

FEBRUARY 2023

Whisperings



Contents

Pastor Scott	1-2
Out & About	3
Sermon Series.....	4
Notes & Meetings	5
Sunday Schools Plus	6-7
What is Lent?.....	8
Preschool.....	8-9
Thank You Notes	10
Word Search Puzzle ..	11-12
Encouragement.....	12
2023 Committees	13-14
Clyde's Nature Note	15

A Word from Pastor Scott

TIME TO MAKE THE DONUTS

Greetings Friends!

Well, 2023 is well underway. How have you been doing with your New Year resolutions? Perhaps, you stopped gorging yourself on brownies and cookies for an entire month, but Valentine's Day is coming, so chocolate treats might be on your mind. Perhaps, you went to the gym the whole month of January, but you have little motivation to continue that practice in February. You might have what they call the January Blues. Susannah Hunt published an article in January 2020 entitled, "How To Beat The January Blues." She cites this about work/life/balance: "Although the invention of emails was promised to save us time, we have since found that, if anything, we are less and less able to leave work behind in the workplace. It is now part of most people's routines to check their phones first thing in the morning and reply to work-related emails at all hours of the day, always thinking about what needs to be done."

Gone are the days when we would respond to an email when we arrived at the office or after a long day of work. We are constantly looking at our phones. The humdrum of life starts to consume us, and we might be thinking, "It's just another day. More

Hope United Methodist Church

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Worship 10 a.m. ■ Sunday School 11:15 a.m.

of the same things will be listed on my calendar.” I am reminded of a commercial that was quite popular in the eighties called “Time to make the donuts.” You might recall this hilarious commercial. It shows a man, who works at Dunkin Donuts, make up to 52 variety of donuts at least two times a day. The very recognizable catch phrase is, “Time to make the donuts.” Every day, he opens and closes the door, through rain and snow, until at the end, he opens up the door to himself and says, rather lethargically, “I made the donuts.” (On a side note, we used to live next to Dunkin Donuts and they were up at 3:00 a.m. making the donuts)

Sometimes, I wonder if we are viewing life like that man. “Time to get up and take a shower, time to make the coffee, time to get the kids or grandkids off to school, time to punch the timeclock, time to go to the doctor’s office, time to go to this activity in the retirement home, time to drop the children off at preschool, etc.

A scripture that I read the other day put things into perspective and allows us to see the big picture. 2 Corinthians 5:1,4 states, “For we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, an eternal house in heaven, not built by human hands. For while we are in this tent, we groan and are burdened, because we do not wish to be unclothed but to be clothed instead with our heavenly dwelling, so that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life.” “What is mortal may be swallowed up by life.” What does that even mean? When our earthly tent dies and we leave these physical bodies, we will be given an eternal body which is made by God himself. Does that mean that our earthly bodies weren’t made by God? No, our earthly body is only temporary like other buildings, which were built by human hands. I like how one scholar put it: “**What is mortal will be swallowed up by life** in immortal, imperishable spiritual bodies in heaven (Phil. 3:21).

It is my sense that a lot of people are being swallowed up by life, errands that need to be completed, the mundane tasks of life.” As I meditated on this scripture, I felt like the Lord was calling me to stop what I was doing and seek His face. This life isn’t all there is. Our earthly bodies are only temporary, but what is eternal is our glorious bodies created by God himself. We groan and sigh in these earthly bodies. The Bible says, “The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak.” (Matt. 26:41) In other words, our spiritual man or woman desires to spend some quality time with the Lord, but our flesh has other ideas; our flesh is consumed with the monotonous tasks of working on statistical reports and deadlines for a project. Did I say those things out loud? Lol. The apostle Paul said, “If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men most miserable.” (1 Cor. 15:19) He also said, “To be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord.” (2 Cor. 5:8)

But here’s the good news. My friends we are already “seated in heavenly places in Christ Jesus.” (Eph, 2:6) Immortality can be experienced right now in our earthly bodies. We can’t imagine what it will be like to have a spiritual body and experience utter joy and bliss! So yes, we do groan and sigh in these earthly bodies and whisper things under our breath like, “Time to make the donuts. It’s just another day”, but Jesus Christ “came to give us life, and have it to the full.” (Jn. 10:10) Let us ask God to show us our purpose and meaning for our existence on this planet, we call earth.

