

Hope Church

NOVEMBER 2011 NEWSLETTER



THIS MONTH WE SPOTLIGHT PAUL & CAROLE YOST

We were asked recently to help a friend with a home-work assignment. She had 11 questions about marriage that we were asked to answer on our own. When all was said and done, we emailed her our answers, & found out that our answers were almost identical! There were a few exceptions but overall, we said the same thing. Is that what happens when you're married for 32 years? Do you become so connected that even separately you think alike? Actually, we started thinking alike early on in our marriage and we both think that's one of the reasons it has lasted for so long.



Maybe it would help to start at the beginning. We met in 1976. Paul was married at the time; I was engaged - to his wife's brother. Ok, back up the train, did she just say what I think she did? Yes I did. Neither relation-



Celebration Worship Services

Every Sunday Morning

8:45AM Prayer

**9AM Worship
Celebration**

9AM Sunday School
for all ages

10AM Refreshments &
Fellowship Time

10:45AM Worship

ship was good & when they both ended, we became friends, needless to say our relationship grew from there.

On February 17, 1979 with 18" of snow on the ground, we were married in Augustus Lutheran Church in Trappe, PA the church I had been raised in. I was baptized, confirmed and now married in the same church

my parents had married in back in 1946.

We have been blessed with two beautiful children. Bryce (29) & Mandi (26). Both got married in the past year. They live on opposite sides of the states so we do not get to see them very often. Bryce & Tina live in Norfolk, VA

where Bryce is serving in the Navy. Mandi & Ariel, live in a small town in Oregon. Ariel serves in the Air Force. So we are a Military family. Paul served in the Air Force and the Air National Guard early in our marriage.

We have always been involved in church. Paul was raised in St John's Lutheran Church, South Pottstown where he was a member of the choir for many years as well as other youth positions within the church.

When we had our children, we wanted them to go to church and grow in faith. I was a Sunday school teacher at Augustus for several years when they were very young. When they got older we were advisors for the youth group. When we first started the group, we had 3 kids. Over time the group grew to about 30. We

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introduced "The Stations of the Cross" as a narrated depiction of Christ's final week in 1997. This service continues today as a tradition at Augustus. Unfortunately, over time we left the church. I had worked as their secretary for several years. There was a lot of tension and politics that we didn't like. They "catered" to a select few and we didn't fit that mold.

After about 2 years with no church family, I came to Christmas Eve service 2004 at Hope UMC with our daughter Mandi. We were totally blown away! We were welcomed like family. The music, the service, everything was different. Now remember, Mandi & I had been raised in a very traditional old Lutheran church. What did we just walk into? Who were these people? Why are they so nice? When can we come back and check it out again? After that Mandi & I became regular attenders. It took Paul a little longer to come around. He would come once in a while, usually when Mandi would sing. Mandi and I became members in 2006 and Paul in 2009.

In June of 2009, Paul & I traveled with the Youth Group to World Changer in Canada on our first mission trip. We were extremely moved by the experience & have been involved with some type of mission work ever since. We spent a week

this past summer in Binghamton NY with World Changers again. We have been blessed by the Youth at Hope. They have touched us in ways that we never expected. The adult group that is involved with the Youth has embraced us also. We are both involved with Open Arms Ministry, Hope Builders, ERT Team and several other teams at Hope.

Outside of church we both work full time. Paul has been with Superior Tube Co. in Collegeville since 1974. I work for The Reading Hospital Medical Group in the Birdsboro office. We also have a craft business. Paul is a woodworker and I quilt, make dolls & other various items. We have been making handmade items since our children were small. We enjoy biking & hiking when we can. Our favorite vacation was a cruise (our first) for our 30th. Anniversary to the Bahamas.

And as for that homework assignment we were part of? Well, I don't know how that turned out. Did the student in question get a good grade? You never know, you may find out in a future newsletter because that student also attends Hope. (Sorry no name, you'll have to guess) So, even though our immediate family is spread out across the country, we feel that we always have a family close to us here.

