



the anchor

Hope Lutheran Church
3295 Old Hwy 5 South, Ellijay, GA 30540

July 2010

From the Pastor

We've been in our new building for two-thirds of a year now. My how time flies!

After a two-year hiatus, we were able to enjoy Vacation Bible School again recently - with plenty of room to learn, create and sing in, with a wonderful kitchen to support our Lutheran eating habits, and with lots of cool, cool air conditioning!

We've recently enjoyed the first - of what I hope is only the first of many - concerts in our spacious sanctuary (what wonderful acoustics)! Worship is holy and comfortable, and our office, fellowship and learning spaces are more than adequate, delightfully functional and comfortable.

I've yet to hear anyone utter these words (or even words similar to them): *"If we only had the opportunity to build over again? We'd do such and such differently!"* I haven't heard words like that at all. On the contrary, the reviews have all been wonderfully favorable.

There are a few things our leadership has begun talking about for our future here at Hope Church: a mid-week praise service - possibly starting on a once-a-month basis; a mid-week learning/worship/fellowship program for children - reaching out to young families in our larger communities; an out-reach program that can be of real service to people in need in our communities - possibly something to help families and individuals who are homeless, possibly an outreach to young, un-wed mothers (who seem to be represented in epidemic proportions here in North Georgia). Folks are beginning to look at these projects to see how we can move forward with them.

We're always looking for folks to help with existing outreach projects; volunteers to work with Habitat for Humanity, and folks to help at the Gilmer Community Food Pantry - both programs designed to help folks in our community!

We're currently beginning a search for a new director of music - someone to continue the wonderful work begun and sustained over these last nine years by Bob Martin. A job description is being put together and an active search will begin soon.

We're committed to welcoming into our fellowship more families with young children - truly becoming the intergenerational family that comprises the healthiest of Christian congregations. We've got the beginnings of a youth program here at Hope - we need now to begin truly building it!

God has truly blessed us in so many ways here at Hope Church in these last years. It's obvious that those blessings continue with us today!

So, with open hearts, and with the abundant help of the Holy Spirit, it is left to us to most certainly be the blessing to others - for their sake and for the sake of the gospel - that we are called to be!

Life is good and getting better here at Hope Lutheran Church. God is leading us into the mission field and we are following!

Honduras Medical Mission Trip

In October, Hope members Jim and Katy Beno and their son, Luke, who is a doctor, are heading off to Honduras for their 8th annual medical mission trip! If you're interested in tagging along, talk with Jim and Katy. They'd love the company!

A basket has been placed in the narthex to collect the following items which they will take with them: toothpaste, knitted cotton bandages, fingernail brushes and clippers. They will also accept cash donations for a number of other items. These are included in the list below.

1. Black shoes for both boys and girls. (These can be purchased in country.)
2. Blue skirts and trousers. (These can be purchased in country.)
3. White shirts and blouses. (These can be purchased in country.)
4. Cloth bags for hygiene kits to give out to school children containing toothbrush, toothpaste, soap, fingernail brushes and clippers. (100)
5. Fingernail brushes and clippers. (100 each)
6. Support for "Futures Girls" to send girls to school from middle school through high school. It only costs \$135 to support a girl for a full year. (Lottie Brown now has more than 100 girls in the program and she oversees their education.)
7. Support for Biblioteca Leonardo, a travelling library of a tote of 50 books in Spanish for primary grade students that are brought to the mountain schools 2 times a year. Each school receives at least one plastic tote containing 50 books. Len Brown now delivers more than 70 totes at the start of the school year and picks them up halfway through and delivers a different tote to each school. Funds are needed to pay for fuel.
8. Support to send Future girls to a dentist. Most of them have never seen a dentist.
9. Vegetable seeds in retail packages to give to schools so they can plant in their school gardens and supplement the children's nutrition. Most schools provide a lunch of homemade corn tortillas and refried beans. This is the only meal some of the children receive during the day.
10. Support to purchase items in-country such as soap, toothbrushes, etc. In the past we have purchased 5 gallon containers of light, oil based paint to spread on the inside of the dark, dismal, block walls of the schools. Most of these schools are made of concrete blocks and most do not have electricity, although this is changing each year.
11. Support to purchase medical supplies from MAPS, a 501C3 company in Brunswick, GA. They receive meds from pharmaceutical companies, hospitals, pharmacies etc., that are almost out of date, package them for specific areas of the world and send them out. These cost \$400 per box. Luke gets a box and carries it into the country. This donation does not go to HMA but directly to MAPS. Luke Beno must do the ordering, so contact him at lucasbeno@yahoo.com before ordering.
12. Support for a young nurse who returned to school to get her training. She has a clinic in her home in a small mountain village, although she travels to other villages sometimes on horseback. She presently makes \$317 per year and our family supplements her income.