Oh, the day that we will be forever with our Lord and fully clothed with our heavenly bodies begins today and will last for all eternity. For a moment in time in 2023, “Let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith.” (Heb. 12:1-3) Take a moment right now and stop what you are doing, let all the mundane tasks of your day fall by the wayside and sing praises to our Lord God and creator of the heavens and the earth. All of us are just people, trying to get through this life, making the donuts, striving for perfection to love the Lord God with all our heart, mind, soul, and strength and share that glorious hope of eternal love with our neighbor!

In Christ,



Pastor Scott



► Out and About

Pastor Scott believes, “Opportunity is everywhere for true mission and evangelism.” His faith and spirit guides him to get ‘out and about’ in the community. Each month we highlight some of his recent ministries.

At 8 a.m. on Thursday, January 12, we had our Ephrata/Akron Ministerium meeting at Ephrata Bible Fellowship Church. Pastor Dan Kroll hosted. We were honored to have interim Ephrata Police Chief Lt. Christopher KcKim join us.



Dan Steinman
Handi*Vangelism Ministries



Don't Look!



Answers to the
February Word
Search puzzle.

Don't Look!

WIDEAWAKE
VOSHELL
VALENTINES
TUCKER
THE WAY
SEEKERS
SCHMID
READMAN
RAEZER

PREESCHOOL
PIPER
MEADOW
LINDBERG
LENT
HEARTS
HAPPY
GROUNDHOG
GRETNA GLEN

GAGA PIT
FLOWERS
FELLOWSHIP
FEBRUARY
FASNACHT
EASTER
DONUTS
CITY GATE
CHOIR

CHOCOLATE
CHERRY
CANDY
BUTTERFLIES
BILL PETERS
BETTY GOOD
BELLS OF HOPE
ASH WEDNESDAY
ALLBACH

If you would like to suggest a future ‘Out and About’ segment for the Whisperings, contact Pastor Scott at (267) 467-4027 or email hopeumcpastorsscott@gmail.com.

Office Notes

DEADLINES

Please submit all items for the bulletin by 12 p.m. Thursdays and for the next edition of the Whisperings by the 15th of every month.

MAILBOXES

If you would like a mailbox in the church office, please leave a note or contact the church office. They are very handy and occasionally treats or cards mysteriously appear in them. There are plenty available, so you don't need to be on a committee or volunteering to have one.

FLOWERS & BULLETINS

Sponsor altar flowers or bulletins. Contact Sandy Muckle if you sign up for altar flowers less than a week in advance.

You may share an altar flower order with a friend, so that each person keeps one bouquet of flowers after the service and the total price still equals \$50. Two dedications may go in the bulletin.

Ash Wednesday is available!

Flowers - \$50.

Available: Feb. 12, 22, 26

Bulletins - \$10.

Available: Feb. 12, 19, 22, 26

► Sermon Series:

Where Am I in My Discipleship?

Epiphany - traditionally, a season of growth, which is why green is the liturgical color.

An overarching theme of the Gospel and Old Testament lessons is evaluation and maybe more pointedly, self-evaluation as a disciple and faithful follower of Christ.

- **Feb. 5: Fifth Sunday After Epiphany**
Part 5 – *The Law Matters*
Isaiah 58:1-9, Matthew 5:13-20
- **Feb. 12: Sixth Sunday After Epiphany**
Part 6 – *Behavior Audit*
Deuteronomy 30:15-20, Matthew 5:21-37
- **Feb. 19: Transfiguration Sunday**
Part 7 – *God and Change*
Exodus 24:12-18, Matthew 17:1-9

