

Hope Church, 3642 Shaker Rd, Franklin (937) 746-3173

The VOICE of HOPE

February 2023

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

Greetings Hope Church in Christ.

This month I would like to update what God has done in 2022 through our church!



***God has been faithful to our Church throughout 2022.
And He will continue to guide our church in 2023.***

We are doing God's mission faithfully.

By God's grace, we were able to support the following missions in 2022:

- Redbird missionaries \$4,566.04
- Laos missionaries \$2,280.05
- Summer Lunch Program \$3,644.65 which allowed us to provide 550 bags/lunches (50/week for 11 weeks)
- Baby Bottle program \$858.59 to the Pregnancy Center in Middletown
- Garage Sale for Alzheimers \$885.00
- Eastern Kentucky Flood Program \$398.66
- Vacation Bible School saw over 60 kids in attendance from the church, SafeCare and local community.
- Franklin Community Dinners had over 50 people come for every meal.
- We also helped with donations of food items to the Franklin Food Pantry.
- We provided gifts for one family in Hunter to demonstrate God's love at Christmas.
- We also provided Christmas gifts to 48 residents at the Franklin Nursing home.
- At our Community Pig Roast we served around for 50-60 people.

God will continue to use our church for the kingdom of God. The vision that God gave me for Hope church is

Ezekiel 37. "Dry Bones will come to life" in every area of our life will come to a New life! Amen?

Let us continue to hold that vision and hold the promise of God together!

Pastor Noah Park



From the Editor...

I know it's been quite a while since you've seen a church newsletter and, for that, I want to apologize. Tom and I have had a very busy six months as we packed up our home of 41 years and went through the process of building a new home, moving in and now we are trying to get everything put in it's place. During the past six months, not only was it difficult for me to take "time out" to publish a newsletter, I was not in the proper headspace to devote the time needed to gather information and spend the necessary time at the computer to publish

each month. We are finally at the point where our house is starting to look more like our home, and I am trying my best to get back to my duties as the newsletter editor. **If you are working with a Hope project and you would like an article in the newsletter, please write up the article and get it to me by the 20th of the month.** It doesn't have to be fancy, it just needs to contain the details you want everyone to know. If you have any questions or comments, please give me a call at 513-594-6662 or send me an email at ddg0501@cinci.rr.com. Debbie Garrett



Editor's Note: Even though I wasn't getting out the newsletters, Noah was faithful in sending me the his monthly messages and I do not want you to miss any of them. So here are the messages from Noah that I never got published.

September 2022

"I will go before you and level the mountains, I will break in pieces the doors of bronze and cut asunder the bars of iron." (Isaiah 45:2).

The two situations we find ourselves in show how well our faith in God is working. The first is when we are in trouble. When we are in the midst of problems and difficulties, if we do not despair until it is over, and still rely on God and not give up hope, then our faith is working well. The second is when we plan for the future. We lived in the past and we live in the present. But the future is essentially different from the past and the present. No one has ever lived in the future. That's why the future is full of uncertainty and the uncertainty that comes with it. You can tell a person's beliefs by how they see and plan for the future.

Someone starts to make a plan in detail, looking at the numbers of numerous cases. However, it is virtually impossible to prepare and plan for everything that may happen in the future. Some people are already afraid of various problems and accidents that may arise in the future and hesitate to move forward. They make plans, but fear prevents them from executing.

Some people give up making plans. They no longer think about a future full of uncertainty and anxiety. They just live each day with the thought of living well today. Whether it's making plans for the myriad problems that will arise in the future, preventing them from moving forward because of fear, or giving up making plans for the future, they all have one thing in common.

That is, those who focus too much and only on the future have little faith in God in their hearts. When we think about the uncertain and uncertain future, there is only one thing we can be sure of, and the only thing we can hold onto without any doubt is that the God who was with us in the past and is with us in the present will be with us in the future, as well. Aside from the clear facts of God's existence, there is nothing we can be certain of about the future. With our lack of confidence in God's walk, we begin to prepare for the multitude that may arise. Without faith in God's presence, we are unable to take any steps toward future plans. Because there is no anticipation of the presence of God who transcends time and space and is already in our future, we give up making plans for the future. Today, God promises this through the book of Isaiah. God promises to go before us and promises to solve the problems and difficulties before us. Therefore, do not be afraid. Plan the future with God and move toward the future with God. God is in control of our past, present, and certainly the future.

OCTOBER 2022

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?" (Esther 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.



OCTOBER 2022 (continued)

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. Towards that moment, we are living today. God bless you!

NOVEMBER 2022

Greetings in Christ Jesus. I would like to share this month about Thanksgiving to God in any circumstances.

“Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus” (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18).

