

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF HOPE CHURCH SPENCER, IA

FEBRUARY, 2022

BY PASTOR PERRY DEGROOT
HAVING SERVED HOPE CHURCH FROM 1989-2006

**TAKE SOME TIME TO.....THINK
TAKE A MOMENT TO....MEDITATE
TAKE THE OPPORTUNITY...TO LOVINGLY OBEY**

PRAYER...PERSONAL & POWERFUL

The month of February is all about Valentine's Day with all its importance about love, etc. The month also emphasizes the fact about the birth dates of two significant presidents in our nation's history, namely, Washington and Lincoln.

Have you ever had the privilege and taken the opportunity to pray for another person by name in their presence? Has anyone ever prayed for you by name in your presence, someone other than a pastor or an elder?

It is one of the most powerful and meaningful things we can do on behalf of another person! **In James 5:16, we are instructed by God's Word to "pray for one another." In Luke 11:9, we are taught by Jesus to "ask and it will be given to you."**

We need to pray personally and specifically for one another. Our prayer chains are wonderful examples; let's keep on keeping on with this ministry. This needs to happen not only in the fellowship of believers within the body of Christ. We also need to pray for each other in our families and friendships. When we talk with others, may the Holy Spirit remind us of how we can pray for one another. And we do not necessarily need to tell them we are praying for them. But oh what a deed of sacrificial love and care, when we pray for one another.

Let's pray specifically by name for each other in our families, marriages, friendships, etc. The Lord comes to us and desires that we pray specifically and personally for others not just in generalities.

For those who are married, pray specifically for your spouse, ask the Lord how you can love, honor and cherish your husband or wife. Parents, pray specifically for your children by name in light of their daily needs, strengths and weaknesses. Children and youth pray for your parents, your brothers and sisters by name. This is a way you can honor your parents and care about your siblings. Grandparents, pray specifically and personally for your grandchildren.

In your friendships, take the time to think about how you can pray for him or her. In the course of conversations take note of how you can be your friends' prayer servant.

Then this powerful and meaningful experience of praying for others means that we will take the time to listen and care about another.

In addition, let's pray for those in authority over us, which includes our governmental officials. Let's pray for our leaders on a county, state and federal level. **1st Timothy 2:1-3 (New King James Version) "Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men, ² for kings and all who are in authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence. ³ For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior,"**

We will celebrate Valentine's Day this month with all its emphasis on love and caring about significant others. Let me put a different perspective on love and believing in the significance of others; be a lover in the name of Jesus, pray for one another!

BY JOSH HAMRICK



To Live for Christ.

Colossians 3:3 Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. **2** Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. **3** For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. **4** When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory. **5** Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires, and greed, which is idolatry. **6** Because of these, the wrath of God is coming.

Where is my heart set? On things above?

How can I put to death all earthly nature? Did I die to myself to live hidden with Christ in God?

What do I need to work on overcoming through Jesus {Philippians 4:13} to be made more Christ like Holy and dearly loved?

Colossians 3:12 Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. **13** Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. **14** And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.

Things to grow in the body. To become more Godly and set apart for Christ.

Compassion

Kindness

Humility

Gentleness

Patience

Forgiveness

Love

If our hearts are set on Christ in God, then we are bound to grow in all these virtues. Church let us love with the love God has for us in His son Christ Jesus on the cross, that love will keep us all together as one in perfect unity.

Lord may we grow in your love and virtues. Flee from evil and worship you with pure hearts.

Amen



PASTOR JAY VAN GELDER YOUTH NEWS



A 4-WEEK SERIES ON SPIRITUAL HABITS

SERIES OVERVIEW:

Habits! We all have them, so let's talk about them. Whether you've got good habits (like getting enough sleep or remembering to floss) or bad habits (like biting your nails or checking your phone too often), most of your habits are probably small, tiny, hardly noticeable habits. But over time, those tiny habits can really impact your life, for good or bad. So what about your spiritual habits? What are the small things you do every day that either draw you closer to God or keep you at a distance? In this 4-week series, we'll discover some principles from Scripture that have the power to help you develop tiny habits that can make a big impact — habits like **spending time with God**, **investing in your relationships**, **sharing your faith story**, and **worshiping with your life**.