Sermons by Pastor Ken DeWalt

Sermons are now available in MP3 form for live or downloaded listening. Go to: <http://www.hopechurchamity.org/sermons.php>

Sunday, Nov. 6th
9 & 10:45am



Communion served
at the conclusion
of both services
READ THE BIBLE
Sunday

Scripture: Romans 15: 4-5

Sunday, Nov. 13th
9 & 10:45am

TESTIMONY Sunday
Scripture: Acts 1: 7-9

Sunday, Nov. 20th
9 & 10:45am

CHRIST THE KING Sunday
Scripture: Revelation 1: 4b-6

Wednesday Nov 23rd, 7pm
THANKSGIVING EVE
service

Come together to give thanks
yourself, or to prepare yourself
for your own family celebration
of this holiday.

Communion served

Sunday, Nov. 27th
9 & 10:45am

FIRST SUNDAY of ADVENT
From Nazareth to Bethlehem

Scripture: Luke 1: 39-45

ANNOUNCEMENTS
Greeters Needed!
We need you!

You can choose either worship service. So pick a Sunday and be that special greeter for that day.

If you are interested, please sign the Greeter Schedule or see Tami Willumsen or call her, 610-370-5446. Thanks.

COMMUNION SERVERS NEEDED!

for the 9:15 & 10:45 a.m. services. No experience needed, we will help if you are new. If interested, please see Cris or phone 484-332-2582 email: cris_yd@yahoo.com



ADVANCE

Bob Simcox
 Hope's Lead Team
 Leader/Lay Leader

Oct 22nd the team attended the Advance & very excited to share with the congregation! Please make note the date has been changed from 11/6 to 11/13 for the report to the congregation of findings from the Advance and surveys.

Please join us November 13 at 5PM for Dinner.

Bring a covered dish to share. At 5:45PM we will meet with Pastor Jim Brashear to report on the ADVANCE!

Pastor Jim Brashear

Bethany UMC,
 Wescosville, Pa

www.bethanyumchurch.com

Wednesday, November 13th will be the next Congregational Group Meeting with Jim Brashear, Consultant.

The congregation will come together as a church and learn what ministry goals God's is guiding us to go.

WHAT'S MINE IS MINE AND YOU CAN'T HAVE ANY

In 2 Cor. 9:7 Paul reminds us that God loves a cheerful giver. We should give because we want to.

Many people do the right thing for the wrong reasons. But if we aren't giving from the heart, where is that giving coming from? Are we hoping to buy acceptance or recognition? Do we hope we can ease our conscience over other things we may be doing? Will we be able to fool people into believing we

are better than we know we are?

Sharing, whether it is our possessions, talents, time, or money, is something we learned as children. A "What's mine is mine and you can't have any" attitude separated us from community of other children. Working together, sharing & being shared with made childhood far more enjoyable than selfishness did.

What was true then is still true now. Our giving supports the church that nourishes our spirit. It helps those who are less fortunate than us. It is recognition of our stewardship of the earth, & our connectedness to the other people, & creatures, that share this unique planet with us. It is an acknowledgement of our awareness of our own good fortune; and an act of gratitude.



ATTENTION EVERYONE! TRUSTEES REPORT:

Audrey Dunekack,
 Trustee President

The Trustees have been receiving complaints lately about groups not cleaning up after their meetings. Please be considerate of others & return the room

back to the original furniture arrangement & condition. Leave the room/s as clean (or cleaner) as when you arrived.

We do not have a janitor on staff here at Hope, so we need to clean up after ourselves so that the next group to use the room doesn't have to clean it up before they can use it.

- Please place trash and recyclables in their proper receptacles (paper and styrofoam drinking cups are not recyclable in Amity).
- Please wash, dry and put away any dishes or utensils that may have been used.
- Please wipe down tables and mop up or sweep up any spills.
- Please make sure that all the lights and thermostats are off before leaving.
- Please lock all doors when leaving.

If everyone in the group pitches in to help, it does not take long at all, & it will make a more pleasant atmosphere for all.

If you see anything that needs immediate attention, please contact Audrey ASAP.

The Trustees were able to purchase a used lawn tractor from the donations

made to the Lawn Tractor Fund! Halleluiah!

The Trustees would like to thank the person (or angel perhaps?) who mowed the lawn on or around October 7th.

The Trustees wish everyone a safe and blessed Thanksgiving.

December Newsletter Deadline

Marie Hacik, Editor

Tuesday, November 15th is the deadline for submitting information for the December issue.

Please submit articles or announcements by email to: besta2@verizon.net

NOTE: Articles & pictures due by the 15th of each month.