The 2022 Thanksgiving season is just around the corner. Dear brothers and sisters, what happened in your life in 2022? Some people may have had a happy year, for some people a sad year, for others a busy year, and other things as well.

Nevertheless, November always seems to be the season to look back and reflect on the year.

Nevertheless, things happened in 2022, be grateful to God; that is a duty of Christians. To be grateful is to be grateful to people, but Thanksgiving Day started with thanksgiving to God first.

What did you thank God for this year? Don't you have any gratitude? If so where do we find gratitude in our lives? Pray to God to reveal the areas of gratitude.

In November, I encourage our members to share what we are grateful for to God with our families.

Today's words says to “give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.” These are not exhortations. But it is a command. And it says it is God's will. Without gratitude in our daily life, we become discouraged and anxious.

We are grateful for having problems in life. Why? We are looking forward to how God will solve this problem and give us a testimony of great gratitude in our lives.

Are we free from troubles and problems in our life? Thank God for that.

The Apostle Paul said, “Not that I complain of want; for I have learned, in whatever state I am, to be content. I know how to be abased, and I know how to abound; in any and all circumstances I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and want. I can do all things in him who strengthens me” (Philippians 4:11-13).

He had learned this secret: in any situation, be content. In other words, to be thankful for everything. I believe that this is the way to learn all the secrets in spiritual life. Be thankful to God in any situation.

This November 2022, I pray that the year 2022 will end with thanks to God in any circumstances.

Pastor Noah Park



JANUARY 2023

I would like to share about when we stick to Jesus, Jesus will show His way.

“A man’s mind plans his way, but the Lord directs his steps.” (Proverbs 16:9)

What are your plans for 2023? Do you have any resolutions for 2023?

No matter how wonderful and detailed our plans are, whether they work or not, the results are in God's hands. Even if we have many plans, in the end, God must be pleased and allowed into the process. No matter how weak or lacking we are, we just need to receive God's help. We need God's guidance all the time.

We often think of the desert as useless land. But in fact, it has become a desert because there is no water. No matter how fertile the land is, it quickly turns into a desert when the water is cut off due to a prolonged drought in which not a single drop of rain falls. However, no matter how much of a desert it is, if it rains continuously, it becomes fertile land. Indeed, California was originally a kind of desert area. However, people brought the Colorado River from afar to irrigate the areas. So now fertile soil and crops are better because the sun is hot there. That's why fruits such as California raisins, California oranges, and California apples, which we often see, are grown in the very fertile soil of the desert.

Dear Hope church, God can change the impossible situation to a possible situation. If God is with us, who is going to be against us? Stick to Jesus who can make a desert into a sea, who can bring us hope in our hopeless situations.

I hope we all ask Jesus in prayer concerning whatever we do, so that God can guide us into His own way! God's plan is always perfect for us.

Pastor Noah Park

Cleaning out your closet? We need your shoes!

Hope UMC is collecting gently worn, used (or new) shoes to help raise funds to support the Dayton Chapter of

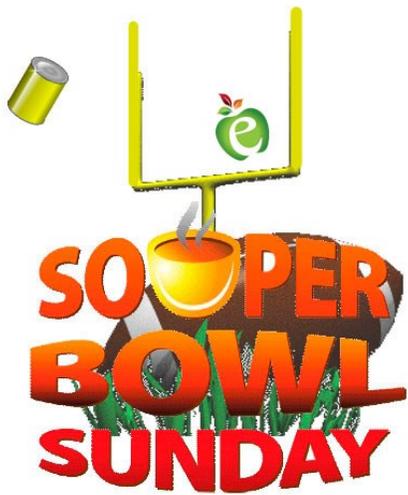


Robin Bradley, a former Franklin Kindergarten teacher, has a goal of collecting 2500 pairs of shoes. The company that the shoes will be sent to will pay Blue Star Mothers by the pound. Then the donated shoes will be sent to 3rd world countries to help people start microbusinesses.

Blue Star Mothers will earn money which they will use to send care packages to the military. And the people of 3rd world countries will receive the much-needed shoes.

Please bring your shoe donations to church by SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26.





Sunday, Feb. 12

Help the Franklin Food Pantry and the Franklin Mission Meals score a touchdown by bringing in cans of soup this Sunday. All donations will be used to help fight hunger in our community.

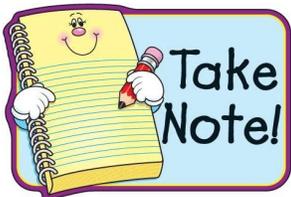
Sunday, Feb. 19

Following the worship service.

Drinks and table service will be provided. Bring your favorite casserole, salad or dessert to share!

A brief church meeting will be held after the meal.

Installation of the 2023 Leadership Team will be held during worship service.



