

For The JOURNEY MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

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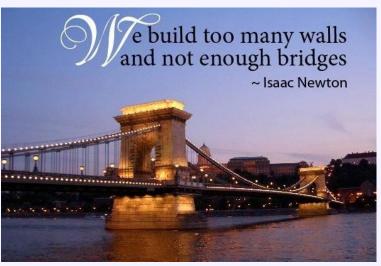


With Christ as our center, we are called to reach out and share God's love with all.

Volume 30, No. 06 June 2023

John 3:1-15

There was Pharisee а named Nicodemus, a Jewish leader. 2 He came to Jesus at night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God, for no one could do these miraculous signs that you do unless God is with him." 3 Jesus answered, "I assure you, unless someone is born anew [Or from above], it's not possible to see God's kingdom." 4 Nicodemus asked, "How is it possible for an adult to be born? It's impossible to enter the mother's womb



for a second time and be born, isn't it?" 5 Jesus answered, "I assure you, unless someone is born of water and the Spirit, it's not possible to enter God's kingdom. 6 Whatever is born of the flesh is flesh, and whatever is born of the Spirit is spirit. 7 Don't be surprised that I said to you, 'You must be born anew.' 8 God's Spirit blows wherever it wishes. You hear its sound, but you don't know where it comes from or where it is going. It's the same with everyone who is born of the Spirit." 9 Nicodemus said, "How are these things possible?" 10 "Jesus answered, "You are a teacher of Israel and you don't know these things? 11 I assure you that we speak about what we know and testify about what we have seen, but you don't receive our testimony. 12 If I have told you about earthly things and you don't believe, how will you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? 13 No one has gone up to heaven except the one who came down from heaven, the Human One [or Son of Man]. 14 Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so must the Human One [or Son of Man] be lifted up 15 so that everyone who believes in him will have eternal life.

(Continued on Page 2)



ONLINE WORSHIP LINK - Sundays at 9:00am & Special Services

We have moved our online worship platform from Zoom to FACEBOOK. https://www.facebook.com/Hope-United-Methodist-Church-116517175038771 10

SCAN for more info and LINKS



(Continued from Page 1)

In the movie, Jesus Revolution, the pastor said, "If God brings me a hippie, I'll ask him what it's all about—because I do not understand." Something similar happened to a Hebrew teacher and scholar named Nicodemus. He came (at night—not ready to risk his status as a leader) to talk with Jesus. He tried to understand Jesus' words about being "born again." (They may be a serious pun—the Greek word translated "again" also meant "from above.") Understanding is a key step in reaching across divides.

I think it's key for us to know, to remember and to live by the verses that directly follow this story about Nicodemus' encounter with Jesus. It is, after all, what we who say we are Christians should live by:

John 3:16-18

16 God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him won't perish but will have eternal life. 17 God didn't send his Son into the world to judge the world, but that the world might be saved through him. 8 Whoever believes in him isn't judged; whoever doesn't believe in him is already judged, because they don't believe in the name of God's only Son.

There's a beautiful quote that's been finding its way across the internet, "If God didn't send Jesus into the world to condemn it, I doubt he sent you" – David Huskins.

What a freeing idea that is. And yet, how quickly we turn to condemnation when faced with the things we don't understand. How different the world might be if we sought understanding instead of rushing to judgement, as if it was out God given duty.

- John said Nicodemus came to Jesus "by night" (verse 2). Jesus had challenged the Pharisees' power and authority, so Nicodemus likely needed the darkness so other Pharisees didn't see him with Jesus. That night, Jesus invited Nicodemus to live in the light of God's kingdom. Evidence suggests that their talk changed Nicodemus (cf. John 7:45-52; John 19:38-42). In what kinds of darkness did you come to Jesus? How has God brought you from the darkness into the light?
- Many of Nicodemus's fellow Pharisees did not believe God loved "the world"—only certain properly pious parts of it. How did Jesus' statement that God so loved the world shape the pastor's outreach to the hippies in Jesus Revolution? But that famous verse was not the "mic drop" end of the passage. It went right on to lay out big effects in the following verses. How do verses 17 and 18 speak to (and maybe shift) the mental images you learned about how God looks at you?

Oh friends, that we might learn to love one another as God loves us...ALL of us.

Lord Jesus, give me more of your willingness to understand and connect even with people like Nicodemus, who might at first seem like "enemies." Amen.

In Christ,

Pastor Jen

June 4th -Trinity Sunday "Go Therefore"

Genesis 1:2:4; Matthew 28:16-20

Trinity Sunday is about God and not about us.

