

FEBRUARY 2024

Whisperings



Contents

Pastor Scott	1-2
Out and About	3
Sermon Series	4
Church Event	5
Office Notes	6
Meetings & News	7-8
Adult SS Classes	9-11
Hope Preschool	12-15
Thank You Notes	16
Donations & Assistance ..	17
Soup and Sub Sale	18
Recycling	19
Word Search Puzzle	20
Committee Listing	21-22
Clyde's Nature Note	23

A Word from Pastor Scott

We Can Only Move Forward

Greetings friends!

Happy New Year! The joys and trials of 2023 are a distant memory, as 2024 is finally here! This year, my wife Nicole and I will celebrate our 25th Wedding Anniversary. Where did the time go? I can remember that day so vividly. On July 24th, 1999, it was the hottest day of the year, with temperatures soaring to 99 degrees. The limo's air conditioner didn't seem to cool things down one bit! Several weeks ago, we started discussing plans for celebrating this momentous milestone. We talked about venturing to Canada to see Niagara Falls once again like we did on our honeymoon. As we reminisced about that special time, Nicole couldn't recall ever going on the *Maid of the Mist* Boat tour. Chalk it up to getting older or having a momentary lapse of amnesia, but she joked with me that we never went on a boat. She certainly admitted that we went to Canada and did some sightseeing, but that was all she could recall.

I must admit, at first, I was emphatic that this day occurred almost 25 years ago, and I have the pictures to prove it. But then, I started having second thoughts that perhaps this was something that I dreamed into existence. Ever hear of the *Mandela effect*? Determined to get to the bottom of this mystery, I went down into the basement and rummaged through some old pictures and within minutes I found the proof. There was a picture of Nicole and I wearing ponchos with the

— *CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE*

Hope United Methodist Church

3474 Rothsville Road, Ephrata, PA 17522 (717) 738-3774

hopeumc@ptd.net www ■ hopeumcephrata.org ■

www.facebook.com/hopeumcephrata

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

Maid of the Mist logo on them. I quickly ran upstairs and showed her the picture and she was beside herself. I can still feel the mist spraying from the falls and how our hair was soaked. It took me back to an earlier time before having children.

The rest of the evening, we looked at photos from the first few years of marriage and reminisced about that one-bedroom apartment in Souderton, PA where the rent was \$400.00 a month! We viewed weddings, parties, vacations, holidays with the family, the fact that I had a full head of hair, loved ones who are no longer with us, birthday parties, graduations, etc. After Nicole went to bed, I looked at even more photos of when our children were younger.

I began to get choked up with times that will never occur again. To be honest, I wanted to go back to a simpler time where gas was \$0.99 per gallon and life seemed to stand still. I started to feel a little sad as I stared at photos, which are just fond memories of yesteryear. Perhaps, you have done the same. Ever cleaned out the attic or basement, looking for an item and stumbled upon pictures from your childhood or your first few years of marriage and wished to go back to that time?

I am reminded of a scripture in Philippians 3:13-14: "Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus." Scholars claim that Paul was using the imagery of a runner who clears his mind of what lies behind him and doesn't focus on the ground he has already covered. Paul was pressing on toward the goal of the "full knowledge of Christ himself."

My friends of Hope Church, we can only move forward into 2024 and make new memories. It's okay to reminisce about the past and desire for a simpler time, but perhaps as we ponder it a little more, the grass may not have been greener in the past or our memories of the 'good ole days' are skewed a bit. Maybe, as we rummage through photos on our phone or albums (do people still use these?) ten years from now, we'll have tender memories of blissful joy! Hopefully, we will have a newfound appreciation for every day we live on this earth. The best is yet to come as we strain towards the ultimate prize of seeing our Lord Jesus face to face in the kingdom of heaven, and oh what a happy day to see our loved ones once again and take new pictures that will last for all eternity! Enjoy 2024!

