

The VOICE of HOPE

OCTOBER 2021



Editor: Debbie Garrett (513) 594-6662 Email: ddg0501@cinci.rr.com



Greetings in Christ, Hope Church! I would like to share about how our thoughts and God's thoughts are different.

"...who knows but that you have come to your royal position for such a time as this?" (Ester 4:14)

Our thoughts and God's thoughts are different. Our plan and God's plan are not the same. Our time schedule for our lives and God's time schedule are often completely different.

We need to put aside our thoughts, lay down our plans, clear our timetables, and practice focusing on God. When things don't go according to our thoughts and plans, all we have to do is not despair. At that time, we need to check whether we have strayed from God's will, and whether we have not discovered God's guidance.

Esther became queen. A queen is a such a position where there is no shortage. She is full of wealth; she is powerful. There is no higher social position to climb. For the average person, the position of a queen would have been the goal of some one's life. The moment she ascends to this position she thinks that she has accomplished everything, and now she will live enjoying the things that she can enjoy as a queen. She will enjoy life by filling her gratification with wealth without lack, doing what she wants to do with absolute power, and looking down on people from a high social position. But God tells Esther that her position as queen was not an end in itself. God's thoughts, plans, and time schedules were completely different.

God speaks to Esther through Mordecai: "who knows but that you have come to your royal position for such a time as this?" The queen is not a destination, but a process for the glory of God. Esther's position as queen was not the final destination of her life, but was one of God's great plans to save the Jews and reveal that God is God.

We must remember two things through Esther's story today. First, everything is in God's mind, plan, and time schedule. Don't be discouraged by the past. Don't be discouraged looking at our situation now. Everything we've been through, everything we are dealing with now, feeds us, nourishes us, and matures us. Don't give up when our life is hard. The glory of God has not yet been revealed. God will build up all of our things one by one without wasting anything, and through them He will finally be revealed. Be patient for that time.

Second, we don't have to be proud of our worldly success. Do you have enough money? Have you attained high social status? Do you have power? But money, fame, or power should not be our goals. Our goal should be to the glory of God. If God has granted us worldly blessings, God will surely tell us to proclaim His glory to the world through them. Live humbly before God for that day. Expect the time when our thoughts, plans, and time schedules align with God's thoughts, plans, and time schedules. Toward that moment, we are living today. God bless you!

Pastor Noah Park



PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDAR - Saturday - November 6

As most of you know, the Hope Church building is maintained by volunteers. One of our dedicated members volunteers time to clean the sanctuary, narthex, classrooms and SafeCare areas of our church. This is a huge task! And twice a year we need to ask members of the congregation to come in and give the sanctuary and narthex areas a thorough, deep in the corners, cleaning. Washing windows, dusting pew chairs, cleaning window sills and anything else that needs our attention. It won't be long before we enter the holiday seasons and we want you to be proud our church in every way. Any time that you can give is greatly appreciated. We start at 9:00am and finish by early afternoon.



CHANGES TO COMMUNION STARTING OCTOBER 3

Since the pandemic began, we have been taking communion using the individually sealed juice cups with the wafer enclosed. The Leadership Team has determined that we can make some changes to communion making it more traditional while still keeping everyone as safe as possible.

Starting with communion service on **Sunday, October 3**, we will be going back to communion by intinction. But instead of everyone dipping the bread in

the same chalice, we will have the juice provided in the small communion cups and the bread will be a real loaf of bread. Pastor Noah will stand in front and we will go to the front like we used to do. Pastor Noah (wearing gloves) will tear off a piece of bread and give it to you. You will then pick up one of the small communion cups and dip your bread in the juice. There will be a basket available for you to immediately put your empty communion cup into. The cups are plastic and will all be thrown away at the end of the service.

By everyone having their own cup of juice, we are comfortable that this will keep everything contained and sanitary. We realize that the disposable all-in-one communion cups and wafers were not the most "tasty" items, but due to the circumstances they allowed us to continue having communion together. We are very happy to be able to take one more small step toward normalcy.



INFO ON CHURCH WEBSITE BEING UPGRADED

Pastor Noah and the Leadership Team are working on a new Hope UMC website to better represent our church and make news and information easily available to both our congregation and our community. We plan to keep the website updated with current information on services, bible studies, and any church events.

WE NEED YOUR PERMISSION Forms are available at church for you to either give us permission to post your picture on the website or tell us that you do not want your picture posted. Please either fill out one of these forms or send Pastor Noah an email at sung.wha.park@asburyseminary.edu telling him that you either give approval or you deny your approval to post any picture with you on the Hope UMC website.

NOTE: We are NOT posting a "pictorial directory" showing individual pictures on the new website. When we say we want to post pictures, we are talking about general pictures of church activities and events. We do not plan to list names of the individuals in the pictures. We also will not post any personal information (addresses, phone numbers, emails, etc.) in any way that can be seen by the public. Your personal information will be carefully protected.



The next Ladies Night Out is scheduled for **Thursday, October 21 6:15 PM** at the **Olive Garden in Middletown**. Everyone enjoyed our meals last month so we decided to go back in October!



There will be a signup sheet at church on the table under the mailboxes. **Please sign up** so we know how many reservations to make. If you have any questions, contact LaVern Stevens by phone at 513-779-0567 or by email at noside42@gmail.com

Dear Church Family,



We would like to thank all of you for your thoughts, prayers, cards, phone calls, food and visits during our recent health journey. Please know how special each of you are to us. We are truly blessed.