All funds for Futures, MAPS, meds, fuel, dental work, paint, and supplementing the young nurse's salary can be given through a 501C3 and be tax deductible. This 501C3 is associated with P.R.R., a non-governmental organization. The address for this is the address for the 501C3. An email must be sent to Lotlen@yahoo.com with the amount and reason for the donation.

Health Ministries Association
1001 W. Walnut
Independence, MO 64050

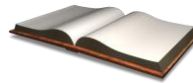
On the check, write Futures or Biblotecca on the info line of the check.

Sunday Morning Coffee with the Pastor Continues

Come visit with Pastor Dave in his office from 9:30 to 10:30 each Sunday morning and with anyone else who'd like to take time out for coffee and good discussion. We can talk about the Bible, about things going on in the world - about anything you want to bring up!

We'll meet every Sunday through the summer. The coffee pot will be on. Just come with a cup to fill, an open mind and an open heart!

Book Club Update



Hope's Book Club meets on the first Monday of each month at 5:00 PM

Monday, July 5th - Discussion on *Three Cups of Tea* by Greg Mortenson & David Oliver Relin
One Man's Mission to Promote Peace . . . One School at a Time

Monday, August 2 - Discussion on *"The Scarlet Thread"* by Francine Rivers

Two women centuries apart are joined through a tattered journal as they contend with God, husbands - even themselves - until they fall into the arms of the One who loves them unconditionally.

Help the Gilmer County Food Pantry

"SHAVE THE EDGE OFF HUNGER"

Buy a Braun Shaver

It has been a very challenging year at the Food Pantry with our expenses exceeding our donations every month. Now we have a way each of you can help. Through the Chattanooga Area Food Bank and a major retailer we have acquired men's Braun Shavers to sell as a fund raiser, with pricing that you cannot pass up. We have two models available in the Series 3 as follows:

Model 340 Retails as \$72.99 Sale Price \$25.00

Model 390cc, self cleaning, Retails at \$132.99 Sale Price \$45.00

Due to the low pricing, there is a limit of 5 per person and they cannot be resold. Contact Emil or Judy Harvey if you would like to take advantage of this great deal. You can also come by the Food Pantry at 1298 Old Highway 5 North in Ellijay on Monday's and Wednesdays from 11:00AM to 2:00PM or Fridays from Noon until 2:00PM. You may also call 706-273-3663 for additional information.

We need your help as we continue our efforts to provide adequate food to our neighbors here in Gilmer County who are hungry. We would also ask that you share this information with anyone else who could help.

JULY CELEBRATIONS

BIRTHDAYS



1	Zachary Pollard
2	Joe Waid
7	Jonathan Bremm
10	Kenneth Grewe
13	Connie Dewey
17	Pastor Dave Smedley
18	Kat Are
25	Katy Beno
28	Zachary Bobak
31	Sandra Peterson
31	Arlene Usry

ANNIVERSARIES



3	Linda & Brian Killingsworth
8	Judy & Emil Harvey
10	Helen & Cantey Gordon
14	Jan & Steve Austin
14	Barbara & James Jonason
23	April & Ralph Kirby
28	Mollie & Steve Odehnl

Ladies Luncheon August 14th



- + Mark your calendars
- + Begin to make your guest list.

This date is a little earlier than previously planned. We scheduled it around our chef's availability. A must for a delicious lunch!

Library Update

Thank you to Hope's Co-Librarians **Jean Barlow** and **Carolynn Maatta**

...for the magnificent job completed in organizing our new library. We are blessed that Jean and Carolynn are willing to share their time and expertise to equip our congregation with such a collection. Check out the resources and great reading, viewing, and listening material available. Items can be used in the Library or checked out. There is a sign-out sheet available for checking out items. Please help us in keeping up with our books and other items.