In Christ,



Pastor Scott

Remembered with Love

December 6

Julio Luciano - cousin of Pastor and Tony Luciano

December 2

Ray & Gale Martin's son-in-law

December 7

Dick Rodman's sister

December 14

Mahlon Bear - brother of Vernon Bear

January 4

Lorraine Wert - member

January 7

Duane Brickley - father of Karen McNamara

► **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.

On Thursday, December 14, we had our Ephrata/Akron Ministerium meeting at New Life Fellowship in Ephrata. Pastor Duane Metzler hosted. Pastor Dan Gulnac from Ephrata Community Church spoke about Church renewal. Gabby Romano from Lighthouse Vocational Services joined us.

Pastor Metzler



Pastor Gulnac



Gabby Romano



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

► **SERMON SERIES: “PREPARATION FOR DISCIPLESHIP”**

February 14	Part 1 - Ash Wednesday - Being Prepared (Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21)
February 18	Part 2 - First Sunday of Lent - Jesus Prepares (Mark 1:9-15)
February 25	Part 3 - Second Sunday of Lent - Keeping Your Footing (Mark 8:31-38)
March 3	Part 4 - Third Sunday of Lent - Preparing the House (John 2:13-22)
March 10	Part 5 - Fourth Sunday of Lent - Prepared for Eternity (John 3:14-21)
March 17	Part 6 - Fifth Sunday of Lent - Call to Action and Living (John 12:20-33)
March 24	Part 7 - Palm Sunday - (Passion Sunday) Grand Entrance (Mark 1:1-11)
March 28	Part 8 - Holy Thursday Tenebrae Service
March 31	Part 9 - Easter Sunday - Despair to Joy! (John 20:1-8)

► **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!

Lenten Season

Ash Wednesday

- **February 14**

Lent

- **February 14 - March 28**

Palm Sunday

- **March 24**

Maundy Thursday

March 28

Good Friday

March 29

Easter - He is Risen!

March 31

Potluck Lunch - January 21



Office Notes

FOR A USEFUL CALENDAR

Please fill out the yellow forms on the Administrative Assistant's desk to schedule meetings.

UPDATES

Please inform the church office whenever you set your next meeting date or select your next book or topic for your Sunday school or study. Thank you!

DEADLINES

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

FLOWERS & BULLETINS

Contact Sandy Muckle if you want to sponsor 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.

Sponsor Flowers - \$50.00

Available: February 4, 11, 18 and 25

Sponsor Bulletins - \$10.00

Available: February 4, 11 and 18

CAN WE HELP?

For financial assistance, please contact Don Miller at (610) 858-9958

Updates to the Directory

Jean Styer

No longer resides at Faithful Living

Current address unknown at this time

Please notify the office of any changes to your contact information.

Hope UMC Staff and Office Hours

Pastor: Rev. Scott Dorn ■ Administrative Assistant: Laura Luciano

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

Meetings and News

February Dates

- 2 Groundhog Day
- 4 Holy Communion
- 6 41st Anniversary of Hope Church on
Rothsville Road
- 11 Transfiguration Sunday
- 13 Fasnacht Day
- 14 Ash Wednesday Service**
Valentine's Day
- 15 Newsletter Deadline
- 18 First Sunday In Lent
Fellowship Sunday - Wide Awake
- 19 President's Day Holiday

Weekly Events

Bells of Hope

Wednesdays at 6 p.m.
Sanctuary

Senior Choir

Wednesdays at 7:15 p.m.
Choir Room

Monday Night Bible Study

Mondays at 7 p.m.
Conference Room
(Room 226)

Women's Book & Bible Study

Thursdays at 10 a.m.
Room 221

Men of Hope

Fellowship Hall
(First Friday of each month is
at Gus's restaurant.)