Reports Adult Ministry News

Small group doing WELL

Pastor Sam Geiger's weekly Thursday 7pm Bible Study at Gently USED BOOKS (next to Redners Market) for a very non-denominational, community welcoming Christian discussion of what we believe and how we respond to it try it out some time.

Are YOU possibly being called to lead one of

these new groups or classes?

- Good Sense Budgeting by the Bible
- Woman's 9am Sunday School Class
- Young Adult or Senior's Singles Group
- Daytime Bible Study
- Mom's & Kids Bible Study
- Women's weekly Bible Study
- ETC.... If so, please contact Pastor Ken at 610 223 8630 or kendewalt1@gmail.com

HOMEBOUND NEEDS

Pastor Ken and Lay Pastor's meeting the care and homebound needs of more attenders of Hope.

As we age, and sometimes regardless of our age, we find ourselves needing communion brought to us, or simply crave a caregivers hand and prayer. As Hope's congregation grows our Pastoral Care Lay Pastors are caring for more and more persons in such need.

Our current Lay Pastors are: Bob Simcox, Jan Birkins, Keith Golembiewski, and Herb and Verna Reigel.

If you feel led to discover what this unique ministry of pastoral visitation is all about, see Pastor Ken.



“MONTHLY PRAYER SERVICE”

This is an open invitation for anyone to come & join in for a casual & relaxing time of spontaneous prayers. Please join us the last Friday 7PM to 8PM each month in the Worship Center.

Jen Choudhry,
Celebration Team Leader

PRAYER

1. Prayer is not a "spare wheel" that you pull out when in trouble, but it is a steering wheel that directs the right path throughout life.

2. When you pray for others, God listens to you and blesses them, and sometimes, when you are safe and happy, remember that someone has prayed for YOU.

3. Often when we lose hope and think this is the end, God smiles from above and says, Relax Sweetheart; it's just a bend, not the end. This is why Prayer is so important.

There is no secret what God can do, what he's done for others he will do for you. Trust; obey for there is no other way to

be Happy in Jesus, but to trust & Obey. The Lord Loves YOU, take it personally.

Keith F. Golembiewski

Calling of Women 4 week Bible Study DVD by Glenna Salsbury

“The Sovereign Grace of God as seen in the Life of Jonah”

True story of the prophet Jonah provides hope for the hopeless! In it you will discover God's amazing love & grace & mercy! Jesus himself stated that Jonah's life was the most important single sign God will ever give to His people Israel. And hidden in this fascinating account are six secrets that can revolutionize your own personal walk of faith!

for Women led by Tiffani Bailey 6:30pm in room 4
Week 2 – Sunday, Nov. 6
Week 3 – Sunday, Nov 20
Week 4 – Sunday, Nov 27

Open Arms Ministry

Desiree James
desjay.openarms@gmail.com

Up and Coming Events

If you don't want to do your Holiday Baking, Let Open Arms Ministry do the baking for you. There will be red order forms sheet available to purchase your favorite desserts for the Holiday's.

Come join Open Arms Ministry at our Community Supper Thanksgiving Meal on Friday November 25, 2011 We start setting up at 5pm but we begin serving at 6pm.

All are welcome to attend!

We will be sponsoring a Senior Holiday Meal at Amity Manor, 1131 Ben Franklin Highway West, Douglassville, Pa. 19518. We set up from 2-3 pm and begin serving about 4pm. All seniors are welcomed to attend.

A sign-up sheet will be available for seniors to sign up and for anyone who wishes to make a donation or volunteer their time.

We are also asking for donation of tea bags, hot chocolate and candy for our senior gift bag.

Community Supper will not be on the last Friday of the month. Instead, our Christmas Community Supper will be on Friday, Dec. 23rd. 6 pm to 7 pm. Desiree James, leader of Open Arms Ministry, & her wonderful husband will be celebrating their 25th. on December 30th.

NOTE: Open Arms Ministry Team Meetings

have been moved to every third Wednesday evening at 6:30pm in Room 3.

NEW MINISTRY OF THE HEART SOUTHEAST BERKS MINISTERIUM partners with EVERY DBSD building!

Let's join with Desiree & Pastor Ken to partner with Monocacy Creek Elementary (gr K-5) which is 1/2 mile from our church, to meet the needs of financially marginalized students.