And yet, because we can know God only in relationship, it has to be about us too. We know God, then through one another, through living in community and worshiping as a gathered body. Keeping the focus on God, what we see is a Creator God, the source of everything that is who nonetheless chooses to send us on the mission to share the kin-dom of

God with the whole world.

June 11th

Isaiah 53:1-5, John 14:25-31

Sharon Fortune will be preaching for Pastor Jen who will be at Annual Conference

June 18th- Father's Day

"Is Anything Too Wonderful?"

Genesis 18:1-15; 21:1-7; Matthew 9:35-10:23

Today we celebrate big dreams, grand visions. Today, we imagine what is possible with God in our own congregation, in our own community. Today, we give thanks for all that has been, even as we ask God to take us further, to equip us for more.

June 25th

"Tell in the Light"

Romans 6:1-11; Matthew 10:24-39

"What you hear whispered, proclaim from the housetops" (Matthew 10:27). This week, we've got whispers and we've got shouts. That seems like a common human experience, doesn't it?



In-Person Worship 9:00am Sunday Mornings

Online Worship Options



- ❖ Link to the Church Facebook Page for ONLINE WORSHIP (Sundays at 9:00am & Special Services) https://www.facebook.com/Hope-United-Methodist-Church-116517175038771
- ❖ Zoom Link Option for ONLINE WORSHIP https://zoom.us/j/94890292077?pwd=ekxnanU5THc 2eEdLK1ZpRllKYUZ4QT09

Meeting ID: 948 9029 2077 /Passcode: 512603 Dial by your location +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

LAY PASTORAL CARE TEAM CONTACT INFORMATION



If you could use support, or if you know of someone who might, please contact a member of our Lay Pastoral Care Team

 Judy Ganong
 715-514-0258

 Connie Jacobsen
 715-838-9594

 Jan Lorentz
 608-886-0668





Hope Virtual Church

GIVING OPTIONS

We can continue our ministries whether we are meeting in-person, or online. The church is not about the building, but WE are the church.



MAIL: Please feel free to send your offerings in mail: Hope United Methodist Church 2233 Golf Road

Eau Claire, WI 54701



ELECTRONIC GIVING:

Call or email the church office to request an Authorization Form for Automatic Withdrawal. Phone: **715-835-5310** (leave a message)

Email: hopeumcec@yahoo.com



ONLINE GIVING Coming Soon

UPCOMING EVENTS





➤ June 5 1:30pm Nurture Committee

➤ June 6 6:00pm Trustees Meeting

➤ June 12 Finance Meeting (Time?)

➤ June 19 6:30pm Ad Board Meeting

Committee Meetings ZOOM Link:

https://zoom.us/j/94197853095?pwd=ZGhVZlQy K1FVTVNIUmdBYnU5bVBkQT09

Meeting ID: 941 9785 3095 / Passcode: 078279



Monday, June 19th 5:30 - 7:30 PM at Carson Park
Please stop by!



9:00am Saturday, June 17th

We will meet at 9:00am on Saturday, June 17th at Sweet Driver. Please call Judy (715-514-0258) by Thursday the 15th to let her know if you will be attending.



WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Our next gathering will be June 26th at 1:00pm. Please contact Cindy Hanson (715-878-4941) with questions.



June 27th at 6:00pm

Issue & Action Night Focus Area:

Environmental Issues at Grace Lutheran Church (202 W Grand Ave, Eau Claire)



Regular Office Hours: 9:00am-1:00pm Tues, Wed, Thurs

(Office hours may change occasionally, please call before you visit)

HOPE CARE LIST

We now have a HOPE-CARE-LIST. Please check the Ministry Moveable Clipboard Cart for a list of things at Hope that need some attention. There are indoor and outdoor projects.

Thanks to Alyssa and Sandi Hysell for assembling the Earth Week activity bags for our neighborhood children to take and have fun with! Over 20 bags were taken off our "line" by the church!



Thank you everyone for donating shoes to Soles4Souls! We collected 180 pairs of shoes!



There are many opportunities to share your gifts and talents:

- Reading
- Greeting
- Sunday Fellowship
- Mowing
- Running PowerPoint
- Help to Prepare/Serve Communion
- and many more!

Please let
Pastor Jen
know if you are
interested, or
if you have
questions.



MOWING HELP NEEDED



We are in need of some volunteers to mow the lawn. A rider and push mower are provided in the garage. If you would like to donate money for mowing costs, please designate it on an envelope and place in the offering plate. See clipboard to sign-up for a week to mow or use the online Sign-Up Genius (link below).