Fellowship Sunday

(the 3rd Sunday each month)

The Sunday School classes
rotate to provide the snacks:

February- Wide Awake

March - Seekers

April - The Way

May - Wide Awake

Church Administration Meetings

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

Trustees Meeting - Monday, February 5

WPCM Meeting, Monday, February 12

Finance Meeting - Tuesday, February 13 at 7 p.m.

SPRC Meeting - Tuesday, February 20

Meetings and News

One Great Year of Sharing – Gretna Glen

We collected a total of **\$1,243.75** for Gretna Glen. Thank you!

Power Packs

The donation jar is in the Sanctuary. Our January 21 total was **\$41.00**. Thank you!

5TH Sunday Giving

We collected **\$245.00** for Water Street Ministries., our Fifth Sunday Giving recipient for December. Thank you!

Offering Envelopes

Envelopes will only be available in the basket in the Sanctuary. Please remember to identify your giving by **writing your name on the envelope**. Thank you! Using envelopes is a big help for our Financial Secretary, Amy Trella. Thank You!

Mission Giving

The following organizations received money and donations from Hope UMC in 2023:

Align Ministries

Christmas Shoeboxes

City Gate

EASS - Coats

EASS - Food

EASS - Giving Tree

EASS - Money

Good Samaritan Services

Gretna Glen

Homes of Hope

Power Packs

Preschool – The Giving Project

Puerto Rico

Ukraine

Water Street Ministries

Giving Tree

Thank you to everyone who donated to the Ephrata Area Social Services (EASS) Giving Tree this holiday season. Three area families had a special Christmas with gifts, food, and gift cards. Great job, Hope!



Praise and Prayer Cards

Praise and prayer cards will only be available in the basket in the Sanctuary. Thank you!

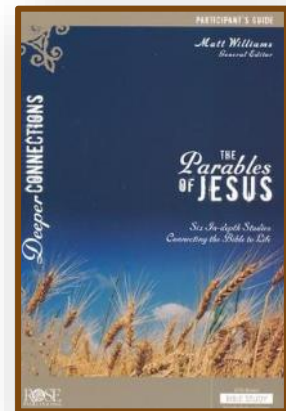
Adult Sunday Schools & Studies

Seekers - Bruce Tucker

Sundays 11:15 a.m. in Fellowship Hall

The Parables of Jesus by Matt Williams

Jesus communicated deep spiritual truths through simple, vivid, and engaging stories. Woven from the stuff of everyday life, the parables of Jesus made the kingdom of God understandable and accessible to his listeners. In six engaging, interactive small group sessions, this Deeper Connections DVD will give you new insights into his parables and their meanings that will help you to appreciate more fully their relevance for your own life.

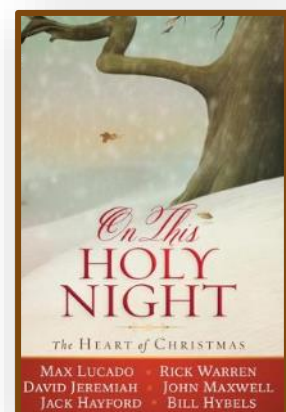


Wide Awake - Ron Lindberg

Sundays 11:15 a.m. in Room 221

On This Holy Night by Max Lucado, Rick Warren, David Jeremiah, John Maxwell, Jack Hayford and Bill Hybels

Six beloved Christian authors — Max Lucado, John Maxwell, Jack Hayford, Bill Hybels, David Jeremiah, and Rick Warren — share from a unique perspective and help you hear afresh the message God wants to whisper to your heart during this holiday. God loves you. God is with you. God is in every detail of your life. The message of Christmas is the message of eternity.



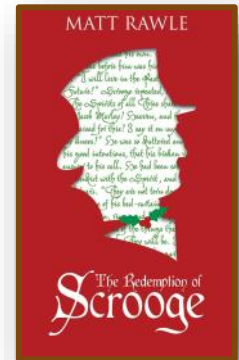
The Way (*a name given to the earliest followers/disciples of Jesus*) - Rev. Kevin Readman

Sundays 11:15 a.m. in the Conference Room (Room 226)

The Redemption of Scrooge by Matt Rawle

January 7 to February 11

Charles Dickens' "A Christmas Carol" is a beloved and meaningful part of the holiday season. Matt Rawle will help us look at the story and how it encourages us to live a life of faithfulness to Jesus' calling and teaching.