Tip of the Month

Technology. It's our best friend and it's our worst nightmare. We often find ourselves leaning towards the enemy end of that spectrum as we think about all of the ways phones and devices can be distracting or problematic. However, if we stop and think about it, technology can be a great tool for helping teenagers in their relationships with God and with one another! This week talk with your kids about getting the Inspirations App, or the Holy Bible to add to their phone so they can get a verse of the day to start their morning off with the word of God or end their day dreaming about the truth from God's word.

Question of the Month

We're always trying to better understand what it's like to raise a teenager. So here's what we're wondering: **What's the HARDEST thing about raising your teenager right now?**

Send in your thoughts to jvangelder@spencerhope.org looking at putting a series together to help tackle your answers.

MIDDLE SCHOOL-WEDNESDAYS

6TH GRADE 5:30 PM

7TH GRADE 6:30 PM

8TH GRADE 7:30 PM

HIGH SCHOOL-SUNDAYS

7:00 PM



Questions?

Jay Van Gelder | Youth Pastor
712.363.0885
jvangelder@spencerhope.org

Austin Bryan
Youth Intern
ambryan2020@gmail.com

JULIA ANDELA CHILDREN & FAMILIES



HOPE KIDS PRESENTS

Parents' Night Out!

February 19th from 5:30pm-8:00pm

My husband, Cam, and I know firsthand that there are tons of reasons that make it all too easy to put one-on-one time with each other low on the priority list. Even if our schedule is clear, the hassle of paying for and/or hunting down a babysitter often brings date night plans to a halt. However, we want to fight for our marriage to be a priority and we want the same for other families, too!

SO... Parents' Night Out was born out of the desire to encourage parents to take time for each other by removing one big obstacle: we provide free, fun and safe care so you don't have to search for or pay for it! There are so many reasons to prioritize one another through date nights, but here are just 12 reasons from the Heaven Made Marriages blog:

1. Dating your spouse says to him or her, **"I still choose you."**
2. It provides time together that intimacy and **connection** requires
3. It demonstrates your **priorities** and commitment
4. It keeps **romance** in the relationship
5. It's a way to **pursue** each other
6. It allows for uninterrupted **communication**
7. It lets you step away from the **craziness** of everyday life
8. It keeps **passion** alive
9. It's a chance to **experience new things** together
10. It's a good excuse to **dress up** for each other
11. It sets a great **example for your kids**
12. Dates are **fun!**

This night is not only for couples though! Single parents, this night is for you, too!! Enjoy some much deserved "me time" or connect with friends while we hang out with your kiddo(s)!

Follow this link below to RSVP your child(ren) for PNO! FREE care will be provided for children ages 0 through 5th Grade. Kids will also be provided with FREE pizza, snacks, drinks, and fun games/activities in the church building throughout the evening!

<https://hopechurchspencer.breezechms.com/form/d6c812>

Please do not hesitate to reach out to me with any questions!

Julia Andela

(712) 363-5627

jandela@spencerhope.org

CONSISTORY NEWS

DEACONS MEETING

- . Eric opened with prayer.
- . Discussed which funds to put certain expenditures in.
- . No changes to the authorized signers.
- . Decided on what to use PPP funds for.
- . Assigned deacon liaisons for items in need.
- . Set a date for statement folding.
- . Luke closed with prayer.