Some ways we can help the children in our community:

Thanksgiving Family Food Baskets

Thanksgiving is a holiday where we give thanks for Autumn's bountiful harvest and feast on delicious food with family & friends. Won't you please help? All items must be at church by Sunday, November 20.

Thanksgiving Dinner List

Collect all items and put them in a sturdy "wash basket."
Turkey-smoked, ready to eat (most needy families do not have means to cook a fresh, large turkey)

Stuffing Mix (8 servings)
Canned Vegetable/fresh vegetable

Canned Vegetable
Canned or jar applesauce
Pumpkin Pie
Beverage Item (can of coffee, tea, bottle of juice)
Bread/Rolls/Muffins
Can Opener (manual)
Dawn soap
Holiday Napkins, plates

Christmas Family Food Baskets

Christmas Dinner List

Collect all items and put them in a sturdy "wash basket." All items must be at Church by Sunday, December 18.

Canned Ham
Scalloped Potatoes (8 servings)
Canned Vegetable/fresh vegetable
Canned Vegetable
Canned or jar applesauce
Pumpkin Pie
Beverage Item (can of coffee, tea, bottle of juice)
Bread/Rolls/Muffins
Can Opener (manual)
Dawn soap
Holiday Napkins, plates

Adopt-a-Family Christmas program

You can bring holiday joy to families in need. Sponsoring a family is a wonderful way to keep the true spirit of Christmas alive.

Some more ways we can help the children in our community:

Christmas gift program of coats/sweatshirt hoodies

provide food basket for Easter

provide basic supplies for backpacks (list provided by Mrs. Traynor)

volunteers to help with the Backpack Program - Thursday morning @ Birdsboro Elem

volunteers in a classroom to help with reading groups, etc (will train, no clearances needed)

underwear & sweatpants needed for nurses stations

If you would like more information or for anyone who wishes to make a donation or volunteer their time please contact Desiree James
desjay.openarms@gmail.com
or Rev. Ken Dewalt; 610-385-7141,
kendewalt1@gmail.com

(All contact is through Mrs. Ann Marie Traynor, Asst. Superintendent @ 610-582-6140)

Bible Study Class at Hope!

Matt Hoffman leading the class on a book called "Everything Must Change: Jesus, Global Crises, and a Revolution of Hope" by Brian D. McLaren

We meet every Thursday. For more information, please contact Matt Hoffman mrmatthewhoffman@yahoo.com

Mission News

Early Response Team Training Session Scheduled

Bob Simcox, ERT Coordinator Eastern PA Conference of the UMC

A date has been set for Early Response Team training on November 19, 2011 at Bethany UMC in Wescosville, outside of Allentown. Training will run from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM. Cost of the training is \$15 per person with lunch and a light breakfast provided courtesy of Bethany UMC.

Early Response Teams (ERTs) are the folks who go in right after the emergency phase of a disaster to muck out homes, tarp roofs, remove wet drywall and insulation and cut up downed trees to make homes safe, sanitary and secure. No repairs are performed by these teams. They often need to be totally self-sufficient, taking care of their own meals and transportation into and out of the affected area.

Training is mandatory in order to participate on one of these teams and reasonably good health is required. Our goal is to eventually be able to deploy ERTs from each of the six districts in our conference, each with their own, fully equipped trailer.

Bethany UMC is located at 1208 Brookside Road, Allentown, PA 18106.

Attendance will be limited to 30 people and a place can be held only after receipt of a check. If you wish to attend, please notify Helen Newell at jihnew269@aol.com or (610) 584-4057. Checks payable to "EPA-VIM" with the notation "ERT Training" may be sent to Helen at 954 Garfield Ave., Lansdale, PA 19446.

If you have any questions contact Bob Simcox.

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Red Bird Mission and Clinic in KY have been providing ministries in this region of the Appalachian Mountains since 1921. Today the need remains critical in this isolated, rural

distressed area. Chronic poverty, lack of jobs, poor housing, and rugged mountainous terrain provide obstacles to a fuller life for the residents of this area. Red Bird Mission and Clinic strives to meet these needs through ministry in five areas: Education, Health and Wellness, Community Outreach, Economic Opportunity, Community Housing Improvement.