"The Way" Sunday School class will be reflecting on Dickens' timeless story during the Epiphany season as we seek to grow in our response to God's work in our lives. And we have a chance to extend the Christmas Season into the New Year.

In case you need a reason or excuse to watch numerous versions of "A Christmas Carol" this holiday season, preparing for this conversation gives you just the purpose needed.

All are invited and welcome to participate in this conversation.

There is a book which is not required to participate.

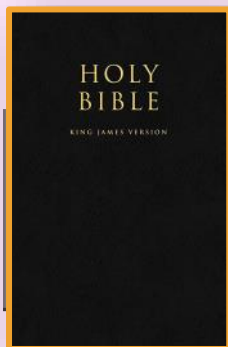
If you would like a copy of the book or to ask questions please speak to Kevin Readman in person, call 717-203-8452 or email kevin_readman@yahoo.com.

Lent Study

February 18 to March 31

We will be studying Jesus' words spoken as he was crucified.

The study will be based on the Bible Text and Adam Hamilton's *"Final Words From The Cross"*. The book is a supplement to The Bible and is not necessary to participate. Jesus shares some profound words with those gathered around the cross. Those same words hold deep meaning for us today. Everyone is welcome to be part of this study, especially as a Lent discipline and discipleship commitment.



Monday Night Bible Study - Bruce Tucker

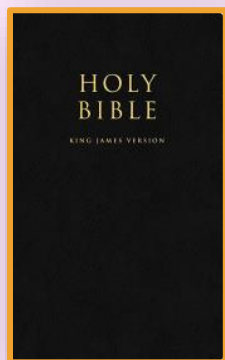
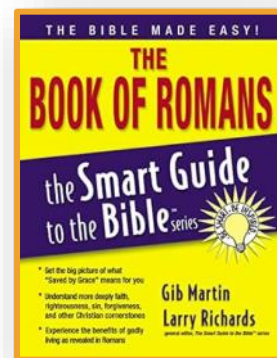
Mondays at 7 p.m. in the Conference Room (Room 226)

An Unexpected Christmas by Andy Stanley

Women's Book & Bible Study - Sandy Schmid

Thursdays at 10 a.m. in Room 221

The Book of Romans by Gib Martin



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)



► Hope Preschool Prattle

Happy New Year!

The holiday season was super busy in the preschool and the time flew by so quickly. Candy canes, angels, Christmas trees and ornaments, made by the students, were scattered throughout the building making our school so fun and festive. The classes participated in a candy cane study where they learned the true meaning of the candy cane. The story of our Savior's birth was shared in many different stories and crafts and songs.