Finishing out the year 2021

As we close the books on 2021, we thought it would be helpful to provide some commentary about how we finished the year financially. We received \$701,472 in donations in 2021, which was about 5% less than last year and fell short of our annual budgeted expense amount by \$90,000. Because of some cost controls, our actual expenditures were \$86,000 less than expected, which meant we would have had to dip into our operating reserves for \$4,000. However, by virtue of receiving forgiveness of our \$70,000 PPP loan we were able to ultimately finish the year with a positive cash flow of \$66,000.

“Because of the Lord’s great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.” Lamentations 3: 22-23. Praise be to God for His continued faithfulness in fulfilling the financial needs of Hope year after year – great is His faithfulness indeed!!

The deacons also wish to share our appreciation for our entire church family for your generosity and encourage you to prayerfully consider contributions for this year as your support will be needed again to continue to facilitate our ministry. Thank you!



SUPER SUNDAY PARTY

SUN, FEB 13
HOPE CHURCH
5 PM

Students 6th-12th Grade

HOPE
YOUTH

Watch the Game on the Big Screen!

Food Provided! • Bring Your Friends!

COST

YOU = \$10

YOU + 1 FRIEND = \$5 + \$5

YOU + 2 OR MORE FRIENDS = ALL FREE!!!

**INFLATABLES, LAZER TAG &
OTHER FUN ACTIVITIES!**

Super Sunday Party Feb.13th

Hello everyone, It's our Annual Super Bowl Party for the youth 6-12th grade. This event is where youth from Hope Youth invite their friends to join us for a fun night of games and fellowship and come have a good time at Hope. Our goal is for youth of Hope to invite their friends to join us in loving community. This is our Biggest Outreach event for our youth group that we do.

This year we are planning for around 250 youth in attendance. This is normally a place where first time guests come check out HOPE YOUTH for the very first time. Please pray for our students as they ask their friends to join us and pray for a wonderful event as our youth staff of 33 adults get to know students from our community.

This is what the night is all about. Building relationships with youth who don't have a loving community or church home like Hope Youth do.

Don't miss the kick off!



OUR FIRST ANNUAL CHILI COOKOFF supper from 5:30-7:00pm on Feb. 27. **There are 2 ways that you can get involved:**

1. You can be one of the cooks by bringing your finest Chili for the competition.
2. You can be a test tester and decide on your favorite Chili, be a judge for the overall presentation

COME JUST US FOR GREAT FOOD AND LOTS OF LAUGHS WITH OUR HOPE CHURCH FAMILY

7:00PM

Be sure to Sign Up at our Information Desk for our Chili Cookoff we are looking for all different kinds and tastes of your special chili.





Serving Opportunity - No
Experience Needed! You
will receive the training
you need!

Tech Team:

The Tech Team plays a vital a role in leading the congregation in our worship services through the use of visual, audio, and recording equipment.

Roles:

Projection (Slides)

As a Slides Operator you are responsible for changing lyric, scripture, sermon slides, and playing an occasional video.

Video (Livestream)

As a Video Operator you are responsible for recording the 1st service, starting and ending livestream for 2nd service, and changing camera views throughout service.

Audio (Sound Board)

As a Sound Board Operator you are responsible for settings the levels of the band, singers, speakers, preacher, and occasional videos.

Time Commitment:

Projection & Audio - Serve once a month

Wednesday Evening Rehearsal 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Sunday Morning Rehearsal & Services from 7:30 a.m. to approximately 12:00 p.m.

Video - Serve once a month

Sunday Morning from 8:00 a.m. to approximately 12:00 p.m.

Contact:

Craig Cannon

240-409-0542

ccannon@spencerhope.org



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WORSHIP SERVICES

Sundays

8:30 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. in the Sanctuary

10:45 a.m.

Live-streamed online

www.youtube.com/hopechurchspencer



HOPE CHURCH STAFF:

Jay Van Gelder

Pastor of Student Ministries

Craig Cannon

Worship/Music

Josh Hamrick

Facilities

Austin Bryan

Youth Ministries Assistant/Communications

Julia Andela

Children/Families

Trish Halder

Office Manager