WORK CAMP is a year-round work opportunity for volunteers in mission & service-minded groups. It strives to provide home repair for low-income community residents and maintenance for Mission buildings and grounds.

Al Hartman & Bob Philby joined with Sheila & Ray Forrester, from Harrisburg, to work at the Work Camp. They left Oct. 22 will return on Oct.29. Their assignment is to rip out an existing bathroom and replace it with a handicapped accessible one. The couples who are living in the house are elderly and the woman is SEVERALLY handicapped. They are there to not only improve the living condition for these people but to help spread the love of the Lord.

CHILDREN & YOUTH MINISTRIES

Marisel Smith, Chris & Edith Cazaubon, Teachers For the Intermediate Sunday School class is currently working thru "Crime and Punishment" as part of Group's Buzz Series.



We celebrated the Dedication of Blossom Katelyn Reed on October 16th



GSP

By: Nancy Hartman

The GSP class will be quite busy in November. We made Christmas ornaments in October, to place on the packages of 14 mentally & physically challenged young people in the ReDco group and 10 more for packages that will be given to children in the poor section of Reading. We will be wrapping the gifts this month and "Santa" will distribute them in December at 2 separate parties.

In the ReDco group, the women will be given flower covered note books, a mechanical lead pencil, and a pencil box. The men will get a glow stick with a flag attached either to hold or attach to their wheel chair; since some of them can't hold a pencil or paint brush, I purchased for them a sun catcher which someone can paint in their choice of colors and place in their bedroom window.

The little children in the other party will receive coloring books, note books, pencils, crayons, and sun catchers as well as DVD Movies for the older ones and toys for the younger ones. They will have Bible story, games and a craft--Plus yummy party food. These children range from 2 years to 12.

The month of November we will count our blessings. When we see the situations others live in & the physical discomforts some have to tolerate, not only for a while, but for the rest of their life, we feel very blest and we are humbled. We give praise to our God to the things He has given us & the miracles He has performed in our life. Have a Happy Thanksgiving from the GSP Class—Nancy

November Happy Birthday!!!

- 1 Danny Williams
- 7 Bonnie Reppert
- 10 Dottie Keeler
- 13 Verna Reigel
- 15 Tim Gibble
- 17 Stephanie Hartman
- 23 Lee Horn
- 24 Madison Kessler
- 28 John Gilbert, Jr.
- 29 Harold Hummel



Prayer Chain Team:

"The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective." James 5:16
 "I was sick and you looked after me." Matt. 25:36

PRAYER WORKS! We are dedicated to providing a place for people to come when they or those they love need the power of prayer. We will be offering words of comfort, concern or congratulations.

Hope's Prayer Chain of people in need of prayer is listed in our weekly church bulletin. To be added to the prayer list or would like to join our team, contact Pastor Ken or Verna Reigel at 610-582-7646 or e-mail vrpuple43@dejazzd.com



BEREAVEMENTS

We extend our deepest Christian sympathy to Gail Grady and family on the loss of her son, Clifford Grady who passed away October 17, 2011.



Grandma's Hands



HERE'S A GOOD WAY TO LOOK AT YOUR HANDS. (MALE OR FEMALE) NEVER QUITE THOUGHT OF IT THIS WAY BEFORE.

JUST LOOK AT THE PHOTO OF 'FIVE GENERATIONS OF WOMEN' A GOOD WHILE, AND THEN READ THE REST. IT WILL TOUCH YOU.

Grandma, some ninety plus years, sat feebly on the patio bench. She didn't move, just sat with her head down staring at her hands. When I sat down beside her she didn't acknowledge my presence and the longer I sat I wondered if she was OK.

Finally, not really wanting to disturb her but wanting to check on her at the same time, I asked her if she was OK. She raised her head and looked at me and smiled 'Yes, I'm fine, thank you for asking,' she said in a clear voice strong

'I didn't mean to disturb you, grandma, but you were just sitting here staring at your hands and I wanted to make sure you were OK,' I explained to her.

'Have you ever looked at your hands,' she asked. 'I mean really looked at your hands?' I slowly opened my hands and stared down at them. I turned them over, palms up and then palms down. No, I guess I had never really looked at my hands as I tried to figure out the point she was making.

