



HOPE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
5278 N HOPE RD.
HOPE, MI 48628
PASTOR – BILL CLELAND
PHONE – 989-689-3811
WEBSITE - <https://hopeumchopemi.org/>
October 2023

The Heart of the Matter

Tomorrow morning," the surgeon began, "I'll open up your heart..." "You'll find Jesus there," the boy interrupted. The surgeon looked up, annoyed "I'll cut your heart open," he continued, "to see how much damage has been done..." "but when you open up my heart, you'll find Jesus in there," said the boy.

The surgeon looked to the parents, who sat quietly. "When I see how much damage has been done, I'll sew your heart and chest back up, and I'll plan what to do next." "But you'll find Jesus in my heart. The Bible says He lives there. The hymns all say He lives there. You'll find Him in my heart."

The surgeon had had enough. "I'll tell you what I'll find in your heart. I'll find damaged muscle, low blood supply, and weakened vessels. And I'll find out if I can make you well." "You'll find Jesus there too. He lives there." The surgeon left.

The surgeon sat in his office, recording his notes from the surgery, ...damaged aorta, damaged pulmonary vein, widespread muscle degeneration. No hope for transplant, no hope for cure. Therapy: painkillers and bed rest. Prognosis: here he paused, "death within one year." He stopped the recorder, but there was more to be said.

"Why?" he asked aloud. "Why did You do this? You've put him here; You've put him in this pain; and You've cursed him to an early death. Why?" The Lord answered and said, "The boy, my lamb, was not meant for your flock for long, for

he is a part of My flock, and will forever be. Here, in My flock, he will feel no pain, and will be comforted as you cannot imagine. His parents will one day join him here, and they will know peace, and My flock will continue to grow."

The surgeon's tears were hot, but his anger was hotter. "You created that boy, and You created that heart. He'll be dead in months. Why?" The Lord answered, "The boy, My lamb, shall return to My flock, for He has done his duty: I did not put My lamb with your flock to lose him, but to retrieve another lost lamb."

The surgeon wept... The surgeon sat beside the boy's bed; the boy's parents sat across from him. The boy awoke and whispered, "Did you cut open my heart?" "Yes," said the surgeon. "What did you find?" asked the boy. "I found Jesus there," said the surgeon.

Dear Hope Family, The old hymn goes, "In my heart there rings a melody, there rings a melody with heaven's harmony; In my heart there rings a melody; There rings a melody of love!"

As we enter this season of fall, I pray that Jesus is living in your heart and that you feel His precious love raining down on you day by day.

Grace and Peace,

Randy

PASTOR'S CORNER

Wed, Sep 27 at 3:09 PM

Hello All,

It been a difficult this past week between funerals and Deb needing my attention. I have dropped the ball in the communications area.

My Seminary school ended and my world took a wild turn. Let us pray for calmer waters.

Blessings Always,
Pastor Bill

THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Hope ~ Edenville ~ Dale

Today is ~ Wednesday – September 6, 2023

This Sunday ~ October 1, 2023 ~ 18th Sunday After Pentecost

Message Title ~ “Are Ye Able”

Website: www.hopeumchopemi.org

"To show love “Jesus style” at every intersection in life."

Office Hours will be Tuesday ~ Friday 9:00 am to 3:00 pm at Hope UMC.

Please call ahead in case we are out visiting.

Attendance

Sept. 3, 2023 ~	Dale UMC - 36,	Edenville UMC - 16,	Hope UMC –
45 = 97			
Sept. 10, 2023 ~	Dale UMC - 29,	Edenville UMC - 11,	Hope UMC –
47 = 87			
Sept. 17, 2023 ~	Dale UMC - 35,	Edenville UMC - 15,	Hope UMC –
32 = 82			
Sept. 24, 2023 ~	Dale UMC - 42,	Edenville UMC - 17,	Hope UMC –
51 = 110			

Its Wednesday ~ 63 degrees cloudy with an occasional light mist. It feels like fall!!! Tomorrow is a big day, it is our 6th Pop-Up-Food Pantry ~ where we are blessed to be the hands and feet of our Lord. What an amazing privilege it is to serve Him...

It's been a hectic couple of weeks with funerals and with my Deb throwing me a curve ball. We had funerals for Bob Pyle and Jane Thomas, the United Methodist Women served amazing meals as always. Thank you everyone for your service when called upon.

Deb is doing much better this week, after a few days in the hospital she had 3.5 liters of fluid removed. This past Monday another 4.8 liters of fluid was removed and is being tested in hopes of finding out why this is reoccurring. She has had a liver condition for years but the past few weeks has been quite a roller coaster. Thank you all for your prayers and concerns, we have felt so very lifted... Tests continue and we will find out what is going on. Hopefully sooner rather than later.

Tomorrow ~ Hope UMC ~ Food distribution ~ September 28th ~ 2 to 4 pm ~ truck will arrive noon-ish. THIS IS A CHANGE!

