciliation	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> <b>6:15 am</b> Men's Breakfast <b>12 pm</b> Building & Grounds <b>1 pm</b> Readers <b>4 pm</b> Fellowship <b>6:15 pm</b> Carillon Choir <b>7:30 pm</b> Chancel Choir	<b>21</b> <b>10 am</b> Disability Concerns <b>2-4 pm</b> Hope Church Nurse <b>6 pm</b> Brim Bunch <b>7 pm</b> Volleyball (FUMC Gym)	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b> <b>8:30 am</b> Early Worship, <i>Audrianne Hill</i> <b>9:40 am</b> Church School (children, adults) <b>9:40 am</b> 6th & 7th Grade Sunday School <b>9:40 am</b> G.I.F.T. Class <b>9:40 am</b> High Hopes Unshowered <b>9:40 am</b> Parenting Class <b>10:45 am</b> Nursery <b>11 am</b> Worship, <i>Lynn Japinga, preaching</i> <b>11:15 am</b> Children in Worship <b>12:15 pm</b> Pancake Fundraiser Lunch <b>12:15 pm</b> Advanced Directives Presentation	<b>25</b> <b>11 am</b> REST Support Group <b>6:30 pm</b> Personnel <b>7 pm</b> Worship	<b>26</b> <b>9:30 am</b> Newsletter Assembly	<b>27</b> <b>6:15 am</b> Men's Breakfast <b>6:15 pm</b> Carillon Choir	<b>28</b> <b>2-4 pm</b> Hope Church Nurse <b>7 pm</b> Volleyball (FUMC Gym)		