Whatever The Need, Seek God

- **Feb. 22 Ash Wednesday**
Part 1 – *Act on Faith* - Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21
- **Feb. 26 First Sunday in Lent**
Part 2 – *Practice, Practice, Practice* - Matthew 4:1-11
- **Mar. 5 Second Sunday in Lent**
Part 3 – *Unexpected Salvation* - John 3:1-17
- **Mar. 12 Third Sunday in Lent**
Part 4 – *Belief and Faith Required* - John 4:5-42
- **Mar. 19 Fourth Sunday in Lent**
Part 5 – *Hope is Eternal* - John 9:1-41
- **Mar. 26 Fifth Sunday in Lent**
Part 6 – *Jesus' Presence Matters* - John 11:1-45
- **Apr. 2 Palm/Passion Sunday**
Part 7 – *Stand In Awe of God's Grace* - Matthew 21:1-11

Worship services are broadcast live on our Facebook page and on our website, and then archived to view later at your convenience on our YouTube channel: www.tinyurl.com/Hope-YouTube.

Hope UMC Staff and Office Hours

Pastor: Rev. Scott Dorn

Director of Music: Lisa Helock ■ Organist: Dave Luck ■ Sexton: Doreen Deamer

Tuesday - Friday ■ 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

hopeumc@ptd.net ■ www.hopeumcephrata.org ■ www.facebook.com/hopeumcephrata

Notes

ONE GREAT YEAR OF SHARING – GREтна GLEN

The donation jar is in the Sanctuary. The latest total is \$16.25.

Thank you!

Gretna Glen Camp has been important to Hope Church. Several of our children in the past have attended the camp in the summer. They've lived in cabins, went swimming, experienced nature, had devotions and sang around campfires. If there is a child you know who might enjoy Gretna Glen Camp, please let the Pastor know. Gretna Glen is Hope's mission for the year (see the jar at the entrance to the Sanctuary).

CAN WE HELP?

For financial assistance, please contact
Jerry Gerhart
(717) 733-2331

Fellowship Sunday

(the 3rd Sunday each month)

The Sunday School classes rotate to provide the snacks:

February - Seekers
March - Wide Awake
April - The Way

February Dates

- 2 Groundhog Day
- 5 Holy Communion
- 6 40th Anniversary of new Church on Rothsville Road
- 14 Valentine's Day
- 15 Newsletter Deadline
- 19 Transfiguration Sunday
Fellowship Sunday
- 20 Presidents' Day Holiday
- 21 Fasnacht Day
- 22 Ash Wednesday Service
- 26 First Sunday in Lent

Weekly Events

Lenten Teachings

Mondays at 6:30 p.m.
Locations TBD
February 27 - April 3

Bells of Hope

Wednesdays at 6 p.m.
Sanctuary

Senior Choir

Wednesdays at 7:15 p.m.
Choir Room

Men of Hope

Fridays at 7:30 a.m.
Fellowship Hall
(First Friday of each month is at Gus's restaurant.)



Organ Fund

All the money needed has been collected and the fundraising is officially over!!!

Thank you, everyone, for your faithful support of your music ministry.

Church Administration Meetings

(All meetings are at 6:30 p.m. unless specified.)

- 6 Trustees Meeting - Monday
- 14 Finance Meeting - Tuesday at 7 p.m.
- 20 Staff Meeting (Zoom) - Monday at 6 p.m.
- 21 SPRC Meeting - Tuesday
- 24 Missions Meeting - Friday at 10 a.m.

Adult Sunday Schools & Studies

Seekers - Bruce Tucker

Sundays 11:15 a.m. in Fellowship Hall

The Gospel of John: Finding Identity and Purpose by Matt Williams

This 12-week study with DVDs begins **January 29**.

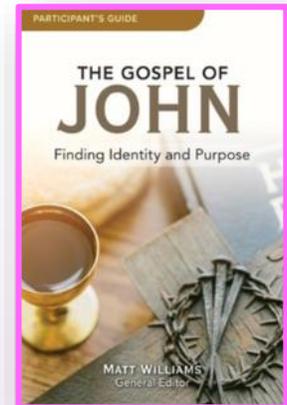
It covers 12 passages from the book of John that give a fuller understanding of the reason Christ gave His life on the cross. Sessions are taught by professors with specialized areas of knowledge.