During a church meeting held last year, there was a discussion regarding many areas in the maintenance and day-to-day running of Hope UMC where the Leadership Team is asking for help from our congregation. The hope for many of these items is that we get enough people to help and the volunteers can make a schedule to share the task instead of one person having to do it all of the time. Please take time to look over the list with an open mind and see what item might work for you and your abilities. There are items for many different areas and skill levels. We are more than willing to help you and answer any questions you may have.

On Sunday, February 19, the list of these volunteer opportunities will be available and any questions regarding the list can be asked at the brief meeting following the cover dish dinner after church that day. Of course, questions can also be taken to any member of the Leadership Team.

*Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 **Two are better than one**, because they have a good return for their labor: If either of them falls down, one can help the other up. But pity anyone who falls and has no one to help them up.*

OUTREACH & MISSIONS

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

FEB 28	Manwich Coleslaw Chips Dessert
MARCH 7	Chili & Crackers Peanut Butter Sandwich Fruit Cups Dessert
MARCH 28	Beans & Weinees Cornbread Fruit Cups Dessert

DONATIONS NEEDED

Hamburger Buns
Indv. Packaged Chips
Coleslaw Dressing
Water

Crackers
Individual Fruit Cups
White Bread
Chili Beans
Tomato Sauce
Bottled Water

Canned Pork & Beans
Or Baked Beans
Individual Fruit Cups
Water

**ALL MEALS ARE NOW
SERVED INDOORS.
WE HOPE TO BE ABLE
TO HELP WITH MORE
THAN JUST A MEAL BY
TALKING TO OUR
GUESTS AND
HEARING THEIR
NEEDS.**

BABY BOTTLE PROGRAM

Upcoming collection dates for your filled (or partially filled) baby bottles will be:

SUNDAY - FEBRUARY 26

SUNDAY - MARCH 26

If donating by check, **make check payable to: Hope UMC** and note "Pregnancy Center" on the memo line.

MISSION PROJECT NOTES

Several people have expressed interest in the Shalom program and have asked whether or not there will be people staying in the church overnight during the cold weather. The answer to that is no, as we do not have the facilities required for overnight stays. The Hope Mission Team is currently in "standby mode" to assist other churches, if needed. We would be helping with meals and/or chaperoning.

THE NEXT MISSION OUTREACH MEETING IS MARCH 2 @ 6:00 PM.

Church Trustees

UPDATE



Another big **THANK YOU!** to those church members and SafeCare that helped with the 2022 Trustees Wish List projects that were accomplished!!! (New Gravity Zero Turn Mower, Refurbished Shed, new roof on Sanctuary, two new Flat Roofs on the building.) **HOPE CHURCH, YOU ARE AWESOME!**
.....Larry Parker

These are the TOP 6 items (in no particular order) on the Trustees Wish List for 2023.

If you would like to help (financially, physically, and/or organizationally), please reach out to Larry Parker. All help is greatly appreciated!

*****LOWER PARKING LOT LIGHTS:** Installation of 2 LED lights and pole(s) (has no lights at this time). This will help with security issues. Estimated cost: \$2,500.

*****SECURITY SYSTEM:** Installation of Security System (cameras, etc.). No estimate, but guess \$4,000.

*****INTERIOR "LED" LIGHTS:** Finish replacing interior florescent lights with new LED's. LED's provide better lighting and are much more cost efficient. Classrooms, kitchen and SafeCare area needs to be done. Estimated cost: \$2,000 (Trustees recently received a \$1,000 donation from a church member - Thank You!)

*****INTERIOR PAINTING OF CHURCH:** SafeCare has designated money toward this project, as well as, some grant monies. Estimate: \$20,000 Currently in process of getting actual quotes. Thank you SafeCare!

*****EXTERIOR ALUMINUM/METAL TRIM OF BUILDING:** Clean, paint, replace. No estimate. Best guess is \$5,000 to \$10,000., depending on how much needs to be replaced due to weather/wind deterioration.

*****PICNIC SHELTER:** Power wash and paint. Hopefully, could be done by church members. Only cost would be paint and maybe scaffolding. Estimate: \$500.



If you find your birthday or anniversary is either incorrect or missing, please let me know ASAP so I can make the correction before the next published Voice of Hope. Thank you!



Birthdays

- 12 Rhonda Horn
- 17 Alexander Shobe
- 18 Ryan Huff
- 22 Shirley Gividen
- 23 Calvin Wazenegger
- 25 Gloria Huff
- 26 Lonnie Hamilton



Anniversaries

- 26 John & Leslie O'Hara



- 7 Dale Meeks
- 8 Liza O'Hara
- 17 Becky Garrett
- 18 Pauline Abrams
- 20 Tanner Biltz
- 29 Barbara Martin
- 30 Justin Richter
- 30 Jeremy Barger

- 22 Jeff and Kristy York
- 24 Eric and Prescilla Gilbert



Altar Flowers

Ministry Opportunity

The Flower Chart for 2023 is posted on the window to left of the mailboxes. If you would like to have the Sunday altar flowers commemorate a birthday, anniversary or any reason at all, here is how it works!