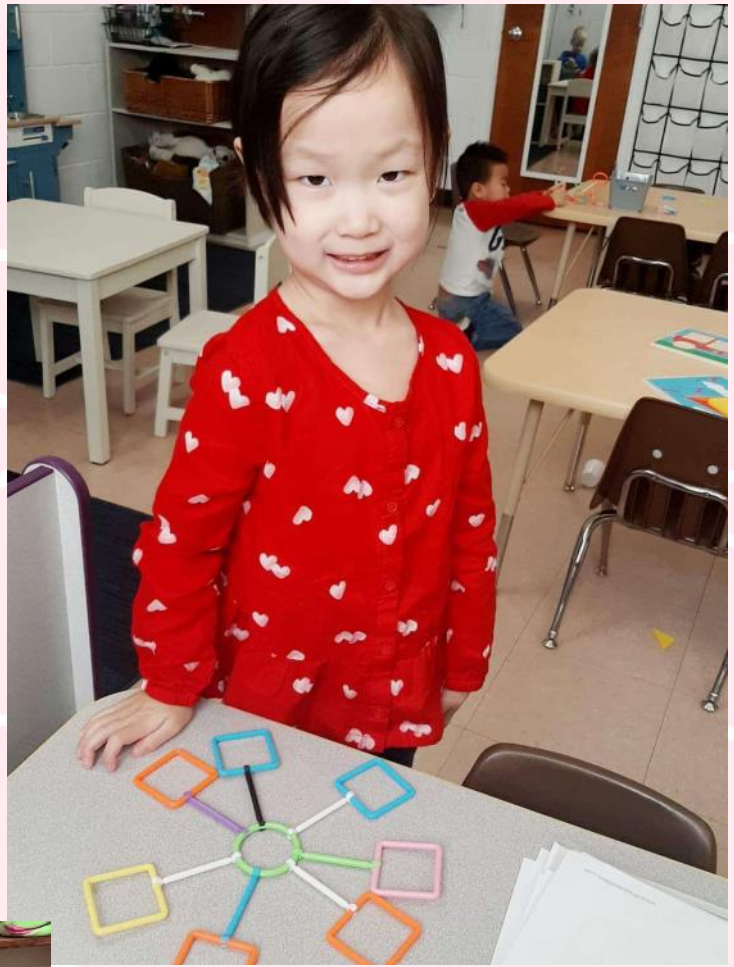
On the days before Christmas break, the classes participated in a Christmas activity rotation where they made a nativity ornament, played Christmas games, had a fun snack and enjoyed a story by Pastor Scott about Mortimer Mouse who wanted to be part of the nativity. It was also Pajama Day which made for even more fun and laughter.

Each year Hope Preschool does a schoolwide community service project. This year it was decided to collect donations for the sister, nephew (4 years old) and stepmother of one of our teacher assistants, Miss Sam. They are dealing with surgeries and cancer and treatments and it fell on our hearts to reach out and support them. We had an amazing response and the family was beyond grateful and touched to receive the help. Thank you to the church and it's members for being part of our mission.

January starts our Winter themes. The children will talk about winter weather and winter animals. Our precious one of a kind students will make one of a kind snowflakes that will decorate the walls of our school along with snowmen and mittens. The Pre-K classes will also begin their evaluations for Parent-Teacher conferences in February.

From the staff of Hope Preschool, stay warm and healthy!
Mrs. B

Preschool Pictures



Preschool Pictures



Preschool Pictures

Pastor Scott reading Mortimer's Christmas Manger to the preschool kids on December 20!



Thank you notes...

- Thank you - The Christmas card recipients were excited and very appreciative to receive a bag of Christmas cards and treats. Thanks to all those who participated in giving cards to the homebound.
- Thank you for the Christmas gift from Hope's congregation. It was a blessing. - *Laura Luciano*
- Thank you - Dear Hope Church Family! I trust this Christmas season brought you moments of joy, peace, and reflection. My family and I are deeply touched by your generous gift and want to express our heartfelt thanks. Your prayers, support and encouragement mean a great deal to us. May God's blessings be upon you and your loved ones in the coming year! Thank you once again for your thoughtful gesture. Happy New Year! In Christ's love. - *The Dorn Family*
- Thank you - Hope Church family for the bag of cards, snacks and the Daily Devotional Book. - *Charles & Betty Anderson*
- Thank you - to my Hope Church Family for the Christmas cards and treats. It was truly appreciated. - *Eleanor Drybread*
- Thank you - friends at Hope for the beautiful Christmas cards and words. They were very much enjoyed! - *Dick Erisman*
- Thank you - for all the Christmas cards, the love and prayers for wellness. - *Marie Hassell*
- Thank you - Hope Church family for the Christmas and birthday cards. - *Sissy Vierling*
- Thank you - Hope Church family for the Christmas gift, it was very much appreciated. - *Doreen Deamer*
- Thank you - I am humbled and very appreciative of your tremendous generosity. To have people, who don't even know me, give to help support me through my journey is truly God inspired. It is in situations like this that I am able to see the true love of God through His disciples. Knowing that I am covered in prayer by so many gives me the hope and strength I need to fight this battle chosen for me. Your gifts have helped to ease my mind about how I will be able to manage the financial burdens of the household. Thank you again for your support. You are all a gift from God to me. May God bless you with the faith and hope you have given to me. God is good and continues to show up in so many ways. - *Carol Martin (Preschool Giving Project)*
- Thank you - for all the Christmas cards, they were greatly appreciated. - *Lucille Miller*
- Thank you - to all the volunteers who stepped up to make a meal for Vernon Bear as he is dealing with back spasms. Before I left church last Sunday, I had volunteers for meals thru the end of this week. - *Sandy Muckle*
- Thank you - for the meals that were daily delivered to me, they were delicious and very much appreciated. - *Vernon Bear*
- Thank you - for your donation to City Gate Ministries. Your support is greatly appreciated! - *Kim Warner*
- Thank you - for your generous donation to Gretna Glen Camp and Retreat Center.