The first part of each lesson delves into the meaning of the biblical text, using first-century historical background to bring out the text's deeper meaning, which involves investigating the historical, religious, and social background of first-century Jewish culture and their Greek and Roman neighbors.

The second part of each lesson, after making deeper connections to the biblical texts, is when the teachers applies that text to life for us today. Life application in the church today is often shallow and many times unrelated to the real meaning of the biblical passage. In this series, the practical application derives directly from the biblical text.

Six Bible professors with specialized areas of knowledge each emphasize three areas that will deepen your experience of Jesus and the Bible:

- Historical and cultural background
- An engaging, close look at the biblical text and its meaning
- Accurate, encouraging, and challenging applications to life today.



Wide Awake - Ron Lindberg

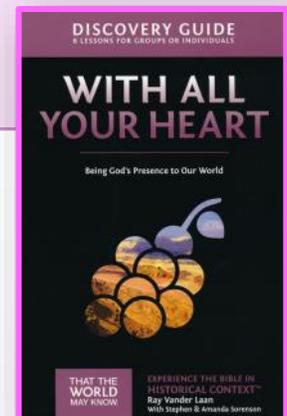
Sundays 11:15 a.m. in Room 221

With All Your Heart by Ray Vander Laan

Do you remember where your blessing comes from? In Exodus, God warned Israel to remember Him when they left the dry desert and reached the fertile fields of the Promised Land. But in this tenth volume of *Faith Lessons*, you'll discover how quickly they forgot God and began to rely on themselves. Find out what it means to remember the Lord in your own life on this one-of-a-kind spiritual pilgrimage. This unique video series brings God's Word to life with astounding relevance. By weaving together the Bible's fascinating historical, cultural, religious, and geographical contexts, teacher and historian Ray Vander Laan reveals unique insights into the Scriptures' significance for modern believers.

Filmed on location, these lessons include:

- Build Me a Sanctuary – Filmed in Timnah
- Making Space for God – Filmed in Timnah
- He Led Them Like a Shepherd – Filmed in Negev
- By Every Word – Striking the Rock – Filmed in Negev
- With All Your Might: The Final Test – Filmed in Jerusalem
- A Well-Watered Garden – Filmed in Jerusalem



Deep Dive Bible Study - Pastor Scott

Sundays 9 a.m. in the Parlor

Are you interested in going deeper into God's word? If so, join us before Worship.

The Way (a name given to the earliest followers/disciples of Jesus) - Rev. Kevin Readman

Sundays 11:15 a.m. in the Conference Room

Philemon and James: Who Are These Guys, and What Do They Say to Us?

"The Way" class is looking at these two books and their message. We are looking at who Philemon and James are and what the books said to the contemporary audience and what they say to us today. A very basic outline is on one of the tables in the lobby. Please come and share in this on any Sunday you are able. Questions? Contact Kevin Readman at kevin_readman@yahoo.com or 717-203-8452.

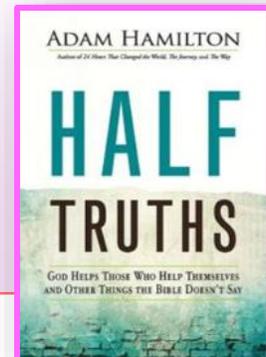
A Lenten study will begin around the end of February. Stay tuned!

Men of Hope Book & Bible Study

Fridays at 7:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall (First Friday of each month is at Gus's restaurant.)

Half Truths: God Helps Those Who Help Themselves and Other Things the Bible Doesn't Say by Adam Hamilton

Join Adam Hamilton in exploring popular sayings that miss the point. They phrases: "God helps those who help themselves," "Love the sinner, hate the others. They sound Christian ... like something you might find in the Bible. heard these words. Maybe we've said them. They capture some element of they miss the point in important ways. Discover the whole truth by common Christian clichés with the wisdom found in Scripture.



► Lenten Study

Revisiting the Message with Pastor Scott

Mondays at 6:30 p.m. - location is to be decided
February 27 through April 3

We will revisit Sunday's sermon and come with questions or observations with the Scriptures.