Grandma smiled and related this story: 'Stop and think for a moment about the hands you have, how they have served you well throughout your years. These hands though wrinkled shriveled and weak have been the tools I have used all my life to reach out and grab and embrace life. 'They braced and caught my fall when as a toddler I crashed upon the floor. They put food in my mouth and clothes on my back. As a child, my mother taught me to fold them in prayer. They tied my shoes and pulled on my boots. They held my husband and wiped my tears when he went off to war.

'They have been dirty, scraped and raw, swollen and bent. They were uneasy and clumsy when I tried to hold my newborn son. Decorated with my wedding band they showed

the world that I was married and loved someone special They wrote my letters to him and trembled and shook when I buried my parents and spouse. 'They have held my children and grandchildren, consoled neighbors, and shook in fists of anger when I didn't understand.

They have covered my face, combed my hair, and washed and cleansed the rest of my body. They have been sticky and wet, bent and broken, dried and raw. And to this day when not much of anything else of me works real well these hands hold me up, lay me down, and again continue to fold in prayer.

'These hands are the mark of where I've been and the ruggedness of life. But more importantly it will be these hands that God will reach out and take when he leads me home. And with my hands He will lift me to His side and there I will use these hands to touch the face of Christ.'

I will never look at my hands the same again. But I remember God reached out and took my grandma's hands and led her home.

When my hands are hurt or sore or when I stroke the face of my children and husband I think of grandma. I know she has been stroked and caressed and held by the hands of God. I, too, want to touch the face of God and feel His hands upon my face.

-- Author Unknown

Attendance & Finances

Attendance: 9am Sunday School	YDT Average 30
9am Worship Celebration	YTD Average 41
10:45am Worship Celebration	YTD Average 101
<i>Total from ALL Worship Celebrations</i>	<i>YTD Average 142</i>

Approximate Tithe & Offerings Year to Date as of 11/28/11

General Fund \$110,790.63	Paid Expenses: \$108,021.62
Building Fund \$37,125.79	PD Mortgage: \$43,348.30
Special Project Missions & Joyful Noises \$24,878.27	

2011 ANNUAL CHURCH CONFERENCE held on October 9

A Celebration of Mission and Ministry

Pastor Ken DeWalt

District Superintendent – Rev. Dr. Anita Powell

A big THANK YOU to Kelly McKinney, Carol Rhoads and Shelly Sobel for providing childcare and for ALL who provided a potluck lunch and the clean crew!!!

- **Lead Pastor's Report** - Attendance is down, finance is down. However, we are blessed with many new folks.
- **Lay Leader's Report** - Conference website offers a lot, encouraged all to visit site
- **Finance Team Leader's report / Treasurer's report**
 - Slide presentation- Hope's Ministries of 2011
 - Detailed description and explanation of different funds (Building Fund, Special Project, General Account)
 - Treasurer's Report - current state of church finances and presentation of the 2012 Budget (Note: a copy of 2012 budget is available upon request from church office).
 - Explanation of CMF Budget portions - World Service Fund and General Church Fund are not included in the 2012 Budget. Non budgeted items are allowed to do fundraisers and request joyful noise collections. The remaining portions of CMF are budgeted within the 2012 Budget
 - DS, Rev. Dr. Anita Powell requested that Hope join in with her plan for all churches to vow that no church will have a zero on line items for the Central District. Each church shall show intent for each other by putting something on each line.
 - All presented and leadership promised that Hope will have no zeros for 2012.
 - Discussion was shared on passing plates, fundraising, reaching out to the community, plea for stronger teaching, more prayers
 - Request to change the word deficit to GOAL – all agreed
 - Voted on the 2012 budget - APPROVED budget for 2012
- **Lead team Leader's Report** - New steps – Advance
- **Staff Parish Relations Team Leader's report**
 - Evaluation process has been be updated for staff.
 - Team will be doing a book study on Leadership with Pastor Ken.
- **Membership Audit Report** by the Ken DeWalt
 - **Vote to retain as inactive members** Adams, Jeanette, Lehr, Frederica, Donald & Winnie Gass, Lloyd, Jessica, Alisha Sobotka
 - **Vote to have Pastor contact concerning inactive participation APPROVED** - Mandi Yost Echeverria, Karen Keeler Hannahoe, Robin & Steve Hegeman, Doug & Dottie Keeler, Mike & Pat Mack, Merri Ney, Jackie Ponton, Shelly Sczechowski, Garry & Sue Simcox, Ken & Sharon Weaver