Donations & Assistance

► City Gate Needs:

Individually wrapped snacks like granola bars, cookies and chips. Kitchen sized garbage bags and paper towels. For the upcoming winter months we need new waterproof gloves for men and women, hand and foot warmers and socks for women that will fit in a shoe - not fluffy slipper socks They have plenty of hats, men's socks and blankets.

► Ephrata Area Social Services Needs:

Hearty soups, spaghetti sauce, pasta noodles, gluten free items, beef stew, spam, syrup, sugar-free syrup, jelly, peanut butter, oatmeal, canned veggies. They have plenty of green beans, tuna, and spaghetti.

City Gate • Good Samaritan Services • Ephrata Area Social Services

Reminder - donations are always needed for our local charities.

Ephrata Area Social Services (EASS)

Please place your donations under the coat rack in the lobby. Thank you for your continued support of EASS and the work they do for our local community.

Good Samaritan

Please place your donations in the basket underneath the visitor table in the lobby. Thank you!

Soup and Sub Sale

The adult Sunday School classes of Hope United Methodist Church in Ephrata is having a soup and sub sale on **Saturday, March 16 from 10am to 2pm** to benefit the Carol Martin family. Carol was diagnosed with an aggressive form of Non-Hodgkin's lymphoma. Because of this she will be unable to work for at least six months while she receives treatment, which consists of ninety-six straight hours of chemo every three weeks for six cycles. No one knows what to expect from her treatment in the months to come but they are trusting in God's plan for their family.

Vegetable beef soup and chicken noodle soup for \$8.50 per quart. Soups will be prepared and provided by Martin's Country Market, Ephrata, PA.

Ham and Cheese sub for \$4.50. Subs will be prepared and provided by Hilltop Acres Farm, Manheim, PA.

To place an order, call, text, or email:

Ron Lindberg – 717-330-9962

Marie Lindberg – 610-301-2340

Email ronl453@ptd.net

The deadline for placing an order is Wednesday, March 6. Payment is due at the time of order.

Orders must be picked up on Saturday, March 16 from 10am to 2pm at Hope United Methodist Church, 3474 Rothsville Road, Ephrata.

A preorder form is in the lobby on a table. Orders are due by Wednesday, March 6. Thank you for your support.

Volunteers needed for day of event. A sign-up sheet is in the lobby on a table.

Let's place our orders and help support the Carol Martin family.



Recycling

WHAT HAPPENS WITH THE RECYCLE JUNK THAT HOPE MEMBERS AND FRIENDS HAVE DROPPED OFF BEHIND THE SHED?

In 2014, Tony Hachkowski started a recycling activity wherein Hope UMC members, attendees, friends and preschool families could drop off metal products, electric stuff, tv's, plumbing, etc. and all sorts of stuff they considered of no real value (except glass, plastic and food cans) behind the garage at the church that would be sorted and taken to Ephrata Recycling on Fulton Street. A few small updates have been given over the years but never a full account of what happened to the proceeds and how much material was handled. Thank you for all your contributions.

Our recycling program will continue.

Thank you to those who helped with keeping the area tidy as possible and any loading and unloading of my vehicle over the years although I work independently at most times.

Note: some items were too valuable to scrap/recycle and were sold 'on-line' and they contributed to the overall total.

A nine year recycling summary is below.

Tony H.

Recycling Summary from 01/01/2014 to 12/12/2023

Material	lbs
Steel	63,225.00
Aluminum cans	2,851.00
Elec motors and transformers	4,108.00
Refrigerant compressors	1,287.00
Batteries	903.00
Lead	206.00
Copper (pipe, bare wiring)	706.00
Stainless steel	308.00
Circuit boards	445.00
Copper wiring (insulated)	1,098.00
Radiators (a/c coils etc)	680.00
Aluminum (siding, sheet, frames)	4,280.00
Brass (faucets, shells, other)	605.00
Ballast (electrical)	1,756.00
Total	82,458.00

Proceeds by year		
2011	Note 1 below	\$89.60
2014	Note 2 below	\$1,722.91
2015		\$903.28
2016		\$694.51
2017		\$609.74
2018		\$300.86
2019		\$879.70
2020		\$853.97
2021		\$1,795.11
2022		\$2,806.83
2023		\$2,127.94
Total		\$12,784.45
Facebook on-line sales in above (\$338)		
Note 1	Info carried forward (S. Smith)	
Note 2	Tony's Recycle began	

Disbursements	
WPCM petty cash (AL cans)	\$938.68
Roof 2014	\$1,500.00
Used mower 2016	\$1,250.00
Mower bagger 2018	\$499.00
Leaf rake 2020	\$370.99
Playground mulch 2020	\$550.00
Church organ 2021	\$1,000.00
Elec trimmer & blower 2021	\$392.99
HVAC 2022	\$708.38
WPCM door levers	\$1,571.87
Parking lot lights	\$2,000.00
Outdoor nativity	\$487.58
Various small items over 8 years	\$1,044.17
Total	\$12,313.66

VALENTINE'S DAY

WORD SEARCH

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

ARROW

CARD

CUPID

FLOWERS

HUG

LOVE

BALLOONS

CARING

DATE

FRIENDS

KIND

POEM

CANDY

CUDDLE

FEBRUARY

HEART

KISS

ROSES

Committees

Church Council

Chair	Bruce Tucker
SPRC Chair	Melissa Readman
Trustee Chair	Ron Lindberg
Finance/Budget/Stewardship	Rodger Landes
Memorial Committee Chair	Judy Hachkowski
Hospitality and Care Ministry	Sue Fisher
	Sandy Muckle
Spiritual Formation	TBD
Missions and Outreach	Sandy Schmid
Recording Secretary	Carol Peters
Treasurer	Donna Fetzer
Lay Leader	Jill Curley
Lay Delegate	Carol Cammauf
Annual Conference Delegate	TBD
Pastor	Rev. Scott Dorn

Trustees

Chair	Ron Lindberg
Vice Chair	Jim Bartlett
Secretary	Cammy Freed
Treasurer	Rodger Landes
Class of 2024	Cammy Freed
Class of 2024	Dick Imhoff
Class of 2025	TBD
Class of 2025	Ron Lindberg
Class of 2025	Jim Bartlett
Class of 2026	Rodger Landes
Class of 2026	Steve Smith

Nominations & Leadership Dev.