1. Sign up for the Sunday you want on the Flower Chart in the Narthex.
2. Place \$15 per Sunday in an envelope marked **ALTAR FLOWERS** and write your name and the date(s) you have signed up to have the altar flowers.
3. After the service on the day(s) of your altar flowers, you may remove the arrangement from the plastic vase inserts and take them home. If you bring a gallon size baggie, it will help contain the water for the trip home.

FEBRUARY

2023

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat



8:45-9:45 AM Sunday School
 9:45-10:00 AM Praise Band Gathering Music
 10:00 AM Worship Service
 Following Joys & Concerns, Miso will take the Preschoolers for Children's Church

			1 11:00 AM Prayer Group	2	3 Pastor Sabbath	4
5 Communion No Youth Group	6 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	7 Franklin Dinner	8 11:00 AM Prayer Group	9	10 Pastor Sabbath	11
<i>Pastor at Growing Church Conference Monday thru Thursday</i>						
12 No Youth Group	13 6:30 PM Leadership Mtg	14 <i>Valentine's Day</i>	15 11:00 AM Prayer Group	16	17 Pastor Sabbath	18 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE 11:00 AM Choir Rehearsal
19 Installation of Leadership COVER DISH LUNCH After Service with Short Meeting 6:30 PM Youth Group	20 PRESIDENTS DAY	21	22 Ash Wednesday Service	23 Life Groups 2:00 PM B Christians 6:00 PM Hope2Go	24 Pastor Sabbath	25 10:00 AM Young Adult Meeting
26 No Youth Group Baby Bottle February Collection	27 9 AM – 12 PM Pastor Unavailable	28 Franklin Dinner				



To view the videos of Hope worship services, go to www.youtube.com and search: Hope UMC in Franklin Ohio



Join our LIVE worship services Sundays @ 9:45am on Facebook.
 Search: Hope United Methodist Church, Franklin OH



FEBRUARY 2023 Community Meals

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
5 Second Time Shop 2 -4 pm St. Paul Lutheran	6 Second Time Shop 9 - 12 pm St. Paul Lutheran	7 FUMC by Hope & Red Lion UMC 4:30 to 5:30 * FREE CLINIC 530 PM	8 Box Lunch at Vine DT, 9 - 1 *	9 St. Mary's K of C at FUMC 4 to 5 * Clothing Ministry 11 to 3	10 Second Time Shop 2-4 pm	11 Vine DT, 9 - 1 * 4Life 6 pm Then meal *
12 Second Time Shop 2 -4 pm St. Paul Lutheran	13 Second Time Shop 9 - 12 pm St. Paul Lutheran	14 St. Paul Lutheran 430 PM * FREE CLINIC 530 PM	15 Box Lunch at Vine DT, 9 - 1 *	16 St. Mary's K of C at FUMC 4 to 5 * Clothing Ministry 11 to 3	17 Second Time Shop 2-4 pm	18 Vine DT, 9 - 1 * 4Life 6 pm Then meal *
19 Second Time Shop 2 -4 pm St. Paul Lutheran	20 Second Time Shop 9 - 12 pm St. Paul Lutheran	21 St. Paul Lutheran 430 PM * FREE CLINIC 530 PM	22 Box Lunch at Vine DT, 9 - 1 *	23 St. Mary's K of C at FUMC 4 to 5 * Clothing Ministry 11 to 3	24 Second Time Shop 2-4 pm	25 Vine DT, 9 - 1 * 4Life 6 pm Then meal *
26 Second Time Shop 2 -4 pm St. Paul Lutheran	27 Second Time Shop 9 - 12 pm St. Paul Lutheran	28 FUMC by Hope & Red Lion UMC 4:30 to 5:30 * FREE CLINIC 530 PM				

Franklin Area Churches:

- Hope United Methodist, 3642 Shaker Rd
- St. Paul Lutheran Church, 500 E. Second St.
- FCOG: First Church of God, 704 S. River St.
- FUMC: First United Methodist Church, 303 S. Main St.
- Vine DT: Vineyard Downtown, 8 E. Fifth St.
- 4Life Worship, 215 S. Main St. (937)479-4479
- Red Lion United Methodist Church, 3466 N SR 741
- St. Mary's Knights of Columbus, Springboro, OH
- Clothing Ministry Franklin First Baptist Church 16 W. 2nd St. (includes food pantry)

*** denotes meal being served**

**NEED MORE INFORMATION??
Call Debbie Hollingsworth
(937)572-9027**