- **Vote to be removed from membership by action of this Church Conference if no positive response to another contact by Pastor APPROVED** - Kenny Adams, Ed Clemson, Denise & Lenny Cox, Mike & Trish Howerter, Cindi Nelson, Judi Peterson, Carrie Stollwerk, Rebecca Zern , Betty Miller
- **Trustee Team Leader's report** - Brief summary of Team report (below)
- **Safe Sanctuaries Policy**—No changes or upgrades noted over past year's policy
 - **Nominations Team leader's report** - Thanks to all who are leaving positions of elected leadership Dec 31, 2011
 - Ballot for election of terms beginning January 1, 2012 – APPROVED - with note there are still positions to be filled and the Nomination Team will continue to seek leaders for those positions.

Welcome new servants

Nicole Halberg, Discretionary Fund Team
Cris Y-D and Desiree James, Fellowship Team
Phil Richmond, Finance Team Leader/Treasurer
Cindi Williams, Finance Secretary
**Lee Horn, Jr, Finance Team*
MaryBeth Richmond, Tithe & offering Secretary
**Sheree Horn, Payroll Administrator*
**Amanda Couch, Payroll Administrator Assistant*
**Bob Simcox, Lay Delegate / Lay Leader*
Gail Grad, Lay Member at Large Lead Team
Karen Roach, Nominations Team
**Michael McKinney, SPR Leader*
Desiree James, SPR
Nicole Halberg, SPR
MaryBeth Richmond, SPR
Kerk Halberg, Trustee
Kelly McKinney, Trustee
**Shelly Sobel, Youth Ministry Team Leader*

Thank You for serving

Bob Simcox from Discretionary Fund
 Bob Philby from Finance Leader & Treasurer
 Amanda Simcox from Finance Secretary
 Kim Simcox from Tithing Secretary
 Cris Y-D from Lead Team Member and Trustee
 Bob Simcox from Lead Team Leader

Thank you to those who have agreed to serve for another year (denotes)*

District Lay Leader, Pat G.

Shared upcoming events with encouragement of participation along with excitement of becoming united through the lay leaderships of all UMC churches.

Recognition of new Christ Servant Minister by pastor

- Shawn Boettlin and Bob Simcox

Ministry Team Questions for Reports 2011

1. What does your team most celebrate from its' past year of service and how does this fulfill our Hope Church Mission Statement, "Make disciples who make disciples for Jesus Christ"?
2. What does your team plan to celebrate in accomplishment next year and how will that fulfill our Hope Church Mission Statement, "Make disciples who make disciples for Jesus Christ"?
3. Average attendance of your Ministry Team group?

Children's Ministry Team Report *(by Pastor Ken DeWalt, who oversees or convenes until a Lay Leader is Nominated)*

Team most celebrate from its' past year

- a. Vacation Bible School had its largest recorded attendance under Tiffany Bailey's leadership since we began it in 2003. Over 55 children were registered.
- b. Despite a difficult time maintaining a regular rotation of teachers and helpers we have come through 2011 so far with all but one Children's Class (10:45am Worship Older Children's Church) under the guidance of a Lead Teacher, Co-Teacher and some have assigned helpers.

The team plans to celebrate in accomplishment next year

- a. The election of God's choice for Children's Team Leader to administer and support our growing adult unpaid servant pool of teachers, co-teachers and helpers.

Discretionary Fund Ministry Team Report (Pastor Ken DeWalt)

- a. The team most celebrate from its' past year that we knew of no need we were asked to meet that went unmet through funding or an alternative resource such as education, advice, AND prayer.
- b. Next year, we pray to be able to report a repeat of 2011's record.

Pastoral Care Ministry Team Report (Pastor Ken DeWalt)

- a. Most celebrated from its' past year of service was the Lay Pastors have helped Pastor Ken meet all of our care needs for home-bound and hospital visitation as well as several emergency needs.
- b. I pray, for the new year that at least one new person feels called to become a new Lay Pastor of Pastoral Care.