God is Great

Bill and Marge Rupp

Family, Faith & Friends *For these we give thanks.*



Hope UMW is having our outdoor vendor and craft event in the church parking lot on **SATURDAY, OCTOBER 2, 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM**.

The past few summers have been difficult for our local vendors and they will really appreciate your support. The Hope Youth Group will be selling hot dogs, sloppy joes, chips and drinks and UMW will be having our annual Bake Sale to help us support the local missions of UMW.

Most vendors will be set up in the North end of the parking lot, but we will have a few vendor booths inside in the church Narthex, which is also where the UMW Bake Sale will be located.

If you are donating items for the Bake Sale, please bring them to church during the following times:

Friday—October 1 6:00pm to 8:00pm

Saturday—October 2 8:00am to 9:30am

The weather looks beautiful for Saturday so we hope to see you there!

It's never too early to start your holiday shopping!

OUTREACH & MISSIONS



COMMUNITY DINNER

FRANKLIN COMMUNITY MEALS Free meals will be available for pick up at First United Methodist Church in Franklin on the 1st, 4th and 5th Tuesdays of each month. Below are the menus and the donations needed.

OCTOBER 5 Swedish Meatballs
Noodles
Green Beans
Roll and Dessert

OCTOBER 26 Goulash
Salad
Roll and Dessert

DONATIONS NEEDED

Peppers and Onions
Individual Pudding Cups
Cans of Vegetables

BOTTLED WATER, ZIPLOC QUART BAGS and LUNCH BAGS
are greatly needed at this time!

Please bring donations to church or call Debbie Hollingsworth for pickup at (937) 572-9027.

Up to 120 meals are passed out to the community each month. Without the donations from our congregation, this would not be possible. Thank you all so much for your generosity.

Medical services will be available to help address health needs of the uninsured and underinsured in our community.

Registration starts at 5:30 PM and the clinic opens at 6:00 PM.

BABY BOTTLE PROGRAM

The next collection date for your filled (or partially filled) baby bottles will be

SUNDAY - OCTOBER 31

Bottles are collected the last Sunday of each month. Deb Hollingsworth would like to have someone help her with this program and take them to the Middletown Pregnancy Center each month.

Thank you all for allowing Hope UMC to make a difference in the lives of others in our community!





When many people see this sign, they quickly run the other way. But, as we all know, the first person to line up for the task at hand is Debbie Hollingsworth. If there is a way to help others, she will find it and lead the way. Debbie has done a wonderful job in leading Hope Church in many directions for Outreach and Mission, and the Leadership Team has asked her to form an Outreach and Mission Team. The goal is for Debbie to have a team of people willing to help her with projects which will allow Debbie the time and energy to use her resources to continue to find ways to help our neighbors in need.

An example of help needed would be the Baby Bottle Program Deb brought to us for the Middletown Pregnancy Center. Debbie would like to have someone volunteer to collect the baby bottles on the last Sunday of each month and take them to the Pregnancy Center. There are other ways you can help that won't take a lot of your time but will help Debbie and Hope Church very much. For more information, please contact:

Debbie Hollingsworth (937) 572-9027 dhollingsworth77.dh@gmail.com

Many hands make light work!

MASK POLICY FOR WORSHIP

At this time, the Leadership Team has determined the mask policy for Hope UMC will remain unchanged. Face masks are strictly voluntary and each person may decide what is best for them. We are constantly monitoring the recommendations of the CDC and any state or local mandates and if these cause us to change this policy in the future, we will let everyone know.



Birthdays

- 1 Kristy York
- 12 Greg Smith
- 17 Betty Barrett
- 20 Kevin Biltz
- 20 Kristi Biltz
- 25 Eli Norris



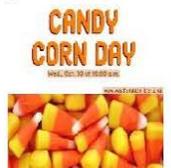
Anniversaries

- 3 Sara & Adam Chadrick
- 5 Scott & Aimee Weeks
- 12 Tom & Debbie Garrett
- 18 Dale & Pat Meeks



OCTOBER 2021

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

EVERY SUNDAY Adult Sunday School 8:45 AM to 9:45AM Worship Service 10:00 AM PreSchool during worship service.						1 Bake Sale Drop Off Fri 6:00-8:00pm Sat 8:00-9:30am	2  Fall Fest 10:00-4:00
3 World Communion Sunday  6:00 PM Youth Group	4  NATIONAL TACO DAY	5 Franklin Dinner	6 11:00 AM Prayer Group 6:15 PM U M W	7	8 Pastor's Sabbath	9	
OFFICE CLOSED							
10 6:00 PM Youth Group	11 6:30 Leadership Team	12	13 11:00 AM Prayer Group	14	15 Pastor's Sabbath	16  HAPPY Sweetest Day	
17 6:00 PM Youth Group	18	19	20 11:00 AM Prayer Group	21 6:15 PM Ladies Night at Olive Garden	22 Pastor's Sabbath	23	
							
24 6:00 PM Youth Group	25  WORLD PASTA DAY	26 Franklin Dinner	27  I Care About You Day	28	29 Pastor's Sabbath	30  CANDY CORN DAY	
31  Baby Bottle Collection Sunday 6:00 PM Young Adults	 <p style="text-align: center;"> Luke 10:2 The harvest truly is great, but the laborers are few: Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he would send forth laborers into his harvest. </p>						



To view Pastor Noah's messages on YouTube, click on the link sent to you
 OR go to www.youtube.com and search for "Sung Wha Park".



You can also join our worship services live on Facebook.
To access the worship service audio only by phone...Dial (563) 999-1726.