Please contact any Trustee with questions.

https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040A4 4AAA622A02-lawn1

Don't Throw Your Batteries in the Trash!



Place your old batteries in the box in the hallway at church, and we'll make sure they are disposed of appropriately and can keep them out of the landfill.



SAVE YOUR INK CARTRIDGES

Please save your Empty (notpreviously re-filled) cartridges for Hope!

Please do not throw your empty inkjet, laser, or printer cartridges in the trash! We have a way to turn those cartridges into cash. Simply place your empty cartridges in the basket near the main entrance.



FOOD PANTRY SUNDAY THIRD SUNDAY OF THE MONTH

As you know we have added a new little food pantry and it has been well utilized. It is a great ministry and example of

loving our neighbors! Our next Collection Date will be June 18th.

FINANCE NEWS

FINANCIAL REPORT - APRIL 2023							
	MTD	YTD					
Contributions	\$12,147	\$42,916					
Expenses	\$12,488	\$48,410					
	(\$5,494)						

CONNECTIONAL GIVING (APPORTIONMENTS)

Conference Assigned We Have Paid
Amount for 2023: As Of 4-30-23:
\$16.493.00 \$4.305.00

J.O.N.A.H. NEWS & UPDATES (Joining Our Neighbors Advancing Hope)

JOIN A TASK FORCE - Consider attending one of JONAH's task forces to see if you would like to get involved:

- Environmental Task Force
- Immigration Task Force
- Chippewa Valley Child Poverty Coalition
- Affordable Housing Task Force
- Transportation Task Force
- Chippewa Valley Justice Action Team
- Mental Health Group

JONAH mission statement:

JONAH exists to deepen relationships within and among faith communities and partner organizations to empower people in addressing the root causes of social injustice in the greater community.



Visit the JONAH website for updates and more information www.jonahjustice.org

June 2023				Hope	United Meth	Hope United Methodist Church
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28-May	29-May	30-May	May 31	T	2	ĸ
				Pastor Jen at Clergy Session		
9:00am WORSHIP	is.	9	7	8 9-11:30am (FH)	6	10
	1:30pm Nurture	6:00pm Trustees		La Leche Group	Pastor Jen at Annual Conference	ference
9:00am WORSHIP	12	13	14	15	16	17
0						9:00am Women of Hope
Fil Pastor Jen at Annual Conference	Finance (Time?) rence					12:00pm-6:00pm (FH) Cindy Hanson Gathering
9:00am WORSHIP Food Pantry Sunday	19	20	21	22	23	24
FATHERS DAY	6:30pm Ad Board		Pastor Jen Out of the Office	6		
	Kristen - Vacation					
25	26	72	28	29	30	1-Jul
9:00am WORSHIP	NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	Jonah Issues & Action Night 6pm at Grace Luth				

SERVING SCHEDULE	View the most current Serving Schedule, by following this link, or scanning the QR code at the bottom of the page: https://hopeumceauclaire.churchtrac.com/card/34						
	June 4	June 11	June 18	June 25	July 2		
Greeters	John & Merry Weiland	Joey Bohl	Connie Jacobsen	Kay Lee & Elsie Bartlett	John & Merry Weiland		
Online Greeter	Connie Jacobsen	Connie Jacobsen	Connie Jacobsen	Connie Jacobsen	Connie Jacobsen		
Scripture Reader	Joey Bohl	Joey Bohl	Sharon Fortune	Ryan Stepp	Cindy Peterson		
Children's Message							
Prayers of the People	Pastor Jen	Becky Gochanour	Pastor Jen	Jan Lorentz	Pastor Jen		
Audio Visual	Renee Marino	Cindy & Emily Peterson	Renee Marino	Cindy & Emily Peterson	Renee Marino		

SUNDAY MORNING SCHEDULE

9:00am Sunday Worship

We will have both In-Person Worship and Online Streaming of the service on our Facebook Page.

HOPE UMC OFFICE HOURS

Tues, Wed, Thurs 9:00am- 1:00pm Office hours may change occasionally, please call before you visit.

HOPE UMC STAFF

Pastor Rev. Jen Barnet Office Manager . . . Kristen Kirchman Pianist Ben Kittilstad

HOPE UMC website: www.hope-eauclaire.org



Visit and "LIKE" the Hope UMC Facebook page

From our website, click the "Like Us on Facebook" button just above the map showing our location

SCAN HERE





FOR THE JOURNEY Newsletter articles and updates should be submitted to the church office by the **20**th of each month. Contributions are welcome.