Adult Ministry Team Report (*by Pastor Ken DeWalt, who oversees or convenes until a Lay Leader is Nominated*)

- a. Most celebrate from its' past year was we had several new one time classes were offered this year, and one new ongoing Bible Study.
- b. For the new year, four new small groups is my personal goal.

Trustee (Audrey Dunekack, President)

The Trustees most celebrated a financial planning seminar offered to the public. We also maintained the building and grounds in a period of lower giving. The Trustees are looking into the possibility of opening a childcare center for the community.

CelebrationTeam (Jen Choudhry, Leader)

Throughout 2011, the Lord has guided the Celebration Team in creating worship services that have brought attendees closer to Jesus Christ. One new strategy that was implemented this year was a focus on twice a month children's messages delivered by the pastor and related to the sermon's theme. This has enabled even the smallest members of the congregation to share in the joys of that day's message. The team also decided to open up the worship service with an opening prayer in order to invite the Lord into the service and to focus everyone's attention on Him. The team has most celebrated how the Holy Spirit moved within the congregation during two Testimony Sundays. During these services, the sermon time was filled with both spontaneous and planned personal testimonies about how God has worked in the lives of individual members of the congregation. One of the best ways to make a disciple for Jesus is to share how one has become a disciple of Jesus. The Testimony Sundays served as a unique time during which an individual's faith could be strengthened as a result of listening to how the Lord moved in the lives of others.

The Celebration Team constantly seeks the Lord's guidance in creating services that glorify Him and move attendees to become closer to Jesus Christ. While the Lord has a plan that He will reveal in His time, the Celebration Team is prayerfully seeking additional members to serve the Lord as Worship Leaders during the Sunday services. Additionally, next year the Team would like to try and incorporate the participation of more children and youth into the regular services.

The Celebration Team's average attendance is 5, including the Pastor. Everyone is invited and encouraged to attend our meetings at 7 pm every Monday evening!

Youth Ministry (Shelly Sobel, Leader)

For the Youth Group, we must celebrate the continued growth of our students. They have connected with each other as well as with the Lord. They enjoy being with each other which shows even when they are at school. The youth went on a mission trip to New York this summer, which taught them courage compassion and joy in serving the Lord. They have been able to challenge one another with Christ's love. The group is made up of love, support and laughter.

We will continue to challenge their walk with the Lord. This can be accomplished various different ways. Those avenues are open and ready to explore. They want a deeper understanding of a Christian community. The body of Christ reaches past the doors of the youth group and they are willing to take on that challenge. They understand and apply that to wherever they are, then the action from their hearts will show others, they too can be set apart.

Communion & Benediction

Rev. Dr. Anita Powell & Ken DeWalt

The Last Word

How will you especially give thanks this Thanksgiving? And will it be during a family meal, an extra large meal by yourself, or a maintenance free meal with friends OUT? And isn't it interesting that we associate giving thanks with having an abundance of food to consume in BIGGIE or MAXI size portions?

Some of us won't have a place to go to dine, and won't want to have a big meal all by ourselves. Some of us won't have enough food to make a special meal even if we want to and some of us, yes, even some within a mile or two of Hope Church, won't have electricity or gas to cook that big turkey if we had one.

But Hope Church has 3 answers for ANYONE who has a Thanksgiving day meal planned, or doesn't. We want NO ONE to miss the opportunity to give thanks to God for the basics of life even if those basics themselves are hard to come by.

Answer 1-The evening before TG, Turkey day, Football Widow Day, etc, at 7pm, our Celebration Team offers a special Thanksgiving Eve Service of music, word, and communion. Come out to prepare your heart for the busy second half of this week ahead.

The day after Thanksgiving Day is the last Friday of November. And at Hope Church that means that the Open Arms Ministry and our Prayer Service Ministry coincide to make a VERY special Thanksgiving celebration for all!

Answer 2-The wonderful FREE COMMUNITY SUPPER that Open Arms is planning begins at 6pm (persons interested in helping with setup, cleanup, food donations please contact Desiree James at (610)385 0305).

Answer 3-The meaningful come-as-you-are, stay-as-long-as-you-like Prayer Time begins at 7pm. Pray out loud or just listen as others offer prayers, Scripture, and song.

Make this Thanksgiving one you will not forget. Make it about thanking God for what you have, instead of worrying about what you don't have.

Thank God for Thanksgiving!!
Pastor Ken