Chair	Rev. Scott Dorn
Lay Leader	Jill Curley
Class of 2024	Tony Luciano
Class of 2024	Cindy Landes
Class of 2025	Bruce Tucker
Class of 2025	Ivy Texter
Class of 2026	Leonard Fake
Class of 2026	TBD

Committees

Finance

Chair	Rodger Landes
Pastor	Pastor Scott
Lay Leader	Jill Curley
Lay Delegate	Carol Cammauf
Church Council Chair	Bruce Tucker
SPRC Chair	Melissa Readman
Trustee Rep	Ron Lindberg
Financial Sec.	Amy Trella
Treasurer	Donna Fetzer
Memorial Fund Chair	Judy Hachkowski
Stewardship Chair	TBD
Stewardship Rep	TBD

Stewardship

Chair	TBD
Pastor	Pastor Scott
Lay Leader	Jill Curley
Finance Rep	TBD
Finance Sec.	Amy Trella
At-Large	John Boyer

SPRC (Staff Parish Relations Committee)

Chair	Melissa Readman
Pastor	Rev. Pastor Scott
Lay Leader	Jill Curley
Lay Delegate	Carol Cammauf
Class of 2024	Larry Overly
Class of 2024	Paul Trella
Class of 2024	Melissa Readman
Class of 2025	Sandy Muckle
Class of 2025	Diane Hornberger
Class of 2025	Barbara Griffith

WPCM (Weekday Preschool Children's Ministries)

Chair	Tony Hachkowski
Pastor	Pastor Scott
Cindy Landes	Tom Texter
Martha Smith	Bruce Tucker
Tim Sumner	

Sapsuckers and Flickers

by Clyde McMillan-Gamber

Beautifully feathered woodpeckers are a unique, world-wide family of birds that have specialized features that help them survive. All woodpecker species have stiff tail feathers that prop them upright on vertical tree trunks. Each woodpecker foot has two toes in front and two in back that help hold them onto tree trunks. They have stout beaks for chipping into bark and dead wood and long tongues that anchor on their foreheads above their nostrils, under their skin, wrap back over their heads, and into the bill. They worm their sticky tongues deep into ant, termite and other insect tunnels in trees and soil and pull their tongues out loaded with insects and their eggs to be swallowed by the woodpeckers.

Yellow-bellied sapsuckers and northern flickers have all the characteristics of their family of birds, but also have unique behaviors that set them apart from other members of their family. Sapsuckers punch neatly-spaced rows of shallow holes into soft bark. Later, they come back to those wounds they made to sip sugary sap oozing from them, and consume any small insects attracted to that sap.

Flickers raid ant nests in the ground, the reason they are mostly brown with black streaking above and have lovely black spots on their underparts, which camouflages them on the ground and among grasses. One can sometimes see flickers hopping from one ant hill to another on our lawns.

Sapsuckers raise young in mixed deciduous/coniferous forests across Canada and in the northeastern United States. And they winter in woods, older suburban areas and orchards in the Lower 48 States. Sapsuckers emit a mewing call that often gives away their presence before they are seen among the trees.

Sapsuckers are strikingly feathered, with black and white barring of feathers on top, red caps and bibs, and pale-yellow bellies. They also have white striping on their heads and a prominent, white patch on each wing.

Flickers are attractive as well. They are mostly brown and black as indicated earlier. But each flicker also has a black crescent on its chest and adult males have a black moustache on each cheek. Their loud call sounds like " flicka, flicka, flicka".

Interestingly, bufflehead ducks, which is a species of small, diving ducks, hatch ducklings in abandoned flicker holes, as well as in other tree cavities. Flickers create those hollows to rear their own offspring, but some of the ducks usurp deserted, year-old flicker holes the next year. Buffleheads are common ducks, partly because of flickers.

Yellow-bellied sapsuckers and northern flickers are pretty, interesting birds that have behaviors unique to them. All life on this Earth, created by God, is intriguing in some way. Blessed are those people who enjoy the beauties of nature.



Yellow-bellied Sapsucker



Northern Flicker

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