Tools for Ministry

Saturday Morning, March 18
Church of the Good Shepherd UMC in Lebanon



Two classes will be offered during a half-day session. More information will become available later in February.

Lenten Season

Ash Wednesday

- February 22

Lent

- February 22 - April 6

Palm Sunday

- April 2

Maundy Thursday

- April 6

Good Friday

- April 7

Easter - He is risen!

- April 9

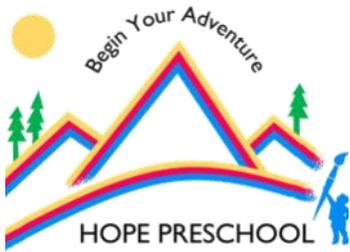
► What is Lent?

Lent is a season of forty days, not counting Sundays, which begins on Ash Wednesday and ends on Holy Saturday. Lent comes from the Anglo Saxon word *lencten*, meaning “lengthen” and refers to the lengthening days of spring. The forty days represents the time Jesus spent in the wilderness, enduring the temptation of Satan, and preparing to begin His ministry.

Lent is a time of repentance, fasting and preparation for the coming of Easter. It is a time of self-examination and reflection. In the early church, Lent began as a period of fasting and preparation for baptism by new converts and then became a time of penance by all Christians. Today, Christians focus on their relationship with God, growing as disciples and extending themselves, often choosing to give up something or to volunteer and give of themselves for others. Sundays in Lent are not counted in the forty days because each Sunday represents a "mini-Easter." This is why you will see the designation "Sunday in Lent" rather than "Sunday of Lent" in the naming of these Sundays. On each Lord's Day in Lent, while Lenten fasts continue, the reverent spirit of Lent is tempered with joyful anticipation of the Resurrection.

As we prepare for Resurrection Sunday, let us silence the noise in our lives and ask the Lord to show us what steps we need to take to refocus our heart, mind, and will on Him alone. This Lenten Season, let us cry out to God like David did. “Search me, God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. See if there is any offensive way in me and lead me in the way everlasting.” (Psalm 139:23-24) Amen!





► Hope Preschool Prattle

Hello Hope Church members!

We are well into the new year already and the children have been very busy in their classes. They are talking about Winter and Snow. Cold weather animals and hibernation have also been a fun theme this month. Our Pre-K classes made ice cream and our Big Kids were busy playing in "snow." The children have also enjoyed playing a game they have named "Nocturnal Animals." They "sleep when the lights are on and they are active when the lights go off." Our Nocturnal Animal Unit was definitely a hit with all of the classes. The Pre-K classes are prepping and gearing up for Parent-Teacher Conferences that will take place in February. The teachers are working very hard to make sure all of our kiddos are ready for kindergarten in the fall. Everyone is looking forward to the month of February when we will talk about dental hygiene and celebrate Valentine's Day with class parties. The 3 year-old Preschool classes will also venture out to Tiny Town on the first Preschool field trip at Hope Preschool in many, many years. Believe it or not we are looking at the 2023/2024 school year already and registration will open to the public on March 13. We are offering more classes next year that we are super excited about. Hope Preschool continues to grow! We will have an Art Show/Open House on Monday, March 13, 6 - 8PM. I would like to invite the congregation to come out and see the wonderful art that our children have created for our "Around the World" theme. Visit 6 different countries while walking through Fellowship Hall!

Blessings and prayers from the Preschool!

Preschool Wants You!

They are looking for guest readers and anyone who has a special gift or talent to share with the children. Contact their Director, Shannon Brown.





Thank you notes ...

- ◆ Thank you ~ The Christmas card recipients were excited and very appreciative to receive a bag of Christmas cards. Thanks to all those who participated in giving cards to the homebound.
- ◆ I watched the Christmas Eve service online and the special music was beautiful. The choir singing *One Small Child* was enchanting and brought tears to my eyes. Hope church is a blessing. – *unknown*
- ◆ Thank You ~ To all our friends at Hope UMC for the bag of Christmas cards and those that came in the mail. Also, thank you for the two bags of snack food. – *Betty & Charlie Anderson*
- ◆ Thank you ~ For all the cards and gifts I received for Christmas. – *Larry Bickhart*
- ◆ Thank you very much for the Christmas gift that I received! With times being tight for everyone right now, no matter what, Hope church always seems to pull together. God bless – *Dennis & Doreen Deamer*
- ◆ My Dear Friends of Hope Church, I am so moved and touched by your generosity. From my family to yours, thank you so much for your loving kindness and making our Christmas one to remember! God bless you all! Love, – *The Dorn Family*
- ◆ I want to thank my Hope Church family for the gift bag of Christmas cards I received. They were most appreciated. – *Eleanor Drybread*
- ◆ The 21 Christmas cards I received were much enjoyed and appreciated! – *Dick Erisman*
- ◆ Thank you so much for the Christmas gift that I received from the congregation. It was very much appreciated! It has been a blessing to serve in the Music Ministry here for another year. – *Lisa Helock*
- ◆ Thank You all for your generosity in the monetary Christmas gift. It is a blessing to serve you and worship with you all. – *Dave Luck*
- ◆ Thank you everyone for the cards, phone calls and prayers during everything that I have been going through. It is so comforting to me and they made my day. I am more than halfway through my radiation treatment and it has gone fairly well, although I do have some side affects. I have ten new concentrated treatments and hopefully then I will be done with radiation. – *Martha Smith*
- ◆ Thank you to the people who sent me cards in the mail. Thank you to Joyce Fasnacht for bringing me treats and to Debbie Yoder for my homemade cards. I appreciated it very much. Blessings, love, and prayers to everybody at Hope Church. The church is a blessing – *Sissy Vierling*
- ◆ Thank you so much for your very generous donation to City Gate! Thank you for partnering with us to share the love of Jesus to those in our community through coffee, food, and prayer. We appreciate your support! Please keep all of us in your prayers. Blessings – *Kim Warner, City Gate*

February at Hope Church

A L R R O N X Y X U W G N J M L E B J B
 G R A E Z E R L J O R S P B S I K H M Y
 S K S I V A W C D E T E L O H N E D N N
 U E Q C U W C A T B A E S H F D S R W H
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 M E N B F G I X R A W R N E L R G A A R
 F T B Y L R Y D Q R N S O W O G A M G T
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 C I N Q U W E T D U S H Y L S Q A A T Y
 Q J P I X A E Q T S W R C F H I P E I H
 G W B E S W X H R U E I E F I H I R C C
 R E E T R M N I T P B N D T P K T R U A
 O B E L L S O F H O P E D E E X P O Y B
 U R Z R C H O C O L A T E E A P S F F A
 N K L V C L O O H C S E R P W W L N U L
 D W I Y M T H C A N S A F H J H A L P L
 H B E T T Y G O O D B I A Y X Z S K I A
 O X W V A L E N T I N E S M L J Q A E B
 G Y P P A H H V O S H E L L R E K C U T

She has an amazing triple digit birthday in February: Esta A _ _ _ _ _ .

Our youngest member is Brynn V _ _ _ _ _ .

She has been a member of Hope the longest (51 years): B _ _ _ _ _ G _ _ _ _ _ .

He is a Navy veteran with a milestone birthday in February: Bill P _ _ _ _ _ .

Ron R _ _ _ _ _ was born in time to see if the G _ _ _ _ _ saw its shadow.

Sandy S _ _ _ _ _ was born on V _ _ _ _ _ , Day.

Weiser's in Akron closes this month. Gale Martin used to make their beloved D _ _ _ _ _ .

Joyce's last name or another name for Shrove Tuesday: F _ _ _ _ _ Day.

Lots of lively children start their education and their days at Hope P _ _ _ _ _ .

Our 3 Sunday schools are: S _ _ _ _ _ , T _ _ _ W _ _ _ , and W _ _ _ A _ _ _ .

Their leaders are: B. T _ _ _ _ _ , K. R _ _ _ _ _ , and R. L _ _ _ _ _ .

► From Pastor Scott

Greetings Friends!

I am reminded of Mark 8, where a large crowd gathered in a remote place and Jesus had such compassion for the people. The disciples wished to send them home because they had been with Jesus for three days without anything to eat. What does Jesus say to them? “How many loaves do you have?” (Mark 8:5) Their answer is seven. In other words, this looked like an impossible situation for them, like our finances at the church. How in the world are they going to be able to feed all these people? How are we going to come up with the finances? Jesus says to them, and He says to all of us: “You feed them. You be the miracle!” God is going to multiply our efforts if we would just trust him. He desires to partner with us to step out in faith. Fast forward to verse 14 and the disciples forget to bring bread, except one loaf. What does Jesus say to them? “Why are you talking about having no bread? Do you still not see or understand?” (Mark 8:17) What they didn’t see or still understand was how God provided for them a great abundance of food.

My friends of Hope, let’s roll up our sleeves and get to work. Let’s come up with some solutions for our finances. My wife Nicole and I have increased our giving by ten dollars a week as a leap of faith. In the next several months, I am asking folks to share their story for how God provided for them. We don’t tithe to receive anything from the Lord. We give because we desire to invest in the Lord’s work and impact the world for Jesus Christ. Our Finance Team is asking every member to give an extra five dollars per week to support the church and the ministries in which we are involved. As we do our part and share the Word and the love of Christ with our neighbor, God is going to provide an abundance of resources. As we tap into the limitless assets of God, we must exercise our faith and be obedient to God’s word. Our prayer is to thrive as the body of Christ, not just survive. I’m crazy enough to step out in faith and see how God is going to work out this financial miracle! *Thank you so much for your faithfulness to giving at Hope Church! There is hope for this church moving forward!*

Blessings,

Pastor Scott

February Word Search Continued (answers at the bottom of Page 3) —

We hear beautiful music from singers: The Senior C _ _ _ _ _.

We hear beautiful music from ringers: B _ _ _ _ _ o _ H _ _ _ _ _.

The wildlife habitat behind the G _ _ _ _ P _ _ _ is Hope M _ _ _ _ _.

This field of native plants is a haven for Monarch B _ _ _ _ _.

Pastor Scott’s bitty little pooch: P _ _ _ _ _.

Our “One Great Year of Sharing” is G _ _ _ _ _ G _ _ _ _ _.

February 18 is our Saturday to serve lunch at C _ _ _ _ G _ _ _ _.

F _ _ _ _ _ 19 is F _ _ _ _ _ Sunday.

February 20 is Presidents’ Day, or could be when Washington cut down a C _ _ _ _ _ tree.

February 22 is when Lent begins: A _ _ _ W _ _ _ _ _.

L _ _ _ _ continues for 46 days until E _ _ _ _ _.

H _ _ _ _ Valentine’s Day! A day of H _ _ _ _ _ and F _ _ _ _ _.

Celebrate by giving others (or yourself!) C _ _ _ _ _ or ... C _ _ _ _ _!

2023 Committees

CHURCH COUNCIL	
Chair:	Rodger Landes
Lay Leader:	Jill Curley
Lay Delegate:	
Recording Secretary:	Carol Peters
SPRC Chair:	Melissa Readman
Finance Chair:	
Treasurer:	Donna Fetzer
Financial Secretary:	Amy Trella
Trustees Chair:	Ron Lindberg
Missions & Local Ministry Chair:	Sandy Schmid
Director of Congregational Care:	Sue Fisher
Hospitality:	Sandy Muckle
Fellowship Chair:	
Education Chair:	
WPCM Chair:	Tony Hachkowski
At Large:	Barb Griffith
At Large:	Donna Imhoff
At Large:	Tony Luciano
At Large:	Dave Schmid
Pastor & Admin Officer:	Scott Dorn
SPRC (STAFF-PARISH RELATIONS COMMITTEE)	
Pastor:	Scott Dorn
Lay Leader:	Jill Curley
Lay Delegate:	
Chair:	Melissa Readman
Class of 2025:	Barb Griffith
Class of 2025:	Diane Hornberger
Class of 2025:	Sandy Muckle
Class of 2024:	Melissa Readman
Class of 2024:	Paul Trella
Class of 2023:	Larry Overly
WPCM (WEEKDAY PRESCHOOL CHILDREN'S MINISTRY)	
Chair:	Tony Hachkowski
Pastor Scott Dorn	Tim Sumner
Cindy Landes	Ivy Texter
Martha Smith	Bruce Tucker
SAFE SANCTUARIES	
Administrative Assistant:	

FINANCE COMMITTEE	
	Chair:
	Pastor: Scott Dorn
	Lay Leader: Jill Curley
	Lay Delegate:
	Church Council Chair: Rodger Landes
	SPRC Chair: Melissa Readman
	Trustees Chair: Ron Lindberg
	Treasurer: Donna Fetzer
	Financial Secretary: Amy Trella
	Memorial Fund Chair: Judy Hachkowski
	Stewardship Chair:
	Stewardship Rep:
TRUSTEES	
	Chair: Ron Lindberg
	Vice Chair: Jim Bartlett
	Secretary: Cammy Freed
	Treasurer: Rodger Landes
	Class of 2025:
	Class of 2025: Jim Bartlett
	Class of 2025: Dennis Eckert
	Class of 2025: Ron Lindberg
	Class of 2024: Cammy Freed
	Class of 2024: Dick Imhoff
	Class of 2023: Larry Overly
	Class of 2023: Rodger Landes
WORSHIP	
	Pastor & Chair: Scott Dorn
	Lay Leader: Jill Curley
	Music Director: Lisa Helock
	Organist: Dave Luck
	Carol Cammauf: Don Miller
	Holly Fake: Carol Peters
	Tony Hachkowski: Martha Smith
	Tom Texter
MISSIONS & LOCAL MINISTRIES	
	Chair: Sandy Schmid
	Secretary: Leona Luciano
	Dolly Hurst: Ivy Texter
	Cindy Landes

Wanted!

- Lay Delegate
- Finance Chair
- Education Chair
- Fellowship Chair
- Stewardship Chair

Beech and Sugar Maple Beauties *by Clyde McMillan-Gamber*



American beech trees and sugar maple trees create beautiful, climax forests in the northeastern United States, including in Lancaster County. Both species grow best in deep, fertile soil, and both have their beauties, including being large and stately. The woods in the Kiwanis Area of Lancaster County Central Park, and other local woods, are examples of beech/sugar maple climax woods.

Beeches have smooth, gray bark and long, pointed leaf buds, that are beige and shiny, all features that are unique to them. Those beautiful buds become even more elongated when their leaves begin to grow in spring.

Beeches also produce two small nuts in each of many bristly, four-lobed husks. Rich in nutrition, those nuts are food for deer mice, squirrels, white-tailed deer, black bears, wild turkeys, blue jays and other kinds of attractive and interesting woodland wildlife through autumn and winter.

Beeches' dark-green foliage becomes a pleasing copper-yellow in fall. And some of those colored leaves cling to their twig moorings through winter. Those shriveled leaves are curled and pale-yellow, helping us identify beeches in woods in winter.

Sugar maples produce many pairs of winged seeds in summer. Those seeds eventually break away from their twigs and twirl away on the wind. Landing on soil, some of those maple seeds sprout into seedling trees. But many of them are eaten by mice, chipmunks and squirrels.

The leaves of sugar maples turn bright-orange in September, beautifully lighting up many woodlands. Some wooded hillsides are wonderfully-orange because of sugar maple foliage.

Pure maple syrup is mostly made from sugar maples because they have two percent sugar in their clear, watery sap. Other kinds of maples, and birches, have one percent sugar in their sap.

Many large, majestic beeches and sugar maples have cavities where wind ripped limbs off the trees. Several kinds of interesting, woodland wildlife, including chickadees, wood ducks, barred owls, squirrels, raccoons and other creatures live and raise young in many of those hollows.

Beeches and sugar maples are elegant trees when mature. And both types have their beauties, and benefits to humans and wildlife alike the year around. Both species are planted on lawns for their beauties. Watch for these handsome trees when on a walk or ride through woods and suburbs.



**Check out Clyde's nature blog: NaturesWondersByClyde.blogspot.com.
Each short story is like taking a walk with your very own park naturalist!**