Kids Ferst in Gilmer County News

Again our church and members of our congregation have been working hard to bring the Ferst Foundation for Childhood Literacy program to Gilmer County. The quilt that was donated to Kids Ferst by the Hopeful Quilters is currently on display at The Quilt Shop in downtown Ellijay. The winner will be announced at our 3rd annual "big band" fundraiser on August 14th. (Last chance tickets for the raffle will be available that night.) Bob Martin and the New Horizons Band will once again provide their wonderful music for our dance and concert at the American Legion Hall. We will also have a Chinese and silent auction that night to help raise some much needed funding and have many wonderful items. Bill Fail and his woodturning group (Apple Ridge Woodturners) have donated some beautiful wooden bowls and vases. Members of our congregation are donating gift baskets that include tools, cleaning supplies, and painted items. We have swing dancers available to give lessons prior to the dance and the Ladies Auxiliary will once again have snacks and beverages available throughout the evening. Please support this event. You won't be disappointed as it has always been a fun time. Tickets are available from Rena Ashworth, Judy and Emil Harvey, Phyllis Nagel and Kay Zimbrick. They are \$18 per person (a couple buying tickets would provides books for one child for a year) and tables of 8 can be reserved in advance.

We are excited that we now have more than 1000 children enrolled in the program. It costs about \$3000 per month and we depend solely on donations from individuals and businesses. Teachers are already saying that they see a difference in children being ready to learn when they start kindergarten thanks to our books. If you can help us in any way - volunteer, make a donation, support our fundraiser, you will be helping us mold our future leaders. For more information, contact Judy or Emil Harvey at 706 847-0869.

Vacation Bible School Wrap-Up



WOW! "Crocodile Dock" was a terrific success. The entire evening of food, music, skits, crafts, and story time was wonderfully coordinated by VBS Director, Vicki Christensen. Participation of members and guests of all ages 3 thru 70 plus made our traditional, intergenerational event memorable and exciting. Special thanks to all those who made the energy-packed event run smoothly. The sets, slide show, and special effects were beautifully created by Vicki and Mike Christensen and their talented family.

Via de Cristo Ultreya Meets at Hope

On Saturday, July 17, a Via de Cristo Ultreya will be held here at our church. The Ultreya is a reunion of the Via de Cristo community, family, and guests. Everyone is invited, whether you have been to a Via de Cristo weekend or not. We will gather at 5:30 PM and eat dinner at 6 PM, with our meeting to follow. Come see what Via de Cristo is all about!

Via de Cristo weekends this fall will include a Men's weekend August 27-28-29 and a Ladies' weekend September 10-11-12. Contact Gunther or Mary Anne Rankenburg for further information.

July Worship Assistants

Assisting Ministers

4 Nicholas Christensen
11 Maureen Bremm
18 Keith Bell
25 Vicki Christensen

Counters

Jim Peterson & Shawn Stoffer
Vern Haugen & Kay Zimbrick
Stan Ashcraft & Jennifer Bates
Chris Westerman & Michael Bates

Fellowship

Kristie Drost
Youth Lunch-In
Jennifer Bates
Heidi Kosarick

Lectors

8:15

4 Jan Austin
11 Carol Ashcraft
18 Todd Hinton
25 Joe Holt

10:45

Joe Waid
Rena Ashworth
Janet Smedley
Bill Strawser

Communion Assistants

8:15

4 TBA
11
18
25

10:45

Joe & Kim Waid
Stan & Rena Ashworth
Janet Smedley & Barbara Bell
Bill & Jan Strawser

Greeters

8:15

4 Charlene Ivey
11 Dick & Phyllis Nagel
18 Rich & Kay Hein
25 Juanita Littleton

10:45

Stan & Rena Ashworth
Vern & Betty Haugen
Kristie Drost & Brannen Trahan
Keith & Heidi Kosarick

Ushers

8:15

4 Charlene Ivey
11 Dick & Phyllis Nagel
18 Rich & Kay Hein
25 Juanita Littleton

10:45

Len & Jean Norwillo
Leon & June Edgemon
Jim & Jean Lyons
Bill & Kat Are

The Hope Staff

Church: 706.636.HOPE (4673)
E-mail: hopeelca@ellijay.com

Pastor Dave Smedley: 706.692.2557
E-mail: davesmedley@hotmail.com

Music Director: Bob Martin: 706.635.4986

Accompanist: Rae Reta Peel: 706.635.6115

Minister of Discipleship\Keeping In Touch Ministry Director:
Laura Rogne: 706.276.1614

Administrative Assistant: Ellen Ottinger
Home: 706.276.2375
E-mail: esotting@ellijay.com

Maintenance: Nancy Hinton: 706.280.1970



Officers & Congregational Council

President	Christine Westerman
Vice President	Michael Bates
Secretary	Kimberly Waid
Treasurer	Roger Ashcraft
Financial Secretary	Steve Austin

Council Members:

Nathan Bates	Juanita Littleton
Diane Burton	Shawn Stoffer

Please contact any council member if you have any suggestions, questions, or concerns. Council meetings are held on the third Wednesday of each month at 7 PM. Meetings are open to all and your presence is welcomed.