Helpers ~ please try to arrive after the truck arrives for set up, Arrive 1:30 to 2:00 pm. Please park in the Fire Hall parking area, East side only. **Please Don't Block Doors.** West side of Hall is parking for firefighters **ONLY!** ~ **Those picking up**

food will be entering the parking lot from Hull Rd ~ Registration is done prior to lining up in the parking lot.

October 26th ~ 2 to 4 pm ~ truck ill arrive noon-ish. (4th Thursday) **Free.** *Earlier Time.*

Recognizing time change ~ shorter days and cooler weather... Moved to AM distribution...

November 30th ~ 10 am to 12 Noon ~ Truck will arrive at 8:30am (5th Thursday) **Free.** **am** time.

December 28th ~ 10 am to 12 noon ~ Truck will arrive at 8:30 am. (5th Thursday) **Free.** **am** time.

I have officially bumped up our food for our distributions to 350 families. This is a big deal!!!

Announcements

HOPE UMC Pot-Luck – is ~ **October 8th...** Linda ~ Judy & Diane Dice All help welcome...

Hope UMC ~ Adopt-A-Highway ~ Fall Pick up is Saturday Sept. 30. Dale Shedden.

“Hope Fellowship Event” at the Hope Township Hall on Sunday Afternoon November 5th. Floyd Andrick will be presenting a talk on the Dionne Quintuplets. Floyd has known them since 1966 and will have a slide show and an exhibit. There is no charge but you will need to RSVP due to refreshments after the presentation. I have signed up already.

Hope UMW ~ October 4 at the Hope UMC, 1:00 pm to make candy for the Hope Twp. Bazaar. Come help the ladies make chocolate/peanut butter candies. October 7 from 10:00 – 4:00 will be the fall bazaar at the Hope Twp. Hall. The ladies will have a table to sell their wares. Come support the baked goods, candies, and crafts the wonderful ladies have made to support the missions of the UMW. They will be collecting for gloves, hats, socks and mittens for children so no child goes cold for winter. There is a container in the Narthex for these goods or you can donate money to the group and they will purchase them.

Hope Choir is looking for people who want to join the singing group. Currently there is a need for Soprano voices and male voices. Contact Sonya Alexander for more information. Choir meets Thursdays at 7:00 pm and Sundays at 9:45 am.

Charge Conference will be October 29th 6:00 pm at Homer UMC in Midland. SPRC has a zoom meeting with the DS on October 24th at 7:00 pm.

Let us continue praying for: Phyllis Miller, Michelle & Doug Fillmore, Lowell Thomas, and his family, Betty Foland, Jim Walters, Donna Atherton, Jackie Southwell and Tom & Betty Fillmore.

Send A Card “Let us lift those who need lifting”...

Phyllis Miller c/o Meridian Acres
2915 N. Meridian Rd.
Sanford MI. 48657

Lowell Thomas c/o The Brook of Gladwin
201 W. Cedar Ave. Room 12
Gladwin MI 48624

Michelle Fillmore
528 Hull Rd.
Hope MI 48628
Jackson Crego
5304 N. Hope Rd.
Hope MI. 48628

Betty Fillmore
305 E. Chapel Lane
Midland, MI 48640
Betty Foland
1073 E. Adams Rd
Hope MI. 48628

Jim Walters
1100 Dale Rd.
Beaverton, MI 48612
Jackie Southwell
4950 Townhall Rd.
Beaverton MI. 48612

Donna Atherton
728 Hayes Dr.
Beaverton
MaryLou Pyle
706 Shaffer Rd
Hope MI.

United Elf Attic Bazaar ~ Fall Craft Show ~ *How is that for a name!!* ~ Mark your calendar ~ Saturday December 2nd at the Dale UMC fellowship hall. Table rental \$25 ~ no competing tables ~ no major brands i.e. Tupperware, etc. ~ There will be food available through Dale UMC – Baked Potato Bar, Coffee & Water ~ All proceeds go to local families in need.

Contact **Donna Gower**, she is in charge ~ cell phone **989-737-8228** ~ Email address; dongow@midmichigancc.com

This is a great opportunity for all three churches to come together and support each other, and to care for local families in need, as we near the holidays.

Blessing To Each of You Always,

Pastor Bill 989-975-1500 [or bcleland@comcast.net](mailto:bcleland@comcast.net)

Deb 989-975-1501 hopechurchsec@outlook.com

May our Lord Bless and Protect each of you!!

Some food for thought

Christianity does not “Progress” with the times. If it did, it would be a false religion. Do not be deceived into thinking there is a progressive form of Christianity. It does not exist. It does not exist because the truth never changes.

God’s word is the same yesterday today and forever. Amen

Christianity is about helping others and controlling yourself. When it becomes about controlling others and helping yourself, it isn’t Christianity...

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

3 Gale Hock
9 Dave Leuenberger
12 Lori Childs
22 Courtney Fillmore
27 Scott Holzinger
30 Darlene Davis
30 Roger Trucks

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

6 Joann Crook
23 Deb Cleland
23 Melanie Mickle
28 Rita Hall

NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARY

Dan and Jan Holzinger

May God richly bless all of you on these wonderful days of special recognition.

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED